



Dummy News and Views

the Newsletter of the United States Stamp Society - Dummy Stamps Study Group

Issue Number 58

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Welcome to the Dummy Stamps Study Group's Fifty-eighth Newsletter

This newsletter is produced quarterly by the United States Stamp Society's - Dummy Stamps Study Group for your information and pleasure. We hope that the information included in this newsletter will be informative, useful and encourage your enjoyment of collecting dummy/test stamps. Our goal is to keep you up-to-date with the latest information available to our group. Questions, comments and articles proposed for publication should be directed to Terry R. Scott, Chairman of the United States Stamp Society's Dummy Stamps Study Group at terryrscott@comcast.net

Paper "ATM Sheetlets" NOT Listed in the Scott Specialized Catalogue

by Terry R. Scott & Michael O. Perry

With several new paper ATM sheetlets now listed in the 2020 *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps & Covers*, we wish to show some sheetlets that fail to meet the Scott criteria for listing.

In no particular order we will illustrate these and provide information that we have to help you to decide whether you wish to add them to your collection. As you might expect, we believe that they do belong in a test stamp collection along with the Scott listed test panes.



Shown above is the front side of a promotional pane produced for the United States Postal Service and the American Banking Industry that was distributed at the National Conference for Community Bankers held in Scottsdale, Arizona, on February 18-21, 1990. This promotional pane was printed on heavy card stock and is larger (160 x 71mm) than the issued ATM panes (155 x 67mm). The back side is shown at the top of page 2. While Scott 2475a self-adhesive 25c Flag ATM panes weren't issued until three months later, the USPS booth may have had a few dummy self-adhesive 25c Flag self-adhesive ATM panes overprinted "SPECIMEN - FOR ATM TEST" (Scott TDB84a) available to show the public (as was the case three months earlier at the World Stamp EXPO).

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United States Postal Service - American Banking Industry

A partnership for progress through ATMs

*American Bankers Association/Bank Marketing Association
National Conference for Community Bankers
Scottsdale, Arizona
February 18-21, 1990*

Shown above is the back side of the untagged, ungummed, imperforate, single-layer heavy white card stock sheetlet shown on the previous page, made to promote the American Bankers Association / Bank Marketing Association's National Conference for Community Bankers in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Shown below are the front and back sides of another heavy card stock sheetlet made to promote the issuance of the Scott 2475a self-adhesive ATM pane that was sold in ATM's owned by Seattle First National Bank beginning May 18, 1990. This promotional card is larger than the issued Scott 2485a ATM panes (160 x 71mm vs. 155 x 67mm) and was made in partnership between the USPS and the American Banking Industry. These promotional panes were also passed out in late May and early June, 1990, by some California philatelic windows and at the September 1990 National Postal Forum in Anaheim, California.



United States Postal Service - American Banking Industry

A partnership for progress through Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs)

*Facsimilie -- ATM Stamp Sheetlet
First Day of Issue
May 18, 1990
Seattle, Washington*

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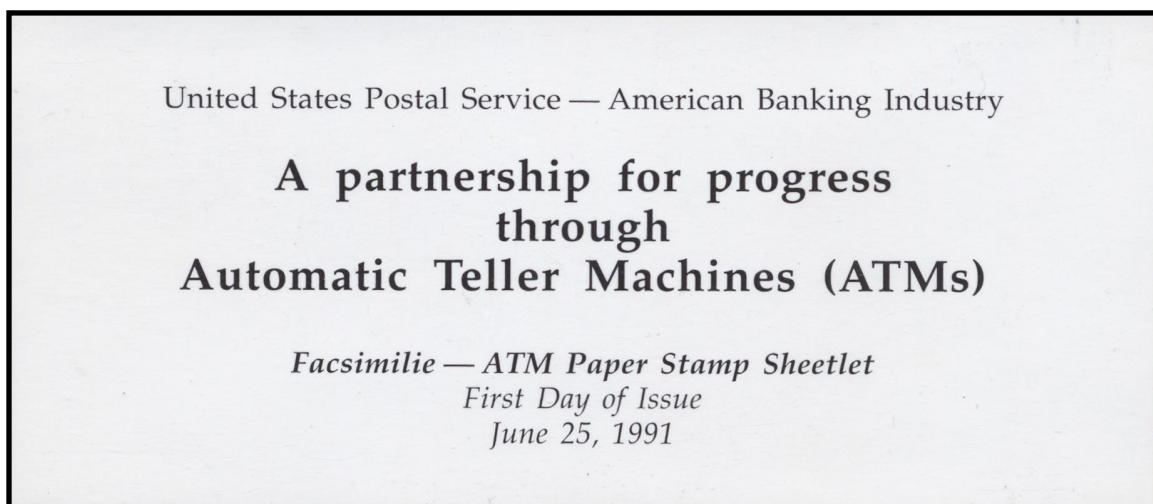


29 USA Liberty Torch ATM sheetlet stamp side

The promotional sheetlet shown at the left is a paper sheetlet of eighteen imperforate gold, black and green definitive-size dummy stamps. It is printed on heavy white card stock and is larger (160 x 71mm) than the issued ATM panes (155 x 67mm). The promotional sheetlet is constructed of card stock, not the multi-layer construction of the 29¢ Liberty Torch (Scott 2531A) self-adhesive postage stamp sheetlet. It is ungummed, untagged and it has no die-cutting. There is a black diagonal defacement line through the “29” denomination on each stamp. The back side is printed entirely in black

This sheetlet was produced to advertise the issuance of the 29¢ Liberty Torch (Scott 2531A) self-adhesive ATM postage stamp sheetlet. These paper sheetlets were not used by technicians servicing ATM machines.

Note the misspelling of “Facsimile” on line 5 of the back side of both this sheetlet and on the “Seattle” stylized Flag promotional sheetlet shown on the previous page.



29 USA Liberty Torch ATM sheetlet cover side

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The low resolution image of the pane shown at the left is a mystery. In 2008, Dummy Stamps Study Group member Jim Noll found this image in the “unknown test note section” of Moneypedia, a German Paper Money Collectors web site. Jim’s collecting specialty was currency test notes as well as ATM test notes & sheetlets. Jim Noll, who passed away in January of 2014, was never able to find an example of this pane.

None of Jim’s Paper Money Test Note contacts in Europe had any information on it. It could be assumed that it was picked up at an ATM trade show where it was being used to demonstrate stamp dispensing equipment.

The printing is red and black with a diagonal printing of “FAKE STAMP” across each stamp. The ATM style sheetlet design closely resembles the Scott 2531A Liberty Torch ATM self-adhesive sheetlets issued in 1991. Note that the “flames” of the torch are facing the opposite direction of those on the United States 29¢ Liberty Torch (Scott 2531A) ATM postage stamp sheetlets. Also note the red flames on the tops of the digits “29”. A very curious item and any information is greatly appreciated.

Shown on the following page is the front and back side of a multi-layer self-adhesive sheetlet promoting the upcoming issuance of the first sheetlet that would contain a single Federal Duck Hunting stamp. While the size of an ATM pane, the issued single-stamp Duck panes were never dispensed in an ATM - the sheetlets were designed to be kept in cash registers at sporting goods stores.

These promotional sheetlets were available for free to attendees at the PACIFIC '97 stamp show in San Francisco, California in 1997, and more than likely at other locations throughout the year to promote the upcoming Federal Duck Stamp which was to be issued on July 1, 1998 in this new single-stamp format. These promotional panes have no die-cutting around the dummy Duck stamp.

These promotional ATM sheetlets were packaged in plastic shrink wrapped bundles of 100 sheetlets with a stiff brown card stock on top and bottom and labeled "100 / FEDERAL / DUCK STAMP / SINGLE" on a 77 x 51mm white self-adhesive label applied to one of the cards.

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The New Federal Duck Stamp Single... Tradition with a new appeal!

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing are developing a new self-adhesive, single issue Federal Duck Stamp. Beginning July 1, 1998, the new format will be issued on a three-year trial basis. Both formats, the new self-adhesive, single issue stamp and the present 30 gummed stamps-per-pane configuration, will be issued concurrently during the trial period to accommodate all stamp customers.

The new format is the size of U.S. paper currency, only slightly thicker than a regular bill. The actual stamp will be intaglio-engraved and die-cut on a self-adhesive paper carrier sheet, maintaining the same physical proportions and perforation dimensions as the existing stamp. The self-adhesive paper allows consumers to peel the stamp from the sheet and affix it directly to a hunting license or other documents.

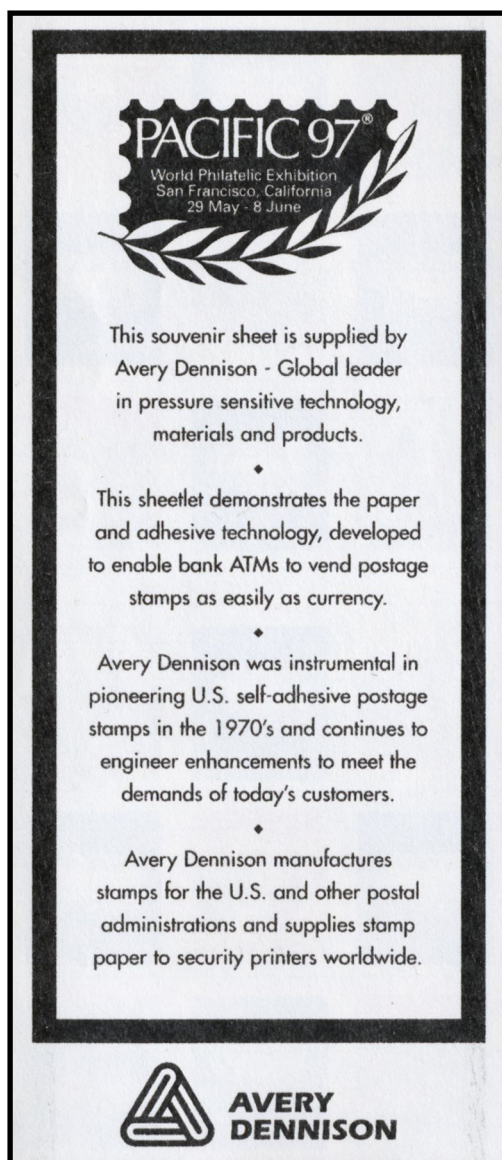
The new Federal Duck Stamp single is more convenient, easy to use, and will always be... *A Miniature Work of Art!*
Look for the new single at U.S. Post Offices, KMarts, WalMarts, and other sporting goods stores on July 1, 1998.

Please address questions or comments to the Federal Duck Stamp Office (202) 208-4354

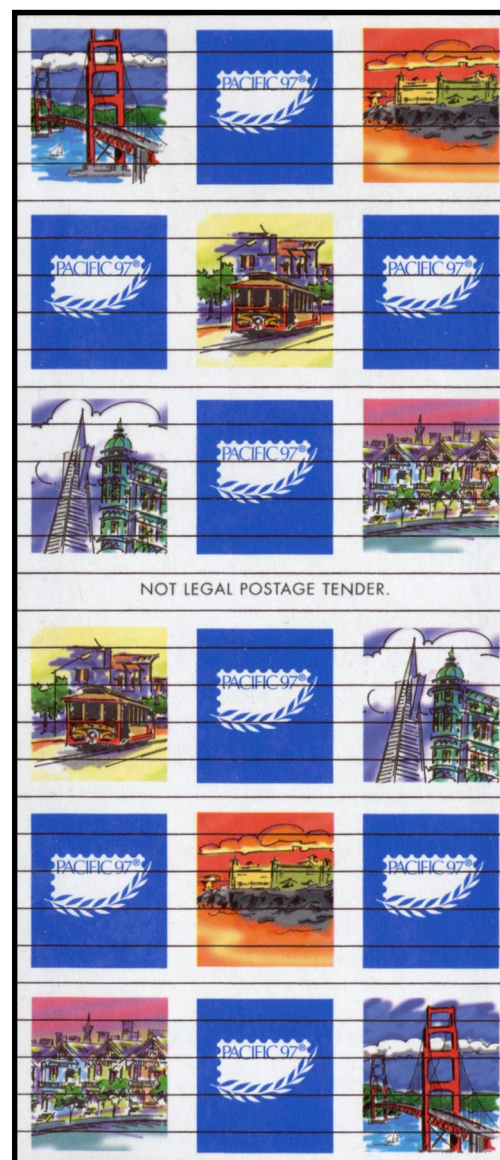
Shown below is the “stamp” side of a single layer heavy white card stock Eagle & Shield sheetlet. It is similar to the 29c Eagle & Shield (Scott 2597a) self-adhesive convertible booklet issued in 1992 but does not have the “S1111” plate number that was printed in the peel tab in the center of the issued sheetlet. The word “**VOID**” (in dark blue ink) is printed vertically through each stamp image. There is no printing on the back side. There were surface scrapes on one of the VOID Eagle & Shield panes, indicating it might have been dispensed in an ATM during some sort of test.



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PACIFIC '97 ATM sheetlet cover (the same design is on all three **PACIFIC '97** sheetlet varieties)

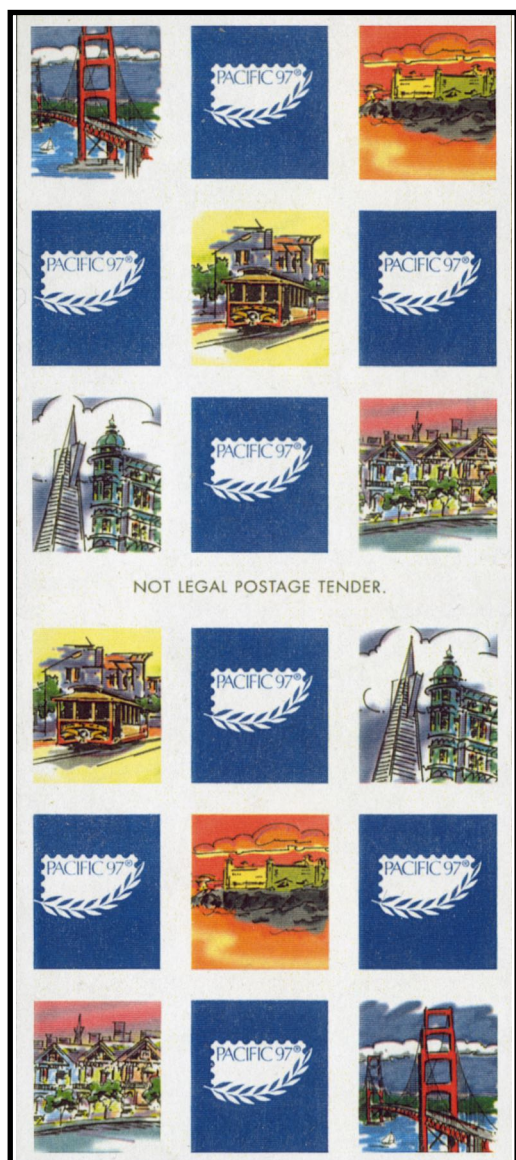


PACIFIC '97 ATM sheetlet (no die-cutting; with black bar pre-cancel lines)

The first sheetlet we show above received very wide free distribution to the attendees at the PACIFIC '97 stamp show. It is an untagged, ATM size multi-layer self-adhesive sheetlet of eighteen imperforate multicolor definitive-size dummy stamps plus a simulated center peel strip. The stamp side of PACIFIC '97 sheetlets shows alternating scenes of San Francisco and the PACIFIC '97 logo. The back side is printed in black. The PACIFIC '97 ATM sheetlet shown above has no die-cutting and has black pre-cancel lines added. It was produced for general distribution to PACIFIC '97 attendees. While Avery Dennison had an ATM in their booth to dispense these ATM panes, the process was too slow, therefore, most panes were passed out by hand.

Since the black pre-cancel bars were added in a separate printing process, the black lines drift up or down in relation to the stamp designs in different groups of sheetlets. Some PACIFIC '97 sheetlets may have dots of black ink in various locations. *Linn's Stamp News Weekly* reported that Avery Dennison took 35,000 of these sheetlets to PACIFIC '97. The PACIFIC '97 sheetlets were packaged in groups of 100 sheetlets with heavy gray card stock protecting them. The PACIFIC '97 sheetlet cover is the same for all three varieties.

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PACIFIC '97 Variety-1 ATM sheetlet
(no die-cutting; no pre-cancel lines)



PACIFIC '97 Variety-2 ATM sheetlet
(die-cutting between labels, no pre-cancel lines)

The **PACIFIC '97 Variety-1** ATM sheetlet shown above might be termed an EFO. It is the same as the **PACIFIC '97** ATM sheetlets that were distributed to the attendees at the stamp show, but does not have the black bar pre-cancel lines. A few of this variety were received by at least one attendee at **PACIFIC '97** and are quite difficult to obtain.

The **PACIFIC '97 Variety-2** has straight-line die-cutting between the labels and does not have the black bar pre-cancel lines. For publicity purposes, some die-cut panes (Pacific '97 Variety 2) were sent to several people in the philatelic press a few weeks before the Pacific '97 show. The USPS then requested that Avery Dennison not distribute this die-cut variety at the show. The USPS wanted to discourage the use of these stamp-like labels on mail. To accommodate this request, Avery Dennison destroyed the **PACIFIC '97 Variety-2** sheetlets and produced the **PACIFIC '97** ATM sheetlets shown on the previous page for general distribution. The **PACIFIC '97 Variety-2** sheetlets known in collectors hands were distributed to the philatelic press prior to the USPS destruction order.

All three **PACIFIC '97** ATM sheetlet varieties are the same multi-layer self-adhesive construction, size and thickness as regular ATM dispensed postage stamp sheetlets. There is no liner printing on the inside of any of the three varieties of the **PACIFIC '97** ATM sheetlets.

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This souvenir sheet is supplied by Avery Dennison - a global leader in pressure sensitive technology, materials, and products. This sheetlet demonstrates the paper and adhesive technology developed to enable bank ATMs to vend postage stamps as easily as currency.

Avery Dennison was instrumental in pioneering U.S. self-adhesive postage stamps in the 1970's and continues to meet the demands of today's consumers.

Avery Dennison manufactures stamps for the U.S. and other postal administrations and supplies stamp paper to security printers worldwide.

The NASA images on the souvenir sheet are "Little Joe" - a launch vehicle used to test NASA's Apollo escape system - and the launch of the Space Shuttle, Columbia.

AVERY DENNISON

Inks provided by
Color Converting Industries

Graphics and engravings provided by
Southern Graphic Systems

The World Stamp Expo 2000 ATM sheetlet shown above and at the left is an untagged, self-adhesive sheetlet of six multicolor definitive-size dummy stamps plus two large (52 x 66mm) labels. Each dummy stamp has straight-line die-cut on all sides, as is the center peel-away strip. This promotional sheetlet is constructed using multi-layer paper stock and is the same size and thickness as regular ATM dispensed self-adhesive sheetlets

This pane was obviously created to be a souvenir sheetlet for the World Stamp Expo 2000 held in Anaheim, California, in July 2000. They were printed by Avery Dennison, who has printed most of the regular issue ATM size self-adhesive stamp sheetlets.

These World Stamp Expo 2000 ATM sheetlets were not readily available. It is speculated that they are somewhat difficult to obtain because the USPS discouraged distribution of the sheetlets since the six small size die-cut dummy stamps could be attached to mail and be mistaken for regular postage stamps.

These, and probably several other unreported United States paper ATM sheetlets, are well worth collecting along with the other United States paper ATM test sheetlets.

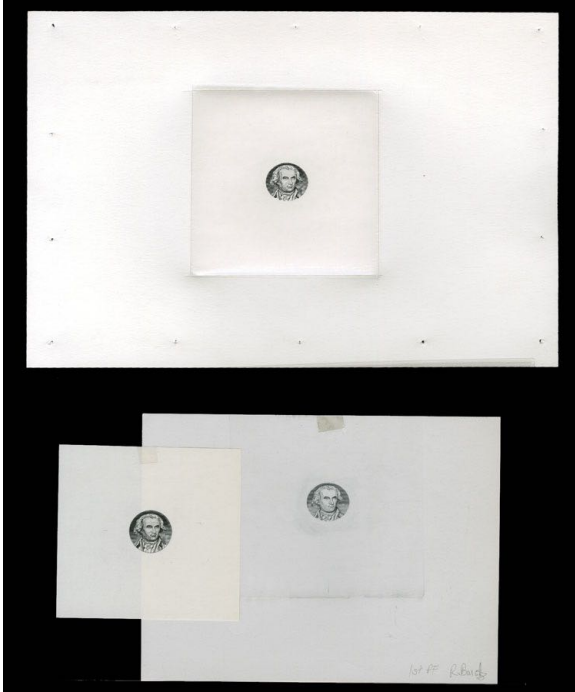
As always, your editor would appreciate reports of any other currently unlisted United States paper ATM sheetlets. They may warrant listing in the *Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps & Covers* or, if not meeting their criteria for listing, they could be listed in the forthcoming United States Stamp Society publication titled *United States Dummy Booklets Guide*. □

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Recent Auctions of Interest to Dummy Stamp Collectors

by Terry R. Scott

On January 14-15, 2020 Cherrystone Auctions held Sale #120 that contained the following test stamps. There is a Buyer's premium of 15% for this sale.



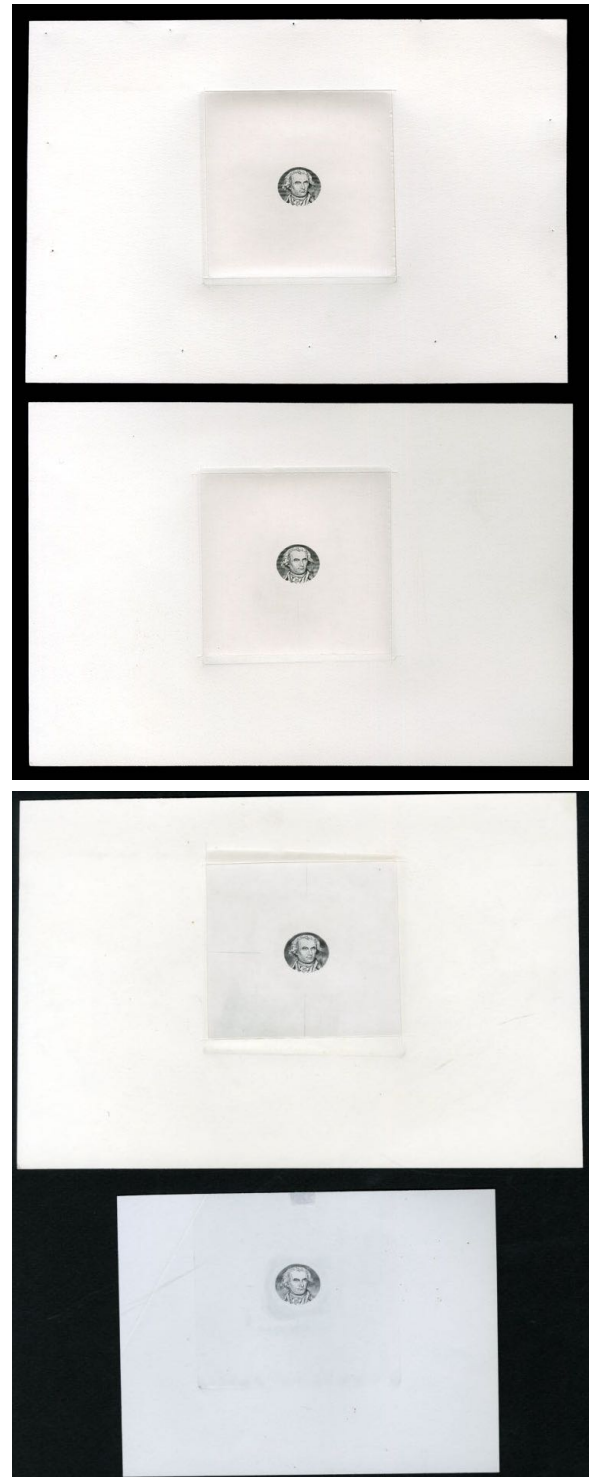
Lot 302 P TD130F 1993 Test Stamp, unissued design (George Clinton) three large die proofs, center only in black or gray black, two oval, one round engraved vignette, one die sunk on card, some tape stains, fine and rare group (Cat No. TD130F), Photo. Opening Bid \$700.00. Realized \$700.00.

Lot 303 P TD130F 1993 Test Stamp, unissued design (George Clinton) four large die proofs, center only in black or gray black, three die sunk on cards, v.f. (Cat No. TD130F), Photo. Opening Bid \$900.00. Realized \$900.00.

See Lot 303 photos in the right column.

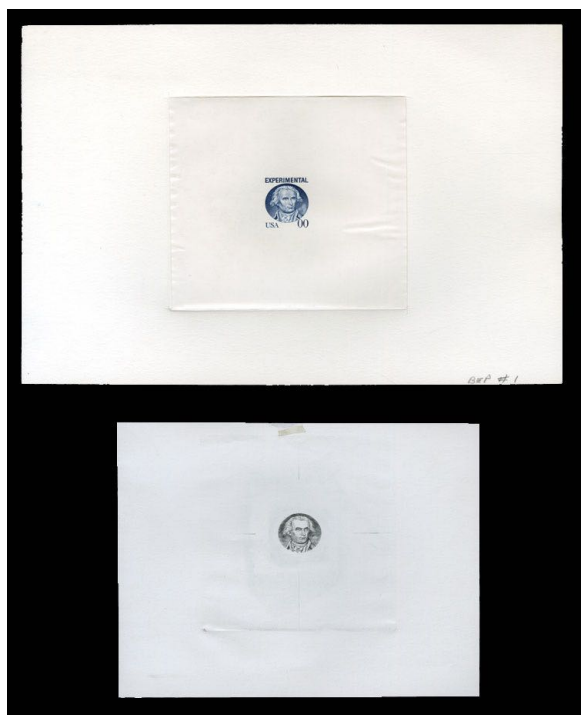
Lot 304 P TD130F 1993 Test Stamp, unissued design (George Clinton) in blue gray inscribed "Experimental USA 00", die proof, also an additional die proof of center only, v.f. (Cat No. TD130F), Photo. Opening Bid \$700.00. Not sold (Ed. Note: Later sold in private treaty for \$500.00.)

See Lot 304 photo on page 10.




[Lot 303 photo above](#)

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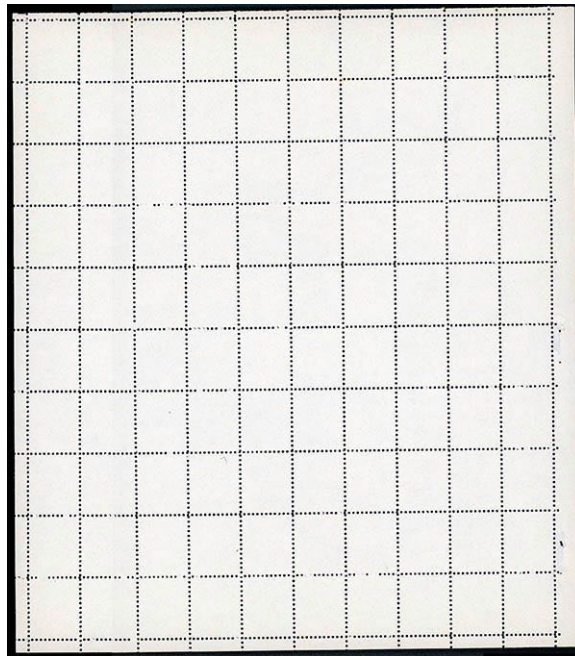
[Lot 304 photo above](#)




Lot 305 **  TD130F 1993 Test Stamp, unissued design (George Clinton) in blue gray inscribed "Experimental USA 00", sheet of 100, n.h., minor creases at top affect three stamps, v.f., cat. \$15,000.00 (Cat No. TD130F), Photo. Opening Bid \$2,800.00. Not sold.




On January 26, 2020 Michael Rogers Online, a Division of Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, LLC held Sale #5084 that contained the following test stamps. There is a Buyer's premium of 20% for this sale.



Lot 10827 **  TD84A Test Stamp, 1920's-50's, B.E.P. blank design, gum breaker ridges 5mm to 6.5mm apart (Scott TD84A), full pane of 100, Blank with no defacement markings., o.g., never hinged, Very Fine. Photo. Scott \$1,250.00. Prices realized are not reported.



On February 2, 2020 Michael Rogers Online, a Division of Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, LLC held Sale #5085 that contained the following test stamps. There is a Buyer's premium of 20% for this sale.

Lot 6200 **  TDB92a Test Stamp, 1997, magenta serpentine die-cut "For Testing Purposes Only" booklet pane (Scott TDB92a), complete unfolded pane of 18, o.g., never hinged, with great color and centering, F.-V.F. Photo. Scott \$2,500.00 (*Ed. note: The Scott catalogue value is \$250.00 NOT \$2,500.00*). Prices realized are not reported.

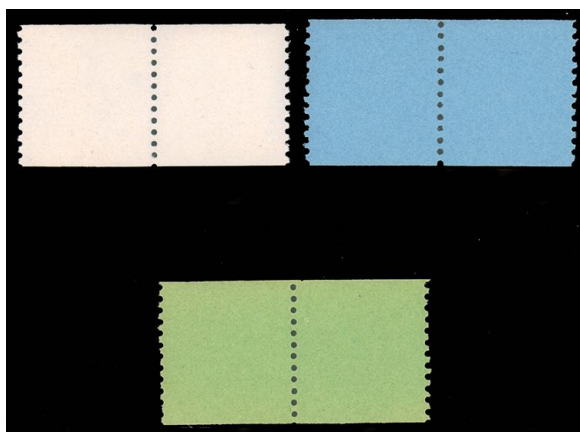
[See Lot 6200 illustration at top of page 11.](#)

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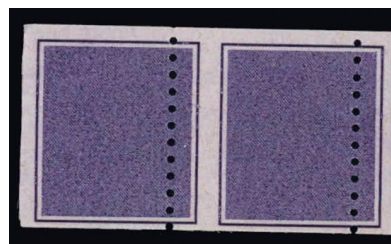
Lot 6200 illustration.

On February 7, 2020 Paradise Valley Stamp Company held Sale F528 that contained the following test stamps. There is no Buyer's premium for this sale.

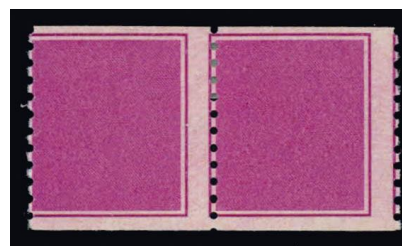


Lot 6045 ** #TD79-TD81, Electric Vendors (Ziegle), 1930s, white, blue and green, three coil pairs. NH, #TD79-TD81, very fine, cat. \$120.00. Not sold.

On February 16, 2020 Michael Rogers Online a Division of Kelleher Auctions held Sale #5087 that contained the following test stamps. There is a Buyer's premium of 20% for this sale.




Lot 9665 ** Test Stamp, 1954, B.E.P. framed rectangle design coil, purple (Scott TD95), pair, 4mm perf shift., o.g., never hinged, Very Fine. Photo. Scott \$10.00. Prices realized are not reported.



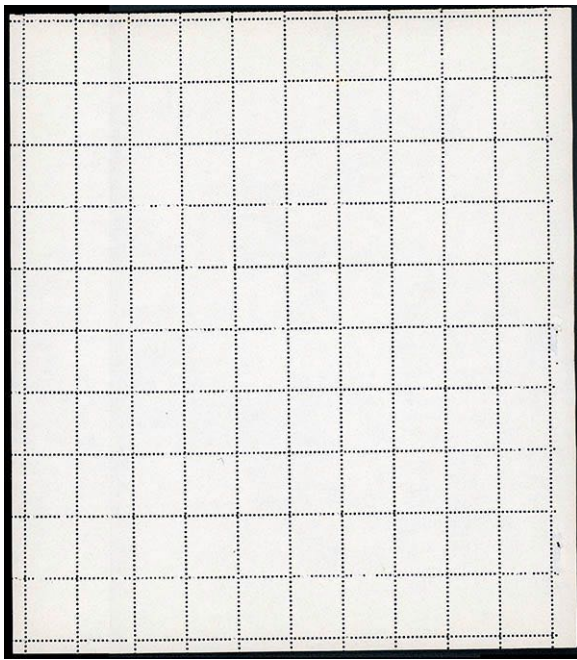
Lot 9666 * Test Stamp, 1954, B.E.P. framed rectangle design coil, red violet (Scott TD96), pair, 2mm perf shift., o.g., hinge remnant, F.-V.F. Photo. Suggested Bid \$10.00. Prices realized are not reported.

On February 23, 2020 Michael Rogers Online, a Division of Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, LLC held Sale #5088 that contained the following test stamps. There is a Buyer's premium of 20% for this sale.

Lot 10944 **  TD84A Test Stamp, 1920's-50's, B.E.P. blank design, gum breaker ridges 5mm to 6.5mm apart (Scott TD84A), full pane of 100, Blank with no defacement markings., o.g., never hinged, Very Fine. Photo. Scott \$1,250.00. Prices realized are not reported.

[See Lot 10944 illustration at top of page 12.](#)

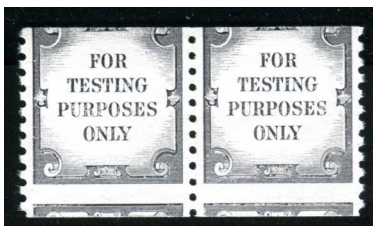
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On March 4, 2020 Downeast Stamps held Sale #325 that contained the following test stamps. There is a Buyer's premium of 12% for this sale.




Lot 883 ** TD109, Test Stamp, slate green, (*Editor note: The image shown in the auction is not green, it is brown which is TD113*) pair, dull gum variety, NH, VF. Photo. East. \$150.00. Not sold.



Lot 1069 ** TD107e, Test Stamp, black, miscut pair, dull gum variety, NH. Photo. Est. \$20.00. Not sold.

On March 8, 2020 Michael Rogers Online, a Division of Daniel F. Kelleher Auctions, LLC held Sale #5090 that contained the following test stamps. There is a Buyer's premium of 20% for this sale.



Lot 7161 **  TDB92a Test Stamp, 1997, magenta serpentine die-cut "For Testing Purposes Only" booklet pane (Scott TDB92a), complete unfolded pane of 18, o.g., never hinged, with great color and centering, F.-V.F. Photo. Scott \$2,500.00 (*Ed. note: The Scott catalogue value is \$250.00 NOT \$2,500.00*). Prices realized are not reported.

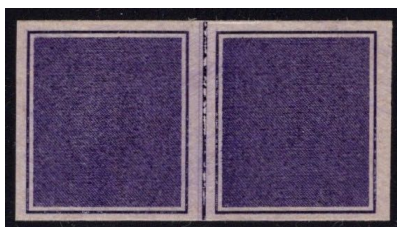
On March 11, Eastern Auctions Ltd. held a sale that contained the following test stamps. There is a Buyer's premium of 18.5% for this sale.



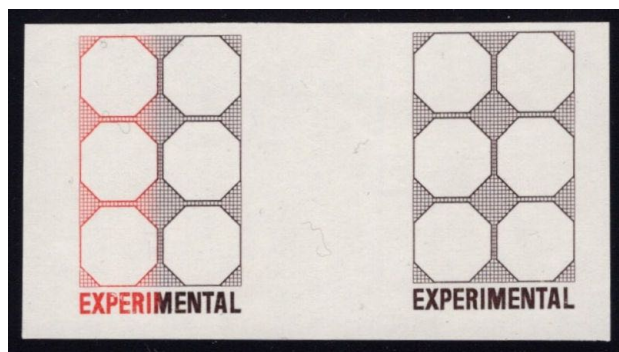
Lot 1219 * USA Test Stamps - "For Testing Purposes Only" coil strips (3 strips of 4, one strip of 3 and one coil pair) One strip of 4 is a line pair and one strip of 4 has horizontal purple lines. F-VF, pebble gum, NH. Photo Ex. Est. \$125.00. Realized \$70.00.

On March 13-14, Dutch Country Auctions / The Stamp Center held Sale #327 that contained the following test stamps. There is a Buyer's premium of 15% for this sale.

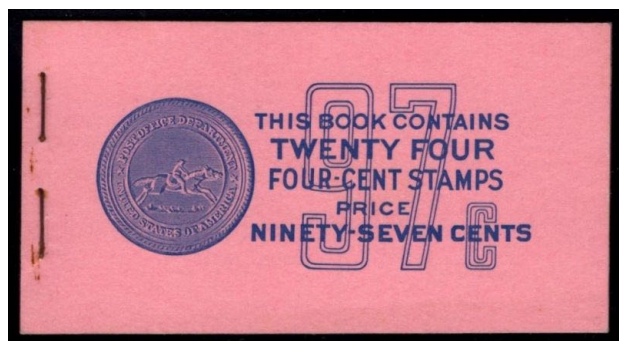
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Lot 505 ** VF TD95a VF NH Imperf Line Pair, violet test coil. Photo. Cat. \$300.00. Realized \$145.00.



Lot 506 ** VF TD118A-F VF NH, "EXPERIMENTAL" test stamp printed by Goebel, set of (6) diff colors. Photo. Cat. \$1,200.00. Realized \$325.00.



Lot 507 ** VF TDB7 VF NH, complete test booklet w/ (4) panes. Photo. Cat. \$900.00. Realized \$450.00.



Lot 508 ** VF TDB41 VF NH, complete test booklet w/ (4) panes, Daffodil w/ #7 on cover. Photo. Cat. \$900.00. Realized \$ 260.00.



Lot 509 ** VF TDB43b VF NH, complete test booklet w/ (2) panes, Daffodil w/ #5 on cover. Photo. Cat. \$400.00. Realized \$160.00.

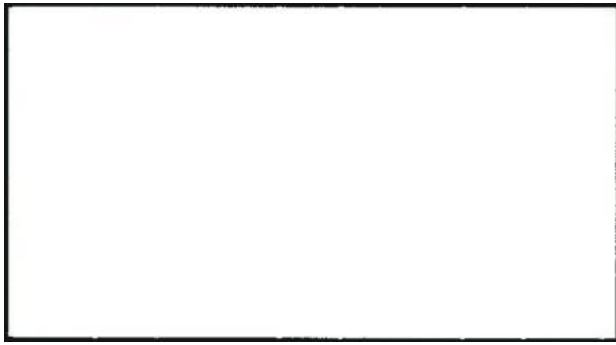


Lot 521 Unused collection/accumulation of over (70) error items mainly 1960s to 1980s including color mis-registrations, misperfs, imperfs, missing colors & other variety/errors including #2201b (2), 2281a, 2474b, 2583a imperf, 3069a, also some test or dummy booklets, stationery, albinos & more generally F-VF NH. Photo Ex) Estimate \$500.00 - \$600.00. Realized \$500.00.




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On March 18, 2020 Vance Auctions Ltd. held Sale #343 that contained the following test stamps. There is no Buyer's premium for this sale.



Lot 4171 * TDB61, Blank self-adhesive TEST PANE of 10 in complete booklet with blank cover. VF. Scarce. Photo. Cat. \$150.00. Realized \$65.00 Canadian.

Lot 4172 *  TDB92a, Self adhesive TEST booklet Pane of 18, VF, NH. Photo. Cat. \$250.00. Realized \$100.00 Canadian.



Proposed Future DSSG Projects


Dummy Booklets Guide

You may have noticed a change in the title of the project that Mike Perry and I have been working on. At the WESTPEX 2019 stamp show in San Francisco, California, Mike and I met several times to discuss and to show both Roger Brody and Nick Lombardi the latest draft of a project that was previously known as the updating of *Research Paper Number 3 - Dummy Stamp Booklets*.

After several discussions, Roger decided that it would be in the best interest of the *United States Stamp Society* to make this project an actual published book. In making it a book, it was also decided that the title would be changed to *Dummy Booklets Guide*. Needless to say that Mike and I were very pleased at this decision and are working to make it the best possible publication on this interesting subject of dummy stamp books.

The last update of *Research Paper Number 3 - Dummy Stamp Booklets* by Earl McAfee, Dummy

Booklets Study Group Chairman, was in 1998. Since then there have been many new discoveries. Many of them have been written up in articles in *The United States Specialist*. Now the time has come to document and illustrate them in the new *Dummy Booklets Guide*.

I ask all of you to join Mike Perry and myself in this project as we are not able to do it all, nor would you want us to do it all. It is a Dummy Stamps Study Group project and all members have a chance, and are greatly encouraged, to provide their input. Any information on new items or any items not listed in the previous 1998 edition of *Research Paper Number 3 - Dummy Stamp Booklets* would be appreciated. While we believe we have most everything necessary to complete this book to include currently known dummy booklets, we may be missing important information that you can provide. This publication will be in full color. 

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Requests for Articles for The United States Specialist

Martin Kent Miller, the Editor of *The United States Specialist*, is always looking for articles of interest for inclusion in our society's monthly publication. The type of articles Martin needs most are the shorter ones, one or two-page articles. If you are considering writing an article for *The United States Specialist*, please contact him for instructions. If the article is regarding dummy stamps, I would appreciate knowing

about it also. Many members of the DSSG have written articles on dummy stamps and other stamps for this publication. It is rewarding and other USSS members benefit greatly from the information that is published in *The United States Specialist*.

Martin can be reached by e-mail at: editor@usstamps.org □

The Other Projects

There are several other projects currently being worked on by various members of the DSSG. They are as follows:

- Compiling a complete and comprehensive list of dummy test stamp roll sizes, box and roll labels. There are many different styles of labels sometimes found on the same test stamps. This is especially true of Bureau of Engraving and Printing products
- Compiling a complete and comprehensive record of auction appearances and prices realized for test stamps
- Compiling a complete and comprehensive listing of references for test stamps
- Compiling a complete and comprehensive list of plate numbers printed on test stamps and the frequency in which they appear and the frequency of joint lines on test coils when they appear. □

This issue and all past issues of the Dummy Stamps Study Group Newsletter - *Dummy News and Views* may be found at:

<http://www.usstamps.org/dssg.html>