

Small Categories Series

Pirates!

“Ahoy, there, matey! Pass that there ale over ‘ere!” [*These are British pirates!*] Shiver me timbers! ‘Tis a wonder ye ain’t already collectin’ these beauties!” Famous names from the past, nice graphics, and a very wide variety are just three reasons why collectors find the category of Pirates an alluring area to collect in, especially if you already have a nautical bent!

But you don’t have to cruise the seven seas [*you know, there are no ‘seven seas’*] or join the Navy to get into this category. It *would* help, though, if you enjoyed sea food! That’s where most of the covers come from, not surprisingly. Seems to me all those Mermaids and Pirates that appear every year at AMCAL would be into collecting Pirate covers.

Now, to be absolutely honest, *I* don’t collect Pirates, myself, but they are certainly to be seen in my various collections. I collect famous historical figures, for example...thus, the ‘Blackbeard’ and ‘Jean LaFitte’ covers. I also collect Tall Ships, and sometimes there will be a Tall Ship in the background of a Pirate cover.

As with any category such as this, Pirates cuts across all manumark and other topic lines. Indeed, a Pirate cover is basically a conjunctive to some bigger category. So, when I start into a category like this, the first thing I do is go through all my dupes...and BINGO! Covers galore!

Jimmy Calhoun, CA, reported having 252 such covers in April 1993, but that was 15 years ago!

