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Editor's Column

It is always hard to hear of the passing of a fellow collector. On page 19 are a few memories of C.A. Stillions whom many will remember as a stalwart of BNAPS events and a font of knowledge in many areas of collecting.

As we head into the holiday season, this issue includes an article by Peter MacDonald about the 1967 Christmas stamps. I hope that you all enjoy your holiday with family and friends and that there may even be a philatelic gift in your stocking.

Royal*2024*Royale Palmares

Large Gold

David McLaughlin - Householder Mail in Canada 1889 -1989

Gold & John D. Arn White Queen Award

Robert Lunn - Alouette: Canada's Entry Into the "Space Race"

Vermeil

Jane Sodero - First Day Covers and Use of Canada's 1955 Kayak Hunter

Salon de Vieux Papier de Quebec Palmares

Gold

Yan Turmine - Le test de la machine de tri postal CANADAIR de 1961

Large Vermeil

Peter MacDonald - Children Caroling at Christmas - From imagination to Reality

Vermeil

John McEntyre - RCAF letter and SFDC signed by Lieutenant-General P.D. Manson

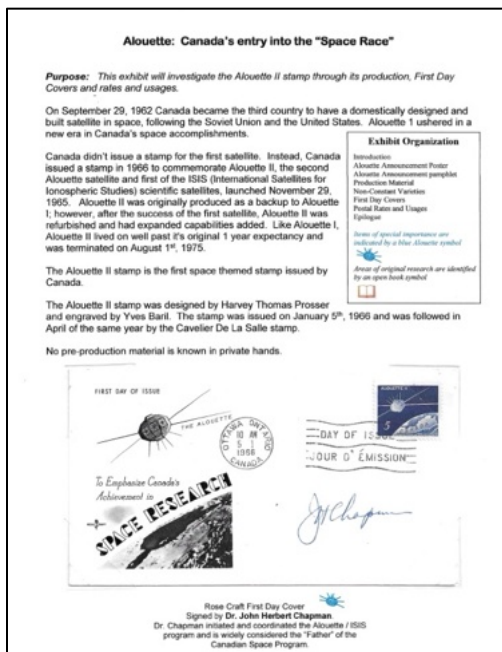
Planning Calendar

This is a listing of major exhibitions and bourses with a large content of both Canadian Exhibits and Canadian dealers.

The goal is to list events far in advance to encourage either exhibiting or attendance and preferably both.

March 29-30, 2025	ESC Spring National Stamp Show , Edmonton, AB
April 25-26, 2025	FILEX/Royal*2025*Royale , Montreal, QC
May 3-4, 2025	ORAPEX , Ottawa, ON
May 24-25, 2025	Le Salon de Vieux Papier , Quebec City, QC
September 19-21, 2025	BNAPEx, Vernon, BC

Rob Lunn's Title Page



Who are We?

We are the Elizabethan II Study Group under the auspices of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) — The Society for Canadian Philately.

Our journal, the *Corgi Times* is published six times a year.

We study all aspects of Canadian stamps during the Elizabethan-era — February 6, 1952 through September 8, 2022.

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Study Group Business

No new members this period

50 Years Ago

November 1 • 'Nativité', Jean Paul Lemieux

November 1 • 'Skaters in Hull', Henri Masson

November 1 • 'The Ice Cone, Montmorency Falls', Robert C. Todd

November 1 • 'Village in the Laurentian Mountains', Clarence Gagnon



November 15 • Guglielmo Marconi 1874 - 1937

November 29 • William Hamilton Merritt, The Welland Canal, 1824



Corgi Times – Publishing Details

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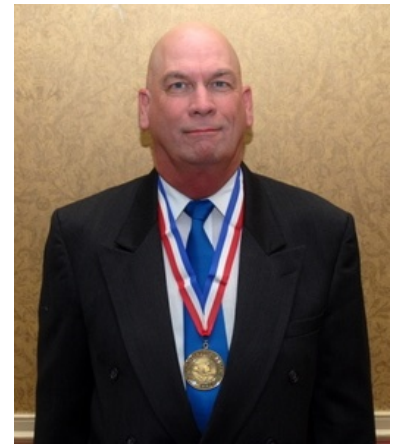
The Corgi Times is undergoing changes. As before, manuscripts should be submitted to the Editor at the address at left. Electronic format is preferred but not required. Files should be in Word or text format. Scanned illustrations (300dpi, colour, actual size, JPEG or TIFF, black background) should be sent as separate files from text files. Lower quality images may not be included and may likely result in the article not being printed.

Issue	Article Deadline*	Publication Date
September – October	September 1 st	between September 15 and 30
November – December	November 1 st	between November 15 and 30
January – February	January 1 st	between January 15 and 30
March – April	March 1 st	between March 15 and 30
May – June	May 1 st	between May 15 and 30
July – August	July 1 st	between July 15 and 30

* at the editor's discretion articles may be held for a future issue

In Memoriam - C.A. Stillions

Longtime ESG Member C.A. (Clarence Arthur) Stillions passed away on Sunday, November 10, 2024 after a brief illness. His family wrote that “his greatest passion was his love of philately, its related history and the joy he found in those unexpected “finds” and unique discoveries. As you may know, he took great pride in exhibiting his dearest pieces and sharing this zeal--having been awarded many accolades for his efforts at various U.S. and Canadian annual conferences. Over decades, he cherished attending regular stamp meetings and conferences--not only for the benefit of displaying his wares, but also and most particularly to visit with his fellow, dedicated stamp collectors whose friendships he so valued.”



From his biography in the June 2019 Eastern Auctions catalogue which featured Stillions’ 1923 – 1944 Newfoundland collection: “what started as a scout project became a lifelong refuge from the demands and stresses of every-day life. Collecting the stamps of Newfoundland early on progressed into winning numerous Gold medals. In 1985 he and several other Newfoundland collectors began the Newfoundland Study Group of the BNAPS, serving as its first Chairman and Newsletter Editor.”¹ He was a member of the Order of the Beaver and a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London.” At this time, the family has not made any memorial plans.

Your Editor first met C.A. at a meeting of the Dixie Beavers Regional Group at the Southeastern Stamp Expo in Atlanta. We continued to cross paths at various shows including NApEX (where he exhibited Canadian stamps which used embossing in the production process), Orapex, GASS and BNAPex in Halifax. I enjoyed meeting C.A. at shows as it was always a learning opportunity and a pleasant conversation.

BNAPEx - Queen Elizabeth II Study Group Meeting

Sunday, 25 August 2024 - 12:10 - 13:30

Present: Léopold Beaudet, Karen Duckett, Bernie Finkelstein, Luc Frère, Doug Irwin, Richard Judge, Denis Lecompte, Michael Lee, Charles Livermore, Peter MacDonald, Gilles Morel, Haifa Selo

In the absence of our chairman Robert Elias, who was unfortunately unable to attend BNAPEx 2024 in Kingston, Luc Frère hosted the meeting.

Our new member Denis Lecompte began our annual Show & Tell session by sharing a complete page of the 1995 Elmira Peach 90 cents definitive stamp with a misperforation between the X and X row. This new discovery is not a back door item as Denis confirmed that the sheet was purchased at his local post office outlet when the stamp was released.



Doug Irwin showed covers franked with Centennial stamps that received special treatment such as a Canadian stamp used in US (Alaska), a «Stolen Mail» handstamp or an unusual postage due after a change in the business reply mail rate.

One of Gilles Morel’s collecting interest is hockey and he shared his autographed hockey players cards, noting for each the number of stamps signed and reminding us about the presence of the authenticity holographic sticker.

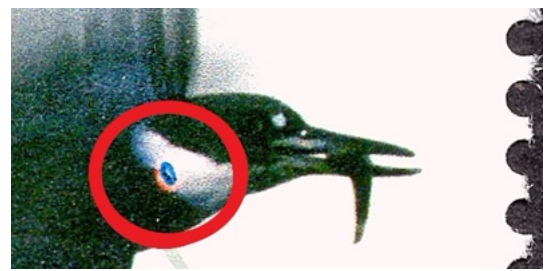
¹ https://www.easternauctions.com/wp-content/plugins/ea_catalogs_plugin/public/assets/catalogs/PA857_GeneralSale.pdf

Luc Frève passed around various Canada Post presentation folders, collateral items of his 1972 Earth Sciences collection as well as pre-production material of the 1988 Young Reader stamp along with some postal usage.

Denis Lecompte reported a new constant variety on the 1995 Migratory Wildlife series (Sc. 1563-1566) characterized with blue dots noted on Pos. 2 and Pos. 4 of the pane of 20.

Michael Lee showed a picture of a 1994 88 cents Westcot Apricot stamp from the booklet that appears to be untagged. Members present were not able to conclude if it was an untagged stamp.

This concluded our annual Show & Tell meeting.



Children Caroling at Christmas - From Imagination to Reality

by Peter MacDonald

When the editor approached me for a Corgi Times article, my first thought was “What could I possibly contribute?” I had never written a philatelic article before, and I’ve only exhibited a handful of times. However, I was in the process of preparing an exhibit for the Salon du Vieux Papier de Québec. The timing was perfect! The exhibit I was preparing would attempt to tell a story about a stamp issue in the space of one 11” x 17” page!

Canada’s 1967 Christmas issue was entitled Children Caroling at Christmas. The 3c red and 5c blue stamps that were issued on October 14, 1967 got their start much earlier in the mind of their designer, George Fanais (1922 - 1988). How much earlier is anyone’s guess. He showed much promise as an artist very early in his life and by the age of 14, he was exhibiting in his hometown of Windsor, Ontario and soon after enrolled in the Ontario College of Art, the youngest ever to do so.¹ As he concluded his studies in 1942, he was awarded the Lieutenant Governor’s silver medal² and he went on to do portraiture in Toronto, before being hired as a designer with the British America Bank Note Company in Ottawa.



Figure 2 - Fanais’ proposal via CBN

The Post Office Department regularly received design ideas for its stamps, and at some point in 1966 or early 1967, Fanais submitted two of his: one a 3c denomination through the Canadian Bank Note Company (CBN) (Figure 2) and one a 5c denomination through the British American Bank Note Company (BABN) (Figure 1) Both submissions were rejected, though each had elements that became part of the issued designs including the font of the 3c denomination and the Peace Tower and snow-encrusted tree of the 5c denomination.³



Figure 1 - Fanais’ proposal via BABN

Ultimately, Fanais created the accepted designs that used those elements plus a trio of children carolers singing from a song book, an image that was meant to “vividly recall the country’s greatest children’s party held in the shadow of the Parliament Buildings on our nation’s 100th Birthday, July 1st, 1967”.⁴ A hand-drawn sketch by Fanais (Figure 3) clearly shows the development of the design.⁵ It should be noted that the BABN-proposed design eventually became the essence of the 1968 Christmas 6c stamp, featuring the sculpture, “Mother and Child” by Mannumi Shaqu of Cape Dorset, Baffin Island.

¹ *The Ottawa Journal*. 1969, September 20. Page 2.

² Matthews, A. E. Lieutenant Governor of Ontario (1942, May 27). *Letter to Fanais*. Toronto, Ontario.

³ *Postal History Corner*. <http://postalhistorycorner.blogspot.com/2010/12/1967-christmas-1967-3-cent-and-5-cent.html>

⁴ Post Office Department (Canada). PS-14 brochure 1967 (which incorrectly lists October 11 as the issue date).

⁵ Provenance: Fanais Estate; Saskatoon Stamp Centre; Robert Haslewood Estate; Sparks Auctions; the author.



Figure 3 - Fanais' early sketch

The 1967 Christmas stamps designed by Fanais and finally accepted were engraved for CBN by Yves Baril. More than 345,000,000 (total for both the 3c and 5c) untagged and tagged stamps in sheet format and cello-paq mini-panes were ordered to fulfill the needs of seasonal mailers. My exhibit of the 1967 Christmas issues featured five different uses of the stamps (Figures 4 through 8):



Figure 4 - 3c paying the South American preferential rate

A 3c stamp postmarked by Riviere-du-Loup, Quebec circular date stamp, 18 November, 1967 paying the Third Class (for 0oz to 2oz) preferential rate for South America, presumably a Christmas Card, with the flap unsealed, to Brazil.⁶ (Figure 4)

⁶ Harris, D. R., & Beaudet, L. (2000). Page 15 - rates.

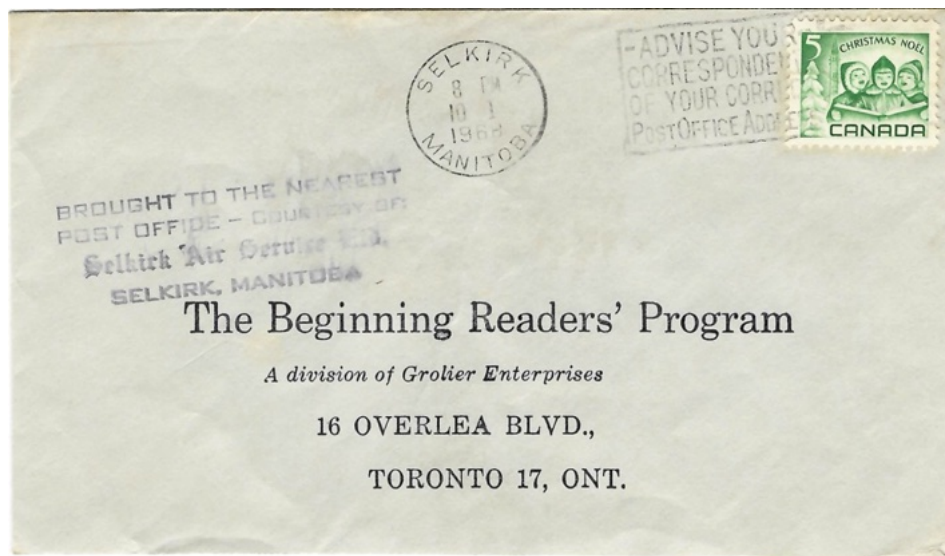


Figure 5 - 5c showing the "Courtesy of Selkirk Air Service" marking

A 5c stamp postmarked by Selkirk, Manitoba circular date stamp, 10 January, 1968 paying the domestic First Class rate, from Selkirk, MB, where it was brought "Courtesy of Selkirk Air Service" at no additional charge.⁷ The originating location is unknown. (Figure 5)



Figure 6 - 3c (x2) paying Postage Due

Two 3c stamps paying the double deficiency, likely for an unstamped Christmas card at the Third Class rate⁸, postmarked Winfield, B.C. by MOON handstamp dated 20 December 1967. (Figure 6)

⁷ Courtesy Air Service operations are currently being studied by BNAPS and the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society, with a book to be published in the near future.

⁸ Harris, D. R., & Beaudet, L. (2000). Page 15 - rates.



Figure 7 - 5c stamps (x9) - Special Delivery plus First Class rate

Nine 5c stamps postmarked by Cornwall, Ontario circular date stamp paying the First Class (5c) rate plus Special Delivery (40c) rate in effect from June 1, 1967 (Figure 7).⁹

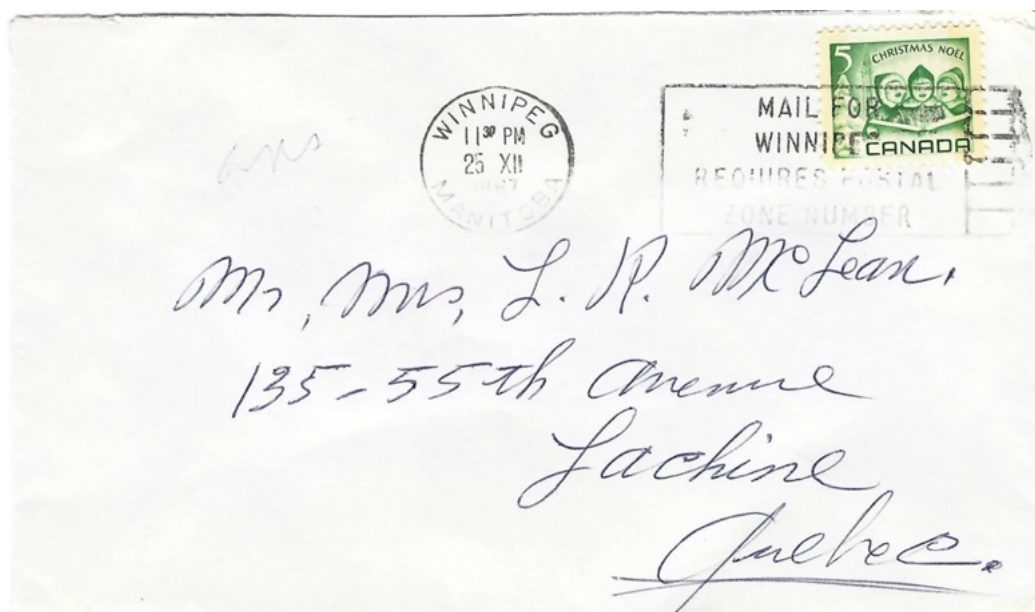


Figure 8 - Postmarked Christmas Day!

A 5c stamp postmarked on Christmas Day, December 25, 1967 by Winnipeg, Manitoba circular date stamp paying the First Class rate for domestic mail (Figure 8).¹⁰ While it was a Monday, by this point, no post offices were open on statutory holidays. This postmark might be a mistake in dating by a postal clerk, or more likely someone having a bit of fun with their canceller, perhaps a favour to a philatelic friend.

Though it was very challenging to show this material and tell a story in such a limited space...my mind is already planning to turn what was shown in Quebec into a single-frame or bigger exhibit! I had a great time assembling it and an even better time at the show. The next Salon de Vieux Papier will be held in Québec City in May of 2025 – plenty of time for you to consider what Elizabethan subject YOU will exhibit there!

⁹ Harris, D. R., & Beaudet, L. (2000). Page 15 - rates.

¹⁰ Harris, D. R., & Beaudet, L. (2000). Page 15 - rates.

Bibliography

- 1) Harris, D. R., & Beaudet, L. (2000). *Centennial Definitive Series, 1967-1973*. Adminware Corporation.
- 2) Matthews, A. E. Lieutenant Governor of Ontario (1942, May 27). *Letter to Fanaïs*. Toronto, Ontario.
- 3) *The Ottawa Journal*, 1969, September 20. p. 2.
- 4) *Postal History Corner*. <http://postalhistorycorner.blogspot.com/2010/12/1967-christmas-1967-3-cent-and-5-cent.html>
- 5) Post Office Department (Canada). PS-14 brochure 1967.

Peter MacDonald has been collecting for 51 years and has a keen, possibly unhealthy, passion for collecting the stamps, postal history and ephemera of Canada's Christmas issues, 1964-2022. He is Chair of the extremely casual BNAPS Christmas Study Group and VP of the RPSC. His day job is general manager of Sparks Auctions.

From the Auction Block – Eastern Auctions Ltd. November 15, 2024



Gary Lyon provided the following information in the catalogue insert.

In March 1971 a new 6¢ commemorative was issued for the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Ernest Rutherford. On the day of issue I purchased a part sheet of thirty at a sub post office in a grocery store. Later when I examined it more closely, I noticed that it had a missing colour error. I rushed back for the rest of the sheet. Ten stamps had already been sold but a strip of ten still remained, which I promptly purchased. A short time later I telephoned dealer Kasimir Bileski in Winnipeg to describe the error and see if he might be interested. He made a good offer and I sold it to him. I retained the strip of ten for several years but eventually sold that to Bileski as well.

It was with some surprise that I stumbled upon this same block recently in a consignment.

Some of the normal stamps had been removed but of course I immediately recognized it. Such errors are now termed Repellex errors and are caused when a small pool of liquid accidentally gets on the printing plate.

To this day this is the best item I ever purchased straight from a post office! No other examples of this error were ever found.

Catalogue Description Lot 164:

534i, 1971 6c Ernest Rutherford Upper left blank (no imprint; from field stock) mint block of eight showing a distinctive and very rare Repellex error - a large oval shaped area resulting in COMPLETELY MISSING THE BLACK COLOUR on the four stamps from centre rows – background being red instead of black. A very rare printing error, this block having only surfaced on the marketplace twice in nearly 50 years, VF NH; K. Bileski notes accompanies Illustrated on Page 87 Est. 2,000.00+ **Sold for 3,250.00 +buyer's premium.**