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Journal of THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA
Revue de LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

Leader of the **Pack**

A new **Lunar New Year** series is starting, with the **Year of the Ox** leading the way.

Le Buffle ouvre la marche !

Une nouvelle série sur la **Nouvelle Année lunaire** s'amorce, **l'année du Buffle** ouvrant la marche !



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Ne ratez pas la chance de collectionner le premier timbre de la nouvelle série de 12 ans.

A



B



C



D



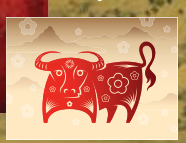
E





262195

F



262196

A
Pane of 25 stamps
Feuille de 25 timbres
403727107
$ **13**50*

B
Souvenir sheet
Bloc-feuillet
403727145
$ **1**65

C
Uncut press sheet
Planche non coupée
403727149
$ **28**95

D
Stamp and Coin Set
Ensemble timbre et pièce de monnaie
243639
$ **112**88

E
Souvenir sheet OFDC
PPJO du bloc-feuillet
403727144
$ **2**65

F
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Cartes postales port payé
262195 + 262196
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THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA
LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) is the successor to the national society founded in 1887. Membership in the Society is open to anyone interested in stamps. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced collector, The RPSC offers a number of services that will be of interest to you. Here are just a few:

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST **-** The international award winning bi-monthly magazine of The RPSC, it provides stamp collectors information and news – for members and from the members. Each year, the author of the best article published in *The Canadian Philatelist* receives the Geldert medal.

SALES CIRCUIT - The Sales Circuit is a useful method of disposing of surplus material and acquiring other material for your collection. Details on request.

ANNUAL MEETING - An annual convention held in a different locale each year provides an ideal opportunity to meet friends, exchange ideas, and get advice on your collection or exhibition at which exhibitors can qualify for international shows. You will also get a chance to visit a dealer bourse and attend interesting and informative seminars.

GROUP INSURANCE - Group insurance is available for members to obtain coverage for their personal collections. Chapters can arrange third party liability coverage to protect the club and its events. Both policies have substantially lower premiums than non-members would pay for similar packages. Details are available on both types of insurance, upon request, from the National Office.

CHAPTERS - The RPSC has a network of local clubs across Canada. Chapter meeting details are published in The Canadian Philatelist. A great way to network with other collectors in your area.

THE INTERNET - The Society has a Web site www.rpsc.org where members can find out about the latest developments, coming events and link up to many other stamp collecting sites. As a member, your e-mail and Web site address can be added.

OTHER SOCIETIES - As the national society for stamp collectors, The RPSC works in partnership with many other societies and associations, such as the Canadian Stamp Dealers Association and Canada Post Corporation.

CANADA POST - The Society maintains a Canada Post Liaison Officer in Ottawa to represent the Society, its members and chapters and collectors in general. Members may raise issues of mutual interest with Canada Post Corporation through this office.

Join The RPSC!

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada (SRPC) est la digne successeur de celle fondée en 1887. Tout individu intéressé par la collection de timbres-poste peut en devenir membre. Que vous soyez un collectionneur débutant ou chevronné, la SRPC vous offre une gamme de services qui sauront vous intéresser. En voice quelques-uns:

LE PHILATÉLISTE CANADIEN - Cette publication bimestrielle, primée au niveau international, offre aux membres des informations et des nouvelles sur le monde philtélique rédigées par ses membres. Chaque année, la médaille Geldert est décernée à l'auteur du meilleur article publié dans Le philatéliste canadien.

CARNETS DE TIMBRES EN APPROBATION - Ils sont disponibles sur demande. C'est une façon facile de disposer de matériel en surplus ou d'acquérir des nouvelles pièces pour sa collection.

RÉUNION ANNUELLE - Une convention annuelle se tient dans différentes parties du pays. Une exposition de niveau national fait partie intégrante de la convention et permet à l'exposant de se qualifier pour les expositions internationales. De plus vous pouvez y visiter les tables de négociants et assister à des conférences.

ASSURANCES - les membres peuvent obtenir une assurance-groupe afin de protéger leurs collections personnelles. Les chapitres peuvent souscrire une assurance responsabilité vis-à-vis des tiers pour protéger un club et les évènements qu'il organise. Les primes pour les deux polices sont de beaucoup inférieures à ce qu'un non-membre paierait pour un contrat similaire. Vous pouvez obtenir des renseignements sur ces deux types de police en vous adressant au Bureau national.

CHAPITRES - Des clubs locaux au Canada où les membres de La SRPC reçoivent un accueil chaleureux. Les renseignements sont publiés dans Le philatéliste canadien.

L'INTERNET - La SRPC a un site d'Internet www.rpsc.org où les membres obtiennent les informations à date, les événements philatéliques à venir et peuvent accéder à plusiers autres sites philatéliques.

PARTENARIAT - La Société a des ententes avec plusieurs autres sociétés et associations philatéliques, notamment l'Association canadienne des négociants en timbres-poste et la Société canadienne des postes (SCP).

POSTES CANADA - La SRPC a un agent de liaison situé à Ottawa pour représenter La Société, ses Chapitres, ses membres et les collectionneurs en général auprès de la SCP. Les membres peuvent soumettre des questions d'intérêt commun aux deux Sociétés par l'entremise de cet agent.

Joignez-vous à La SRPC

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The information collected on this form will be used for communications from The RPSC Office and its authorized suppliers. The Society publishes the name of each new member in *The Canadian Philatelist*. Your member information will be held confidential by the Society and will never be sold or traded to advertisers without your prior consent. If you have any questions, please contact The RPSC Office at 1-888-285-4143.

L'information fournie dans ce formulaire nous permettra de vous faire parvenir la correspondence de La SRPC et ses fournisseurs autorisés. La Société publie le nom de chaque nouveau membre dans *Le philatéliste canadien*. La Société assure la confidentialité de vos renseignements et s'engage à ne jamais les vendre ou les échanger auprès de fournisseurs et/ou d'agents de publicité sans avoir obtenu votre autorisation. Pour tous renseignements supplémentaires, veuillez communiquer avec La SRPC au 1-888-285-4143.

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Revue de La
SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

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the cover / page couverture:

Postage stamps commemorating the Chinese Lunar Calendar's 12-year cycle have been among Canada's most popular issues. Canada Post began the series in 1997 with the Year of the Ox issue. January 25, 2009 ends the 12-year series with the Year of the Rat stamp released on January 4, 2008. Based on an overall 60-year cycle, the 12-year Chinese Zodiac begins with the Year of the Rat and ends with the Year of the Pig.

Acknowledged as the oldest surviving calendar system in the world, the Chinese zodiac refers solely to a calendrical cycle with no equivalent constellations as there are in the Western zodiac. Canada Post, as have other postal administrations, has depicted on stamps each of the 12 animals named for a year in the zodiac.

Les timbres-poste représentant les douze cycles du calendrier lunaire chinois ont été parmi les plus populaires au Canada. Postes Canada a entrepris la série en 1997 par l'année du Buffle. Cette série, qui s'est échelonnée sur douze ans, prendra fin le 25 janvier 2009 avec un timbre commémorant l'année du Rat, émis le 4 janvier 2008. Le zodiaque chinois, établi selon un cycle de 60 ans, commence par l'année du Rat et se termine par l'année du Cochon.

Le zodiaque chinois, reconnu comme le système de calendrier le plus ancien du monde, se réfère entièrement à un cycle calendaire sans équivalent aux constellations du zodiaque occidental. Postes Canada, à l'instar d'autres administrations postales, a présenté chacun des douze animaux désignant une année du zodiaque.



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EDITOR'S notes
notes du RÉDACTEUR

by / par Tony Shaman, FRPSC

Common Stamps and Common Stocks

With the stock markets tanking worldwide, and the value of investors' stock portfolios evaporating before their eyes, can the sale of stamp portfolios to unwitting investors be far behind? Based on what has happened in the past, probably not.

Old-timers will recall the stamp portfolios sold in the late 1970s and '80s to uninformed investors who knew nothing about the machinations of stamp pricing. Thirty years later, those portfolios still turn up at stamp auctions where they realize a small fraction of their original cost. All too often, the stamps in those portfolios, touted as investment-grade material, were little more than garden-variety, common stamps that had virtually no chance of appreciating in value in a substantial way.

Individuals who got burned by entering into an investment scheme that they knew nothing about will have learned their lesson. But, there is an entire new generation of investors that knows nothing about the situation that existed 30 years ago and the financial drubbing that those investors experienced at the hands of ruthless firms that took advantage of a poor investment climate to sell their overpriced wares. Let's hope that at least some people will have learned a lesson from that distant past.

What investors in stamp portfolio did not realize is that they were buying stamps at retail prices that would eventually have to be sold at wholesale prices unless they were willing to become stamp dealers and go into the stamp business. For people who knew virtually nothing about our hobby that was not an option. Something else that those shady promoters a generation ago did not bother to tell their clients was if the stamps guaranteed a profit, why would their owners sell them?

By the time that investors realized that their portfolios were not the panacea they had thought they were, the promoters were long gone. The sad part of the entire portfolio fiasco is that the many individuals who got burned tend to blame the stamp collecting hobby and not the individuals that fast-talked them into a bad deal. Let's hope that history will not repeat itself.

In the meantime, it behooves us to remember that common stamps and common stocks do have something in common: neither is guaranteed to go up forever. Enjoy your stamps but remember that, like common stocks, their value can go down as well as up.

In our first issue for 2009 we feature the work of a writer whose name will be familiar to readers of this magazine. Bill Pekonen, my immediate predecessor, has donned his writer's hat and penned an article dealing with a facet of our hobby that we do not read much about in the philatelic press. Entitled "Free of Postage," we learn from Bill's article that the terms "free of postage" and the shorter form "free" are actually syn-

Timbres ordinaires, actions ordinaires

Alors que partout dans le monde, le marché des valeurs mobilières s'affaisse et que la valeur du portefeuille des investisseurs s'évapore sous leurs yeux, les portefeuilles philatéliques sont-ils à l'abri? Si l'on se fie au passé, probablement pas.

Les vieux routiers se rappelleront les portefeuilles vendus, à la fin des années soixante et soixante-dix, à des investisseurs non avertis qui ne savaient absolument rien des manoeuvres liées au prix des timbres. Trente ans plus tard, ces portefeuilles refont surface aux encans, où ils arrivent à générer une petite fraction de leur prix original. Trop souvent, ils ont été vendus à titre d'investissement, mais dans les faits, ils se démarquaient à peine de la banalité, des timbres communs, qui n'avaient virtuellement aucune chance d'appréciation substantielle.

Ceux qui ont été échaudés par un mode d'investissement dont ils ne savaient pratiquement rien ont appris la leçon. Cependant, toute une génération d'investisseurs ignore la situation qui a prévalu il y a trente ans et le désastre financier que certains ont subi aux mains d'entreprises impitoyables qui ont profité d'une situation difficile pour gonfler leurs prix. Espérons qu'au moins quelques personnes aient tiré leçon de ce passé lointain.

Les investisseurs d'alors n'avaient peut-être pas compris qu'ils devraient éventuellement revendre au prix de gros les timbres qu'ils avaient achetés au prix de détail, à moins de devenir négociants et de se lancer en affaires. De toute façon, une telle idée n'a jamais effleuré l'esprit de ceux qui ne savaient absolument rien de notre passe-temps. Quant aux courtiers douteux, ils se sont aussi bien gardés d'expliquer à leurs clients les raisons pour lesquelles les propriétaires des timbres en question voulaient les vendre puisque le profit était assuré.

Quand ces investisseurs se rendaient compte que leur portefeuille philatélique n'était pas la panacée qu'ils croyaient, les courtiers étaient déjà loin. Ce qui est triste dans tout ce fiasco, c'est que les nombreuses personnes qui se sont fait prendre ont tendance à jeter le blâme sur la philatélie plutôt que sur les individus qui les ont embobinés dans une mauvaise affaire. Espérons que l'histoire ne se répète pas.

En attendant, nous devons songer au fait que les timbres ordinaires et les actions ordinaires ont un point commun : rien ne garantit que leur valeur ira toujours en augmentant. Profitez du plaisir que vous procurent vos timbres, mais n'oubliez pas que leur valeur peut fluctuer, tout comme celle des actions ordinaires.

Dans notre premier numéro de l'année 2009, nous présentons le travail de quelqu'un dont le nom n'est pas inconnu de nos lecteurs. En effet, Bill Pekonen, mon prédécesseur immédiat, a mis son chapeau d'écrivain pour rédiger un article sur une facette de notre passe-temps assez inusitée dans la presse philatélique. Sous le titre « Free of Postage » (Franco de port), l'article de Bill

onymous with "postage stamp". Although the terms "free" and "postage stamp" at first glance appear contradictory, Bill clarifies any misconceptions readers may have and perhaps even encourages some to pursue what is obviously a fascinating area of our hobby.

Michael Peach, another familiar name to readers not only as one of our regular contributors but also as a member of our board of directors, writes about two Ottawa photographers prominent during the second half of the last century. We refer to none other than to the two Karsh brothers, Yousuf and Malak. Their work has been featured on several Canadian stamps as well as on stamps of other countries. Learn about these two immigrant lads who made a successful life for themselves in Canada.

Joseph Monteiro summarizes for us the signs of the zodiac stamps issued by Canada Post to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Imaginative in their design, Canada Post has won several awards of excellence for these extraordinary stamps. But that is only half the story. Read about the stamps that have brought a small fortune to individuals who have uncovered some major print errors found in these issues.

We have also printed a number of shorter articles for your reading pleasure.

This edition should reach most readers before we usher in 2009 and on behalf of everyone on *The Canadian Philatelist* team, I would like to extend best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year. ✉

nous apprend que le terme « free of postage » et sa forme abrégée « free » (franco) sont en fait synonymes de « timbre-poste ». Si les termes « franco » et « timbre-poste » semblent, de prime abord, contradictoires, Bill redresse toutes éventuelles idées fausses et encourage peut-être certains lecteurs à s'intéresser à un domaine fascinant de notre passe-temps.

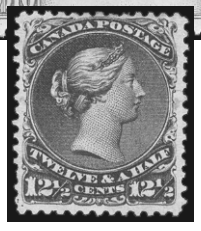
Michael Peach, un autre nom familier, non seulement en tant que collaborateur habituel, mais aussi en tant que membre de notre conseil d'administration, nous parle de deux photographes d'Ottawa, qui ont fait leur renommée pendant la seconde moitié du siècle dernier. Nul autre que les frères Yousuf et Malak Karsh. Leurs oeuvres apparaissent sur plusieurs timbres canadiens ainsi que sur ceux d'autres pays. Apprenez-en davantage à propos de ces deux immigrants qui ont réussi au Canada.

Joseph Montero fait la synthèse des timbres représentant les signes du zodiaque émis par Postes Canada pour célébrer le Nouvel An chinois. Ces timbres extraordinaires ont remporté plusieurs prix pour leur conception originale. Mais ce n'est que la moitié de l'histoire. Ils ont aussi rapporté une petite fortune à ceux qui ont dévoilé les importantes erreurs d'impression qu'ils comportaient.

Nous vous offrons également le plaisir de lire d'autres articles plus courts que ces derniers.

Vous devriez recevoir le présent numéro du Philatéliste canadien avant l'arrivée de 2009. J'en profite donc pour vous transmettre mes meilleurs voeux de santé et de bonheur pour la nouvelle année. ✉





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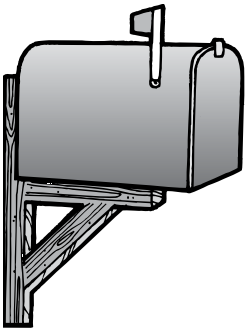
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Dear Editor,

It is most gratifying to see a national philatelic organization such as The RPSC using modern commemoratives on its correspondence.

I recently received my renewal notice with the Lifesaving Society stamp affixed along with the most interesting RPCS special pictorial cancellation as well. Unfortunately the stamp received the sprayed-on ink-jet cancellation.





Might I suggest, whether the pictorial cancellation is used or not, that the postage stamp be affixed a bit more to the left (or somewhat below), so that the stamp is cancelled with only one postmark.

For decades postal agencies have "brain washed" patrons by insisting that the stamps must be placed in the upper right area for cancellation. If The RPSC utilizes its own postmark device, or arranges to have its mail hand cancelled, it shouldn't really matter where the stamp is placed.

Kudos to you for the use of the stamps; less than full marks for placing it where it received another (and redundant) postmark!

Sincerely yours,

Dean Mario
Saskatoon, SK

CANADIAN PHILATELY FROM ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW

Nearly half our members come from your side of the pond.
They enjoy our quarterly award-winning magazine, 'Maple Leaves'.
Some of them come to our annual convention.
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Dear Editor,

In your September/October 2008 issue, John Hotchner, a past president of the American Philatelic Society, laments the lack of enthusiasm Canadian collectors have for stamps from south of the border. I can only agree. I have been collecting stamps and covers of the Confederate States of America for the last three years and have not found a collector here who shares the same interest. When I joined the Confederate Stamp Alliance, the pre-eminent CSA collectors' group, there were only two other members living in Canada.

You would think Canadians would have a lively interest in philately related to the Civil War (or as southerners would call it, the War Between the States). From an historical point of view, the English, who wanted confederate cotton, favoured the South and came close, some historians would say, to intervening on the side of the rebels. At one point the British sent 11,000 troops to Canada, just in case. And quite a few of us have ancestors who fought in the war for one side or the other.

Yours truly

Robert S. Carswell
Toronto

Dear Editor,

A friend has a Scott Canada #235, George VI in mufti, 1937 on blue paper. Paper is coloured on both front and back. Without having seen it, I'd suspect that it was soaked with some blue paper, but it may be a mint stamp for all I know.

Do any of your Canadian specialists know anything about this stamp on blue paper? Neither *Scott* nor *Unitrade* mention any coloured paper.

Stan Fairchild
Ohio

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The Canadian Philatelist **earned a Large Silver award at the World Philatelic Exhibition, Bucharest, Romania, June 20-22, 2008.**

LEWIN TAKES AFDCS' TOP HONORS FOR FDC WRITING

The American First Day Cover Society has named Robert Lewin of Temecula, Calif., the winner of the 2007 Philip H. Ward Award for outstanding writing and research in the field of first day covers.

Ralph H. Nafziger of Albany, Oregon, was the runner-up for the Ward Award.

Lewin's article, "The Magnificent Covers of Ejgil J.S. Halvorsen," appeared in the December issue of First Days, the official journal of the AFDCS. Halvorsen, a virtually unknown early cachetmaker, who apparently began servicing FDCs, first flights and events no later than 1922.

Nafziger wrote about "The Harris-Hoffman Connection" in the September issue of the magazine, which itself has won philatelic writing awards. Marvin Eugene Harris and Michael O. Hoffman each produced their own line of cachets, then began working together in the late 1950s and 1960s to produce the Diamond and Lone Star cachets.

Additional information can be obtained from the Ward Award chairman, Barry Ellis, 5117 Arrowhead Pass, Fort Wayne, IN 46804. Additional information on the American First Day Cover Society can be found at www.afdcs.org

Vincent G. Greene Award

The British North America Philatelic Society's prestigious Vincent G. Greene Award was presented to Norris (Bob) Dyer at the Society's convention in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The award is named for the late Vincent G. Greene, one of Canada's leading philatelists and is presented annually to the author of the best article appearing in *BNA Topics*, the Society's quarterly journal in the previous year.

Dyer won for his series, "The Man from Sandy Point" a two-part article providing a philatelic biography of the Rev. E. A. Butler, who was, arguably, the pre-eminent dealer in Newfoundland stamps in the 1920s through the 1940s. There can be few, if any, collectors of Newfoundland postal history who have not owned at least one 'Butler cover'. He also made available large quantities of used twentieth-century Newfoundland stamps. In the articles, Butler's accurate, detailed price lists are illustrated and discussed, and a selection of his stationery and covers is shown.

An engraved mug and certificate were presented to Dyer in Halifax at the 60th annual BNAPEX convention of the British North America Philatelic Society.

Bob Dyer, a resident of California, has published many articles on Newfoundland philately and has exhibited extensively. He is the author of the *Postal Shortages, and Surcharged Issues of Newfoundland*, a book in the BNAPS Exhibit Series. He won the Vincent G. Greene Award in 1996 and is a previous winner of the Pratt award sponsored by the Collectors Club of Chicago.

Book Completion

British West Indies

I am nearing completion of my fully illustrated book on the War Tax overprinted stamps of the British West Indies that were issued during the First World War. I would be pleased to hear from members who have any material, such as essays, die proofs, imperf proofs, or anything of particular interest and significance that they think should be included and would like me to include in my book.

Canada

I am now wondering if I should embark on volume II to cover those countries outside the BWI and which would include Canada. Canada is a vast subject on its own and although much has been written in the past should I decide to go ahead I will need a lot of help. In addition to the stamps themselves (the formats, booklets, coils, lathework, imprint numbers, quantities printed etc), I also need to cover the legislation and its amendments, post office notices, etc. Members are invited to contact me if they would be kind enough to help.

John Davis ENGLAND. E-mail:- j552davis@btinternet.com

NPM's 15th Anniversary Celebration!

The Smithsonian National Postal Museum in Washington, DC, opened its doors on July 31, 1993. Since then the museum has created dozens of exciting exhibits and programs which have delighted and engaged its millions of walk-in and online visitors. The museum is on track to make the next 15 years even more exciting. A number of dynamic and captivating exhibits are now in the planning stage. New exhibits promise intriguing and compelling examinations of American's postal system and opportunities to examine exceptional treasures from the stamp collecting world. Of course the museum's lively and alluring public programs will continue to delight audiences with events through the year that offer something for everyone.



These smiling members of the Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society attending the Harry Sutherland Philatelic Lecture, October 2, 2008 in Toronto are obviously pleased with their First Day Hindenburg covers autographed by guest speaker Dr. Cheryl R. Ganz (back row second from right). Ganz, Chief Curator of Philately at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum delivered the third Harry Sutherland Lecture at The Badminton & Racquet Club of Toronto. The commemorative cover was prepared by RPSC Secretary Peter Butler and cancelled at Lakehurst, NJ, site of the 1937 *Hindenburg* disaster. Title of Dr. Ganz's talk was *Come Take a Ride on the Hindenburg.*

Newsletters

Since our National Office moved to the Vincent G. Greene Philatelic Research Foundation we have been filing copies of newsletters sent in regularly by nine Chapters. (We requested copies of club newsletters in an earlier *TCP*) These newsletters are an excellent resource for clubs contemplating starting to publish their own or for established club newsletter editors to see what other clubs produce and to gain ideas for future expansion/revision of their own. The National Office would be pleased to send out a selection of several of the newsletters on file. Since some of them are on the club's website, it might be posssible to download copies or check them out directly.

Present newsletters on file are:

Saugeen Stamp Club Bulletin
Saugeen Stamp Club
Grand News
Grand River Valley Philatelic Association
Newsletter
London Philatelic Society
The Buffalo
Winnipeg Philatelic Society
The ShowBox
Lakeshore Stamp Club
Bulletin
Edmonton Stamp Club
Calgary Philatelist
Calgary Stamp Club
PhilaJournal
Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance
Bulletin
Bramalea Stamp Club

There are a few other clubs that occasionally send us a newsletter including the Kingston Stamp Club and the Saskatoon Stamp Club. Other clubs are always welcome to send us their newsletters to be kept on file for reference purposes, in the National Office.

Peter Butler, Director,
National Office, RPSC

EXPO Antartica Chile 2009

The Philatelic Society of Chile has announced that it will host EXPOANTARTICA CHILE 2009, January 15 to February 15, 2009. It is the first time that a competitive philatelic exhibition has been held in the Antarctic. Further information can be obtained at www.sociedadfilatelica.cl or by e-mail at: admin@sociedadfilatelica.cl

In the October issue of the *Saugeen Stamp Club Bulletin*, (Hanover, Ontario is the home of the Saugeen Stamp Club. The name of the club comes from the river that runs through the town.) Bill Findley wrote in the President's Corner of the newsletter:

"It is amazing how one thing leads to another in our "small" world. I refer to Peter Butler's interesting letter in the last Bulletin about the mailing of magazines. We have Jim Measures to thank for starting this line of discussion. It's one that's not quite over yet as there is still the mystery of the Swedish point of mailing!"

Bill's comments are in reference to a Letter to the Editor that Peter Butler wrote in response to an item that he read in the July issue of the Saugeen Club newsletter. *The Canadian Philatelist* thought the letter would be informative for all our readers and decided to reprint it in this issue. There is an addendum to the letter which hopefully will bring closure to the story.

The Letter is attached (right), with a few minor corrections to grammar and structure. The addendum follows…

As a result of Bill Findley's comment above, I called Barbara Boal, editor of the *American Philatelist* a second time, to ascertain if there had been any follow-up to the original request for information. Barbara told me that there had been no new revelations. The printer/distributor of the *American Philatelist* told her that they had no idea what happened. Conjecture was that it was due to a computer glitch, a wrong button pushed, packages thrown into the wrong bin at the airport or any number of other miscues that occurred by mistake. There was no way of tracking the error, no investigation was undertaken because the error was corrected and all subscribers did get their magazines on time. In words attributed to someone, "It hasn't happened since but could easily happen again!"

One thing is for certain though. All costs for the publishing and distributing of the *AP* are paid for in US dollars to US companies. The same is true for *TCP*… that is, in Canadian dollars to Canadian companies.

Peter Butler

Ralph Wydham, Editor, *Saugeen Stamp Club Bulletin*, August 28, 2008.

Letter to the Editor re Issue # 123

Dear Ralph,

No sooner do I get around to reading your July newsletter and drafting a letter to you about an item you included in Show and Tell, than the August one arrives in my mail box. Such is life in philately during the summer… reading gets done eventually!

Thanks very much for continuing to send it to me. I enjoy reading it cover-to-cover, then I take it to The RPSC National Office to file with all the other newsletters that we receive, available for anyone wanting to learn about stamp clubs and their programs or to research how one might start writing a club newsletter.

I must say, however, that I was taken aback by the brief commentary by Jim Measures in the Show and Tell section of the July issue. I thought you might like to know some of the facts behind the mailing of magazines. Since Jim doesn't have e-mail, perhaps you could get my letter to him. Clearly he doesn't have the big picture concerning the mailing of magazines, the American Philatelist in particular. I have checked out the situation with Barbara Boal, editor of the American Philatelist, and confirmed my understanding of their mailing procedure. Jim's assumption that the APS magazine is mailed off-shore is incorrect. As someone who is involved with the mailing of The RPSC's The Canadian Philatelist, and who has dialogued with the administration of the APS about its mailing procedures, (RPSC has learned from their experiences) I would like you to know, and hopefully your readers as well, the facts about the distribution of the aforementioned philatelic magazines.

On my copy of the American Philatelist which arrived the same day as your newsletter, I noted that in the top left corner of the white cover page, a label stating "Periodical Postage Paid at Bellefonte, PA 16823 And Additional Entry Offices." It also gives the Canadian Distribution Agreement number. A sticker next to that statement gives the address of the Ontario mailing centre as Arrow Mailing, a company in Windsor. I was puzzled by Jim's statement that his copy of the magazine had a different label, giving a return address in Sweden. That does not mean it was mailed in Sweden: distribution, yes… mailing, no. Let me explain.

The production of magazines today has changed drastically, especially in the last few years. The two philatelic magazines I have mentioned above are no exception. The RPSC may be making changes to the delivery of our magazine in the next few months, an example of how quickly procedures change, all in the interest of saving money.

At the American Philatelic Center, home of the APS, the magazine is created completely by the editor, Barbara Boal, on her computer. That includes all the art work and the entire layout of all pages. In short, that is all the pre-production requirements. When an issue is complete, it is sent electronically to Quebecor, a company in Michigan. This company prints the magazine, labels and packages it, then distributes it to three mailing systems. The American subscribers receive their copies from a mailing house in Bollingbrook, Michigan. The Canadian subscribers receive their copies from a mailing house in Windsor, Ontario, trucked there from Michigan. The International subscribers receive their copies from the Royal Mail in London, UK, sent there from Michigan also. Sweden's involvement is a mystery to APS but the answer lies with Royal Mail. A few Canadian subscribers, besides Jim, also received their copies from Sweden. Barbara Boal is attempting to get answers but the decisions around mailing procedures rests with Quebecor and they do it as economically as possible. That does not mean APS mails its magazine from Sweden. It means that the printing and mailing is the responsibility of another American business which saves APS a substantial amount of money instead of doing all those jobs in Bellefonte by three different companies. And let's be realistic, the bottom line is cost effectiveness. The APS would like everyone to know that it would never sent the production and distribution costs offshore. As an APS member, I agree with that stand. Incidentally, the fact that the magazine is created entire in-house rather than being sent out has saved APS thousands of dollars on each issue. In times of falling memberships, this saving is crucial.

The RPSC and The Canadian Philatelist use a similar set of practices. Here is our story. Editor Tony Shaman is responsible for gathering all the material for each issue. He then sends it electronically to Trajan Publishing in St. Catharines for the artwork, design, advertising and set-up of the magazine. Upon completion, it is sent to Webco, a company in London, Ontario, which is responsible for the printing, address labeling and distribution to the mail system for delivery to subscribers. All copies, regardless of destination, are put into the mailing system in London and there's a good reason why this is different from the American process. The RPSC is able to apply for a special mailing subsidy through Canada Post under a special Government of Canada program that reduces the cost of mailing substantially. This is a cost-saving program that is envied by APS because there is no such government support to assist magazine producers in the USA. This is also why The RPSC would never contemplate off-shore production of its magazine.

From the procedures outline above for both the American and the Canadian philatelic magazines, it should be obvious that the use of postage stamps to mail their magazines is out of the question. I receive 14 magazines from philatelic societies and organizations, none of whom uses stamps to mail their literature. Stamp clubs are a different story and I receive several of those, all usually with nice stamps. The Saugeen Club is exemplary in this regard.

Both APS and The RPSC have a policy that requires staff to use commemorative stamps on all personal mail to their members. Every piece of mail from the National Office, RPSC, is franked with current stamps and these are cancelled with a pictorial hand canceller provided by Canada Post. APS does the same, using their newly restored Headsville Post Office within the APS Center. That's a commitment to collectors that we have made in the name of the hobby. Unfortunately, both organizations suffer from having some of its mail cancelled a second time electronically or by clerks using magic markers, ballpoint pens etc… but that's another issue and another challenge.

I hope my explanations above set the record straight on the issues that Jim alluded to in your Show and Tell. I just couldn't glaze over those issues and not respond with the necessary information about the mailing of our beloved magazines.

Sincerely,
Peter Butler

P.S. Now, I'm off to read issue #124 !





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POST OFFICE POSTAGE METERS

by Ross W. Irwin

Postage meters were provided to the public counters of major post offices on February 16, 1938. The Pitney Bowes Model JP machine with a Model JDP postage meter was only used at the Insurance and C.O.D. wickets. The first postage meter is believed to bear serial number PB 94046.

Postage meters used in Post Offices are distinguished by having the letters "P" and "O" in the town mark with the city and province name.

As of April 17, 1942 there were eight post offices using meters in Canada. There were two meters at Toronto and one each at Montreal, Ottawa, Saint John, New Westminster, Charlottetown and Lethbridge. By 1947 the number had risen to 15 with new PB Model RGP and RFF meters adopted for parcel post - and placed at Truro, Moncton, Kingston, Brandon, Regina, Saskatoon, Lethbridge, and Victoria,

In 1949 the Post Office established criteria for offices requesting a postage meter - 200 parcels a day over the counter over a two-week period. In 1957 the word "parcels" was changed to "bulky items"

In 1952 the Post Office authorized 12 postage meters for Toronto, 10 of them were Pitney Bowes. The Post Office also bought 28 used meters and 84 new meters, Model RG with RFP meter, These 112 meters were sent to 68 Post Offices listed in the *Weekly Bulletin*, May 4, 1952.

About 1959 the demand increased and meters were installed in all major offices thus eliminating postage stamps for parcel post, except for collectors.

Post Office regulations as of April 11, 1961, stated that new postage meter dies were not to be engraved with the postal or subdivision names - just the city.

The use of postage meters by the Post Office expanded rapidly after decentralization April 1, 1962. Extra meters were available for Christmas mail at various offices. By 1965 meters were in use at 143 staff offices and 80 postal stations.

Examples of meter indicia used at some Post Office subdivisions are shown. ✉



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POST CARD THEMES

George B. Arfken, FRPSC and William S. Pawluk

Canadian post cards, government issue and private, are collected for various reasons. The government issued cards (Canada Post Cards) started with P1[1] in 1871 and extended to P25 in the King Edward period[2]. Some collectors will want one card for each major P number. Others will collect cards according to the destination. Examples of post cards to rare and exotic destinations are seen in colour in references three [3] and four[4].

Here, we take a completely different approach. We turn the card over and look at the message. A great deal of Canadian history is shown here. The post card writers may have had a thousand different reasons for writing but some themes appear over and over again. We illustrate five of the more common themes.

1. Salesman will call: In the last decades of the 19th century, it was fairly common for businesses to send out 1¢ Canada Post Cards to announce that their salesman would call. It was an inexpensive way to notify customers and sometimes it provided a bit of humor. Figure 1a shows a nice though unprepossessing post card. Turn it over (Figure 1b) for a fantastic picture. Another card (different date) with this same picture has been shown by Steinhart. [5, 63]

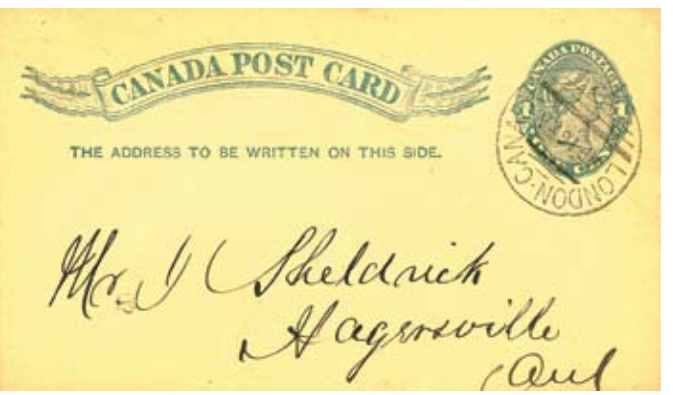


Figure 1a. A P7 card of the 1887 scroll work issue. Posted in London, April 16, 1892.

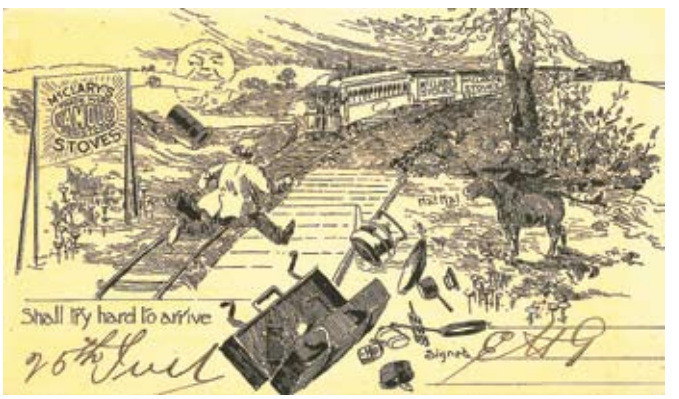


Figure 1b. McClary's salesman has missed his train but "shall try hard to arrive" on 25th Inst.

2. Buying, selling, trading stamps: By the 1880s, collecting stamps had become a major pastime. Many people were using post cards to offer to trade stamps. Some, like Mr. Labelle, were attempting to buy stamps from the post offices of other countries. Canada had issued reply cards for domestic use. The Post Office had promised an international reply card but had not issued one so Labelle took a P8 domestic reply card and added 1¢ in Small Queens to up-rate each half of the card to the 2¢ UPU post card rate. There was no authorization for this but at least three Caribbean colonies honoured Labelle's cards.[3, 62-63] Figure 2a shows the reply card from Tortula, posted January 27, 1892. Figure 2b gives the written message.[5, 62]



Figure 2a. The reply to Labelle on a P8 from Tortula, January 27, 1892, via St. Kitts.

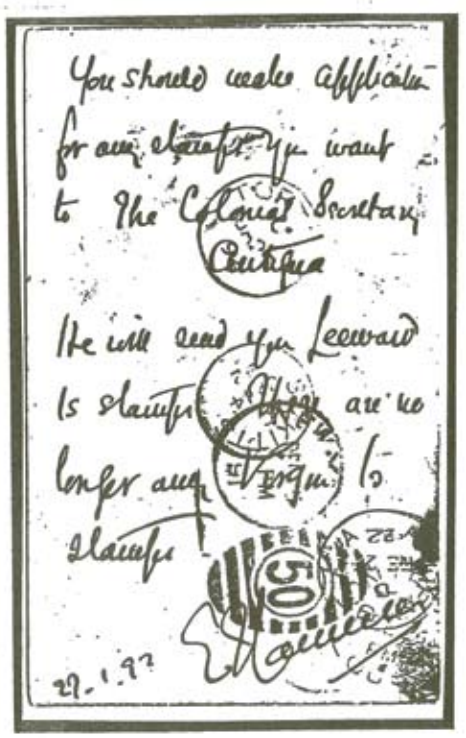


Figure 2b. Write to Antigua. Courtesy of Allan L. Steinhart.

The October 1899 *Quarterly Supplement to the Official Postal Guide* authorized writers to create reply cards for the United Kingdom by adding a 1 cent Canadian stamp to each half of the domestic reply cards. This is exactly what Labelle had done years earlier. This authorization from the *Quarterly Supplement* appeared in the *January 1900 Official Postal Guide* in the Correspondence With The United Kingdom, p. xxxvii.

3. Exchanging post cards: Canada authorized private post cards in 1895. Gradually colour pictures on the entire back of the card began to appear. Then, the inevitable happened: Tourists started sending picture post cards and people began to collect picture post cards. Figure 3a shows a private post card addressed to Egypt. Figure 3b shows the reverse of this card with Mme. Legendre's return address at the top edge and a strong wish to exchange post cards written at the bottom.



Figure 3a. A private post card from Quebec, January 23, 1903, addressed to Egypt.

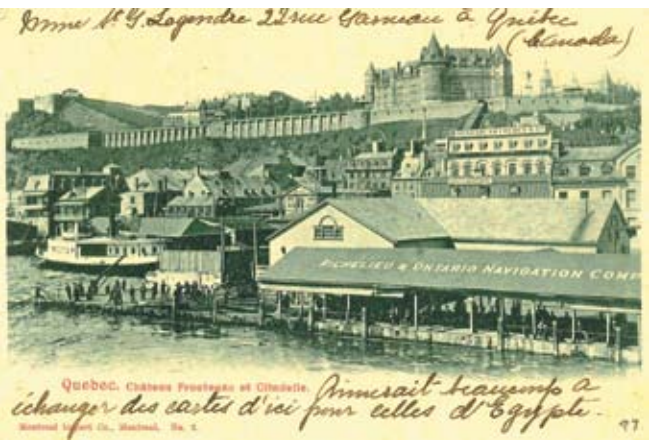


Figure 3b. The Quebec waterfront with the Chateau Frontenac in the background.

In 1903, Canada approved a new form of private post cards: postage stamp and address on the right half of the card, a message on the left half and the entire reverse available for a picture. This was essen-

tially our modern picture post card, a century ago. With this change, sending and collecting picture post cards really took off and continues to this day.

4. Bank business: A century ago Canadian banks conducted considerable business by post card. Figure 4a shows a P21 2¢ UPU post card with a red printed Bank of Nova Scotia. This was clearly intended for interbank correspondence. It does raise a question though. Where else, besides Newfoundland, were there Banks of Nova Scotia that required 2¢ post cards? Figure 4b shows the message, a receipt for a registered envelope.

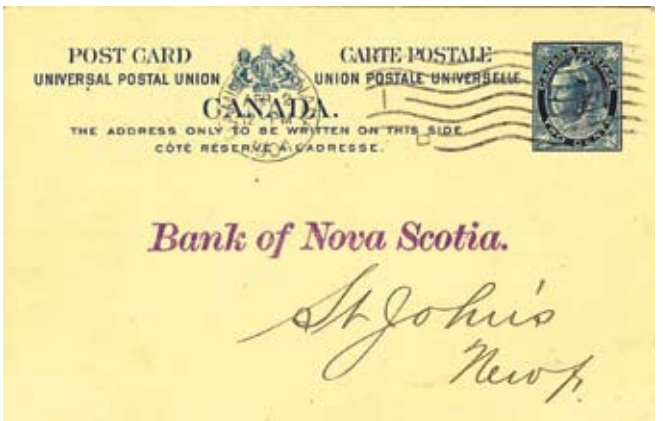


Figure 4a. P21, a 2¢ UPU post card posted in Hamilton, Ont., April 2, 1904 and addressed to Bank of Nova Scotia, St. John's, Newfoundland.

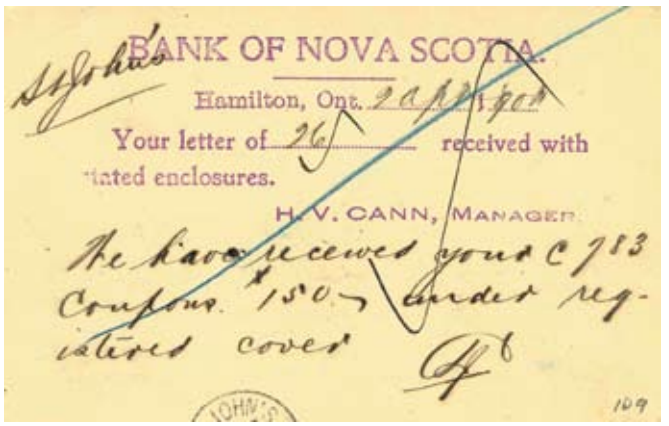


Figure 4b. The Bank of Nova Scotia, Hamilton, Ont., acknowledged receipt of a registered envelope from the Bank of Nova Scotia, St. John's, Newfoundland.

An amazing aspect of this particular post card receipt is that the bank would list the specific $150 coupon. Privacy concerns today would have people screaming about the exposure of private financial data on a post card. Of course a century ago Canadian postmasters were forbidden to read post cards passing through the mail. So maybe privacy was still maintained.

5. Railroad business: The major railways, Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk, used the government advertising cards, P18 with Queen Victoria's vignette and P23 with King Edward's, for extensive advertising and for conducting routine business. Routine business would include notifying customers of the arrival or expected arrival of agricultural products of merchandise. We have one Canadian Pacific card that notified the customer of a refund and gave directions for collecting it.

The post card shown in Figure 5a is a Canadian Pacific Railway view card. Webb's catalogue[1] lists three series of Canadian Pacific view cards. This card is Webb's CPR 38B, die 2 of the second series.[1, 134] Webb lists the steamship picture of Figure 5b as BB10.[1, 137]



Figure 5a. P23, a view card, CPR 38B, of the Canadian Pacific's multi-color series posted March 1, 1906.

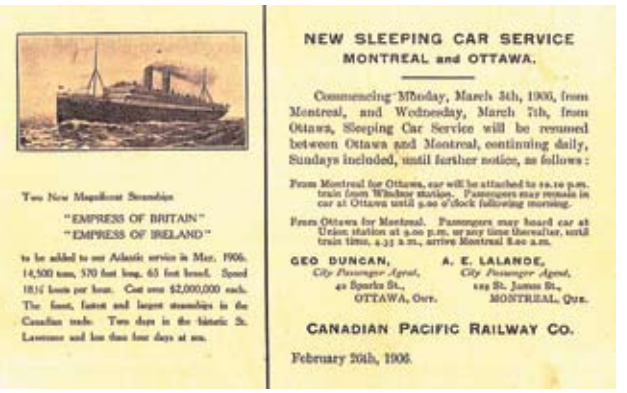


Figure 5b. Notification of the new sleeping car service, Montreal and Ottawa. The card also boasted of the two new steamships coming in May for Canadian Pacific Atlantic service.

Endnotes

[1] *Webb's Postal Stationery Catalogue of Canada and Newfoundland*, 7th edition, Editors: Earle L. Covert and William C. Walton.

[2] We will limit this discussion to the cards of the King Edward VII period and earlier.

[3] *Early Canada Post Cards*, George B. Arfken, British North America Philatelic Society, 2004.

[4] *A Canadian Postal History, 1897 - 1911*, George B. Arfken and William S. Pawluk, British North America Philatelic Society, 2006.

[5] *The Postal History of the Post Card in Canada, Collected by Allan L. Steinhart*, Hennok's Series of Postal History Collections /3, 1986.

FREE OF POSTAGE

by Bill Pekonen

The phrase "Free of Postage" and the abbreviation "FREE" are synonymous with "postage stamp". Many misconceptions and misinterpretations exist. As a result, many collectors have ignored this collecting field of study, believing that it had no importance within philately. However, "FREE" mail existed both before postage stamps existed and exists still today. The only difference is that "free" mail is not always recognized for what it is.

Consider these facts: The common practise prior to 1840 was to send letters unpaid with the recipient or addressee paying the postage (unless prepayment was otherwise indicated).

Prior to the issue of the Penny Black stamp, the following notice was sent to the public and to all postmasters.

General Post Office

April, 1840

The Lords of the Treasury having fixed the 6th of May next for the issue of Postage Stamps on and after that day all Letters written on Stamped Paper, or enclosed in Stamped Covers, or having Stamps affixed to them, the Stamps in every such case being equal in Value or Amount to the Rates of Postage now chargeable on such Letters if prepaid, will pass Free of Postage in whatever part of the UNITED KINGDOM they may be posted.

In those cases where the value of Stamps on the Letter is less than the amount of the Postage to which it would now be liable if prepaid, the Letter will be charged double the amount of such difference on delivery. An Inland Letter, for example, weighing more than Half-an-ounce, and not exceeding an Ounce, if bearing only a Penny Stamp, will be charged Two-pence on delivery.

The same regulation applies to Letters prepaid by money where the full and proper rate of postage has not been paid in advance.

Stamps may be used for Printed Votes and Proceedings in Parliament. If the Stamps, however, should be less in value than the proper rate of Postage to which these documents are subject, only the difference, and not double the difference is to be charged.

Stamps may also be used on Foreign, Colonial, and Ship Letters, &c., outwards. If any Letter, however, addressed to Places beyond the Sea shall bear an insufficient number of Stamps, it will be sent to the Dead Letter Office, to be returned in all practicable cases to the writer. Stamps are not permitted to be used on Letters arriving in the United Kingdom from the colonies or Foreign Countries. In such cases, therefore, Letters will be chargeable with the same rates as they would be if not bearing Stamps.

All these Regulations will be applicable to Newspapers in those cases where they are liable to Postage.

It must be distinctly understood that it is optional with the Public either to use Stamps, or to forward their Letters &c., prepaid or unpaid as at present.

The instructions issued in December, or on the 4th February last, remain in full force, the only alteration being that the Stamps are permitted to be used in certain cases instead of the Postage being paid in Money.

By Command,
W. L. MABERLY, Secretary.

Similar phrases can be found in various British post office acts in respect to free franked mail. For just one example, the following is an extract from CAP XXXV Victoria: *An Act for regulating the sending and receiving of Letters and Packets by the Post free from the Duty of Postage (July 12, 1837)*. Different classes of free franking privileges were specified for the first time – detailing who could use the privilege and under which conditions.

Preamble: "….for granting and regulating the Privilege of receiving and sending Letters by the Post free from the Duty of Postage, ……"

Clause XVIII. "…..may receive any such Letter free from postage….."

The same act provides up to treble postage due if the act is contravened.

Both the words "Postage Stamp" and "FREE" meant "Prepaid" for postal purposes. The postage label was used as a substitute for hand written notations. In reality, the postage stamp is a revenue stamp.

Canada was still a crown colony in 1840. The British postal regulations applied to the colonies, although some unauthorized variations in some colonies can be found. While free franking privileges were discontinued in England in 1840, both before and after 1764, "FREE" was still used in Canada until about 1968 to signify "prepaid". As mentioned in a previous article, "FREE" also signified a subsidized rate. (See *Postal History Society of Canada Journal* #120 – pgs. 34.47, and *Maple Leaves*, July 2006 pgs. 289-296). Many different free franking versions with or without the word FREE can be found either hand written, rubber stamped, meter imprinted, or pre-printed on the envelope.

There is an important distinction between free franked mail, exempt mail, and other mail that was not prepaid. No postage due was chargeable on mail that was either marked "FREE" or mail that was exempt. Otherwise, either double or triple the normal rate was charged as postage due.

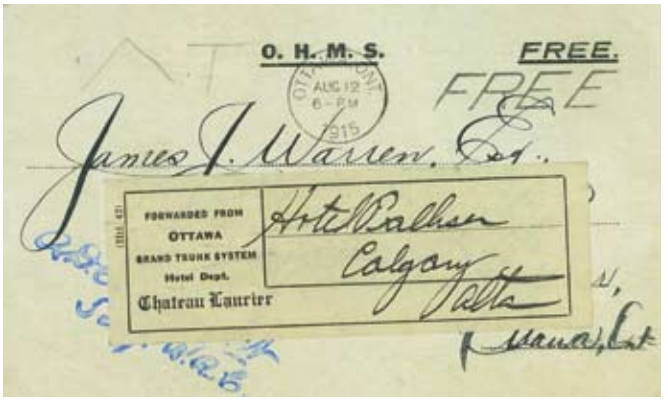


Figure 1.

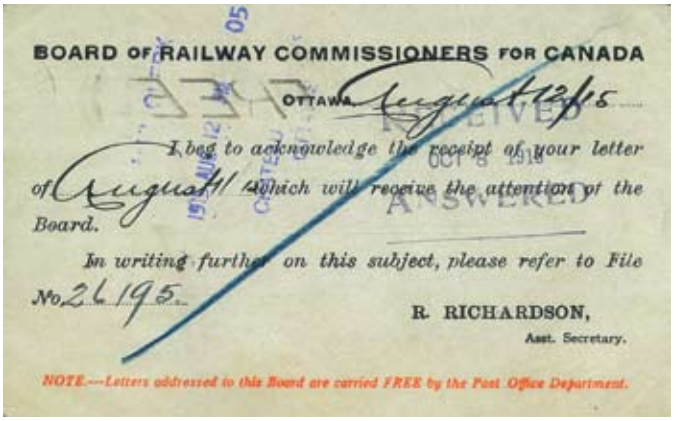


Figure 2.

Figure 1 shows a pre-printed postcard mailed in Ottawa Aug. 12 / 1915, and the use of the "FREE" International Machine cancel. Figure 2 shows the reverse side of the card. Observe the note at the bottom of the card. The wording is a good example of how the free franking privilege was misinterpreted and misunderstood. It would have been more accurate to say "No postage due is payable by the addressee". It should be noted that there is no authorization to use the phrase "OHMS" by itself as a proper substitute for "Free of Postage", even though it has been used as such.

Figure 3 shows a postcard that could be used to order a publication titled *The Canadian Mother and Child*. Note the restriction under the word "FREE" – "Only if mailed in Canada".

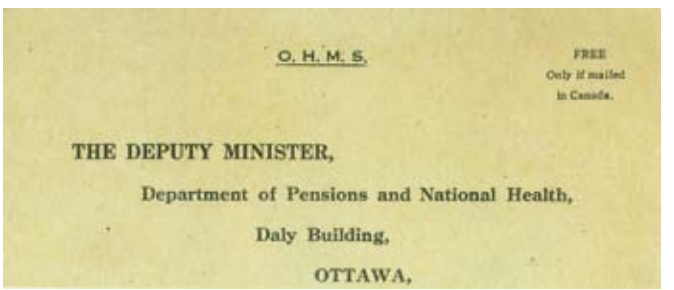


Figure 3.

Figures 4 and 6 show the indicia used between 1964-1972 in Canada. Figure 5 shows the reverse side of the figure 4 postcard requesting information in respect to young salmon. (The salmon fishery is a continuing "hot topic" in BC, the controversy being promoted by environmentalists and competitive fishing interests.)

The 1964 change within Canada is a result of a protocol agreement reached by the Universal Postal Union. Article 48 states "Items exempted from postal charges under Articles 8, 9 and 23 are exempted from all land and sea transit charges."

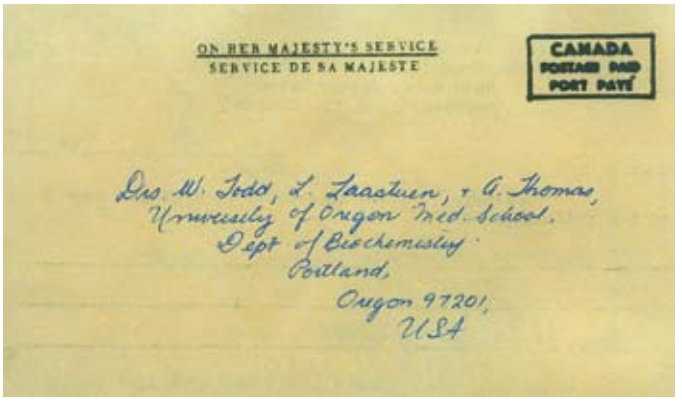


Figure 4.

Article 8 applies to items which concern prisoners of war and civilian internees, excepting air mail charges. Article 9 applies to literature for the blind, worldwide.

Article 23 applies to letter post items relating to postal charges exchanged between the following:

Postal Administrations

Postal Administrations and the International Bureau,

Post offices of Member Countries,

Post offices and Postal Administrations.

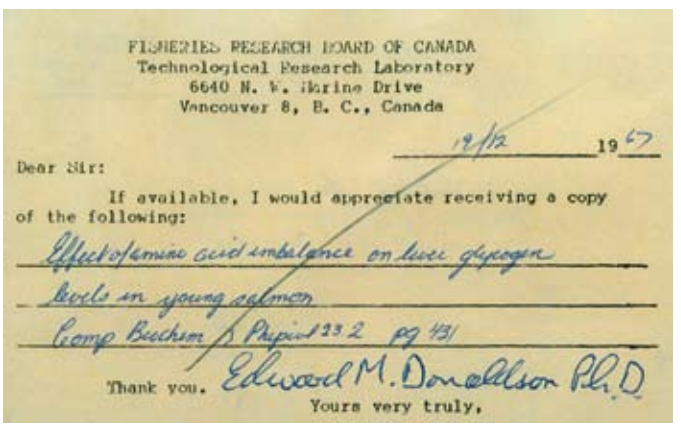


Figure 5.

Article 20 permitted franking impressions, printed, affixed or applied. The words taxe percue (T.P.) or port paye (P.P.) could be used. The equivalent in other languages can also be found. Examples are P.A., P.B., P.S., and O.B. Consequently, we see today the words "Postage Paid" and the French language equivalent on Canadian official and other mail intended to be sent through the postal system without postage stamps or other evidence of pre-paid postage. (Figure 6)

Article 116 stipulated that items on postal service sent free of postal charges should bear the words Service des Postes or similar indication in the language of the country of origin and may be followed by a translation. (Figure 7). In these uses, "Service des Postes" and "On Postal Service" and all the many variations are an exemption from postage charges and not necessarily a substitute for "Free of Postage". These covers are a separate class of mail.



Figure 6.

Article 118 stipulated that items to be delivered to the addressees free of charges shall bear in bold letters on the front the heading Free of charges or a similar indication in the language of the Country of origin. (Figure 8 – dated 7.11.16 is an occupation cover)



Figure 7.

In 1972, the UPU rules were changed again. Both Official and Private Mail was allowed to pass free of postage provided that an indicia indicating "TAXE PERUE" and/or the language equivalent was imprinted in the UR corner to indicate paid postage. (See figure 6). In this case, a different French language equivalent (Port Paye) was used. The purpose was to eliminate labour costs involved in postage calculations; to eliminate the need for collecting postage dues; and to standardize recognition throughout the world. Many indicia variations have appeared since 1972. It appears that the regulations were applied inconsistently as many airmail covers can be found without postage stamps or payment amounts indicated.



Figure 8.

Figure 9 illustrates mail coming into Canada from other countries and accepted without postage due being payable, charged or collected. This cover was mailed in the USA 13 DEC / 1994 to Halifax. The post office forwarded the letter to the addressee by using a rubber stamp which post offices were instructed to destroy during 1968. The imprint was placed on the envelope in Canada to avoid delay in delivery. The collection of Postage Due was ignored because the labour costs to collect postage were greater than the amount to be recovered. Other instances of this particular use can be found.



Figure 9.

The word "FREE", as an abbreviation for the technical term "FREE OF THE DUTY OF POSTAGE", does not necessarily mean that no fee was received for the service. As explained in other articles mentioned above, FREE is actually a subsidized rate, paid for by either other postal users or by general taxation revenues. It has also been shown in other articles that the amounts paid on behalf of the post office department in Canada by other government departments for services that should have been an expense of the post office operations actually exceeded the amount of foregone postage of free franked mail.

On the international scene, it also appears that the other exemptions mentioned above are legitimate postal uses. It is curious to note that many philatelists have accepted POW mail as a collecting interest, but that genuine post office mail has been ignored, even though it falls within the same category under Article 8 of the UPU Convention. The subject of POW mail has been studied and documented by other collectors. No examples are illustrated with this article.

Examples of literature to the blind mail sent under the provisions of Article 9 are not illustrated, simply because this writer does not have any examples. As far as is known to this writer, most collectors have ignored this topic. Nevertheless, it is an unexplored, interesting field of study for someone with access to this material. Ironically, in philately as in real life "there are none so blind than those who will not see." We need some light in this area.

Many other examples of mail sent under Article 23 provisions exist, and are the subject of a separate article.

"Free" mail needs to be more fully studied. It is probable that scarce collectible postal history items are sitting in collections, but yet to be identified for their real intent and purpose.

Mention needs to be made about political matter recently mailed from Ottawa with the words "No Postage Required" in the upper right corner. This wording appears to be bending the rules. First, the phrase does not mean that a postage fee has not been paid. These items have been mailed under parliamentary franking privileges. Secondly, this phrase does not conform with UPU nor with Canada Post regulations. Check the rules for Business Reply Mail. The words "No Postage Stamp Necessary if Mailed in Canada". Note the inclusion of the word "stamp" after the word "postage". Thirdly, parliament contributes a bulk payment to Canada Post each year to cover part of the mailing costs. The rate per item is less than the cost of a letter because Canada Post performs only part of the mailing service. The service provided by Canada Post is not "free" from payment. It simply means that the receiver does not have to pay "postage due".

A similar wording to "no postage required" has been observed on covers, pamphlets and post cards over the last 70-80 year period. It appears that designers have incorrectly interpreted postal regulations. An interesting collection can be formed including items mailed with this non-conforming phrase. Most of these examples had a very short life, probably because the Post Office pointed out the discrepancy. ✉

HONG KONG STAMP PROGRAM FOR 2007

PART II

by Joseph Monteiro

Part I of Hong Kong Stamp Program for 2007 can be found in the Nov/Dec 08 issue of The Canadian Philatelist.

8) China - Hong Kong Joint Issue 10th Anniversary of Unification (July 1, 2007)



To mark the 10th Anniversary of Hong Kong's reunification with China, the Post Offices of Hong Kong and China issued a commemorative stamp reflecting the occasion. The stamps issued by both administrations use the same design adopting different impressions and face values. The close ties between China and Hong Kong are compared to the national flag and the regional flag of Hong Kong SAR waving side by side with the 'Forever Blooming Bauhinia', a symbol of continued prosperity, at the centre. Above the glittering Bauhinia are flying doves, conjuring up a picture of peace and harmony.

Technical details for this issue are as follows: 1) the stamps, miniature sheet and the mini-pane are designed by Feng Xiaohong; 2) the printer for the stamps and souvenir sheet is Beijing Postage Stamp Printing House, the People's Republic of China; 3) the stamps are printed by photogravure; 4) the size of the stamps is 44mm x 33mm and the size of the souvenir sheet is 110mm x 150mm; 5) the stamps are perforated with a 13 x 12.5 perforating gauge; and 6) the stamps have an elliptical perforation on each vertical side and are printed on paper with invisible fluorescent multi-colour dots.

9) Hong Kong Post's Participation in Bangkok 2007 (August 3, 2007)



The eighth issue consists of a stamp sheetlet with a $10 stamp. It celebrates Hong Kong's participation in various international exhibitions. This is the second time a sheetlet was issued to celebrate its participation in Bangkok. It promotes philately on a global scale together with the popularity of Hong Kong stamps.

Technical details for this issue are as follows: 1) the sheetlet is designed by Leung Kam-hung; 2) the printer for the stamps is Joh. Enschedeé B.V., the Netherlands; 3) the stamps are printed by lithography; 4) the size of the stamps is 45mm x 28mm and the size of the sheetlet is 130mm x 75mm; 5) the stamps are perforated with a 13.25 x 14.25 perforating gauge; and 6) the stamps have an elliptical perforation on each vertical side and are printed on paper with security fibers.

10) Civic Education (August 23, 2007)

Hong Kong's ninth issue was a set of hexagonally-shaped stamps, a first for this country. Its designs reflect elements of education, human rights, the rule of law, social participation and corporate citizenship. The set consists of the following five values: $1.40, $1.80, $2.40, $3 and $5. It is printed in a



format of 25 stamps per pane and the various sides of the pane remind us of the various facets in which life is connected. Each of the designs illustrates images from selected winning entries in the Civil Educational Stamp Design Competition.

Technical details for this issue are as follows: 1) the sheetlet is designed by Benny Lau; 2) the printer for the stamps is Cator Security Printing, France; 3) the stamps are printed by lithography; 4) the size of the stamp diameter is 40mm and the size of the mini-pane is 220mm x 180mm; 5) the stamps are perforated with a 13 x 14 perforating gauge; and 6) the stamps have an elliptical perforation on each lower left and upper right oblique sides and are printed on paper with security fibers.

11) Declared Monuments in Hong Kong (September 20, 2007)



The tenth set depicts the antiquity of some of Hong Kong's attractive monuments and historic buildings. The set of stamps of invaluable legacy that the community has inherited shows the following monuments: Tin Hau Temple-Causeway Bay, Old Wan Chai Post Office, Former Central Police Station Compound, Former Yamen Building of Kowloon Walled City, Kun Lung Gate Tower-Lung Yeuk Tau, and Tang Lung Chau Lighthouse. It consists of the following six values: 1.40, $1.80, $2.40, $2.50, $3 and $5. Each stamp is issued in a sheet format of 25 together with a souvenir sheet of all six stamps and is printed in intaglio and lithography. In addition to the stamps, a black print was issued which will be considered a desirable collectable. In addition there will be six water colour cards.

Technical details for this issue are as follows: 1) the sheet is designed by Freeman Lau; 2) the printer for the stamps is Joh. Enschedeé B.V., the Netherlands; 3) the stamps are printed by intaglio and lithography; 4) the size of the stamp diameter is 40mm x 30mm and the size of the souvenir sheet is 145mm x 78mm; 5) the stamps are perforated with a 14 x 13.3 perforating gauge; and 6) the stamps are printed on paper with security fibers.

12) Christmas Stamps II (October 11, 2007)



The eleventh issue celebrates Christmas. It is the second time since 2002 that Hong Kong issued such stamps. The designs bring the festive holiday mood that pervades the world during that time. It is designed to bring a bit of sparkle into one's life and to promote peace and joy to men of goodwill. The set consists of the following four values: 1.40, $2.40, $3 and $5. Each value is issued in a pane format of 25 stamps. Besides the stamps, a set of four Christmas cards was issued.

13) Hong Kong, China - Finland Joint Issue on Fine Woodwork (November 2, 2007)

The twelfth issue celebrates the eighth time that Hong Kong has joined hands with other postal administrations to release stamps. The two souvenir sheets contain the following two stamps: 2x$5 (Hong Kong Post); and 2x0.7 euro (Finland Post). The designs reflect the fine oriental woodwork and Finland's famous designs. In addition to the stamps in souvenir format, both stamps will be available in pane format of 25 with a $5 value of each stamp design. These designs are expected to excite most philatelists and broaden their appreciation of northern Europe together with its simplicity of woodwork design.

III. Concluding Remarks

In summary, the stamps issued by Hong Kong Post for 2007 have delighted even the most critical philatelists. The Hong Kong Post Office has highlighted a number of "hot" items in its program such as: Children stamps, Butterflies, the

10th Anniversary of the Establishment of the HKSAR and Christmas. Besides, the hot items recommended by its Post Office, keep an eye for the black print, the hologram sheetlet and the flock paper stamps. It is these novel features and unusual items that continue to generate interest in Hong Kong philately.

Besides stamps, each issue promotes subtle themes for those who look for something more in stamps. Themes such as environmental promotion, educational development and inspiration, co-operation among nations and peace and goodwill among men. If only some of these messages could be read, heard, understood and put into effect mankind would live in a more peaceful and happier world, a world that is becoming more and more connected with the passage of each year. ✉

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THE SQUARED CIRCLE STRIKES OF HALIFAX

by Tony Shaman



Correctly used Halifax time marks slugs show the mail clearings for Monday, August 9, 1897.

An impressive exhibit of Halifax squared circle postmarks assembled by John Eldridge clears up any remaining doubts about the time marks (also known as mail clearing marks) used at the Halifax post office and how they relate to the hours that postal clerks worked at that facility during the closing years of the 19th century.

Squared circle strikes, not particularly popular with collectors during the first 60 years of their existence, took the collecting community by storm when Dr. Alfred Whitehead began writing about them in the early 1950s. Whitehead, now recognized as the father of Squared Circle collecting in Canada, published three handbooks, 1954, 1959, and 1964, on these attractive strikes. His first article dealing with these fascinating cancels appeared in *BNA Topics* in December 1951 and within a short time squared circle collecting made its mark on Canadian philately that has lasted to this day.

Writing in the 2nd edition of *The Squared Circle Postmarks of Canada* released in 1959, Whitehead states: "Hardly a day has passed since without (receiving) one, three, six, and even 12 letters about squared circles."

Dr. Whitehead was a devotee of all squared-circle cancelled stamps although his favourites were Halifax. He was particularly interested in the enigmatic use of its four time marks: 1, 2, 3, and 4.

R.M. Doull, a Whitehead disciple, at one time owned 15,000 stamps cancelled with one of Halifax's two squared circle hammers. He was as fascinated as Whitehead with the four Halifax time marks and how they related to the post office's hours of work.

One of Doull's first observations was that time mark 4 existed in significantly smaller quantities than the other three. If the four time marks were used sequentially, with time mark 1 leading off the morning work shift and 4 used for the last shift of the day then there should be more time marks 4 in existence than there are as more of the day's mail would have been processed later in the day than in the early morning hours when fewer letters would have been placed in the mail stream.

Dr. Whitehead was also mystified by his observation that, without exception, all of his Halifax covers franked with stamps with time mark 4 cancels were delivered on the same day that they were mailed, notwithstanding that some of these letters were mailed to destinations 200 miles away. How could that be? Obviously something strange was going on. Whitehead found, as did Doull, that he also had significantly fewer time mark 4 strikes in his collection than any one of the other three.

From the combined collections of Whitehead and Doull we learn that time mark 4 accounted for only 13.1% of the total of the four time marks whereas time mark 1 made up 24.4%, time mark 2, 38.6%, and time mark 3, 23.9%.

Doull was able to obtain work schedules showing the hours worked at the Halifax post office and

he writes in the September 1967 edition of *B.N.A. Topics* (pp. 225-226) that three shifts worked around the clock. This same article also tells us that the group of workers on each of the three shifts was on duty every third Sunday. What Doull was unable to determine was how the four time marks fit into this complex work schedule. Nor was he able to determine what time the Sunday shift began or what time it ended.

Based on the percentages of the four time marks in his possession, Doull made an educated guess that the morning shift used time mark 1, the afternoon shift used time mark 2, and the evening shift used time marks 3 and 4. It turns out that Doull's deductions were wrong.

It was left to John Eldridge, with the cooperation of a one-time Halifax Superintendent of Mails, to unravel the complex time mark uses. Doull's error, it turns out, was in thinking that the work schedule began at 9:00 a.m. with the four time marks following a not illogical 1, 2, 3, 4 sequence.



Because there was no work shift scheduled from Sunday midnight until 6:00 a.m. Monday morning the August 9, 1897, time mark 4 slug may have been inadvertently left in the hammer from a previous midnight to 6:00 a.m. shift.

The Eldridge exhibit shows that time mark 4 actually covered the midnight shift that ran until 6:00 a.m. Tuesday to Saturday. Equally important, the exhibit successfully explains the reason for the smaller number of time marks 4 in use. Because the shift using time mark 4 only worked five days a week, Tuesday to Saturday (see Table 1), it is logical that fewer pieces of mail were processed than in shifts working seven days a week.

Only time mark 3 was used on all seven days and time marks other than 3 found on a Sunday date must, therefore, be a date or time mark error. A time mark 4 on a Monday date would likely be a time mark error.

However, date and time mark errors do exist, including the omission of time marks, and it is these abnormalities that add spice to an exciting collecting sideline: the squared circle time marks of Halifax. ✉

Halifax Squared Circle Time Marks				
Time Mark	**Time**	**Sunday**	**Monday**	**Tuesday- Saturday**
4	12-6am			X
1	6am-1pm		X	X
2	1pm-6pm		X	X
3	6pm-12	X	X	X

Table 1. Courtesy: John Eldridge Exhibit



A "blank" time mark may be due to a lack of the required time mark slug or an oversight by the postal clerk responsible for updating the hammer for each work shift.

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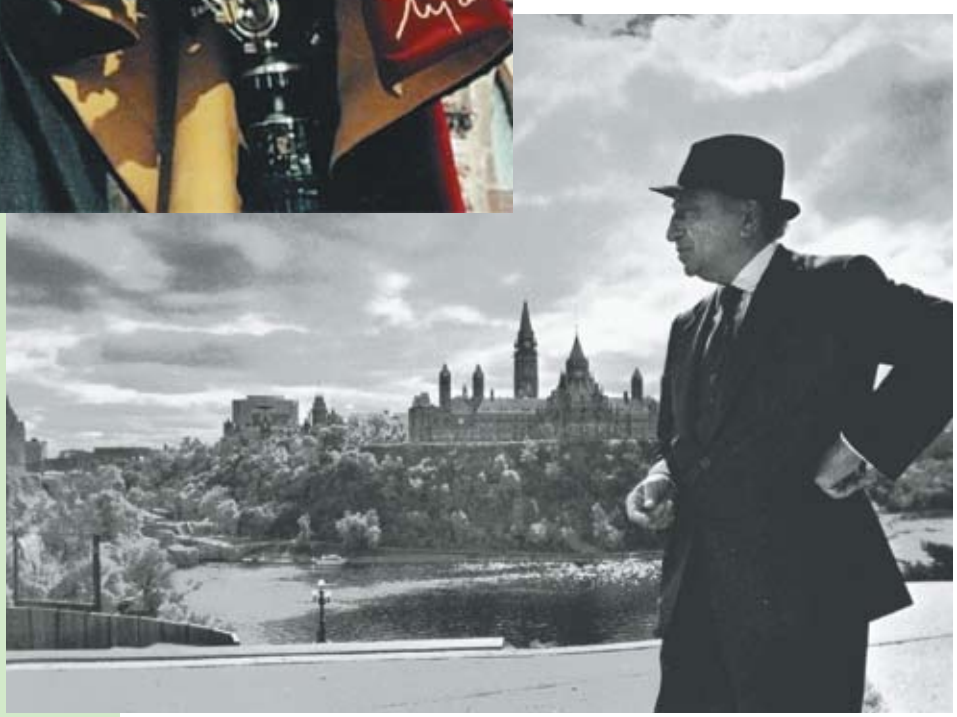
The KARSH BROTHERS, Photo



Malak Karsh

The Karsh brothers, Yousuf and Malak, were both prominent Ottawa photographers during the second half of the last century. Their work has been featured on several stamps, Canadian and other countries. Both were born in Mardin, Armenia-in-Turkey, the older Yousuf in 1908 and Malak in 1915, and both immigrated to Canada.

Yousuf came to Canada in 1924, where he lived with his uncle, photographer George Nakash, in Sherbrooke, Québec. His uncle, realizing his potential as a photogra-



Yousuf Karsh

ographers

by Michael Peach



Set of three stamps issued to commemomrate the centenary of Yousuf Karsh.

pher, arranged for him to apprentice with portrait photographer John Garo in Boston. After returning to Canada in 1932 he opened his studio in the Château Laurier, Ottawa. He was discovered by Prime Minister MacKenzie King, who introduced him to various visiting dignitaries. His 1941 portrait of Winston Churchill, taken in Ottawa, brought the photographer international fame when it was used on the cover of *Life* magazine in December 1941.

The centenary of Karsh's birth was honoured by Canada Post with the issue of three stamps on May 21, 2008. The stamps show Karsh at work (52¢), Karsh's portrait of Audrey Hepburn (96¢), and the famous Churchill portrait ($1.60), that was also shown on the 8¢ 1965 stamp marking his death. A larger selection of his portraits in miniature and the three stamps appear on the souvenir sheet. One of his 1951 portraits of Princess Elizabeth, before she became Queen, was the basis for the 1953 low value definitive series, 1 – 5¢, stamps, as well as the stamps on some postal stationery envelopes and postcards. Another 1951 portrait of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh was used for the 1953 Coronation stamp and the 1957 Royal Visit stamp. A Karsh portrait was on the domestic rate definitive stamp with the Queen's portrait during the years 1988 (37¢) to 2001 (47¢). In the millennium series the work of Karsh is featured on the Portia White (December 1999) and the Father Moses Michael Coady (January 2000) stamps, both native Nova Scotians. Further Karsh portraits were shown on several other stamps: the 1951 William Lyon Mackenzie King 4¢, the 1967 Georges Vanier, the 1969 Stephen Leacock, the 1994 Jeanne Sauvé, and the 2003 Morley Callaghan stamps.



A selection of stamps featuring photographs by Yousuf Karsh.

His last portraits were taken of Nelson Mandella and William Clinton. The Karsh Photographic Studio closed in 1992 and in 1997 Karsh left Ottawa, along with wife Estrellita, a medical researcher, for Boston, where he died in 2002.

Malak Karsh immigrated to Canada in 1937, and apprenticed with his brother. Malak specialised in industrial photography and pictorial journalism. He was best known for capturing the beauty of springtime in Ottawa through his photographs.

In 1941 he opened a studio on Sparks Street in Ottawa. He married his assistant, Barbara Holmes, and the couple had four children. To distinguish him from his brother, he used Malak as his professional name. In 1952 he was instrumental in founding the Ottawa tulip festival.

Some of his photographs have been used on Canadian stamps. Several of these were taken in the Ottawa area. Four of the 1973 "Keep Fit" Winter Sports stamps, skiing, skating and snow shoeing, and the 1977 Parliamentary Conference stamp were based on Malak photographs. In the 2001 tourist attraction series, the $1.05 stamp showing the Tulip Festival was appropriately a Malak photograph. In the 2002 Tulip stamps, two of the stamps, Ottawa, with Ottawa's Parliament Buildings in the background, and Monte Carlo, were derived from photographs by Malak. The 2001 Christmas stamps showed Christmas lights and nostalgic winter scenes depicted by Malak. The work of several photographers, including Malak for the 60¢ stamp "Skating the in Suburbs", provided images from which various elements and details were selected, scanned, and digitally re-com-

Yousuf Karsh's work has appeared on the stamps of many countries. The Churchill portrait has been used extensively. In 2005 Sweden issued a domestic rate stamp with a Karsh portrait of Dag Hammarskjöld, Nobel Laureate and former UN Secretary General, to honour the centenary of his birth. Karsh portraits of the Queen were used in 2002 on stamps marking the 50th anniversary of her accession to the throne. A 1984 portrait of the Queen is shown on the 45p British stamp and an early portrait of the Queen on the 45¢ Australian stamp.





Street signs in Ottawa honouring the two brothers.

bined. The 65¢ stamp in the 2003 tourist attraction series has a Malak photograph of Gatineau Park in the Ottawa area.





1974 $1 bill featuring the photographs of Malak (back - floating logs on the Ottawa River) and Yousuf (front - portrait of the Queen).

The last Canadian one dollar bill was released in 1974, as part of the "Scenes of Canada" series. It was a Karsh family effort. Malak's 1963 photograph of floating logs on the Ottawa River, called "Paper and Politics," was put on the back and Yousuf's portrait of the Queen appeared on the front. The bill was replaced by the one dollar coin, the Loonie, in 1987.

The Karsh brothers were honoured in 2003 by the City of Ottawa by the establishment of a commemorative award to recognize their lifelong excellence in photography and contributions to the City's cultural history. The award of $5,000 is given bi-annually to an Ottawa area artist with a strong commitment to photo-based medium. In 2000 Malak received the key to the City of Ottawa, and a street named Malak Street. In the same area there is a street named Karsh Drive, after Yousuf.

In 1967 Yousuf was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada, and promoted to Companion in 1990, and Malak was appointed an Officer in 1996.

Much more can be found out about Yousuf and Malak Karsh, either in books by them or books about them or on the web. ✉

Acknowledgement: the photograph of Malak Karsh is by courtesy of Mrs. Barbara Karsh.



A selection of stamps featuring photographs by Malak Karsh.

Stamps Celebrate the

Chinese New Year Series

By Joseph Monteiro

I. Introduction

For a dozen years, Canada Post has issued stamps to celebrate the Chinese New Year. It produced stamps with extraordinary designs. The designs are so compelling and eye-catching that Canada Post has won a number of awards of excellence for stamp design. The major print errors on these stamps have not elevated the status of Canada Post Corporation for its artistic and imaginative stamps but they have brought a fortune to some collectors who uncovered these major errors.

We will review some of these errors in this article, which incidentally set off a spark with my purchase of one of them. I purchase these print errors because I like them and also because I am fascinated by their design.

This article begins with the discovery of a major error in 1997 with the missing gold on the Year of the Ox stamp, the first stamp in the Sign of the Zodiac series and ends with the Year of the Pig stamp.

According to popular Chinese legend, the pig is the final animal of the 12-year lunar cycle. Canada Post literature describes the selection of the pig as one of the animals in the zodiac as follows: "The sun had already set as the last of the animals crossed the river. The Jade Emperor held his lantern above the pig's head and sighed in resignation as the pig explained 'I was hungry and stopped to eat. After the meal, I was so tired that I had to take a nap'. Apparently the Emperor had decided to name each lunar year according to the name of the animal that finished the race across the river and each animal responded to this challenge and the pig finished the race last.

According to another Chinese legend, Buddha summoned all the animals to meet him before he departed from the Earth but only 12 came to bid him farewell. Consequently, each year of the Chinese calendar is ruled by one of these 12 animals. Incidentally, Canada Post issued the end of the lunar year series with stamps for the Year of the Rat which actually starts off the 12-year cycle.

II. The Major Errors of the Lunar Series (1997-2008)

Year of the Ox Stamp
(Scott No. 1630b/Darnell No.1752d):



45¢ Year of the Ox

The 45¢ Year of the Ox commemorative stamp was issued on January 7, 1997 to celebrate the contribution of Chinese-Canadians to Canada, since their arrival as immigrants in 1858. The 45¢ Year of the Ox stamp was issued in three formats: panes of 25, souvenir sheets of two stamps, and uncut press sheets containing 12 souvenir sheets. The first two were issued on January 7, 1997 and the third on February 7, 1997. The design of the stamp depicts the work of Ivy Li with calligraphy by Liu Xiang-Ping. The stamps were printed by Ashton-Potter using six-colour lithography, on PVA gummed paper manufactured by Peterborough Paper. The stamps are tagged on four sides and have a perforation of 13+. The size of the stamp is 27.5mm x 40mm (vertical). The total quantity printed was 12 million stamps, two million souvenir sheets and 15,000 uncut press sheets.



45¢ Year of the Ox Error

This error can be described as the missing gold inscription on the stamps. In other words, the inscription at the bottom of the stamp shows the gold missing for the name of the country and the value of the stamp, 'Canada 45'. In addition, the gold inscription in the red diamond shown at the right top of the Ox's horn is missing. The gold inscription missing is the Chinese character 'fu', which is depicted in the stamp in Chinese but not in English.

The missing error stamps that have been reported were found in the souvenir sheet and not in the stamps printed in sheet format. The discovery of the error was published in May 1997 by John Jamieson in *Scott's Stamp Monthly*. It was reported that: "Shortly after it was released I [John Jamieson] received a call from an individual in British Columbia who had discovered an error pair of these stamps in the stocks of their local post office. The stamps were completely missing their gold colour. ... The error pair came from one of the Year of the Ox souvenir sheets of two stamps. Unfortunately, the discovery was not made until the lucky individual had stripped off the margin of the souvenir sheet in preparation for putting the two stamps on envelopes."

So far only one souvenir sheet with the missing inscription has been reported. However, since the souvenir sheets were printed in the format of 12 per pane, one would expect that another eleven would have been printed with this error.

Year of the Rabbit Stamp (Scott No. 1767a):


46¢ Year of the Rabbit

To celebrate the Year of the Rabbit, Canada Post issued two stamps on January 8, 1999, a 46¢ stamp and a 95¢ stamp. The latter was part of a souvenir sheet. The rabbit symbolizes longevity, its white coat peacefulness and cleanliness. In addition, it is said to be temperate, unhurried and congenial. The design of the rabbit on the stamp is a brush stroke, reflecting traditional Chinese folk art design. The stamps were printed in sheet format of 25 to a pane and the souvenir sheet was printed in a format of 12 souvenir sheets per uncut press sheet. The stamps were printed by Ashton Potter using the lithographic process in seven colours and designed by Ken Koo and Ken Fung. The size of the 46¢ stamp is 35.13mm x 34.22mm and it is tagged on four sides. The stamps were printed on Tullis Russell Coating paper and the adhesive used on the paper is PVA gum. It is worthwhile noting that the shape of the souvenir sheet is that of a circle. The stamp is multicoloured with mauve, orange, red black and gold being visually prominent.

To date three errors have appeared on these two stamps: one on the 46¢ stamp and two on the 95¢ stamp. The first error appears on the 46¢ stamp. The second error appears on a Souvenir Sheet without


46¢ Year of the Rabbit Error

the 'China '99 Logo and the third error appears on a Souvenir Sheet with the 'China '99 Logo. All three errors have appeared with the red colour and tagging missing. The missing colour gives the stamp a yellow colour. The 46¢ stamp in Eastern Auctions catalogue was described as: "#1767i, 1999 46¢ Year of the Rabbit Upper left plate inscription block of four, missing red and untagged error. Catalogue value is for singles only; unpriced as a plate block, very scarce, VF NH 2005 Greene Foundation cert. 5000.00+."

The second and third errors were described by Saskatoon Stamp Centre as: "1768(iv) MC 95¢ Year of the Rabbit Souvenir Sheet with "CHINA '99" LOGO at top Missing Red Colour & Untagged resulting in Yellow background instead of Orange & bottom panel Mauve instead of Carmine. Only three recorded with "China '99" logo. VF NH C$ Unlisted (colour photo pg. 54)... C$2,950.00. (Also VF NH Souvenir Sheet without "CHINA '99" Logo @ $1,250)."

Information on the quantities found is not known other than that stated in the above quotes. However, it should be remembered that 25 stamps are printed per pane and twelve souvenir sheets are printed per sheet.

One would, therefore, expect the number of errors to equal these numbers at a minimum or some multiple of them.

Year of the Snake Stamp (Scott No. 1883a):

The 47¢ Year of the Snake commemorative stamp issued on January 5, 2001 The 47-cent Year of the Snake commemorative stamp was issued on January 5, 2001 together with a souvenir sheet with a $1.05 stamp. with a souvenir sheet with a $1.05 stamp. The stamps were printed in sheet format of 25 to a pane and the souvenir sheet was printed in a format of 12 souvenir sheets per uncut press sheet. This entire series was printed by Ashton Potter using the lithographic process and designed by Marlene Wou. The size of the 47¢ stamp is 48mm x 30mm (horizontal) and it is tagged on four sides. The stamps were printed on Tullis Russell Coating paper and the adhesive used on the paper is PVA gum. It is worthwhile noting that the shape of the stamps is not rectangular but is curved outward at the



95¢ Year of the Rabbit Error



95¢ Year of the Rabbit Error with China Logo

top and curved inward at the bottom. The stamp is printed in dark green and gold, colours that are associated with wealth and good luck in Chinese culture.

This major error can be described as the stamp with the missing gold print. The Chinese symbol in gold beneath the tail of the stamp is missing. The missing gold is very prominent on the pane of stamps, as the gold borders are missing together with the Chinese symbol and the English words 'YEAR OF THE SNAKE' and the French words 'ANNÉE DU SERPENT'. This major error was found in Western Canada. According to stamp dealer Gary Lyon, "About two weeks ago we were contacted concerning a totally new find. The Year of the Snake commemorative had been found missing the gold colour! Two sheets of 25 were discovered in Western Canada."

I believe that these stamps were found in British Columbia as a few used stamps with this error were found cancelled at White Rock, B.C. with a March 24 square cancellation. Close examination reveals absolutely no trace of the gold colour. The inscription blocks are especially nice as the gold colour control dot is, of course, missing as well. Like most modern missing colours, these stamps are also untagged. The reason is that the tagging bars are normally applied at the end of the printing process. To date only 50 stamps exist as this commemorative was printed in a small format sheet of 25. How many will eventually be found will depend on the number of panes of 25 printed per sheet and the number of sheets printed with the gold missing. If the number of panes printed are the same as the number of panes printed on the bird sheets, as many as six panes of 25 could exist or multiples thereof.

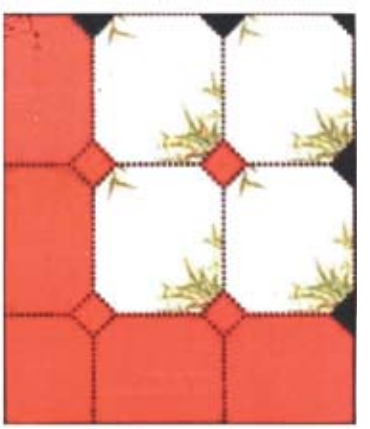
Year of the Horse Stamp (Scott No. 1934a):

To celebrate the Year of the Horse, Canada Post issued two stamps on January 3, 2002. The denominations of the two stamps were 48¢ and $1.25. The first was issued in a pane of 25 stamps and the second was issued in a souvenir sheet of one stamp. It is believed that the first was printed in panes of six to a sheet and the second in souvenir sheets of 12 per sheet. Both were printed by Ashton Potter on Tullis Russell coating paper using the lithographic process together with foil stamping and embossing in six or eight colours. The design on the stamp displays the artistic talent of Carey George of Up Inc., Toronto with illustration by Gary Alphonso and Dao-Yan Hu. The stamps are tagged on all four sides and the adhesive used is PVA gum. The size of both stamps are 33mm x 37.5mm (vertical) and the size of the souvenir sheet is 600m x 581mm. The stamps are perforated with a 13+ perforating gauge. The basic design on the stamp is a horse displaying signs of vitality and vigour in shiny red metallic colour. Above it, on the right top is the name of the country 'CANADA' and below it is the denomination. At the bottom, beginning on the left is the inscription 'Year of the Horse' followed by the French equivalent 'Année du Cheval'. Above the inscription are Chinese words at the left. At the left top on the 48¢ is a design of the leaves of the bamboo tree, a symbol for longevity, virtue and constancy. At the left top on the $1.25 stamp is a design of a branch of the peach blossom tree which flowers in February.



$1.25 Year of the Horse

To date, several errors have appeared on these two stamps. The 48¢ stamp will be classified into three groups as follows: First, there is the missing red on the 48¢ horse stamp which gives it the appearance of silver rather than red. Included in this group are stamps with only part of the red missing. La Timbrathèque Enr., describes this error as follows: "# 1933i XF-NH * Missing Horse Variety Error C$1499.99" I saw a complete pane of 16 of the stamps



48¢ Year of the Horse Error (Missing Horse)

with the red colour missing at ORAPEX 2008. The missing colour appeared very noticeable given the fact that the red colour predominates. Second, there is the missing horse on the stamp. In other words, the gold foil imprint of the horse on the stamp is missing. La Timbrathèque Enr. also offered for sale the above error with the inscription on the selvedge. It was described as follows: "#1934i XF-NHU R. Corner Missing Horse Variety Error C$7,499.99". Third, there is the missing horse on the stamp that is imperforate. It was described by La Timbrathèque Enr. as follows: "#1933i XF-NHU IMPERF Pair with Missing Horse Variety ERR C$2,999.99."



48¢ Year of the Horse Error (Missing Horse Imperforate)



$1.25 Year of the Horse Essay

The $1.25 stamp can be classified into two groups: First, there is the ink missing on the horse. Second, there is the proof or essay with grids. The first was described to me by La Timbrathèque Enr. as "Missing INK on Horse variety on the S/Sheet". The second showed up for sale first and was offered by Eastern Auctions Ltd.

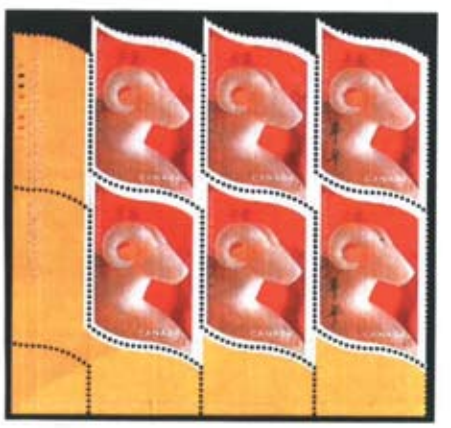
It was described as follows: 1208 * 1934 $1.25 Year of the Horse souvenir sheet, the sheet is imperforate and is printed with black lines over the design; it also shows differences of design with the issued sheet including the absence of the animal symbols at upper left, a rare item, VF NH. An identical sheet recently appeared in a U.S. auction with an estimate of $3,500.00 US ..... Photo Est. 1750."

Regarding the quantities of the missing errors reported to date, La Timbrathèque Enr. advised me in an e-mail that the following numbers are believed to exist: 75 of the missing horse variety, 50 of the missing ink variety, 15 of the missing ink on souvenir sheet and 40 of the proof or essay.

Year of the Ram Stamp (Scott No. 1969a):

Some stamps on each pane of the 48¢ Year of the Ram commemorative stamp were discovered with the gold embossing missing. This stamp was issued on January 3, 2003. The stamp was printed in a sheet format of 25 stamps to a pane and the $1.25 souvenir sheet was printed in a format of 12 souvenir sheets per uncut press sheet. This set of stamps was printed by Lowe Martin using the lithographic process in nine colours and designed by Rosina Li, Three Degrees Creative. The size of the 48¢ stamp is 33mm x 57mm (vertical) and it is tagged on four sides. The stamps were printed on Tullis Russell Coating paper and the adhesive used on the paper is PVA gum. It is worthwhile noting that the shape of the stamps is not of a rectangle but is curved on the horizontal sides.





48¢ Year of the Ram Error (first and second columns)

This stamp depicts an ivory sculpture of a ram in a very simple form against a plain orange-red background. Below the horns of the ram is the Chinese symbol for ram in gold. The gold symbol was discovered missing on some stamps. This error was brought to the attention of philatelists by Saskatoon Stamp Centre through a pamphlet inserted in the mailing of their Catalogue #230 and later by Eastern Auctions Ltd. (June 24, 2006). The pamphlet described this error as coming "from a small number of sheets, found on Vancouver Island British Columbia. Missing gold on left two columns due to a shift in gold foil sheet as it was applied." The gold impression is also missing on the left selvedge of the pane.



48¢ Year of the Ram Error (first and second columns)

In a later discovery by Eastern Auctions Ltd., it was reported that this error also occurred on stamps in the first column of the pane. The gold impression is also missing on the left selvedge of the pane. There are thus two places on the sheet where this error is found: 1) the first column in the pane; and 2) the first two columns in the pane. Little is known as to how many such errors were found. Eastern Auctions Ltd. reports that only six sheets of the first column error are known, or 30 stamps (six sheets x one column of five stamps). Nothing is known about the second of these errors but one can expect six sheets or multiples (six sheets x two column of five stamps) to exist. Thus, if only the first or the first two columns in the sheet contain the missing gold foil, it is believed that fewer errors than that reported for the snake error are likely to exist. A pamphlet offering this error for sale indicates that the price is $395 for a mint single or $795 for a margin strip of three with the two left stamps missing the gold and the right stamp with the correct gold inscription.

Year of the Rooster Stamp (Scott No. 2083a)

The 50-cent Year of the Rooster Commemorative stamp was also found with the gold missing. I learned of this error during my visit to ORAPEX 2005. This error with the colour missing is quite impressive. The 50-cent Year of the Rooster stamp was issued on January 7, 2005. This stamp was designed by Hélène L'Heureux of Gottschalk+Ash International (Montreal) and printed by Canadian Bank Note. The design on the stamp shows the rooster looking east to the rising sun. It was created following the style of the Chinese ink painting in brushstrokes on the computer. The panes of 25 stamps were printed in an unusual format (five stamps in the first and last columns, six stamps in the second and second-last columns and three stamps in the middle column). They were printed using lithography in six colours plus two foil stampings, embossing and tagging on Tullis Russell Coatings paper with PVA gum used as the adhesive. The size of each stamp is 36mm x 36mm and the sheet of stamps was perforated with a 13-plus perforating gauge.

This error had all the red colour missing, giving it quite a distinctive appearance which is difficult to miss. The effect is quite stunning. The Chinese symbol, the head and beak of the rooster and a few of the feathers of the tail all in red are missing. One or more panes were found. I saw a copy of a pane with this error in the booth of Ian Kimmerly at ORAPEX and subsequently he was kind enough to allow me to borrow a coloured photograph of this error. It is not known where this error was discovered. I spoke to Mr. Kimmerly but he indicated that he himself was looking for this error and did not have any for sale.

Year of the Pig Stamp (Scott No. 2083a)

This eye-catching stamp is missing the gold embossing 'Chinese Cloisionné' from the flowers that adorn lovely Miss Piggie. This error was first brought to my attention by a Montreal dealer and later by several other dealers. The 52-cent stamp was issued on January 5, 2007. It was designed by John Belisle, Kosta Tsetskas and printed by Lowe-Martin. The design shows the shadowed feature of the Jade Emperor in the background together with the river. The main design shows the pig and reflects the design of cloisonné, a unique art form that is thought to have originated during the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368). This enameling technique integrates gold and bronze metal strips and is an extremely popular technique used in porcelain beads and vases. The panes of 25 stamps were printed in the usual format (five rows and five columns). The stamps were printed using lithography in eight colours plus two foil stampings and embossing. The stamps were tagged on all four sides and the paper on which they were printed is Tullis Russell Coatings. The size of each stamp is 48mm x 26mm and the sheet of stamps was perforated with a 13-plus perforating gauge.

This error had all the gold and/or silver colour missing that appeared in the design of the pig. Its absence is quite striking and removed those aspects of the stamps which made it very attractive. The gold markings also do not appear in the selvedge of

the pane. There are two varieties of this error: one with both the gold and silver or holographic colour missing; the other with the gold missing but the silver or holographic colour is intact on the stamp. It is best described in the Sparks Auction catalogue as follows: "... 201i 2007 52¢ Year of the Pig Major Error upper right corner block of four, left stamps missing gold colour and holographic colour and right stamps missing gold only (holographic colour is present), very fine and never hinged. Nice positional block which indicates two of the 'single missing colour' errors which were only present in the last row of some of the error sheets. Normal block included for comparison. .... Est $1.000."

Saskatoon Stamp Centre indicated that at the end of January 2007 they purchased two panes of 25 stamps but several weeks later many more panes surfaced and had fallen into the possession of two coin dealers in the Ottawa area. In July-August 2007, *Corgi Times* reported that Alliance Coin & Banknote of Almonte, ON placed an advertisement in *Canadian Stamp News* that an entire pane could be purchased from them for $1,495.00. As a result, the price of this error has fallen considerably from the $995 initially offered for sale.

A stamp dealer informed me that 40 panes of this error were found. *Corgi Times* also reports that fakes of this error have turned up on eBay and some were offered for sale at the philatelic show in Quebec City in 2008. The tagging on these fakes is missing and the gum is fake. First Day covers with this error also exist with the postmark on which the Chinese actually celebrated the New Year and not when the stamp was officially released.

III. Cause of These Major Errors

An analytic approach to the study of stamps emphasizes the cause of these errors, which removes some of the guess work behind making a "guesstimate" on the number of such errors that are likely to exist.

Unfortunately, the cause is never known with total precision so one often needs to make an informed guess as to how these print errors occurred.

The reason given for the Year of the Ox error was due to the multi-printing process used in the production of the stamp. The uncut large pane containing the 12 souvenir sheets was first printed without the gold inscription. Later the sheets were sent through the printing press again for the gold inscriptions. During this process, one sheet stuck to another and as a result the bottom pane did not receive the inscription in gold or the printer ran out of ink.

The cause of the rabbit error appears because the stamp did not receive the impression of the red colour and the tagging plate or because there was no ink and taggant in the printing machine to create the red colour and tagging. I prefer to believe the first explanation because the probability of both the colour and taggant running short at the same time is very, very small. One rarely finds two errors on the same stamp.

The cause of the Snake error is not known. One sheet of stamps may not have been sent through the printing press to receive the impression of the plate with the gold ink and the tagging. Or, one sheet may have got stuck to another when the gold inscription was being printed. It is impossible to tell which of these possible explanations is correct unless one examines the actual errors or possesses additional facts.

There are two causes for the Horse errors. The stamps with the missing colour on the 48-cent

Unfortunately, the cause is never known with total precision so one often needs to make an informed guess as to how these print errors occurred.

stamp and the $1.25 stamp exist because the printer ran out of the red colour. The impression of the horse appears on the stamp in silver colour. I understand that the stamp is tagged. The cause of the error without the impression of the horse is that the sheet was not sent to receive the impression of the plate with the horse.

Unlike the other Chinese new year errors where the symbol was missing on all the stamps in the pane, the Year of the Ram error had the symbol missing on only the first or the first two columns of stamps and the left-side selvedge. This suggests that the reason for the error is different. In the earlier errors, the error happened because the sheet of stamps did not receive the gold impression. In this case, the error was caused by the plate applying the gold foil impression not being made at the end of the pane.

The cause of the Year of the Rooster error, like that of the Snake error, is not known. Either of the following explanations is plausible: First, one sheet of stamps got stuck to another when the red ink was applied, or a sheet was taken for inspection before the red ink was applied; but after the other colour and design was printed and not sent through the printer again. Second, the printer ran short of the red ink while the printing was being done. The printing being done in more than one pass through the first explanation seems more plausible. If one believes that the sheets were printed with all colours simultaneously, then the second explanation seems more plausible. If panes appear with only part of the red ink on the panes, there is no doubt that the second explanation holds. In this case, as indicated, the printer ran short of the red ink or the computer controlling the red ink was turned off before all the sheets were printed, leaving traces of the red ink on part of the pane.

The Year of the Pig error appears to be caused by a lack of ink in the printing machine to receive the gold or silver embossed 'Chinese Cloisonné.' In an earlier article I stated that it was because the stamps were not sent to receive the impression of the gold embossing. This appears to be incorrect as, after examining the error, I confirmed that the impression of the plate where the gold should be appears on the error which is not visible from an illustration of the stamp. The errors are tagged and the gum does not appear to be disturbed.

Price depends on the number of errors printed and in particular on the number found. One can never be certain of the latter so one often has to use a proxy, the number of errors likely to have been printed.

Despite some idea about the cause of these errors, it is typically difficult to indicate precisely how many of these errors were printed and how many were found. It is easier to make an educated guess on how many were printed. This is because all stamps printed with errors are not necessarily distributed. Some may have been spotted by the inspectors at the printing press and destroyed. In the case of the Year of the Ox stamp, one would suspect that perhaps one large pane of 12 souvenir sheets of the error was printed. In the case of the other lunar year errors, the snake, the rooster and the pig, a sheet containing six panes (i.e., 6 x 25 stamps) or more could have been printed with the error. In the case of the Year of the Pig stamp, a number of sheets containing several panes were printed as 40 panes are known to exist and the prices of these errors are low compared to the other errors in this group. In the case of the Year of the Ram error, since only the first column in each pane or the first two columns in each pane contained the error, a pane produced five or ten error stamps from the first or second columns. Given that each sheet was printed in a format of six panes, one would have to multiply the above number by the stamps per column by six to estimate the number of errors per sheet that could have been printed (i.e., 5x6 +10x6 = 90).

It should be kept in mind that in the case where the cause of the error is not missing ink in the printer but a sheet not being sent to receive the impression of the second plate or sheets sticking together, the number of errors is likely to be the number of stamps printed per sheet; i.e., on all the panes in the sheet. If the cause of the error is missing ink, one cannot be certain that the entire sheet had the errors as the ink from the printer may have run out as the sheet was being printed; i.e., some panes in the sheet or some stamps in the pane may or may not have the ink. Keep in mind the 14¢ Cameo stamp with and without the missing ink across parts of the pane and sheet. Thus the number of errors depends on the format of the pane (the Ram error), the number of stamps in the pane (25 in each of these panes), the number of panes in the sheet (in these cases six panes per sheet), and the cause of the error.

IV. Conclusion

In collecting errors, in particular major errors, an analytic and educational approach is warranted, as one is interested in the number of errors that are likely to exist. Price depends on the number of errors printed and in particular on the number found. One can never be certain of the latter so one often has to use a proxy, being the number of errors likely to have been printed. It has been shown in the case of the above lunar year errors that this depends on the cause of the error, the pane format and the sheet format of panes printed.

Some of these errors are truly eye-catching, not only given the superb designs of these stamps but also because they are major errors. Since the Year of the Pig error design was so compelling and the price was not unreasonable, I actually bought it and I am now thrilled to be an owner of a major Canadian stamp error that is not only spectacular but has received a lot of publicity. ✉

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Source: The illustrations of these errors were taken from the publications cited in the Endnotes/Bibliography.

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Saint Lawrence Market Gallery Venue for Santa Letter-Writing Launch



By Tony Shaman

Grades 2 and 3 students eagerly awaited the arrival of Santa Claus at Toronto's historic St. Lawrence Market Gallery on Friday, November 14, 2008, to pick up their colourfully decorated letters and take them to his workshop at the North Pole. The youngsters, attending nearby Saint Michael's elementary school, were on hand to help Canada Post celebrate its 27th national Santa Letter-writing program launch.

Master of Ceremonies, Albert T. Lee, Manager Corporate Communications for Canada Post Corporation, welcomed the youngsters, their teachers, parents and invited guests. "When children think of Santa and the North Pole, they think of Canada and Santa's unique H0H 0H0 postal code," explained Lee. "Last year, Canada Post responded to more than 45,000 e-mails to Santa," he added. To date, Santa has received more than 16 million letters at his North Pole home since it took the program national in 1982, according to Canada Post.

The St. Lawrence Market neighbourhood, circumscribed by Yonge, Front, Parliament Streets and the CNR tracks to the south, was the city's downtown core during the late 1700s and for all of the 19th century. Toronto's first city hall was located here and the second floor market gallery, where the letter launch ceremonies took place, was its one-time council chamber. In fact, the mayor's imposing ceremonial chair is still on display in the room. With its straight, wooden back, wood armrests and seat with little or no upholstery, a most uncomfortable appearing creation, Canada Post event organizers thoughtfully arranged for Santa to have his traditional, thickly upholstered, comfortable red dais available.

To receive a reply from Santa, letters must be addressed to Santa Claus, North Pole, H0H 0H0 and have a readable return address. Santa is good but even he needs a return address, he informed the children. ✉



LEFT: We can only wonder what elicited the obvious surprise in Santa's eyes and the impish smile on the face of Master of Ceremonies, Albert T. Lee, Manager Corporate Communications, Canada Post Corporation. Hamming it up for the camera?



RIGHT: Youngsters from nearby St. Michael elementary school are putting the finishing touches on their letters to Santa (except for a couple who spied the photographer and were determined to smile for the camera) while they wait to greet jolly, old St. Nick.



LEFT: Standing behind Santa are several Canada Post elves who make sure that children writing to him receive timely replies. At Santa's right is Captain Jen Faubert, who spent a number of years as a NORAD tracker. Part of her duties was keeping an eye on Santa's progress as he made his way south from the North Pole on Christmas Eve.



RIGHT: The Grades 2 and 3 students are paying close attention to Santa as he instructs them on the proper way of addressing their letters to Santa. "Don't forget to add your return address," he emphasized.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Santa arrives in a Canada Post Christmas-theme decorated step van for the Corporation's 27th annual Santa Letter-Writing Program launch at Toronto's St. Lawrence Market on Front Street.

Transcribing Sounds

by Michael Madesker, RDP, FRPSC

Sign Language: Fingerspelling

Fingerspelling is a method by which signs representing letters of the alphabet are conveyed by touch. In most systems, a right-handed sender touches the left hand of the other person, the recipient, to form a letter.



George Dalgarno, 1626-1687, a Scottish philosopher, created a fingerspelling system described in his *Didascalocophus, The Deaf and Dumb Man's Tutor*, in which he divided the hand into areas with each designated area representing a letter that deaf-blind people could use to spell out words. This communication method was the basis by which Annie Sullivan taught Helen Keller, 1880-1968, to read and "speak."



The Malossi method is somewhat different. A stamp honouring Malossi's system was issued in 2004 to coincide with ROMAPHIL, the stamp exhibition celebrating the 40th anniversary of Lega Del Filo d'Oro, a deaf-blind organization.

Eugenio Malossi, 1883-1930, lost sight at the age of seven as a result of encephalitis. In 1895, ten-year-old Eugenio was enrolled in Principi de Napoli, later renamed Istituto Domenico Martuschelli, a school for the blind. A highly intelligent child, he absorbed all teaching eagerly and became proficient in such diverse subjects as wicker weaving and precision mechanics. Eugenio had also mastered enough French and English to be able to correspond with people like Helen Keller.

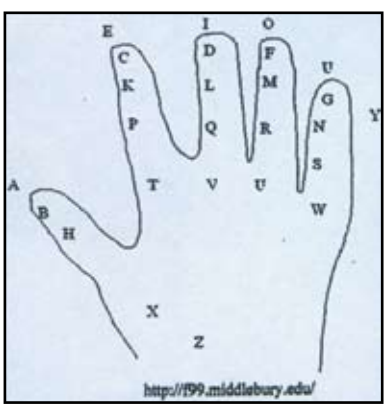
While at school, he was instructed by a very gifted teacher of the blind, Francesco Artusio, to actually pronounce words and speak in a conventional manner. This accomplishment was made possible by Artusio placing Eugenio's hand on the speaker's throat to feel the vibrations of the vocal chords on the mouth and teeth to feel their position thereby allowing him to touch the tongue for its movements and then having the pupil replicate the exercise. Eventually, Eugenio Malossi learned to convey messages verbally.

One of Eugenio Malossi's greatest achievements was a modification of the system of fingerspelling for deaf-blind individuals who were able to read and write before they had lost their sight and hearing as, for example, in Usher's syndrome. Usher's syndrome is a congenital condition, early childhood deafness between the ages of ten and 20, followed by the onset of retinitis pigmentosa, a degeneration of the retina, an eye component that transmits visual signals.

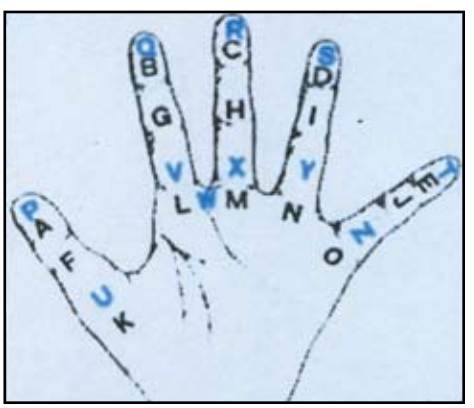
In his system, Malossi divided the hand into sections, not unlike Dalgarno, to be read with variable motions. Some letters, marked in black on the above diagram, were touched while others, shown in blue, were gently pinched. This eliminated possible errors occurring from a single motion. The stamp honouring this system shows the pinching motion of the letter "Y" reproduced and enlarged in the illustration next to the Malossi system diagram above.

Malossi was named "Cavaliere Della Corona del Regio di Italia" in 1923 and was designated a "Mechanic in 1928.

Courtesy: Enlarged stamp supplied by Dr. Gianncarlo Morolli is hereby gratefully acknowledged.



Delgarno system.



Malossi system.



Details of the Malossi system.

Varieties

by "Napoleon"

Belgium Olympics

In 1921 Belgium surcharged its 1920 Olympics stamps, and varieties appear in each surcharge. The image shows the location of the variety on each stamp.

On both the 20-centimes-on-5-centimes and 20-centimes-on-15-centimes, the variety is that the period after the left "20" is unusually low. Both stamps with the correct surcharge catalogue 0.75 Euro mint hinged (MH) and 0.2 Euros used. With the variety, both catalogue 5 Euros MH and 2.5 Euro used.

On the 20 centimes on 10 centimes, there is no period after the right "20." The place where the period should be is marked with a white circle on the image. The stamp with the correct surcharge catalogues 0.5 Euro MH and 0.2 Euro used. The variety is 5 Euros MH and 2.5 Euros used.

"Values:" dividing the variety value by the value of the ordinary stamp will create a multiple the reader can apply to prices from any other catalog. For example, if the ordinary stamp has a used price of 100 Euros, and the variety has a used price of 350 Euros, multiplying a *Scott*™ or *Unitrade*™ price for the used stamp by 3.5 will give an approximate value for the variety.

As usual with Belgian varieties, the basic stamps carry a low *Scott*™ catalogue value ($0.40-$0.60 mint hinged, $0.25 used), so the varieties are not expensive.



As usual, colour images are available to those who e-mail me with requests (napoleon@voyager.net).

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PRESIDENT'S page
la page du PRÉSIDENT

by / par Rick Penko

FULL SPEED AHEAD

There is a new air of excitement and progress in The RPSC. With the help and dedication of our new Management Team, much has been achieved in the past few months. The Team made two decisions early in its mandate: It decided on a process that it wanted to follow in the 12 months it was to be in operation and identified the resources it would need to carry that process through.

The Team acknowledged that its responsibilities went beyond recruitment and housekeeping. The organization itself needed to be examined, a plan established for what The RPSC was to be, and how it was to become better positioned to achieve its objectives.

The Team called on a Society member, Mr. David Jones, who is an authority on organizational development and governance to provide guidance through the identification of Society goals and purposes and the development of a strategic plan. It was felt that with those documents in place The RPSC would be in a position where it could then move on with a new president and vice-president(s) in place after our Annual General Meeting. This process has been underway since the summer.

The Team has dug into the foundations of The RPSC and discussed what it was and what it wanted it to be. From those deliberations, the Team crafted a RPSC mission and motto and a statement of purpose. With that heady work in place, they then took on goal definition – and perhaps the hardest task of all – planning for goal realization over what could be a five-year planning period. So far, because only volunteers and the Internet are involved (excepting several phone calls) the total costs of all this work and dedication has cost the Society zero dollars.

It has been identified that there is a measure of urgency here. The RSPC needs a membership growth plan and it needs new revenues. It also needs to change the way it serves its members, relates to chapters and works with partner organizations on such activities as the annual convention and exhibition. Every effort is being made to ensure a comprehensive strategy and plan for the next five years is presented at the next convention to be held in St. Catharines, Ontario, June 12-14, 2009.

This review and planning exercise is far from window dressing. If the general membership gets behind it, it will transform The RPSC completely. It will nail down

À TOUTE VITESSE

Un nouveau vent d'enthousiasme et de progrès souffle sur La SRPC. Grâce à l'aide et au dévouement de notre récente équipe de gestion, beaucoup de choses ont été accomplies au cours des derniers mois. Deux décisions importantes ont été prises dès le début de son mandat : elle a décidé d'un processus à suivre pendant les douze mois que durera sa fonction et a déterminé les ressources dont elle aura besoin pour mener ce processus à bien.

L'équipe s'est rendu compte que ses responsabilités dépassaient le recrutement et les affaires courantes. L'organisation elle-même devait faire l'objet d'un examen. Un plan devait être élaboré quant à ce que deviendrait La SRPC et quant à la meilleure façon de se positionner pour qu'elle atteigne ses objectifs.

L'équipe a donc fait appel à l'un des membres de la société, Monsieur David Jones, une autorité en matière de développement organisationnel et de gouvernance, afin d'obtenir des conseils pour définir les objectifs de la société ainsi que ses buts et pour élaborer un plan stratégique. Il a été estimé qu'une fois ces documents réalisés, La SRPC se trouvera dans une position qui lui permettra d'aller de l'avant avec un nouveau président et un nouveau vice-président après notre assemblée générale annuelle. Le processus est en marche depuis l'été dernier.

L'équipe a examiné en profondeur les fondements de La Société, discuté de ce qu'elle est et de ce qu'elle veut devenir. Comme suite à ces délibérations, une mission, une devise et une déclaration d'intention ont été définies. Une fois ce travail de réflexion accompli, l'équipe a entrepris de déterminer un but et – ce qui est peut-être la tâche la plus ardue – elle a élaboré un plan de réalisation de ce but sur une période pouvant durer cinq ans. À ce jour, puisque seuls des bénévoles et Internet ont été mis à contribution (sans compter quelques appels téléphoniques) le coût total de tout ce travail et de tout ce dévouement s'élève à zéro dollar pour la société.

Une mesure d'urgence devra être prise. En effet, La SRPC a besoin d'un plan d'accroissement du nombre de ses membres et a également besoin de nouveaux revenus. Elle doit aussi modifier la façon dont elle sert ses membres, est reliée aux clubs membres et travaille avec des organismes partenaires dans le cadre d'activités, comme l'exposition et le congrès annuels. Nous faisons tous les efforts voulus pour être capables de présenter une stratégie globale et un programme complet pour les cinq prochaines années, au congrès, qui aura lieu à St. Catharines en Ontario, du 12 au 14 juin 2009.

Ces exercices d'étude et de planification sont loin d'être de la poudre aux yeux. Si tous les membres de La SRPC les appuient, ils la transformeront radicalement. Des objectifs seront fixés ainsi que la façon de les atteindre, une orientation claire sera définie, la

objectives and how they are to be realized, sharpen focus, tighten up financial and membership management, set out plans for growth and development and push for a business approach to general management.

Although I am very much involved with my new career path, I am providing as much guidance and oversight as time allows.

One issue I have heard recently from some members is that The RPSC is financially broke, on the ropes and will be thrown into the ash can of history. Nothing can be further from the truth. Granted, when I assumed the Presidency, there were many pressing issues to deal with. Primarily, making sure our bills were paid and our membership was served. With the help of the executive, board and national office, we identified waste and trimmed our overhead costs to live within our means and still offer all the services to our members. Yes, we are still here and plan to be for many years to come.

My thanks to David, the Management Team and board contributors for the hard work and dedication that everyone has given in the past months to refocus The RPSC and breathe new life into this organization to help move it firmly into the 21st century. ✉

gestion des finances et des adhésions sera resserrée, des plans de croissance et de développement seront élaborés et une approche entrepreneuriale prévaudra en matière de gestion générale.

Bien que je sois très accaparé par ma nouvelle carrière, je fournis tous les conseils et exerce toute la surveillance que me permet le temps dont je dispose.

L'un des problèmes évoqués récemment par certains membres a trait au fait que la société serait ruinée, acculée au pied du mur et prête à être mise aux rebuts de l'histoire. Rien n'est plus loin de la vérité. J'ai effectivement constaté, au cours de mon mandat à la présidence, qu'il y a de nombreuses questions urgentes à résoudre. Premièrement, s'assurer que nos factures sont payées et que nos membres sont servis. Avec l'aide de la direction, du conseil d'administration et du bureau national, nous avons cerné les dépenses inutiles et réduit les frais généraux afin de vivre selon nos moyens, mais en continuant d'offrir tous les services à nos membres. Oui, nous sommes toujours debout et nous prévoyons être là pendant de nombreuses années.

Je remercie David, les membres de l'équipe de gestion et les collaborateurs du conseil pour leur dur travail et le dévouement dont tous ont fait preuve au cours des derniers mois afin de réorienter La SRPC, de lui donner un nouveau souffle et de la faire entrer résolument dans le XXIe siècle. ✉

MEMBERSHIP report
Des nouvelles de nos MEMBRES

CHANGE OF ADDRESS ? Changes can be made on-line at www.rpsc.org "Members Login" or by contacting the National Office.

VOUS CHANGEZ D'ADRESSE? Effectuez le changement en ligne à www.rpsc.org "Members Login" ou en prenant contact avec le Bureau national.

NEW MEMBERS / NOUVEAUX MEMBRES

The following applications were received and are herewith published in accordance with the Constitution. If no adverse reports are received within 30 days of publication, applicants will be accepted into full membership. Any objections should be sent to the National Office, P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2P1.

Les demandes d'adhésion ci-dessous ont été reçues et sont publiées en conformité avec la constitution. Si aucun commentaire n'est communiqué au Bureau national, (C.P. 929, Succursale Q, Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1) d'ici 30 jours, les adhérants seront acceptés comme membres.

(M) minor - activity guaranteed by parent or guardian / mineur - activités philatéliques garanties par un parent ou un tuteur.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS / MEMBRES À TITRE PERSONNEL

I-28926 • Mr. Mahmoud Mohensi
United Nations

I-28927 • Mr. Michael Galinski
British Guiana, Worldwide forgeries

I-28928 • Mr. Lawrence Farlow
Classic Canada and provinces, USA Classic, Germany, British Empire Classic

I-28929 • Mr. Ron Reynolds
Canadian stamps

I-28930 • Mr. N. James Corey

I-28931 • Mrs. Madlyn Phillips
Canada

I-28933 • Mr. Ivan Robichaud

I-28934 • Mr. Douglas Cooper

I-28935 • Mr. Egon Roth

I-28936 • Mrs. Janet Osborne
Canadian, Commonwealth, Christmas

I-28937 • Mr. Mattia Guida
Italy, Spain, Postal History

RESIGNED MEMBERS / MEMBRES DÉMISSIONNAIRES

I-15380 • Mr. James Earle Hawley, Sr.
I-20561 • Mr. Donald G. Hamilton
I-22085 • Mr. Martin Richter
I-26647 • Mr. Elmer Cleary
I-26685 • Mr. John C. Bradley
I-27533 • Mr. C.J. Deckert
I-28403 • Ms. Ginette Labbé
I-28343 • Mr. Claude Laroche
I-28727 • Mr. Larry Folbar

DECEASED MEMBERS / MEMBRES DÉCÉDÉS

I-24753 • Mr. Roy F. Cruice
I-27492 • Mr. William D. Quail

ADVERTISING DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF *THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST* IS JANUARY 6, 2009.
For further information contact Ernie Nyitrai, (905) 477-1511, enyitr618@rogers.com

LA DATE LIMITE POUR SOUMETTRE VOTRE PUBLICITÉ POUR *LE PHILATÉLISTE CANADIEN* EST LE 6 JANVIER, 2009.
Pour plus amples renseignements, SVP contacter Ernie Nyitrai, (905) 477-1511, enyitr618@rogers.com



Chapter CHATTER
PARLONS des chapitres

by / par George Pepall, FRPSC

In my last column I offered each member chapter a chance to be profiled in this journal, with a club photo, show and meeting facts, and a bit about your leaders. This offer still stands: first come, first served!

Does your club have a website? Yes, I know it can be costly, and it does require some effort to keep it current, but clubs who have them report amazing amounts of web traffic and a small but steady stream of new faces and contacts who show up at meetings, or email or phone with inquiries about the hobby. If your club would like to have a basic website, you can have one at no cost by linking with the RPSC website through our webmaster, Robin Harris. Check the RPSC website at www.rpsc.org and contact webmaster Robin Harris at webmaster@rpsc.org for details.

Plans are being put together for The RPSC newsletter contest. The contest will have three overall purposes: to encourage the editor to find fresh, interesting and relevant information about our hobby for the club's members; to improve the quality and quantity of local philatelic writing; and, to allow clubs to cover club and executive business without using up precious meeting time. Although it was suggested that there be two divisions of newsletters according to size of membership, it seems fairer to offer two prizes: one for novice editors and newsletters, and one for established ones. Membership size is less of a factor than the commitment of the editor and his/her writers. Criteria and a judging ballot are being put together now. One factor is certain: there will be small formal awards, as well as cash prizes to be put back into publication costs. Our hope is, though, that the feedback to the editors will be the greatest value of competing. Please make the effort to send me two issues of your chapter's 2008 newsletter so that you can be included in the contest. And if your chapter doesn't have a newsletter? Consider starting one!

It's an automatic tradition in clubs that if they hold a judged exhibition, it is done annually. But no one said that a display of exhibits has to be annual. If your club has had trouble sustaining an annual exhibition, why not run it biannually? Or run a different type of exhibition each year, according to what your members have to offer? One year it could be single page or single frame exhibits, another it could be topicals, or novice exhibits only, or BNA. What I'm suggesting is that what others do, or what you have done in the past, need not limit how you run your show now.

Speaking of new ways to do things, I have noticed that a growing number of clubs have gone to having several

Dans ma dernière chronique, j'offrais à chaque club membre la chance de se présenter dans notre magazine avec une photo, des renseignements sur ses expositions, ses réunions et sur ses directeurs. L'offre tient toujours : premier arrivé, premier servi!

Votre club possède-t-il un site Web? Oui, je sais que maintenir un site Web à jour peut être coûteux et demande des efforts, mais d'après ceux qui en ont fait l'expérience, les visites sont nombreuses et, selon un flux réduit, mais constant, de nouveaux visages et de nouveaux contacts apparaissent aux réunions, envoient des courriels ou téléphonent pour poser des questions sur notre passe-temps. Si votre club souhaite créer un site Web de base, il peut le faire sans frais en établissant un lien celui de La SRPC. Il suffit d'en faire la demande à notre webmestre, Robin Harris. Allez voir le site Web de La SRPC à www.rpsc.org; et pour obtenir davantage de renseignements, prenez contact avec Robin Harris à l'adresse webmaster@rpsc.org.

Le concours de bulletins de La SRPC prend forme. Il aura trois objectifs généraux : encourager les rédacteurs en chef à trouver pour les membres de leur club de l'information nouvelle, intéressante et pertinente sur notre passe-temps; améliorer la qualité et augmenter la quantité d'écrits philatéliques locaux; permettre aux clubs de couvrir les affaires administratives et celles des clubs sans empiéter sur le temps précieux des réunions. Bien qu'il ait été suggéré d'établir deux catégories de bulletins selon le nombre de membres des clubs, il nous semble plus juste d'offrir deux prix : un pour les rédacteurs en chef novices et les nouveaux bulletins et un autre pour ceux qui sont bien en selle. Nous attachons moins d'importance au nombre de membres qu'à la volonté d'agir du rédacteur en chef et de ses auteurs. Nous préparons actuellement les critères et les bulletins de vote. Une chose est sûre : il y aura de petites récompenses officielles et des prix en argent qui pourront être réinvestis dans les coûts de publication. Nous espérons cependant que la chose la plus valable qu'un tel concours apportera aux rédacteurs en chef soit les échos qu'ils en recevront. S'il vous plaît, faites l'effort de m'envoyer deux exemplaires du bulletin 2008 de votre club afin de pouvoir participer au concours. Que faire si vous n'avez pas de bulletin? Pensez à en lancer un!

Dans les clubs, la tradition veut que les expositions avec jury aient lieu une fois l'an. Toutefois, personne ne prétend que les présentations de collections doivent obligatoirement se faire annuellement. S'il est difficile pour votre club de tenir une exposition annuelle, pourquoi ne pas organiser des expositions bisannuelles? Ou, que dire d'une formule différente chaque année, selon ce que les membres ont à offrir? Une année, il pourrait s'agir d'expositions d'une page ou d'un cadre, une autre année, de timbres tropicaux ou d'une exposition exclusivement pour les novices ou sur la philatélie en Amérique du Nord (BNA). Ce que je veux dire, c'est que vous n'avez pas à limiter votre projet à ce que les autres font ou à ce que vous avez fait par le passé.

members present a five minute talk about a favorite stamp item instead of a single speaker. Call it show-and-tell or bring-and-brag, or whatever makes it sound informal, spontaneous and fun! This approach to programming your meetings has several advantages: it lends variety to your member audience, removes the difficulty of finding one speaker who can interest everyone, and develops confidence and expertise in your members for the next time! It's not unlike the single page or single frame approach to developing exhibitors.

I am in the last stages of organizing and selling off an accumulation of stamps, covers and bulk Canadian postage for a colleague at work. Some of the material was sold at silent club auctions, some by personal inspection and selection, and some through a local stamp store. The seller will be happy with the roughly $400 cash realized and the newfound space, lots of collectors are enjoying good bargains, and our club will receive 10% of the take. It's win, win, win all round. (Is 10% the standard retainer at your club for auction services?)

The American Philatelic Society runs regular summer seminar sessions that teach the fundamentals of stamp collecting, as well as investigating more high-end philatelic topics. People come to the headquarters for five full days of learning, trading, buying and selling at auction and socializing. Can you imagine how The RPSC might be able to offer such a series? Of course our relatively limited population and enormous geography would work against the idea, but seminars could be held in different centres at different times. Let me know your thoughts. It never hurts to dream!

As I write this column just before Halloween I have been given the go-ahead to send out a press release to all RPSC chapters. This release contains exciting and promising news about the reexamination and clarification of The RPSC strategic plan and goals that the Management Group is conducting, and that will be presented at ROYAL*2009*ROYALE next June in St. Catharines. Unfortunately I have only a small number of email addresses for the clubs, and even some regular mail addresses are incomplete or questionable in the *TCP* listing. If you are in an executive position with your club, could you please check the entry for the contact to your chapter that is shown in *TCP*, and if an email contact is not present, please see if you can establish one, and send it to me and to the national office. It will save me much time and some costs, and increase the frequency with which I can contact you. Thank you!

One more thought. It would be wonderful to hear from you, either as an individual or as a club. You could respond to what I've said in a column, or you could raise a chapter-related idea or problem that I could address. My hope is that at least one member of every chapter in Canada is reading this column, but I have no way of knowing if I don't hear back from you. Thank you for what you are doing for Grass Roots stamping! ✉

À propos de nouvelle façon de faire les choses, j'ai remarqué que dans un nombre de plus en plus élevé de clubs, plusieurs membres donnent chacun une allocution d'environ cinq minutes sur l'un de leurs objets philatéliques favoris plutôt qu'un seul conférencier prenne la parole. Appelez cela expression libre et partage, commentaires sur une trouvaille, ou utilisez tout autre terme qui montre que l'exercice est non formaliste, spontané et amusant! Une telle façon de préparer le programme de vos réunions comporte plusieurs avantages : elle offre de la variété à votre auditoire, vous évite de chercher un conférencier qui intéressera tout le monde et procure de l'assurance et de l'expérience aux membres qui s'essaieront une prochaine fois! Cela n'est pas très différent de la méthode consistant à présenter une page ou un cadre pour ses premières expositions.

J'en suis aux dernières étapes de la mise en ordre et de la vente d'un paquet de timbres, de plis et d'affranchissements canadiens pour un collègue de travail. Certains articles ont été vendus à une vente aux enchères par écrit, d'autres à des particuliers qui les ont examinés avant de faire leur choix et d'autres encore, dans un magasin local. Mon collègue se réjouira des 400 $ environ et de l'espace qu'il gagnera, des collectionneurs seront heureux d'avoir fait une bonne affaire et notre club recevra 10 % de la vente. Tous seront gagnants (10 % correspond-il au montant que votre club perçoit pour des services d'encan?).

L'American Philatelic Society organise des séminaires d'été sur les rudiments de la collection de timbres et sur d'autres sujets philatéliques plus avancés. Les gens se rendent au siège social pour apprendre, échanger, acheter et vendre à des encans et nouer des relations sociales pendant cinq jours. Pouvez-vous imaginer comment La SRPC pourrait offrir la même chose? Évidemment, notre population relativement limitée et l'immensité de notre étendue géographique s'opposent à une telle idée, mais des séminaires pourraient être organisés dans différentes villes et à divers moments. Dites-moi ce que vous en pensez. Il n'y a pas de mal à rêver!

Au moment de rédiger cette chronique, juste avant l'Halloween, j'ai reçu l'autorisation d'envoyer un communiqué de presse à tous les clubs membres. Ce communiqué contient des nouvelles enthousiasmantes et prometteuses au sujet du réexamen du plan stratégique et des buts de la société auquel se livre l'équipe de gestion et qui seront présenté à St. Catharines en juin prochain dans le cadre de ROYAL*2009*ROYALE. Malheureusement, je n'ai que quelques adresses électroniques des clubs. De plus, certaines adresses postales de la liste du Philatéliste canadien sont incomplètes ou douteuses. Si vous avez un poste de responsabilité dans votre club, pourriez-vous vérifier les coordonnées de votre personne-ressource dans le Philatéliste? Si aucune adresse de courriel n'est inscrite, pourriez-vous voir s'il est possible d'en fournir une et, le cas échéant, la transmettre au bureau national et à moi-même? J'épargnerai ainsi beaucoup de temps et éviterai des coûts tout en améliorant la fréquence à laquelle je peux communiquer avec vous. Merci!

Une dernière pensée : avoir de vos nouvelles, à titre personnel ou en tant que club, serait formidable. Vous pourriez répondre à l'une de mes chroniques ou soulever une idée ou un problème relatif aux clubs membres dont je pourrais m'occuper. J'espère qu'au moins une personne de chaque club membre au Canada lit cette chronique, mais je ne peux pas le savoir si vous ne m'en parlez pas. Merci de ce que vous faites pour la philatélie locale! ✉



chapter MEETINGS
RÉUNIONS des clubs membres

AMICALE DES PHILATÉLISTES DE L'OUTAOUAIS (APO)
Les membres de l'APO, chapitre 190 de la SRPC, se réunissent tous les jeudis de début septembre à fin avril, de 18h30 à 21h00. Les réunions ont lieu au Châlet Fontaine, 120 rue Charlevoix à Hull (Québec). Carte de membre 20 $ (10$ pour les moins de 16 ans). Vendeurs, encans, exposition. / Members of the APO (Chapter #190) meet every Thurs. from Sept. to the end of April, 6:30 to 9 p.m. in the Châlet Fontaine, 120 Charlevoix, Hull, Québec. Membership $20 ($10 under 16). Dealers, auctions, show and bourse. Contact: A. Bossard, 5-1160 Shillington, Ottawa, ON K1Z 7Z4; (613) 722-7279; e-mail: isabelle.alain @sympatico.ca

CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE "LES TIMBRÉS" DE BOISBRIAND
Section adulte: Tous les lundis soir de 18h45 à 21h. Section junior: Tous les samedis de 9h. à 11h30; au Centre socio-culturel de Boisbriand, 480 rue Chavigny, Broisbriand, QC, J7G 2J7; information: Mrs. Linda Nadon Présidente 450-435-8604 et M. Maurice Touchette Vice-président-Trésorier 450-435-5973.

BARRIE DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
Chapter 73, meets the second Thursday of the month, except July and August, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Owen and Worsley Streets, Barrie, at 7:00 p.m. Contact Dr. Joaquin Kuhn, 15 Albert Street West, Hillsdale, ON L0L 1V0. Telephone 705-835-7777, E-mail j.kuhn@utoronto.ca.

BRAMALEA STAMP CLUB
RPSC Chapter 144 meets the 1st Sun. Oct. to June 2-4 p.m. and the 3rd Tues. year round 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Terry Miller Recreation Complex, Williams Parkway (between Dixie Rd. and Bramalea Rd.) Brampton, ON. Contact: Bramalea Stamp Club, Box 92531, Bramalea, ON L6W 4R1.

BRANTFORD STAMP CLUB
RPSC Chapter 1 meets on the 1st and 3rd Tues. Sept. to May, and the 1st Tues. in June, at the Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey St. ON at 7 p.m., short business meeting at 8 p.m., followed by a program. Circuit books, five dealers. Contact: Secretary, Box 25003, 119 Colborne St. W., Brantford, ON N3T 6K5; (519) 753-9425

BRITISH COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meetings occur Wednesday nights at 7:30 PM from Sept. to June, at West Burnaby United Church, 6050 Sussex Ave., Burnaby BC, near the Metrotown Skytrain station. See our website at www.bcphilatelic.org for details of meeting times and locations. For more information call Bob Ingraham, President, at (604) 694-0014.

BURLINGTON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 200 - The Burlington Stamp Club meets at the Burlington Seniors Centre, 2285 New Street, Burlington, in the Boutique Room from 7 pm - 9 pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from September to June. No meetings in July or August.Visitors always welcome. Contact Norm Macneall at 905-336-8685 or macneall@cogeco.ca.

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY
(Chapter 66) Regular meeting: 1st Wed. except July and Aug., 7 p.m. Auctions on 3rd Wed. of month except Dec., 7:30 p.m. Kerby Centre, 1133 7 Ave. SW. Contact: Calgary Philatelic Society, PO Box 1478, Station M, Calgary, AB T2P 2L6, or visit www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com

CAMBRIDGE STAMP CLUB
Chapter 4 - Meets on the first Thursday and 3rd Monday of each month (September to June), on the second floor of the Allan Reuter Center, 507 King St., Cambridge. Visitors welcome. Information Ron Adkin, 411-202 Hespeler Rd, Cambridge, ON N1R 3H4, 519-621-5497

CANADIAN AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY
RPSC Chapter 187, yearly membership for Canadians $20 Cdn, for Americans $22 Cdn. and for all other countries $25. No formal meetings, but members join the RA Stamp Club meetings at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON at 7:30 p.m. every Mon. except June to Aug. Contact: Brian Wolfenden, 203A Woodfield Drive, Nepean ON K2G 4P2. (613) 226-2045.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY
Chapter 76, Jan Bart Judaica Study Group, meets on the 2nd Wed. except July and Aug., 7 p.m., at Lippa Green Bldg., 4600 Bathurst St., Willowdale, ON. Contact: Joseph Berkovits, 33-260 Adelaide St. E., Toronto, ON M5A 1N1. (416) 635-1749.

CANADIAN FORCES BASE TRENTON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 89 meeting on the 1st and 3rd Wed. Sept. to June at the Trenton Seniors' Club (Club 105) at the corner of Bay and Campbell Streets at 6:45 p.m. Contact: G.A. Barsi at (613) 394-2024, M. Leedham at (613) 392-7462 or S. Taylor at (613) 393-4316.

CANADIAN FORCES PHILATELIC SOCIETY (CFPS)
Chapter 139. Membership open to all. No formal meetings; however, members may participate by mail in the exchange circuit, sales circuits and auction. A Bulletin is published three times a year. Contact: Secretary, Judith Queale, Box 761 - Lambeth Station, London, ON N6P 1R2.

COBOURG STAMP CLUB
Chapter 106 meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month (Sept through May) and once a month during June, July and August at the Salvation Army Citadel, 59 Ballantine St., Cobourg. For further information re club activities please contact Harold Houston at 905-885-0075 or e-mail hhouston@cogeco.ca.

COLBORNE STAMP CLUB
Chapter 205 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tues. Sept. to May at 7 p.m. in the Seniors' Drop-In, Vourneen "Buff" Jack Memorial Centre, 14 Victoria Square. Contact: Box 1073, Colborne, ON K0K 1S0.

COLLINGWOOD - GEORGIAN BAY COIN & STAMP CLUB
Chapter 168 meets 3 times a month year-round: 1st Tuesday of the month at the Real Can. Superstore in Midland, 2nd and 4th Tuesday at the Real Can. Superstore in Wasaga beach. All meetings are from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Contact: Pres. Horst Bolik 705-429-4061.

CREDIT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY - MISSISSAUGA
Chapter 67 of The RPSC meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from September to April, 7 to 9 p.m. at Christ Church United, 1700 Mazo Crescent - one block east of Clarkson Rd. and one block south of Truscott. Contact Bob Laker (905) 608-9794.

DELTA STAMP CLUB
Club meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tues. Sept. to May at 7:30 p.m. at the Beach Grove Elementary School, 5955 17A Ave., Tsawwassen, BC. Contact Keith Meyer, President, #7-1100-56th St. Delta, BC V4L 2N2.

EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB
Chapter 12 meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month, October to May, at Stan Wadlow Senior's Action Centre on Cedarvale Ave. (Woodbine & Cosburn area), October to May, 9:30 to 11:00 am. Contact: Doug Cockburn 416-757-4072 or e-mail: dclc@rogers.com.

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB
Edmonton's Chapter 6 meetings held every other Mon., Sept. to June at 7 p.m., at St. Joseph High School cafeteria (use north entrance), 10830-109 St. Contact: Box 399, Edmonton, AB, T5J 2J6. Keith Spencer (780) 437-1787 or e-mail ameech@telusplanet.net.

ESSEX COUNTY STAMP CLUB
Chapter 154 meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month (except no second meeting in July, August and December), at 7:00 p.m. at 5050 Howard Ave, Windsor, ON. Contact: David L. Newman, President, at 1165 Wigle Ave, Windsor, ON, N9C 3M9. Tel.: (519) 977-5967. E-mail: lacumo@cogeco.ca.

FENELON STAMP CLUB
The club meets on the second monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Fenelon Falls Baptist Church on Colbourne Street in Fenelon Falls. For more information, contact President, Lloyd McEwan, 705-324-7577, 212 Mary St. W., Lindsay, ON K9V 2N8.

FRASER VALLEY PHILATELIC CLUB
Meets at 7 p.m. on the 3rd Monday, except holidays, at Abbotsford Senior Secondary School, 2329 Crescent Way. Contact N. Holden at (604) 859-9103.

FREDERICTON DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
Chapter 148 meets the 1st and 3rd Tues, Sept. to May at 7:30 p.m. at the Hugh John Fleming Forestry Centre, 1350 Regent St. Contact Ron Smith, 12 Chateau Dr., McLeod Hill, NB, E3A 5X2, (506) 453-1792, e-mail: rsmith0225@rogers.com

FUNDY STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB
Meets the 1st Thurs, except July and August, at 7 PM at the CN Pensioners Centre, 1 Curry Street. Contact Mike Leighton at (506) 389-8083 or PO Box 302, Moncton, NB E1C 8L4

GREATER VICTORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 32 meets on the 3rd Fri. at 7:30 p.m. at the Windsor Park Pavilion in Oak Bay. Circuit books, auction and special programs prevail. Contact Don Dundee, 928 Claremont Ave., Victoria, BC V8Y 1K3, (604) 658-8458.

HAMILTON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 51 meets at 6 p.m. on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Mon., Sept. to June except holidays, and 2nd Mon. of July, at Bishop Ryan secondary school, Quigley Rd. and Albright St. Contact: Clare Maitland (Secretary), Box 60510, 673 Upper James St., Hamilton, ON, L9C 7N7; www.hamiltonstampclub.com

INSURANCE AND BANKING PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN - CANADIAN BRANCH
Chapter 82. Meetings are usually held at 5 pm on the third Thursday of each month at the premises of Hampton Securities Limited, 141 Adelaide St W, 18th Floor, Toronto, ON. Contact either Joe Janthur (President) 416-364-4112 or Herb Kucera (Secretary) at 416-494-1428 prior to meeting date to confirm time and date. Some meetings could be held at other locations.

KAWARTHA STAMP CLUB
The Kawartha Stamp Club, meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month (except July and August) at 6:30 p.m. at the Immanuel Alliance Church, 1600 Sherbrook Street West, Peterborough, ON K9J 6X4. Contact Marie Olver at 705-745-4993 for more info.

KELOWNA & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
Chapter 90 meets on the 1st Wed. Sept. to June at 7 p.m. at the Odd Fellows Hall, 2597 Richter St., Kelowna, BC. Contact: Kelowna Stamp Club, PO Box 24081, Town Centre P.O., Kelowna, BC V1Y 9H2.

KENT COUNTY STAMP CLUB
Chapter 7 meets 4th Wed. except July, Aug. and Dec. in the library of John McGregor Secondary School, 300 Cecile, Chatham, ON, at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Secretary, Allan Burk, 43 Sudbury Dr., Chatham, ON N7L 2K1.

KINCARDINE STAMP CLUB
Chapter 196 meets the 1st Wednesday of the month in the back of the Anglican Church on Russell Street at 7:00 p.m. Contact President John Cortan 519-395-5817 or Secretary Andrew Lunshof 519-396-5910. Club mailing address is 677 Hunter Street, Kincardine, ON N2Z 1S6 or e-mail: carm@bmts.com.

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB
Meets 7-9 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mon. Sept. to May at the Ongwanada Resource Centre, 191 Portsmouth Ave. Free parking and wheelchair access. Consignment table, auctions, bourse, OXFAM, and trading. Contact Richard Weigand, 218 Richmond Street, RR#1, Bath, ON K0H 1G0, e-mail: rweigand@kos.net.

KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 13 meets the 2nd Thurs. Sept. to June at Albert McCormick Arena, Parkside Dr., Waterloo. Contact: James Oliver, P.O. Box 43007, Eastwood Square PO, Kitchener, ON N2H 6S9, (519) 893-4092.

LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB
Chapter 33 meets the 2nd Wed. and last Fri. Sept. to June at the Herb Carroll Centre, 1100 Lincoln St., Thunder Bay, ON. at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Secretary D. Lein, 232 Dease St., Thunder Bay, ON P7C 2H8.

chapter MEETINGS
RÉUNIONS des clubs membres



LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB – CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE DE LAKESHORE
Chapter 84 meets at St. John the Baptist Church, 233 Ste-Claire Street in Pointe-Claire, on the 2nd and 4th Thurs. Sept. to June at 7:30 p.m. Contact: François Brisse, President, PO Box 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC, H9R 4N5. / Le chapitre 84, se réunit tous les jeudis du début septembre à fin juin, à 19h30. Les réunions ont lieu à l'Église St. John the Baptist, 233 rue Ste-Claire à Pointe-Claire. Information: François Brisse, Président, Case Postale 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC, H9R 4N5.

LETHBRIDGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 57, The Lethbridge Philatelic Society, meets on the second Thursday of the month (except June, July or August) at 7 p.m. in the community room of Save on Foods, 1112 2nd A Ave N, Lethbridge, AB

MEDICINE HAT COIN & STAMP CLUB
Chapter 146 meets the 2nd and 4th Tues. at 7:30 p.m. at the Volunteer Centre (Redi Enterprises Bldg) 856 Allowance Ave. S.E. Contact: Ron Schmidt, 7 Vintage Meadows Crt SE, Medicine Hat, AB T1B 4G8.

MIDDLESEX STAMP CLUB
Chapter 204 meets every other Fri. Sept. to May, at 7 p.m. in the basement of St. Martin's Church, 46 Cathcart St., London. Meeting at 8 p.m. Contact Patrick Delmore at (519) 675-0779.

MILTON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 180 meets on the last Mon., except Dec. at 7 p.m. at Hugh Foster Hall (beside Town Hall) in Milton, ON. Silent auction every meeting. Contact: Milton Stamp Club, 425 Valleyview Cres., Milton, ON L9T 3K9; (905) 878-1533, or e-mail: alman@globalserve.net.

MONTREAL PHILATELIC CLUB
Chapter 122 meets monthly from September to June, at 7:30 p.m. at the Westmount Library, 4574 Sherbrooke St. W, Westmount. Contact: 25 Levasseur, St. Constant, QC J5A 1M9. Telephone: 514-735-3941; E-mail: lslaven@sympatico.ca.

MUSKOKA STAMP CLUB
Meets the first Wednesday of each month at Bracebridge Public School, 90 McMurray Street, Bracebridge, ON. (Location for July & August will vary). Contact Bruce Hughes, 29 Sallys Lane, R.R.1, Port Sydney, ON P0B 1L0. Telephone 705-385-2020.

NELSON STAMP CLUB
Meets on the 3rd Thurs. except Dec. at 7 p.m. at #105-402 W. Beasley, Nelson, BC V1L 5Y4.

NORTH BAY & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
The North Bay & District Stamp Club meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month, September to May, at Empire Living Centre, 425 Fraser Street, North Bay at 6:30 p.m. Visitors are always welcome. Contact person: Ms. Terry Turner, tel. (705) 472-6918, e-mail: teron@sympatico.ca.

NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB
Chapter 5 meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from January to June and from September to November. Meetings are held at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge Street, one block north of St. Clair Avenue. Stamp sales circuit opens at 6:30 p.m and meetings start at 8:00 p.m. Contact Herb Letsche, tel: (416) 445-7720, fax: (416) 444-1273, or e-mail: ntstampclub@yahoo.ca.

NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 21 meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from September to the 1st Wednesday in June, and on the 3rd Wednesday of July and August. Meetings are held from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Skaters' Lounge at the Carnegie Centennial Arena, 580 Finch Avenue West (1 1/2 blocks west of Bathurst), Toronto, Ontario. Meetings feature a convivial atmosphere, speakers, auctions, a sales circuit, and a number of dealer members. Membership is only $10 per year. Ample parking is free. For more information, contact Art Halpert, tel. 416-643-2020 (days), 416-499-4406 (evenings/weekends), e-mail ahalpert@sympatico.ca

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB
We invite you to join us at a monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the auditoriam - lower level (except July & August). Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer St., Halifax, NS B3H 3A6, www.nsstampclub.ca.

OAKVILLE STAMP CLUB
Chapter 135 meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria, St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School, corner of Rebecca Street and Dorval Drive. Contact: Oakville Stamp Club, c/o Roy Honess, Tel 905-822-8450, E-mail royhoness@hotmail.com.

OTTAWA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 16 meets every Thursday at 7:30pm, September to June at the Hintonburg Community Centre, 1064 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario. Contact: Jack Gray, President. E-mail exoc@sympatico.ca. 3 Leonard Ave., Ottawa, ON K1S 4T6.

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB
Chapter 191 meets the 3rd Wed. at 7 p.m. at St. George's Anglican Church, 149 4th Ave. E. Trading, auctions, circuit books. Contact Robert J. Ford, 721 8th Ave. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K 3A4.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY:
Chapter 65 meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, September to May, at South Gate Centre, 191 Old Wellington Street South, Woodstock, Ontario at 7:00 p.m. Trading at 7:30 p.m. Program with speakers, mini auctions, dealers, contest with prizes and draws for all ages. Contact: Gib Stephens, P.O. Box 20113, Woodstock, ON N4S 8X8.

PENTICTON AND DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
Chapter 127 meets the 1st Sunday of each month, from Sept. to May, from 2-4 p.m. at the Penticton Library Auditorium, 785 Main St. Contact: Gordon Houston (Secretary), 298 Cambie Street, Penticton, BC V2A 4G8, e-mail: gordandlou@shaw.ca.

PERTH STAMP CLUB
Meets the 2nd and 4th Wed. Sept. to June, 7:30 p.m. in McMartin House, Gore Street. Contact Gus Quattrocchi (A.J.), 69 Harvey St., Perth, ON K7H 1X1.

R.A. STAMP CLUB – OTTAWA
Chapter 41 meets every Mon., except June to Aug. at 7:30 p.m. at the R.A. Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON K1H 7X7. Contact: (613) 733-5100.

REGINA PHILATELIC CLUB
Chapter 10 meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday from Sept. to May, 7 - 10 p.m. at Cochrane High School in the teachers' staff room. Contact: P.O. Box 1891, Regina, SK S4P 3E1.

ROYAL CITY STAMP CLUB
Chapter 104 meets on the 2nd Thurs. except July and Aug., 7 p.m. at the New Westminster Public Library, 716-6th Ave., New Westminster, BC. Contact: Box 145, Milner, BC V0X 1T0. (604) 534-1884.

SAINT JOHN STAMP CLUB
Saint John Stamp Club meets at 7:00 pm the fourth Wednesday of each month, except July and August, at the Atlantic Superstore, Millidgeville. Visitors and new members welcome. Please call 849-2250 for more information

ST. CATHARINES STAMP CLUB
Meets on the 1st and 3rd Tues. Sept. to June at Holy Cross secondary, St. Catharines, ON. Contact: Stuart Keeley, 15 Baxter Cres., Thorold, ON L2V 4S1, (905) 227-9251,.stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca

ST. JOHN'S PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meets 2nd and 4th Wed., except July and Aug. at 8 p.m. at Marine Institute. Contact: Michael Deal, 107 Springdale St., St. John's, NL A1C 5B7. Tel: (709)754-2807. E-mail: mdeal@mun.ca

SARNIA STAMP CLUB
Chapter 45 meets on the 4th Sunday of the month, September through June, with the exception of December which is held on the 2nd. Sunday. Meetings are held at the Kinsmen Club of Sarnia at 656 Lakeshore Road in Sarnia, Ontario, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Activities include circuit books, silent auction, and dealers. Contact: Doug Fox at 1849 LaSalle Line, RR4, Sarnia, ON N7T 7H5. Telephone: (519) 332-0378.

SASKATOON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 80 meets the 2nd and 4th Mon. Sept. to May, 7-9 p.m. at the Saskatoon Public Library - Rusty McDonald Branch, 225 Primrose Dr., Saskatoon, SK S7K 5E4. Contact: secretary: Doug Smith, (306) 249-3092; e-mail: douglasmichaelsmith@shaw.ca.

SAUGEEN STAMP CLUB
Meets on the 1st Tues.at the Hanover Library Complex, 451 10th Ave., Hanover, ON. Contact: Bill Findlay, President, PO Box 1518, Durham, ON N0G 1R0, E-mail billfindlay@bmts.com, or Joanne Vogel, Vice-president, Box 663, Chesley, ON N0G 1L0, E-mail jimmyjo@bmts.com.

SCARBOROUGH STAMP CLUB
Chapter 223 meets the 1st and 3rd Tues. Sept. to June at 7 p.m. at Cedarbrook Community Centre, Contact Don Beaumont, 22 Gregson Street, Ajax, ON L1T 3Z9.

SIDNEY STAMP CLUB (SIDNEY, BC)
The Sidney Stamp Club meets the 2nd Sat. except July and Aug., at the Sidney Regional Library, Nell Horth Room, at 2 p.m. Sales circuit, presentations, and auctions. Contact: (250) 479-6513.

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE QUÉBEC
La S. P. Q. tient ses réunions régulières les premiers et troisièmes mercredis du mois au sous-sol de l'église St-Rodrigue, 4760 1ère Avenue, porte 10 à Québec.Les réunions ont lieu de 19 h à 22 h du troisième mercredi de septembre au premier mercredi de juin. Information: écrire a SPQ, CP 70076, succ Québec-Centre, Québec, Qc G2J 0A1. Courriel: jp.forest@videotron.ca , site Web: www.s-p-q.org.

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE LA RIVE SUD
Société membre No. 19. Réunions régulières tenus les 2e et 4e lundis débutant en septembre pour se terminer le 2e lundi de juir. De 19h30 à 21h00. Centre culturel, 100 ouest, rue St-Laurent, Longueuil, QC. Secrétaire Bernard Dansereau.

STRATFORD STAMP CLUB
Chapter 92 The Stratford Stamp Club meets on the 4th Thursday from September to June (except December when it meets on the 3rd Thursday), 7pm at the Stratford Kiwanis Community Centre, 111 Lakeside Drive, Stratford, Ontario. There is something of interest for all ages from beginner to the advance collector.Visitors are always welcome. For information please send inquiries to the following address: Stratford Stamp Club, Suite 273, 356 Ontario Street, Stratford, ON N5A 7X6, or contact William Gard 1-519-272-2842

SUDBURY STAMP CLUB
Chapter 85 meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, September through June at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Delki Dozzi Playground Fieldhouse. Slides, presentations, auction. Contact: Wm "Biff" Pilon at P.O. Box 2211, Station A, Sudbury, Ontario, P3A 4S1. E-mail: biffandbetty@sympatico.ca

TORONTO HARMONIE STAMP CLUB
Chapter 94 meets on the first Monday of the month, except July and August, at 7:30 p.m. in a member's house. New members or visitors are always welcome. For further information, contact Jake Doehler, 6 Monmouth Court, Scarborough, ON M1H 2T5. Tel: 416-438-4862, e-mail: bimlidoehler@hotmail.com.

TRURO PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meets the 2nd Thurs. Sept. to June at 7:30 p.m. at the Sobey's community room, Prince St., for a general meeting followed by a program and auction. Fourth Thurs is trading night.

L'UNION DES PHILATÉLISTES DE MONTRÉAL
Le chapitre no. 3 de la Société se réunit à 19 h 00 tous les 2es et 4es mardis de septembre à juin au 7355, boulevard Christophe-Colomb, Montréal, QC, H2R 2S5. Visiteurs bienvenus. / Chapter 3 meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tues. from September to June at 7355 Christopher Columbus Boulevard, Montreal, QC, H2R 2S5. Visitors welcome.

VANCOUVER ISLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 52, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 4th Thurs. at St. Aidan's Church Hall, 3707 St. Aidan's St., Victoria, BC. Contact R. Clarke, Sec., Vancouver Island Philatelic Society, 205 - 651 Jolly Pl, Victoria, BC, V8Z 6R9.

WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB
Chapter 14 meets 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tues. except July and Aug., 7:30 p.m. at Fairfield Seniors' Centre, 80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke, Auctions, dealers, speakers, study group, annual exhibition. Contact: 331 Rathburn Rd., Etobicoke, ON M9B 2L9. Frank Alusio, (416) 621-8232.

WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meets at 7 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Thurs. except July and Aug. Deaf Centre of Manitoba, Meeting Room, 285 Pembina Hwy. Contact: Rick Penko, 3793 Vialoux Dr., Winnipeg, MB R3R 0A5, e-mail: rpenko@shaw.ca.

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There are no shows to announce in this issue

coming EVENTS
CALENDRIER

To have your event listed in this section of The Canadian Philatelist, please send all details to The RPSC National Office, P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2P1. Details may be faxed to 1-888-285-4143 or e-mail to info@rpsc.org. Information will not be accepted by telephone. THIS IS A FREE SERVICE OF THE RPSC.

Pour que votre événement soit listé dans cette section du Philatéliste canadien veuillez envoyer tous les détails au Bureau national de la SRPC, C.P. 929, Succ. 'Q', Toronto, ON M4T 2P1. Les détails peuvent être faxés au 1-888-285-4143 ou par poste-électronique à info@rpsc.org. Aucune information ne sera acceptée par téléphone. CECI EST UN SERVICE GRATUIT DE LA SRPC.

REGIONAL EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉGIONAUX

FEBRUARY 21 FEVRIER, 2009
NIPEX 2009 Stamp Exibition and Bourse, sponsored by the Niagara Philatelic Society will be held at Stamford Lions Club Hall, 3846 Portage Rd., Niagara Falls, Ontario. Hours are 10-5. Free admission. Further information from Ed Yonelinas email: mastamps@computan.on.ca or phone: 905-262-5127

MARCH 14 MARS, 2009:
OAKPEX 09, the annual show of the Oakville Stamp Club will be held from 10 am to 5 pm at St. Paul's United Church, 454 Rebecca Street, Oakville, ON. Featuring 16 dealers, circuit books, table auctions, refreshment booth and free stamp packets for juniors. Free admission and parking. For information please contact Bernd Duddeck at 905-845-8374 or bpduddeck@cogeco.ca

MARCH 21 MARS, 2009:
OXPEX/OTEX the annual exhibition and bourse of the Oxford Philatelic Society, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary, will be held from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm at the John Knox Christian School, 800 Juliana Drive, Woodstock, ON. Exhibits, dealers, youth area, prize draws, Canada Post counter, refreshments. Free admisison and parking. For more infomation please contact David Ward, Chair, at 519-539-2221 or ward2221@rogers.com.

MARCH 28 MARS, 2009:
KAPEX 2009 will be held from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm at the Evinrude Centre, 911 Monagham Road, Peterborough, ON (north of Lansdowne Mall). For information contact Mr. Rick Stankiewicz at (705) 295-6158 or stankiewiczr@nexicom.net.

APRIL 17-19 AVRIL, 2009:
The CSDA's National Postage Stamp Show and the North Toronto Stamp Club's 66th Annual Exhibition will be held at the Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, Toronto. Dealers from Canada, UK and USA. Also exhibits, stamps for kids, hourly draws, Canada Post and society tables. Show hours Friday 11 am to 6 pm, Saturday 10 am to 5 pm, Sunday 10 am to 4 pm. Info from secretary@csdaonline.com

APRIL 18, AVRIL, 2009:
Stampfest, the Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society annual show and bourse will be held on Saturday, April 18, at the Community Christian Reformed Church 1275 Bleams Road, at Fischer-Hallman Road, Kitchener, Ontario. Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Featuring an exciting dealer bourse, competitive exhibits, including one-page entries, free parking, free admission, hourly and special draws, stamp pull, lunch counter, and other surprises. For additional information phone Jim Oliver at 1-519-893-4092 or e-mail:jimoliver10@hotmail.com

OCTOBER 24 OCTOBRE, 2009;
The Barrie District Stamp Club's 47th Annual Show and Dealers Bourse will be held from 10 am to 4 pm at the Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada Club, 7 George Street, Barrie, ON. Free admission. Further info from the Bourse Chairman, David Terry at dgh.terry@gmail.com.

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES

MARCH 27-29, MARS, 2009:
The Edmonton Spring National Stamp Show 2009 will be held in the West Edmonton Mall Fantasyland Conference Centre, 3rd floor, Europa Boulevard. Hours: Friday Noon - 6 pm, Saturday 10 am - 6 pm, Sunday 10 am - 4 pm. Exhibits, dealers, youth stamp room, circuit books, seminars, and banquet. For information contact Keith Spencer at (780) 437-1787 or at keithr.spencer@shaw.ca.

MAY 2-3 MAI, 2009:
ORAPEX 2009, Ottawa's National Stamp Show, the 48th Annual Stamp Exhibition and Bourse with over 40 dealers and 150 frames of exhibits, will be held at the RA Centre Curling Rink, Saturday May 2, 10 am to 6 pm, and Sunday May 3, 10 am to 4 pm. The address is RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, ON. Those wishing to exhibit should contact Tom Hare at thare@sutton.com. For bourse information please contact Stéphane Cloutier at cloutier1967@sympatico.ca. FREE admission and parking. Dick Malott, Publicity Officer at (613) 829-0280 or toysoldier@sympatico.ca.

JUNE 12-14 JUIN, 2009:
ROYAL *2009* ROYALE, the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's 81st Annual Exhibition and Convention will be hosted by the St. Catharines Stamp Club at the Parkway Convention Centre, 327 Ontario St., St. Catharines, ON on Friday June 12, 10 am to 6 pm, Saturday June 13, 10 am to 6 pm and Sunday June 14, 10 am to 4 pm. Daily admisison $2 and $5 for the weekend. Close to the QEW. Over 200 frames, 40+ international dealers, youth area, seminars, Sunday afternoon auction and free parking. Information from Stuart Keeley at (905) 227-9251 or at stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca. Web site at www.royal2009.ca.
Dates and locations for forthcoming years:
2010, Windsor, Ontario (May 28-30)
2011, Dorval, Québec.
2012, Edmonton, Alberta (For info contact Christopher Miller, President, Edmonton Stamp Club at no.113@shaw.ca)

SEPTEMBER 11-13 SEPTEMBRE, 2009:
BNAPEX 2009 SEAWAYPEX the annual convention of the British North America Philatelic Society will be hosted by the BNAPS St. Lawrence Regional Group and the Kingston Stamp Club at the Ambassador Conference Resort, 1550 Princess Street, Kingston, ON. Exhibits, 25 dealers, study group meetings, seminars, partners program, awards banquet. For more information please contact Don Ecobichon at e.ecobichon@sympatico.ca or Richard Weigand at rweigand@kos.net.

SEPTEMBER 25-27 SEPTEMBRE, 2009:
StampExpo 400: The Albany Quadricentennial Philatelic Exhibition, sponsored by the Federation of New York Philatelic Societies, will be held at the Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY. Exhibits, literature competition, US and UN post offices, society booths, youth activities, Court of Honour, displays from the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum, and 125-150 dealers from the USA, Canada and GB. Canadian exhibits welcomed. Hours: Friday 10 am - 6 pm, Saturday 10 am - 6 pm and Sunday 10 am - 4 pm. Contact is John Nunes at (518) 399-8395 or Nunesnook@aol.com. Web site is http://www.stampexpo400.org.

MAY 1-2 MAI, 2010:
ORAPEX 2010, Ottawa. Details to follow at a later date.

APRIL 30-1 MAY, 2011 / AVRIL 30-1 MAI, 2011:
ORAPEX 2011, Ottawa. Details to follow at a later date.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS INTERNATIONALES

APRIL 10-16 AVRIL, 2009:
CHINA 2009 World Stamp Exhibition will be held in Luoyang City of Henan Province. Canadian commissioner is John McEntyre, 707-3495 Mountain St., Montreal, QC H3G 2A5. Tel: (514) 845-2938. E-mail: jgmcentyre@hotmail.com. (Bulletin No.1 is available from the commissioner)

JULY 30 - AUGUST 4, 2009 / LE 30 JUILLET - LE 4 AOUT, 2009:
PHILAKOREA 2009, the 24th Asian International Stamp Exhibition will be held at the Convention & Exhibition Center (COEX), Seoul, Korea. The exhibition is open to exhibitors who are members of FIAF (Federacion Interamericana de Filatelia) member countries. There is no Canadian commissioner for this exhibition.

OCTOBER 21-25 OCTOBRE, 2009:
ITALIA 2009 at Palazzo dei Congressi in Rome Italy under the patronage of the FEPA and recognition of the F.I.P. Canadian commissioner is Dr. Jan J. Danielski, 71 Gennela Square, Toronto, ON M1B 5M7. Tel: (416) 283-2047. E-mail: jjad@rogers.com.

MAY 8-15 MAI, 2010:
London 2010 Festival of Stamps will be held at the Business Design Centre, Upper Street, Islington, London N1. Details at www.london2010.org.uk. Canadian commissioner: Dr. Jan J. Danielski, 7l Gennela Square, Toronto, ON M1B 5M7. Tel: (416) 283-2047, e-mail: jjad@rogers.com.

OCTOBER 1-10 OCTOBRE, 2010:
PORTUGAL 2010, Parque das Nações, Lisbon, Portugal. Commissioner Charles J. G. Verge FRPSC, FRPSL, PO Box 66, Stn "Q", Toronto, ON M4T 2L7. Tel: (647) 344-0446 and E-mail cjgverge@rogers.com.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Please take notice that the Annual General Meeting of the members of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (hereinafter called the "Society") will be held at The Parkway Convention Centre, 325 Ontario Street, St. Catharines, Ontario on Saturday the 13th day of June, 2009, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon (local time) for the purpose of:

1. Receiving and considering the financial statements of the Society as at December 31, 2008, and the reports of the Directors and auditors thereon;
2. The Election of Directors and the appointment of auditors;
3. Considering, and if approved, ratifying, sanctioning and confirming all by-laws, contracts, acts and proceedings of the Board of Directors of the Society enacted, made, done, or taken since the last Annual General Meeting of members of the Society; and
4. The transaction of such further and other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

AVIS AUX MEMBRES

Veuillez noter que l'Assemblée Générale Annuelle des membres de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada (ci-après la « Société ») se déroulera à The Parkway Convention Centre, 325 Ontario Street, St. Catharines, Ontario, le samedi 13 juin, 2009, à l0 heures (heure locale) avec à l'ordre du jour:

1. La réception et l'examen des relevés financiers de la Société en date du 31 décembre 2008, et des rapports des directeurs et vérificateurs sur le sujet;
2. L'élection des directeurs et la nomination des vérificateurs;
3. L'étude et, en cas d'approbation, la ratification, l'autorisation et la confirmation des tous statuts, contrats, actes et délibérations du Conseil d'administration de la Société qui auront été décrétés, passés, effectués ou arrêtés depuis la dernière Assemblée Générale Annuelle des membres de la Société; et
4. La transaction de décisions comparables et autres questions devant être traitées à la réunion ou avant son ajournement.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada invites nominations for Directors of the Society for a two year term, commencing in June, 2009.

Eight (8) directors will be elected at the Annual General Meeting scheduled for The Parkway Convention Centre, 325 Ontario Street, St. Catharines, Ontario at ROYAL*2009*ROYALE on June 13, 2009.

The nomination process is as follows:

1. Nominations must be in writing, be made and seconded by members in good standing of the Society, and received by the National Office by February 1, 2009.
2. Persons nominated must indicate consent to their nomination, and provide a head and shoulders photograph and a short biography. Nomination Forms may be requested from the National Office.
3. The Nomination Committee will prepare a slate of Directors from those nominated to ensure national representation based on levels of membership.
4. The slate, with short biographies, will be published in the March / April 2009 issue of *The Canadian Philatelist*.

AVIS AUX MEMBRES

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada vous invite à soumettre des candidatures en vue de pourvoir des postes de directeurs pour un mandat de deux ans débutant en juin 2009.

Huit (8) directeurs seront élus à l'assemblée générale annuelle, prévue le 13 juin 2009 au congrès ROYAL*2009*ROYALE, qui aura lieu au Parkway Convention Centre, 325 Ontario Street, à St. Catharines, en Ontario.

La procédure à suivre est la suivante :

1. Les candidatures doivent être présentées par écrit, et être soumises et appuyées par des membres en règle de la société. Elles doivent parvenir au Bureau national avant le 1er février 2009.
2. Les candidats proposés doivent exprimer leur consentement, fournir une photographie en buste et une courte biographie. Vous pouvez obtenir un formulaire de présentation de candidature en vous adressant au Bureau national.
3. Le comité des candidatures dressera une liste de directeurs à partir des formulaires afin d'assurer une représentation nationale selon le nombre des membres.
4. La liste accompagnée des biographies sera publiée dans le numéro de mars-avril 2009 du Philatéliste.

Dated this 15th day of November 2008.
By Order of the Board
Peter Butler
Secretary

En date du 15 novembre 2008.
Par ordre du Conseil
Peter Butler
Secrétaire

The RPSC YOUTHPHIL CLUB

By Yvan Latulippe

The annual stamp program

Each September or October, Canada Post publishes the annual stamp program for the following year. This is an interesting tool for youth stamp club leaders to prepare activities for future meetings.

One can use the 2009 program to prepare special pages, research a particular theme, check if there is some issue about one's hometown, region, or province. (Look for NS, NL or BC this year.) Or, one can organize a visit to a museum or a place that is related to a stamp on the list. Contact Canada Post to learn if a special ceremony is planned for the launch of a new issue. Ask Canada Post, at the national or local level, to organize something special to mark a launch.

As a youth club organizer, you can ask your youngsters to search the Internet for someone honoured on a stamp. Even ask them to find or bring to the club meetings something about those people such as a CD, a painting, a piece of writing, or something along those lines.

Do you know Abraham Shadd? Rosemary Brown? Robert Bartlett? If not, it is time to learn about them. Prepare something special for your youngsters about these people. Ask them to do a search on Wikipedia. Combining philately, social activities and a computer makes for a winning program.

P.S. Use St. Valentine's Day to create with your youngsters a greeting card by using those throw-away stamps that you can't use for anything else. Or, prepare an illustrated story with stamps. You will find inspiring fairytale books at your local public library. ✉

Le CLUB TIMBREJEUNES SRPC

par Yvan Latulippe

Programme annuel des timbre-poste

Dès septembre ou octobre, Postes Canada dévoile son programme annuel de timbres pour l'année qui vient. Il s'agit d'un outil intéressant pour vous aider à préparer vos réunions.

Vous pouvez vous servir du programme de 2009 pour monter des pages spéciales, faire une recherche sur un sujet en particulier, vérifier si une émission concerne spécialement votre région ou votre ville. Organisez une visite à un musée ou un endroit en rapport avec un des timbres.

Informez-vous à Postes Canada pour savoir si une cérémonie spéciale est prévue pour le lancement d'un timbre. Vous pouvez même leur demander (autant au niveau local que national) d'organiser quelque chose pour souligner l'émission d'un timbre ou d'une série.

Vous pouvez demander à vos jeunes de faire une recherche sur internet concernant un des personnages timbrifié, leur demander de trouver et d'apporter aux réunions du club quelque chose en rapport avec quelqu'un qui se retrouvera sur un timbre cette année : un disque, une peinture, un écrit, etc..

Connaissez-vous Abraham Shadd? Rosemary Brown? Robert Bartlett? C'est le temps d'en savoir plus. Préparez quelque chose de spécial ou demandez-leur de chercher sur Wikipedia.

Rassemblez philatélie, activité sociale et ordinateur : c'est l'équipe gagnante aujourd'hui.

P.S. Profitez de la St-Valentin pour créer avec eux une carte de souhait avec vos « pétards » ou préparez une histoire illustrée (avec ces timbres). Vous trouverez à votre bibliothèque municipale un conte pour enfant ou une fable de Lafontaine qui pourront vous inspirer. ✉







Yvan Latulippe: 115-600 de la Côte-Vertu, Ville St-Laurent, QC H4L 5E3 • yvanlatulippe@videotron.ca

classifieds
annonces classées

CANADA FOR SALE / CANADA À VENDRE

NEWFOUNDLAND Specialized Stamp Catalogue 2006 edition; color. Includes Colonies of: NB, PEI, NS, BC; Classic Canada to 1951. Sent as XpressPost in North America $110 Canadian; Airmail Outside North America, $125 Canadian; www. nfldstamps.com, (709-685-0560) 9 Guy Street, St. John's, Newfoundland, CANADA A1B 1P4 *v60n06*

EXCHANGE / DEMANDES D'ÉCHANGE

TRADING PARTNERS WANTED! I am a general collector with a large amount of $1 plus material that I wish to exchange on a Scott basis. Personal interests are worldwide revenues, BR. Colonies, Western Europe. I have the world to trade. Please, e-mail (or mail) your willingness to exchange. I will send first. Bob Adams, 10 Lansdowne Rd. N., Cambridge, On N1S 2S8, adams@brant.net *v60n03*

FOR SALE / À VENDRE

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ZIMO OFFERS ALAND: Seldom seen complete sets all different VF Used, $25 Scott 2008 value, yours for $9.75. Zimo, Box 578 Bromptonville, Sherbrooke QC, J1C 1A1 *v60n02*

ZIMO OFFERS LIECHTENSTEIN: Superb & Beautiful stamps, all different VF Used, $30 Scott 2008 value, yours for $9.75. Zimo, Box 578 Bromptonville, Sherbrooke QC, J1C 1A1 *v60n02*

ZIMO OFFERS DENMARK: 32 seldom seen semi-postals stamps including complete issues, all different VF Used, yours for $9.75. Zimo, Box 578 Bromptonville, Sherbrooke QC, J1C 1A1 *v60n02*

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WANTED / RECHERCHÉ

ACCUMULATOR requires inexpensive collection or odds and ends of any country on or off paper. Send description for an offer to: D. Goreski, 749 Tarn Court, Oshawa, ON L1J 6Y8 *v60n02*

BUYING ANY COUNTRY, on paper, paying $2 per lb., stamps on parcel are returned. Patrick Cangley, 733 Terrill, Apt. 2, Sherbrooke QC J1E 1L8. 819-562-8345, e-mail: patcan@sympatico.ca. *v60n03*

SANTA LETTERS or envelopes with H0H 0H0 return address. Any era. Buy or trade. Tony 519-745-2973, e-mail:tshaman@rogers.com or Box 43103, Kitchener, ON N2H 6S9. *v60n03*

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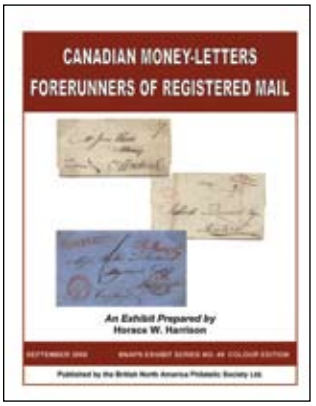
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BOOK REVIEWS
OUVRAGES PARUS



CANADIAN MONEY-LETTERS: FORERUNNERS OF REGISTERED MAIL

By Horace W. Harrison. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society, 2008. Spiral bound, 8.5x11 inches, 204 pages. ISBN: 978-1-897391-32-7 (b&w) $37.95; 978-1-897391-31-0(colour) $114.00, Credit card orders (Visa, Mastercard) will be billed for exact amount of shipping plus $2 per order. For payment by cheque or money order, add 10% in Canada, 15% to the US, 20% overseas. GST is payable for Canadian orders. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount. Available from: Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 62 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5A8, Canada. Phone: (613) 235-9119. Internet orders can be placed at www.iankimmerly.com/books/

As exhibitors, we would all like to pack our exhibits with scarce and unique items but the reality is that for most of us the little red seals, signifying extraordinary items, tend to come few and far between. Not so with *Canadian Money-Letters: Forerunners of Registered Mail,* assembled by the late Horace Harrison. The exhibit was an assured Gold medalist at any level of competition.

Even a cursory examination of his 10-frame exhibit reproduced in book form reveals the breadth and depth of the material that Harrison was able to accumulate. It is an outstanding exhibit in every aspect. Little red seals proliferate throughout the 160 pages of seldom-seen, rare and unique covers. The publication is the 49th volume in the BNAPS Exhibits Series.

Harrison was an expert in many fields of British North America philately, notably in the classical stamp era. Large Queens were one of his specialties; postal history his life's passion.

From the money-letter forerunners, dating back to 1802, to just past the introduction of the registered mail system introduced in 1855, there are not many items that could be added to enhance this exhibit.

The exhibit is divided into four main sections plus an introduction by Bill Walton, a contemporary of Harrison and a noted postal historian in his own right.

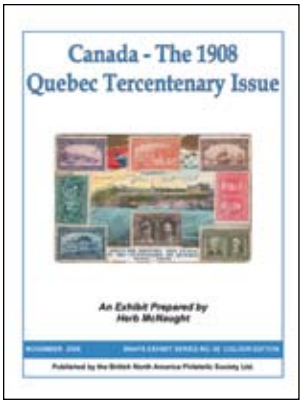
Section four, entitled "Money-Letters-Free", is further subdivided into eight additional sections as follows: Dated manuscript and typeset markings; Miscellaneous rates, marking and handling; "All mail must be backstamped"; Postage calculated by weight; Province of Canada; Money-letter handstamps; Transatlantic money-letters; and Cross border money-letters. A 37-page appendix complements the exhibit's pages.

Eight covers, several with straight-line postmarks including Brockville and Cornwall, illustrate the beginnings of the money-letter era. Some date back more than a half century to a time before registered mail was introduced in Canada. The exhibit also includes the earliest recorded cash letter dated the 21st of October 1825. Readers should note that not all "money-letters" included money, according to Harrison. "It includes letters in which money was enclosed but not so indicated by the sender as well as examples of letters marked as "Money" in which none was enclosed," he writes.

Although there are numerous outstanding money-letter examples throughout the exhibit, the pièce de résistance is the cross-over cover which was mailed one day before Canada introduced the registered mail system on May 1, 1855. Mailed on April 30, the cover shows a Paid AP 30, 1855 Quebec., L.C. handstamp and a receiving mark applied at Three-Rivers, L.C. on May 1, 1855. Harrison did not expect to ever find another example.

For anyone desirous of undertaking an in-depth study of Canada's money-letter era, this volume is unsurpassed as a teaching aid. Equally important, it provides a record of assembled money-letter covers that will not likely ever be duplicated in one collection.

Tony Shaman



CANADA - THE 1908 QUEBEC TERCENTENARY ISSUE

By Herbert L. McNaught. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society, 2008. Spiral bound, 8.5x11 inches, 134 pages ISBN: 978-1-897391-35-8 (b&w) $33.95; 978-1-897391-34-1 (colour) $90.00. Credit card orders (Visa, Mastercard) will be billed for exact amount of shipping plus $2 per order. For payment by cheque or money order, add 10% in Canada, 15% to the US, 20% overseas. GST is payable for Canadian orders. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount. Available from: Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 62 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5A8, Canada. Phone: (613) 235-9119. Internet orders can be placed at www.iankimmerly.com/books/

This eight-frame exhibit is vintage McNaught: the items in the exhibit go well beyond what one would normally expect to see in a stamp exhibit. For example, illustrations of the original artwork on which each of the eight Québec Tercentenary stamps are based are pictured alongside the relevant stamp. We also that the image of the 10-cent value stamp was taken from an engraving pictured in Bacqueville de la Potherie's publication entitled Histoire de la Nouvelle France; the 5-cent denomination was inspired by a woodcut in Laverdiere's CHAMPLAIN in the McGill University Library. The original pencil sketch was made by none other than Samuel de Champlain himself.

This latest BNAPS publication is the 50th volume in the Society's Exhibits Series. The exhibit has won several awards, including a Gold medal at ROYAL*2008*ROYALE in Quebec City. It was shown posthumously in Halifax at the 2008 BNAPS Convention.

Included in the exhibit are the usual items that one would expect to see in entries at this high level: essays, die proofs, plate proofs, hoards of issued items, imperforate sets, large multiple pieces, plate blocks, postcards and exotic covers. And it includes all of these in spades.

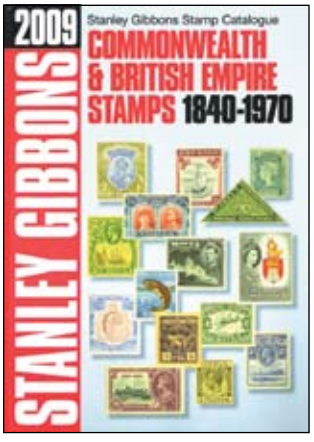
One of the many highlights of this exhibit is the half-cent die essay picturing the Prince of Wales in civilian dress. It was rejected by the Canadian postmaster. Another outstanding item is the inverted plate number inscription on a block of four stamps on the 2-cent denomination. This print error appears on Plate 4 found on the sheet's bottom selvedge. Although incorrectly labeled captions are at an absolute minimum in this exhibit, this reference to the inverted Plate 4 is mistakenly described as a 4-cent value stamp. There is, of course, no 4-cent denomination in the Tercentenary issue.

The stationery section of the exhibit, that is, postcards and covers, is particularly rich with examples of domestic rate circular date handstamps, railway postmarks, split ring cancels, duplex and oval bar strikes and assorted machine cancellations. A most unusual item is an example of an unofficial bisect on a postcard mailed from Edmonton, Alta., to Salmon Arm, B.C.

Military mail enthusiasts will find the card depicting Tent City in Savard Park, Quebec, with its encampment of 15,000 militia participating in the Tercentenary celebrations, of particular interest. Covers and cards to exotic destinations are equally impressive.

A brief review such as this cannot do justice to an exhibit assembled from the choicest philatelic material in existence. To do this fine exhibit justice, one would need to describe each page individually. Suffice it to say that an investment in this all-colour publication by anyone with an interest in the Quebec Tercentenary Issue, or in the stamps of Canada, is money well spent.

Tony Shaman



STANLEY GIBBONS STAMP CATALOGUE COMMONWEALTH & BRITISH EMPIRE STAMPS 1840-1970

Published by Stanley Gibbons Publications. 2009 edition. ISBN 13:978-0-85259-683-8. Case bound, 646 pages, 297 X 210 mm; Retail price £69.95. Orders can be placed by telephone:+44(0)1425-472363 or by e-mail:sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk Also available at www.stanleygibbons.com or from the publisher at 5 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 3SH.

More stamps have been reproduced in colour in the 2009 edition of *Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue Commonwealth & British Empire Stamps 1840-1970* than in any previous issue of this popular catalogue; for instance, many Queen Elizabeth sets are illustrated in colour as are more of the early issues. Collectors familiar with this work, now in its 111th edition, will appreciate the changes and additions that the publisher has incorporated since the previous printing.

Most notable, besides the expanded use of colour are the depictions of varieties that were not illustrated in earlier editions. For instance, we see for the first time an illustration of the "PALESTINB" print flaw on the September 1920 overprint.

Stamp prices, not surprisingly, shown for mint and used copies, continue to creep upwards from prices in previous edi-

tions. The strong prices throughout many of the listed countries reflect current market conditions. Prices for Australia and Australian States have been revised. Similarly, the stamps of Canada show many price increases, particularly the provinces, including Newfoundland, and the Dominion of Canada issues to the mid-20th century.

Included in this classic publication are the stamps of the Commonwealth and British Empire from each postal administration's initial issue up to and including the 1970 issues of King George VI. Also included is a preface by the editor covering such topics as the current state of the hobby, an overview of stamp price realizations throughout the past year, and revisions updating data from previous editions to provide users with the most up-to-date information that is available.

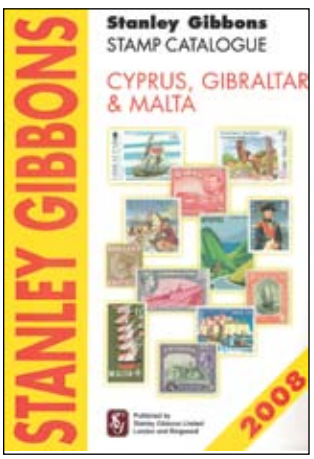
Also included in this latest edition are a comprehensive contents page; an eight-page spread of general philatelic information and guidelines to the scope of this work including a list of abbreviations found in the catalogue; an international philatelic glossary comprising nearly three pages; and a listing of specialist philatelic societies.

Much of the success of this popular catalogue is attributable to the detailed information provided by specialist societies. But relying on information provided by these sources can have a downside: built-in biases that may be questionable.

An example that may be of interest to collectors of Canadian stamps and its postal history is the New Carlisle, Gaspé, Quebec, stamp imprint pictured on page 142. Described as a "Postmaster's Provisional Envelope", this questionable item continues to be listed despite the fact that no authoritative philatelic organization to date has authenticated this cover as genuine. A caveat to this effect by the editor would have been useful but as only one example is known to exist, there is certainly no danger that a general collector will be duped into purchasing it.

At a price of nearly 70 pounds, this work is not inexpensive but when one considers the quality of its workmanship, its comprehensive content, and its practical, long lifetime, the price is justifiable. It is a work in the finest tradition of philatelic publishing and we have no hesitation in recommending it to the stamp collecting community.

Tony Shaman



CYPRUS, GIBRALTER & MALTA STAMP CATALOGUE

Published by Stanley Gibbons, 2008. (5 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hants, BH24 3SH) ISBN: 0-85259-694-4. ISBN 13: 978-0-85259-694-4. Soft cover, 90 pages, 210 X 297 mm; Retail price £15.95. Orders can be placed by telephone:+44(0)1425-472363 or by e-mail:sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk Also available at www.stanleygibbons.com or from the publisher.

The second edition of *Cyprus, Gibralter & Malta* one-country catalogue, as with other catalogues in this series produced by Stanley Gibbons, is an all-colour publication. Included in the catalogue in addition to the listings of the three main countries as outlined above are the stamps of the former British Colonies in Europe of Heligoland, the Ionian Islands, Turkish Cypriot Posts and the British Post Offices in Crete.

Printed on quality paper stock, the catalogue offers readers excellently reproduced illustrations in full colour. The text, although perhaps somewhat small for some readers, is compensated for by the crisply clear typeface.

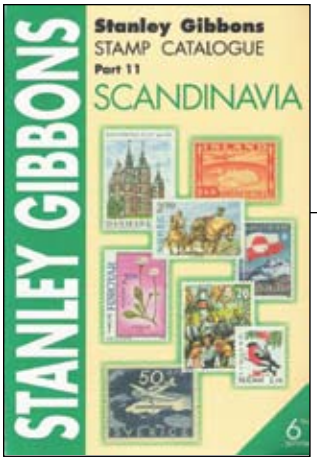
Because the publisher is also a stamp retailer, the catalogue includes a generic, eight-page introduction that provides prospective purchasers with data such as list prices of stamps, the company's return policy, its definition of stamp condition, along with information of a more technical nature. Particularly useful are illustrated examples of cancellations, centering, gum, and margins for each of the five stamps categories that the firm uses to grade its stamps: poor, average, fine, very fine, and superb. Despite the enumeration of five stamp grades, the catalogue lists prices only for stamps in fine condition. Prices are given for mint and used copies.

A three-page International Philatelic Glossary listing the commonly used equivalent philatelic terms in English, French, German, Spanish and Italian is another thoughtful gesture for the benefit of non-English-speaking collectors.

This professionally produced volume consisting of 90 pages is aimed at collectors who require a listing that goes beyond those provided in simplified or general world catalogues. The listing details are similar to those found in Part 1 of the firm's British Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue listings. Cyprus stamps are listed up to and including the 12th Francophone Summit stamp released June 5, 2008; Gibralter listings include the 2007 Christmas issue, released November 2, 2007, and the Malta listings go up to and include the St. Paul Anniversary issue of June 28, 2008.

The publisher's series of one-country catalogues, now numbering at least 19, offers excellent alternatives to the more comprehensive and higher-priced catalogues on the market. These slim volumes are recommended for collectors whose philatelic interests are limited to the stamps of a specific country or group of countries. A reasonably priced work, it is a bargain at £15.95.

Tony Shaman



STAMP CATALOGUE PART 11 SCANDINAVIA

Published by Stanley Gibbons Publications. ISBN 10: 0-85259-682-0; ISBN 13: 978-0-85259-682-1. Soft cover, 445 pages, 146 X 210 mm; Retail price £34.95. Orders can be placed by telephone: +44 (0)1425-472363 or by e-mail:sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk Also available from the publisher at 5 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 3SH or from www.stanleygibbons.com

The 6th edition of Stanley Gibbons *Stamp Catalogue Part 11 Scandinavia*, the first reprint since April 2001, is now available in vivid colour. Only a scattering of some of the earliest stamp issues still shown in black and white.

Prices of listed stamps throughout the catalogue have been revised and changes tend to be upward. According to information provided by the publishers, listed prices for mint and used copies are for stamps in fine condition. Stamps of a grade better than 'fine' command a premium; stamps in poorer condition than 'fine' obviously sell for less.

With the release of this 6th edition, the numeral cancellations of Denmark have been listed for the first time. Another improvement from the previous edition is the new design index for Denmark, Finland and Norway. New issues include the stamps released up to the spring of 2008. Listed also are stamp booklets.

Besides the stamps of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden, countries listed in this latest edition are: Iceland, Aland Islands, Danish West Indies, the Faroes and Greenland.

The publisher's "General Philatelic Information and Guidelines to the Scope of Stanley Gibbons Foreign Catalogues" is equally beneficial and of equal efficacy for beginner and longtime collectors alike. This seven-page section offers invaluable advice on how to make the best use of the information provided in the catalogue. A five-page International Philatelic Glossary of commonly used philatelic terms undoubtedly broadens the catalogue's appeal to non-English-speaking collectors.

Catalogue users will also appreciate the detailed, page-numbered, table of contents.

Exquisitely prepared with pride of workmanship apparent throughout, this catalogue should prove its worth for both general collectors and for collectors with a specific interest in the stamps of the Scandinavian countries.

Tony Shaman

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by/par Ronald Lesher



Exhibiting: A Discipline Undergoing Change

There is nothing like exhibiting to force some discipline into one's stamp collecting. Should I buy that stamp or cover? What does it add to the story that I am trying to tell? Does it advance the story? Or is it simply a nice piece of eye candy that duplicates what is already present in my exhibit? We have come to understand that an exhibit tells a story, a story of how the mail was delivered or the story of the stamps that were used to pay the postage fees or how taxes were paid. The story is an essential element of every exhibit. If the stamp or cover does not advance the story then it does not belong in the exhibit.

This has not always been the case. In 1976 I attended Interphil in Philadelphia where I found a revenue exhibit containing a used imperforate sheet of eight of the $200 denomination of the U.S. First Issue (Scott R102a) with a phrase on the page "one of two known." The next page of the exhibit was a duplicate of the previous page. In other words, the exhibitor was showing both of the known complete imperforate sheets. As a relatively inexperienced exhibitor and under the different exhibiting criteria of the 1970s, I questioned the need or desirability of the second complete sheet in the exhibit. Ironically, about 20 years later a third complete sheet of eight of the imperforate $200 was found. That discovery underscores the question that I had more than three decades ago. What was the value of including the second copy of two great rarities? Or what would be the value of having two of the three copies of a great rarity?

While in Bucharest at EFIRO 2008, my wife, who is a museum docent at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, visited one of the local Romanian museums. Upon her return from the museum she reported on an object label that she had found. In effect it read that one shouldn't worry if you did not understand what this object was, just appreciate it for its beauty. That struck us both as very old fashioned and out of step to current museum practice. The museum staff who train docents about how to work with visitors have emphasized that the objects on display are carefully selected to tell the story of where we have been as a society or culture and what that says about our society or culture today. Put into philatelic exhibiting language, how does each item advance the story that the exhibit is trying to tell.

While my wife was off exploring the eye candy of the Romanian museums, I was serving on the jury at EFIRO. What struck me about many of the philatelic exhibits paralleled what my wife was experiencing. The eye candy in the philatelic exhibits was breath taking. After all, this is exhibiting at the international level, the pinnacle of competition in our hobby. One should expect to see the best of the best. And the best was everywhere in evidence. But if the criterion of what does this piece add to the advancement of the story were to be applied to each item in the exhibits, one might come away with a different impression.

One of the traditional reasons for including multiple examples of the same or similar items in philatelic exhibits has been what might be called the scholarship defense. How can we be sure of our conclusions without study of all or a large proportion of what is known to exist? To write authoritatively one must examine a representative sample and often a large representative sample of what is known to exist. In order to study the usage, cancellation practice, sheet format, plate varieties, or some other philatelic aspect, collectors and researchers often have many examples, and frequently many are in less than pristine condition. Frequently most of the multiple copies, especially those that have faults, never see an exhibit page. But these large collections are essential to advance our knowledge.

Why then do we find these occasionally less than beautiful copies in exhibits? Is the exhibitor just filling pages? We have all seen exhibits where this may be the reason. I have been guilty of including the copy of something that was pivotal in my personal study of a stamp, even when it may not be necessary. The point could have been made with different and/or more attractive material. At times the item may not even be essential to the thrust of the exhibit. In other words, I have become enamoured with some objects without considering the story I am trying to tell in my exhibit. The very stamps that were important to my research continue to lurk in my exhibit, even though their

role in advancing the story of my exhibit may have diminished or disappeared entirely.

But let's return to the earlier example of including a second complete sheet of eight of the imperforate $200 stamp. The test of whether to include such an item does not lie with including both known copies or even two of the three known copies. Showing the depth of one's collection in an era when the pages on display were selected pages of one's collection might have been a justification for the inclusion of the two complete sheets. But that point is irrelevant today.

How essential is it to show complete sheets or panes in a traditional exhibit? For 30 years I pursued with a great deal of abandon the U. S. wine stamps and exhibited at the local, national, and international levels. For perhaps half of those years I included in my exhibit one or two complete panes (one was mint and the other was used). They consumed an enormous amount of real estate in the exhibit and as I acquired interesting material that more easily fit onto a single exhibit page, I began to question the necessity of including complete panes. The mint pane showed the arrows and guide lines where the sheet was separated into the panes for distribution to users and the denomination and inscriptions in the selvedge. I thought that was essential to tell viewers and the judges about the production of these stamps. The used pane had a very unusual handstamped cancellation that showed convincingly that the cancel came from a large canceller that had five examples of the basic cancellation that were applied with a single stroke, a labor saving device. The used pane had no selvedge; it was removed prior to issue. But from my perspective each of these panes had something that added to the traditional story of the wine tax stamps. Each was a largest recorded example! Yet each of these panes was occupying almost three-quarters of a row in an exhibition frame. Need I say that eventually they were vying for the limited real estate of an exhibit with other smaller items showing production varieties and examples of usage. What to do?

The reader will have guessed that those two complete panes were removed from the exhibit to be replaced with a deeper and richer story of production and usage with smaller size items. The panes have remained an important part of my collection and contributed a great deal to my understanding of the wine tax stamps. But for the last 15 years that I exhibited the wine stamps, they were not part of the exhibit in the frames.

Every exhibitor struggles with how best to develop his or her story in the fames. Not all exhibitors will make the same decision I did. In a traditional exhibit largest recorded multiples are essential. So in a traditional exhibit of the U.S. First Issue revenues the complete sheet of the imperforate $200 stamp is expected. It fits easily on a single page. But a second example of the same thing? ✉

Ronald Lesher is the immediate Past Chairman of the Commission for Revenues of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie.

RPSC PHILATELIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION

SRPC FONDATION DE RECHERCHE PHILATÉLIQUE

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