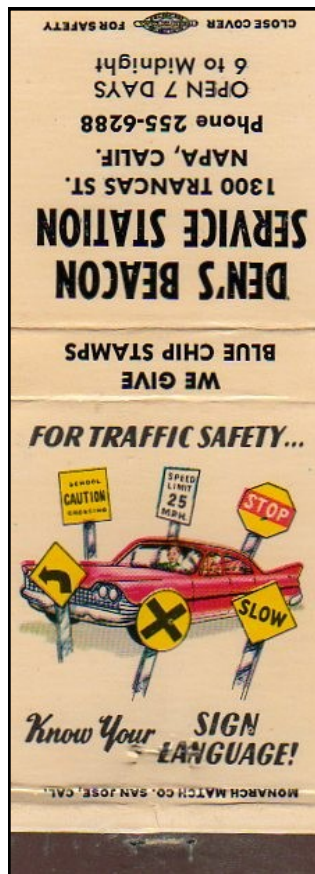
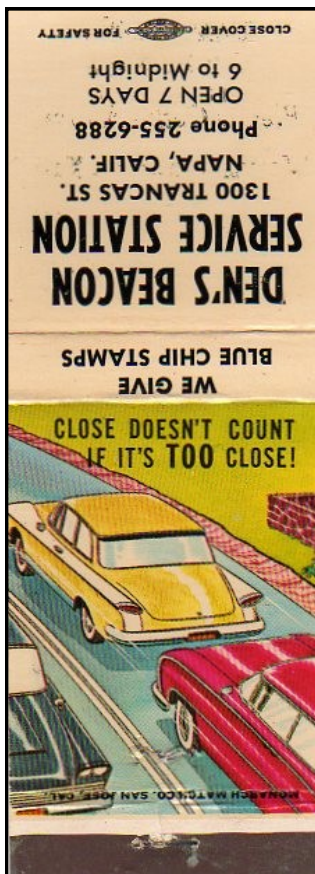


# School's Out!

by  
Mike Prero

It's June! School's out! And so it's the perfect time to talk about...Safety Sets! I don't collect Safety



Sets, per se, but, when I *do* come across one, it goes into my Sets & Series collection. I've certainly seen my share of them over the years.

Safety sets go back at least 70+years. As a Military collector, I know there were a number of safety sets issued in that category during World War II, such as the one shown below. There were such sets for aviation, Navy and Army. Safety Sets seem to have reached a peak during the 1950s and 1960s, and their popularity (at least judging from their relative numbers) dwindled from there on.

The two biggest sub-categories would seem to be *street safety* and *work place safety*, but there are a few others that fall into other sub-categories, *home safety*, for example. The street safety sets seems to be the most common. Size-wise, 20-strikes are the mainstay, with some 30-strikes to be seen. I can't recall having seen any 10s or 40s. The Superior and Monarch issues seem to be the nicest—best artwork, most colorful, etc.

I have a number of incomplete sets, but I'll take an educated guess and say that these sets normally range from four to eight covers, although there are at least a few that consist of ten covers. I also have several covers which may actually be singles rather than sets. No numbers are available on biggest collections, but, again, I'd guess that there are a significant number to be had here. If anyone has collection totals to report, I'd be happy to receive them.

\* Note: For space reasons, only partial sets have been pictured here.

