

The Bulletin

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DECEMBER 2020

The French Connection - Part 2 by Bill Findlay

Some random thoughts about the stamps of France

Stamps with labels attached began to appear. Of note is the 1997 issue for the French Federation of Philatelic Associations, 70th Congress (#2582) – a long format commemorative that was printed with a se-tenant label – and the 3rd Millennium issue (#2792). Some of these newer issues include the ability to personalize the label (for an extra fee of course).



The idea of a perforated stamp within the perforated square was re-used many times. In 2001, the new 1 Euro coin was celebrated in this manner (#2830). And again soccer was the topic for the 2002 World Cup Championships – this time a se-tenant pair (#2891 a&b), one of which is a circular stamp within a perforated square.

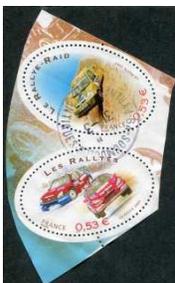


A hexagon was the shape-within-the-square for the 2003 Tour de France Bicycle Race Centennial, issued as a se-tenant pair (#2968 a&b).



Two more shapes have been used by the French post, but seemingly not being popular, they made few appearances. The first is what I call the “wobbly” stamps issued for the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens (#3040-3041)– they are in a wave format and not easy to separate, and the format has not been seen again.

The second new shape is the oval, with appeared first on the miniature sheet issued in 2005, commemorating the Gordon Bennett Cup of auto racing (from the sheet #3126) – all 10 stamps of this issue are in this format and can frequently be found cut out with scissors, rather than via the perfs – obviously not a good format. The shape reappeared in the miniature sheet for the 2007 World Rugby Cup, but only for 2 of the 10 stamps that make up this issue.



While new issues in a heart shape continue, and a few new issues in a circular shape are seen, most new issues are in the usual definitive and commemorative formats.

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Upcoming Meetings

Saugeen Stamp Club
Cancelled

Kincardine Stamp Club
Cancelled

Owen Sound Stamp Club
Cancelled

Guelph Stamp Club
Cancelled

KW Philatelic Society
Dec 10

Check with the club
before going to its meet-
ing. It may be cancelled.

ONE PAGE EXHIBITS

UPCOMING TOPICS

NEXT MEETING -

Design a Covid
Stamp

NEXT MEETING + 1 -

Airmail

NEXT MEETING + 2 -

Flowers

NEXT MEETING + 3 -

My Favourite Stamp

Message From the President

Good afternoon members / friends & family

We are into another month of rapid change to our normal way of life – things we do, places we frequent and who we can meet up with & how many can be in the group. I would hope that each of us has accepted the guidelines of our medical experts and do what must be done to keep safe and healthy. It is also important to keep in touch with our circle of friends and family to make sure they are handling the changes and keeping well. Humans are naturally social animals and must have regular and consistent contact with others. **Please do your part to ensure everyone manages to get through this extraordinarily different period of life.** The Christmas period will soon be upon us and the impact of COVID 19 will have an effect on everyone – Christmas is typically a time of year to get together with family and friends (as with everything else, this year will be different). It is not the time to think the COVID 19 virus will not affect me – it does not discriminate who gets infected.

On October 28th there was a Canada Post issue to commemorate Remembrance Day and the life of Canada's first woman battlefield artist: Mary Riter Hamilton born in Teeswater Ontario. Unfortunately, the Teeswater Post Office staff knew nothing about the issue coming out and the fact the FDC was cancelled in Teeswater they never got an issue of the stamps until they did a special order after the fact.

Members have had a long break from our regular monthly meetings but hopefully you have maintained / updated your collections or found new interests within the hobby. On the internet there have been numerous messages from family members who have inherited collections from family members – WHAT DO I DO WITH THIS PILE OF STAMPS? IS THERE ANY VALUE? What have you done to ensure you do not leave your family in this precarious situation?

Vice President Peter Kritz has volunteered to step up to handle the treasurer role vacated by Ralph – until we have an opportunity to meet and discuss a member to fill in the role. A member has volunteered to fill the position but it is proper to have a discussion with the membership as a whole in the event that others are interested. Your membership dues may be sent to Peter (remember the dues are just \$10.00 to cover the cost of printing/ mailing the Bulletin).

Merry Christmas to all – enjoy your holiday festivities PROVIDING YOU DO IT IN A SAFE MANNER.

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Some more recent oddities include an issue that was printed on both sides (2010 World Cup Soccer), and a 2009 issue that was impregnated with a chocolate scent.

I believe that France, along with many other stamp issuing countries, now puts out far too many stamps in any given year, and while I try to “complete” my collection, I have stopped at the year 2017, and mostly enjoy the earlier issues for their design work, dependent on skilled craftsmen rather than a good camera.

What's Coming Up

KWPS is having socially distant meetings in December.

Another Measured Moment.....

St. Paul in Malta

When we visited Malta in 1998, we soon learned that St. Paul is very important to the people of that island nation. We find in the Bible, in the last two chapters of Acts, the story of Paul's last trip to Rome, when he was shipwrecked on Malta. Paul reported that the people of Malta showed them "unusual kindness" Acts 28:2. In 1998 they did the same for us Canadian tourists. They don't see a lot of Canadians as most of their tourists come from Britain and Europe. One man asked me if I was a friend of Pierre Trudeau. That seemed like a normal question in a country so small that most of the people know all of the politicians personally.

St. Paul's visit is remembered with a church built on the site of the fire where Paul and the other shipwrecked passengers of the ship were warmed and fed on the beach. The church is round with stone plaques around the outside walls with the verses from the Bible telling of his visit inscribed in various languages on each plaque.

As you might guess St. Paul is often seen on the stamps of Malta. Their most cherished stamp is the 10sh stamp of 1919 with a postal cancellation, as it was also valid for revenue purposes and rarely actually used on mail. Since I have not kept up with my Maltese collection, I do not have a copy in my album. It would cost almost as much as a new car. But I can enjoy seeing it in auction sale catalogues.



Notes From the Editor:

1. Joan McTavish passed away, wife of long time member Richard. Mon Sept 28th 2020. Jim and Rita Measures went to the memorial.
2. Question from a member – Do the new cardboard stamps from Canada Post peel off or how do you use them? Also has anyone else found that the glue on the peel and stick 49cent stamps is deteriorating?
3. Dues are due – only \$10.00 to cover the Bulletin expenses. Peter Kritz is acting treasurer for the time being and your cheque can be mailed to him at the following address.
407 Lake Rosalind Road 4
RR 3
Hanover, Ontario
N4N 3B9
4. If you use a current commemorative stamp on your payment to Peter, the envelopes will be kept and a draw for a winner for them all will be made from all those who send in their payments.

Saugeen Stamp Club

Chapter 220, Royal Philatelic
Society of Canada
Chapter 1538, American
Philatelic Society
Chapter 21, Grand River Valley
Philatelic Association

Website: <https://www.rpsc.org/chapters/saugeenstampclub/>

Meeting: St. Matthew's
Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Hanover, Ontario
Use 11th Avenue Entrance

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From the desk of an old curmudgeon #4 – Dec. 2020 Dave Pugh

Well, I did it again. Had a really nice start to this article and accidentally erased the whole thing.

Well, how are we doing, who have you contacted in the club just to say "HI", looks like we are in this event for quite some time yet, can I say sometime in 2021, there, I said it.

Here I sit with my duplicate Canadian used stock books open with six empty 16 page stock books, one for each of my grandkids, 18, 17, 16, 15, 12 and 10 years of age. I have been putting a collection together for each of them as items come into my hands with the oldest first and so on down. These will be the third stock albums that have been put aside for each of them. Not everyone is equal, but the collections are impressive. Collecting at least six decent quality items for each stamp is a bit of a challenge. The oldest four grandkids already have their first two stock books, and when I visit, I take along items that I have acquired since our last get together. They do show some interest "but".

Now, let's discuss a dilemma that we all likely have, what do you do with border salvage. Is it important to leave it in place, or only remove it when it does not have any importance to the stamp or issue by providing no additional information concerning the issue.

A lot of salvage is blank, especially from earlier issues, but it appears that today's border salvage for many countries including Canada provides additional information. This can be printing numbers, bar codes, colour codes or scenes and so on.

A lot of the time the design theme continues into the salvage or border area making for larger than normal stamps when mounting in your album. There is a really good Canadian definitive issue "Edible Berries" that I as a Lighthouse collector enjoy. The 6c Blackberry (#1353) with left salvage provides an extra lighthouse.



If you are a topical collector, there are numerous examples of stamps with notable salvage and if Israel is in your collection, the stamps are even listed in the catalogues with and without tabs. If you are an exhibitor, to leave on and show as is, or fold over, damaging the perforations is not really an answer. So I guess the long and the short of it is, your choice as the collector, whatever turns your tweezers.

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