

"Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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Deposit Balance \$ _____

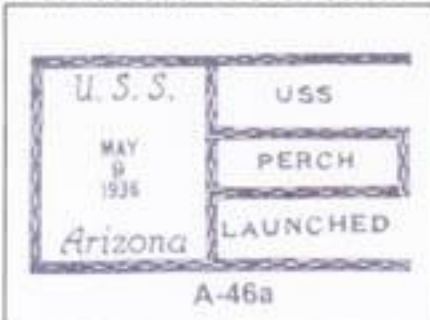
Bucs-Mont Fall show



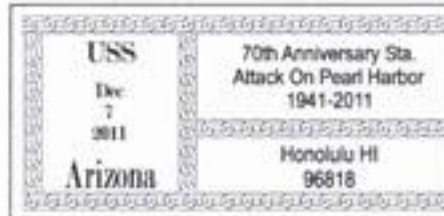
Decatur Chapter members enjoyed the show and a two hour chapter meeting off the show floor. It was our first meeting since the spring and there was lots of sea stories and covers to share. In the photo: Standing; Tom McCue, Paul Goebel, Ron Finger and me. Kneeling; Fillmore S. Evans, seated; Sidney Fingerhood.

70th Anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor

Greg C has designed a pictorial postmark for Honolulu HI to note the 70th Anniversary of the sinking of *USS Arizona* at Pearl Harbor. Greg's inspiration for the design was an illustration in the USCS Catalog of Naval Postmarks. The postmark is based on a type F cancel used aboard the *USS Arizona* in 1936. That illustration is seen below:



While the above cancel saluted the Launch of the *USS Perch*, the revised version salutes *Arizona's* anniversary of sinking.



I am awaiting further information from the Honolulu post office on the exact mailing address for sending for the above postmark. Previously, the following address was used, but it may change as the last philatelic coordinator has been promoted to a different position.

USPS
Retail Manager, Customer Services
3600 Aolele St.,
Honolulu HI 96820-9661

My suggestion is to check in the Postal Bulletin to see what address they list before sending covers. The Postal Bulletin is on line, or at your local post office.

Finally, the CONA pictorial cancel for Key West is approved



When approval came from the Fulfillment Services Center, Cancellation Services of the USPS in Kansas City ("The caves"), I immediately resent the chapters covers which had been returned/refused by the Key West FL post office, including the original letter of request. I was sure it would be two weeks or more before I saw them return, as the device would have to be ordered. To my surprise, the cancels returned inside of ten days. I thought that the service was terrific, as I never expected to see them so quickly.

But, opening the package brought on a bigger surprise. The covers, already printed for Key West FL, had the wrong postmark applied on the envelopes. The clerk that processed the envelopes used the Washington, DC CONA cancel on the covers.



Well, now another disaster to overcome. Perhaps the Key West cancel was jinxed somewhere along the line? Hope you make out better than I did if you send to Kansas City for this pictorial cancel. After receipt of the wrong cancels, contact was made with "the caves" in Kansas City and they will replace the postage and re-cancel our blank envelopes. They also offered to pay postage this time. Being a cover sponsor has its pitfalls at times.

WPC Decommissionings at Norfolk

I am in the process of printing the decommissioning covers from the three Coast Guard patrol craft. On 30 September they were returned to the U S Navy, and recommissioned as "USS" vessels on the same day according to the Naval Vessel Register (NVR). I intend to note on the covers that they were commissioned in the Navy the same date. They were *USCGC Zephyr WPC-8*, *USCGC Shamal WPC-13* and *USCGC Tornado WPC-14*. The Navy announced each would undergo a yard period to upgrade living quarters and electronics.