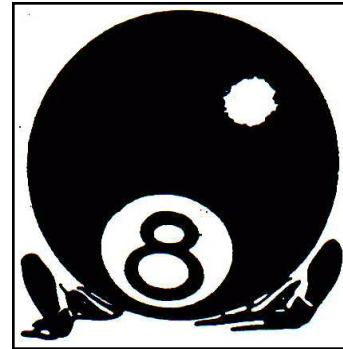




# BANKS!



In our last issue's *Insta-Poll*, Banks not only won the Most Distained Category Award, but they won it by a very wide margin! Why? Only one respondent offered any reason at all — lack of graphics. But, there must be more to this overwhelming contempt than just that...and it's not necessarily true.

Looking over my own Banks collection (42,366 Banks and 15,857 Savings & Loan), I see lots of graphics...colorful graphics!...eye-popping graphics! But wait!...There's so much more!

So many Bank covers are beautiful Fancies of every description—Cameo, Foilite, Signet, Filigree, Uniglo, Matchorama, Woodies, Florentine, Raised-Ink, Metallic. Lots of Sets and Series, ranging from 3-cover sets to the Mellon Bank issues which we estimated numbering a possible 1,523 covers just by themselves! (May 2009).

10s, 20s, 30s, 40s, Jewels, Jewelites, Midgets, boxes...in every color and texture imaginable, spanning not only the country, but the entire globe! Nay, I say! Banks do not deserve this scorn. (And, no, I am *not* whining!)

