Welcome to the Dummy Stamps Study Group’s Seventeenth 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

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

I wish all of you a very happy, healthy holiday season and a wonderful New Year. This newsletter will be very abbreviated and contains mostly information about recent auctions that contained test/dummy stamps. I hope to get more time for the next issue and also to have some article of interest.

Recent Auctions of Interest to Dummy Stamp Collectors

by Terry R. Scott

On September 29 to October 2, 2009 Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc. held Sale 976 that contained the following test stamp. A 15% buyer’s premium is to be added to the prices realized.

Lot 1896 ★ U.S. Automatic Vending Machine Co., [no denomination] Type IA, Test (Unlisted). Pair, 15.5mm spacing between holes, paste-up at top, bright color, Very Fine, scarce photo. Estimate $500-$750 Realized $1,600

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On October 14-15, 2009 Spink / Shreves Galleries held The October 2009 Collector's Series Sale that contained the following test stamps. This auction had some of the nicest test stamps to come to auction in recent times. There are several very happy test stamp collectors out there that were successful in this auction. A 20% buyer’s premium is to be added to the prices realized.

Lot 964 ★ 482

#482, 2c Carmine imperforate, Ty. I, Schermack Ty. III perforations, an amazing paste-up strip of five, with single #482 pasted-up with strip of four Mailometer Test Stamps (#TD14, TD14a), showing the right Test Stamp with Schermack Ty. III perforations and the other three imperforate, o.g., h.r., the right pair l.h., left three test stamps each with a small fault, otherwise very fine; an extremely rare combination paste-up leader strip which well may be unique; this combination is listed by Scott with #409 for $6,000.00, but is not listed for #482. Photo Est. $1,500-2,000 Realized $2,800

Lot 975 ★★★ E

Schermack Ty. III perforations blank testing coil, strip of four, o.g., n.h., extremely fine; these gummed dummy test strips were used to test dispensing equipment, for training employees and to demonstrate machines to prospective buyers; photocopy of 1989 PF certificate; ex-Agris Photo Est. $100-150 Realized $100

Lot 1009  ⏸  371

#371, 2c Alaska-Yukon imperforate, Chicago roulettes, well centered single tied by "St. Louis, Mo./May 24, 1910" wavy line machine cancel to cover to Detroit, W.A. Sisson corner card sticker and Mailometer testing coil with Ty. I perforations misplaced affixed at left, very fine and rarely offered. Photo Est. $300-400 Realized $850

Lot 1036 ★★★ Test Stamps collection of about 40 items in singles, pairs or larger multiples, including unlisted #TD12 strip of three with Mailometer Ty.I perforations, TD24C strip of three with Rosback perforations, TD51 wide right margin pair, TD60A pair (2), TD89 pair (2) and strip of 6, pairs of unlisted Automatic Receiving Teller coils in 1c, 5c, 10c and 25c denominations, set of four different colors of Zeigle Electric Vendors dummy coils in strips of six, unlisted Sanitary Postage Stamp dummy pair, and much more, mostly fine-very fine and largely n.h.; an excellent start to this fascinating area. No Photo Est. $500-750 Realized $750

In the interest of saving space and not repeating illustrations of auction lots that are not sold in the Paradise Valley Stamp Company, Inc. auctions, I will show the illustration of the lot when they are first listed in this newsletter. I will only list the descriptions of lots previously illustrated. Paradise Valley Stamp Company, Inc. holds mail sales approximately every two weeks and lots that are not sold in any certain auction are normally re-listed in the following or the second auction after the listing in which they were not sold.

On October 3, 2009 Paradise Valley Stamp Company, Inc. held Auction #F192 that contained the following test stamp lots. There is no buyer’s premium to be added to the prices realized.

Lot 6108
Lot 6108  **TEST STAMP - SMALL COLLECTION**, eight diff. in pairs, incl. nos. TD96, TD107, TD107b, TD111 line-pair, TD112, TD117, TD123, fine-very fine, photo, cat. $67.00  Photo MB $30  Not Sold

Lot 6109

Lot 6109  **TEST BOOKLET, 1997, BLACK SELF-ADHESIVE WITH 18 BLACK LABELS, STRAIGHT DIE CUT, #TDB87, very fine, photo, cat. $150.00 Photo MB $75  Not Sold

On November 17, 2009 Paradise Valley Stamp Company, Inc. held Auction #F193 that contained the following test stamp lots. There is no buyer’s premium to be added to the prices realized.

Lot 6109

Lot 6568  **1959, "85c Air Mail" BLUE TEST STAMP BOOKLET, #TDB6, complete booklet with two panes and waxed interleaving, very fine, photo, cat. $175.00  Photo MB $75  Realized $85

Lot 6569  **ELECTRIC VENDORS (ZEIGLE), 1930s, WHITE, BLUE AND GREEN, THREE COIL PAIRS NH, #TD79-TD81, very fine, photo, cat. $120.00  Photo MB $60  Not Sold

Lot 6570  **MULTIPOST MAILMASTER, 1944, CARMINE COIL PAIR NH, #TD92, mint never hinged, traces of crayon at left, very fine, photo, cat. $80.00  Photo MB $40  Not Sold

Lot 6571  **1959, 97c BLUE ON PINK TEST BOOKLET WITH SILICONE INTERLEAVES, #TDB5b, complete booklet with four panes, very fine, photo, cat. $325.00  Photo MB $150  Not Sold

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Lot 6572 1960-62, 97c BLUE ON PINK WITH PURPLE MISPERFORATED AND MIS CUT FRAMED RECTANGLES BOOKLET, #TDB7, complete booklet with four panes and interleaving, very fine, photo, cat. $900.00 Photo MB $450 Not Sold

Lot 6573 TEST BOOKLETS FOUR DIFF., nos. TDB12a, TDB32, TDB82 and TDB88, fresh and very fine, No photo, cat. $65.00 MB $30 Not Sold

Lot 6574 1990s?, TWO BLANK SELF-ADHESIVE PANES 44 x 132mm IN COMPLETE BOOKLET, #TDB60, blank cover, very fine, photo, unpriced in Scott Photo MB $125 Not Sold

Lot 6575 1999, BLANK SELF-ADHESIVE PAN E OF TEN IN COMPLETE BOOKLET, #TDB61, blank cover, very fine, Photo, cat. $150.00 Photo MB $75 Realized $75

Lot 6576 1997, BLACK AVERY DENNISON SELF-ADHESIVE TEST STAMP DIE CUT BOOKLET PANE OF 18, #TDB87, very fine, photo, cat. $150.00 Photo MB $75 Realized $75

On December 1, 2009 Paradise Valley Stamp Company, Inc. held Auction #F194 that contained the following test stamp lot. There is no buyer’s premium to be added to the prices realized.

Lot 7158 TEST STAMP - SMALL COLLECTION, eight diff in pairs, incl. nos. TD96, TD107, TD107b, TD111 line-pair, TD112, TD117, TD123, fine-very fine, See previous photo, cat. $67.00- MB $30 Realized $30

On December 11-12, 2009 H. R. Harmer held Sale 2995 that contained the following test stamp lots. There were some very scarce test stamps in this sale. A 18% buyer’s premium is to be added to the prices realized.

Lot #2021


Lot #2022
Lot #2022. TD14, 1906, Brown Test Coil Line Strip of Four, Schermack Type III Perforations★★★★Line pair OG, end stamps NH, left stamp of line pair with small tear into design, Fresh and F-VF, Extremely Scarce Multiple. Condition: Very Fine. Estimate: $2,000 - $3,000 Realized $1,200

Lot #2023

Lot #2023. TD14C, 1906, Rose Red Coil Test Strip of Four with Mailometer Type I Perforations ★ OG, center pair hinged, end stamps NH, right stamp with small corner creases, Fresh and Fine. Condition: Fine. Estimate: $500 - $750 Realized $1,100

Lot #2024

Lot #2024. TD14C, 1906, Rose Red Coil Test Strip of Eight with Mailometer Type I Perforations ★★ NH, small fingerprint on the gum of positions 5 and 6 at the top, Extremely Scarce Multiple, Fresh and Very Fine. Condition: Very Fine. Estimate: $1,000 - $1,500 Realized $650

Lot #2025

Lot #2025. TD15, 1906, Brown Test Coil Single, Mailometer Type I Perforations ★ OG, hr, Fresh and Very Fine. Condition: Very Fine. Estimate: $100 - $150 Realized $120

Lot #2026

Lot #2026. TD15, 1906, Brown Test Coil Line Strip of Four, Mailometer Type I Perforations ★★★ Line pair OG, right stamp of pair thinned, end stamps NH, Fresh and Very Fine, Extremely Rare Multiple. Condition: Very Fine. Estimate: $1,500 - $2,000 Realized $1,700

Lot #2027

Lot #2027. TD24, TD24E, 1908, Dark Red and Green Imperf Coil Pairs ★★ US Automatic Vending Co. test stamps, both appear to be Type 2, but left stamp of Red pair shows a Broken Frame Line at lower right; NH, Red pair with small creases and wrinkles; Green pair is the Largest Recorded Multiple according to Belasco's new book and notes that only one Vertical Pair exists according to his records, this pair would be the second pair and the only Horizontal pair; Very Fine and Very Rare. Condition: Very Fine. Estimate: $750 - $1,000 Realized $2,200

Lot #2028

Lot #2028. TD37, 1910, Multipost Co. Coil Test Pair ★ OG, previously hinged, Rich Color; Fresh and Extremely Fine plus single National One Cent Letter Postage stamp (unused, without gum) and picture of a Mailometer machine. Condition: Extremely Fine. Estimate: $100 - $150 Realized $60

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Lot #3874. U.S. COILS STOCK. ★★ Dozens of rolls and partial rolls of 1930s/90s issues incl. Prexies, Liberties, Prom. Americans, transportation coils (un-checked for numbers), airmails, officials and even noticed sample and test coils, NH, mostly F-VF. Condition: No Photo Estimate: $1,800 - $2,400 Realized $1,600

On December 15, 2009 Paradise Valley Stamp Company, Inc. held Auction #F195 that contained the following test stamp lots. There is no buyer’s premium to be added to the prices realized.

Lot No 7590 ELECTRIC VENDORS (ZEIGLE), 1930s, WHITE, BLUE AND GREEN, THREE COIL PAIRS NH, #TD79-TD81, very fine, cat. $120.00 See previous photo MB $60 Not Sold

Lot 7591 MULTIPOST MAILMASTER, 1944, CARMINE COIL PAIR NH, #TD92, mint never hinged, traces of crayon at left, very fine, cat. $80.00 See previous photo MB $40 Not Sold

Lot 7592 1960-62, 97c BLUE ON PINK WITH PURPLE MISPERFORATED AND MISCUT FRAMED RECTANGLES BOOKLET, #TDB7, complete booklet with four panes and interleaving, very fine, cat. $900.00 See previous photo MB $450 Not Sold

Lot 7593 1990s?, TWO BLANK SELF-ADHESIVE PANES 44x132mm IN COMPLETE BOOKLET, #TDB60, blank cover, very fine, unpriced in Scott See previous photo MB $125 Not Sold

Lot 7594 1999, BLANK SELF-ADHESIVE PANE OF TEN IN COMPLETE BOOKLET, #TDB61, blank cover, very fine, cat. $150.00 See previous photo MB $75 Not Sold

Requests for Articles for The United States Specialist

Leonard Piszkiewicz, 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 or his mailing address is: Leonard Piszkiewicz, Editor, 951 Rose Court, Santa Clara, CA 95051, phone (408) 241-4626.

Recent Publication of Interest

2008 Durland Standard Plate Number Catalog

According to an article in the June 2008 issue of The United States Specialist, The United States Stamp Society recently released the new 2008 Durland Standard Plate Number Catalog at the Society’s Annual Meeting at NOJEX ’08, May 23, 2008.

The 2008 Durland edition is the eighth produced by the USSS and its publication celebrates the 58th anniversary of the introduction of the Standard Plate Number Catalog.

The new 2008 Durland has been reformatted and digitized by Len Piszkiewicz and is edited by Wallace Cleland.

The new 2008 Durland is an all-color presentation and is in a three-column 8-1/2” x 11” format. It is available in two formats, a perfect-bound and spiral-bound.

The new greatly expanded edition contains listings for numerous back-of-the-book sections of the Scott Catalogue, including test stamps.

The 2008 Durland is available for $25 perfect-bound and $27 spiral-bound. USSS members will receive discount pricing of $20 perfect-bound and $22 spiral-bound. All prices include postage. Orders may be sent to USSS Executive Secretary, P. O. Box 6634, Katy, TX 77491-6634. They can also be ordered online at the USSS website, www.usstamps.org. Online orders are only available for purchase with PayPal.