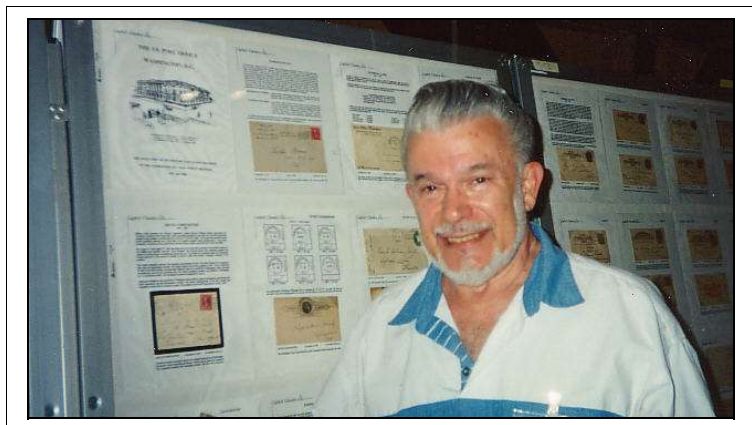


IN REMEMBRANCE OF ROBERT PAYNE

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!