

RATHKAMP MATCHCOVER SOCIETY

RMS BULLETIN

THE VOICE OF THE HOBBY
SINCE 1941



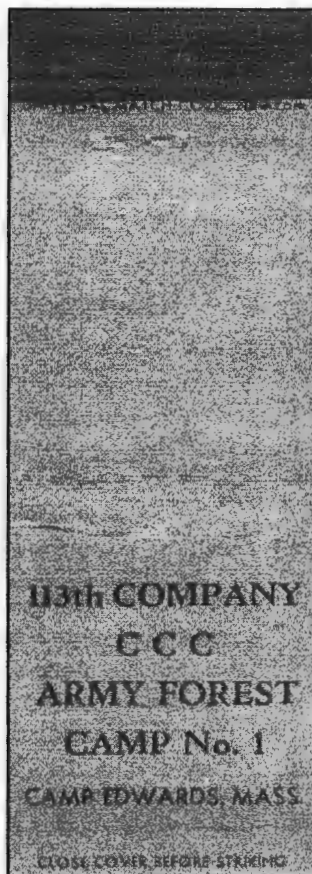
RMS BULLETIN NO. 511

November/December 2004

CCC Camps

by
James Willard, Sr.

On March 3, 1933, Franklin Delano Roosevelt was sworn in as President of the United States of America. The Great Depression was hurting both the economy and the people of the country. Immediately, the President began planning steps to help the economy. He instituted the 'alphabet agencies', such as the NRA, ECW, PWA,



The President's Message

Now that this year's convention is history, a lot of collectors are getting back to their regular routines: sorting and putting covers in albums, updating want lists and sending out trades.

It would be a great idea if a few more of our members tried to attend one of the numerous local club meetings. The local clubs could use the support and it provides the collector an opportunity to meet fellow philluminists. You'll find out about new covers and might have a chance to pick some for your collection. You might consider accepting the Keystone-Lehigh invitation to attend their Swapfest in Morgantown, October 28-30, 2004.

After you finish reading this edition of the RMS Bulletin, why not take a few minutes to write or e-mail Mike Prero and let him know what you think of the bulletin. Mike puts a lot of effort into it and I'm sure that he'd like to hear your opinion. You could let him know what articles you enjoyed, what you disliked and what you'd like to see in upcoming issues.

RMS President,

Morris Pasternak



Editorial

Something...A Little Different!

The Sep/Oct issue of Rocky Mountain Matchcover Club's newsletter had a front page article that caught my attention immediately...

"Why I Collect Dog Matchcovers"... "by Shala Giardini, Age 13 years". ...A youngster in *this* hobby? ...A youngster who *writes* in this hobby? I can appreciate that as a collector, as an editor, and as a teacher! Well done, Shala!

Just how many kids do we have in this hobby? My database is useless on that one. There are probably at least a couple who have been dragged in kicking and screaming because Mom or Dad thought it would be a nice family activity...but how many kids do we have in the hobby who actually collect and who are actually interested?

I'd really like to know and follow up on this. Please e-mail or write me with their names and ages; RMS membership is not necessary here.

THE RMS BULLETIN

The RMS Bulletin is a bimonthly publication of the Rathkamp Matchcover Society. RMS dues are \$20 (single), \$25 (single) for Canada and \$35 (single) for overseas. Add. family members are \$4 each. Dues are to be submitted to Treasurer. All articles, advertisements, comments, and letters should be sent to the Editor. Publication dates are: Sept., Nov., Jan, Mar., May, and Jul. Deadline for all submissions is 30 days before the publication month. This publication is owned by the Rathkamp Matchcover Society and is made available for public distribution through first class (Canadian and overseas) and bulk mail rates.

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WPA, and many more, but the most successful of these was the Civilian Conservation Corps and its many camps.

The CCC camps existed for 9½ years, and during that time there were 3½ million men who served in them. There were over 4,000 different campsites in the country. Most towns had a CCC camp at or nearby at one time or another.

The original idea behind the camps was forest preservation. For over a hundred years, the country's forests had been decimated by the logging companies and private farmers. Valuable top soil was washing away due to the loss of tree roots and poor farming methods. President Roosevelt viewed the CCC programs as a two-fold solution to save both the top soil and the jobs of young men. The unemployment rate at this time was 30%; banks were failing; factories were closing. It was a bad time in America's history.

The first camp was opened on April 17, 1933, near Edinburg, Virginia [shown below]. Its number was CCC Company 322-F-1. the F-1 stands for 'forestry camp #1'. During the summer of 1933, the camps began to fill other types work, and more camps opened. Some of these addition function classifications were: Soil Conservation Service (SCS), National Park (NP), State Park (SP), Private Land (P), Drainage (DR), and the Bureau of Reclamation (BR). There were many more designated type camps before the program ended on July 1, 1942. The Civilian Conservation Corps was not ended. Instead, it was not further funded by Congress and simply allowed to die.

Camps were established for World War I veterans, American Indians, and African-Americans. There were a few attempts to organize female camps, but the idea never developed. Eleanor Roosevelt spearheaded such an attempt, but the resources I was able to locate didn't say what later happened.



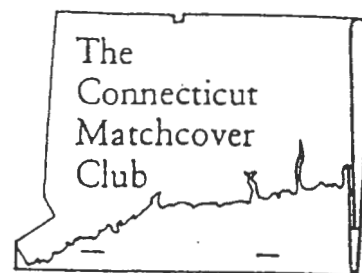
Enrollment in the Civilian Conservation Corps was for six month periods, and for many it was the first time away from home, and at a far distance. When some found themselves living in a tent, sleeping and eating, sometimes in inclement weather, they left immediately to return home...but only a few. From 1933-1942, CCC members improved the nation's public lands, while receiving food, shelter, education, and a precious \$30 a month stipend. The latter saved many of their families from hunger. On each payday, the CCC worker received \$5, while \$25 went home to their wives, children, and parents.

Educations programs were offered at virtually all 4,500 CCC camps in the U.S. Courses included reading, writing, and arithmetic to electronics to radio operation. Over 40,000 illiterates were taught to read and write by CCC educational advisors, and thousands gained high school diplomas. Some 40 universities gave courses to CCC camps by mail.

All in all, the buildings, pavilions, trails, shelters, etc., you see in or national and state parks were initially constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The forest were replanted with billions of trees, the landscapes of many farmlands were changed, and to this day the nation still reaps profits from the work these men did in the 1930's. Another benefit was the 3½ million young men now acclimated to barracks life and ready for the coming war.



*Diamond
and the
Connecticut
Matchcover
Club*



invite you to

*"Christmas in Connecticut
2005"*

for the

65th Annual R.M.S. Convention

Radisson Hotel

Enfield, Connecticut

August 7-13, 2005

Here's all the pertinent information and the many reasons you should join us.

The Hotel: Room Rate - \$89 plus 12% tax. Includes full Buffet Breakfast for up to two per room per day. Indoor and outdoor pools, Jacuzzi, Exercise Room, Game Room, Tennis, Volleyball, Complimentary Outdoor Parking Lots. Restaurants - 15% off all meals at on premises Bright Meadow Grille. Walk to Friendly's, McDonald's, Pubs and several Pizza Parlors. Many other restaurants within a short drive in either direction.

Airport: Bradley International Airport is just a 10-15 minute drive with complimentary pick-up when arranged in advance.

Events in Planning: Ice Cream Social, Poolside Barbecue with Volleyball, Brew Pub Get-Together, Hartford Dining night at Various Restaurants, Casino night at Mohegan Sun and the Annual Awards Banquet and Christmas Party.

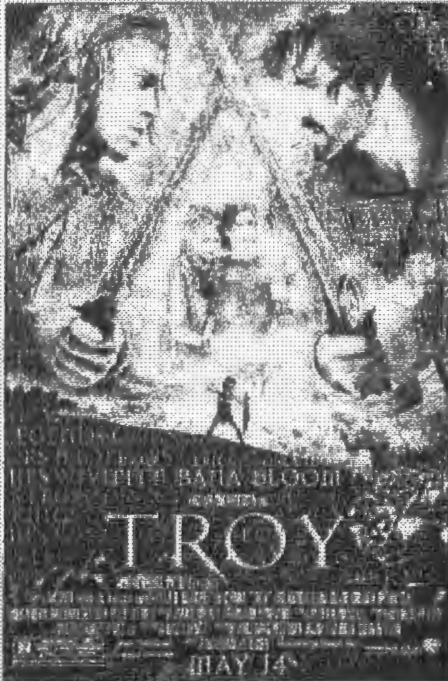
Shopping: Holyoke Mall is a short drive, as are several others in the area, including a Filene's, one exit away.

Places to visit and Things to See in the Area: Mark Twain House & Museum, Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun Casinos, Yankee Candle Flagship Store, Hartford, Basketball Hall of Fame, Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, The New England Air Museum, Dinosaur State Park, Old Sturbridge Village, Mystic Seaport and much, much more.

What's New!

by Joe DeGennaro

**YOU AND A GUEST ARE INVITED TO
ATTEND A SPECIAL SCREENING:**



7:30 p.m.

Monday, May 10, 2004

**Loews Keystone Park 16
13933 N. Central Expressway
Dallas, Texas**

Compliments of: **102.9**



Photo I.D. required at the door.

Please present this pass at the door for admission.

Arrive early! Seating is first come, first served, except for members of the reviewing press. This ticket does not guarantee you a seat. Theatre is overbooked to ensure a full house. Theatre is not responsible for overbooking. Very young children/infants are strongly discouraged. No admission after screening has begun. This pass is the property of Warner Bros. Pictures who reserves the right to admit or refuse access to the theatre at the discretion of an authorized studio or local theatre representative. This ticket is not for resale. This screening will be monitored for unauthorized recording. By attending, you agree not to bring any audio or video recording device etc. The theatre audio recording devices for remanufactured press, excepted and consent to a physical search of your belongings and person. Any attempted use of recording devices will result in your immediate removal from the theatre, forfeiture of the device, and may subject you to criminal and civil liability. Please allow additional time for heightened security. Your best assist is by leaving all non-essential bags at home or in your vehicle. Warner Bros. thanks you for your cooperation.

ADMIT TWO

I live in New York City where matches are still readily available, even though the smoking ban in restaurants has certainly taken its toll. While there are many new covers and boxes I could highlight from my area, they are just restaurant covers with not all that much excitement to those of you who don't collect them.

One of great sources for new and interesting matches is still ebay. I recently picked up the TROY matchcover picture here along with one of the movie passes for two to a special showing of the movie in Dallas, Texas.

Someone obviously still feels there is advertising value in making up these very colorful matches for their movie. It got me wondering if this was a one time only occurrence or if we will be seeing more of these type of covers produced in the future.

If you do happen to come across any others, please share it with me so I can in turn share it with out members. Not a bad picture Brad Pitt, huh? Enjoy!



Ed note: Oh, that cover would be a nice addition to any Movies collection!...but Brad Pitt as Achilles?? I must be getting old...I just can't picture it! Let's see...Kirk Douglas played Ulysses, Jack Palance as...?



Around The World

Swiss Zodiac Set - 2003

Here's yet another variation on the ever-popular Zodiac theme. This is a 12-box set [5 shown here], each box featuring a different Zodiac constellation.

Size is 118mm x 58mm, and these are made by Swedish Match.

Special thanks to Hans Everink, Netherlands, for keeping us up-to-date on issues from Europe and elsewhere.

Matchbox

Diese Zodiakbox bezieht sich auf den Sternbild der Waage (Libra) und ist ein Teil der Schweizer Zodiakboxen und Zodiakboxen.

Les étiquettes de cette série de zodiakboxes sont conçues pour être utilisées sur les boîtes à allumettes suisses. Les étiquettes de cette série de zodiakboxes sont conçues pour être utilisées sur les boîtes à allumettes suisses.

Quelle harmonie avec les étoiles du ciel nocturne, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque.

22. 05. - 21. 06.

BÉMEAUX

ZWILLINGE

BEMELLI

Matchbox

Diese Zodiakbox bezieht sich auf den Sternbild des Widder (Aries) und ist ein Teil der Schweizer Zodiakboxen und Zodiakboxen.

Les étiquettes de cette série de zodiakboxes sont conçues pour être utilisées sur les boîtes à allumettes suisses. Les étiquettes de cette série de zodiakboxes sont conçues pour être utilisées sur les boîtes à allumettes suisses.

Quelle harmonie avec les étoiles du ciel nocturne, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque.

21. 03. - 20. 04.

BÉLIER

WIDDER

ARIÈRE

Matchbox

Diese Zodiakbox bezieht sich auf den Sternbild des Löwen (Leo) und ist ein Teil der Schweizer Zodiakboxen und Zodiakboxen.

Les étiquettes de cette série de zodiakboxes sont conçues pour être utilisées sur les boîtes à allumettes suisses. Les étiquettes de cette série de zodiakboxes sont conçues pour être utilisées sur les boîtes à allumettes suisses.

Quelle harmonie avec les étoiles du ciel nocturne, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque.

24. 07. - 23. 08.

LION

LÖWE

LEONE

Matchbox

Diese Zodiakbox bezieht sich auf den Sternbild der Jungfrau (Virgo) und ist ein Teil der Schweizer Zodiakboxen und Zodiakboxen.

Les étiquettes de cette série de zodiakboxes sont conçues pour être utilisées sur les boîtes à allumettes suisses. Les étiquettes de cette série de zodiakboxes sont conçues pour être utilisées sur les boîtes à allumettes suisses.

Quelle harmonie avec les étoiles du ciel nocturne, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque.

24. 08. - 23. 09.

VIERGE

JUNGFRAU

VERGINE

Matchbox

Diese Zodiakbox bezieht sich auf den Sternbild des Krebs (Cancer) und ist ein Teil der Schweizer Zodiakboxen und Zodiakboxen.

Les étiquettes de cette série de zodiakboxes sont conçues pour être utilisées sur les boîtes à allumettes suisses. Les étiquettes de cette série de zodiakboxes sont conçues pour être utilisées sur les boîtes à allumettes suisses.

Quelle harmonie avec les étoiles du ciel nocturne, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque, quelle est la plus belle constellation du zodiaque.

22. 06. - 21. 07.

CANCER

KREBS

CANCRO

HOBBY HISTORY

The Movers & Shakers: IV

Sam Screwers life, from Brooklyn, New York, changed with a gift he received when he came out of the army at the end of World War II. The gift was an album for collecting matchbook covers, a hobby he had never even heard of. "I wasn't the collecting type," recalled Schroeder, a knitting-machine operator. "But I became curious, wondering whether anyone seriously used these albums."

Sam soon found out. By 1966, he had filled 43 large albums of his own which contained a collection of a quarter of a million different matchbook covers! Through the hobby, Sam said he learned the history of America, Canada, and Europe. He corresponded with collectors throughout the world. The Brooklyn resident sometimes traveled as many as 400 miles to acquire one matchcover. He was always accompanied by his wife, Nancy, and she also became an avid collector.

Sam belonged to some ten different matchcover clubs and spent his weekends and vacations attending meetings and conventions [*Ah, what a life!*]. In between meetings, Sam regularly loaned his collections out to banks and schools for exhibitions, and he often spoke before other hobby groups, Boy Scout, and student organizations. In 1966, he displayed his collection at the National Hobbies and Crafts Exposition at the New York Coliseum. He was a veritable dynamo when it came to publicizing the hobby. [*from New York News, November 6, 1966*]

He served as President of the Empire Matchcover Club in 1961, and the RMS recognized his contributions to the hobby in 1988 when Sam was elected to the Hall of Fame. Sam Schroeder...another one of the collectors who helped make the hobby what it is today.

Non-Stock Holiday Inns

In the 1980s, they were arguably the hottest currently produced covers in the hobby. Non-Stock Holiday Inns are still highly sought after, but interest in them has significantly waned as they've declined in availability to practically nothing. New Holiday Inns continue to be built, however, so the hope of new covers occasionally appearing, along with new varieties from older locations, still springs eternal...but I've seen less than five new N/S HI's (new to me) in the last six years!

Originally, these non-stock covers tended to be put out by the Holiday Inns, themselves. From, say, the 1980s on, however, they have been predominantly been produced by the specific restaurants or lounges *within* the Holiday Inns. These are often separately operated, private enterprises licensed to function with the Inns.

Almost always collected along with stock Holiday Inns, as part of a general Holiday Inn collection, they are the "jewels" of the category. After all, that's what "non-stock" really means, the more unique, custom-designed covers. Often appearing in the fancier types (*Foilites, Cameos, Uniglos, and Matchoramas*), they span the ranges of sizes: 10s, 20s, 30s, 40s, *Jewels*. Many of the foreign locations are also non-stock, and this adds a number of odd-sized covers to the collection, as well. Addition-ally, there are quite a few *Jewelites*, most of which are *Sports Jewelites* with dated schedules on the inside.

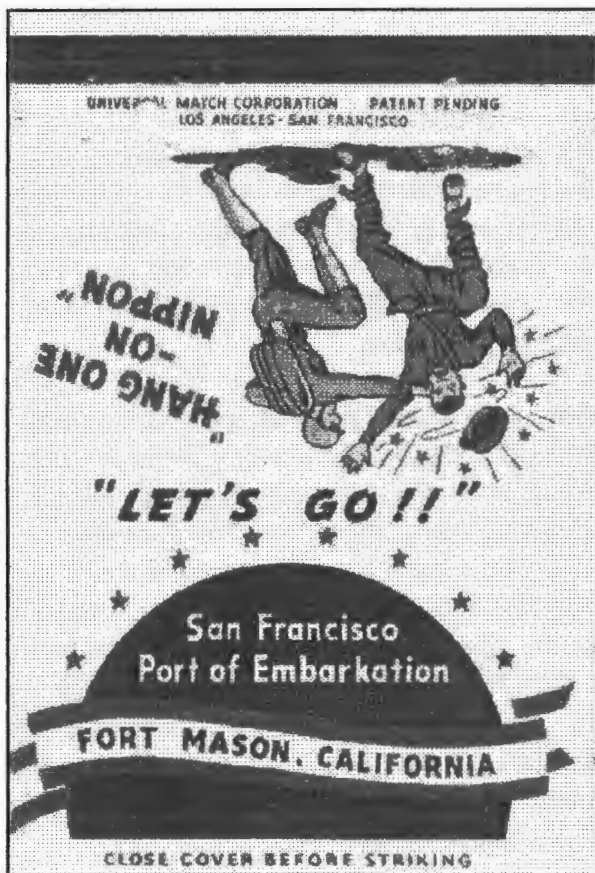
The late Kent Morris listed Non-Stock HI covers in the Garden State Matchcover Club's bulletin, starting in 1987. Probably the largest collections were those of Ken Riggs, MA, and Kent Morris, IL, but I don't have specific numbers on those particular collections. Just to give you an idea of what exists, though, Janet Penny had 3,164 Non-Stock Holiday Inns in her collection back in January, 1997. Drop by your local Holiday Inn periodically. Check the restaurants and bars for new covers....and be sure and spread the wealth should you make a discovery!

National World

“Sixteen million Americans joined the U.S. Armed Forces to serve in World War II. Nearly 406,000 of those in uniform were killed, and another more than 671,000 were wounded. It is estimated that fewer than 4 million WWII veterans are alive today. On the home front, tens of millions supported the troops by making munitions, buying war bonds, sewing and packing uniforms and parachutes, living with food and gas rationing, and even saving string and tin foil. Finally, nearly 60 years after the war’s end, there is a National World War II Memorial on the National Mall in the nation’s capital. This “new” American place commemorates the incredible efforts of Americans at home and abroad from 1941 to 1945.”

“The National World War II Memorial sits athwart the National Mall, between the eastern end of the Reflecting Pool and 17th Street at the western end of the Lincoln memorial grounds, the 7.4 acre site has been planted with thousands of bushes, ground-covering plants and trees, including grassy lawns, a contemplative garden on the northwest side near Constitution Avenue and the centrally located 2.3 acre memorial itself...Its central feature is the Rainbow Pool, a scaled-down version of the one that previously graced the site, it is surrounded by water jets spraying upward and inward toward the center of the pool.” [*American History, August 2004, pp. 16-18*]

“Symbolic of the defining event of the 20th Century, the memorial is a monument to the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the American people. As our Announcement Stone proclaims, the memorial honors those “Americans who took up the struggle during the Second World War and made the sacrifices to perpetuate the gift our forefathers entrusted to us: A nation conceived in liberty and justice.” It will inspire future generations of Americans, deepening their appreciation of what the World



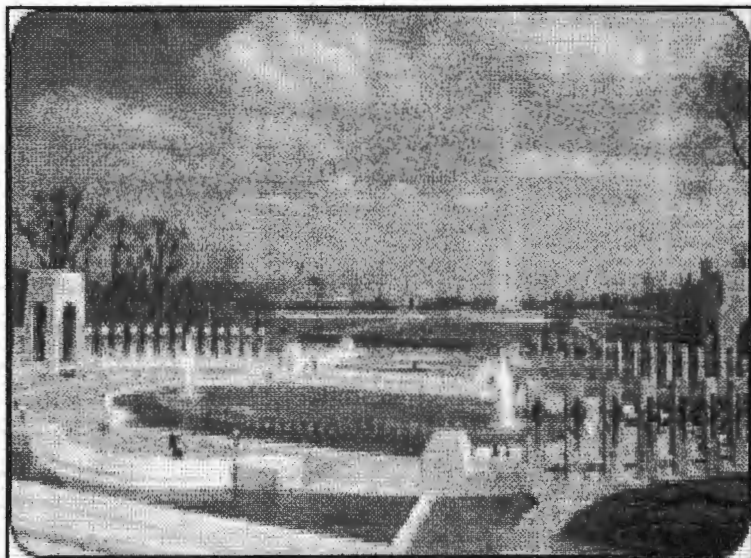
War II Memorial

War II generation accomplished in preserving democracy and saving the world from tyranny. Above all, the memorial stands as an important symbol of American national unity, a timeless reminder of the moral strength and awesome power that can flow when a free people are at once united and bonded together in a common and just cause.

On April 29, 2004, as a service and tribute to members of the World War II Generation, the National World War II Memorial opened for public viewing. Exactly one month later, on May 29, the memorial was formally dedicated. The World War II Memorial is the first national memorial dedicated to all who served during the Second World War. The memorial, established by the American Battle Monuments Commission, honors all military veterans of the war, the citizens on the home front, the nation at large, and the high moral purpose and idealism that motivated the nation's call to arms. The Second World War is the only 20th-Century event commemorated on the Mall's central axis." [<http://www.wwiimemorial.com>]

Together with the opening of The Rosie the Riveter/WW II Home Front National Historical Park, in Richmond, CA, which is so new that it's open but it's still being worked on [*spotlighted in this month's Sierra-Diablo Bulletin*], it's gratifying to see that the nation hasn't forgotten the men and women...and the events...of World War II. We often seem to have a very short national memory, and all too soon there won't be any participants in the war left. We should never forget.

And as collectors, we, in a very real way, are the caretakers of some of the relics of that war—World War II matchcovers. On the surface, that might sound pompous to some, but their art and text tell current generations, and will tell future generations, of the battles and struggles, both domestic and on the home front, of war-time perceptions, the technology used, the locations of military installations, and so. There are over 6,300 known Military covers alone, plus another some 2,800+ World War II Patriotics. Each one is not only a reminder of that incredibly important event, each is actually *part* of that event. That's just one reason why those two categories are especially important to me—as a collector, as a veteran, and as an American.



Dog Gone It! I Can't Figure This One Out!

[This is actually one for the "What's This and How Many?" corner, but it's too big!]

I actually don't collect dogs, but I *do* collect the manumark type seen here on the covers below [The "Lion Match Co..." where the 'o' is inside the 'C']. As I was going through some backlogged correspondence, I came across some photocopies of these dog covers that Tony Fortunato, OH, had sent in [three years ago!], and so, out of curiosity, I checked how many I had. Out of my collection of 4,200+ of these Lion covers, I only have the three particular dog covers below. I also checked my Sets & Series collection—none! So, I can't believe they're all that common. Anyhow, there are a number of questions that our readers can hopefully answer, but here's what I know about these covers so far. They were put out by Hoffman Studios, NY, in 1939. There are at least several covers each in two different types. The back panel of the first type says, "One of 45 etchings in "Dogs" by Zito.."; the back panel of the second type says, "One of 30 hilarious etchings in "Dog Follies" by Hy Km. The insides of both types are very similar, with only some text variation. So, I would suppose that we're dealing with two different sets of covers here, despite the almost identical designs. In 2001, Tony had six different of each type:

"Dogs"

1. Only God can make a tree
2. Table's turned
3. I don't see why the boss divorced her
4. Hey! What's on your mind?
5. Oh! Mary's back from Florida
6. Ladies first

"Dog Follies"

1. "Children—Meet an old friend of your father"
2. "Aw, Take a chance- That shovel won't move.."
3. "Funny place to wear sun glasses!"
4. "Some service, -eh, lady!"
5. "My, -what pretty bubbles!"
6. "Wonder what Fifi is doing tonight!"



Is it just a coincidence that Tony has six of each? Are those the complete sets? [Tony wasn't sure, and I certainly can't tell by the few that I have!] Or, are there more? Could there actually be 45 of the one type and 30 of the other? I can't see the advertiser putting out that many...but it would be nice?

There must be at least a few 'senior' collectors reading this that would know for certain. Are these two different sets? And, how many and which ones are in each? Please let the Ed. know.

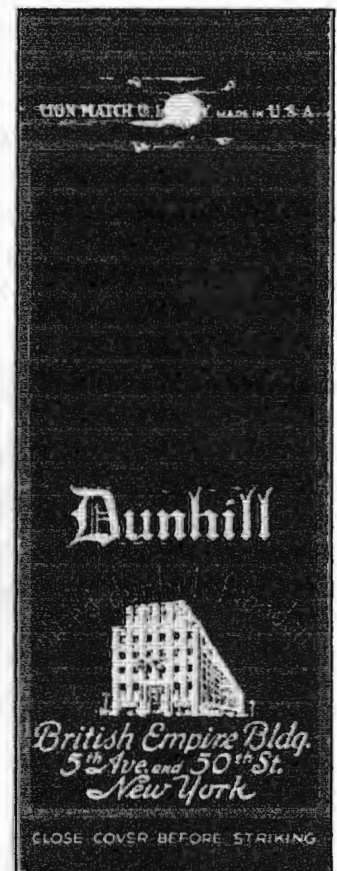
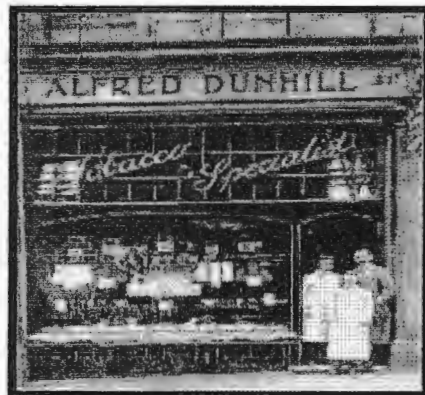
Alfred Dunhill's "White Spot"

The name may not mean anything to many of you, but, having previously been a pipe smoker for 37 years, I recognized the name immediately when I came across the cover shown below (lower right). Ah, so many fond memories...Anyhow, Dunhill was one of the premier names in pipes, and the company has quite a distinguished history.

Alfred Dunhill was an English inventor who started making pipes over 100 years ago. The White Spot on every Dunhill pipe, which has since become a Dunhill trademark, started out as a simple way in which to indicate that the stem had, indeed, been correctly placed into the rest of the pipe. During World War I, "Mr. Alfred", as he was known to his employees, shipped many a pipe to troops in France. The Dunhill pipe became very popular, and soon many officers were sending their pipes back to the Dunhill factory for repair and refurbishing. Soon, customers began specifically asking for the White Spot Pipe.

The significance of the White Spot can be seen from anecdotes from the time. In 1922, for example, one Dunhill agent in Switzerland told the story from one of the gentlemen's clubs in Zurich where the White Spot Pipe was looked upon almost as an essential possession of the members, and those who did not own one were not admitted to the smoking room! The White Spot soon appeared on other Dunhill products, including cigarette holders, leather accessories and outside Dunhill shops and factories.

To this day, the White Spot endures on the mouthpiece of every Dunhill pipe, signifying the highest standards in craftsmanship and quality which pipe connoisseurs have come to expect. And, I can attest to that, even though I stopped smoking several years ago [*Well, ok...I sneak a bowl out on the patio every now and then...and when I do....I think "Dunhill"!*] [*the preceding was a completely unpaid product testimony and involved no kickbacks from Alfred Dunhill, Ltd. or any of its agents....although I have an open mind on the subject!*]



Matches For A

by guest writer

I started collecting old pocket lighters back in 1972. I was 18 years old and had found my first lighter at a local swap meet. Over the next few years I continued picking up the odd lighter here and there until I had a pile of about a hundred or so pieces and then in 1978 I met John Beckwith, the first guy I'd come across who was also a lighter collector. His stuff put my stuff to shame and as time went along I traded with him and acquired some really old lighters that dated to the 1890's. The older stuff really got me excited and the more I learned about what was to be found the harder I hunted. In about 1986 I went to a lighter collectors convention in Las Vegas. It was my third convention of a then five-year-old club called OTLS or ON THE LIGHTER SIDE. At the convention was an English member named Richard Ball. He had been collecting lighters for nearly as long as I had but being from Europe had a much more impressive collection than I had ever seen before. In his pile were a number of really old items, which I still now have in my collection.

The real breakthrough came when he introduced me to the catalog of the exhibits in the Bryant and May Museum of Fire-Making Appliances. This book is the bible for my interest and matches were included as a major part of the original collection they amassed. I soon realized how many different kinds of devices were made in the centuries before 1900 and so the scope of my interest increased. I was soon looking for early matches as well as many of the other things that were described in the catalog. As time went along, I continued finding lighters, matches and more important than anything else was literature. I read everything I could get my hands on and little by little began to add things to my collection that were not only interesting but were historically important as well. With the knowledge I had learned, I eventually came across some things that I recognized as being things I had read about. Throwing care and caution to the wind, I found myself spending rather large sums of money for things that in hindsight were terrific bargains as I see them today.

As result I have assembled a collection that rivals the best collections in the world with over 1500 hundred pieces dating before 1900. Items in the collection cover many of the different areas of fire making devices and one of the more illusive pieces just came into my hands a couple of weeks ago. It was the Pabst Beer Matchbook made by The Diamond Match Company. Bob Jones, the Match King, had told me about these matches back in the late 1980's and here I finally found one. Thanks, E Bay! Sorry, Jim. But I had to have it! I wish Bob were still around so I could show him, as he never did find one himself. My research told me that I was looking at a really important and rare item that marked the



beginnings of the Matchbook industry. Being the first in any area of production is important to me and this was the oldest known matchbook that I had ever seen. After getting it in the mail I took care and gave it a light cleaning and it came out looking like nearly new. I was amazed at the condition after being more than a hundred years old. It went into the collection sharing space with several other old match items that I have. From Bob Jones, I received a Walker label that had been in his collection for forty years. He gave it to me with all of the

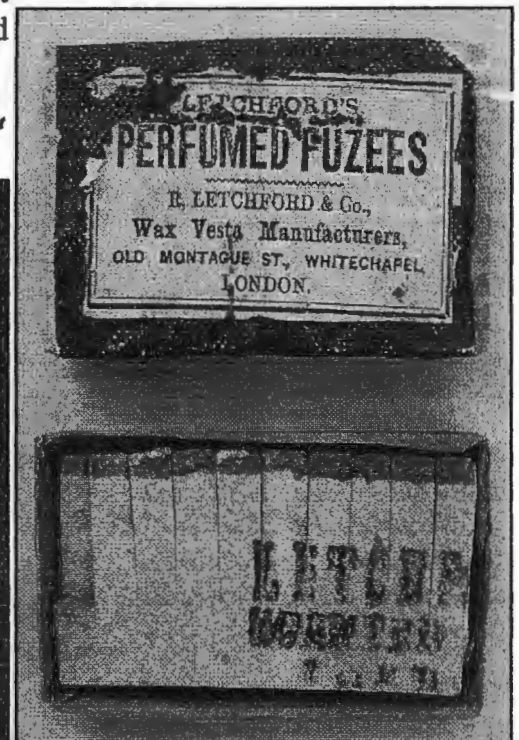
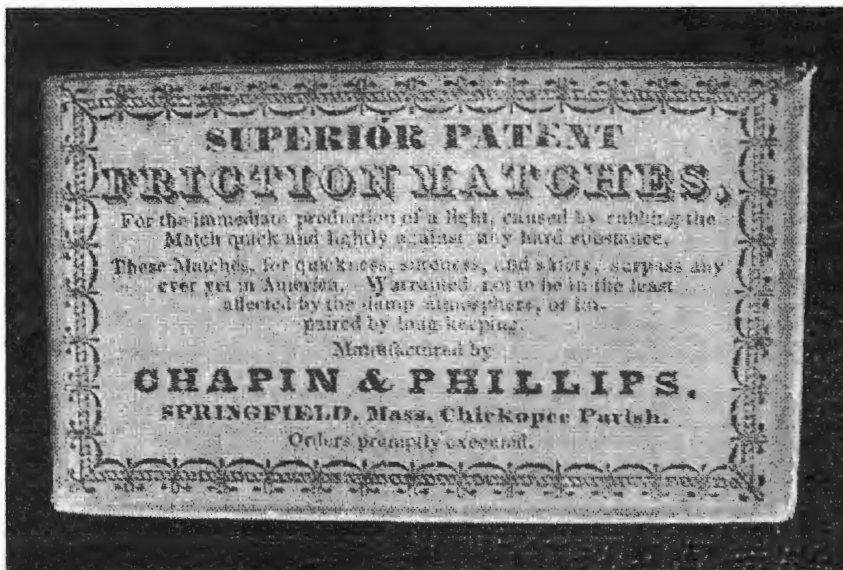
Lighter Collector

Tom O'Key

original documentation he had on it that included the inquiry into its authenticity that was put to a panel of experts like Wheatley Hubbard and others, with Bob as a participant as well. I found my second Jones's Promethean's box in Paris at a flea market in 1995. I recognized it right away because I already had one that came from England a couple of years earlier.

Both are nearly the same and date to 1829. One has three or four matches still inside. My best find, though, was the Chapin and Phillips's matchbox that I was so lucky to find. Once again my research told me it was another one of those pieces that mustn't get away. Again I apologize to the other match bidders that lost out, but I had to have it. It is the earliest American matchbox known, I think, that came from Alonzo Phillips and dates to the time just after his patent in 1836. He made the first patented American matches. Along with these are other interesting match items in the collection that document the advances in match making and match-like contrivances. One of my pets are the micro miniature Bryant and May Matches that were made for the Queen's Doll House in 1923. These were exact replicas of all of the different matchboxes that B&M made at the time and are real matches that measure less than a quarter inch in length. They were displayed in a small museum type case and were at one time shown in the lobby of the now gone match company. I have about sixty pieces that were originally in the B&M collection. When they closed their doors in 1996 there was an auction of the remaining items they had in their hands from the original collection. I was fortunate enough to be there and my collection grew significantly that day. All together I can show other collectors many of the super rare match items including Congreves, Lucifers, Fusseses, Flamers, Cigar Tips, Self Lighting Cigarettes, Block Matches, Comb Matches, Match Candles, Vestas, and others. The oldest match related item in the pile is the M. Joseph's box that is called "De Briquets Physiques et Phosphoriques" which were one of the earliest forms of matches that incorporated a small bottle of phosphorous as the igniting composition. The box dates to 1795. I am still on the hunt for other important items that mark the turning points in invention and the advancement of these overlooked little items that changed society in more ways than is recognized today. excitement.

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A Peek At Other Bulletins

[based on current issues on hand as of this writing]

-Angelus MC: 16 pages+flyer, club business, Quarterly Combo, Steamboats, Optical Illusions, auction

-Badger State MC: 4 pages, club business, Home of the Hamburger, RMS Report, ads

-Berks County MC: 6 pages, club business, Know Your Fellow Collector

-Connecticut MC: 6 pages, club business, What Goes Around, Comes Around w/1 page of WW II Patriotics color pics, ads

-Denver Strikers MC: 4 pages, club business, Pig 'n Whistle

-Empire MC: 6 pages, club business, What's New From Hard Rock Cafe's, RMS Report

-Forest City MC: 2 pages, club business

-Garden State MC: 8 pages, club business, The Tobacco Page, Willens & Co., Inc., Brew Pub listing, auction

-Great Lakes MC: 12 pages, club business, Old Twin Cities Liquor Stores, Cliff House, Hank's, Match Box Clocks

-MARVA: 8 pages, club business, new finds, On The Road Again

-Rocky Mountain MC: 8 pages, club business, Why I Collect Dog Matchcovers, Updating casino Covers, ads, auction

-San Diego MC: 8 pages, club business, Blakely of Arizona, Bagdad Jukebox

-Sierra-Diablo MC: 8-pages, full color, club business, Where Do I get Albums, Native American Day, Astrology, DD Bean & Sons, Waikiki's Hawaiian Village Hotel, ads, auction.

-Southeastern MC: 6 pages, club business, RMS Report, The Patio Restaurant

-Trans Canada MC: 12 pages, club business, Caught in the Web, Michael's Corner, Puttin' on the Ritz!, What's On ebay, More Snowmobiles, History of Canadian Match Crate, new King Eddy Set, New Four Seasons set, auction

-Tri-State MC: 10 pages, club business, Matchgirls Strike, AMCAL report, Your Tree

-Windy City MC: 8 pages, club business, Turning In terrorists, Combo Corner, Stupid Crimes and Misdemeanors

[Ed. note: In case you're wondering why some clubs may not appear here from issue to issue—I may not be on that club's current bulletin mailing list, that club may only issue a quarterly bulletin, that bulletin may have arrived too late to include, etc.]

A Call For Information

I need background information for future articles (club affiliations, offices held, awards, category interests, trading and convention activities, home location [city, state, if possible], etc.) on these collectors:

- Carl Davenport

- Warren Delk

- Russell Fink

- Bill Furlong

- Bill Hollmann

- Win Lang,

- Isabell Lord

- Jim Moffett

- Al Policke

- Mike Reynen

- Ken Riggs

- Duke Rohrer

- Horace Rush

- Austin Benner

- Ernestine Abbott

- Frank Ryan

- Walt Mensch

- Joe Siebeto

- Ward Chase

- Tom Torrent

- Harry Gerson

- Bob Lockard

- Barney Gallagher

- "Doc" Higgs

- Edith Cooper

- Paul Schaeffer

- Sam Rosen

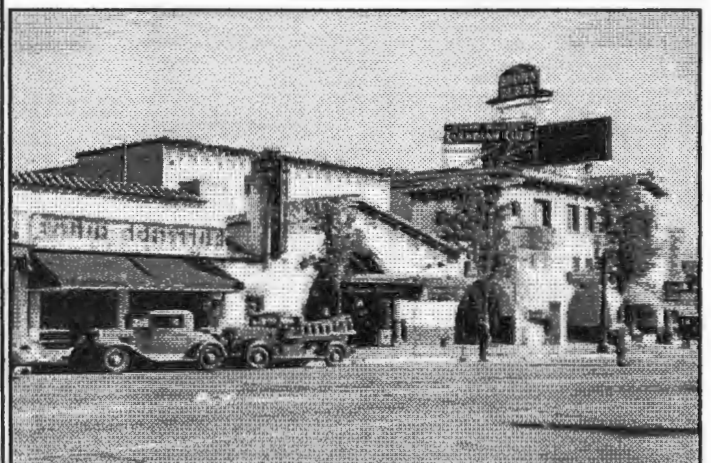
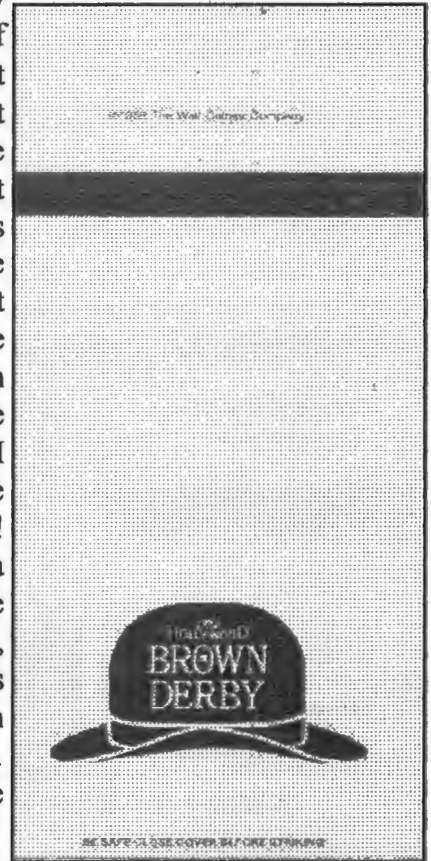
- Blanche Kelly

The Fabulous Brown Derby

Having grown up in and around Los Angeles, this is one of those great old places that I visited several times in the 1950s. I was only a kid then, of course, but I certainly remember that restaurant in the shape of a Derby! The Brown Derby legend began as the brainchild of Herb Somborn, Wilson Mizner and Sid Grauman. It was Somborn who asked Bob Cobb to manage the new restaurant and, after Mizner and Somborn died in 1934, it was Cobb who took over the restaurants.

The first Brown Derby opened in 1926 on Wilshire Boulevard across from the Ambassador Hotel. It was the only one of the four Derby restaurants built in the shape of the famous hat. In 1931, the Beverly Hills Brown Derby opened at the corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Rodeo Drive. The last of the Derbies opened in Los Feliz in 1941. But it was the Hollywood Brown Derby on Vine Street, just south of Hollywood Boulevard, that was the most famous. Opened on Valentine's Day, 1929, it became the place where movie stars and celebrities of all types, gathered. It became synonymous with Hollywood. I believe fire destroyed it in 1981. The original Brown Derby has been painstakingly recreated at the

Disney - M G M studios in...where else?...Hollywood! To the right is a cover from the recreated restaurant, and I have 7 covers from the Brown Derby restaurants. There must be others, I imagine.



Improving The

The Striker:

Still, there were other facets of the matchbook that could be tinkered with. Perhaps, manufacturers undoubtedly noted, there was some other design change that would allow competitors to lose their share of the market. If not how the matchbook opened, then what about the striker? Surely, there was potential there! The size... the position... Hmmmmmmm....

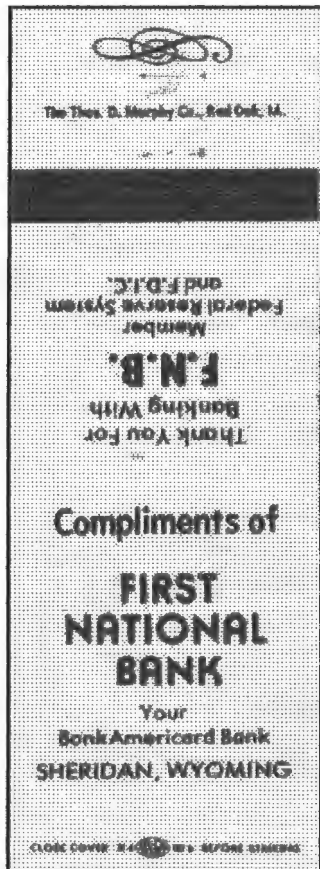
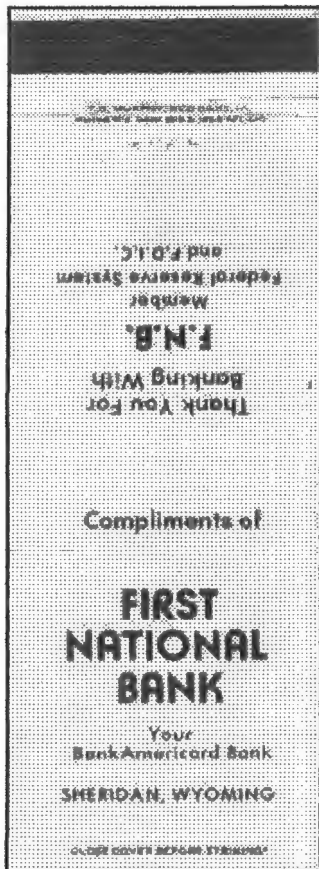
Early matchbooks had almost all uniformly started out with nice, wide, 'easy-to-hit' strikers. That basically came to an end with World War II and the ensuing shortage of materials. The width of the standard striker became noticeably narrower, as it is today. Thus it is that 'wide-strikers' are associated with Pre-War rather than Post-War covers. But, compared to our other 'innovations' thus far, the narrower striker was mandated by circumstances rather than being the result of a marketing idea.

As was the moving of the striker from the front to the back of the matchbook... Pusey had again made the logical and obvious choice. When the matchbook opened in the front, why make an extra step of turning the matchbook around and striking the match on the back? Hence, he put the striker on the front. Obviously, even though he was a lawyer, he never envisioned a government determined to save its people from themselves (also note that Pusey never put a 'Close Cover Before Striking' on his matchbook either!) Still, even before the government-mandated change in striker location in 1973, manufacturers had already tried the idea long before, most notably Ohio Match Co. in the 1930's.

Basic striker position, front-striker

Post-1973 striker position, reverse-striker

Ohio Match Co. back-striker



Today, collectors traditionally refer to these very early Reverse-Strikers as 'Back-Strikers' in order to note these earlier 'prototypes'. Diamond had also tried putting the striker where the fold is on its 'Base Friction' covers from the late 1920's to 1942.

Prior to that major (and permanent) change, however, there were other locations introduced for the striker. Lion's 'Odd-Striker' put the striker anywhere, and in any shape, that the advertiser wanted! The famous World War II Patriotic cover with the striker on the seat of Hitler's pants is a well-known example of an Odd-Striker. This type of cover

Matchbook: II

apparently first appeared in 1942 and was produced all the way up to 1962, but there are relatively few. The largest number I've seen is 343, reported by Judi Wittwer in 1997. I would assume the design and production costs were high for this type of customized cover, and thus their numbers were limited.

In the 1960's (?), Universal even experimented with moving the striker from the top flap and putting it at the bottom of the front panel, just above the 'Close Cover Before Striking', but that was a flop, and the few examples that exist are looked upon as oddities. Over the years, I've set them aside whenever coming across them, and I probably have less than 10 example. If there is a trademark name or an agreed upon term for these, I'm not aware of it.

The remaining striker factor, namely how it is affixed to the matchcover, has also been the target of change. Although domestic manufacturers have traditionally favored the 'paint-it-on-as-a-liquid' approach, some manufacturers, almost all foreign, have sometimes used a solid strip of striker material put on the matchcover, sometimes permanently, sometimes removable. Probably the most famous domestic example of the latter are the 'Owname' covers. When the staple is removed, the striker comes off the cover (much to the annoyance of the collector). Of course, with the PullQuick concept, the striker wasn't even visible to the user. It was on the inside, wrapped around the match head. None of said changes had any success.

Another related portion of the affixing the striker topic is whether the striker was put on before or after the staple, since, in the vast majority of cases, they were both in the same location. The majority of early covers had the striker material applied *over* the staple...making it very chancy to try and remove the matches and open up the cover for flattening.

Eventually, all manufacturers changed to putting the striker material *under* the staple. Now, there was a change that really made life much nicer for the collector, but, again, it wasn't a change that actually 'improved' the matchbook's design.

Diamond Match Co.
Base-friction

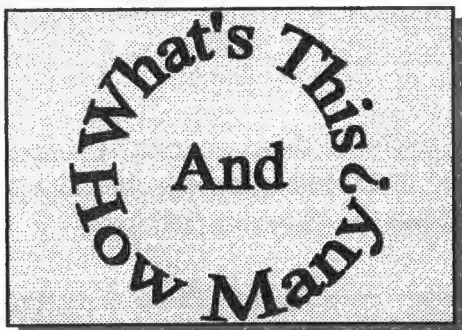


Monogram Co.
Odd-Striker



Universal Match Corp.
'oddy'





[Please check the Mail Box column for answers on last issue's query on Early Hobby covers

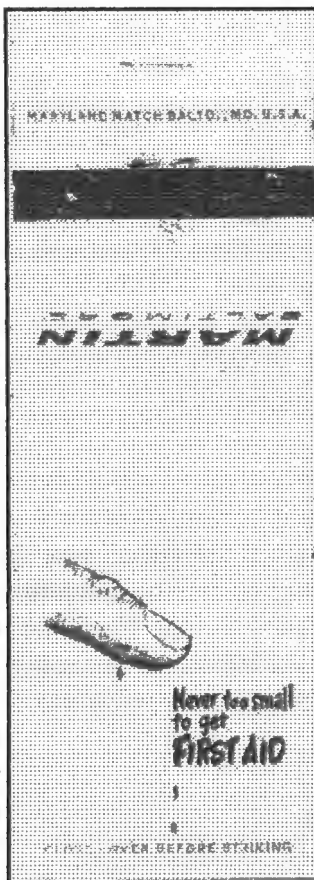
Martin Safety Set

James Willard, MD, would like to know how many covers there are in this Martin Aircraft Safety Set. He has four:

1. Clear thinking will stop accidents!
2. Never too small to get first aid
3. It's not the right way if it isn't safe
4. Alibis don't excuse accidents

There is also apparently another set which has a different back panel. That one says "Martin Aircraft".

If anyone has a definitive answer, please let us know....And, if you have a question about a set or series, send in a clear pic and details, and we'll see what information we can garner from our readers.



KNOW YOUR COVERS!

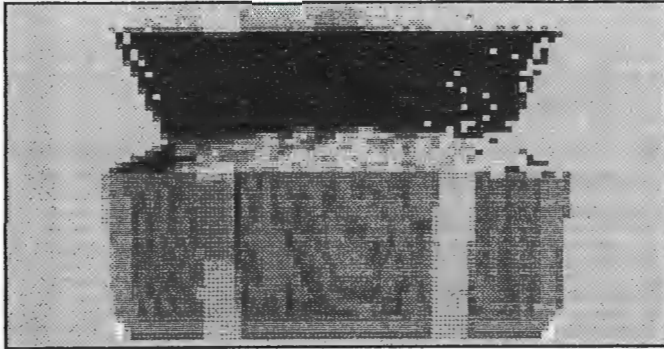
Adverap - a cardboard holder for a cigarette pack [the forerunner of the hard pack] by Universal, 1940-ca. 1950s. 234 listed as of 10/94. These are what I term 'peripherals' to matchcover collecting.



THIS Adverap IS REFILLABLE
 INSERT NEW SUPPLY OF CIGARETTES OR MATCHES AS REQUIRED
 Convenient Keeps Cigarettes Uncrushed



Great Finds!



James Benes, NJ: I was lucky enough to come across this Coca Cola Action matchbook on ebay! I never knew it even existed, and it's not on the Action listing!...*Patented 1892!*



CLUB CRUISING!



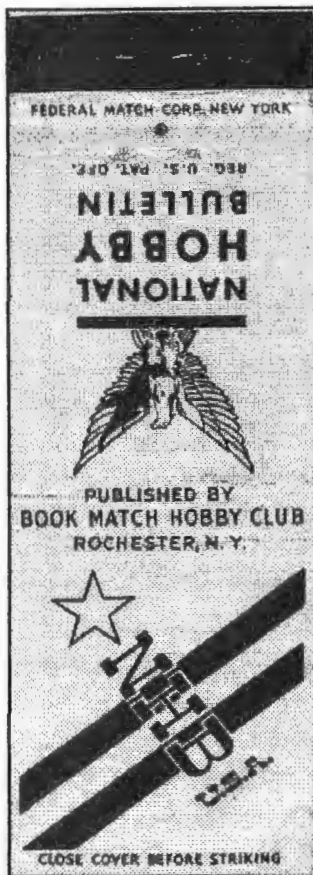
Maryland-Virginia Matchbook Club

The MARVA Matchbook Collecting Club is based in the Metropolitan Washington, DC area and serves the Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. region. The club, however, is not restricted to local members. A fair number of members are scattered across North America and more are welcome. The club was formed with the merger in 1970 of The Old Dominion Club (est. 1951) and National Capital Match Collectors Club (NACAMCO) (est. 1949). Original members included Lorne Branton, Edith Cooper (RMS's first woman president), Ed Keller, George Loveless, Bob and Elizabeth Oliver, Ed Perkins, Raymond and Madeline Smith, and Charlie Wissel. MARVA meets formally four times a year: March, May, September, and November. At the present time, our meetings have been held at the Fairfax County Mason District Office in Annandale, VA.

MARVA also participates at the United Eastern Swapfest in Hagerstown, MD in June, primarily to present a display award. Many of the members assist with the various functions. The club encourages support of RMS and has a high percentage of its members in RMS, as well MARVA publishes an informative newsletter, *The MARVA Collector*, with up-to-the-minute match-cover and club information.

Dues are \$5.00 yearly, with renewals each January. FMI: contact Grant Gehringer, 4761 Parkman Court, Annandale, VA 22003-5046, (703) 354-2457, or David Riel, 131 Loch Drive, Staunton, VA 24401, (540) 885-2277

The Mail Box



John Mathot, MA: *John sent in this Service Station cover for our "Just a little different" files!*

Nadine Ritter, MT: I hate to put a damper on an article in the Jul/Aug issue, but I wanted to let you know that the error cover shown on p. 14 is not an error. The Swanee's cover was made that way on purpose. Bert Swanee bought the Nutshell from Sam Nutt probably 35 or 40 years ago, and he had those matchcovers made up that way intentionally. At one time, I had lots of them. It was a restaurant, bar, and dance floor. I lived in Riddle, OR, for fifty years, and it was only five miles from Myrtle Creek, OR. My husband and I used to dance there every Saturday with friends for years. They always



The Ed: Here's another early club cover from the same club asked about in last issue's "What's This? And How Many?"



had three or four-piece bands back then.

[Ed. Who woulda thunk! Nadine also inclosed a real error, shown here. "Madras" is misspelled]

Herb Abelson, NJ: Your editorial on saving for posterity [*last issue*] is just what I have been thinking about. What to do with my collection (and lots of others).

I would like to explore with you and/or other interested collectors, the possibility of establishing a center in an academic setting (college, community college, history department, business school, foundation, museum) for the study and preservation of all aspects of matchcovers. Such a place would be the best guarantee that matchcovers will continue to inform and entertain even or especially when they no longer serve their original purpose. And of course such places become prime resources for active collectors as well. (I think that both stamps and coins have such places but I am not sure).

I have at least an acquaintance or better with such places and could help with the spadework. My assumption is that you or someone with your interests and breadth of information would be the first director of such a center, and its board would include a few other quality people who are current collectors. I think the establishing of such a place is realistic considering the many aspects of covers and their business, cultural and historical significance.

Ed. Ideas anyone? I think cost and sponsors would be the big factors. I know at least one eastern university has a label collection.



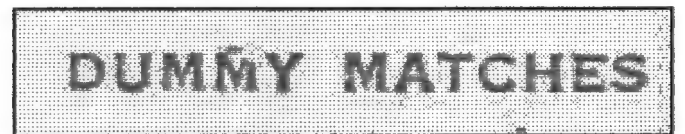


Cheryl Crill, CA: Ref Jul/Aug's article on "The Great Depression", Cheryl remembered this bobbed cover to the left that she had previously found on the freebie table at the 2001 RMS Indian Wells Convention. This would be a great little Historical category...if there were at least a few more covers available. As far as I can remember, this makes three covers

I've seen that actually directly refer to the Depression.

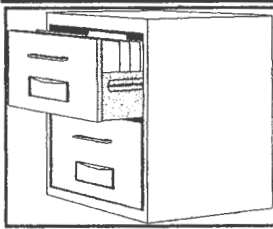


Stella Williams, OH: Stella sent in these two Midgets (opposite) when she noticed the "DUMMY MATCHES" on the inside. "From the information I have obtained, these were stick matches that did not light."



Carmine Arpino, CT: Carmine, who sent this in quite awhile ago, came across these larger than Jewel-sized Foreign Knotholes and used them to frame his two beautiful granddaughters.....there's nothing like a doting grandfather!





Bits & Pieces

Yosemite Naval Convalescent Hospital: In the Sep/Oct 2002 *RMS Bulletin* I mentioned the *Ahwahnee* being used as a rehab hospital during World War II. Two years later I've come across this cover from said hospital!

CCC Listing: James Willard, whose CCC article is featured in this issue, maintains a CCC cover listing, and he's always looking for unlisted covers to be discovered. You can contact him at: 17107 Reedy Pkwy., Hagerstown, MD 21740



[Ed. note: ...And I'd like the record to reflect that of those 40,000 illiterates James referred to...none of them were from my classroom!

Answer to Last Issue's Matchcover Mystery

"What do Banner Match and Pageant Match have in common?" Les Good, NY, wrote in to say that Banner Match & Peagant Match both print box matches.....how you like that? Right! And they're both Japanese distributors.

Matchcover Mystery #54

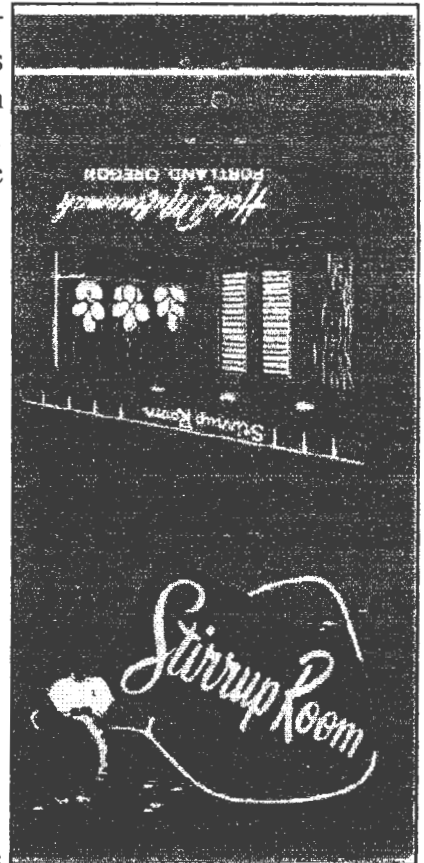
'White Tip' was which company's trademark?

An Error In Judgment

In our Mar/Apr 1996 issue, errors were covered in detail. I listed 11 different basic types of errors:

1. Miscuts
2. Spelling errors
3. Missing strikers
4. Partial strikers
5. Missing text or design
6. Reversed text
7. Off-center prtg.
8. Over-printing
9. End-of-roll
10. Reverse creasing
11. Upside-down creasing

I recently came across this miscut. As errors go, miscuts are by far the most common type of error (although you could just as well call the, "misalignments," because that's why they end up being miscut), but this one is a much rarer type. It's not only miscut, but it's the wrong inside altogether! The inside text has nothing to do with the outside text. One of the more interesting errors!



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Complete line of stationery supplies
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FEATURE MATCH CO. LTD. • Toronto & Montreal
30 STICK MATCHES • LOW COST

574

FLASHBACK!

[From January 1953 RMS Bulletin]

We thought the newer members of RMS would like to know how group meetings of collectors got started, so we give you below an article by Robert F. Oliver (a member of the RMS) as taken from the magazine "MATCHONIA & HOBBY ADVERTISER", June 1939:

"The recent match cover collectors' convention in New York is now only a memory, but one which will live long in the minds of all who attended. The gathering of the clans began in Penn Station at eight in the morning on Saturday, May 6th. Even though most of them had not met before, each could recognize the other by an eager rarin-to-go gleam in his eye! The writer was soon joined by Paul Schaeffer of Egypt, Pa.; Frank Ryan of Somerton, Pa.; Robert Lockard of Philadelphia, Pa., (RMS's first President-Ed. note) and Harry Rathkamp of Newport, R.I. (RMS's namesake-Ed. Note). The five of us rushed right for the Brooklyn Navy Yard where we went aboard all the ships there and obtained covers from some of the shore stations nearby. Then time out for lunch on Sands Street, and some naval conjunctive covers.

Mid-afternoon found us bound for Jamaica, L.I., and the swappingest time it has ever been my pleasure to witness. All rolled up their sleeves and got right into the thick of it and everyone added plenty to his collection. After dinner, we were joined by Messrs. Cherinsky and Middlebrook, and the trading began anew and lasted far into the night. We finally broke it up at 2 A.M. in order to rest a bit before going to the World's Fair the next day. However, rumor has it that friend, Schaeffer, got up an hour ahead of the rest of us and carefully scanned the streets of Jamaica for covers and did not do so badly either!

Then, off to the Fair at ten and the hunting began in earnest. We had the good fortune to locate three different official Fair sets by Lion - one of four midgets, one of 4 regular size covers and the other consisting of 4 Giants. Several of the latter were autographed by all and mailed to other collectors. A number of Fair conjunctives were found, too, and will doubtless find their way to the albums of many of you readers. It is a fact that all of us saw more of the sidewalks and streets than we did of the exhibits and 'tis well known that "the Carpetbagger" did very nicely for himself and went away with the bag filled. The boys finally had to tear themselves away in order to catch their trains and boats, but decided to hold another meeting, perhaps late this summer. So, all interested in this, will kindly get in touch with the writer.

Several collectors wrote their regrets. Ted Shumon sent his by air mail from Chicago, and we also had word from Bill Eisenhart, Art Rogers, Harvey Flood, Tom Jackman, Max Rosenberg and Roscoe Yorgey. The pass word for the convention was "Youse Crahooks!"

As far as possible, your Editor will give what information he has about the collectors other than the parenthetical inserts above: Robert F. Oliver, Paul Schaeffer, Frank Ryan, Art Rogers and Roscoe Yorgey are still members of RMS, also Ted Shumon. Bob Lockard, Harry Rathkamp and Tom Jackman have passed on, also Bill Eisenhart and Middlebrook. Cherinsky used to be a member of RMS, but we have no present information about him or Max Rosenberg. Harvey Flood sold his collection and now resides in Moline, Illinois. - Ed.

SUCCESSFUL WAYS TO FIND MORE MATCHCOVERS

by Jim DeLong

Some time ago there was an article in the RMS Bulletin reminding us that there are still a lot of matchcovers and matchboxes out there, waiting to be found. Some of them are new covers that businesses are still buying and passing out; others are older covers that somebody picked up years ago and have been hiding out somewhere in their homes. Of course, it's not like when I first started collecting over 50 years ago as a kid and almost every business had advertising matches. Now I have to come up with new ways of finding where they are instead of just persuading them that I wasn't going to burn the town down! I used to get a lot of help by looking in the gutter or on the sidewalk where people would discard their used packs. That way I could find out who had matches and then go there to pick up at least one new one. With anti-litter laws and more conscientious citizens, that venue has produced very little help recently, but sometimes I still find discards in ashtrays of homes I visit or in those restaurants and bars that still allow smoking.

As a clergyman who has the opportunity to visit other churches, I always ask the priest or minister if I can check out the match supply in the sacristy, because most acolytes still use matches from books or boxes to light the candles. Occasionally, there will be part of a caddy from some local business which allows me to pick up a handful of dupes to trade.

A second way that still works is the local barber shop. When I am traveling, especially in smaller cities and towns, I go the barber shops. I have found that beauty salons are not as fruitful because too many women smokers use lighters instead of matches. By asking the barber if he has any himself, he will often go to his drawer and find a pack or two that somebody left there. If the shop is full of customers, I always ask if anybody has seen any matches around town or knows of anyone who collects them.

On my way home from the Forest City Club's auction in Ashtabula, OH, I walked into a barber shop in Warren, PA, about 9:30 am. The barber confessed that he had given up smoking five years ago, so he no longer purchases advertising matches. His hunt through his drawer for some old packs proved fruitless. However, a customer who was waiting for a haircut said that he had some matchcovers which his uncle left in his estate. Was I interested in looking at them? Could I stop by his home this afternoon as he had other business in town? I explained that I was just passing through. The barber volunteered to reschedule the man's appointment, but he rejected that option, so the barber assured me that he would have him finished by 10 am. The man agreed to that and I excused myself to keep walking downtown where I found five other businesses with covers, including a credit union!

When I returned about 9:58 am, he was just getting out of the chair. Since he still had business in town, I agreed to drive him round trip to his house which, he said, was just across and up the river a ways, but the bridge was out so it was actually 15 miles round trip! I quickly retrieved my wife from an outlet store and we started out. The man was well versed on the history of the area and told us a lot of interesting information about the town and its people. Before we pulled into the driveway, he revealed that his uncle had left him not one but **six** boxes of matches, **but** he had sold the other five a number of years ago and only recently found this one unopened in a back corner of his own cellar. I followed him into the cellar where he brought out a 2' x 2' x 2' box that was filled to the brim with several thousand matchcovers. The ones on top were really dusty and dirty and there was enough mouse dirt that I was reluctant to dig down into the box. I decided to buy "a pig in a poke" and we agreed on a price. I loaded him and the matches into the car and returned to town.

When we arrived home from vacation a week later and began to examine our treasure, we discovered that most of the covers had no matches, not because they were struck, but because the uncle had carefully pulled them all out! The biggest challenge to opening them was the rusty staples and brittle front strikers, especially on the older covers.

As we sorted our way farther down into the box over a period of a week, we discovered one plastic bag full of

front strikes with matches intact from the 1970's, but the rest were from mostly from the 1930's through the 1950's!

At one point my wife said that she could see a paper bag at the bottom of the box. Engrossed in the treasures unfolding before me, I barely glanced at it - just long enough to surmise that it had been used to cover the bottom of the box so that no matches would fall out of the mouse holes. However, when we uncovered it two days later, it actually was a bag full of dozens of pages of covers that had been attached with one drop of Mucilage.

On top was a list of the companies which made the covers - Bell Machine Co, Star, Advance, Hamilton, Columbia, General, Jersey, Federal., Arrow, Advertizit along with the more familiar ones like Diamond, Universal, Lion, Maryland, Superior, Match Corp of America - and inside were all kinds of goodies including a 1940 Wendell Wilkie cover and 3 Bell Buds! I suspect that this was the oldest part of the uncle's collection and it has added hundreds of covers to my collection of covers from the largely rural area of northwestern PA.

A third way of locating matches comes from the people in the community where I serve and live. I am always inquiring, Do you know anybody who never throws anything away? Most people are only to glad to supply the names of a few packrats when they find out that I am collecting matchcovers. I met one gentleman who lives up the street who has a three story abandoned factory plus four garages filled with his collectibles! He gives private tours once a year and even with a sharp eye I could find only about half a dozen matchcovers among the thousands of items in his museum. Two of them were local business and I know that he won't sell anything so I persuade him to trade them for some other matchcovers of the same vintage. I also gave him a set of five colored covers from my church to place in his little chapel collection of religious memorabilia.

A couple of months ago he sent me an article about two matchcover collectors from Michigan who were featured in a antique periodical. Last week he telephoned to let me know that one of the local auctioneers had ten boxes of matches that were being sold the next day. Having recently bought three caddies of 50 at a household sale, I pictured ten caddies.

I went to the auction house right away to check it out and there were 14 BOXES of various sizes with at least 10,000 matchcovers total in them - many unused and many from local businesses and the surrounding counties - about half front strikes and half back strikes. So far I have not found any really old ones, but there were enough full books of Lion features to make the purchase price worthwhile.

When I picked up the paper to read the fine print of the list of items at the auction (which was about 4 point type), I could not find "matches" listed. I discovered that they are categorized as "advertising" which makes sense, so watch the sales ads for them that way.

I also left my collector's card with the cashier and she said that they would call me any time they have more matches to auction. Therefore, if you have time to go to household auctions, they are another potential source for finding covers. The one drawback is that there are advertising collectors out there who may become your competitors and drive up the price. I recently attended an auction where five trays with about a thousand bobtails went for almost \$20 a tray. When I asked the buyer if he were a matchcover collector, he said not; he was interested in them for their advertising value.

If these sources aren't enough to keep you busy, one final place to find matchcovers is at yard sales, garage sales and flea markets; they are less expensive than antique shops. However, I seldom find the matches out on the tables; I have to ask and that sometimes produces results.

Ed. Note: Thanks to Jim for the nice article. I and every other editor are always in search of new material, new ideas, new input from readers. You don't have to be an 'expert' on something in order to write. You have your own unique covers, your own unique experiences and perceptions. Support your club bulletins, your club editors, and your fellow collectors by sharing your insights, your exciting finds, and whatever would be of interest to your fellow hobbyists.

RMS SHOWCASED



The Museum at RMS Convention 2004 was created to provide an opportunity for RMS members to discover & learn about some of the more obscure match & match related artifacts normally pigeon-holed in private collections & rarely seen by anyone other than the owners . . . and what better venue than an RMS Convention!

It is hoped that both the first museum at RMS 2002 & this one at RMS 2004 will inspire members to sponsor & enjoy museums at all future RMS Conventions. We feel that the museums will offer a learning curve, giving future RMS Conventions a greater sense of purpose.

The RMS Convention 2004 Showcased Museum was managed by curator John A. Takahashi & included 8 interior lighted secured showcases, courtesy of Morris Pasternak with much appreciation from us!



One showcase strategically stood outside the Exhibit Room in the Reception Area, exposing its treasures to all members passing by. It housed a rotating exhibit of match company catalogues & literature that was changed every day, including a framed 2 colour glass negative 14"x 17" of Strike Rite Matches (1930s/1940s with appropriate tax stamps) used to make the printing plates to print the press sheets of match covers. This frame carried a different glass negative every day.



The other 7 showcases were housed in the Exhibit Room, Trillium Room C along with a wall of 30 U.S. & Canadian wooden shipping crates, including several with the shipping dates stencilled on the crates: Eddy's Buffalo Matches 23/3/23, Eddy's Buffalo Non-Poisonous Silent Match 2/12/16 & No Brand Matches "Plenty Good Enough For The Kitchen" by E.B. Eddy Co. 14/3/18.

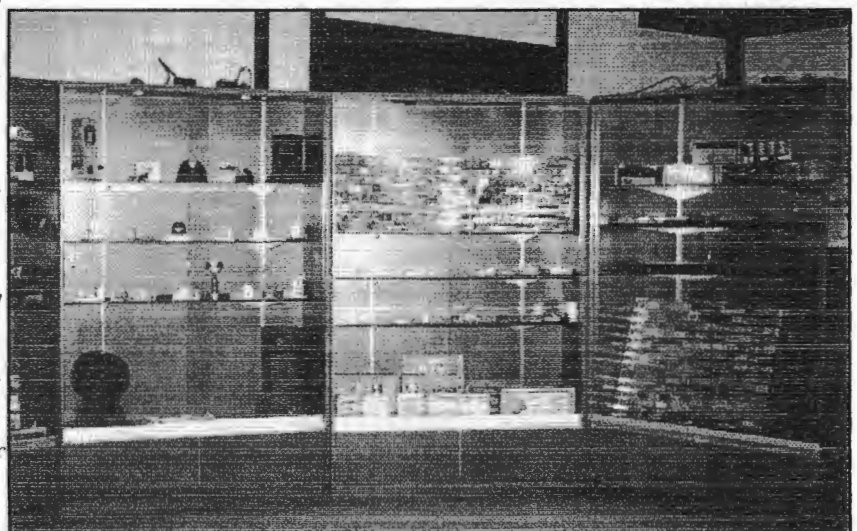
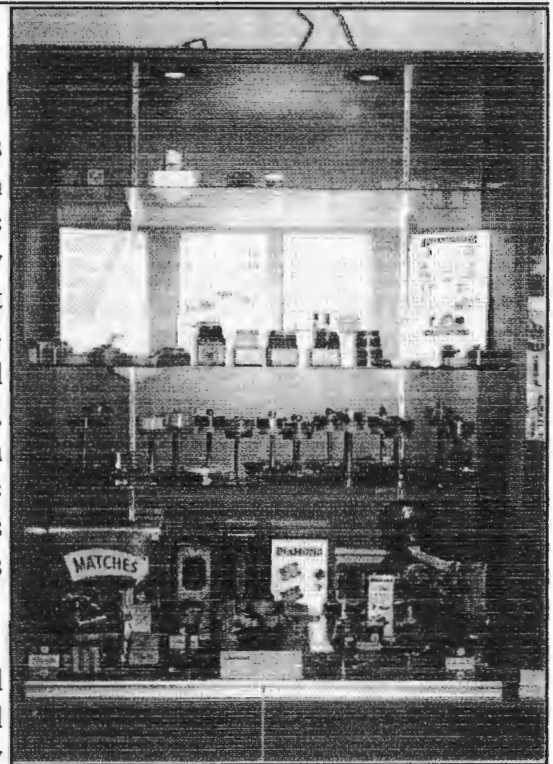
MUSEUM TREASURES

The museum pieces were contributed from the collections of Wray Martin, Barry Gibson, Michael Kotsonas, John Williams, Al Wolf, Larry Ziegler, Morris Pasternak, Marc Edelman & Stan Tombs. Included were a group of many select old kitchen boxes & pocket boxes, a Colgate Bridge Set cigarette box with matching box of matchbooks, a box of 4 Mexican Pullmatches, several disk matches, 9 coin operated match vending machines, 18 Pullmatch Stands (British, Canadian & American, including Coca-Cola & Royal Crown Cola), Pullmatches in green, olive drab, ivory & blue plastic holder rings with original boxes, 2 different Gilco Products Pullmatch Stands with striker on spring-loaded top refills including boxes of 3 refill rolls.

Also noteworthy were several different chrome plated Manning, Bowman & Co. containers with Diamond PullQuick matches, several American Pullmatch Bridge Tally Cards in original boxes, a display of Colgate Studios matches in their original decorative boxes, an Adverap Caddy of Fuller Paints by Universal Match filled with Adveraps & matchbook combos, original cello-paks of PullQuick matches & Group One Movie Stars and a New Jersey stitcher head from a matchbook assembly line.

Ed. Note: This museum idea is quite good, it seems to me. The national convention should be a learning experience, as well, especially for newer collectors, visitors off the street, and for the media that inevitably covers the event.

Aside from showcasing interesting oddities and hobby treasures, we might think of expanding it to include items from the RMS Historian's and RMS Librarian's archives...such as a copy of the first RMS Bulletin, the first membership list, the first by-laws, bulletins from defunct clubs, copies of early awards, etc.



BUSINESS BOX

RMS BULLETIN AUCTION features a 75%/25% split (you get 75% of what your lots sell for). Send your lots to Bud Shappell, 109 Wood Ln., Reading, PA 19606-2446 (Tel: 610-779-0733).

RMS AREA AWARDS: Congratulations to...

- Steve Bailey, Great Lakes MC recipient
- Joe La Rossa, Girlie Club recipient
- Joe Burnett, RMS Convention recipient
- Carol Ziegler, Trans Canada MC recipient
- Peggy Leslie, Sierra-Diablo [for 2003-2004]

CLASSIFIED ADS

25 YEAR OLD UNIQUE COLLECTION: includes over 1400 covers! Contact sreily@cox-internet.com for complete list and information.....N/D04

FREE: Die-cut pages to keep your covers neat and in order. Specify mix. You pay only postage. Bob Woelfle, 1463 Blackhurst Dr., St. Louis, MO 63137-1532.....N/D04

DISPERSAL SALE: Over 200 categories. Write with offer or request, any categories, plus postage. Indicate condition acceptable: FB, Used, Unstruck, etc. or 'Only ones I need'. Or, by bag of your choice, as is, by total count only. Wanted Displays, Cigar, WW II. Doug Rice, 445 Black Creek Rd., Montesano, WA 98563 (360-249-3645).....N/D04

BEST BID! Separate lots: 5,067 business cards; 476 pens; 206 key chains; 90 refrigerator magnets; 113 advertising buttons; 50 pencils; 376 swizzle sticks; 236 additional swizzle sticks. Each lot = high bid +postage. No dealers. Please contact Mrs. Georgia Corvino, Walnutport MB. Hm. Crt. W62, Walnutport, PA 18088 (610-767-7747).....N/D04

WANTED: GLORIA STUART from First Movies Test Set. Will pay \$25. William Evans, 1699 Tammarron SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.....N/D04

WANTED: Coca-Cola matchcovers. Highest prices paid. \$250 minimum for pre-1920 covers. Will respond to all offers. Thom Thompson, 1389 Alexandria Dr., #7, Lexington, KY 40504-1777.....N/D05

Classified ad policy: Ads are published on a space available basis. Please keep 'em short and send them in as soon as possible! 10¢ a word. Ads offering free items, etc. are free.

Check should be made out to "RMS." Send to Ed. ASAP (I always need as much warning as possible). Fee schedule for larger-sized ads may be seen on the last page.

More Interesting Town Names

Someone was nice enough to send in these Canadian Town names from the *Algoma Weekly*.

- Community Punch Bowl
- Punkey-Doodles Corner
- Mechanic Settlement
- Pugwash Junction
- Billy Butts Pond
- 150 Mile House
- Nippers Harbour
- Belcher Islands
- Sucker Creek
- Tickle Cove
- Poopoo Bay
- Blubber Bay
- Gang Ranch
- Happyland
- Old Harry
- Poohlake
- Cow Head
- Fruitvale
- Mermaid
- Rosebud

Oh, those crazy Canadians! I'd definitely draw the line at living in any place called "Punkey-Doodles Corner"!

...And I wonder what the property values are like around Poopoo Bay!

Have any favorites yourself? Let us know and we'll share them with your fellow collectors.

Mike's Philosophical Pearls

MEET ME AT
**DINTY MOORE'S
CAFE**
TO WINE AND DINE
So We Won't Have To
Look All Over Hell
For You!

Why I Collect Matchcovers

by Duane Ready

Why do people want to remember the past? I think it may be because, like myself, they realize 20, 30, or 40 years too late that they grew up in one of the best times ever (for me, it was the 60's). Point is that matchcovers save history. They give you the opportunity to experience, in some small way, what life was like in many times past. Hotels with "a radio in every room", motels advertising "we have television", restaurants and other places long since gone, records of the greatest people that ever lived, ads for RCA Victrolas, ice companies, Cool Heaters, Buy War Bonds-Give'em Both Barrels, tea rooms and drive-in restaurants, and places with two or three-digit phone numbers. These times and places from the past still live on in matchcovers.

Of course, I collect matchcovers for other reasons, as well...

- I collect "Indians" because they deserve to be remembered.
- I collect Billiard covers because I play and because I am a student of the game.
- I collect Mexican Restaurants because I have an affinity for Mexico, having been there on numerous occasions.
- I collect Chinese Restaurants because I have a Chinese friend who owned a Chinese Restaurant (The Golden Dragon in Pittsburgh).
- I collect Coal because my ancestors were miners, and I came from mining country (Fayette County, PA).
- I collect Steel because it once defined Pittsburgh, and now it is mostly gone.
- I collect Shamrocks because I am part Irish ("O'Reddy" originally).
- I collect Abraham Lincoln and Lincoln Highway because I am a distant relative (third cousin, four times removed).
- I collect Features and Midgets because I am sure there are many on the face of this earth who have never seen one.
- I collect Franklin D. Roosevelt because my grandmother thought he was the greatest president that ever was.
- I collect John F. Kennedy because my mother thought *he* was the greatest president that ever was.
- I collect Trees because I am fascinated with them.
- I collect Marilyn Monroe because I've always been a sucker for a good-looking blonde.
- I collect covers from State College because I am a PSU alum and lived there for several years.
- I collect front strike Pittsburgh covers because this is my hometown, and I enjoy reminiscing about places that are only history now.
- I collect tea rooms and drive-in restaurants because we will never see these again.
- Wondering what it must have been like to live during World War II leads to my Patriotic collection.

Unlike most collectors, I don't need an unstruck cover to see the past, relate to the place or subject. I enjoy having it, and it reminds me of why I collect.

[Ed: I can certainly identify with Duane's ideas here. I love History! And that's been the main attraction of matchcovers for me, as well. But what about you? We're assuming you're not in the hobby as an investment opportunity and not here to become a millionaire...so why do YOU collect? Take the time and let us know, please]

MATCHBOOKS IN THE LAW BOOKS: PART XXXIV

by Kenneth H. Ryesky, Esq.

Ken Ryesky (RMS # 9003), member of the New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania Bars, practices law in East Northport, NY and teaches Business Law at Queens College of the City University of New York. He can be reached at P.O. Box 926, East Northport, NY 11731 or by e-mail at khresq@sprintmail.com.

In 1997, the New Jersey State Legislature created the Joint Committee on Automobile Insurance Reform to address New Jersey's no-fault laws, in hopes of lowering the notoriously high costs of automobile insurance in that state. The Committee held many hearings at which numerous witnesses gave testimony. The success of these efforts remains questionable.

The Joint Committee convened on 26 January 1998 in the State House Annex in Trenton. One witness was Anthony P. LoCastro, then the National Director of Personal Injury Claims for Prudential Insurance. LoCastro's significant achievement and experience in the insurance industry had included the exposure of the so-called "V & K Ring," a scheme through which chiropractors Steven Verchow and Alexander Kuntzevich had scammed the automobile insurance industry of more than \$12 million through bogus and unnecessary procedures.

LoCastro's testimony spotlighted the unnecessary health care treatments performed on actual and purported accident victims, noting that many of those who provided the treatments had very dubious qualifications to do so:

"Prudential is involved in two high-level suits right now up in Bergen County where we did not pay because we felt qualified technicians were not providing these tests. You had laypeople basically going into doctors' offices. Some of them have

these real cute arrangements, too. They'll rent office space. You know, V and K had dentists coming in from Long Island, renting the space for \$500 a day, so they could see these Haitians that were there for chiropractic care, let alone dental care. But this is common. This is common today, for nonmedical people who have technicians -- and I always joke that if you can draw Sparky on this matchbook, you, too, can do one of these tests. That's how sad it has become." [119]

The matchbook to which LoCastro referred was, in all likelihood, one from Art Instruction Schools, Inc. Founded in 1914 in Minneapolis to supply the printing industry's growing needs for competent illustrators, AIS used matchbooks quite extensively as an advertising medium. AIS's most famous graduate was the late Charles Schulz, renowned creator of the "Peanuts" comic strip.

Tony LoCastro's reference in his testimony to "Sparky" was a misnomer. He no doubt meant to say "draw *Spunky*" instead of "draw Sparky." Here is my own AIS matchbook with Spunky the Donkey. How well can you draw him?

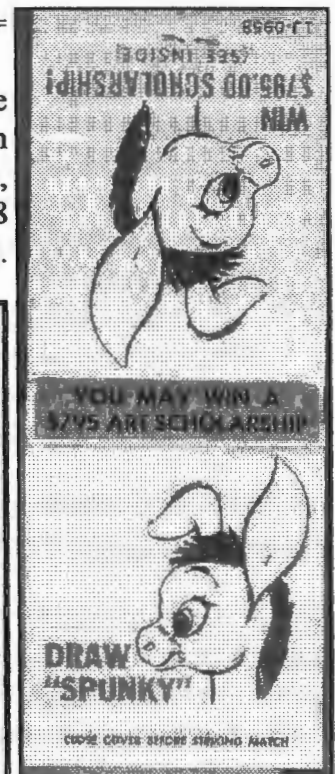
[To be continued]

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[119] New Jersey State Legislature, Jt. Comm. on Automobile Ins. Reform, meeting transcript at p. 58 (26 January 1998).

Ads

We can run your classified ads in either the bulletin or the web site, or both. Take advantage of the largest matchcover hobby publication in the world! Send text and check to *The Ed.* or contact me FMI.



RMS MEMBERSHIP REPORT - NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2004

SPONSOR

NEW MEMBERS (*=will trade)

- 9593--**Kate Mazejka**, 21 Wheatley St., Lebanon, NH 03766 RMS Web Page
COLLECTS: Restaurants/Haus.
- 9602--**Damon La Doux**, 24 Airport Dr., Milford, IA 51351 RMS Web Page
COLLECTS: Restaurants, Hotels, Cigars, Railroads & Products.
- 9603*--**Craig Neros**, 11120 16TH St., N.E., St. Michael, MN 55376 RMS Web Page
COLLECTS: Railroads, North Dakota & WWII Patriotic.
- 9604*--**J.R. "Mitch" Mitchell**, 6581 S. Granite Dr., Chandler, AZ 85249 Bob Goodyear
COLLECTS: Tobacco, Auto Products, Nevada, Matchbook Offers, Used Cars & Gas & Oil.
- 9605--**Susan H. La Dage**, 12800 Vonn Rd., #7003, Largo, FL 33774-2520 RMS Web Page
COLLECTS: FL, NY, Girlie Pinups, Hotel/Motels, Restaurants & Transportation.
- 9606--**Michael T. Frank**, 1065 Lake Beach Dr., Shoreview, MN 55126 RMS Web Page
COLLECTS: Transportation, Sports, Hotels, Restaurants, Beer & Tobacco.

ADDRESS CORRECTION

- 4716--**Marvin Spinner**, 3447 Crooks Rd., Royal Oak, MI 48073-2421
- 6856--**Jack Benbrook**, 11600 E. Turquoise Cir., Dewey, AZ 86327-5719
- 8031--**Jacqueline B. Anello**, 170B Fletcher Dr., Newburg, NY 12550
- 8984--**Jenny Cooke**, 900 Grider Pond, Bowling Green, KY 42104
- 9305--**Kenneth Munyon**, 4989 Coddingle Rd., Medina, OH 44256-8425
- 9371--**Ray C. Sword**, 837 Ocotillo Dr., Sierra Vista, AZ 85635-1217

REINSTATED

- 5079--**David Hampton**, P.O. Box 94, Eustis, FL 32727-0094

DECEASED

- 2864--**James R. Mettler (09/17/04)**
- 9502--**Herman Rosen (09/03/04)**

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Rowe

Terry L. Rowe

 AS ANOTHER REMINDER, DUES WERE INCREASED AT THE RMS CONVENTION THIS PAST AUGUST. BELOW ARE THE NEW RATES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2005. PLEASE MAKE PAYMENT IN U.S. DOLLARS.

ENTRY FEE: \$2.00

ALL U.S. MEMBERS: \$20.00

ALL MEMBERS FROM CANADA AND MEXICO: \$25.00

ALL OTHER INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS: \$35.00

FAMILY MEMBERS: \$4.00

BIRTHDAY CLUB: The following club members will be celebrating birthdays on the dates indicated. Please check your latest roster to get current addresses and categories: Fred Albano (11/19), Marie Jeanne Gagnon (11/27)

If you're interested in receiving 200-300 covers or boxes during your birthday month, send an SASE #10 envelope to: Wally and Pat Mains, 105 Roger Ln., Florence, KY 41042-2334. NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

CLUB CORNER

7TH SOUTHERN SWAPFEST: March 8-12, 2005, Holiday Inn, 2701 Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL (1-800-206-2747). Room-\$69 single/\$79 double. Two big auctions+, games, silent auctions, freebie and dealer tables, displays, room hopping, raffles, etc. FMI: Gayle Hofacker, 937-3795 (gayliano13@earthlink.net)

SIERRA-DIABLO SWAPFEST 2005! March 25-27, 2005, Heritage Inn, 201 Harding Blvd., Roseville, CA (800-228-4747 or 916-782-4466). Bigger! Better! Be there! More details coming. Contact Loren Moore, POB 1181, Roseville, CA 95678 (loren@bgsplanco.com)

AMCAL 2005: May 22-28, Piccadilly Inn Airport, Fresno (1-559-251-6000) Room - \$75. Don't miss this one; it's the 50th anniversary celebration of the biggest convention west of the Mississippi! More details coming. Contact person is Ellen Gutting, 824 Peachy Canyon Circ., #101, Las Vegas, NV 89144-0907

RMS CONVENTION 2005: August 7-13, Radisson Hotel, Enfield, CT. Room rate is \$89+tax. Some great trips are being planned, as well as some new, exciting activities. Don't miss the biggest hobby get-together on the continent—auctions, club meetings, dealers' tables, freebies, great socials. Details coming. FMI: Joe DeGennaro, 309 E. 87th St., #6E, NY, NY 10128-6774 (jtdegenmaro@cbs.com)

CLUB CORNER

Complete Convention Info!

RMS Convention: "Convention Central" at <http://www.matchcover.org>

AMCAL Convention: "AMCAL Central" at <http://www.matchcover.org/sierra>

COMING UP!

Jan/Feb: "2005 Demographics"

Mar/Apr: "Footers"

May/Jun: "Canadian Tax Stamps"

Jul/Aug: "Art and Slogans of World War II"

ADVERTISING RATES

Display Ads

Full-Page = \$55.00

Half-Page = \$30.00

Quarter-Page = \$17.50

Eighth-Page = \$10.00 (N/A for businesses)

Classified Ads

First 20 words or less, \$2.00; .10 per word thereafter. Same ad, three consecutive issues, 10% discount. Check made out to RMS must accompany first ad.

Submission Deadlines

All material is due to Editor NLT 30 days before appropriate publication month: Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov.

RMS

Terry L. Rowe
RMS Membership Secretary/Treasurer
1509 S. Dugan Rd.
Urbana, OH 43078-9209

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