



Owen Sound Stamp Club

Newsletter

Next Club Meeting: April 16th April 2003

We are all looking forward to a great show on Sunday, the 4th of May. As mentioned before, this is a few weeks earlier than usual to avoid conflicting with the Royal Show in Hanover but at least (we hope) most of the snow will have gone by then.

We have a list of the dealers who will be attending on p.2 and I am sure that all our readers will be pleased to see that most of our “regulars” are included. A couple of dealers couldn’t make it this year but we hope to see them back in the future and, at the time of going to press, one table has yet to be confirmed. It is good to see that all three dealers who introduced themselves at our show last year are back again.

As always, Charles van Rompu has succeeded in attracting a number of international sponsors for the show. We will be making a bit of a display for each contributing Postal Authority and we urge you to take the time and see what they have to offer. This is, of course, especially worthwhile if you are looking to expand your collecting interests.

You will have to wait for the day to see what is in the Silent Auction but there is no reason to suppose the offerings won’t live up to the standards set in the past couple of shows.

While we don’t have any final figures for the number of exhibitors as yet, from a show of hands at our last meeting it

does seem that all our frames will be filled without any of the cajoling to which the show committee normally has to resort! Perhaps this indicates an increased companionship amongst our members? I don’t know, but consider it a most welcome development. We will have to see about getting some more frames in the future ...

Kim Scarrow will be co-ordinating our “Young Collectors” section. We will be having the box of “freebie” stamps donated by members along with some mini-albums and lots of helpful advice and suggestions for young people. Don’t forget, if you have any surplus stamps that hardly seem worth sticking into a circuit book but you haven’t the heart to throw into the recycle bin, bring them along to the club meeting (or the show). Sooner or later someone will see one of those and say, “Hey, that’s neat. I wonder where it’s from. Maybe I can find another like it.” And another collector is born with whom, in due course, we might all trade stamps and stories.

May 4th, right?

Bob Watson (President)

Stamp of the Month... *Bob Watson*

This Spanish stamp (Scott# E8) caught my eye recently and could well find a place in my “Now, hang on a minute...” collection! The point being, of course, that most “urgente” or “express post” stamps have a design implying speed, vigour, and determination to get the mail through just as quickly as possible. So, I realize this is an overprint rather than a special design, but have you ever seen a more non-urgent looking stamp than this? Maybe its use was reserved for income tax refund cheques.

Actually the stamp was part of a rather odd series issued in 1930 to commemorate Columbus’ crossing the Atlantic in 1492. According to Scott, the series was designed and printed privately which would normally mean they would be relegated to the status of “cinderellas”. However, a portion of the printing were presented to the Spanish Post Office who sold them and allowed them to be used for postage for a period of three days. This had the effect of converting them from “labels” to “postage stamps” and would have significantly increased the marketability of the stocks remaining in the hands of the promoters.

I have no knowledge as to whether the deal between Post Office and promoter was legitimate or resulted in heads rolling, but I have never heard of this practice being followed elsewhere and can see major security problems with trying to be sure that money paying for stamps used for postage went to the Post Office rather than the printers.



The Show

Sponsors

Details of sponsorship are still coming in. To date we are most pleased to be able to say that Canada Post has (as with previous shows) provided generous support as have Canada Wholesale Supply and Lighthouse. Of the foreign postal administrations approached, the Czech Republic, Liechtenstein, USA and Jersey Post have all indicated that they will be supporting our show by providing material either for silent auction or to be given out at the Club table.

Participating Dealers

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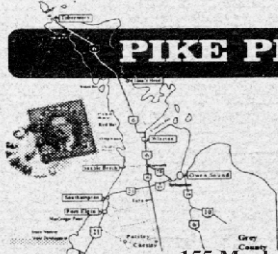


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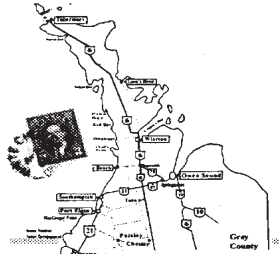
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(To Be Announced)

What's New ...

Charles van Rompu

Collecting stamps has many added bonuses. It can be very educational and opens doors which allows you to learn about things you did not even realize existed. Let me give you an example:

The Faroe Islands issued 2 stamps on February 24th. These stamps show pictures of earth moving machinery and people that are working in an environment which looks like a tunnel. The reason they issued these was the opening on November 20, 2002 of a 4.9 kilometre submarine tunnel, which connects the two Islands Vágar and Streymoy. Tórshavn, the capital, lies on the latter. One of the remarkable things I learned from this issue, and something I never realized when driving through a tunnel, was the fact that these things have leaks. The highest permissible water penetration in a tunnel of the kind they build is 300 litres per minute per kilometre. Can you imagine $300 \times 60 \times 4.9 = 88,200$ litre per hour! Do not panic, the Vágatunnilin, as it is called, is experiencing less than half of the allowable limit. At the lowest point in the tunnel is a reservoir, which is 50 metres long and capable of holding all the water that enters the tunnel for a period of 48 hours, in the event the pumps would mal-function. (Holding capacity over 5 million litres or 500 M³).



Some details:

Stamps: 2 x 5.00 D K K, Cat # 438/439, size 45.0 x 30.94 mm, perf. 14+, printed by Cartor Security Printing, France.

Tunnel: length 4.9 KM, under water 2.5 KM, 2 lanes, 10 metres wide and 105 metres below sea level.

In the February issue, I told you about Philately becoming part of the curriculum in a Chinese school in Xiamen. Recently I was informed about another event. In the April/June Philately Newsletter, issued by India Post it was mentioned that a Residential Public High School in the foothills of the Nilgiris has been nurturing the hobby of philately for the past four years. They started a Nehru Stamp Club, which has won

various prizes in stamp shows. This was the brainchild of a marketing executive of India Post Philately in Coimbatore by the name of N. Hariharan.

We have a new sponsor for our show – the Czech Republic, which issued a miniature sheet on January 1st to commemorate the fact that 10 years earlier on that date the independent Czech Republic was established. This was a result of the split of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republics. The Czech's cover 78.8 thousand Km², they have 10.8 million habitants of which 1.2 million live in the capital Prague.

A tip for some of you who collect the topic of Firefighting. The stamp which will be issued by Canada Post on May 30th in Hanover, is a must. However on October 15th 2003 the Czech Republic will issue a series of 3 stamps showing; a Wooden Fire Engine of 1822, a Powered Fire Engine of 1933 and the latest, a CSA8/AVIA DAEWOO of 2002. Czech Post has a nice website www.cpost.cz, No point of sale in Canada, but two in the USA.

Since this is the last newsletter before our show on May 4th, let's make sure we all come up with nice displays, since the attention of stamp collectors will be on the Grey and Bruce counties, it promises to be the best show ever. See you on the 16th but for sure on MAY 4th.

To Be Auctioned ... — Alan Charlesworth

Lot #	Description	Est.
1	Canada collection M+U app, 250 diff., good run of admirals noted, mint 192-194 C3 C4	60.00
2	Canada M+U mostly mint 1990's FV 45.00+	28.00
3	Canada M+U 8c-39c FV 35.00+	22.00
4	Book of misc. countries A-Z 200 diff.	10.00
5	Bermuda 150 diff. M+U	15.00
6	Australia 200-250 diff. Used. mostly modern with rates to 5.00	20.00
7	China 200+ diff. modern	15.00
8	New Zealand 400+ M+U some better stamps	35.00
9	Book of B-Y countries 100+ good mint Grenada to 5.00	10.00
10	250+ diff. Jersey to Zimbabwe M+U	15.00
11	USA 250-300 diff M+U	15.00
12	Austria-Germany 200 M+U	15.00
13	Odd lot small stock book covers etc	3.00
14	Liechtenstein: 10 FDCs 1990-2001	1.00*
15	Latvia: package incl. 5 FD sheets; 5 FDCs	1.00*
16	Spain: 2001 year collection (if not complete, very nearly so!) of c.70 stamps + some souvenir sheets with leaflets. Face value: c. €40/\$60	5.00*

* min. bid.

Next Meeting: 7:00 pm, April 16th.

Next Show Meeting: 7:30 pm, April 30th.

There will be a meeting for anyone interested at 327 11th St. W., Owen Sound (Bob Watson's house). At this meeting, progress with our show preparations will be discussed and anyone who has any suggestions regarding any aspect of the show would be most welcome.

Upcoming Events:

The **Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society** will be holding its Show on **12th April** at the Reformed Church, 1275 Bleams Rd. [10.00-4.00]

The **Canadian Stamp Dealers Association** are holding a three day show from **11th – 13th April** in the Queen Elizabeth Building, CNE [Fri.11-6 Sat.10-6 Sun.10-4]

The **Owen Sound Stamp Club Annual Show** will be held on Sunday, **May 4** at the Bayshore Arena (as usual) [9:00-4:00]

The **Scarborough Stamp Club Show and Bourse** will be held on **May 10**, in the Cedarbrook Community Centre, 91 Eastpark Blvd., Scarborough. [Sat. 9:00-3:00].

Royal*2003*Royale will be held in Hanover on **May 30 – June 1, 2003**, at the Hanover Regional Aquatic Centre and Coliseum.

The Stamp on the Envelope...

The stamp on the cover was issued to mark the 75th anniversary of the founding of the first Canadian chapter of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA) and released on 25th March – Greek Independence Day – at a ceremony in Ottawa. Among those present were the Prime Minister and the Assistant Deputy Speaker, Eleni Bakopanos.

Although based in the US, AHEPA has chapters in 14 Canadian cities and works to promote a mutual understanding of Greek and Canadian cultures as well as encouraging members to participate in the civic and philanthropic activities of their communities and country.

The stamp was designed by The Signals Design Group of Vancouver who were also responsible for last year's Aboriginal Art Christmas stamps. The style and colours are very obviously those associated with the decoration of pottery in ancient Greece. The bird carrying an olive branch and maple leaf represents the journey of Greek immigrants to Canada.

Title: American Hellenic Educational Progressive Assoc
 Issue date: 25 March 2003 No.
 Des.: Kosta Tsetsekas and John Belisle (Signals Design Group)
 Print.: Canadian Bank Note Co. (six colour lithography).
 Paper: Tullis Russell Coatings Gum: PVA
 Size: 32 mm × 39.5mm Perf.: 13¼ × 12¼
 Available in panes of 16 × 48¢ stamps

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

www3.sympatico.ca/rhwatson/stampclub

The Owen Sound Stamp Club meets at 7:00pm on the third Wednesday of each month in the basement of St. George's Anglican Church (on the corner of 10th St. E. and 4th Ave. E.). The main business of the evening is typically to trade, buy, and sell stamps and philatelic material. An auction is held at 8:00pm.

There are presently about 30 active members whose interests cover just about everything at all levels from beginner to expert. New members are always most welcome.

Annual Membership fees: Full: \$10; Family: \$15; Junior: Free. In addition, all members and visitors are asked to contribute \$1 each meeting which is passed directly to St. George's Church in appreciation for allowing us to use their room.

The OSSC Newsletter is distributed monthly to members of the Owen Sound Stamp Club. Opinions expressed by contributors to this newsletter are those of the named author and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Owen Sound Stamp Club (nor of the editor).

Contributions are always most welcome. If any reader has news, information, opinions, or announcements that might be of interest to the OSSC membership, please contact the editor.

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