

June 7, 2016

The last meeting of the season was not particularly well attended with only 10 members present.

A very short discussion of recommendations for the 2016-17 season was held. The only concrete idea offered was that we should reactivate the reference collection project that started 3 years ago. Consensus of those present was that we should get back to work on this.

Brian Bunting showed a bag of Machins that he had received in a bulk sale. He and **Ian Robertson** were sorting through the lot prior to the meeting and were able to build a short show and tell session on the multi value coils and se-tenant pairs that they had found.

Dan Buss discussed his “side” collection of Prestige booklets during which he explained his challenges in figuring a method of displaying in his album. Dan’s solution was to explode the booklet and, using Album-Gen designed pages for the panes bearing stamps and by using “window” techniques displayed the story portion of the booklet.

Dan was also quick to point out that he learned the “window” technique during one of the West Toronto Discussion Group meetings on the subject of “Mounting an Exhibit”. He pointed out that, although he had no interest in exhibiting, there was value in attending that discussion meeting. (A good lesson for all).

Jorge Montalvo presented a show and tell discussion and display on the method he uses to remove the backprinted Machins from paper without losing the security printing. The backprinted “D” or “star” was applied over the gum on certain stamps that were sold in Christmas booklets at discounted prices. The overprint ensured that the stamps could not be returned to the Post Office for a full refund.

Step 1: Determine which stamps have a backprint. Using a catalogue, the potential issues are identified.

Step 2: This is the tough part of the process. Using transmitted light (looking through the stamp) the overprint can be seen and that stamp segregated for further action.

Step 3: Using a minimal amount of **SUPER SAFE Stamp Lift Fluid** (available from Unitrade), wet the back through the envelope paper. As soon as the stamp begins to lift, gently separate it from the backing paper and lay it on a paper towel face down. DO NOT pat dry as the image will lift off. Allow the stamp to dry by evaporation. The backprint will remain intact.

To ensure that everyone had an opportunity to view and understand the process, Jorge re-demonstrated a few times more with each resulting in a successful outcome.

With thanks expressed to Dan and Jorge, the meeting adjourned with plans to resume in September.