



# Owen Sound Stamp Club

## Philatelic Owen Sound Times

Next Club Meeting: October 19<sup>th</sup>

October 2005

Took myself off to the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association "Stampex '05" at Queen Elizabeth Hall in Toronto last weekend. As might be expected, there was lots to see, plenty to buy, and I actually recognized a few of the faces there.

I have to say that my main purpose of attending the only stamp show I know of that charges for entry and parking was to check out the 7th National Philatelic Literature Exhibition which included a division for *Periodicals, Newsletters, etc.* to see if I could get any ideas for our POST. The answer to that particular question was "not really": each club newsletter I looked at was very different in form and doubtless largely reflected the interests of (and equipment available to) the respective editors.

I have no clear picture of how general club newsletters are judged (as opposed to more technical bulletins devoted to reporting research findings) but some were definitely more fun to read than others!

While at the show, I did get a chance to see the new Unitrade

catalogue and can confirm that it is much the same size as the previous editions but with **much** less white space. Some of the colours were still far from convincing but it was good to see the inclusion of some design/production credits.

There were many interesting exhibition frames and, for me, there was a welcome trend to "new ways of looking at things" from the more technical material. Even so, I would much prefer to study copies of the exhibits in book form rather than see the real thing in vertical frames. The Saugeen Club was one of several to have a single frame of 16 one-page exhibits from different members (including "youth" and "novices"). Excellent idea! Is there any way our club could muster 16 pages for a display?

Bob Watson

### Stamp(s) of the Month...

The article by Charles (p3.) on Danish stamps had me looking through my collection of the Nordic countries and, once again, I was taken by the amazing engraving skills demonstrated by the stamps throughout the 20th century.

Many countries issued some marvellous engraved stamps in the first half of the century (Canada was no exception), but virtually all now use some form of lithography for the bulk of their production. One notable exception to this generalization is Sweden that seems to have made a point of

fostering the art and skills of steel engraving.

Czeslaw Slania is undoubtedly the best known engraver of Swedish stamps and his images are close to incredible in their variety and "luminosity".

However, other Swedish engravers also deserve mention. I haven't been able to find out anything of the people responsible for the stamps below (issued in 1974) but I feel that both have significantly contributed to my image of rural Sweden.



"Rural postman in the North" engraved by M. Franzén-Matthews from a photograph by B. Rönnberg



"Mollösund – a fishing village on the West Coast" engraved by Z. Jakus from a photograph by H. Dittmer.

## From the President ...

Happy Halloween!

I would like to thank Neil Elson for his very informative talk on Canadian Centennials that he gave us at our last meeting. Any one who wants to sort out some of their own centennial issues are welcome to borrow the UV light box from the club. If any one wants to use this please call me and I will make arrangements to get it to you.

If any one has any covers or stamp issues that have any reference to halloween please bring them along to the meeting and share them with the rest of us.

On another note we will be having approval books from the Royal at this meeting, please bring your want lists and tongs.

I will be bringing approval books for any who want to peruse them, and arrangements can be made for members to take some home if they require so. Please see me at the meeting to make arrangements.

The latest news on Unitrade catalogues is that they will be available in October as they are already at the printers. Apparently there is a new editor for this publication and he claims that there are many improvements in the format and content. If you wish to order the new book let me know at the meeting.

Well bye bye for now.

*Alan Charlesworth*

## In Case you were Wondering ...

Certain Canadian government departments (Treasury / Finance) began using OHMS perfins (perforated initials) as early as 1923 but it was not until 1939 that a Treasury Board ruling required that these were used by all departments.

In 1949, the use of perfins was discontinued and stamps were overprinted "OHMS" (at significantly greater expense). In 1950 the "OHMS" overprint was replaced with a simple "G" and by 1963 the marking of stamps used by government departments ceased (with the introduction of meter postage, perhaps?).

OHMS perfins can be found in up to eight different orientations depending on the layout of the sheet and how it was folded when put into the punch. There were three dies used: one with 5 holes making the vertical lines and two (indistinguishable to me) with 4 holes.

Prior to the use of OHMS perfins, several government departments used their own perfins – eg. "CNR", and "CBC". Meanwhile, provincial governments also used perfins – eg. "LA" (for Legislative Assembly, Ontario), and "PEI".

Just to add to your collecting fun, Ontario House in London, England, used "ONT GOV" perfins to mark British stamps for use by their officials.

## Famous Collectors: T.E. Lawrence ...

Thomas Edward Lawrence was a hero of the First World War immortalised throughout the Western World by the movie *Lawrence of Arabia* and his autobiographical work *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*.

He was also a stamp designer as well as a collector.

In 1910 he joined up with a British Museum archaeological expedition to the ancient Hittite city of Carchemish (now Karkamis, Turkey), and he subsequently travelled in the Sinai, where he learned Arabic.

At the outbreak of World War I in 1914, Lawrence joined the British Military Intelligence Service in Cairo.

In 1916, the Grand Sharif of Mecca, Sharif Hussein, had launched an Arab Revolt against Turkish rule and Lawrence was sent to see him and discuss British co-operation against the Turks. Lawrence returned to Cairo and urged the British to provide as much support to the rebels as possible following which he was assigned to Hussein as a "military advisor". In this position he organised a constant guerrilla campaign against the Ottoman forces culminating with the taking of Damascus in 1918.

Meanwhile, while appealing for support for Hussein in Cairo in 1916, he had also been charged with organising a supply of postage stamps for the rebel postal service.

Apparently, Lawrence spent many hours wandering the corridors of the Cairo Museum searching for suitable



arabesque designs before drafting the above design and having an appropriate supply printed and shipped to Mecca.

It is said that Lawrence once circulated a story that he had used a strawberry-flavoured glue which created a problem in that the Arabs used to buy the stamps just to lick them.

The man had a somewhat quirky sense of humour!

A collection of mail/covers sent by Lawrence was sold in a London auction not so long ago. The star item of the collection was an envelope, addressed to Lawrence's friend, Captain Ormsby-Gore of the Cairo Arab Bureau franked with the first issue of Hejaz. The identity of the sender is shown by the signature of T. E. Lawrence on the bottom of envelope. The auction realized \$200,000.

## What's New ??? (or 100 Years Old???) ...

In 1902, the Directorate-General of the Post and Conveyances Services of Denmark announced a competition to find a new type of stamp for small face values.

A total of 350 different proposals were entered, and the first prize of DKK 500.00 (\$100) went to an architect by the name of Julius Møller Therschilsen, who was born on July 21st 1873 and died February 7th 1954. He studied architecture at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in the 1890's.

Very little is known about his achievements, with the exemption of rebuilding a vicarage on the island of Falster, where his cousin Jens Sophus was a minister. From March 1937 till December 1949, he moved abroad and upon his return to Denmark resided in Frederiksberg.

**WHAT DID HE DESIGN???** Nothing less than the so-called "WAVY-LINES DEFINITIVES"

Denmark issued these stamps in 1905. The very first one was a 4 øre stamp which was issued July 22nd 1905, a dull blue stamp (Sc.#60) perf.13, which was followed by the 1, 2, 3 and 15 øre stamps in the same year. Until 1933, the Wavy-Line stamps were printed using the letterpress method by the printer H.H. Thiele in Copenhagen. The three Wavy-Lines are symbolical of the three waters, which separate the principal Danish Islands. The background of these stamps was solid.

In 1933 the Post & Telegraph Services took over the production of these stamps and introduced the intaglio process, which made it necessary to change part of the appearance. One particular problem with the older design was the engraved 18 little hearts, where the ink tended to run into and closed them. The little hearts were removed. Also the ring around the numerals was changed, by adding an inner-circle. The background was no longer solid, but line engraved.

As far as I know, this is the second oldest running definitive in the world, only surpassed by Norway's Post Horn. On October 28th, 2005 Post Denmark will issue 5 new stamps, all Wavy-Lines, in values of: 25, 50, 100, 200 and 450 øre's. They were re-engraved by Martin Mørck. The 18 hearts are brought back, while the inner-circle is removed to give more space for the three figures of today's face values.

Please realize, that the first prize for the design in 1905; DKK 500.00, was almost equal to today's cost of 1 sheet of 100 stamps @ 450 øre's. That's what inflation does!

Denmark has only three kinds of definitives at present: "The Wavy-Line" – "Queen Margrethe II" – and the "Small Coat of Arms". The later one is also already in use since 1946. The so-called Caravel issue, which came in 1927, was discontinued in 1940.

Some interesting facts about these long running series. The most common Danish stamp is the 5 øre Wavy-Line, issued October 15th 1938. Over the years more than a billion copies have been printed and sold (Sc.# 224). Its last printing was September 11th 1980.

The Faroes experienced a shortage of the most common values of the Wavy-Line stamps during WW II, when all exchange of goods and post between them and Denmark ceased, due to the

war. Many of the Wavy's were overprinted in the Faroes, so that local letters could continue to be sent.

On the ferries between Løgstør – Aggersund, as well as Fano – Esbjerg, special Post Ferry stamps were used to pay the postage and freight charges for packages and goods. Over the years several different values of Wavy-Line stamps were overprinted "POSTFÆRGE" (POSTFERRY) (Sc.# Q1/Q25).

If you are looking for a mint-copy of the orange-yellow, type 1, 10 øre stamp issued December 1933, you better bring a fat wallet to the stamp auction. It has a catalogue value of DKK 48,000 (\$9,600).

However, for topical collectors this is an enjoyable secondary collection, since they have all been produced in large print-runs, they are not only easy to acquire, but also quite inexpensive. These Wavy-Line stamps have been sold in greater numbers than any other Danish stamp.

Since 1905, more than eight billion have been sold in values from 1 øre up to today's 450 øre

One more detail, the numbers have all been re-engraved on the model of the original digits, including a new number nine, which up till now was not required.

We wish them all a happy 100th anniversary, may they continue for another 100 years.



1905 – 1930: Letterpress  
The original style with solid background and 18 hearts.



1933 – 1992: Intaglio  
Quadrilled background with no hearts and an extra ring around the denomination.



2005: Intaglio (re-engraved)  
Restored to original design.

Next Meeting ... Wed. Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

We will be having books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada Circuit.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Oct. 22 (Sat.):** The Middlesex Stamp Club is holding MIDDPEX 2005 at White Oaks Mall, 1105 Wellington Rd., **London**. 100 frames of exhibits, 22 dealers, silent auction. Free admission. Hours: 9:30-5

**Oct. 29 (Sat.):** The Barrie District Stamp Club will be holding their Annual Show & Bourse at the Aladdin's Banquet Hall, 41 Essa Rd., **Barrie**. Free parking and admission; 16 dealers; silent auction. Hours: 10 – 4.

**Oct. 29 (Sat.):** Stamp Show at St. Bonaventure Church Parish Centre, 1300 Leslie St., **Toronto**. 18 Dealers. Free admission. Hours: 9-5

**Nov. 6 (Sun):** Strathroy Stamp Society Show and Bourse at Scout House, Caradoc Street North, **Strathroy**. Free admission, free parking door and raffle prizes, refreshments. Hours: 10-5

**Nov. 12 (Sat.):** The Cambridge Stamp Club will be holding their Annual Show & Bourse at the United Kingdom Hall, International Dr., (off Dunbar Rd.), **Cambridge**. Ten dealers, club circuit books, and children's treasure box. Free parking and admission. Hours: 9.30-4.30.

**Nov. 12 (Sat.):** Stamp Show at St. Bonaventure Church Parish Centre, 1300 Leslie St., **Toronto**. 18 Dealers. Free admission. Hours: 9-5.

**Nov. 19 (Sat.):** The North Toronto Stamp Club will be holding a Show and Bourse at the Cedarbrook Community Centre, 91 Eastpark Blvd., **Scarborough**. 24 dealers; circuit books; free parking and admission. Hours: 10-4.

(Info. from Canadian Stamp News)

Stamp on the Envelope ...

While one might wonder whether celebrating 35 years of formal diplomatic relations with another country is a matter worthy of a joint stamp issue, the result is an attractive pair of stamps depicting big cats indigenous to the respective countries.

An interesting feature of this issue is the 'Maple leaf perforation' in the line dividing the se-tenant pairs.

By the way, this is the second Canada/China joint issue – the first being the Norman Bethune on 1990.

<b>Event:</b> 35th ann. of diplomatic relations with China	<b>Paper:</b> Tullis Russell Coatings
<b>Title:</b> "Cougar"   "Amur Leopard"	<b>Gum:</b> PVA
<b>Issue date:</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> August, 2005	<b>Tagging:</b> General, 4 sides
<b>Denom.:</b> 50¢	<b>Size:</b> 40 mm x 30 mm
<b>Layout:</b> Pane of 16 stamps	<b>Perf.:</b> 12½ x 13 + maple leaf
<b>Des.:</b> Keith Martin   Liu Jibiao	<b>No.:</b> 5,000,000
<b>Print.:</b> Lowe Martin	<b>Also:</b> Souvenir sheet of both stamps
<b>Process:</b> Lithography (9 colours)	

**OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB**  
**Chapter 191**  
**Royal Philatelic Society of Canada**

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 10<sup>th</sup> St. E. and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 20 active members whose interests cover just about everything at all levels from beginner to expert. New members are always most welcome.

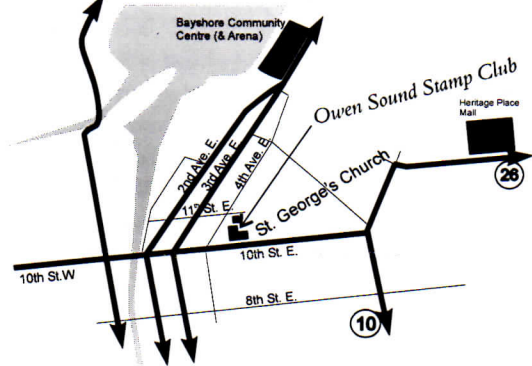
Annual Membership fees: Full: \$10; Family: \$15; Junior: Free. In addition, all members and visitors are asked to contribute \$1 each meeting which is passed directly to St. Georges's Church in appreciation for allowing us to use their room.

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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Books in the OSSC Library are available for loan to any member (but please return at the next meeting).

Present holdings include:

- 2000 Scott Catalogue
  - 2002 Catalogue of Canadian Stamps – Unitrade
  - 2004 Concise Catalogue of Great Britain – Stanley Gibbons
  - 2005 Catalogue of Canadian Stamps & Supplies – CWS
  - Canadian Errors, Freaks, and Oddities – Darnel
  - The Edward VII Issue of Canada by G.C. Marler, published by the National Postal Museum (1975).
  - The Admiral Issues Of Canada by G. C. Marler
  - Canadian Fancy Cancellations of the Nineteenth Century
- Numerous journals at present only partly sorted including:
- The Canadian Philatelist (J. of the RPSC);
  - Scott's Monthly;
  - Topical Times (J. American Topical Association);
  - Details (Canada Post)