



Elizabethan II Study Group “Annual Show-and-Tell” at BNAPEX 2026

by Bob Elias



The Elizabethan II Study Group held its “Annual Show-and-Tell” on September 19, during BNAPEX 2026 Valleyfield. A total of 13 participants were welcomed by Bob Elias (see list). Andrew Chung (Hamilton, ON) and Adri Veenstra (Arnhem, Netherlands) had hoped to connect online, but Zoom was found to be unsuitable for our meeting format.

Rob Coughlin started the show-and-tell with a spectacular full pane of the 2007 Year of the Pig B missing the foil stampings (#2201a)! This item is authentic, because he obtained it directly from the Canada Post Philatelic Centre in Antigonish, NS, at the time of issue. Ingo Nessel pointed out the importance of knowing the source, because this variety has been faked by removal of the foil from stamps.

Jeff Arndt can be counted on to find interesting Wilding covers in dollar boxes at stamp shows. This time they included a cover sent by surface mail to Western Australia (5¢ Wilding), a domestic forward cover with a Toronto, Stratford & Goderich RPO cancellation (5¢ Wilding), and a domestic local cover with drop Registration (4¢ and four 5¢ Wildings). At a dealer’s table, Jeff found a Wilding cover sent by surface mail from Toronto to England, with the rare “British Mail Office Night Staff” postal marking applied in Toronto.

Cont’d on page 10

ESG at BNAPEX 2026 Valleyfield

Jeff Arndt (Fairfax, VA)
David Bartlet (Calgary, AB)
Leopold Beaudet (Ottawa, ON)
Ron Coughlin (Sherbrooke, QC)
Bob Elias (Winnipeg, MB)
Richard Judge (Racine, WI)
Michael Lee (Ottawa, ON)
Peter MacDonald (Ottawa, ON)
Gilles Morel (Ottawa, ON)
Barry Moss (Abbotsford, BC)
Ingo Nessel (Brampton, ON)
Jane Sodero (Halifax, NS)
Jean Wang (Toronto, ON)

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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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<https://bnaps.org/studygroups/Elizabethan/Elizabethan.htm>

DUES

All addresses: C\$10.00 for a one-time application fee charge; free for all following years for distribution of *Corgi Times* via e-mail or a PDF download from the website.

Payment by PayPal is preferred:

E2SGTreasurer@gmail.com

If by cheque, please make cheques payable to "The Elizabethan II Study Group" and send to Derek Fleming, Treasurer at the address noted above.

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50 Years Ago

September 1976

September 1 • Caricature Definitives - Queen Elizabeth II

September 17 • The Iroquoians - Artifacts

September 17 • The Iroquoians - Iroquoian Encampment

September 17 • The Iroquoians - Thunderbird

September 17 • The Iroquoians - Ceremonial Costume



Editor's Column

I had a beautiful drive home from BNAPEX last month driving along the St. Lawrence River and into New Brunswick just as the fall colours were beginning to take hold. BNAPEX was a great show – a huge thank you to Sébastien Crête and Yan Turmine and their team. The icing on the cake was that the *Corgi Times* received the "John S. Siverts Award" as the best Study Group newsletter published during the previous calendar year! You will see that our Corgi in the masthead is proudly displaying its Best in Show ribbon. Thank you to all the contributors for providing articles and to the committee who took the time to read the newsletters from all the study groups to make their determination.

On a personal note, your editor is once again on the move. Many know that I have bounced around from my home in Nova Scotia to the US and France but in the coming months I will be moving to the Montreal area. Things will be a little chaotic, please bear with me on any delays until things settle down in the New Year (I hope!). I am always in need of articles for future issues, please send your contribution at any time.

2026 Cherry Blossoms Coil Issue

by Mirko Zatkan

With the exception of 2006, Canada Post has produced a 2-stamp flower issue in the spring of each year since 2005. Each issue consisted of a booklet of 10 self-adhesive stamps and a souvenir sheet of two stamps. In 2011, a coil version of these stamps was added in rolls of 50, and in 2018 the coils had a number added on the backing paper of every fifth stamp to indicate how many stamps are left in the roll – customer convenience! The first stamp in the roll has a ‘50’ on the back, and the last one (fifth from the end!) is a ‘5’. All of the Flower coil issues have been produced by Lowe-Martin. According to Canada Post, the 2026 stamps feature original photographs of cherry blossoms taken by Brett Hitchins at the Nitobe Memorial Garden at the University of British Columbia. The stamps were designed by Belisle Creative.



Image from Canada Post (approx. 200%)

For those collectors who only wanted a strip of these stamps, Canada Post’s Philatelic Center has offered these for some years. Strips of four were sold as regular (non-gutter) strips until 2024, and strips of 10 had the gutter positioned at top with a product number assigned to each of these for ordering. Unlike the full rolls, booklets, souvenir sheets and first-day covers, no issued quantities were published for these. Starting in 2025 the strips of four were sold in a gutter format, and the strips of 10 had the gutter moved to middle of the strip. Additionally, Canada Post indicated that 2,500 strips of four and 1,600 strips of 10 were made available. The same was repeated for the 2026 issue, expect that something odd happened this time.

After the 2006 stamps were issued on March 2, 2026, I was notified by a long-time customer that he has received some gutter strips from the Philatelic Center of this new issue that had back numbers higher than 50!

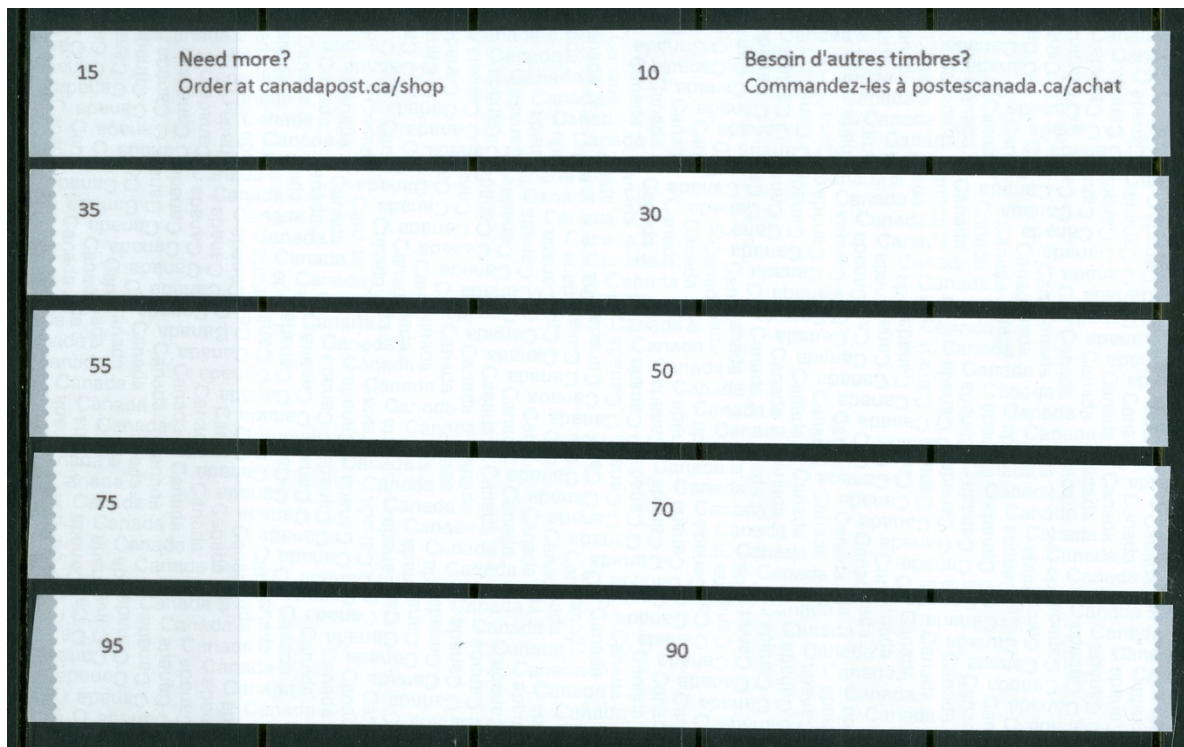
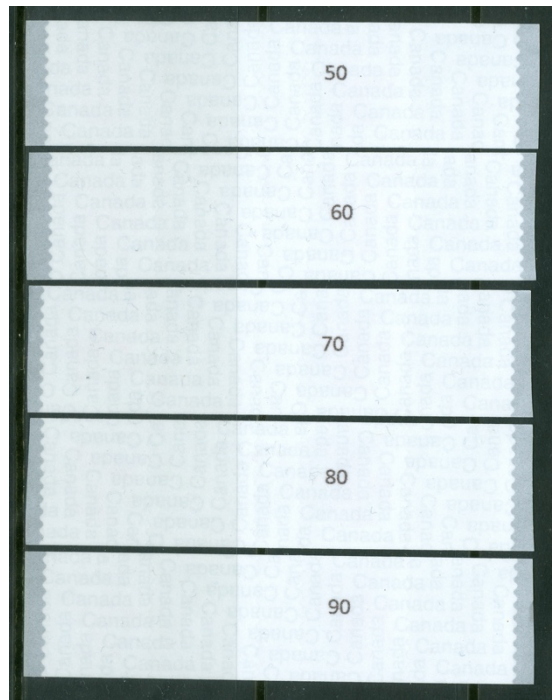
In our conversation I mentioned that coils of these stamps were only sold with 50 stamps and never more. As is normal for me on these issues, I bought two rolls at my local post office, and indeed there were only 50 stamps in each and the back numbers were the expected ‘50’ to ‘5’ as the rolls were unwound.

I then ordered from Canada Post’s Philatelic Center some strips of 10 of this issue, and later on gutter strips of four. Overall, from several purchases, I was sent the following as illustrated:

Counting # on back	Gutter strips of 4	Counting # on back	Gutter strips of 10
10	1	15/10	4
20	4	25/20	---
30	1	35/30	3
40	2	45/40	---
50	2	55/50	6
60	2	65/60	---
70	3	75/70	1
80	2	85/80	---
90	1	95/90	3

Upcoming Shows

May 1-2, 2027 ORAPEX
 Sep 3-5, 2027 Royal*2027*Royale BNAPEX
 Calgary, AB



Why do back numbers exist with values higher than 50 on the 2026 issue? I suspect this was an error on the part of Lowe-Martin when laying out the back-print mat. 'P' coils are normally issued in rolls of 100, and it is possible that someone at the printer thought the issue would be produced in the same format requiring numbering to 100. Likely some quantity of the stamps was printed before the error was noticed. Rather than scrap this part of the printing as it could not be utilized for full roll production (at least the sections with the higher numbers), it was used for the production of the collector strips, not realizing that this would produce a new collectible variety.

In thinking about HOW the higher-numbered strips could have been produced, I believe the above illustrations represent all of the back-number combinations that exist (the back-number distribution I received in each order was entirely random). Why only these combinations exist is not obvious, and

several different explanations may exist. No strips of four with a back number of '100', or strips of 10 with '5/100' have been reported.

To a specialist, figuring out why only these particular strips were available is the obvious next step. In my analysis I made an assumption that the strips were produced from pre-cut sections of 100 stamps taken from the web. This would explain why gutter strips with backprints of '100' and strips of 10 with '5/100' have not been reported. One "given" was also noted - each strip sold by Canada Post has a blank 1/2-stamp blank piece attached on each end to prevent damage to the end-most die cuts. This was done by peeling away one stamp at the end of each desired strip and then cutting the strip across the blank backing paper. Given this, sequential strips could not be cut from the longer strips as one stamp always had to be removed between them, thus combination of strips of four and 10 had to be produced at the same time.

In my view, to meet the above, the 100-stamp strips had to be cut in two different ways to obtain the individual strips reported. Each is illustrated as follows (note that individual stamps in the rolls are actually INVERTED relative to the way the roll unwinds from left to right if looking only at the back). A potential '100' is used as the starting back number on the first stamp, the gutter is designated as G, and green-coloured cells identify the strips taken for sale:

Cut #1:

Stamp count:	=>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		21	22	23	24	25	=>
Strip:		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	
Back #:		100?					95						90					85						80					
Stamp count:	=>	26	27	28	29	30		31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	=>
Strip:		X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	10	10	10	10	10	G
Back number:		75						70					65						60					55					
Stamp count:	=>	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60		61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70		71	72	73	74	75	=>
Strip:		10	10	10	10	10	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	10	10	10	10	10	G	10	10	10	10	10	
Back number:		50						45					40					35						30					
Stamp count:	=>	76	77	78	79	80		81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90		91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	=>
Strip:		X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	10	10	10	10	10	G	10	10	10	10	10	X	X	X	X	X	G
Back number:		25						20					15						10						5				

Cut #2:

Stamp count:	=>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		21	22	23	24	25	=>
Strip:		X	X	X	X	X	10	10	10	10	10	G	10	10	10	10	10	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	
Back number:		100?					95						90					85						80					
Stamp count:	=>	26	27	28	29	30		31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	=>
Strip:		10	10	10	10	10	G	10	10	10	10	10	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	4	4	G
Back number:		75					70					65						60						55					
Stamp count:	=>	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60		61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70		71	72	73	74	75	=>
Strip:		4	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	
Back number:		50					45					40						35						30					
Stamp count:	=>	76	77	78	79	80		81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90		91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	=>
Strip:		X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	G
Back number:		25					20					15						10											

One strip of 100 stamps for each 'cut' create one set of the different strips of four and 10, and an extra strip of four with back numbers 20, 40, 60, and 80. This is entirely possible as there is no evidence to suggest that equal quantities of the different back-numbered strips were produced for sale. If the latter had been the case, then more stamps would have been wasted in the process of creating these.

If the individual strips had been removed directly from the web rather than strips of 100, then there is no reason why back numbers of '100' and '5/100' would not exist.

Lastly, if there was a desire to create equal numbers of the different back-numbered strips of four, then an additional ‘cut’ would have been necessary to produce these extra strips based on the back numbers seen:

Stamp count:	=>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		21	22	23	24	25	=>
Strip:		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	
Back number:		100?					95						90					85						80					
Stamp count:	=>	26	27	28	29	30		31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40		41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	=>
Strip:		X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	10	10	G
Back number:		75						70					65					60					55						
Stamp count:	=>	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60		61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70		71	72	73	74	75	=>
Strip:		10	10	X	X	X	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	10	10	G	10	10	X	X	X	
Back number:		50					45						40					35						30					
Stamp count:	=>	76	77	78	79	80		81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90		91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	=>
Strip:		X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	4	4	G	4	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	G
Back number:		25						20					15					10						5					

It is entirely possible that the strips of 100, or possibly the web itself, had been cut apart in a different manner than shown above to produce the reported back-numbered strips – this is just one example of how it may have been done.

If strips numbered above 50 with different back-number combinations, or a gutter strip of four with ‘100’ on the back have been found, I would be very interested in having them reported so that the list can be updated, as this would also require a re-think of the way these might have been produced.

Good luck in finding all – this is not an easy (or cheap) task, but it has made the issue far more interesting for collectors!

ESG “Annual Show-and-Tell” at BNAPEX 2026 (cont’d)

Jean Wang showed an interesting souvenir cover from Toronto’s First Post Office. This office operated from 1833 to 1839, reopened in 1983, and is still in operation as both a post office and museum. The entire front of the cover featured a colourful image, while the back flaps were folded and closed with a red wax seal. This cover was franked with the 43¢ Toronto Bicentennial stamp (#1484), first-day cancelled on August 6, 1993.

Peter MacDonald brought a treasure dear to his heart B a sheet of the 1974 6¢ Christmas stamp (#650), which shows “La Nativité” painted by Jean-Paul Lemieux in 1966. What makes this particular sheet extraordinary is the autograph of the artist, who rarely signed items.

Gilles Morel concluded our show-and-tell with a nicely cancelled block of four of the 8¢ Centennial “Library of Parliament” issue (#544). One of the stamps featured the rare constant variety with a prominent “Extra Spire” on the left side (#544iv).

BNAPEX 2026 - Special Awards for ESG Members

Jeff Arndt received the BNAPS Order of the Beaver’s “Lifetime Achievement Award” for his contributions to BNA philately.

Douglas Irwin received the BNAPS Elizabethan II Study Group’s “John D. Arn White Queen Award” for his multi-frame exhibit “The Centennial Definitives of Canada - The Coil Stamps”.

Jane Sodero received the BNAPS “John S. Siverts Award” as editor of the best Study Group newsletter published during the previous calendar year.

On behalf of the membership of the Elizabethan II Study Group, Bob Elias (ESG Chair) extends congratulations and gratitude to Jane. Considering that 2025 was her first full year as Editor of Corgi Times, being honoured with this award is an especially noteworthy achievement!

BNAPS Competition		
P. Charles Livermore	The Canadian National Exhibition – A Philatelic and Social History	Silver
John G. McEntyre	1960-73: Canadian Replacement FDCs used for Government Publicity Project	Silver
David W. Bartlet	Pacific Jamboree 2024, Sooke, British Columbia	Silver
Robert J. Elias	Use of Canadian Karsh Definitive Stamps	Vermeil
Ross Elliot	Errors and Frauds in Coil Stamps from the 6 Cent Orange Centennial (1969) to the 46 Cent Flag (1998)	Gold
Douglas Irwin	The Centennial Definitives of Canada - The Coil Stamps	Gold White Queen Award
Regional Competition		
Francois Trépanier	50 ans du service aéroportal au Canada (1936-1986), en route vers l'expo86 de Vancouver	Bronze
Jean Wang	Health Begins at Home: Canadian Family Allowance, Meter Slogans 1948-1956	Large Gold Single Frame Grand



Left – Ron Smith presenting Jane Sodero with the John S. Siverts Award

Below Left – Judge Guillaume Vadeboncoeur presenting Doug Irwin with the John D. Arn White Queen Award

Below Right – Jean Wang receiving the Regional Show Single Frame Grand Award from FQP President Louis Cantin



Financial Statement – 2025 - 2026

THE ELIZABETHAN II STUDY GROUP
Financial Statements for the Period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026
(with comparatives to June 30, 2025)

		<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>
OPERATING FUND			
Income:	Membership Dues	20.00	30.00
	Interest Income	435.30	167.28
Total Income		<u>455.30</u>	<u>197.28</u>
Expense:	Printer, Toner, Paper, & Envelopes	0.00	59.82
	Postage Cost	75.00	75.00
	Bank & PayPal Charges	32.19	38.37
Total Expenses		<u>107.19</u>	<u>173.19</u>
Operating Income/(Loss)		<u>348.11</u>	<u>24.09</u>
RESEARCH RESERVE FUND			
Balance July 1, 2025		4,501.31	5,722.83
Additions (Donations)		0.00	10.00
Book Promotion Subsidies		(1,755.60)	(1,231.52)
Publishing & Distributing Postal Rate Book		50.00	0.00
Balance June 30, 2026		<u>2,795.71</u>	<u>4,501.31</u>
BALANCE SHEET			
Assets			
Cash in Bank - Operating Fund		4,433.12	6,370.16
Cash in Bank - Certificates of Deposit		6,992.84	6,557.54
Cash in Bank - PayPal Account		131.13	81.60
Prepaid Postage		25.00	100.00
Total Assets		<u>11,582.09</u>	<u>13,109.30</u>
Liabilities			
Payable to Editor (see note 1)		0.00	234.82
Accounts Payable (see note 2)		379.50	314.40
		<u>379.50</u>	<u>549.22</u>
Study Group Equity			
Balance July 1, 2025		12,560.08	13,757.51
Current Period Operating Income/(Loss)		348.11	24.09
Change in Research Reserve Fund		(1,705.60)	(1,221.52)
Balance June 30, 2026		<u>11,202.59</u>	<u>12,560.08</u>
Total Liabilities and Study Group Equity		<u>11,582.09</u>	<u>13,109.30</u>

Note 1 - Payable to the Editor re: postage and supplies

Note 2 - Payable to Longley Auctions re: BNAPS Book Promotions