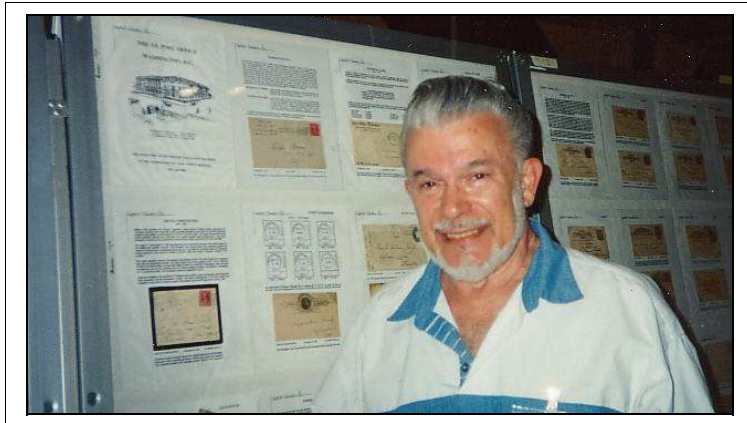


IN REMEMBRANCE OF ROBERT PAYNE

Bart Billings

Robert (Bob) Payne was born on March 17, 1927. He died on November 23, 2005.



When the Machine Cancel Society was born in 1987, Bob Payne became one of the early members, assigned the number 1028. From that day until his death, he was a guiding force in all aspects of Society life.

A dedicated exhibitor, Bob's exhibits are legendary, even awarded gold status on many occasions. The photo was taken at

VAPEX 98, and this was one of his many gold exhibits.

Because of popular demand, many of his exhibits were converted to publications, and made available to all collectors. One of the exhibits he particularly enjoyed creating was titled "Development and Use of Flag Cancellations – 1894-1941. This popular two-volume study consisted of 464 pages.

Bob nurtured any interest expressed by new and older collectors alike with his remarkable memory of machine cancels and his ability to see what others did not. And, he gave unselfishly of his time and knowledge to any collector who sought his help.

Few in the membership may know of the role Bob played in the preparation of each Society Auction Sale. Take a look at the preamble to this month's auction list included with this issue of FORUM. Larry Haller acknowledges the help he received in the preparation of each and every listing he assembled.

Bob was always a 'general collector', meaning he collected all machine cancels regardless of the manufacturer. If he had been active before the Internet became a household word, he became super active afterward. This widespread interest led to the growth of his all-encompassing collection. As he added new material to his collection, he prepared lists for each manufacturer. These lists were saved as computer files, and then converted to books and published by the Society.

About 10 years after he joined the Society (in the late 1990s) Project 2000 was launched, and Bob became a key player in that exercise.

Being editor of Machine Cancel Forum at that time, I had been working closely with Bob, collaborating with Bob, and publishing his work in Forum or in separate publications. Just look at the list of books shown below to his credit. One also recognizes the participation by Reg Morris in the creation of these works.

Name	Year	Mo.	Author1	Author2	Author3	Comments
Universal Catalog	1988	09	Billings	Payne	Morris	'89 gratis to mems

Groth-Constantine	1989	01	Morris	Payne		
Barr-Fyke vol 1	1989	01	Morris	Payne		Reprinted
Florida mono	1989	10	Billings			'90 gratis to mems
Barnard mono	1989	10	Billings			'90 gratis to mems
Barr-Fyke vol 2	1990	01	Morris	Payne		Reprinted
Barr-Fyke vol 3	1990	01	Morris	Payne		reprinted
Universal Cat rev 1	1990	06	Billings	Payne	Morris	
Society Handbook 1 st edition	1990	10	Billings	Payne		'91 gratis to mems
Flag dies-Same year	1991	01	Billings			
APMC Chicago Trials	1991	01	Morris	Payne		
Flag dies-Transfers	1991	06	Billings			
Perfection	1991	07	Morris	Payne		
Pneumatic	1991	08	Morris	Payne		
Hampden	1991	09	Morris	Payne		
Amer Serv Mkgs	1992	01	Morris	Payne		'92 gratis to mems
Antholgy vol 1	1992	03	Billings			
Handbook rev 1	1992	07	Billings	Payne	Morris	
Antholgy vol 2	1993	01	Various			'93 gratis to mems
Antholgy vol 3 (UnK)	1993	11	Small	Billings		'94 gratis to mems
Antholgy vol 4	1993	12	Various			
Antholgy vol 5	1994	02	Morris	Payne		
Antholgy vol 6	2001	09	Savakis	Payne		
Antholgy vol 7	2002	10	Payne			
Columbia vol 1	1994	04	Morris	Payne	Holmes	
Universal Cat rev2	1994	10	Billings	Payne	Morris	
Barnard Cat	1994	10	Payne			
Boston Postal Zones	1994	12	Billings			'95 gratis to mems
International HD-2	1995	04	Billings			
US Classic Mach Xcls	1995	09	Payne	Morris		
Columbia vol 2	1996	01	Morris	Payne	Holmes	
Japanese Postal Mkgs	1996	02	Morris			
US Flats Xclrs	1996	06	Becker			'96 gratis to mems
Pan-Pacifi (SanFran)	1997	01	Savadge			
Columbia vol 3	1997	02	Morris	Payne	Holmes	
Multipost	1997	06	Morris	Payne	Holmes	'97 gratis to mems
Columbia vol 4	1998	01	Morris	Payne	Holmes	
Intro to Society Database	1998	10	Billings	Payne		'98 gratis to mems
Pitney-Bowes Mark 2	1999	10	Payne	Billings		
'International' ServMkgs	1999	12	Payne	Billings		'99 gratis to mems
Columbia vol 5	2000		Morris	Payne	Holmes	
Mil-APO Service vol A	2000	09	Billings	Payne	Morris	
Col vol 7 (Other Overseas)	2001	07	Morris	Payne	Holmes	
Col vol 6 (UK)	2001	07	Morris	Payne	Holmes	
Mil-APO Service vol B	2001	07	Billings	Carter		
Anthology 6 – Air Mail	2001	07	Savakis	Payne		'00 gratis to mems
Flag Cancel Exhibit	2001	09	Payne	Billings		
Okla Database Book	2002	05	Billings	Payne		
Nevada Database Book	2002	07	Billngs	Payne		
Century of Xclng Machines	2002	10	Morris			'01 gratis to mems
Imperial Mkgs	2003	04	Payne			
Generic Navy Machine Xcls	2003	04	Billings			
U S Promotional Slogan Xcls	2005	07	Payne	Billings		Privately published
A Primer US Machine Mkgs	2005	07	Payne	Billings	Morris	Privately published

Project 2000 led to establishment of State Database Managers. As new State Managers began assembling information on their states, Bob provided the list of towns with the period of use for each machine in that town, and continued to send updates for each state.

Not satisfied with that, he also acted as State Database Manager for California and the District of Columbia.

The last few years have been dedicated to the creation of two major literary works; “A Primer of Machine Postal Markings”, & “U.S. Promotional Slogan Cancellations 1899 – 1940”. The information in these books represents the experience accumulated by Bob over his entire lifetime. I believe both works will become classics.

Bob will never be forgotten by those who knew him. And those collectors who only knew him indirectly through his books, exhibits, and presentations, will also feel the loss.

There are no words that adequately reflect the dedication and giving of self on a 24 hour basis that Bob has displayed. The many years of offering his in depth expertise and knowledge to the Machine Cancel Society can never be repaid, and may never be equaled.

I have one photograph in my possession that portrays the happy attitude which I'll always remember as a part of Bob's personality. Shown with his wife Mickey, the picture was taken at Christmas in 2002.



Farewell Bob, thanks for the many memories which we'll always hold dear to our heart!