



The Overprint

Newsletter of the Reading Stamp Collectors' Club

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**Most Meetings Held the first Tuesday of Every Month at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting Site: Berkshire Commons, 5485 Perkiomen Avenue (Route 422)
Turn North on Lincoln opposite of the Dairy Queen.
Proceed 300 feet, turn left on Washington and look right of center at the stop sign.**

Tuesday, March 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

“March Madness Auction”

**Bring your extra stamps and bring your greenbacks for
a fun “Mad Hatter” auction. Bid like St. Patty right down
to your last Shamrock cent and take home a pot of golden stamps.
For both buyers and sellers, the end of the rainbow alights
at the site of our March 3rd meeting. See you there!**

Baby, It' s Cold Outside

**So be on notice about our snow policy. If the Reading or Exeter school districts
close down for the day or close early due to bad weather then our meeting will be
automatically cancelled. If the schools remain open but conditions deteriorate in
the evening or seem likely to do so, you should call an officer of the club to be sure.
Those of you with electronic
devices can check your e-mail.**

Join, or rejoin our club...

**By paying the low, low annual family dues of \$10. If you haven't yet, secure
your happiness by sending a check to Mike Bach at 12 Colorado Avenue, Sinking
Spring, PA 19608. Make the check out to The Reading Stamp Collectors' Club.
Paying dues gets you *The Overprint*, discounted entrance to the Christmas Diner and
supports our stamp show.**

Walking Along a Philatelic Wonderland

Winter. Cold, bleak, and staying indoors.

You could go walking in a winter wonderland. But as of the time this is being written in mid-February—there is NO winter wonderland. Chilly, dank and cold. But no sledding, building snowmen, etc.

So why not crack open a philatelic dictionary. That's what your editor did for this column.

Let's pick out some terms—some new to me, some with new details I did not know.

Star Plates: I know what a star plate looks like and even own some. The star is a symbol printed on the margin of stamps issued on flat presses (as opposed to rollers). You will find them on some Washington-Franklin stamps and some Fourth Bureau stamps issued in the mid-1920s. But if I know what they look like I either don't know or forgot what the purpose of these decorations is. The stamps on star plates had wider margins than normal and the symbol signaled that the perforation machines had to be adjusted for them. One thing I for sure did not know until I read the dictionary was why the stamps had wider margins. It was for the purpose of manufacturing stamps with better centering of the design in the final product. Perforations were introduced in the later 1850s and it took this long to be a concern. Perhaps complaints from the increasing number of stamp collectors prompted the idea.

Strippers: Bet you never thought you'd see that word in a stamp publication! Honest, folks, this is a new philatelic word for me. I'm telling the truth! What are they?—the dictionary describes them as "fingers" that help free sheets of stamps from the perforating pins during manufacturing. O. K., over that, now let me talk about **Stripper Marks**. This is also new to me, but they are marks left between perforations by the accumulation of ink on the strippers. Now, the first thing that comes to my mind is a "joint line pair," which I collect and is a feature of coil stamps. Once the postal people got a bit of experience they began printing coils stamps on cylindrical plates. These printing plates were manufactured in a curved configuration. Two plates of the same stamp design were mounted together to create a circular printing plate. If you have ever seen videos of a newspaper press you know what I mean. At the juncture of these two plates ink pooled and created a line down the perforations between two stamps. I have never notice stripper marks and wonder how they differ. If anyone in the club has an example, please bring it to share with us.

The ideas and some of the information in this article comes from *A Glossary of Terms for the Collector of United States Stamps*. This 45-page stapled book was produced by the United States Stamp Society—a great organization for 20th Century U. S. stamp collectors.

Treasurer's Report

January 31st 2020

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Bank Balance | <u>\$ 1,440.94</u> |
| CD Value at 12/31 | <u>\$ 3,095.59</u> |
| Cash on Hand | <u>\$ 25.00</u> |
| Attendance Drawing | <u>\$ 10.00</u> |

WE NEED YOU!

We have a number of slots still open this year for Programs

If you would like to share part of your collection that you are passionate about, then contact:

Mike Matus:

Michael.Matus@verizon.net

or

Dave Hunt:

Dhhunt@ptdprolog.net

Also needed are volunteers for refreshments:

Contact Mike Matus: email is above

THE MARKET PLACE

We are opening this up again in 2020. If you have something to sell the send an email to me with pictures (if possible).

This offer is open to members of other area clubs

Bear in mind The Overprint is sent to members of over 5 other area clubs.

Send details to Michael Bach

mbach1@comcast.net

WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE!

Are you missing a stamp in your collection?

You can list it for free giving item detail and your contact information.

Maybe a member of another club has one to sell you.

FUTURE PROGRAMS & EVENTS

April 7th EFOs – Further Studies – David Hunt

April 24th/25th PSLC ANNUAL SHOW

May 5th Japan – Kent Weaver

June 2nd TBD - Carlson Chambliss

July 7th A Victorian Death Cover and Swiss Bundesfeier Covers - Mike Bach

Aug 4th Moline Plow Co Advertising Covers - Dick Colberg PSLC

Sep 1st TBD - Carlson Chambliss

Oct 6th Fall Auction

Nov 3rd TBD - Stan Raugh

Nov 7th RSCC ANNUAL SHOW

Dec 12th Christmas Luncheon

Three earlier Bonds are shown on three se-tenant £1.60 stamps: Roger Moore, George Lazenby and Sean Connery. The £1.60 denomination pays the rate for mail to Europe weighing up to 100 grams.

Moore passed away in 2017; the other five actors are still alive.

Royal Mail said these stamps “take inspiration



BOND , JAMES BOND

Great Britain's Royal Mail will celebrate James Bond films on 10 stamps to be issued March 17. The designs feature actors who have portrayed the fictional secret agent 007 and vehicles from the films.

The vehicles are shown in a souvenir sheet of four stamps, each with one special “007” perforation. The sheet also includes hidden features that can only be seen under ultraviolet light.

Royal Mail revealed the stamp designs Feb. 17 and said that the issue coincides with the release of the 25th film in the Bond franchise, *No Time To Die*. That film is scheduled to premiere March 31 at the Royal Albert Hall in London, according to Eon Productions' [official James Bond website](#). The film will be released in cinemas April 2 in the United Kingdom and April 10 in the United States.

Six stamps in two strips of three with the designs se-tenant (side-by-side) show six Bonds.

The three se-tenant nondenominated first-class stamps (currently 70 pence) depict the three most recent actors to portray Bond: Daniel Craig, Pierce Brosnan and Timothy Dalton.

from six key James Bond films across the

decades, with the designs a stylistic tribute to the opening titles from each film.”

Royal Mail spokesperson Philip Parker said: “James Bond is a British icon, recognised throughout the world for decades. It’s fitting our new stamps celebrate the six Bonds with stylish and evocative designs.”

Ian Fleming introduced the character of James Bond in his 1953 novel *Casino Royale*. Royal Mail issued a set of six stamps Jan. 8, 2008, honoring this and Fleming’s other Bond novels (Scott 2531-2538).

The first Bond film, based on the 1958 novel *Dr. No*, was released in 1962, starring Scottish actor Sean Connery.

Connery’s third Bond film, *Goldfinger* (1964), is featured on a £1.60 stamp. The actor is shown on the right side of the design, and an image based on the title sequence of *Goldfinger* completes the design.

Royal Mail summarized the film’s plot: “The story sees Bond track gold smuggler, Auric Goldfinger, dodging death in the form of Oddjob, as well as a terrifying laser beam. Bond, with the help of Pussy Galore, foils a bid to render Fort Knox worthless.”

Australian actor and model George Lazenby was the next movie Bond, starring in *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* (1969)

The [007.com website](#) said of Lazenby: "His physical exuberance and energy secured Lazenby the role of Bond but a long-term commitment to 007 never materialised. Lazenby departed the series after just one memorable performance."

A £1.60 stamp depicts Lazenby and a clock from the opening credits of *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*.

The other £1.60 stamp shows English actor Roger Moore in the first of his seven Bond films, *Live And Let Die* (1973). A skull and flames from the title sequence also are pictured.

Moore's obituary on the entertainment and arts section of the BBC website began: "Out went the harder, crueller edge of Sean Connery's 007 to be succeeded by sardonic humour and the inevitable raised eyebrow. ...

"His tenure in the role also showcased an array of implausible gadgets and a host of new characters, designed to flesh out Ian Fleming's original plots."

Timothy Dalton, born in Wales, portrayed Bond in two films: *The Living Daylights* (1987) and *Licence To Kill* (1989).

A nondenominated first-class stamp pictures Dalton and a woman in sunglasses from the 1987 film's title credits. In its press release, Royal Mail said: "Timothy Dalton takes on the Bond mantle in this thrilling, lightning-paced adventure. The story draws inspiration from real-life East-West defections and Soviet-Afghan war in Afghanistan, as Bond defeats the ambitious Soviet General Georgi Koskov and a rogue US arms dealer called Whitaker."

Irish-American actor Pierce Brosnan took over the role of Bond in *GoldenEye* (1995), which is represented on a nondenominated first-class stamp. The design shows Brosnan and a silhouette of a woman wielding a sledgehammer.

The [007.com website](#) said that Brosnan's "performance as 007 captured the timeless appeal of the character in a new world of high-technology and post-Cold War intrigue."

English actor Daniel Craig, who will star in the upcoming *No Time To Die*, began playing Bond in *Casino Royale* (2006). The 007.com website said that Craig "brought the danger, seductive

rawness and realism to Bond that the 2006 reboot of the series demanded."

The photographic portrait of Craig is shown just to the left of center on a nondenominated first-class stamp with symbols of playing card suits behind him.

The souvenir sheet is titled "James Bond Q Branch" with those words appearing in the center selva above an image of Bond's iconic silver Aston Martin DB5, which was introduced in the film *Goldfinger*. (Q Branch, also called Q Division, is the fictional research and development division of the British Secret Intelligence Service.)

A nondenominated first-class stamp at lower right on the souvenir sheet shows the Aston Martin DB5 and Craig as Bond in *Skyfall* (2012).

The other first-class stamp in the sheet depicts Bond (portrayed by Connery) gaining altitude with a Bell-Textron jet pack strapped to his back in *Thunderball* (1965).

On each of these first-class stamps, the special 007 perforation is in the lower right corner.

The two stamps at the top of the sheet are each denominated £1.55, which pays the rate for letters to Europe that weigh up to 20 grams.

The £1.55 stamp on the left shows the Lotus Esprit submarine car from *The Spy Who Loved Me* (1977), and the stamp on the right depicts the Wallis WA-116 Agile autogiro nicknamed "Little Nellie" from *You Only Live Twice* (1967).

The 007 perforation is at upper right on the Lotus Esprit Submarine stamp and at upper left on the Little Nellie stamp.

When the souvenir sheet is viewed under UV light, lists of the vehicle specifications are revealed. For example, the Aston Martin DB5 includes "radar tracking," a "bulletproof shield," a "rear smoke screen" and an "oil slick release."



Article courtesy of Linn's
Pictures from British Post Office
Website.