

Steve Endicott is still looking for updates to the list of perfins on the Kansas/Nebraska overprints that appeared in the April *Bulletin*. If you have any perfins on that set, send a list of them to Steve so he can share an updated list with us soon. His address is Steve Endicott, 20 Greensburgh Lane, San Anselmo, CA 94960. You can also e-mail him at Sendicott@FairIsaac.com.

Mahlon Chestnut (#2799) challenges our statement in the January issue that the ARI/PEX show perfin was first used in 1975. Chestnut sent along a postal card with



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

for our use of prepositions in a recent issue of the *Bulletin*. Chuck points out that one cannot have a perfin

a stencil. At the time Edison came up with the idea (1870) it was the first successful copying process. The tiny motor drove a stylus up and down at 8,000 punctures a minute. The paper was then set in a frame and inked by a roller. Multiple copies could be made from the stencil—a big improvement over the idea of having to make individual handwritten or typed copies. The electric pen caught my attention because it somehow reminded me of perfins. There are only six known examples of the electric pen in existence. Can you imagine how many new perfins one could create with one of them today?

If you're at the APS show in Cleveland, look for the exhibit "To Prevent Postal Fraud and Deceit" by Dr. Harvey Tilles (#7L). The exhibit

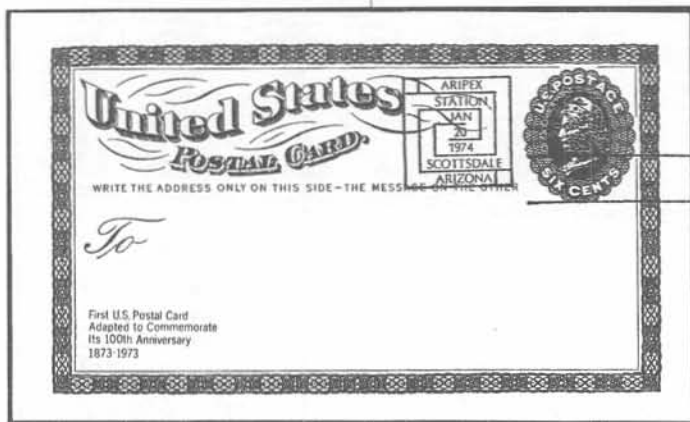
keeps racking up wins at shows around the United States and Europe.

The Perfins Club got some nice publicity in the *U.S. Stamp News*. Lou Repeta (#1481) wrote a two-part series of articles about U.S. perfins in the magazine's November-December 1998 and January-February 1999 issues. The articles covered the history of U.S. perfins and provided some nice illustrations.

A brand new list of the holdings in the Perfins Club Library is included in this issue of the *Bulletin*. It has been several years since we've published such a list and there have been a number of additions to the library, including copies of the new U.S. and German catalogs. Take a few minutes to review the list and if you have additional articles or publications you think should be in the library, let the librarian know. If you can donate material to the library, it is always appreciated. We will try to keep you updated on further additions.

By the time this *Bulletin* reaches you, we'll be heading to Lexington for the annual meeting of the Club at the Precancel Stamp Society annual convention. We hope we see you there. If you can't make it this year, start making plans now to attend the 2000 meeting in Albuquerque.

FAW



an ARIPEX show cancel and the ARI/PEX perfin—dated January 20, 1974. We've tried to contact someone at the Arizona Federation of Stamp Clubs for definitive information but haven't been able to get a response. Can anyone confirm for sure when the ARI/PEX perfin was first used.

Chuck Spaulding (#2355), who is heading the project to catalog revenue perfins, took us to task

on a stamp—it has to be in a stamp! Point taken. We'll try to watch our *ins* and *ons* in the future.

A recent article in *Smithsonian* magazine dealt with the electric pen invented by Thomas Edison. It was powered by two wet cell batteries and was more like a sewing machine than a writing implement. It punched holes in a piece of paper to make