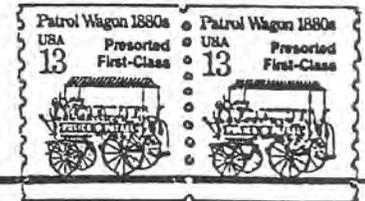
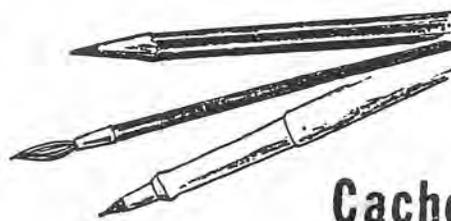




Left-Sider News



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Cachet Makers Association AFDCS Chapter 65

S-1

Volume 1 Number 3
March 1989

c/o Chptr. Rep. Cynthia Scott, Box 1085,
Pine Grove, CA 95665

CMA HAS CLOUT! DAYTIME CM BOURSE!

All you great letter writers get rewarded! Thanks to lots of input, the Graebner Chapter has definitely put our Cachet Makers Bourse in the day time part of their program for the September AFDCS Convention.

As Chapter Rep., I received letters from Judith Fogt, Lois Hamilton, Ed Denson, Kim Yarbrough, and Dick Leavitt on this subject.

Dick Leavitt needed some kind of "official" opinion from our group about how we felt, and he needed it before the middle of March, so the Graebner Chapter could make a final decision and schedule the event.

I know four letters from a membership numbering over forty is not a majority, but I gambled a little and gave Dick the "go ahead" anyway. The vibes from our last convention had a lasting effect.

The Graebner Chapter isn't wasting any time. They've already mailed out bourse contracts to most of us. Another piece of good news is the table rent: only \$35 !!!

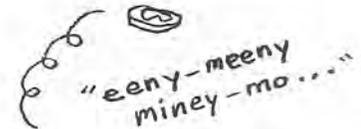
In case you didn't get it straight from the Graebner Chapter, here's the specifics:

Cachet Makers Bourse

Saturday, September 23, 1989

12:30 pm until 6

This follows immediately after the CMA Meeting, which is from 11 am to 12:30 pm.



GET READY TO JUDGE

Enough masthead ideas have come in now to start making a selection. All those who commented on our logo-selecting process have voted to pick just one and keep it the same for every issue of our newsletter.

Here's your chance to narrow the field. Pick a first and a second choice from the eight ideas on the following two pages plus the one at the top of this page.

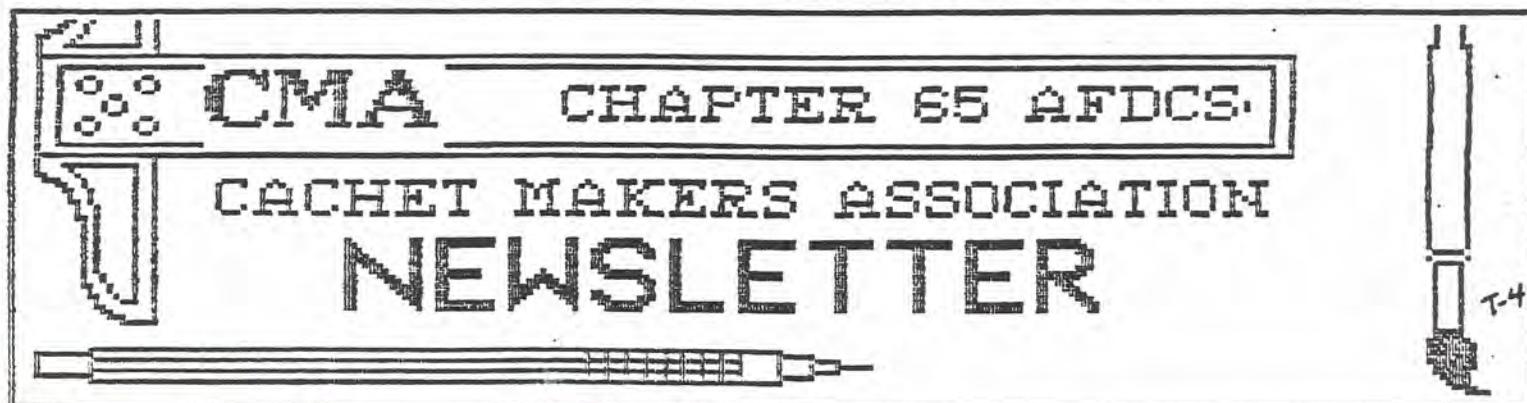
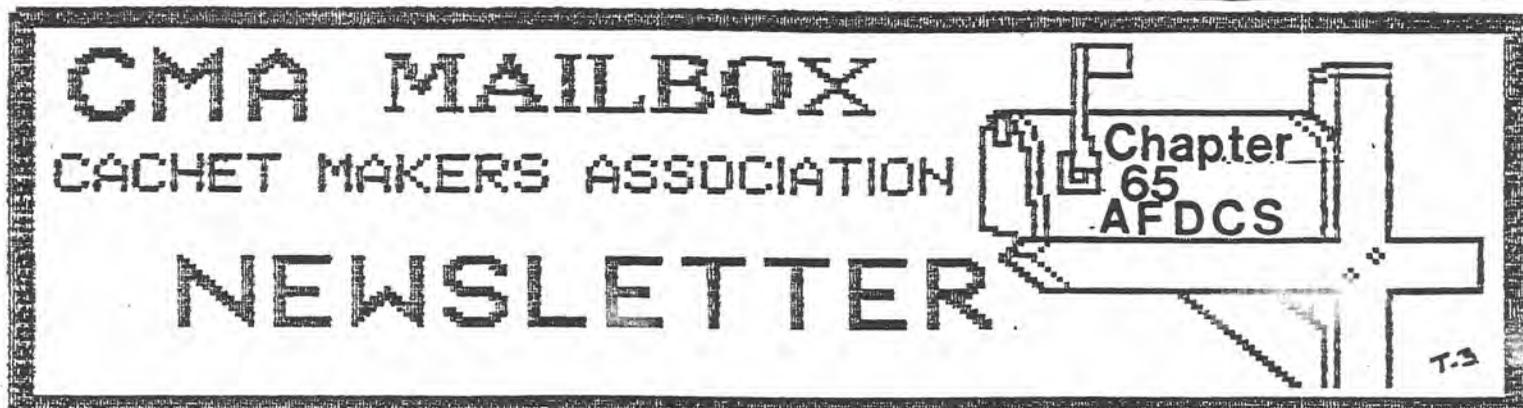
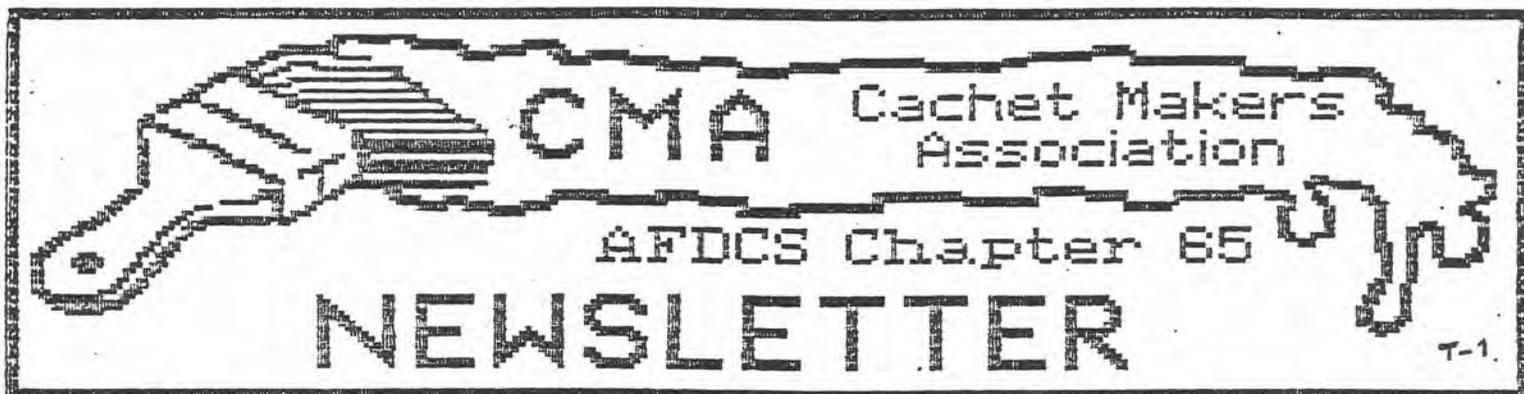
Identify your choices by the letter and number written in the lower right-hand corner of each sample.

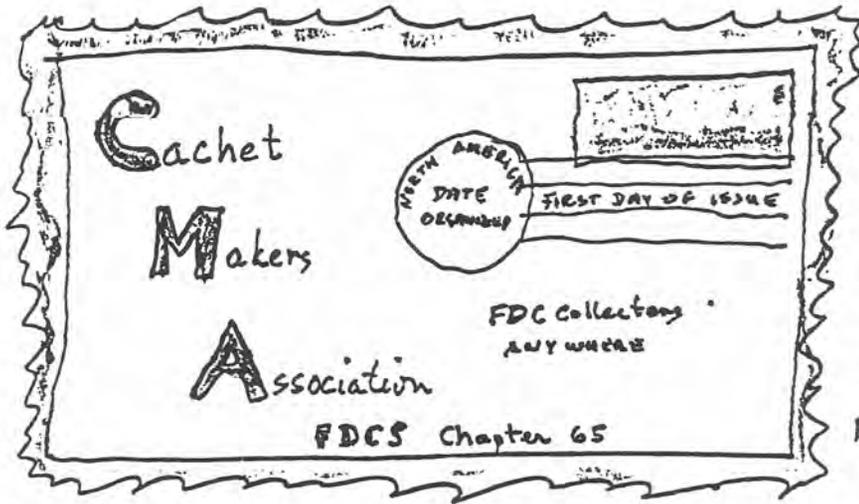
If you don't like any of the ideas presented here -- send in one you do like.

Unless one design is an overwhelming favorite, we will have a semi-finals group to pick from next month. Any newly submitted ideas will appear then. These can include modifications to the existing designs.

Remember, you will see this masthead over and over again, so pick something that will really please you. Pick & Respond Now!

These computer-created ideas may be further refined & smoothed out.





This is a rough idea. Anyone may "polish" it up.

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CMA
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Newsletter

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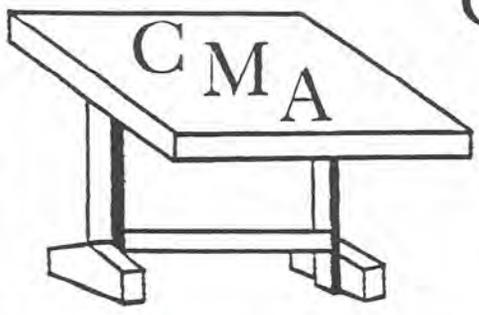
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CMA

CACHET MAKERS ASSOCIATION
CH. 65 AFDCS

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Cachet Makers Association

CHAPTER 65 AFDCS

NEWSLETTER

T-5

(Ed. note: Ed really has entered into the spirit of article contribution. He sent in this letter about a recent coil stamp re-issue, and suggested I might want to chop some out to make it fit. I chose not to change a word -- I liked every personal touch. Hope you can read the fine print okay -- it's worth the effort.)

I'm a PNC FDC cachet maker, dealer, cataloger etc. and after last year's hectic pace the 1989 USPS release schedule looked real good - there are no PNCs on it. But on very short notice the USPS decided, correctly, that when the 25¢ Flag over Yosemite coil came out on pre-phosphored paper, rather than begin tagged after it was printed, collectors would feel it was a new and different stamp.

So they announced it would have its FDOI at Yosemite on Feb 14, 1989. There would be no Ceremony and no Program, but there would be an FDOI cancel available. I'm also a UO fan, so I reprinted 100 of our 10 Springs cachets from the original version. I was going to add a line about the paper, but time was short so we went to press with no changes.

To a PNC collector each number is a separate stamp - and some numbers are scarce and valuable and we spend a lot of time speculating about new releases sometimes. This was one of them. People called all week with rumors of which numbers and what quantities I'd find up there. The numbers would start over at #1, they had split the printing of #5 between both kinds of paper so I'd find #5 but I'd better be careful, plates #7-10 were all done at once & there would be bunches of numbers. It was nerve-racking - but especially the prospect of getting multiple numbers. I had hopes of doing about 30 PNC covers, which meant buying 1500 stamps. If there were two numbers it would be the same as if there were two different stamps. I'd need to make 30 of each number, and some combinations. Just how much money was in the bottomless pit anyway... Then I agreed to service the Heartland UOs for them - 200 covers. And another friend asked if I would do a few for him. Maybe I should take the truck.

The week prior it snowed heavily here in the coastal mountains, and in the Sierras where Yosemite was. I slid into a ditch while going over the mountain to my radio show early Saturday AM and bent part of the front end. Could I get it fixed? If I did, could I get over our mountains to the big mountains, and into the valley? Mary Alice packed me up with wool socks, sleeping bags, chains, and a thick sweater.

It was a snap. Roads were plowed, temperature was in the 50's. I just breezed in about 10 AM, kind of expecting a circus such as I had seen in May of 88 when the original was released. Lines everywhere, rangers barking orders. This time it was marvellous. I saw 3 other collectors the entire day. Len Piszkievitz and Wally Ebright were there. Wally was working with other people's covers, so Len and I were the only cachet makers at the FDOI. Len not only had his cacheted covers, but he had made up a 3 color non-program. I did a little swap, and went to find out about the numbers. Only #8 was there.

I bravely walked up to the window and said "Give me six thousand copies." That created a brief sur, and resulted in me getting 60 rolls of 100. The number came every 48 stamps, so each roll had 2 numbers. So I unfolded my brown grocery bag for the scrap and started stripping the rolls. That's PNC talk for taking the plate number strips out of the roll. The rest is "scrap" and I began filling the bag with it. I had so much scrap at the 7.6 Carretta Ceremony that the local TV station showed me sitting next the great heap of it. This time it compressed better, I guess. I didn't have to use my second bag.

The clerks were great. There were two of them - which seems perhaps excessive in view of the fact that only 4 of us showed up all day long to make FDC. But they were very careful with the cancellers - also important since a PNC FDC with the cancel on the number is just another FDC with no special merit or value. I was looking for UO cancels, of course - why bother to drive 8 hours each way otherwise & found that the red double circle canceller made really nice looking covers. To make the point obvious that they were actually FDC I put a non-number single in the upper right corner and got a standard FDOI cancel. Then I added a PNC strip of 5 at the bottom and had it tied with 2 or 3 of the red UO cancels. The 20 or so I did looked great.

This may seem like a simple matter, but I've been thru 4 Ceremonies before working out this formula for UO cancels. My first Yosemite covers back in May of '88 had UOs on the non-number stamp, which is backwards for PNC collectors. Our question is "Which number was actually available on the FDOI" and to prove that we need the UO cancel on the numbered strip.

I decided not to waste the remaining covers so I got UO cancels on a non-number single in the upper right corner. Now I'll add strips of any other numbers that I find during the grace period of 60 days and send them to Washington for backdating with the FDOI cancel. This should make those covers look a bit nicer, and more special.

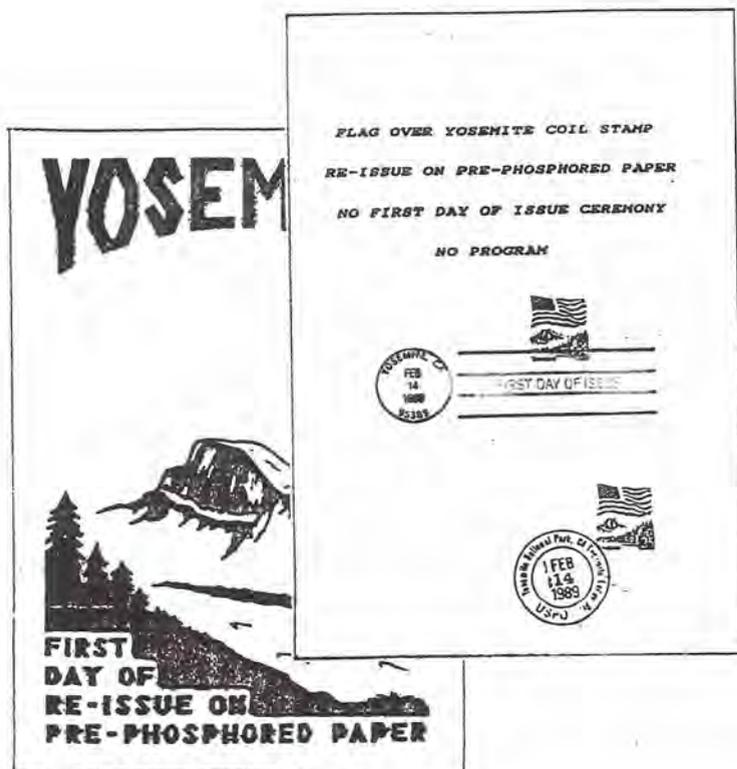
Of course I did a few Combo FDC using FDC of the original tagged version with plates #1 and 2 and adding PS3 or PS5 of the new stamp to them with UO cancels. Then a few of the 22¢ Flag Test Coil FDC got their strips added. I couldn't think of any sensible reason to make Combo FDC of any other PNC. I had thought of making one with one numbered coil of each of the flag stamps, but time was short.

To service the 300+ covers I did, I was at the window for perhaps 4 hours & had a good time talking with the clerk about stamps (which he did not collect.) Rusty, the hereditary postmaster, came out and offered us some coffee and made us feel quite welcome and at home. Later he showed us some "cachets" for mail carried from the High Camps by Mule. This summer I may try and send some covers Muleback for my Kicking Mule Record Co.

After my covers were done I visited the Ansel Adams shop, and the Visitor Center in search of "natural" objects to use and found some matted prints of Half Dome for \$4 each which worked fine. I put a non-number single on with the FDOI cancel, a numbered single or strip (depending on the matting width) with a UO cancel, and got the Postmaster to autograph them. After coming home and looking at them I think I might have hit on something. They make very good conversation starters - and work on several levels. Non collectors see the picture, collectors see the FDOI, PNC collectors see the number.

Postcards were a definite failure. The ink doesn't show up well on the glossy face, and rubs off easily.

Late in the afternoon I left and drove home. Total time 2 days, total costs \$30 printing plus 1000 miles driving plus about \$30 postage. Total fun, immense. □



Dear Cindy,

Thanks for the Cachet Makers Association information. I believe I'd like to belong. Incidentally, I enjoyed reading your Convention recap in First Days.

I'd like to get an ad in the next available Cover Exchange column in First Days. Preferred text:

Program Collectors: Yosemite Coil Re-issue had no ceremony and no USPS program. Will trade my "No Program" for your duplicate FDOI program. SASE for details. L. Piszkievicz, 951 Rose Court, Santa Clara, CA 95051.

So that you know what I'm talking about, I'm enclosing copies of the front and inside of the No Program program and also a copy of my cachet. I printed these in red, blue and green, following the format of the stamp. I traded one of these to Ed Denson at Yosemite for another program (Coal Car coil). Production was about 50, so I hope to be able to build a program collection by trading. Oh, the silly things we do for fun!

Best wishes,

Len

CACHET MAKERS SPOTLIGHT: JOHN BYRNES

I'm a new cachetmaker who just started with last year's wheel-chair issue. All of my cachets are done on an Apple II 65 computer using graphics software and are printed out one at a time on an Apple color printer. From the printouts I cut, fold and glue into envelopes.

I'm a highschool computer science and wordprocessing teacher. I let my students create cachets. If their designs appeal to me, I pay the student for letting me use them. Profits from those student designs are used to buy additional software for the classes.

So far, my students have done cachets for the Snow Goose, Express Mail, Antartic Explorers, Cable Car, North Dakota, and the A. Philip Randolph issues. Only once did we have a conflict where more than one student wanted to do the same issue ...

Here's a story about a CACHET THAT DIDN'T GET USED:

Two students wanted to create cachets for the Express Mail stamp. I told them that I would pick only one to use, and base that choice on a class vote. Both boys worked after school for about a week to complete their designs.

When we showed the designs to the class, the vote was near unanimous. The LOSER was given a name: "Fag Eagle" because of its less than fierce characteristics. As one kid put it, "the eagle looks like it's wearing mascara and eating mustard." Actually, Fag Eagle got more recognition around school than the other eagle -- but not the kind the artist wanted. He dropped my class at semester end to take an academically stressful P.E. class. □



(Ed. note: Too bad I can't show the colors here. I don't think poor Fag Eagle was really that effeminate, but who can argue with teen-agers?)

P.S. Sure am glad my neighbor has zoom/reduction on his photo copy machine!

ENVELOPES FOR LOIS

In response to Gary Dubnik's idea about Supply Sources, Lois Hamilton offered this information:

I have my rag content envelopes custom made by "The Envelope Designer" in Houston, Texas.

They use Strathmore brand Bright White, wove, sub 24, 100% cotton fiber, and put no glue on the flaps. 11,000 quantity per order.

I have used Cranes Crest, but prefer Strathmore Bright White. This is the whitest white and very best quality paper I have found for water colors.

.....

Lois offered her agreement with several ideas mentioned in previous newsletters. In particular, she is planning to help give information to beginners, and can give some news about some good Post Offices to visit.

Thank you, Lois. We will be glad to hear from you.

RICK UNBENDS HIS ARM

After some confusion and some thought (second thoughts), Rick Range has decided to decline involvement with the CMA. He was probably flattered when Tom Foust "volunteered" him back at the October meeting, but mystified too.

Rick Range
16212 S. Menlo Ave
Gardena, Ca. 90247
February 27, 1989

Cachet Makers Association
c/o Mrs. Cynthia H. Scott
Box 1085
Pine Grove, CA 95665

Dear Cynthia:

Hi, how are you? I think you're doing a good job so far on the newsletters. It is my opinion that the logo should be the same from issue to issue. Maybe from all the submitted logos the members could vote on their favorite. Of course, that depends on logos being submitted.

To answer your question about my involvement in C.M.S. I have no idea what I was volunteered for. I was not at the meeting when my name came up. Actually, I don't have the time nor inclination to get involved in this project. My only involvement (mistake) was the suggestion about the clearing house.

I feel it would be better if my name were dropped from the membership - I am not a cachetmaker and do not wish to put a lot of effort into the group.

Sincerely,

Rick Range

Rick Range
AFDCS #14124

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Response and articles and letters were so plentiful this month that I had enough material to make a separate mailing just for us! The Chapter Newsletter hasn't arrived here yet (March 17), so I will forward that by itself when it comes.

Next month the Cachet Makers Spotlight will shine on Kim and Linda Yarbrough, and Bernard Kroll.

Kim Yarbrough provided the list of names and addresses on the back of this sheet.

What we need to agree on is whether or not we want to spread our membership and addresses to the non-member public. I get a few inquiries from collectors who would like to send their want lists to our members.

How do you feel about this? Should we have a formal vote? Maybe some pro and con arguments first? This issue was mentioned at the October charter meeting, but not resolved, as far as I know.

I love this playing at editor, and I love getting mail, so -- keep those cards and letters coming! There may come a time when things get too involved for me to keep up, but in the meantime while we are still small -- thanks for letting me dabble.

Cynthia Scott