



# Dummy News and Views

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

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## Welcome to the Dummy Stamps Study Group's Twenty-Fifth 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 Dummy Stamps Study Group at [trs@napanet.net](mailto:trs@napanet.net)

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

*I wish all of you a very happy, healthy holiday season and a wonderful New Year.*



## John L. Larson Reports New TD37 Discovery

by Terry R. Scott

Fellow dummy stamp collector John L. Larson has reported a previously unlisted variety of Scott TD37, a red Multipost test coil with full shading lines.

The new TD37 discovery has gauge 11.5 vertical perforations, while the previously known TD37 issue measures 9.75. This significant difference normally creates a major catalog number. The new discovery has been reported to Scott Publishing Company for inclusion in the *2013 Scott Specialized Catalogue*.

Please check your TD37 dummy stamps, and report any with 11.5 perfs.

The discovery was recently sold for \$150.00. This sale could help establish a Scott catalog value.

The discovery pair is shown nearby and has a hinge remnant on the left stamp while the right stamp is never hinged. □



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# Michael O. Perry Reports New Dummy Booklet

by Terry R. Scott

Fellow Dummy Stamp Study Group member, Michael O. Perry recently brought to my attention a previously unreported dummy stamp booklet.

The previously unreported dummy booklet was Lot 452 in the December 7, 2011 Sam Houston Philatelics Mail Sale 3002. The lot was described as follows: "Lot 452 **TDB26**, "G" stamp Test Bklt/2, 10-stamp blank panes of TDP11, VF NH, small ink line mark on cover only Cat(\$160)". (see illustration on page 4)

The current 2012 *Scott Specialized Catalogue* value for TDB26 is listed at \$160.00. TDB26 has blank (unprinted) inside and outside covers. The lot was illustrated showing only the inside of the booklet with the copyright notice on the inside cover and the blank panes.

That illustration showing the "K" under the copyright notice is what indicated to Mike this was a previously unreported dummy booklet. The "1992" copy-

right date with a "K" under it was only found on the 29-cent Flag and G Rate booklets made by KCS.

TDB26 was produced by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. There is an American Bank Note Company dummy "G" Rate booklet listed with 2 blank panes but both panes are panes of 5. This dummy booklet is listed in the 2012 *Scott Specialized Catalogue* as TDB38.

As shown in the "Recent Auctions of Interest" section of this newsletter the previously unreported dummy booklet in the Sam Houston auction must have gathered quite a bit of interest as the bidding started at \$18.00 and the final hammer price was \$500.00 + 15% buyer's premium when it was all over! Whoever the buyer was now has a previously unreported dummy booklet variety.

Thanks to Michael O. Perry for his diligent reporting of this new discovery □

## Recent Auctions of Interest to Dummy Stamp Collectors

by Terry R. Scott

On January 26, 2011 Downeast Stamps held Public Auction #266 that contained the following test stamps. There is a 10% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.

Lot 1451 \*\* TDB32, \$1.10 test booklet, cplt, VF Cat. \$20.00 Realized \$???

On March 3, 2011 Downeast Stamps held Public Auction #267 that contained the following test stamps. There is a 10% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.

Lot 1508 \*\* TDB32, \$1.10 red & blue, test booklet, VF Cat. \$20.00 Realized \$??

On May 18, 2011 Downeast Stamps held Public Auction #268 that contained the following test stamps. There is a 10% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.

Lot 1308 \*\* TDB12, \$1 blue, red DUMMY overprint, test booklet cplt, VF Cat. \$50.00 Realized \$???

On September 7, 2011 Downeast Stamps held Public Auction #269 that contained the following test stamps. There is a 10% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.

Lot 1168 \*\* TDB12, \$1 blue, red DUMMY overprint, test booklet cplt, VF Cat. \$50.00 Realized \$10.00

On September 7-8, 2011 Jacques C. Schiff, Jr., Inc. held their 333rd Public Auction that contained the following test stamps. There is a 15% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.

### Test Booklets

Lot 1161 #TDB36a, Booklet 2 panes= (10) 43x135 mm, "4" in corner Photo Est.? Realized \$120.00

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Lot 1162 #TDB43 Var., Mini Daffodil, 1 Pane (8). to be listed n 2012 U.S. Specialized Photo Est. ? Realized \$170.00

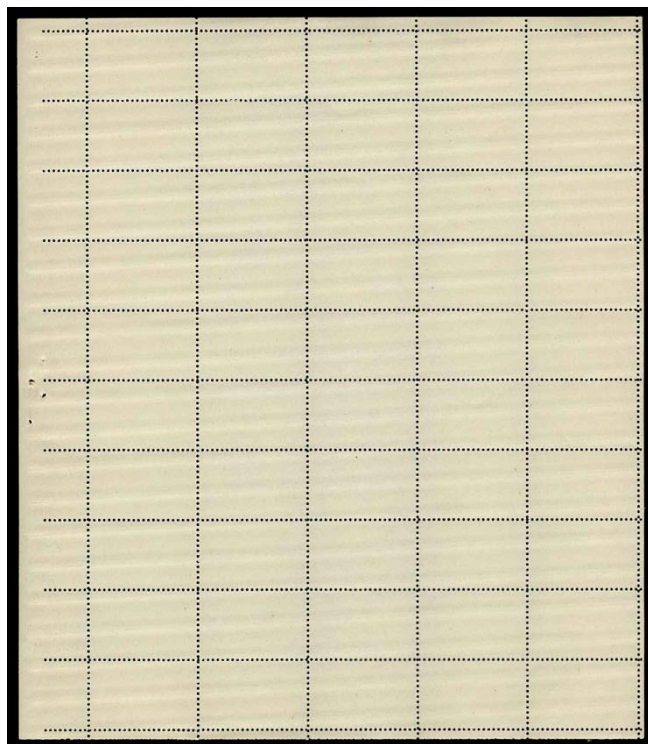
Lot 1163 #TDB43, DAFFODIL Booklets, 2 panes (10), 66x137 mm, "2" on front cover Photo Est. ? Realized \$65.00

Lot 1164 DAFFODIL (front cover), Red, White & Blue (back cover), 2 panes (20), panes with some perfs separated Photo Est. ?? Realized \$85.00 (*Ed Note: Back cover is NOT red, white and Blue, it is multicolor "SLUR" printing patterns*)

Lot 1165 "FOR TESTING PURPOSES ONLY", 1 pane (8), Red, White & Blue covers, to be listed in 2012 U.S. Specialized Photo Est. ?? Realized \$150.00



On October 14-16, 2011, Regency Superior, held Public Auction #89 that contained the following test stamps. There is a 15% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.



Lot #1872: USA 1940 (TD85) FULL BLANK DUMMY TEST PANE OF 50. A MINT never hinged full pane of 50 with no stamp design whatsoever. Pane from old error hoard, it is TD85 with Type I gum breakers and measures 11¼ by 10½, and the large margin has post office staple holes! Cat \$2500.00 Not Sold



Lot #1988: TEST STAMPS 1995 USPS TEST PANE, A real oddity, a vertical strip of 5 on gummed stamp paper with partial USPS 1995 imprint at bottom, printed with simulated perfs and black background. The denomination is '00' on each stamp. MINT never hinged, very fine and rare. Est. \$1,000.00 Not Sold

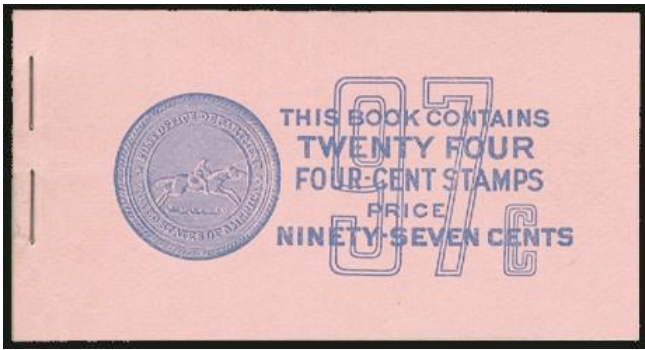


On November 30, 2010, Vance Auctions Ltd. (Canadian) held Mail Sale #285 that contained the following test stamps. There is no buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.



Lot 3850 TD91, Strip of 4 of the 1944 Coil TEST STAMP. VF, NH Photo Cat 100.00+ Realized ???

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Lot 3851 3851 TDB5, TEST BOOKLET, 1959 blue on pink 97¢. F-VF, NH Photo Cat 175.00 Realized ???

Lot 451 TD107e, 1962-88 Black Coil Test Stamps, Roll of 3,000 unopened, centering appears VF-XF, untagged, NH Cat(\$1750) Photo Not Sold



Lot 452 TDB26, "G" stamp Test Bklt/2, 10-stamp blank panes of TDP11, VF NH, small ink line mark on cover only Cat(\$160) Photo Realized \$500.00 (See article on page 2 of this newsletter)

On December 3, 2011, Modern Stamps, Inc., held Public Auction #407 that contained the following test stamps. There is a 15% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.

The following are better scans of the newly reported dummy booklet mentioned on page 2 of this newsletter. These were obtained after the auction closed.



Lot 151 TD107d Test Coil Stamps, Tagged, Dull Gum, Roll of 500, Roll is Cmpt. Except for Strip of 4 Removed From Center (For Identification), F-VF, MNH, OG Photo Cat. \$1,300.00+ Est. \$400.00 Realized \$105.00.



On December 7, 2011, Sam Houston Philatelics held Mail Sale #3002 that contained the following test stamps. There is a 15% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.

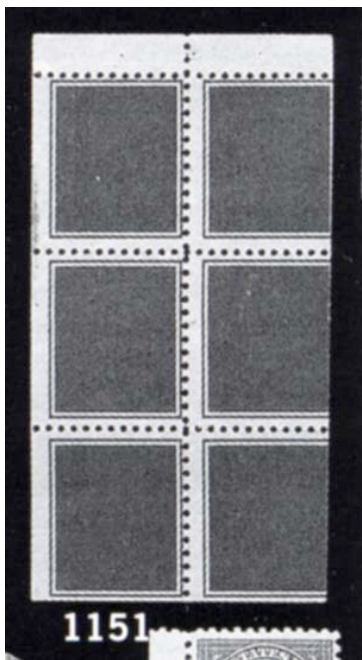


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On December 7-8, 2011 Jacques C. Schiff, Jr., Inc. held their 334th Public Auction that contained the following test stamps. There is a 15% buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.



Lot 1150 #TD47, Mailometer Type I Perforations, Blank Single, blunted LR corner perf, NH Photo Cat \$200.00 Realized \$26.00



Lot 1151 #TDB3a, Purple Test Booklet, Pane (6), slight DG Photo Cat. \$250.00 Realized \$28.00

Lot 1152 Accumulation: 20 most different, 1 Single, 16 multiples (2/6), 2 Bklt panes. 1 Cpl Bklt, 1 coil roll (TD119) most NH, F-VF (no Photo) (2 page scan will be sent on request) Est. IX (\$150.00 - \$250.00) Realized \$46.00



On December 13, 2011 Paradise Valley Stamp Company held their Box & Country Lot Sale #F247 that contained the following test stamps. There is no buyer's premium to be added to the prices realized.



Lot 5070 1940, 37c VIOLET ON BUFF BOOKLET COVER WITH TWO PURPLE PANES OF SIX, #TBD3, complete mint never hinged unexploded booklet, very fine, scarce, cat. \$600.00 Photo MB \$250.00

## Recent Articles of Interest to Dummy Stamp Collectors

by Terry R. Scott

In the November 28, 2011 issue of *Linn's Stamp News* there is a very informative article discussing test and dummy stamps written by Janet Klug. This article is part of a regular series that appears in *Linn's* titled "Refresher Course" that Janet Klug writes. These articles cover many different collecting interests and should be read by all. There is always something interesting in each of them even if the particular subject is not part of your collecting interest.

The article describes and illustrates several different types of test and dummy stamps from the United States and other countries.

It is a wonderful introduction to the interesting subject of test and dummy stamps. I urge you to check it out.

Within the article is a very nice mention of the United States Stamp Society's Dummy Stamps Study Group and gives the web site where you can find the twenty-three newsletters we have produced.

A very big thank you goes out to Janet for this article that helps collectors to understand this very interesting collecting interest. □



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Another article of interest to test and dummy stamp collectors is a very comprehensive article written by Wallace Cleland and Terry Scott titled "FOR TESTING PURPOSES ONLY" Test Stamp Coils.

This article appears in the November 2011 issue of *The United States Specialist* on pages 508 through

518. It is an extremely comprehensive article on the familiar FOR TESTING PURPOSES ONLY design test coil stamps. There are numerous illustrations as well as much detail on each of the different *Scott Specialized Catalogue* listed issues.

## Proposed Future DSSG Projects

### Updating Research Paper Number 3 - Dummy Stamp Booklets

Work is progressing, very much still at a snail's pace, on updating Research Paper Number 3 - Dummy Stamp Booklets. The last update 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 a new updated version of Research Paper Number 3. I am in charge of this update project and knowing that it will take quite

a bit of time to complete, have no estimated completion date in mind. I will be asking all of you to join me in this project as I am not able to do it all, nor would you want me to do it all. It is a DSSG project and all members should have a chance to provide their input. Several illustrations are needed and a listing of these will be sent to you when I compile it. Scans at 300 dpi are necessary for clarity. It is anticipated that this publication will be in color. It has not yet been determined if it will be available on CD. □

### 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. □

## Requests for Articles for The United States Specialist

by Terry R. Scott

Leonard Piskiewicz, 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 Len 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*.

Leonard can be reached by e-mail at: [lenp@pacbell.net](mailto:lenp@pacbell.net) or his mailing address is: Leonard Piskiewicz, Editor, 951 Rose Court, Santa Clara, CA 95051, phone (408) 241-4626. □