



International Philatelic Society of
Joint Stamp Issues Collectors

N°24 - FEBRUARY 2004

JOINT STAMP ISSUES



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Budget 2003
Newest issues
North American Chapter News

Editorial

You will now be used to get only a short February journal, as the most important part of the information is gathered in the Complement to the catalogue that is provided together with this issue.

For the most recent issues you will find almost all details at the end of the 2003 pages. More important is the growing list of joint issues already announced for release in 2004. This complement gives also a large space to older joint issues discovered during this year. As all of these data will have to be collected in a new version of the catalogue, a finalized proposal for the new classification system is also given. It is an improved version of the one provided in August 2003, taking in account all comments given so far. There is still some time for last minute improvements before final.

This journal contains the "Profit and Loss" section for 2003 resulting for the first time with a positive outcome. It is too early to claim that our business is now flourishing, as nobody knows how postal administration fees can evolve in the near future and how currency rates will change. At least we can consider that membership fees are stabilized at the present level. Actually, we are still not satisfied with this result as there must be a way to reduce the postage fees for oversea members that was mainly affected by the increase of the French postal administration fees in July 2003. A proposal is made in this sense and we hope that we will be able to find one volunteer to help all other US members for example.

The Society continues to grow slowly, new members discovering the existence of our group via the web site. This year we plan again to advertise for our society with our "Best 2003 joint issue" award that was a success last year and we hope that a large number among you will give their preference as soon as possible. If anybody needs material for advertising in his own country, do not hesitate to contact the chairman.

On the other side, it would be nice if everybody could pay his membership fees during the first quarter in order to avoid unpleasant reminding letters. Unchanged membership fees are listed on the right side of this page. Thanks in advance.

I wish to all of you a happy 2004 collecting year.

Richard Zimmermann



INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF JOINT STAMP ISSUES COLLECTORS

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Yearly membership fees (2003):

On-line-only members:	€ 8,00
European (EEC) members:	€12,00
Other European and North-	
American members:	€16,00
Other countries:	€17,00
First entry fee:	€ 3,00

JOINT STAMP ISSUES - The Society journal
(Previously *IPS-JSIC Quarterly Report*)

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Society Life

Letters to the editor

Bosnia FDC's

Eric Chan wrote: "On Stadler first day cover I have in hands, one can see both the postmark and the cover itself bear the arms of both authorities (Muslim and Croats). Moreover, on the left hand side of the cover is an inscription of FDC-HP-BHP 1/03, so I would suspect that HP (Hrvatska Post ?) and BHP (Bosnia Herzegovina Post) are issuing this single FDC for both authorities. In the previous unique issues of Liechtenstein Switzerland, we can see two stamps (though they are the same) and two different postmarks on its joint FDC. But for this issue I doubt very much if the Croat Post and Muslim Post issued two different FDC's". Any comments?

False joint issues

Ehsan Mahmood gave some comments about the term "False Joint Issues": "The terminology "False joint issue" seems to be very odd to me. False joint issue means the stamps to be issued by two or more countries without their postal administration collaboration on the same date or during that short period. In my opinion the term "Concurrent Issue" is more suitable because it is just a coincidence"



"joint". So I agree that "False" is not the best wording. "Concurrent" or "Simultaneous" remain too large. We have to find something else. Any comment from somebody else?

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Attachment:

Catalogue update VII - 2004

Answer from the editor: Your comments about "False joint issue" are quite interesting. "False" means in my mind that we have to exclude them from our lists, i.e. non-accepted as being "administratively non-approved". The word "Concurrent" is nice, however, I have two remarks: the

same word in French with the same spelling means only "competitors" which might bring people, at least in this country, very confused. Also, all joint issues are concurrent (i.e. simultaneous), so the term is for me as general as

Postage savings

US members have probably noticed that more than half of their membership fees are actually necessary to cover the postage fees for sending the documentation from France to North America. At that stage we intend to try an experiment with the next journals. The whole bunch of closed pre-addressed envelopes containing the journal for North American members will be sent in one or two packages to a single address from which it will be re-mailed within the country, at local postage fees. A quick calculation shows that the total amount of individual US postage fees cumulated with the cost for sending the whole package from France to US will reduce the total cost by half. As a consequence this could also result in a reduction of a couple of dollars of the membership fees and then benefit to all of the members.

However this may work, only if we find one single volunteer who is ready to re-

sent the letters from his home to all the North American members after having affixed a local (nice) stamp. Any US member who is willing to help for this small job (no more than one hour work every three months) should send an e-mail to Richard Zimmermann before the May journal will be issued. Canada will be included of course in this process, however, we have already checked and found out that sending the letters from Canada to Canada and the US would remain more expensive than from the US to both countries.

The number of members in other regions of the world remains too small at that stage in order to organize such shipment. For Asia (including China, Hong Kong, Singapore and Thailand), this could work when we will have about 15 members in this area. As soon as we have reached that number I will also call for a volunteer in this area.

The most beautiful joint issue pairs of 2003

We have to consider that the contest to find the most beautiful joint issue we did organize last year was a big success. Remember, Malaysia and Singapore were the winning countries, with these nice bird stamps. Our members made this choice. As a result, we gained to be better known from local collectors in these specific countries. This action resulted in more interest from other postal administrations and associations as well as from collectors, and as a consequence in an increasing number of members.

Therefore it is again proposed to give you the opportunity to select on the basis of the Catalogue Supplement provided with this journal the most beautiful joint issues pairs produced during the year 2003. Unfortunately the Supplement is printed

only in black and white, but the color images are anyway available either in your albums or on the society web site.

Tell us (RZ - *email and address on first page*) by mail or e-mail which three pairs (or more if several countries are involved or stamps are issued) of joint issues you have found the most beautiful, using your own ranking order. The first pair in your list will get 3 points, the second 2 and the third 1 point. The winner will be the one totalizing the highest number of points.

All stamps (joint and twin issues) described in the Catalogue supplement VII under the chapter 2003, i.e. issued between January 1st and December 31st 2003, are potential candidates. Following the new nomenclature, the choice has to be made between twin (T1-5), parallel (P1-

4) and concerted (C1-4) issues. Although reported, omnibus and common issues remain excluded from the contest. Territorial issues are excluded as well. Each member has one ballot and answers must be given before March 31. There is no specific form to fill in. Just send your 3 choices in a mail or e-mail. There is also nothing to win for yourself, except more self-esteem in showing that you feel really

New Members

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part of our Society. Thanks in advance for participating.

The results will be published in the May issue and both administrations will be informed in the name of the Society. For us it will again be another way to show that we exist and are interested in new and nice products from the world postal administrations.

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Departure

Unfortunately we will have also to cancel memberships due to unpaid fees. The following members have to be removed from your lists:

Harris JANNUSH (USA)
Jean Pierre MALERET (France)
Barry NEWTON (USA)
Kenny Chin SWEE TOW (Singapore)
Mohamed ZAHID (Pakistan)

Budget 2003

As in the previous February journal issues, you will find here a summary of all the incomes and expenses of the Society during the year 2003. Secretary, treasurers and Vice-presidents have not reported extra expenses this year that are not accounted in the general expenses list.

In the following calculations, the US\$ currency rate was counted at a yearly average of 1.15 US\$ for 1 € (this ratio started in January at around 1.08 and reached the level of 1.25 by December)

Income (all figures are in Euros):

Online only Members (fees: 6.96 to 8.00 € depending on the currency rate):	10
European Members (fees: 12.00 €):	63
Non European Members (fees: 13.91 to 17.00 €):	38
Total: 111 members in 2003 - Total income for membership fees including first entrance fee (2.61 to 3.00 €)	1431,39 €
Extra income: Extra gifts to the Society (<i>Thanks to Rita Drach, Richard Heil, Wolfgang Heinssen, Jack Rosskam, David Tejedor Aragon and Joscelyn Wilkinson - from 0,50 to 9.00 €</i>)	21,07 €
Total	1452.46 €

Members who joined in December where integrated in the Society from January 1st, 2004 only and did not receive the 2003 package, however their first entrance fees are accounted for 2003. The excess of payment sent by some members is reported to 2003 in deduction from the following year membership. Six members had to be excluded for non-payment of membership fees, but received the February 2003 report.

Expenses:

QR. Feb: with catalogue complement VI; production costs 1.85 € each
- total printing costs 216.45 € - total postage fees 166.49 € - 117 sent;
total: **382.94 €**

QR. May: production costs 1.19 € each - total printing costs 127.33 €
- total postage fees 129.37 € - 107 samples sent total: **256.70 €**

QR. Aug: production costs 1.20 € each - total printing costs 121.20 €
- total postage fees 177.96 € - 101 samples sent total: **299.16 €**
(*The higher postage fees are due to a huge increase of French postal rates by 1 July 2003, affecting by up to 30% the international mail*)

QR. Nov: production costs 1.20 € each - total printing costs 123.60 €
- total postage fees 161.71 € - 103 samples sent total: **285.31 €**

All members received the 4 issues of the Quarterly Reports, but the members who joined during the year received less than 4 packages as previous issues were sent together, this explaining the difference between postal fees totals.

Diverse: Advertising packages (containing a short description of the Society, a Membership form and a sample of the Quarterly Report, usually the one from May or August), diverse mails (answers to requests, free advertising packages to

philatelic journals and libraries, mail exchange with members, lost journals,...),
bank fees

total: **122.74 €**

Total expenses: **1346.85 €**

Reminder: Deficit from 2002

52.47 €

Difference (Benefit):

53.14 €

This short list of expenses does not include all extra expenses such as stationery, printing ink, software and original printing costs, as well as costs for the web site update, telephone, catalogues, newspapers, etc. Moreover all samples of QR's and catalogue complements printed in advance are not accounted with the figures above. Details of expenses can be sent to any member who wishes to check these figures himself.

The budget of the year 2003 shows for the first time a benefit of 53.14€.

Apparently we reached a kind of equilibrium and we are confident to stay within the same budget for the next year if we keep the same presentation for the journal (same number of pages, same quality of printing) and above all, if the Euro currency does not explode compared to the US\$. Improvement of the budget will also be reached by the following actions:

- increasing of the number of members
- reduction of the postage costs (see proposal in the Society pages)

As a consequence, membership fees can remain unchanged for the following year. Any serious and realistic proposal to reduce general costs will result in reduction of membership fees.

The Italian account was definitely closed (due to too high the bank fees) and this action did not generate extra costs. The French bank account is still operating and fees can also be paid in Germany, via Volker Dietze. Checks in US\$ have to be sent to Charles Feingersh.

These figures have been checked and approved by our Account Book Auditors Wolfgang Heinssen and Dominique Josse.

Advertisement

• Georges BLANC (51, rue du Pont du Murel, 81800 RABASTENS, France) is selling at post prices, the folder of mixed stamps involving France and containing blocks of stamps, from each country, mint: (year - countries - prices in Euros) 1986, F-FNL 5,50 €; 1986 F-USA, 5,00; 1987, F-DNK, 8,00; 1988, F-D, 5,50; 1991, F-D, 6,50; 1992, F-Gr; 7,00; 1992, F-SP, 7,00;

1994, F-B-CH, 7,00; 1994, F-SW, 8,00; 1996, F-Mo-I, 7,00; 1997, F-D-Lux, 3,50; 1998, F-B, 6,00; 1998, F-CH, 6,50; 1999, F-Pol, 6,00. Please write only in French.

• Richard ZIMMERMANN (124, avenue Guy de Coubertin, 78470 SAINT REMY LES CHEVREUSE, France) can provide most of the twin issues mint stamps and mixed FDCs issued between 1955 and 2000. Write with list of stamps for prices.

New Issues

Latest issues

Twin issues

Kazakhstan and **Uzbekistan** devoted their **27 November 2003** joint issue to local painters. For each country, the two se-tenant stamps show paintings from S. Aitbaev, Kazakhstan, entitled "Happiness", 1966, and from R. Ahmedov, Uzbekistan, entitled "Morning. Motherhood", 1962. These stamps were unfortunately discovered after issuing. Kazakhstan has already announced that they will produce around the same period in 2004 a joint issue without precisising the topic or giving the partner country name.



Two days later, on **29 November 2003**, **France** and **India** issued a very nice pair of stamps showing a rooster and a peacock. Although the engraving technique used for the French stamp is to

my opinion probably the best one for producing stamps, I must admit that colors are much better reproduced on the Indian stamps (see cover for reproduction of both pairs of stamps). The information on the Indian stamp is still not available at the time of printing this journal. Fortunately, the French postal administration produced as usually, a folder containing mint stamps from both countries.



We had the same difficulties to get a reproduction of the two last joint issues produced in 2004, as at the date of printing we have not been able to get a copy of the stamps issued by India in one case, and South Africa in the other. We hope that we will be able to reproduce these stamps in the next journal. It seems that in both cases, stamps are similar to those issued by the partner countries.

On **9 December 2003**, **South Africa** and **Thailand** honored their 10 years of diplomatic relationship with stamps showing Indian and African elephants. The next day, on **10 December 2003**, **South Korea** and **India** issued stamps showing astrological observatories while honoring 30 years of relationship.

More doubtful becomes the announced **Brazil - Lebanon** joint issue that will probably remain a single issue as no information is available on any stamp

released in Lebanon during the same period. Brazil issued a nice green stamp showing flags and a Lebanese cedar, and although the official first day ceremony took place in presence of the Lebanese ambassador in Brazil, the Brazilian postal administration leaflet does not mention anymore a joint stamp in Lebanon. The Brazilian stamp was issued on 21 November 2003.

Issues to come

The complete list of issues to be produced this year and the following years and known so far is given in the Catalogue Supplement VII - 2004. Complementary information and details about the very next issues is given below.

On **March 26, 2004**, **Canada Post** will join **Post Greenland** and **Norwegian Post**, in honoring famed Norwegian explorer **Otto Sverdrup (1854-1930)**, on the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of his birth.

The joint issue will be in the form of three souvenir sheets - one for each participating countries. Each sheet will feature three different designs, but only one of the three designs will be denominated. The Canadian sheet will feature a stamp image of Sverdrup's ship the "Fram". Norway's images will be of the

explorer himself and also the "Fram", while Greenland's features the exploration team in a rowboat braving arduous sea conditions during one of their expedition. The individual souvenir sheets will also be available as a set in a souvenir folder. *See more details in the "News from North America" page.*

"2004 marks the beginning of the new Nordic postage stamp alliance: Top of the world of stamps. For the first time ever, all eight Nordic national postal service organizations are issuing single-theme stamps in a simultaneous pan-Nordic release. The first installment in the fantastic and interpretive series on Norse mythology will be released on ." Eight stamp blocks containing one to two stamps each will be available also in a common folder sold in all eight countries, namely, **Denmark, Finland, Faeroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Aland**. The next two installments are slated for release in 2006 and 2008.

Details related to these stamps are available on a web site dedicated to these issues, www.topoftheworld.nu, in which all information is given in the countries' native languages as well as German and English.

Thanks to Eric Chan, Yefei Sun, Pascal LeBlond.



Concentrates

Catalogue prices.

Very recently we got a beginning of an explanation for catalogue prices differences observed at least in Europe. Catalogue printers take in account the VAT. While in France or Austria the VAT for stamps is about 20%, Germany applies only a tax of 7 % resulting in lower prices in the Michel catalogues compared to the Yvert and Tellier catalogues. Prices are as low in Scott catalogues simply because taxes are applying on top of the indicated amount.

However this does not explain alone the huge differences that can reach up to 50% from a country to another.

As a result buying stamps at an international level must in any case result in an agreement between seller and buyer. The catalogue will take in account these figures when the difference becomes too large and provide the two extremes rather than an average price.

Chinese man in space

Eric Chan found a news report from Mingpao Daily, a Hong Kong newspaper, dated Oct 17 2003, devoted to the story of the most recent Joint Issues by the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong and Macao upon the landing of Shenzhou V and the first Chinese man in space. He translated it for the benefit of all of us.

"Hong Kong Post aware of "Confidential Space Missions" in January: Just half an hour after the successful landing of Shenzhou V, the postal authorities of PRC, Hong Kong and Macao jointly issued the commemorative stamps. This arrangement revealed that Hong Kong Post had been aware of this

space mission, regarded as "state secret", as early as January 2003. The several senior staff members of Hong Kong Post had to observe a confidentiality pledge, and the stamps had been prepared and issued largely under the radar. The Post Office could announce this matter until after notification from Beijing earlier last morning, resulting the general public swarming post offices to buy the stamps.

No Definite Issue Date: *The three authorities each issued a set of 2 commemorative stamps yesterday, with a Siamese stamp booklet. With the space as background, the motif of the stamps was the space shuttle, satellite and astronauts. However, no postal stationery bears a definite issue date, including the first day cover, also without any prior promotion by the Post Office. This is the third time these three postal authorities joined forces, after the successful Olympic bidding in July 2001 and the Chinese national soccer team entering the final stage of World Cup in May 2002.*

Both Design and Printing by Beijing: *At 7am yesterday, half an hour after the successful landing of the astronaut Yang Liwei, Hong Kong Post issued a press release concerning the stamp issue. The Postmaster General, Mr Allan Chiang, explained in a subsequent press conference that China Post led this stamp issue, with collaboration by Hong Kong and Macao Posts. Discussion began as early as January 2003, and printing was completed 2 months ago, but without any promotion. After notification by phone from the China Post in Beijing at 7am yesterday, they were allowed to announce this issue.*

Mr. Chiang admitted that this stamp issue has been afforded full confidentiality,

as only the several participating staff members were informed. Stamp design and printing were both under the responsibility of Beijing. The spokesperson of Hong Kong Post added that the three postal authorities had signed an agreement that the issuing procedure shall be kept confidential. As for Hong Kong Post, only a few senior staff members, including the former Postmaster General, were informed of the arrangements.

It was found out that Mainland press had been extensively reporting of the manned space mission of Shenzhou V from January 2003, but it was never officially confirmed. However, Mr. Chiang refused to comment the handling of the printed stamps in the case in which anything went wrong with the mission, and he did not announce the costs and quantity of this stamp issue. He only repeatedly said that Hong Kong Post participated in this issue because it is confident in the Chinese space technology. Non-participation would turn out to be a genuine regret."

Dialog among civilizations



Julio Casquero brought to our attention a new stamp from this series issued by Equatorial Guinea. Although the date imprint on the stamp shows the year 2001, it seems that this stamp was not issued before 2003. It was actually difficult to find in documents or catalogues as it is the

central stamp of a vertical triptych, the two other stamps being not related to this topic.

It is also confirmed that Madagascar issued a stamp with identical design in this series. The stamp was offered recently on eBay, but is now also described in the Michel catalogue.

Conseil de l'Entente

Julio Casquero made also a discovery of cancelled stamps from the 1999 Conseil de l'entente series involving Burkina Faso, Niger and Ivory Coast. He found also stamps from Togo (380F) and Benin (150 and 200F). At that stage it is impossible to find the exact date of issue and the stamps of these two countries are reported in the catalogues as "being seen on letters" but no quotation is given due to their rarity. Actually I found also several Benin stamps on covers and my stamps differ from those of Julio by the year (1999 instead of 2001) printed in very small characters on the right side of the stamps. The Michel catalogue reports that year 2000 should exist as well but does not give a quotation for these stamps so far. More information is welcome.

Sweden

The Swedish postal administration did send to all their subscribers a special folder containing a red print of the Nobel Prize issue from this year. This information was provided by Wilfried Berger.

Julio Casquero informed us that, at the end of the last year, the Spanish philatelic bureau (El Servicio filatelico de Correos) sent to all subscribers a sheet engraving by Slania showing the portrait present on the joint Nobel Prize for Medicine stamps with Sweden.

News From North America

Pascal LeBlond

The latest issue of *Canada's Stamp Details*, the official philatelic publication of **Canada** Post, gives much information regarding the upcoming joint issue with **Norway** and **Greenland** honoring Otto Sverdrup on March 26, 2004. For instance, stamps of the three postal administrations are printed by Post Denmark. It is the first time, since the joint issue with France in 1984, that a Canadian stamp is printed in Europe. The preliminary image (below) shows the joint first day cover prepared by Canada Post. It bears two Norwegian stamps, a Canadian stamp and one from Greenland. One of the Norwegian stamps is identical to the Canadian stamp. Canadian designer Raymond Bellemare has created the cancellation used by the three countries.

The Canadian cancellation will read Grise Fiord, Nunavut (76.42N, 82.9W) that is the most northerly community in

Canada, located on Ellesmere Island. Incidentally, Grise Fiord was named by Otto Sverdrup during his exploration of the high Arctic. It means "Pig Fiord". The name used by the Inuit is Ausuittuq, which means "place that never thaws". A forthcoming book (Gerard I. Kenney, *Ships of Wood and Men of Iron: a Norwegian-Canadian Saga of Exploration in the High Arctic*, Regina: Canadian Plains Research Center, 2004) reveals that the Canadian government bought the islands discovered by Sverdrup for a mere \$67,000 in 1930.

Canada Post will offer a pane of 16 stamps, a souvenir sheet as well as three different first day covers (stamp from pane, souvenir sheet and joint). A joint presentation pack will also be available.

Also in *Canada's Stamp Details*, there is an article about the stamp launch of the Canada-Thailand joint issue held in Bangkok last October. It appears that Thailand Post approached Canada Post regarding this project at the World's Stamp Expo 2000 in California.

Furthermore and most importantly, Canada Post was pleased to publicize its third place with Hong Kong obtained from our "Best Joint Issue of 2002" contest.

