

The Perfins Club had its own perfin—briefly—in 1977

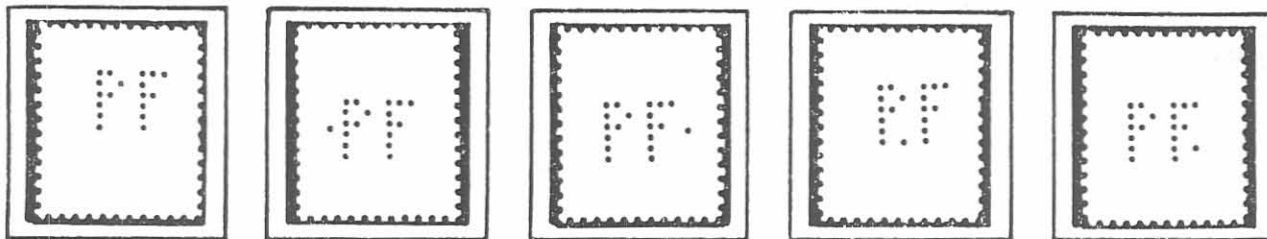
Personal, vanity, and philatelic perfins—the first in a series of articles by Floyd A. Walker

Once upon a time, the Perfins Club did have its own perfin! It was used in conjunction with a Perfins Club National Exhibition in Los Angeles in 1977.

Oil and Western Union perfins.

One pattern was supposedly for the exclusive use of the late Dave Stump, who was then president, another for vice-president Savage, another for then-

At the time, it was said that the perforator would be destroyed following the SESCAL show in Los Angeles. That may be. It may also be that the same perforator was modified once again to create



The five PF perfins. From left, for general use, for the president, the vice-president, the secretary, and the treasurer.

There were actually five perfins; the idea of then-vice-president Dorothy Savage (now Dorothy Hazard), a long-time worker in the Club.

The five patterns are variations on a central PF pattern (which was intended to stand for **PerFins**). They were created by modifying a bank perforating machine given to Savage's late husband, Glen, by his employer. John Burns, another member very active at the time, modified the perforator to create the five patterns.

A basic PF pattern was made available to members for use on their own correspondence.

Four additional patterns were created by using a "floating hole" concept, much like the Standard

secretary Floyd Walker, and the fourth for the late John Gooding, who was treasurer.

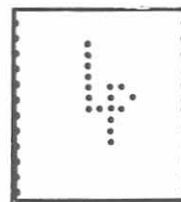
In actuality, all four patterns were made readily available to members.

The five patterns were used on mail for the first time on April 1, 1977, and special covers commemorating the event were created. They were sold to members for 65¢ each postpaid.

The perfins were vanity items in the truest sense. They were not used to control the use of postage. They were widely used at the time on club mailings. They were used to mail dues notices.

They are listed in the U.S. catalog as P80.1-P80.5.

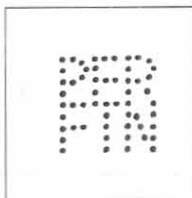
the LP pattern (#L130.5) as the "official perfin" of the City of La Palma, California.



I have a cover in my collection showing the LP perfin on the block of four 13c stamps (Scott 1717-1720) issued July 4, 1977, plus a single of the 7.7c saxhorn bulk mail stamp (Scott 1614). The cover is cancelled in Cincinnati as a first day cover for the Independence Day stamps.

Efforts to confirm that the perforator has actually been destroyed have been unsuccessful.

Then there is the Perfins Club perfin that never was



In one of the old files I found in my basement were the two drawings at left and right. They are pen drawings prepared by Baddeley Brothers in London in response to an inquiry about having a Club perfin. Nothing ever developed from the idea and neither drawing was ever turned into a perfin. I have no notes to indicate when the drawings were made or why the perfin was not adopted. The patterns differ only in spacing between the lines.

