

"Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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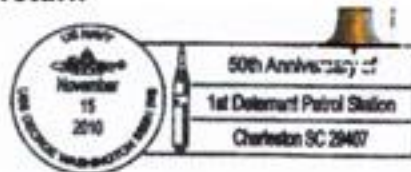
Deposit Balance \$ _____

Price of Chapter covers

I hate to admit it, because it makes me feel "old" but I recall that when I took over as the cachet director for Decatur Chapter in the late 70's (I actually don't recall what year or don't want to remember) we sold covers for 35c each or three for a dollar. Don't look for prices like that at your friendly cover dealer today. Or for that matter from any chapter that sponsors covers. In "those days" we did 400 covers for many events. Today, we do anywhere from 50 to 75 per event. The prices of paper, printing ink and related supplies, postage and copying price lists have all "gone through the roof" over the years. Prices for metal printing cuts also increased to a point where they are no longer affordable. What used to be a 4.00 expense for a ships crest is now 18.00. I have resorted to using rubber to print from for some covers recently and the results have been good. We also now pay for the postmarks for several cities, cities that were on the verge of not doing pictorials, since they claimed not to have funds in their budget for the cost of the cancels. We have established new prices for chapter covers, most at 2.00, and a few at 2.25 and 2.50 on our regular price list. This also means that your deposits don't go as far as they used to. I had over the years suggested a "refill" of 20.00 to replenish deposits against our automatic cover service. Today, that works out to ten covers and the deposit is quickly depleted. I would encourage those with a deposit on hand with the chapter to increase your new deposit to at least 30.00 from now on to

keep your account solvent a little longer. I do also want you to know that on the whole, I am giving those with using the automatic cover service a break in prices. On each mailing there will be at least one cover that will go out to you at a price less than it is listed on our price lists or offered in Linn's. This is a perk to those who support the chapter's efforts in servicing the covers. Looking back at those who take part in the cover service, one member is approaching thirty years next month! You know who you are. Thank you very much for your support and hopefully we will continue for another thirty some years.

Charleston SC covers for USS George Washington SSBN 598 return



Covers we submitted last year for the 50th Anniversary of the deterrent Polaris patrol (11-15-10) of the USS George Washington SSBN 598 have returned. Mystery still surrounds the three pictorial cancels requested at Charleston SC late last year and early this year. All involved SSBN 50th Anniversary events. Two made it to the Postal Bulletin but Charleston SC said they didn't know who put them in. But, one has returned and not from Charleston SC. My priority mailer was postmarked at "The Caves", the USPS Cancellation Division in Kansas City MO. I have no idea how covers mailed to Charleston SC made it to Kansas City, but this event is back and I won't question who, what, when, where, why or how. So, it's one down and two to go.

To add to the mystery, some who submitted covers for this pictorial had their covers returned with a circular date stamp from Cross Country Branch, Charleston SC 29423. Which cancel did you get?



NavAir Centennial carrier cancels

I was fortunate to be able to have a back seat in the planning of the CONA (Centennial of Naval Aviation Committee) pictorial cancels. They are located in San Diego. I was able to see some of their meeting notes and discussions on issuing pictorial cancels for the 100th Anniversary. The basic elements for the carrier cancels are shown below.



It appears that one will be issued to each aircraft carrier with the first day of use on 8 May 2011. This date will have a grace period of 120 days according to sources in CONA. It is large, 3 1/4" long by 2 1/2" high. The date, ships names and zip codes will be at the bottom. They will have daters and after the 120 day grace period, they will date the cancels daily as needed until 31 December 2011. Watch the Postal Bulletin on-line for more information.

Check out the naval items on eBay. Proceeds go to Decatur Chapter. Seller: CGCOVERGUY

Feel free to send any information that you think may be of interest to other collectors.

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Visit the Universal Ship Cancellation Society web site at: www.uscs.org/