

Ohio Wide-Strikers

by
Mike Prero

That's what I call them, anyway. I'd set a nice example aside now and again, when I happened to run across one, but for decades I never really 'collected' them. It's only been this year that I've started in on them in earnest, and they've quickly become one of my favorite categories...but, then, I like all the old covers.

And these covers are old! I have 47 dated examples, and they all run from 1936-1941. Although Superior Match Co. continued to issue wider than normal strikers into the 1950s, the material shortages of World War II basically spelled the end of the wide striker in the United States. And the dates for Ohio wide-strikers tally almost identically with those of Maryland and Match Corp. wide-strikers.

But it's not just the age that attracts me to Ohio wide-strikers. Indeed, what kindled my initial interest early on was the great artwork that many of these covers displayed...although it's artwork that one only finds on older covers, so I suppose that's something of a circular argument (!).

There are lots of covers available in this category, and they're not impossible to obtain. Once I started looking for them, I found them in my Military, World War II Pats, and any of the older categories really. And, of course, you'll find quite a few among older Hotels. Just keep your eyes peeled; they'll pop up!

There are currently 1,889 listed.



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