



The Souvenir Card JOURNAL

THIRD QUARTER 2025

VOLUME 45 NUMBER 3

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOUVENIR CARD COLLECTORS SOCIETY





The IBNS is an international organization devoted to the study of world paper money. The IBNS issues a full colour quarterly journal, holds annual auctions, distributes a Directory every two years, has a panel of experts who can answer queries relating to banknotes and maintains chapters around the world where members regularly meet. To learn more about the IBNS visit:

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Third Quarter 2025, Volume 45, Number 3



#1135900

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On the cover: FSO-1894Ca, the front cover of the 1894 menu and program for the Ohio Society of New York's lavish annual banquet. See article on page 18.

Back cover: Color page from Henry Jewell scrapbook showing Treasury bond undertints. See article on page 10.

Submission deadlines for ads, articles, comments, etc. are: Feb. 1 (First Quarter issue); May 1 (Second Quarter); Aug. 1 (Third Quarter); and Nov. 1 (Fourth Quarter). Your cooperation in meeting these goals is appreciated.

Please inquire with Greg Alexander (SCCS1981@yahoo.com) regarding renewals, membership information, requests for back issues and information concerning this Journal, including submission of articles and advertising inquiries. Current dues for digital SCJ: \$25/yr.; \$45/2yrs.z; \$65/3 yrs.; for Journal hard copies: \$35/yr.; \$65/2yrs.; \$95/3 yrs.

Visit the SCCS website at www.souvenircards.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A. Stephen Patrick

It's been a relatively quiet spring, but the summer has three big shows that involve the SCCS. I just spent three days representing us at the Summer FUN show July 10-12. I sold no memberships but gave away 50 to 75 cards to interested youth and parents that came by the table. I was helped on Friday by member **Carlos Guffain**. It was nice to see former member Steve Feiertag who came by to say hello. **John and Nancy Wilson** were also in the building.

Our next appointment is the Great American Stamp Show from Aug. 14-17 in Schaumburg, IL, just outside Chicago. We will have a table and your officers will be there. The following week we will have our annual meeting at the World's Fair of Money, running Aug. 19-23 in Oklahoma City. Our annual card will debut with an engraving of an oil well. We plan to have a talk by renowned test note cataloguer **Roland Rollins** at our annual meeting on Aug. 21.

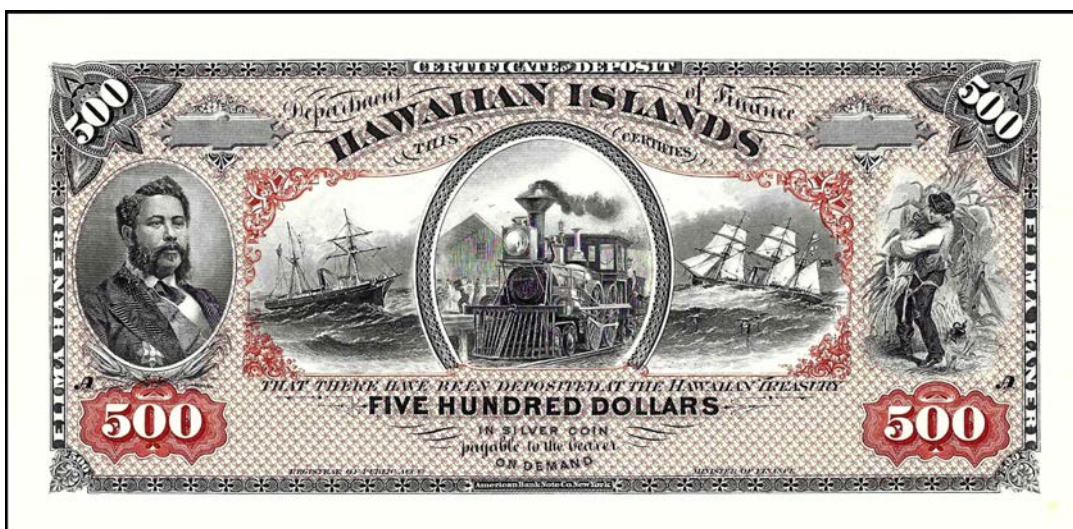
Let me tell you about my exhibit at Summer FUN. Exhibiting here is low pressure — unlike the January show it is not judged and the reward is a silver American Eagle coin for each participant. I filled 10 cases with Semi Official material from American Bank Note. No doubt you've heard the term "pride of ownership," the satisfaction and pleasure derived from possessing something, especially when effort has been invested in its acquisition or maintenance. I think we have a problem as souvenir card collectors — our cards often sit on a shelf. No one appreciates them like our fellow collectors and it's disappointing

when our family and friends don't share our enthusiasm. Some leave the hobby with these feelings.

Years ago, the SCCS instituted the Jim Thompson Award for members who exhibited cards at a stamp or coin show. A few received the award, but it soon passed. Why? Lack of participation. It's hard to make cards fit into the narrow judging standards of competitive exhibiting. Twenty years ago I exhibited my show-cancelled PS cards from worldwide stamp shows at the FLOREX stamp show. It received a minimum award because cards and cancels aren't rarities. Judges don't appreciate the difficulty of getting show cancels from places like Barcelona, Bangkok, Buenos Aires, or Seoul.

For the recent FUN show I did five frames of the 36 exquisite obsolete banknote reprints from ABNC's 1993 American Paper Money Collection. Three frames featured cards with ABNC special printings from 1995 of the \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, and \$500 reprints of 1879 notes from the Kingdom of Hawaii. These cards are not yet in our galleries but they soon will be; see page 26 for details. And I filled one case with a framed print of FSO-1988A, the large "Almond Delight" sheet — for more on that see page 24.

I encourage all of our members to be proactive in exhibiting, sharing, and "showing off" your collections. Spread the word about our great hobby.



Our 2025 annual SCCS card should be tucked in the pages of all hard copies of the Journal being mailed out. Let me know if you didn't get one or if there was damage. For our members with digital subscriptions, your card will be mailed separately or you may pick up a copy in person later this month, if you plan to attend the Great American Stamp Show in Schaumburg, outside Chicago, or the ANA show in Oklahoma City.

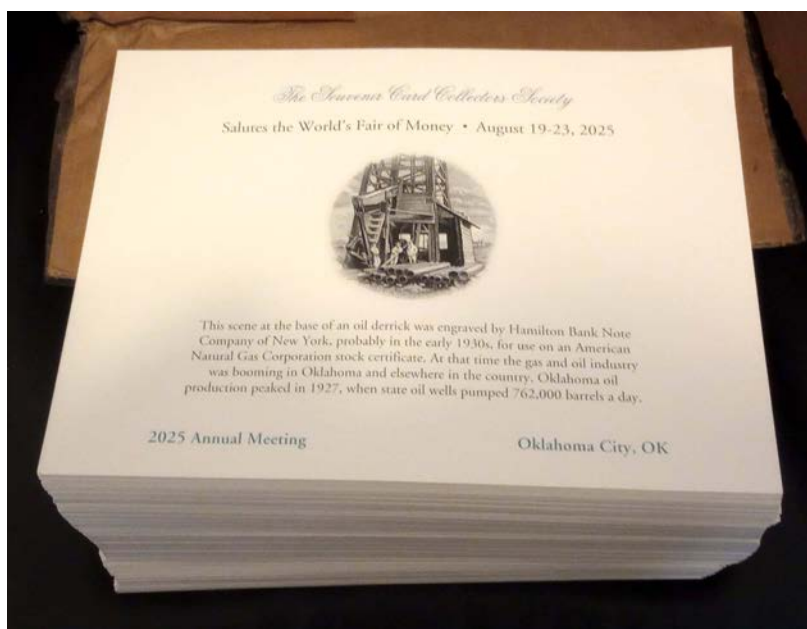
If you are one of those last-minute planners and have finally decided to attend one of the shows above, please let us know. We can always use help at the club table, even if you can only spare an hour or so. Those of us who regularly man the booth always appreciate a chance to stretch our legs and take a break. Look for us on the OKC ANA show bourse at table #1628, near the entrance to the exhibit area. We don't yet know our table number at the GASS show, but it will be in the club section.

The subscription souvenir card program is looking very promising for next year. Not many members have offered feedback so far, but it sounds like three or four cards is an appropriate number. Intaglio printed cards are certain; price points are still being considered. We will discuss this more at our annual

meeting, which is slated for Thursday, Aug. 21 at 2 p.m. in Room 205AB at the Oklahoma City Convention Center. We are also planning a general meeting at GASS. Please join us on Friday, Aug. 15 at 1 p.m. in Room G. Feel free to bring some items for show-and-tell.

New members continue to trickle in! I'd like to welcome **Daniel McDonald, Gary Hammack, Douglas Logan, Kyle McHugh, and Charles Herren Douglas**, who all joined in recent months. Welcome — we hope you find the SCCS interesting and educational!

One last thing I'd like to mention is the retirement earlier this year of Kevin Brown at the BEP. Kevin served as Marketing Manager at the Bureau for about 20 years. Until COVID hit, he was a very active collaborator with hobby organizations like ours. During the pandemic, when the BEP shut down sales of collector products to focus exclusively on currency production, Kevin had much less to do. The Bureau still has not returned to selling items such as portrait-vignette cards and intaglio prints, but uncut sheets of currency are available again, which is a good sign. Thanks for your contributions to our hobby, Kevin — we will miss you.



This year's annual cards, printed by Capital City Engraving Co., arrived just in time to be included in this Journal issue.

REPORT FROM PAN

Brian Christian

As some of you may be aware, the SCCS had a table at the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists (PAN) show in May. This show is held twice a year in Monroeville, a suburb of Pittsburgh. This is the first time the Society has had a presence at the show.

I attended the PAN show from mid-afternoon Thursday thru closing on Saturday, as the solo table host for SCCS. The busiest days of the show were Thursday and Friday. I thought Saturday would be busy, what with it being Kids Day and a weekend. Not so. Club tables, exhibits, and lectures were in an adjacent hall from the main hall with the bourse. That is a change from previous years where everything was in one hall. They were able to have more bourse tables and dealers this way. It probably cut down the traffic to the club booths, however.

Only one existing member stopped by the table — **Dave Hunsicker**. I may have chatted with about two dozen other people and gave out promotional SCCS postcards. Dennis Boggs, a.k.a Abraham Lincoln, also made an appearance. I did not sign up any new members, but over the next few months some may decide to join from the postcard. Regrettably, I had no giveaways for the few kids who stopped by the table.



Looking forward, the fall PAN show in October conflicts with a dental meeting I am going to and next year's spring show is during Boston 2026. Since we will have a presence at the ANA show in Pittsburgh next August, I'm not sure we can justify a table at the fall 2026 PAN, but I may be up for it, especially if other Pennsylvania members could join me in manning the table.

This trial run was not very successful, but it was nice chatting with the people who stopped by. There were a few with small souvenir card collections, usually Bureau issued cards, so they may get back into it. The show gave us a lot of space, but no signage, so having our new banner was nice, as can be seen in the photo.



MEMBER PROFILE: VINCE JONES

You've been a member since the mid-1980s. How did you get interested in souvenir cards?

I grew up collecting coins and stamps, introduced to each through earning the Boy Scouts' merit badge. In my 30s and 40s I was very involved collecting valuable U.S. coins. For a time, I was even co-owner and operator of a successful stamp and coin store on Mercer Island, WA. Being introduced to stamps in a big way through the store, I reduced my coin collecting efforts and started collecting U.S. coil stamps. I learned about souvenir cards and how original engraved plates were used to print many of the very expensive BEP paper money products — items that I would never be able to afford, so I started collecting BEP and USPS souvenir cards. I'd say my interests are now more philatelic.

Are you active in any other hobby organizations?

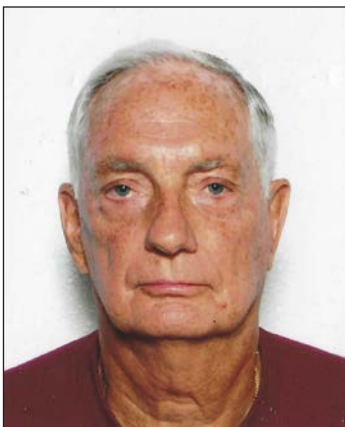
I am very active with the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club (PNC3), serving on the board of directors and as treasurer. I provide presentations about U.S. coil stamps to stamp clubs and help run, in a minor way, the Sequoia Stamp Club's PENPEX (Peninsula Philatelic Exhibition).

Do you still attend many hobby shows?

No. I only attend the Great American Stamp Show, WESTPEX, and PENPEX.

As one of our SCCS auction managers, working with Mark Gereb, you've been overseeing the bidding and final sales tallies for several years. How would you say things are going?

Very well! There were startup issues that needed to be shaken out, but now that we have run eight auctions together, things are flowing very smoothly. And



Vince Jones, SCCS #1140

I have been very pleased with my interfaces with bidders and appreciate that every successful bidder has generally responded with payments quickly. I have agreed to be involved through two more auctions, then I will retire! If a member would like to get involved tracking bids and financial aspects in about a year, let **Greg Alexander** know of your interest. I'd be happy to share the Excel spreadsheets that I use in the auction efforts.

Have you learned anything about the way auctions operate — at least among our club members?

Human nature is interesting to me and it directly impacts the auctions. Many members submit bids within the last few days of a month-long auction period. As a result, many bid unsuccessfully when someone has bid the same amount earlier during the auction. It really pays off to bid early and not wait until the last minute!

Any thoughts about how we might improve the Society?

I would suggest that the Society start paying for small advertisements in the numismatic and philatelic journals sent to American Numismatic Association (ANA) and American Philatelic Society (APS) members. As I mentioned, I only became a souvenir card collector because of my efforts collecting coins and stamps. I'm sure there are many collectors who would find souvenir card collecting a wonderful adjunct to their coin and/or stamp collections.

Do you have a favorite souvenir card or engraving you could share?

I have almost all the BEP and USPS cards but enjoyed displaying the BEP silk handkerchief from Pacific 97 at work, and now at home, prompting questions about the hobby.



NEW TO THE CATALOG

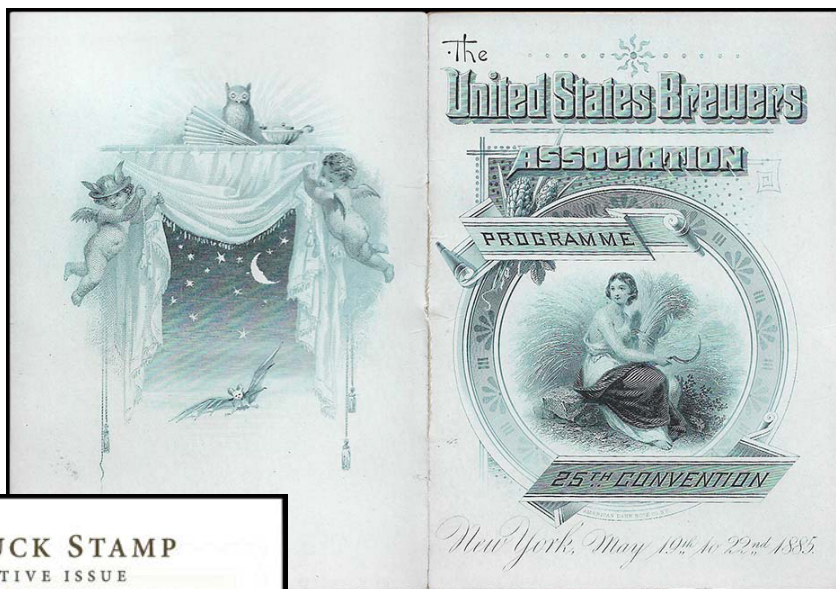
Greg Alexander

Quite a number of newly-discovered FSO cards have been added to the catalog recently. Since most of these were from one source, I thought it made more sense to break these out into a dedicated article, which can be found on page 18. One more unrelated FSO card is shown here.

A couple others have also been assigned numbers by the Cataloging Committee. The two annual duck stamp cards arrived in June. Thanks to **Ron Betz** for providing images of this pair.



Right: FSO-1885G, the program for the 25th convention of the U.S. Brewers Association, was printed by American Bank Note Co.



D-155, above, the Artist Commemorative duck stamp card and D-154, right, the appreciation certificate for 2025.



ULTRAVIOLET FMA CARDS

Don Epp

A recent purchase through fellow SCCS member **Fred Geissler** of progressive proofs for the Federal Managers Association (FM) souvenir cards revealed some illuminating aspects of the FM-3 series of cards. The FM-3 card and its associated proofs, FM-3b to FM-3g, contain fluorescent ink that is not discernable with the naked eye. The cards were issued in conjunction with the 1993 American Stamp Dealers Association (ASDA) show on May 5, 1993, and were meant to commemorate the bicentenary later that year of the laying of the Capitol building's cornerstone. (The first three years of FMA cards, 1991 to '93, all used the same vignette of the Capitol, printed lithographically in brown ink with a red oval frame.)

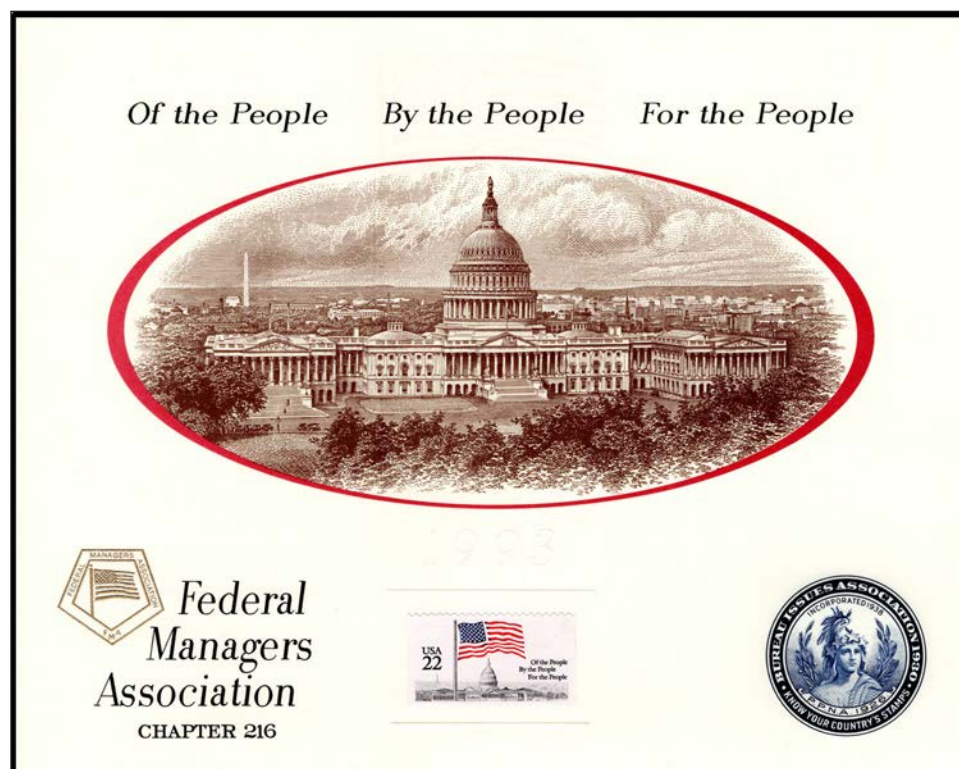
The finished FM-3 card features the FMA logo in gold, the Bureau Issues Association (BIA) logo in blue, a blind-embossed 1993 date stamp, and a 22¢ Flag Over Capitol stamp affixed within a blind-embossed frame. The cards were in excellent condition (thanks, Fred!).

The one proof that does not include fluorescent ink is FM-3a. It is virtually indistinguishable from FM-3b,

although the brown color on one card appeared to be slightly darker than the other. To determine which was which, the cards were subjected to inspection under both long-wave and short-wave ultraviolet (UV) light. The fluorescent ink glowed under both wavelengths but was significantly more pronounced under long-wave UV light. This confirmed the SCCS Catalog notation that fluorescent ink was used on the cards rather than phosphorescent ink, which does not glow under long-wave UV light. It also confirmed the card with the slightly darker brown ink was the one with fluorescent ink.

As expected, the Capitol building displays fluorescent ink on the FM-3b card and glows along its entire extent. The Washington Monument is also highlighted, an added bonus. The real surprise, however, is the large hidden flag that is only revealed under UV light. It represents the "Flag Over Capitol Dome" and mimics the postage stamp affixed to the FM-3 card.

Collectors seeking to distinguish between the finished FM-3 souvenir card and the FM-3g proof will find the FM-3g proof glows more strongly under long-



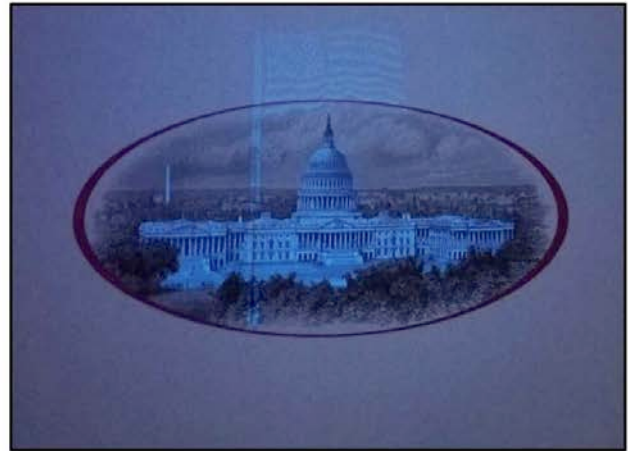
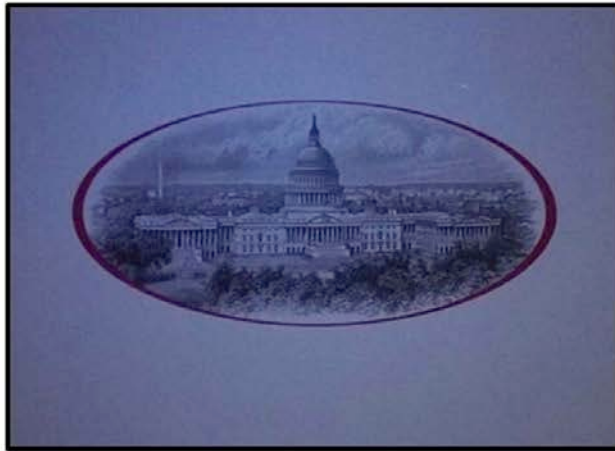
Left: An example of FMA-3 in daylight, the finished card that was sold individually as a fundraiser in 1993. Only the BIA logo in the lower right was printed in intaglio.

wave UV light. In fact, the glow is so strong, it makes the image of the Capitol building appear a bit blurry when photographed.

A similar difficulty is encountered when trying to distinguish between the FM-2 World Columbian Stamp Expo '92 card and its FM-2f proof counterpart. In this instance, the size differential is the identifier. The finished FM-2 souvenir card measures 10" x 8", whereas

all the progressive proofs in the series (FM-2a to FM-2f) were trimmed to 9½" x 7¾".

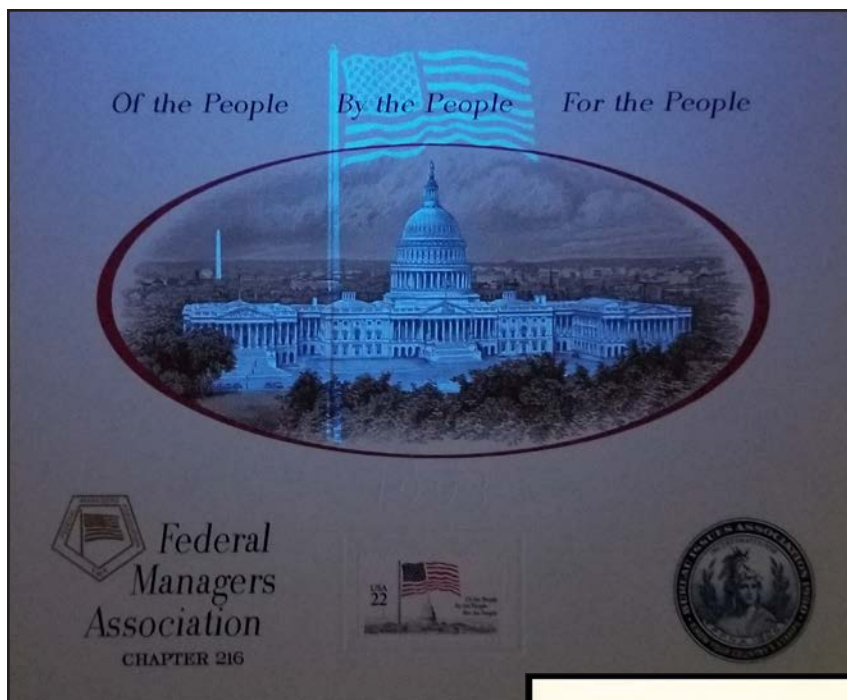
Inspection of other FMA souvenir cards under UV light did not show any evidence of luminescence. One can only imagine what other souvenir cards would look like under UV light if they were printed with fluorescent ink.



A slightly cropped comparison of FM-3a and FM-3b, the first and second progressive proofs, viewed under long-wave UV light. The added fluorescent ink is visible on the right, though fairly dim.

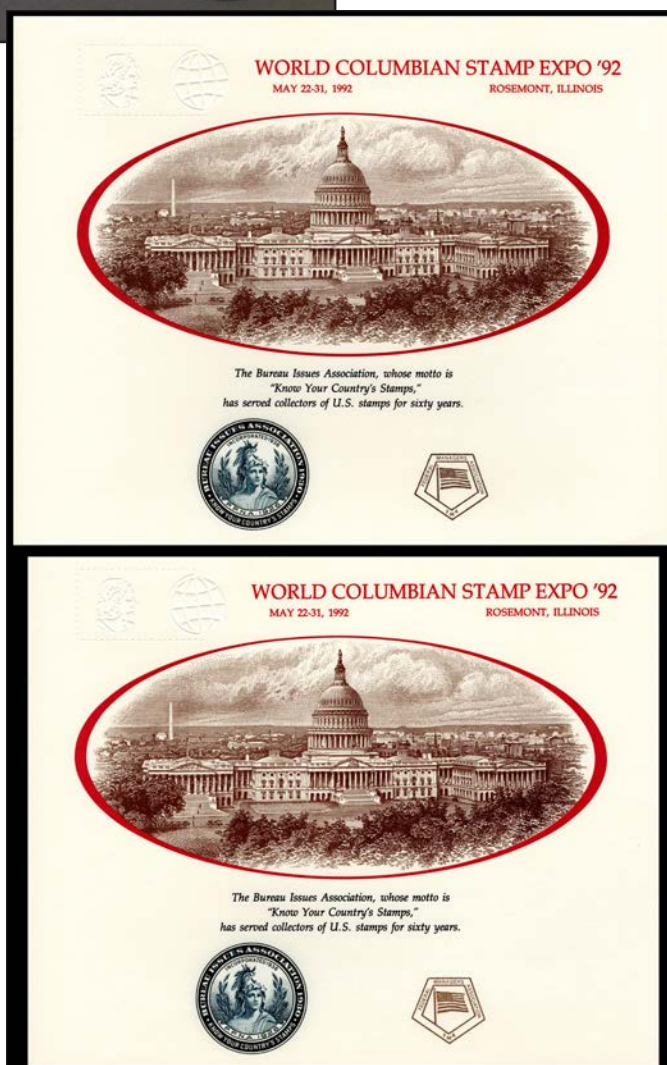


View of the fluorescent portion of FM-3g, the final progressive proof, under long-wave UV light. The fluorescent ink is much more pronounced. A comparison of the FMA-3g proof and FMA-3 shows the finished card to glow slightly less, though not enough to be obvious on the printed page. Under normal light the two cards look identical.



Full view of FM-3 under the blacklight, the same card shown on page 7.

A comparison between FM-2 (right) and FM-2f (below). In this case, size is the only distinguishing feature. The finished card is slightly larger than the progressive proofs, which were all trimmed down by 1/2" in width and 1/4" in height.



ANOTHER JEWELL SPECIMEN BOOK

Paul Melnick & Greg Alexander

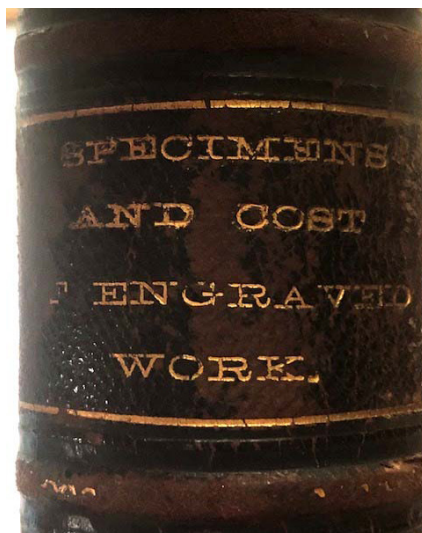
In the last issue of the *Journal*, an interesting presentation specimen book assembled for BEP chief Henry Jewell was the subject of an article by **Greg Alexander**. It reminded me in many ways of another book, now in my collection, that was also once possessed by Jewell. The spine bears his name in gold foil embossing, H.C. Jewell, though there is no imprint at all on the cover.

This book was obtained some years ago through Kolbe & Fanning, a numismatic bookseller in Ohio. Most of the information I have about it came from the seller. Before I purchased it, the book resided in the library of well-known numismatist Eric P. Newman.

Unlike the specimen book in Spokane, this one has the appearance of a scrapbook or ledger, with wide pages and paper that is more utilitarian. It does not have the typical frontispiece showing the BEP building, found in most presentation albums. There are 25 pages with affixed proofs of BEP vignettes, portraits, lettering examples, and design elements using geometric lathe patterns. Interspersed are pages of ruled paper.

Although there is no text throughout, the title — “Specimens and Cost of Engraved Work” — would indicate that Jewell had intended to add financial information by hand. That did not happen.

Left: The gilt-lettered book title on the upper spine.



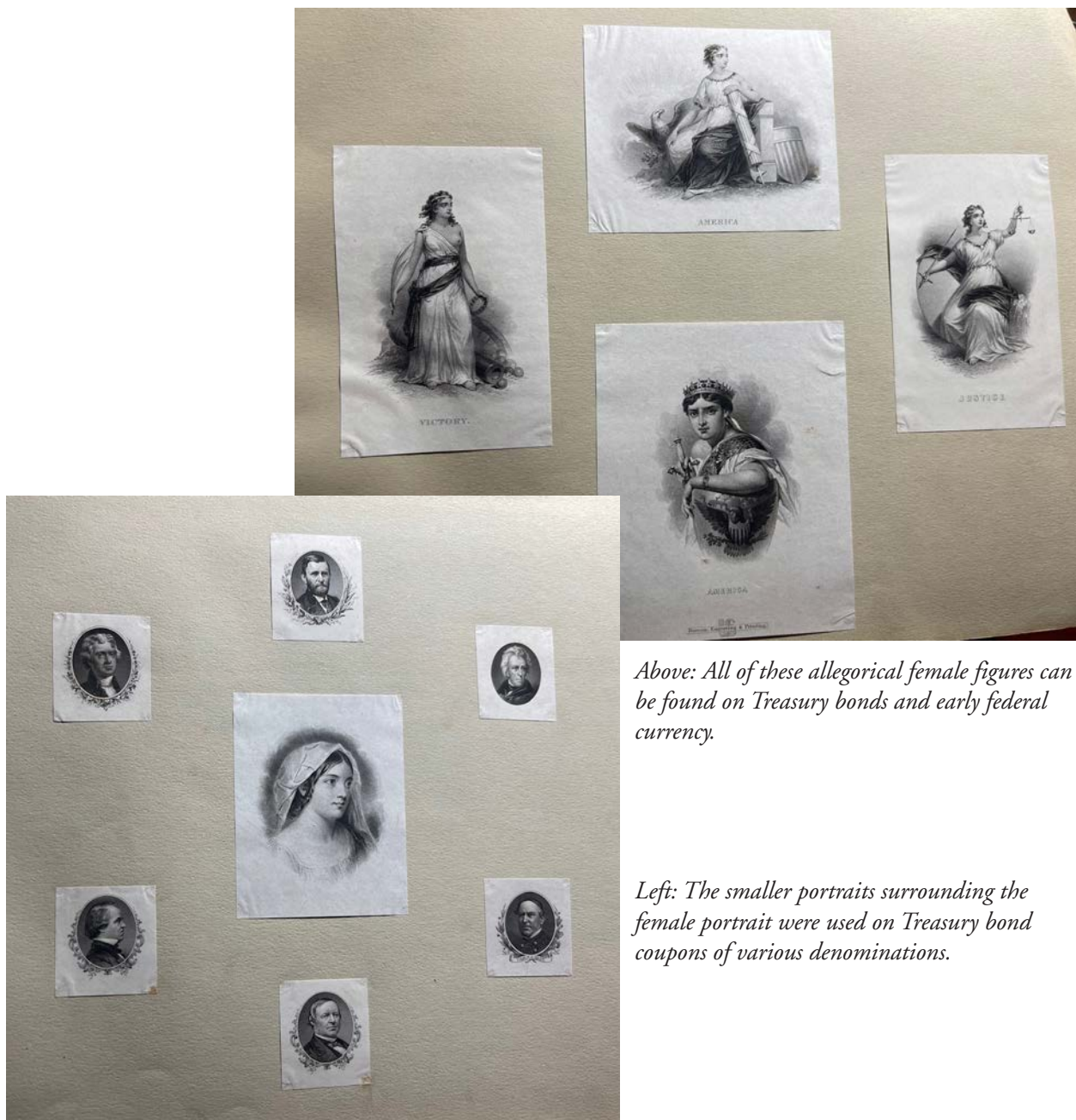
Above: The book's first page, with portraits of George Washington, Treasury Secretaries Salmon Chase and George Boutwell, and President Ulysses Grant, who was in the White House at that time.

Jewell served as Bureau chief from 1876 to 1877 and this book bears evidence that it was prepared around this time, such as the lettering for the 1876 Centennial International Exhibition.

There are a number of similarities between the font examples used here and in the Spokane book. It is possible that the lettering in this scrapbook represents engravings that were prepared for the font collages in the other book but were not used. The lettering samples in this scrapbook include many city names, similar to those used in the Grecian urn collage.

Only the last page has color illustrations. These include red Treasury seals and large lathework designs intended for use on government bonds (see back cover). One of these also appears in a trimmed-down version on a color page of the Spokane book.

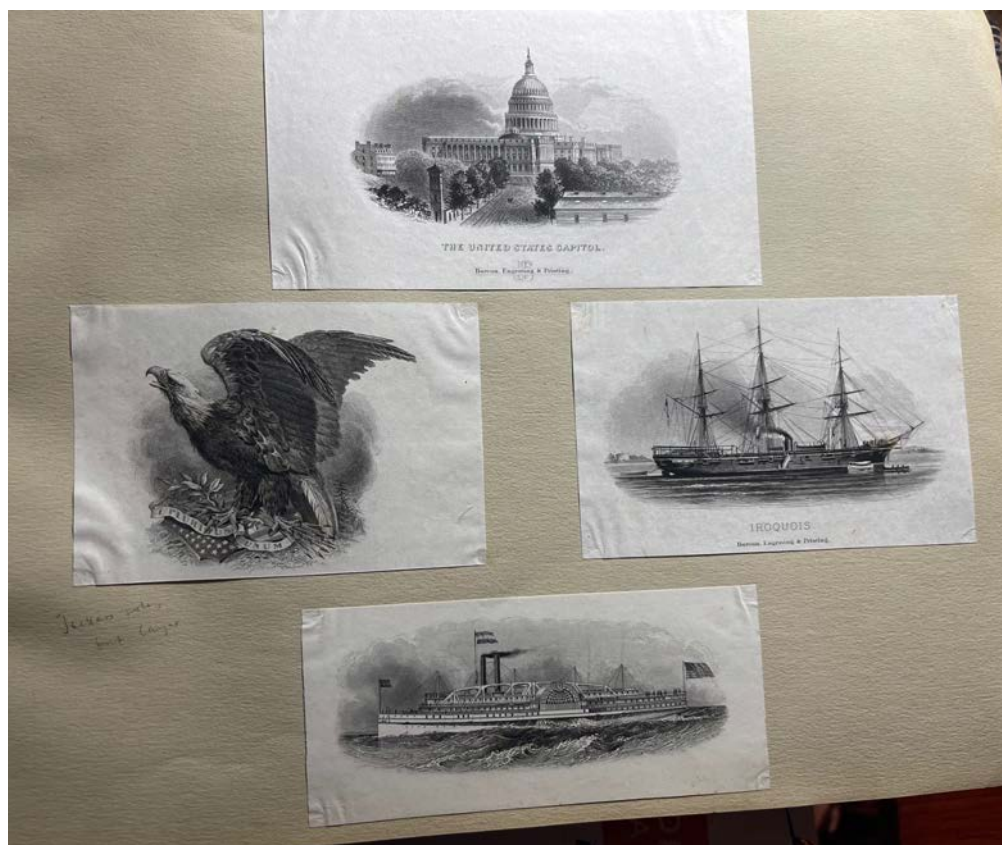
We may never know the full story behind the purpose of this book, but it remains a remarkable piece of BEP history.



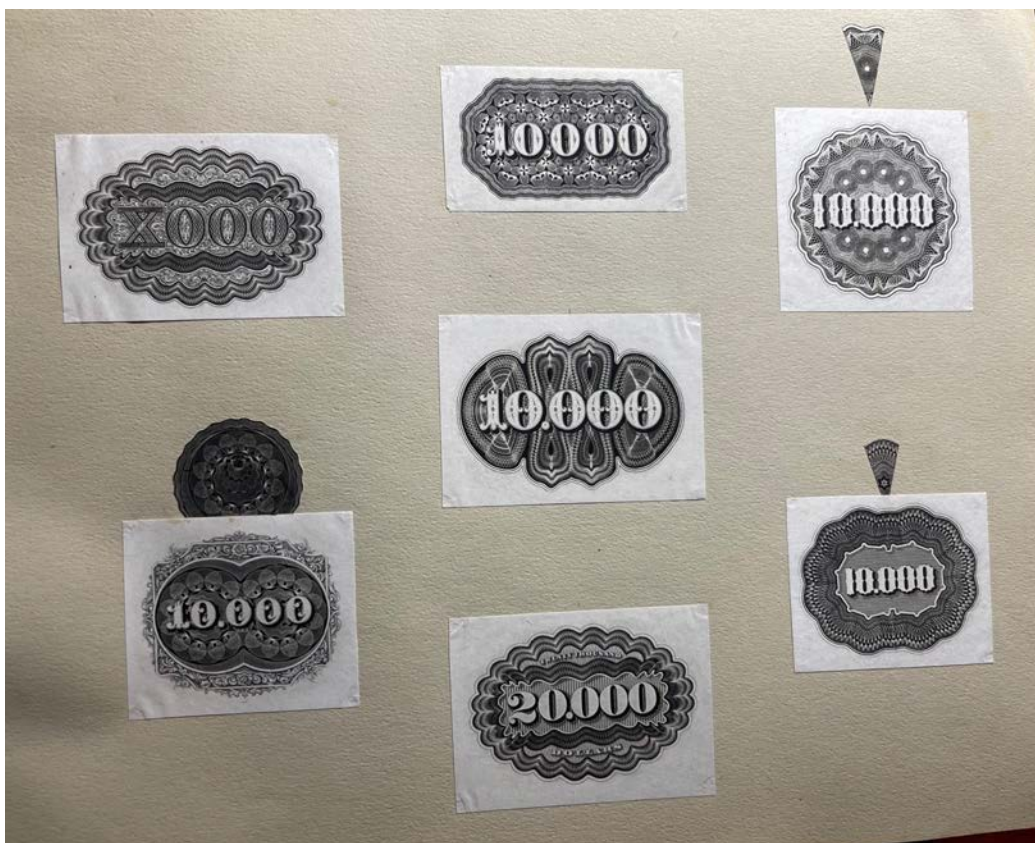
Above: All of these allegorical female figures can be found on Treasury bonds and early federal currency.

Left: The smaller portraits surrounding the female portrait were used on Treasury bond coupons of various denominations.

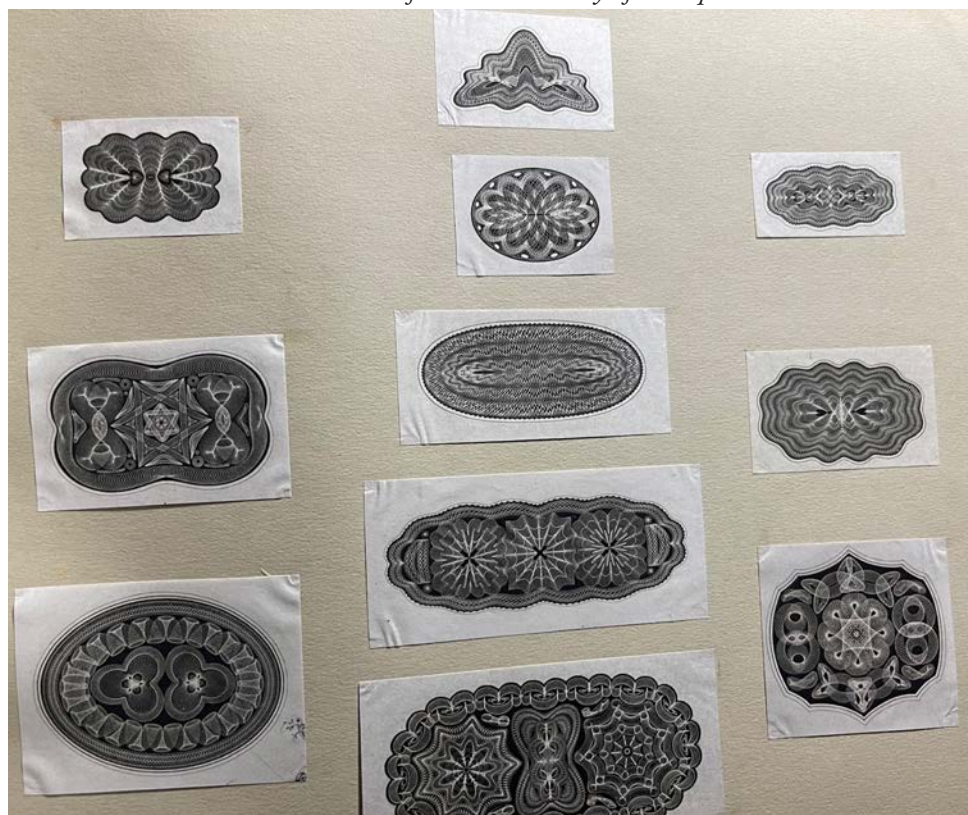
Right: These vignettes appear on many taxpaid revenue stamps and professional licenses. The eagle can be found on F-2004A.



Left: These counters were used primarily on Treasury bonds. The pie-shaped elements are the component pieces that form the circular back-grounds.



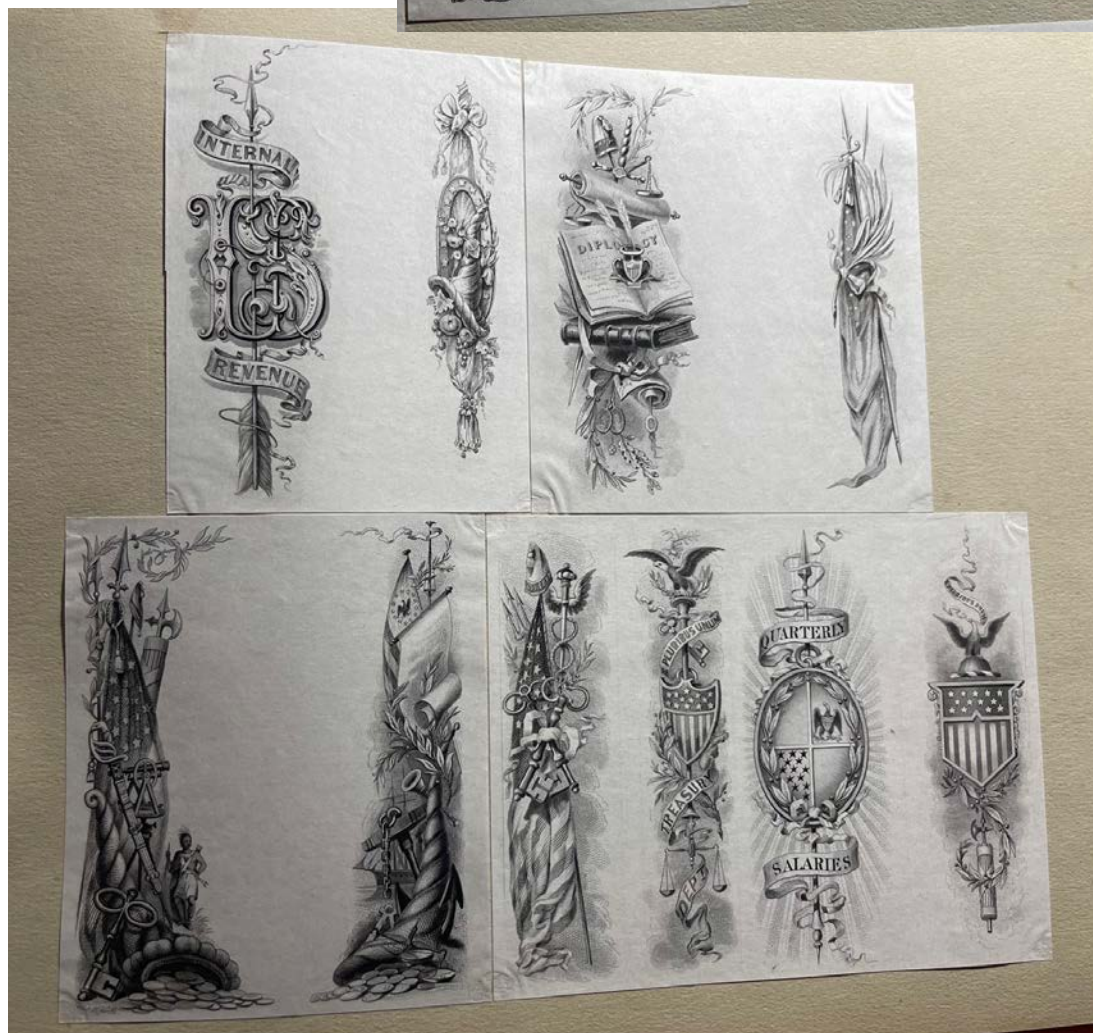
*Above: More high-denomination counters with their intricate lathe-engraved patterns.
Below: Lathework ornaments, found on a variety of BEP-produced securities.*

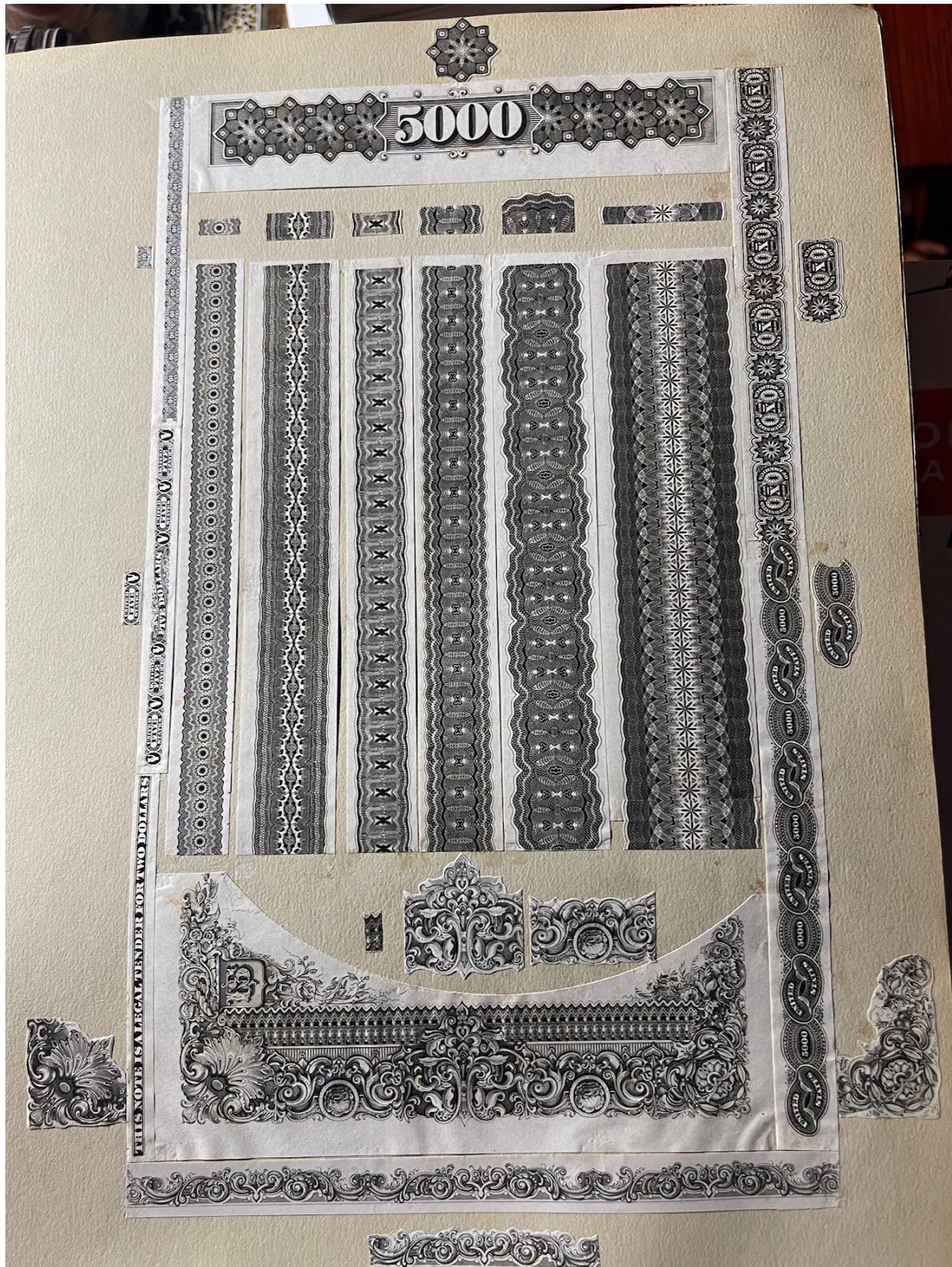


Right: L (50), M (1000), and other Roman numerals are elaborately depicted in these counters.

Note the far right corner ornaments showing V and X with bars above, indicating 5,000 and 10,000.

Below: A variety of departmental seals and logos, designed to identify governmental drafts and checks. Two of these can be found on B-305.

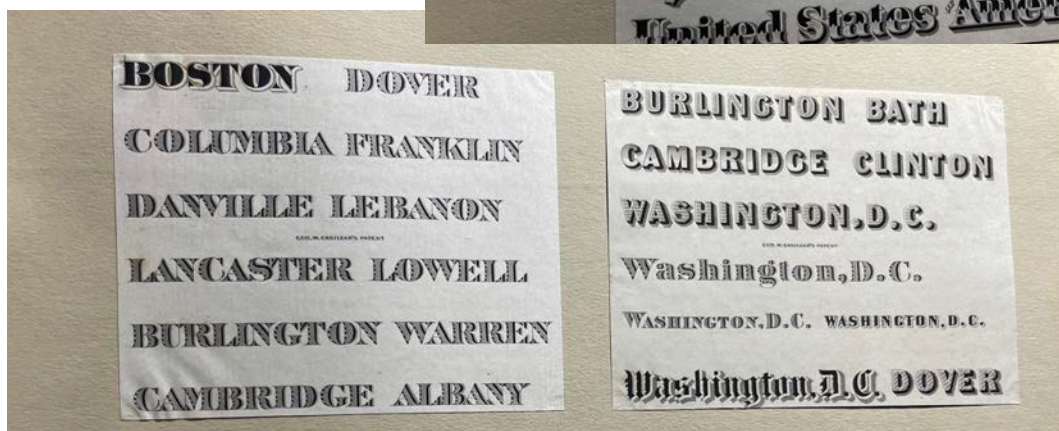
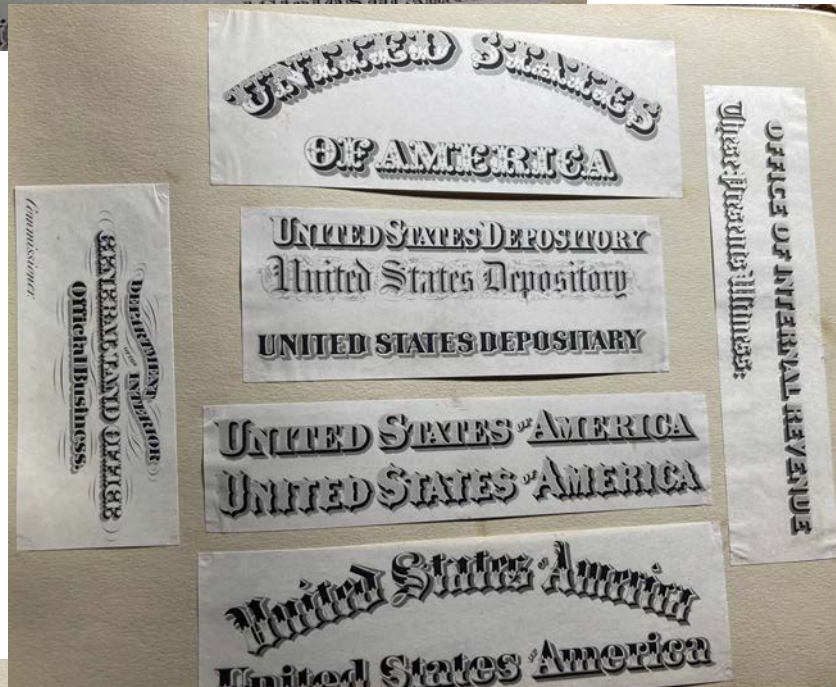




Above: Perhaps the most artistic page in the Jewell scrapbook shows off the BEP's skill in designing both lathe- and hand-engraved borders and ornaments.



Many pages show the wide variety of types in the BEP font library. These bear more than a passing resemblance to the lettering and words found in the font collages of the Jewell specimen book at the Spokane Library. The city names below were likely engraved for use on National Bank Notes.



YALE CURATOR PLANS TALK AT OKC SHOW Benjamin Hellings, D.Phil

In 2021, the Department of Numismatics at the Yale University Art Gallery acquired an extraordinary collection of 42 engraved bank note company sample specimen sheets with the Susan G. and **John W. Jackson** Numismatics Acquisition Endowment Fund. The collection was formerly owned by Michael J. Sullivan, who built it over the course of two decades, patiently waiting for the best examples to surface on the market. In the process, Sullivan passionately formed the largest collection of this rare and beautiful material ever assembled — one that will remain unparalleled in any institutional or private collection.

The engravers' specimen sheets now in the Gallery's collection exemplify the artistic and engineering qualities of bank note engraving craftsmanship in the United States from the 1820s to the 1870s. During that time the nation was the preeminent producer of

quality security engraving in the world. Renowned American artists, such as Asher Brown Durand, John William Casilear, and James Smillie, created intaglio engravings, and their work appeared on circulating currency, financial instruments, and specimen sheets — including some in the collection.

At the World's Fair of Money this August in Oklahoma City, we plan to offer a talk on this extraordinary collection. This short presentation cannot do proper justice to the entire collection, so it will be limited to illustrations of some of the artistic and whimsical characteristics of these exquisite objects.

Members of the SCCS are invited to the Engraver's Circle of Yale University Art Gallery free breakfast and lecture, scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 21, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in Room 202 at the Oklahoma City

Convention Center. Attendees will receive an intaglio print, as seen on page 27 of the 4Q 2024 Souvenir Card Journal. Please RSVP by Aug. 14 to numismatics@yale.edu and verify on the final show schedule, for any changes.



Danforth, Bald & Co. Engraver's Specimen Sheet, circa 1840s. At more than 45" tall, it is one of the largest sheets in the Yale University Art Gallery's collection.

OHIO SOCIETY OF NY BANQUET MENUS

Greg Alexander

Ohio is often referred to as the State of Presidents, with seven being born there over the decades (Virginia actually holds the title with eight). It was the most populous state in the Midwest during the late 19th century; the fourth largest in the nation in 1890. It should be no surprise, then, that a considerable number of politicians and luminaries would have close connections to the Buckeye State.

In November 1885, former Civil War General Thomas Ewing Jr. met with about 30 fellow Buckeyes in New York City. Ewing had been elected as an Ohio congressman, serving from 1877 to 1881, after which he moved to New York City to practice law. Ewing and the gathering felt great pride about their home state and quickly decided the time was right for a dining and social group of expatriates who had resettled in New York. The group would be called "The Ohio Society of New York" (OSNY) and within the year, they had written up their own constitution and elected officers with Ewing as presi-

dent. Membership was by invitation only, with the sponsorship of a current member and approval of the board of governors. Eligibility required that a member had been born in, resided in, or was educated in Ohio. The initiation fee was \$10.

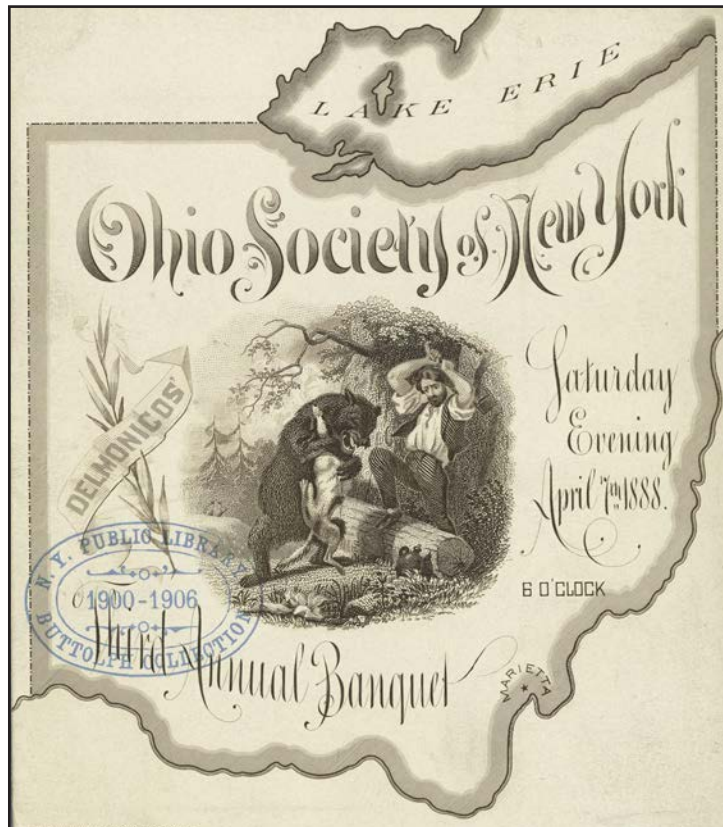
The Society flourished, rapidly attracting some high profile New Yorkers to the rolls. The first honorary members included Ewing's brothers-in-law Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman and Secretary of State and Treasury John Sherman (a former Ohio Senator), and recent President Rutherford B. Hayes. Within its first year the Society had attracted some 300 members, from bank presidents to railway tycoons.

*The OSNY was organized in January 1886 and held its first banquet that May, beginning a tradition that ran for decades. The first banquet menu and the next dozen that followed had intaglio covers engraved by the Homer Lee Bank Note Company. This example features the Ohio state seal. The card has been cataloged by the SCCS as **FSO-1886D**.*



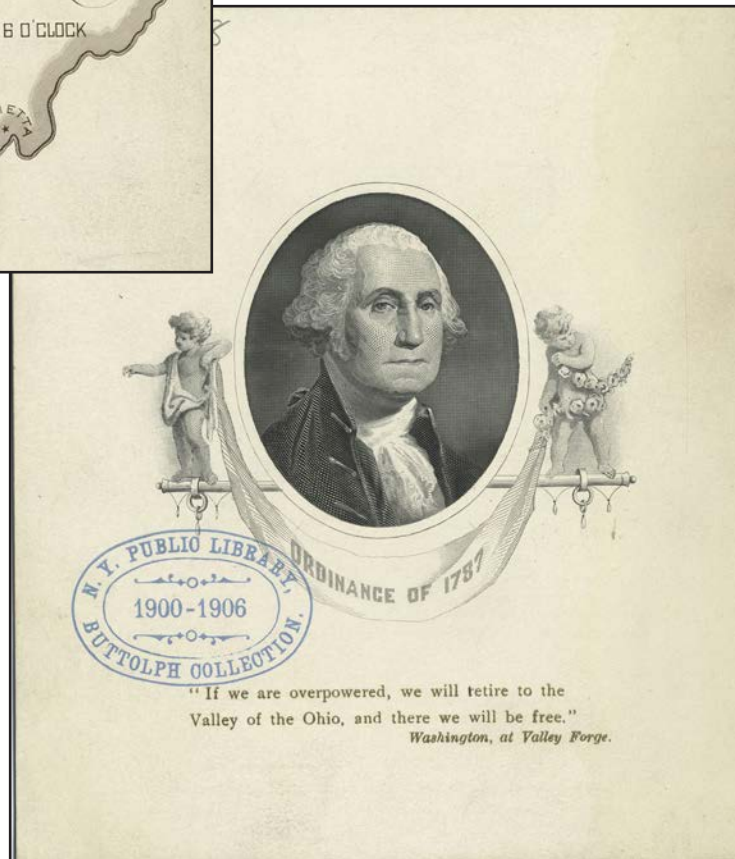
In the early years, the Society became known for lavish annual banquets, usually set at New York City's famous Delmonico's restaurant. On May 7, 1886, the OSNY held its first banquet there, with about 200 guests attending. One news report extolled: "Never since the morning stars sang together has there been such brotherly harmony as prevailed last night... Every man felt convinced that without Ohio this would

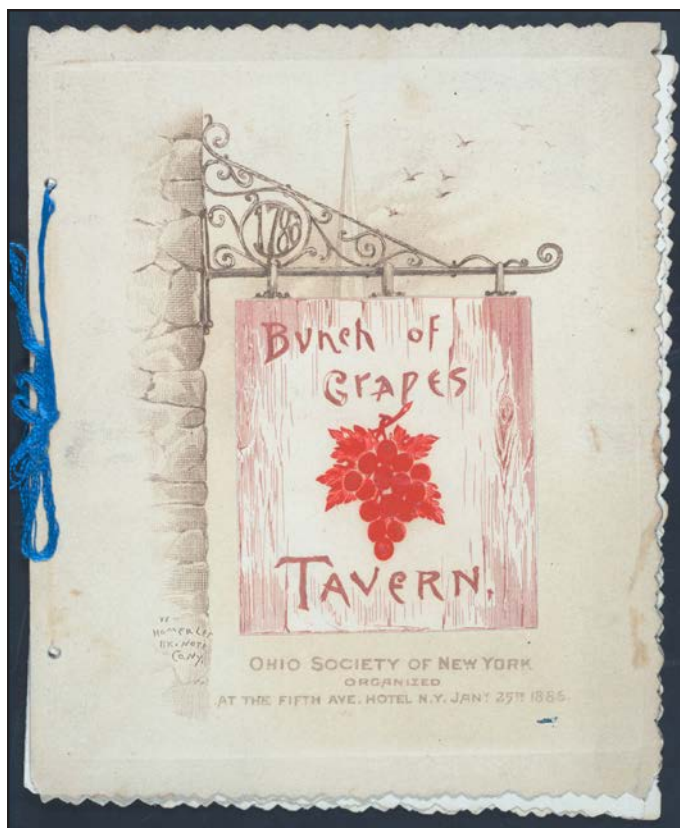
be a land of darkness, and he wasn't afraid to say so, either." The program was printed in English, but the menu portion was in French, giving everything a more impressive tone. Comestibles included Bisque de Crevettes (shrimp bisque), Filet de Boeuf a la Matignon (a.k.a. filet mignon), Haricots Verts (green beans), Punch a la Venitienne (Venetian punch), with Neapolitan ice cream and Madeira pudding for dessert.



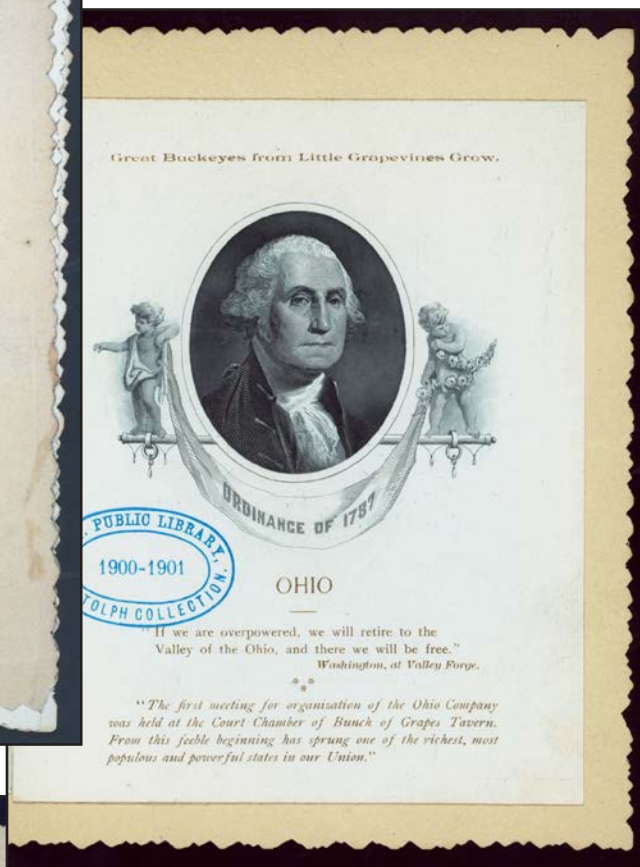
FSO-1888Aa, the front cover for the 1888 menu, features a surprisingly gruesome vignette for a dinner event, depicting a bear attack on a settler and his dog.

The back of the menu, **FSO-1888Ab**, is more subdued, with a portrait and quote of George Washington. During his first term, President Washington established the Northwest Territory containing the Ohio Valley.



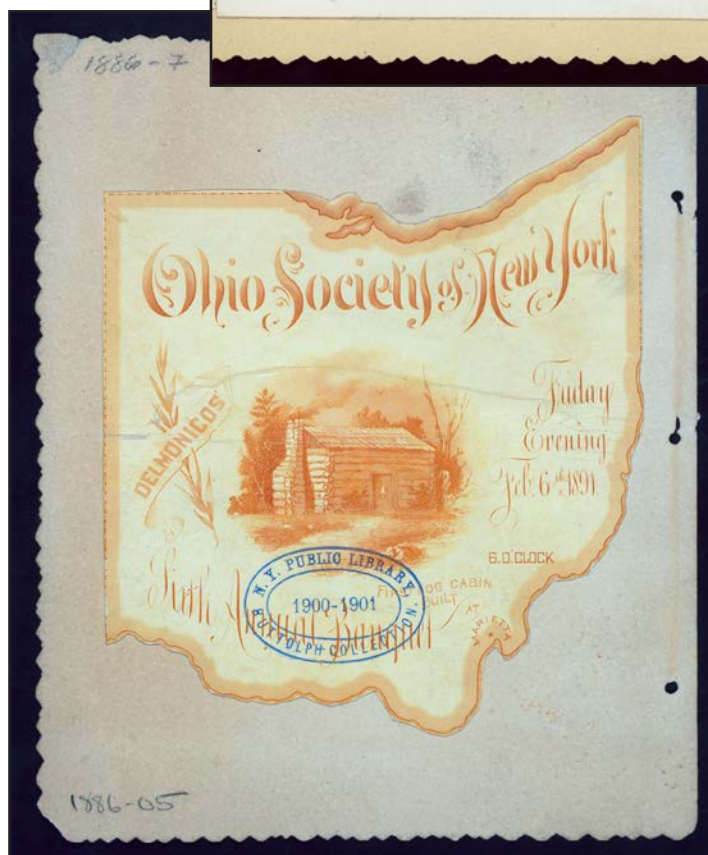


Above: The menu cover for the the 1891 banquet, **FSO-1891Ca**, shows a placard for the Bunch of Grapes Tavern in Boston where, in 1786, the idea to settle the Ohio Country was first discussed. Note the printer's imprint: "Ye Homer Lee Bk. Note Co. NY."



Above right: **FSO-1891Cb**, one of the few menus to include a frontispiece, again featuring Washington's portrait.

Right: The menu's back cover, **FSO-1891Cc**, includes the usual map of Ohio, this time framing an old log cabin.





Above: The 1892 banquet was held at Sherry's restaurant, rather than Delmonico's, but Homer Lee continued to print the menus. The cover, **FSO-1892Ga**, includes the state seal and a buckeye chestnut. Above right: The back cover, **FSO-1892Gb**, reprises the log cabin motif, this year in blue.

Right: Just a few weeks after the annual banquet, the OSNY sprung for a special dinner at Delmonico's honoring member Whitelaw Reid, returning home after serving as U.S. ambassador to France. The menu cover, **FSO-1892H**, was printed in two-color intaglio and bound with red, white and blue ribbons.



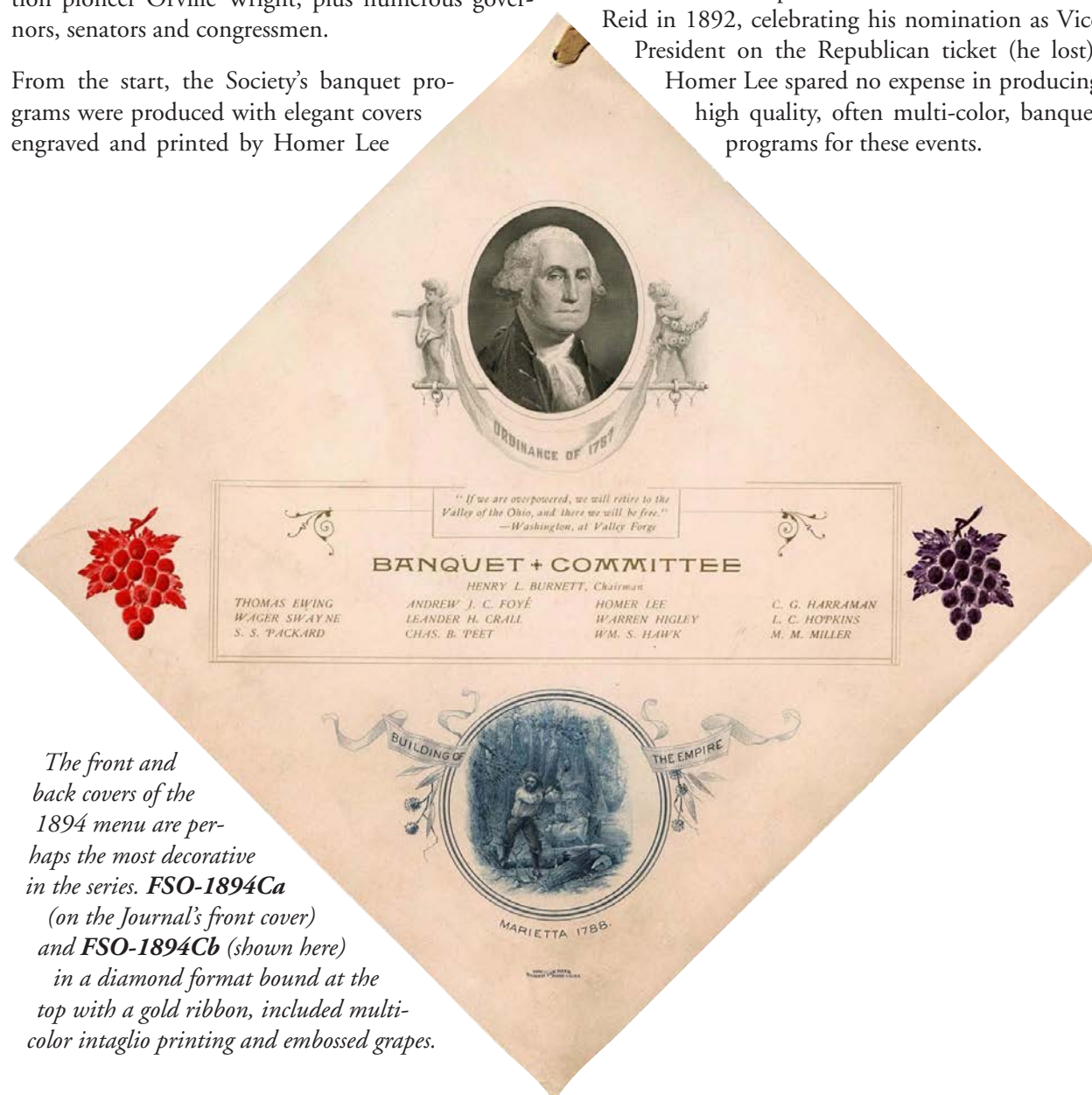
Later banquets frequently had more subscribers than they had seats, thanks in part to the multitude of press correspondents who also attended. They provided plenty of news coverage both locally and nationally (the Associated Press regularly sent reporters). This added significant cachet to the proceedings and increased the visibility and desirability of joining the club. Over time, OSNY members would include presidents Wm. H. Taft (honorary) and Warren Harding, Supreme Court Chief Justice Morrison Waite, Gen. Philip Sheridan (honorary), oilman John D. Rockefeller, Thomas Edison (honorary), rubber magnates Harvey Firestone and B.F. Goodrich, aviation pioneer Orville Wright, plus numerous governors, senators and congressmen.

From the start, the Society's banquet programs were produced with elegant covers engraved and printed by Homer Lee

Bank Note Company. Engraved back covers were soon added and sometimes frontispieces. HLBNC remained the exclusive printer for more than 10 years, no doubt because Homer Lee himself, born in Mansfield, Ohio, was a founding member and the first OSNY secretary. After ABNC bought his company, Lee would go on to become vice-president of subsidiary Franklin-Lee Bank Note Co. and later president of Hamilton Bank Note Co.

Sometimes, banquets had special themes such as the "Centennial Celebration of the First Settlement in the Ohio Valley" in 1888, or honorary banquets like the one for NY Tribune publisher and member Whitelaw Reid in 1892, celebrating his nomination as Vice President on the Republican ticket (he lost).

Homer Lee spared no expense in producing high quality, often multi-color, banquet programs for these events.

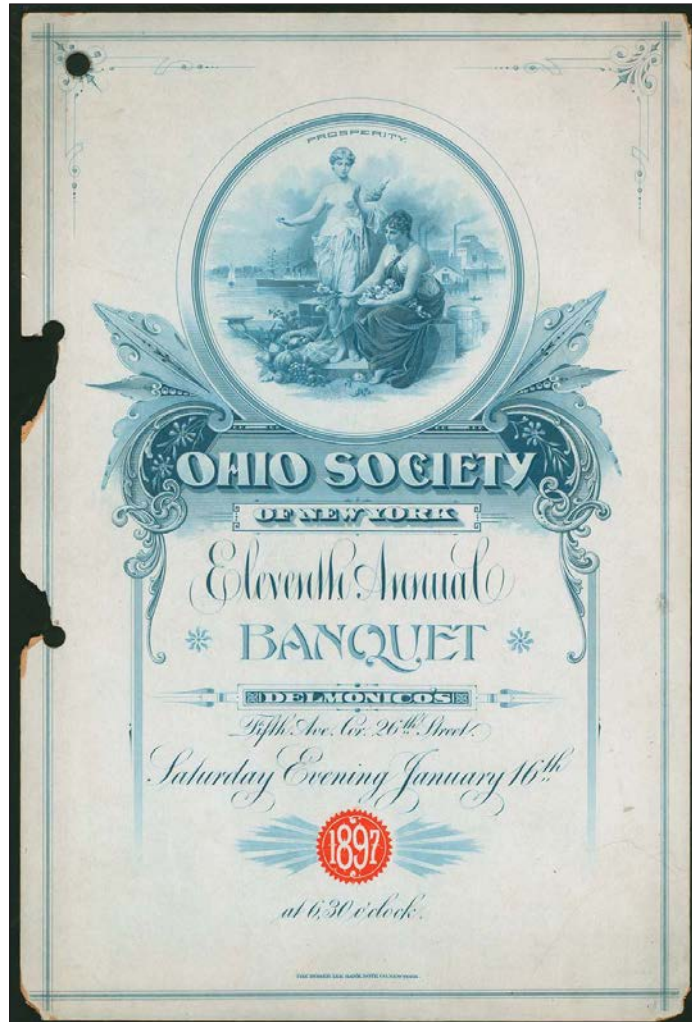


*The front and back covers of the 1894 menu are perhaps the most decorative in the series. **FSO-1894Ca** (on the Journal's front cover) and **FSO-1894Cb** (shown here) in a diamond format bound at the top with a gold ribbon, included multi-color intaglio printing and embossed grapes.*

A rich legacy of these programs exists in the New York Public Library's rare book collection thanks to a donation around 1906 by menu collector Frank Buttolph. Images shared here are public domain, courtesy of the NYPL Digital Collections. Much of this banquet material meets the criteria for forerunner cards — intaglio event souvenirs produced by a security printer — and the SCCS Cataloging Committee

has assigned them new FSO numbers, as indicated in the captions.

Though its star has faded, the OSNY continues to operate today, as New York's oldest state society. The organization still holds regular meetings and events. The extravagant banquets have, however, been scaled back.



Homer Lee used a new vignette of Prosperity on the 1897 menu. The front cover, **FSO-1897Ca** (left), is elegantly framed and embellished. On the back (**FSO-1897Cb**) is the ubiquitous Ohio state seal, with the motto "Imperium in Imperio" — Empire Within Empire.



ALMOND DELIGHT ABNC SHEET

Steve Patrick

Ralston Purina certainly tried some interesting ways to sell their cereal. When Almond Delight was first launched in 1985, the initial marketing seemed like something close to bribery. One of their first promotions was “Free cash in every box!” In some boxes, lucky buyers might find actual U.S. currency, from \$1 up to a genuine \$500 bill. However, most boxes contained foreign currency worth only pennies. The banknotes were folded and sealed in a clear plastic wrapper to keep the cereal sanitary.

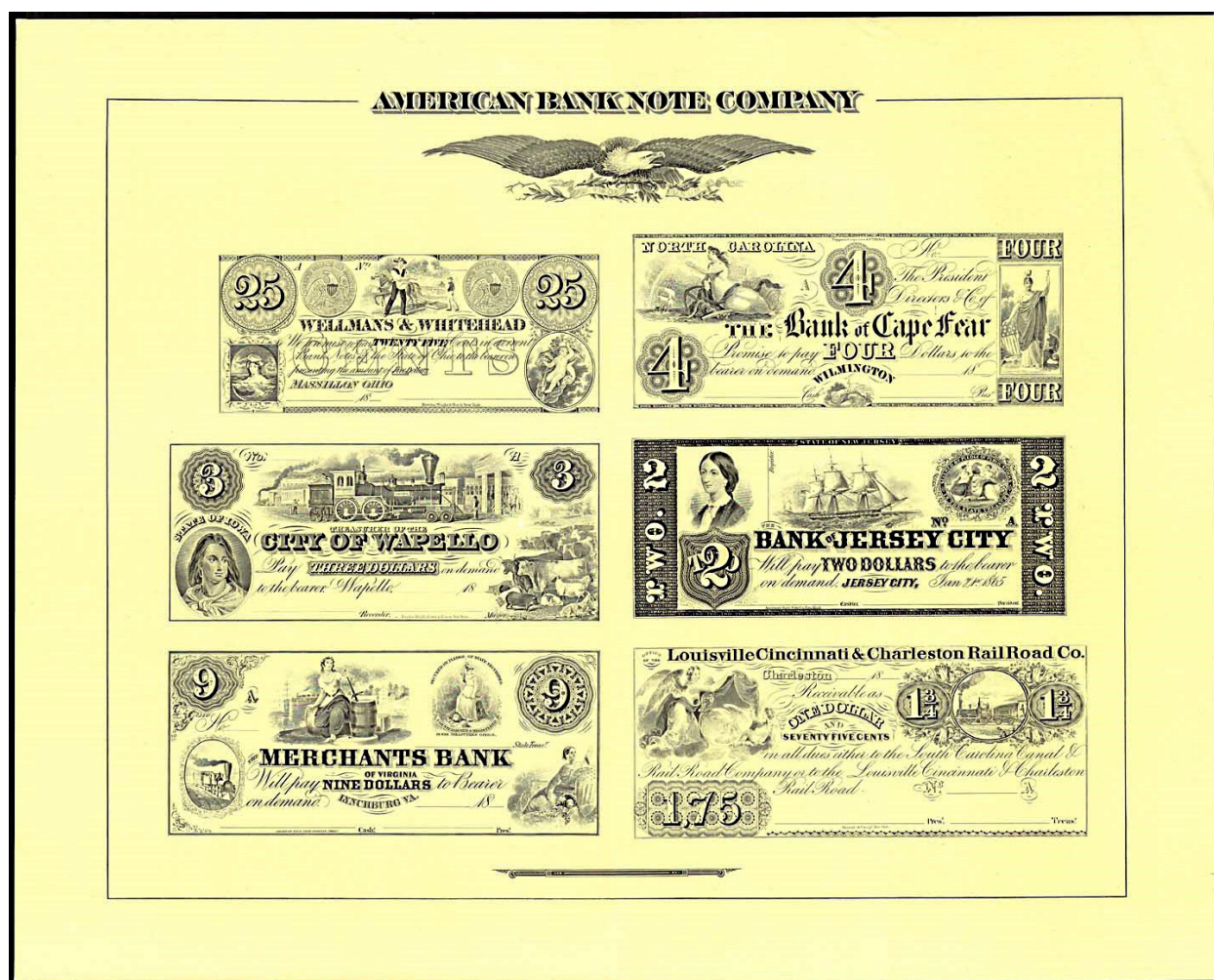
Apparently, the marketing strategy worked — Almond Delight grew in popularity. So Ralston Purina decided to continue the free cash campaign, but with a historical twist. American Bank Note Company was approached to produce reprints of six attractive obsolete banknotes, originally issued in the 1840s and

’50s. All were intaglio printed on bond paper with a yellow tint.

These notes were printed on a large (20” x 16”) presentation sheet, then cut to size and sealed in a cellophane wrapper, like the earlier currency. All the notes that were included free inside the boxes were folded in quarters, with vertical fold marks.

The large sheet was offered as a mail-in premium, for three box-tops. This sheet was later given an SCCS catalog number of FSO-1988A. One of these was featured in my recent exhibit at the Summer FUN show.

Gene Hessler helped select the six notes from ABNC’s archives. These included odd denominations, such as \$4, \$9, and \$1.75. He also supplied the background

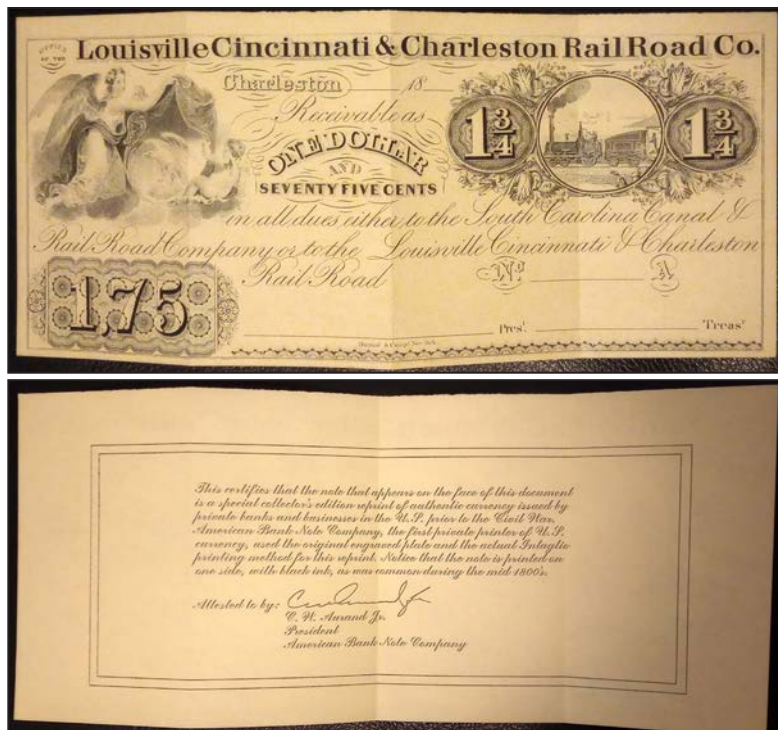


FSO-1988A, the full sheet of six obsolete notes, produced by ABNC for the Almond Delight promotion.

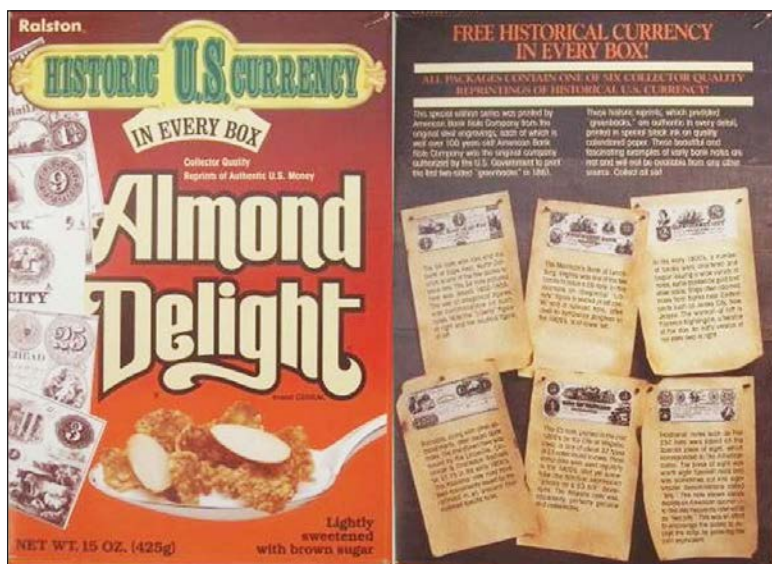
information on the banknotes, featured on the cereal boxes. Using the full sheet as a mail-in premium was an idea that Gene suggested.

Single notes from the sheets were “freebies,” given away in each cereal box. The full sheet premium was sent out in a tube mailer.

Records indicate 50,000 sheets were printed, though it isn’t clear whether this was the entire run or just those printed as mail-in premiums. Evidently, a large number survived after the promotion. The sheets were easy to find for many years and can still be obtained fairly inexpensively.

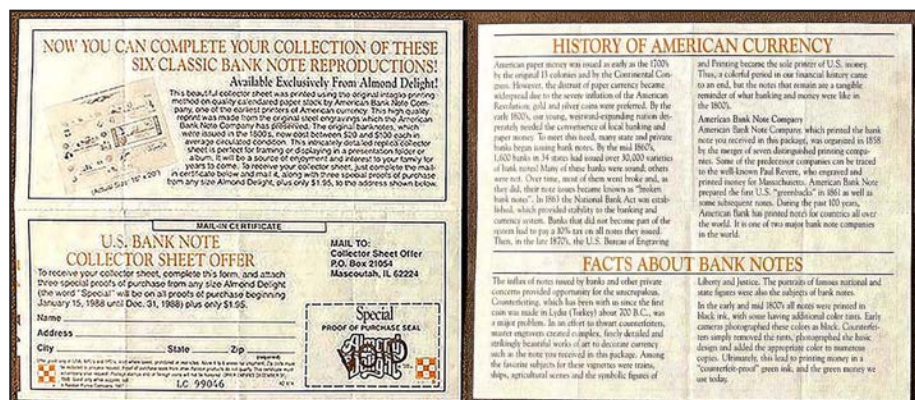


Above, a close-up of the \$1.75 banknote reprint, with the typical ABNC disclaimer on the back. Reprints that were inserted in the cereal boxes have three vertical folds. The order form below was also included in the cellophane packet.



Left: Both sides of the Almond Delight cereal box, showing the historic currency promotion.

Right: Front and back of the order form for the sheet of six banknote reprints. The cost was three boxtops and \$1.95 for shipping.



It's been some time since we've given much attention in the Journal to the Society website. Although we regularly add new card images to the galleries on the site, there haven't been any major changes to report in the past year. But that's about to change. Webmaster **Alton Coalter** and I have been working on an entirely new section of the site, devoted to Collector Products. Members are probably familiar with some of these, but not all.

The 1989 SCCS Catalog assigned numbers to various items that were not souvenir cards, but shared many of the same traits. These included Portrait-Vignette (PV) cards produced by the Bureau of Engraving & Printing, as well as sets released by American Bank Note Co., such as the "Opening of the West" series (SOW) and the ABNC Archive series (SOA). These products were not souvenirs of any specific event but, because of their similarity to souvenir cards, **Curt Radford** felt it was important to include them in our numbering system. More intaglio prints were released in the years since the catalog and supplement were printed.

Three branches of product suppliers make up the new section of the website: BEP, ABNC, and CBNC (Canadian Bank Note Co.). In 2023, the Cataloging Committee assigned numbers to more than a dozen collector products, which were given the prefix BC,

for Bureau Coin & Currency sets. One new discovery (BC-13) has slightly altered the catalog numbers assigned in the First Quarter 2023 issue of the Souvenir Card Journal. The BC and PV galleries comprise the BEP menu section.

The collector products of American Bank Note represent the most numerous galleries. ABNC was active in the 1970s through the 1990s, working to increase sales with items that might appeal to collectors of currency, stamps, and stocks. The Cataloging Committee has identified seven product categories which will each have a gallery:

SOA - ABNC Archive Series, with six portfolios containing 12 panels of multiple vignettes and portraits.

SOC - Historic American Currency series of six obsolete currency reprints and matching sterling silver banknote reproductions.

SOG - ABNC Greeting Cards, including a collaboration with Hallmark Cards; more than 35 card varieties.

SOH - Kingdom of Hawaii reprints of 1879 certificates of deposit banknotes; five varieties.

SOM - American Paper Money Collection, a set of 36 color reprints of obsolete notes, housed in a vinyl album.



An additional drop-down menu on the SCCS website shows three new subsections of galleries for collector products.

SOP - Presidential Medals & Portraits, a series of 36 sterling silver medals by the Wittenauer Mint in cases with matching ABNC portraits.

SOW - Opening of the West series, a collaboration with Time-Life Books, with 10 booklets on different themes, each containing six or seven ABNC intaglio prints.

The last section contains a single series by Canadian Bank Note Co. In 2000, CBNC offered a set of 20 engraved vignette prints, including trains, ships, wildlife, and more. These received very little coverage, even in the SCJ, and are not well known. Following the established SO (Semi-Official) numbering protocol, this series has been cataloged as SOV-1 to 20.

Next time you visit the website, take a look at the new drop-down menu for “Products” (in green). Not all the galleries are complete, but you’ll see placeholders for what’s coming. As with the souvenir card galleries, we need your help in populating these with images.



— ABNC products —

During the early 1970s, the American Bank Note Company recognized the profit decline in their primary product lines (stocks, bonds, and currency) and decided to make an entry in the collector products market. This included their first souvenir cards in 1976, but there were other products before that. To expand their marketing base, ABNC collaborated with other corporations, such as Time-Life, American Express, and Wittenauer, known for watches and medallion art. Many of these ABNC products resemble souvenir cards and, though they are not souvenirs, some series were given SCCS numbers in the 1988 catalog, such as the ABNC Archive series and the Opening of the West series. We have compiled all of their known engraved collector products here.

SOA
ABNC Archive Series

SOC
Historic American Currency Series

SOG
ABNC Greeting Cards

SOH
Hawaiian Islands Banknote Reprints

SOM
American Paper Money Collection

SOP
Presidential Medals & Portraits

SOW
Opening of the West Series

Seven new galleries will be devoted to the collector products of American Bank Note Co., including several previously uncataloged series.

[Home](#) [Card Galleries](#) [Product Galleries](#) [About](#) [Resources](#) [Members Area](#) [Of Interest](#)

— Vignette Prints —
(prefix: **SOV**)

In 2000, the Canadian Bank Note Co. entered the collector market with a set of twenty engraved vignettes, sold individually or as a set. These included scenes of trains, ships, logging, wildlife, and a few portraits. Many were legacy engravings from the time CBNC was a subsidiary of American Bank Note Co. The prints, on bond paper, were not widely advertised and were expensive; at \$18 to \$25 each or \$365 per full set, relatively few were sold. These are the only known collector products released by CBNC.

(The advertisement is shown to the right.)

<u>SOV-1</u>	<u>SOV-2</u>	<u>SOV-3</u>
Year: 2000 Size: 6" x 3½" Type: other Back: blank Info sheet: none Notes: Vignette of locomotive facing left.	Year: 2000 Size: 6" x 3½" Type: other Back: blank Info sheet: none Notes: Vignette of locomotive curving past river, with people.	Year: 2000 Size: 6" x 4½" Type: other Back: blank Info sheet: none Notes: Vignette of people exiting and entering a trolley.

Canadian Bank Note Co. issued a set of 20 vignette prints in 2000. These are featured in their own gallery.

MEMBERS' EXCHANGE

WANTED: Your free ad here! Contact the Editor at SCCS1981@yahoo.com or by snail mail. Ads will be repeated four times, unless you request otherwise. There is NO charge for members.

For Sale: Used White Ace albums for souvenir cards and stamps, with dust cover. Contact Roger Wullen, 46-09 65th Place, Woodside, NY 11377.

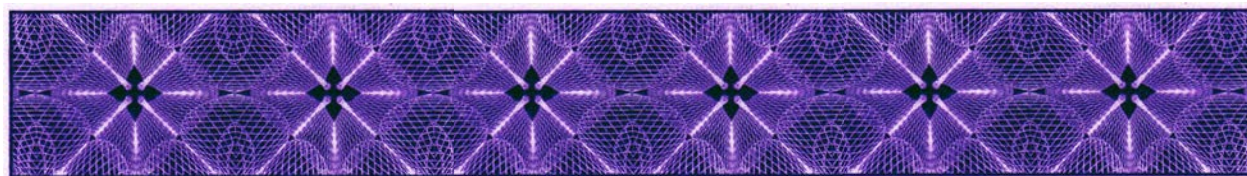
Wanted Trade or Buy: Assorted BEP, Veterans, SO, USPS, Forerunner, and other souvenir or non-souvenir cards — Duck, Private, etc. Please contact Fredemw@gmail.com or Fred Geissler, 11681 Kahns Road, Manassas, VA 20112.

For Sale: Complete White Ace Album-mounted mint collection - BEP and USPS Souvenir Cards; various individual mint BEP Souvenir Cards (several dupli-

cates). Complete White Ace Album-mounted mint and artist-signed US and PA Migratory Bird stamp collection, also various Duck Stamp cards. Contact John Remaley at jjremaley@yahoo.com.

For Sale: 5 White Ace Bureau Souvenir Card Albums. 250 pages/60+Cards, including 1939 Truck w/o gum, F1966a, B1 thru B6. and many more. Value in 1st binder alone \$200+. Contact: David Anderson at 401 Burwash Ave., Apt. 108, Savoy, IL 61874 or dandrson45@gmail.com.

BUYING selected BEP, ABNCo., USPS, Forerunner, and other souvenir cards. Please see the "Buying List" on my website www.kenbarr.com or write for a hard copy. (Selling, too!) Ken Barr, P.O. Box 32541, San Jose, CA 95152.



Souvenir Cards Available from Issuing Organizations

New cards are issued periodically, but many others from past events are still on sale at original prices. These websites offer more information.

American Philatelic Society
stamps.org/giftshop

Available: Most cards issued from 2011 to 2018 (APS-44 to 58), including show-cancelled and sets, from \$2 to \$8. Contact APS gift shop for more details.

Ameri-Show Cards

www.souvenircards.org/gallery/Q/Q.html

Available: 30+ intaglio card varieties from past shows at original prices, most \$5 to \$10 (see list on SCCS website). The most recent cards remain available and other cards are planned for upcoming shows. Contact amerishow@gmail.com.

Christmas Seal & Charity Stamp Society

www.seal-society.org/literature

Available: A new card is planned for the Boston 2026

show; more details will be announced at a later date. A dozen card varieties from past shows remain on sale. Contact john@christmasseals.net.

Duck Stamp Cards

Available: The 2025 duck stamp cards were released in June (see page 6). These remain available for purchase at www.duckstamp.com and at store.usps.com.

NAPEX

www.napex.org/souvenirs/

Available: Several dozen card varieties from past philatelic shows, many intaglio and/or show cancelled, from \$5 to \$8 per card. NAPEX stopped issuing cards in 2020. Contact ottojt@verizon.net.

United Nations Postal Administration

unstamps.org

Available: Click on the "Souvenir Card" product category to see available cards. 2025 cards were recently released and last year's card also remains on sale.

AUCTION NO. 59 RESULTS

Vince Jones

Because a large number of lots went unsold in this time, we decided to do a post-auction sale, at a discounted rate. This proved successful and will probably continue. A grand total of \$1,455 in proceeds was submitted to the SCCS treasurer.

We have sold nearly all the high-end donated material that has been the core of our recent auctions. With no consignments from members at present, there will be a break in the SCCS auctions until next year (auctions are not held during the 4th Quarter). If you have surplus material you would like to consign, please send

a list of the cards to **Greg Alexander** at SCCS1981@yahoo.com.

Lots offered	87
Auction bidders	12
Lots sold during auction	41 (47%)
Successful bidders	10
Lots sold during post-auction sale	34 (39%)
Successful post-auction buyers	9
One-bidder/buyer lots sold	59 (79%)
Lots unsold	12 (14%)

Prices Realized

Sold During Auction			Sold During Post-Auction Sale			Unsold		
Lot	Bidders	Price	Lot	Bidders	Price	Lot	Bidders	Price
1	1	\$20	30		\$6	59	4	\$39
2			31	1	10	60	1	20
3	3	16	32		16	61	1	20
4	6	55	33		6	62	1	12
5		8	34		6	63	1	12
6			35	1	12	64	1	12
7		8	36		14	65	1	12
8		20	37		14	66	1	10
9	2	29	38		14	67	2	15
10	1	25	39		12	68		
11	1	25	40		16	69		8
12	1	25	41			70		8
13	1	25	42			71		8
14	1	35	43		32	72		
15		24	44	2	14	73		8
16			45			74		
17		10	46			75	1	10
18		12	47	1	12	76	1	40
19		12	48		12	77	1	25
20		20	49	2	30	78		28
21	1	18	50	2	30	79		28
22		20	51	2	17	80		
23		12	52	1	30	81	2	8
24	1	12	53	4	72	82	2	40
25		10	54	4	165	83	1	20
26		10	55		5	84	1	14
27		12	56		10	85	1	12
28	1	12	57	2	94	86	2	14
29	1	12	58	4	124	87		

