#### EDMONTON STAMP CLUB

# BULLETIN

Volume 107, Number 1 January 2018 ISSN: 0046-1318

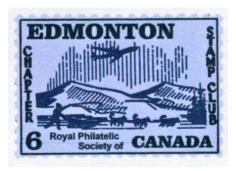
Mailing address: P.O. Box 399, Edmonton AB T5J 2J6 Website: http://www.edmontonstampclub.com



USA #244 Used, (42 bids) \$700 eBay – Dec 2017

Regular meetings St. Joseph High School Cafeteria, 10830 - 109 Street, 6:00 pm

> January 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> February 5<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>



The Edmonton Stamp Club dates back to 1912. The Club is Life Chapter #6 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and Chapter #680 of the American Philatelic Society. The editor welcomes communications of all kinds letters, comments and articles. Deadline, 7 days before first

**monthly meeting.** These may be forwarded to Fred Tauber, Edmonton Stamp Club, Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2J6, click "contact" on our website or email to fxtauber@shaw.ca

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## Hello 2018

#### **President Richard Barnes**

For me it has been a Joyous beginning to 2018. Most of the Barnes family was in Edmonton to begin 2018. It left me with little time to look at stamps but I did find for my Palestine collection the second stamp of the French Consular stamps issue in Jerusalem in 1948. The Edmonton Stamp Club is functioning as a team. We ended 2017 with a successful Christmas get together with a substantial buffet. We are continuing in the New Year with our seminar series starting with an intelligent, handsome and knowledgeable stamp collector, myself with a presentation on "Stamps that are not Stamps". Work on the Spring Show is progressing. A new feature of the Spring Show, "The Fun Frames" is generating members' interest and participation. There is a very interesting, varied and exciting selection of lots coming in for the Summer Meeting/Auction.

Remember to invite friends to our meetings and the special events coming up in 2018, particularly the Spring Show and Summer Meeting. I am confident in our members to make them welcome and show the joy that our hobby offers.

#### Jim Lockau

One gift I look forward to receiving each year is the Canada Post year collection, mainly because of the stories and background information on each stamp contained in the album. For this year's spring show we are challenging and encouraging club members to submit a stamp exhibit where we would have an opportunity to tell a story around a stamp, event or topic. Challenging in that we want to break out of the traditional mold of exhibiting into a format we are calling a 'fun frame'. A frame will have between four and sixteen sheets of philatelic materials on a topic selected by the member. That is where the encouragement comes into play. I continue to be impressed by the variety of interests and breadth of knowledge in philatelic matters by our club members. It is this knowledge, and some say passion, that we would like to tap into as we attempt to show our hobby to the public and maybe even trigger some interest to get into the hobby or rekindle old interest in the world of stamp collecting.

To support members that might consider a frame submission, I hope that some of the following information can help. The club will supply the mounting sheets and page protectors for each submission. We will have resources available to answer any questions that you might have.

Continued page four

## NOTICE Trading Post

200 WW STAMPS (75% large \$4), Canada packet 200 stamps (75 % large \$5), mint Mexico 100 (large \$4), foreign mint stamps \$8, plus SAE (self-addressed envelope) for each order. ESC members, postage free. Harold Towlson, 60 Ivanhoe Road, Buffalo, NY, 14215, USA.

Want a stamp exchange particularly with GB Machins and commemoratives of Royalty, also ships, trains, planes and such. Keith Thompson, 1109 Larch Place, Canmore, AB, T1W 1S8 or bikethom@telusplanet.net

Frank von Hausen, <u>fvhstamps.com</u>, 1-866-684-8408, Email: <u>fvhstamps@aol.com</u>. We buy & sell stamps of Canada, European, foreign and topicals. Postcards, postal history covers, Catalogues, Albums & accessories. Many discount prices. Weekly auctions.

Stamp Exchange Wanted; Europe + Russia, Canada and USA by Serbian Stamp Collectors. English correspondence, Brainislav (Brane) Popov at <a href="mailto:popasremac@gmail.com">popasremac@gmail.com</a>. Serbian correspondence at <a href="mailto:miroslavpopov85@gmail.com">miroslavpopov85@gmail.com</a>. Miro Popov, President of the Stamp Club, Novi Sad.

#### Continued from page three

We have an unidentified sponsor who has pledged a number of monetary prizes for submitted fun frames. Judging is expected to be based on general interest and outside the traditional judging criteria as we want to put the fun in fun frames.

If this has tweaked your interest (and I'm hoping that there is some movement from 'there is no way I would ever do that'), please stop by and talk with either Rod Verrier or Jim Lockau about Fun Frames and any interest that you might have on participating in the coming spring show. Thanks,

Jim Lockau

## **Xmas Celebration 2017**





## **Food and Stamps:**









**DOOR PRIZE WINNER** 

50/50 WINNER \$\$

#### **Closed Albums**



VANDENBOSCH, Pietje "Pita" (#2093)

Pietje "Pita" Vandenbosch, aged 91, passed away peacefully in hospital, on December 15, 2017.

She was predeceased by the love of her life, her husband John, in 2001 and her grandson Jayden in 1994, as well as three sisters. Left to treasure her memory are

her daughters, Diane Vandenbosch and Judith (Vern) Tweedy and the greatest source of her pride and joy, her grandsons Nathan (Justis), Griffin (Ashleigh) and Gage. Pita is also survived by her sister Christine and nieces, Eleanor (Dave) and Monica (Marcel) and families.

The club wishes sincere condolences to the family.

## Lajtabansag Stamps

#### **Richard Barnes**

I was asked if I could identify this stamp (Fig 1). Certainly, it is a Hungarian Occupation stamp issued in 1921. His reply is I cannot find it





I took it and had a closer look. It is not a French occupation overprint nor is it a Polish, Czech, Austrian, Italian, Serbian, or Romanian occupation overprint. I have nothing in my catalogues or in my clippings so I check the web. A Hungarian Occupation stamps site mentions Western Hungarian stamps. The computer site also mentions the Michel catalogue and the very last listing in the 1999/2000 Michel "OST" catalogue I find Western Hungary. This listing has 79 stamps

and 6 Postage Dues. The unknown stamp is a Michel #3, part of the first set of 10 stamps. I was unaware of Western Hungarian stamps before this personal discovery. The following is what I found after a few evenings of searching the web.

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Whatever the justification, the Kingdom of Hungary at the end of WW I lost territory and 70% of its Hungarian speaking population to other countries. This necessitated the multitude Hungarian Occupation Stamp issues. Early in 1919 in Western Hungary armed local resistance referred to as the Ragged Guards or Scrubby Guards rose in the city of Sopron to prevent Austrian absorption of this area. This resulted in the creation of the Hungarian State of Lajtabansag for a month; October 4 to November 5, 1921 and their printing of Western Hungarian stamps. More importantly a referendum was held and recognized by the Allies. The City of Sopron and immediate area was returned to Hungary. The rest of the region became the Austrian federal state of Burgenland.

The overprinted stamps produced for Western Hungary where, reported, had production runs from 800 to 2,000 probably depending upon stamp availability. The demand for these stamps by stamp collectors was greater than the available supply of stamps produced. In the well honored tradition of philately, entrepreneurs stepped in to fill this demand. All Western Hungarian stamps are extensively forged as are the expertizing marks and signatures in the back of these stamps. The second set of Western Hungarian stamps, Michel #11-19 have in addition to a black overprint a red or violet Totenkopf (Fig 2). Question what is this stamp (Fig 3)? Fig 2 is a Michel #18 but Fig 3 does not have the recorded black overprint but it is being offered for sale as a Michel #11.





Each of the first seven sets has different overprints. This creates stamps with overprints being added to overprints (Fig 4), Michel #31. Being offered for sale is (Fig 5) which I can not find in the Michel catalogue. For this example the sales description only gave a date of 1921 and no catalogue number. The last stamp set for Western Hungary is a set of 11 specific designs for the Hungarian State of Lajtabansag and has the name of the state on the stamps (Fig 6), Michel #70.

Continued page eight





Fig 4 fig 5

Special care must be used when collecting the overprinted stamps. Read the catalogue to insure that the correct base stamp was used for the overprint. There are four different sets of the Royal Hungarian Harvest stamps and three different sets of the Parliament buildings stamps plus



several fakes of both designs. Then, of course, the overprint has to be checked.

The Michel catalogue lists only six green and black postage due stamps and they were specifically printed by the Hungarian State of Lajtabansag. For sale on the web, I also found Royal Hungarian Postage Due stamps overprinted in black stated to be from Western Hungary as well as blue and black "Proofs" from Lajtabansag.

Western Hungarian stamps require tenacity to find, are basically inexpensive to purchase and challenge the stamp collector with numerous philatelic

questions to resolve. One article stated that good reference material is available from the APS library.

#### From Barend's stamp album:

#### THE LETHBRIDGE VIADUCT by Barend Wissink

This railway bridge is the longest free standing structure in North America. Start of construction was 1907 and completion was 1909. My original idea



was to write a one pager for the bulletin but this grand daddy of all bridges deserves a full two pages (sorry Fred for taking up so much of your bulletin real estate).

This massive structure is on the CPR mainline across the Oldman River on the west side of Lethbridge and can be seen from Highway 3. The original route to the south of the existing new route had seven wooden trestle bridges ranging in length from 600 feet to 2930 feet. These bridges had a life span about ten years and updates had to be made, grades were steep and upkeep was expensive.

In 1893 CPR needed a route through the Crowsnest Pass to get coal for their steam engines so they bought out the Alberta Railway and Coal Co., which was running a narrow gauge rail line from Dunmore to Lethbridge. The CPR upgraded the line to standard size all the way through into BC. The depression of 1894 almost bankrupted the company but by 1905 things were good again.

The cost of the viaduct was 1.3 million dollars, with 100 thousand dollars for a huge traveling crane which was built on site. The erection traveler crane is on the first post card with the bridge about half done.

The steelwork was fabricated by the Canadian Bridge Co. of Walkerville Ont.

Continued page ten

#### Continued from page nine

All the prefabricated steel sections were loaded on cars in Ontario delivered to the site underneath the crane, lifted of the cars and installed in place.

Construction planning was started in 1905 and clearing of the route and concrete pilings were started in 1907. A crew of 100 men worked at erecting the prefabricated sections Raising the steelwork started in mid-August 1908 and riveting was completed mid August 1909. The sad note was that 4 men died working on this project.

The It took 645 cars to transport the steel from Ontario to the bridge site a whopping 12,400 tons of steel. 1676 pilings took 17,090 cubic yards of concrete, in all it took over 900 rail cars to bring everything to the site.



length 5327 ft. height 307 ft deck spans 44 at 67 ft. 22 at 99 ft. 1 riveted lattice truss 107 ft. rigid braced steel towers total of 33

This bridge is also known as the High Level Bridge

(not to be confused with the Edmonton High Level Bridge, a future article for the bulletin). To complete the new line another rather large steel trestle bridge was built west of Monarch. In all they eliminated over 5 miles by building these two bridges along with steep grades and many bends. About 12 trains a day still use this bridge, trains nowadays can reach well over the length of this bridge using 3 engines in the front and one in the middle the mile long train can weigh up to 25 million lbs. fully loaded. so far this 110 year old marvel has stood up rather well.

Barend's collection of bridges in Alberta continues with this third installment. To be continued next month, the Low Level bridge in Edmonton.

## Meeting Dates

The Edmonton Stamp Club meets Mondays at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of St. Joseph High School, 10830 - 109 Street. Park to the north of the school and use the main entrance at the south-east corner of the school. For information about the club call 780-451-0420 or 780-437-1787.

## March 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> 2018 Spring Show

July 30<sup>th</sup> 2018 Summer Meeting / Auction

#### 2018

January 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>
February 5<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>
March 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>
April 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>
May 7<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>
June 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

*Edmonton BNAPS* (British North America Philatelic Society) meets from time to time. All BNAPSers welcome. For information contact David Piercey at 780-437-2771 or Steven Friedenthal at 780-721-3669.

location: Temple Beth Ora, 12313-105 Avenue (entrance from south parking lot door)

#### Recent eBay







CAN-O10\_MH, (21 bids) \$16 / O11\_MH, (6 bids) \$16 / O25\_MNH, (13 bids) \$36





CAN-O27\_MNH, (15 bids) \$50 / CAN-O273\_MH, (11 bids) \$33

## EDMONTON STAMP CLUB 2018 SPRING NATIONAL STAMP SHOW









## Mar 24-25, 2018 Saturday 10-5pm, Sunday 10-4pm

#### Central Lion's Recreational Centre 113 St & 111 Ave

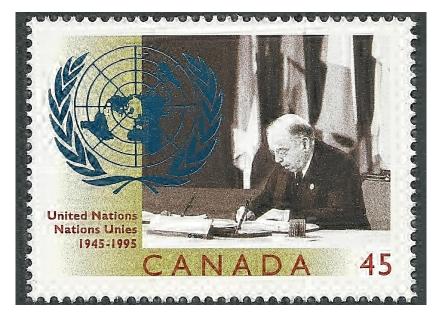
Stamp Dealers from across Western Canada Stamp Circuit Books, Door Prize Draw, Junior Stamp Table National-level Competitive Stamp Exhibits

Exhibits Chairperson: <a href="mailto:liuszmoser@gmail.com">liuszmoser@gmail.com</a> (WSP)

Free Admission, Free Stamp Evaluations

The theme of this year's show is: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Armistice & Canada's Peace Keepers

For further information: <a href="www.edmontonstampclub.com">www.edmontonstampclub.com</a>



## Edmonton Stamp Club Spring Show Raffle 2018 50 cent Admiral



(pictured actual stamp)

1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10

Mint, Never Hinged, Very Fine (cat \$390)

**Edmonton Stamp Club Spring Show** 

March 24th & 25th

Draw: Club Meeting April 9th

#### I HAVE A BEEF.....

Customer service???

Yesterday (dec 5<sup>th</sup>) I went to the postal outlet in SUB (U of A campus) to mail a parcel to a friend. I had already checked out the shipping on Canada Post's website and had put \$12.96 worth of stamps on it. When I handed it to the young lady at the cash a look that I can only describe as horror appeared on her face. I asked her what was up and she answered that I had put stamps on the side of the parcel. I responded with a "ya, so what? I do that all the time."

She then proceeded to inform me that this was against Canada Posts parcel policy. She told me that the policy is that all addresses, stamps, custom forms and tracking stickers have to be on one side of the parcel. I have been mailing parcels longer than this young lady has been alive. I have put stamps, addresses and stickers all over parcels and never once have had a problem with that. I explained to her (without mentioning my age advantage) that I had never had a problem with where the stamps were on a parcel before anywhere I had mailed a parcel. She told me that all these other places were wrong. This includes a lot of actual post offices before Canada post got into downsizing and franchise locations. I asked her if this was a new policy. She told me that this was "the" policy.

She actually was refusing to accept the parcel for mailing because of the location of the stamps. She even said she would get in trouble if she accepted it that way and that the mail carriers would be upset. In order to get my parcel in the mail without going to another location I had to apologize to her. Then I had to promise that I would never put stamps anywhere but the front of a parcel. I had my fingers crossed when I made that promise. I'll be finding somewhere else to mail my parcels from now on. Maybe I should be like my mother. She gave up on the post office years ago and now uses Greyhound bus courier service.

While you are reading my complaints let me throw another one at you. Windows 10 sucks! I had to buy a new computer this year. My last one was so old that I was being refused service. I don't need it for work just basically emails, Facebook and some browsing. Anyway this new one just seems to delete stuff when it sees fit. I've saved photos, looked at them once and then never been able to find them again. Emails that I want to keep just disappear. Dammit!! I needed the info that was in that one. Even email addresses vanish. Case in point. Fred is someone who I email on a regular basis. When I went to write this email his address was nowhere to be found in my computer. I had to get a bulletin and look it up.

CONTINUED PAGE FIFTEEN

#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE FORTEEN

I have friends who are Dutch. I will set the language when I am writing to Dutch and every single time the computer has reset to English and autocorrected everything. What really cheesed me off two days ago was a Microsoft pop up. This Microsoft pop up came up on my screen asking me to recommend Windows 10 to all my friends. I don't want to do that as I hate the system. Even if I did like the system I am not going to recommend it just because Microsoft is asking me to. I couldn't get this pop up to close. There was no off or close button, not even an ask me later option, only a continue button shaped like an arrow. I couldn't move this pop up or do anything to/with it. When I tried to get back to what I had been doing I couldn't. The pop up overrode everything else. I was forced to shut my computer off, then restart it and go back to what I had been doing.

I have to tell you, every time crap like this starts happening I feel the need to buy a woodstove and a shotgun.

Jeff Pacey

#### The Simplicity of Basic Forgery Detection

stamps@gotstamps.com

Part one

Should stamp collectors be concerned with forgeries or unofficial reprints which are not sanctioned by any postal body or recognized as authentic philatelic material? This depends on the readers collecting area and concern for throwing money at stamps with the belief that they are real, when in fact they are not (wasting money). This seems like a bold statement for one of the most popular hobbies in the world, whose audience includes young children to adults of all ages. However, the fact of the matter is, forgeries abound and are bought, sold and traded every day with the belief of being real. Forgeries are not limited to just expensive stamps but are found with common stamps just as prolifically as the expensive issues. This article will explain why its important to be cognizant of forgeries and should convince the reader that with little effort any collector can reduce the possibility of acquiring a stamp under false pretenses.

Most collectors do not worry about forgeries because they do not realize they are out there, or believe that its too hard to detect forgeries and put their trust 100% with the sellers' abilities. One would think this philosophy should be fool proof when buying and selling from reputable (or knowledgeable) dealers.

Continued page sixteen

While this may reduce the probabilities, it still is not good enough. All of the stamps pictured in this article were purchased from VERY reputable dealers, who are very respected and knowledgeable in the craft. It is important to understand, that while honest dealers try to catch all forgeries before selling a stamp, it is just not feasible, and not a practical expectation for a buyer to have. There are many reasons why the buyer should be concerned when buying stamps from any dealer.

Dealers acquire large number of stamps at any given time and just do not have the hours (time) to check over every stamp. Some stamps are sold on consignment and the dealer doesn't get much time with stamp(s) so may not have time to check them all out. A dealer may handle stamps from all over the world and may lack expertise in a certain area. Some dealers are not concerned with forgery detection and believe its the buyers responsibilities. Some dealers knowingly represent forgeries as being authentic. Dealers are human, and mistakes happen.

Since dealing with reputable dealers will not protect a buyer from obtaining a forgery, it is clear that the buyer must take some responsibility for either avoiding the purchase of a forgery, or for detection at some point in time, so that one does not end up with a book of unwanted items. To aid the collector in forgery detection there are organizations which have services that certify whether a stamp is authentic or not. The APS (American Philatelic Society) offers such a service and has a very good reputation for being accurate. Such organizations have experts take a look at a stamp and render an opinion as to its authenticity. The opinions are not always right, so any opinion can be challenged, but more than not, they are correct. So why not send in all of your stamps? This would get too expensive, too quickly, as the minimum charge per stamp by the APS is \$15 and the final cost is based on the value of the stamp. The more valuable the stamp, the more expensive the service. Stamps sent into for expertising should be ones believed to be authentic (possibly to aid in resale value) or are items the collector is unable to make a final determination one way or the other on. Expertising services only make sense for stamps of higher value and thus, are not practical for all stamps.

The best defense and most cost effective way of dealing with forgeries is to avoid purchasing them in the first place. Using services, like APS, should be a final safeguard. The examples provided below will show the reader just how easy it is, and will demonstrate that with very little effort and experience, a buyer can avoid the purchase of a bad stamp by the do-it-Continued page seventeen 17

yourself method, thus saving lots of money by only purchasing genuine stamps. Collectors of inexpensive stamps may chose to not worry about forgeries as the potential cost, or loss, will be negligible, but it should be well noted that many inexpensive stamps, some valued less than 25c, have been forged in great numbers. In many cases, there are more forged copies than authentic copies in existence.

There are a number of good publications out on how to detect forgeries. These include books, pamphlets and journals. If you are interested in buying stamps from a certain region, then it would be in your best interest to find a book that specializes on stamps from that area. For the stamps used in this article the following books were used: "Distinguishing Characteristics of Classic Stamps" by Hermann Schloss and the GPS (German Philatelic Society) Reference Manuals on Forgeries. These kinds of books are available for checkout at various philatelic libraries (such as the APS and Western Philatelic Library). Since stamps are being forged all the time, new information is always coming out and periodic checks with a library is recommended. (NOTE: The quality and number of reference materials used in forgery detection will help the reader better detect forgeries. Some stamps are difficult, even for the very experienced, so the key to more advanced forgery detection is experience.)

The first example of how to detect a forgery will be done on Baden #7. Pictured below is a good copy and a forgery. By visual inspection, can you determine which one is the forgery? Many people will say that the stamp on the right is the forgery because it looks sloppy, with bad details in the design. While this is the forgery, this is not the reason. Many stamps look like this because of the printing methods, worn plates or the design (engraving) was rough to start with.





Continued page eighteen

Consulting the reference material listed above, the detection process becomes quite obvious. Pictures #3 & #4 highlight some of the points, as listed in the references, used in determining authenticity of the stamps, or in the case of the stamp on the right, why it fails the tests of authenticity. While there are more than 3 checks in the literature, the illustrations are enough to help the reader understand the potential simplicity of forgery detection. Some of the other examples provided may require magnification (with a glass piece) to spot the items.



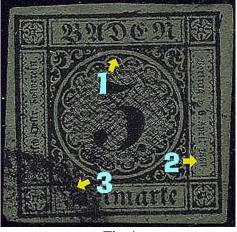


Fig 3 Fig 4

The numbered items in pictures #3 & #4 are key things to look for in determining if these copies of Baden #7 are real or forgeries. The numbered items represent the following: On the authentic stamp this points to the engravers "secret mark", which is a small curved line coming off the right side of the scalloped ring. On the forgery this curved line is not present. On the authentic stamp the 5 in 1850 is smaller than the rest of the numbers. It is the same size as the other numbers on the forged stamp. The top of the F in FREIMARKE is clear of the frame on the authentic stamp, while touching on the forged copy (though its hard to see on this stamp because of the cancellation, which appears to be forged as well).

The current catalog value of a Baden #7 used is \$6.50. This is not considered a valuable stamp by any means and thus, serves as a warning to collectors who scuff at the notion that only expensive stamps are forged. Also, this stamp shows that detecting a forgery is easy, once the collector knows what to look for. In many cases, detection is just a matter of knowing what line belongs and which does not.

To Be Continued Next Month

## **The Stamp Gallery**

Featuring Canada, British Colonies, Europe And the Rest Of The World











#### **Ihor Rudyk**

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