Owen Sound Stamp Club

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting; Wed. September 21st 2011 @ 7:00

From the President…

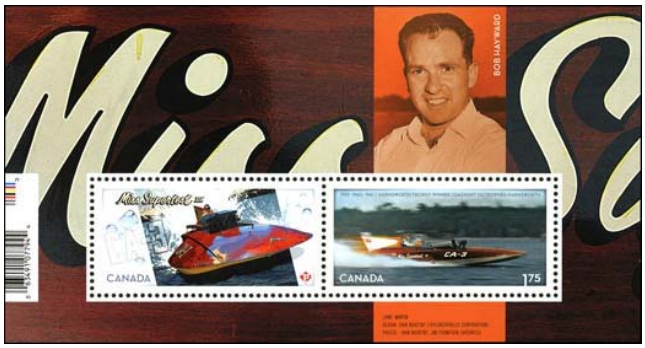
I extend my greetings to the fellow Owen Sound Stamp Club members and all those others who receive this newsletter. This newsletter comes early so that we can remind you about the stamp show on the 17th at the Royal Canadian Legion as well as the regular meeting which will be the 21st at St. George's Anglican Church. Please read carefully so you can help out at the show. I thank you in advance for your assistance on the show day.

In preparation for the show, it would be appreciated if members could come around 8 o'clock to help set up tables for the dealers and at the entrance. We have seven dealers coming, with one dealer taking two tables. Door prizes will be an important part of meeting the cost of running the show. I hope you are able to put together some surplus stamps, envelopes etc. We do not have access to the kitchen, but we will be having refreshments available. On the last email from Marion, we could use a few volunteers to make sandwiches (one loaf of bread) either with salmon or ham and cheese. Call or email Marion if you can help.

The regular meeting will be on the 21st at our usual meeting place, the basement of the St George's Anglican Church. We will have Howie Mason coming with the circuit books from the Stratford stamp club. I hope to see you there as well so we can wrap up the stamp show and begin preparations for the next one. See you on Saturday.

Phil Visser
President OSSC

On the Cover…Miss Supertest III



"What is Miss Supertest III?" you may ask. She's the boat that won the Harmsworth Trophy for Canada for the third time in a row 50 years ago in 1961. It is a hydroplane with a 2000 hp Rolls

Royce Griffon airplane motor (for Spitfires) that enabled it to break the 39 year stronghold the Americans had on the Cup.

The Harmsworth Cup is actually the Daily Mail British International Harmsworth Trophy for motorboat racing. Sir Alfred Harmsworth, the proprietor of the Daily Mail hoped to encourage the development of the new sport with the endowment of the trophy at the first race in 1903. His hopes were certainly fulfilled as many of the boats that raced for the trophy were designed and engineered specifically to run this race...including the Miss Supertest III. The winning steel hulled boats of the early races had average speeds of less than 30 mph. American Gar Wood brought the winning average up from 59 to 86 mph for his six wins of the trophy during the 20's and 30's. Bob Hayward brought the

The domestic rate Miss Supertest III stamp comes in a booklet of ten self-adhesive stamps. It is also a perforated stamp along with an international rate stamp on this

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winning average speed up to 116 mph in Miss Supertest III in 1960. Although the Harmsworth Cup is the most prestigious international motorboat race, it is not held every year. There was a break in the races for both World Wars, but other than that there does not seem to be any rhyme or reason as to what years the race is held. In the 90's the race was held three times and in this millennium it was held in 2002 - 4 and again in 2010.

The solid bronze Harmsworth Trophy shows early motorboat racing. It was

The Miss Supertest boats were owned, designed and developed by Jim Thompson, son of J. Gordon Thompson, the founder of Supertest Petroleum. Winning the Harmsworth Trophy was the dream of Jim Thompson from the age of seven. As the name suggests, Miss Supertest III was preceded by two earlier models; the first of which was previously called Miss Canada IV. The Miss Supertest III won all four races that she ran with Bob Hayward at the helm. Bob hailed from a chicken farming family in Embro Ontario and joined Thompson's team as a mechanic.

Hayward's first race with #III was the 1959 Detroit Memorial Cup. He ran it again in August in the Detroit River for the Harmsworth Cup. The next two years the Harmsworth Cup was held in Lake Ontario at Picton where Hayward took the cup both years. Much fuss was made of the competition in 1960 with Prime Minister John Diefenbaker and Ontario Premier Leslie Frost in attendance. That September after his joyous win in Picton, Bob Hayward ran the Miss Supertest II in

the U.S. Silver Cup on the Detroit River. Hayward had the boat up 155 mph when the #II flipped over and Bob Hayward was killed. This terrible loss devasted Jim Thompson and his team, he put the Miss Supertest III into dry dock and he never raced his boats again. The Town of Picton where Bob Hayward brought the Miss Supertest III to victory twice renamed Long Reach to Hayward Long Reach in his honour. The Harmsworth Cup did not run again until 1977.

Miss Supertest III is one of only four nonhuman inductees into the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame. Bob Hayward and Jim Thompson are right there too.

This year the public has had two opportunities to see Miss Supertest III. The Toronto Boat Show had the famous boat on display this year and it was onsite in Picton for a giant 50th year celebration of the triple header win of the Harmsworth Cup. John Lyons of Picton was the driving force behind the celebrations. He also worked tirelessly to get Canada Post to produce the Miss Supertest III stamps. That's not all...it turns out that the official renaming of Hayward Long Reach was never finalized. His hard work paid off. At the celebration in early August the name Hayward Long Reach was rededicated; Beverly and Jim Thompson unveiled the splashy domestic rate stamp and Doris, Cody and Mark Hayward unveiled the Miss Supertest III international rate stamp and the star of the show – Miss Supertest III was there to be adored by an enthusiastic crowd.

Glass

By Ralph Wyndham

From windows to containers of unlimited shapes, sizes and colours, to the strands of high tech glass no thicker than a human hair at the heart of the fibre optic cable essential to today's communication system, there isn't a day goes by that we do not use glass.

Glass is a non-crystalline solid that transforms into a reversible molten, or rubber-like state when heated. The basic raw materials for making glass are silica (quartz) sand, soda ash (sodium carbonate) dolomite, limestone and salt cake (sodium sulphate). A lot of chemistry goes into glass making. Different ingredients will give batches of glass different characteristics including melting point, brittleness and colour. For example, soda ash reduces glass's melting point, but also makes it water soluble. Adding lime into the mix restores water resistance. Today, 90% of manufactured glass is this 'soda-lime' glass.

A 14th century Egyptian

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For centuries stained glass windows, made by arranging pieces of coloured glass to make a picture held together by strips of lead, have been used as decoration in churches and other

The other key ingredient in glass making is energy – and lots of it. Furnaces run at temperatures up to 1575 C to create glass. Then, heat must be added to keep glass in its workable state while it is being formed into jars, window glass and the like. Before they cool, finished products must be reheated to about 580 C in a special oven, called a lehr, in a process called annealing. Annealing releases internal stress in the hot glass so that it will cool without breaking.

Air pollution is a significant downside to glass. All the fuel burned to heat furnaces and production plants emits a lot of CO2. In addition, a finished batch of glass can weigh as much as 20% less than the raw materials did at the start of the process. The rest is released as gases created as the glass forms. These gases must be captured and 'scrubbed' out of emissions lest they escape into the atmosphere.

The original discovery of glass was quite likely accidental. Sand and ash, close to a very hot fire fused together into rough chunks of glass or, possibly, sand and ash on the surface of a clay pot turned into the first accidental glazing while being fired in a kiln.

Nevertheless, the first man made beads of glass appeared in Egypt and Mesopotamia around 3500 BC. Pottery glazing was still the main use of glass. Phoenician sailors and merchants spread the knowledge of glass making around the Mediterranean.

Evidence of the first hollow glass vessels was found as shards of vases in Mesopotamia dating around 1600 BC. Hollow glass making was also developing in Mycenae (Greece), China and North Tyrol. During the next century, Egyptians developed a method of making hollow glass vessels involving dipping a mould made of compacted sand and dung into molten glass. Hot glass would adhere to the mould and could then be shaped and decorated on a stone slab.

This pitcher shows just how ornate Venetian glassmakers

Three glass vases found in Egypt are among the earliest intact hollow glass pieces. They bear the name of Pharaoh Thoutmosis III, 1504 – 1450 BC who brought glass makers back to Egypt from Asia after a successful military campaign. Did they use the sand and dung mould?

By the 9th Century BC, Mesopotamia had become the leading glass making centre. The first written instructions for making glass were found on tablets from the library of Assyrian King Ashurbanipal (669 – 626 BC). For the next 500 years

Alexandria was the focus of glass making and it is thought that the technology made its way to Italy from here.

Glass blowing, discovered around 2000 years ago,

Perhaps the biggest breakthrough in glass making appeared around the time of Christ: glass blowing. Someone in Syria discovered that when a long metal tube was dipped into molten glass, a gob of glass (that's what it's actually called) would adhere to the end of the tube. The artisan could then blow into the tube from the other end causing the gob to expand creating a hollow object. While carefully applying heat to maintain workability, a skilled glass blower could quickly form the gob into whatever shape they desired. This technique greatly increased the production of glass vessels.

The Romans developed the next twist in glass blowing that greatly increased the variety of shapes possible for glass items. They learned that it was possible to blow molten glass into a mould. By making a mould in sections that could be taken apart to remove the piece, rather than broken, it was possible to reuse the mould thus saving the time needed to make a new mould for every piece. The reach of the Roman Empire (Glass is continued on the next page)

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helped to spread glass making across Europe and even into China. The Romans were the first to use glass for windows though their cast glass windows were nothing like the perfectly clear windows we enjoy today.

Glass blowing techniques also developed that created sheet glass. By blowing a glass sphere and swinging it vertically, a pod of glass up to 3 m long and 45 cm wide could be formed. Then, by cutting it in half, a sheet of glass 3 m long and 90 cm wide could be formed. The opposite also worked. Cut the glass pod first then spin it to create flat strips of glass. The resulting panes could be joined together with lead strips to make windows. These windows were still a luxury limited to palaces, churches, and the homes of the very wealthy.

By the 11th century, Venice was Europe's glass making powerhouse. As many as 8,000 craftsmen toiled creating objects in glass. The city state worked hard at maintaining its glass making dominance. Glass making created many fires in the city so in 1291, the city state moved all glass

Carl Zeiss pioneered the making of glass lenses, initially for

What would stamp collectors do without the magnifying glass? Stamps under a magnifier would

making activities to the island of Moreno. The move also made it easier to control this vital industry. By the end of the 1500s, 3000 of Moreno's 7000 inhabitants worked in the glass industry.

The struggle for a piece of the glass business was quite intense. While Venice tried very hard to contain glass making knowledge, France, for instance, tried to gain that same knowledge. To tempt Venetian glass makers, France offered French citizenship and tax exemptions to come to France but were threatened with death at home should they trade knowledge or try to leave the city.

As with so many inventions and technologies, the Industrial Revolution did a lot to advance glass production. German glass pioneers were particularly influential. Otto Schott (1851 – 1935), a key figure in establishing the modern glass industry, did extensive study on the effects of various chemicals on the properties of glass. Cameras and eye glasses also owe a great deal to Schott who collaborated with Ernst Abbe to make great advances in optical lens technology. Friedrich Siemens revolutionized volume glass production with his tank furnace which made possible the continuous production of large amounts of glass.

American ingenuity advanced mass glass production late in the 19th century with Michael Owens' glass blowing machine. By the mid-1920s, the addition of the gob feeder and the individual section machine, with its array of multi-part steel moulds, to the glass blowing machine provided the basis for today's mass production of bottles and jars.

Otto Schott (left) and Ernst Abbe pioneered the study of glass chemistry. Abbe

Good clear flat glass was a difficult thing to make. Do you remember seeing blurry spots and bubbles in really old window panes? Besides the two glass blowing techniques described earlier for making flat glass, another technique was pioneered in 17th century France. Molten glass was poured onto and rolled over a special stone table. Once cooled, the glass was ground and polished on both sides to create flat window glass.

Early in the 20th century, the Belgian Emile Fourcault invented a process for drawing and forming a continuous ribbon of rectangular flat window glass from a crucible of molten glass. Another Belgian, Emil Bicheroux, added a simpler rolling process that combined with Fourcault's system to greatly reduce grinding and polishing time for window glass.

In America, Irving Colburn discovered that by dipping an iron bar into molten glass, a continuous ribbon of glass could be pulled from it and through a system of rollers. Colburn went broke trying to perfect the process that was purchased by Toledo Glass.

At Toledo, Colburn collaborated with Michael Owens to perfect (Glass is continued on the next page)

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his idea which became the basis of manufacture at the Libbey-Owens Sheet Glass. Another variation, developed at Pittsburgh Plate Glass, combined features of the Fourcault and Libbey-Owens processes.

Mary Pratt's 'Jelly shelf' is a very fine representation of modern commercial

The float glass method of making plate glass, developed by Alistair Pilkington at Pilkington Glass in England, came into production in 1959. In this method, molten glass is poured onto a pool of molten tin where it floats, like oil floats on water, forming a perfectly flat sheet of glass. The glass is then drawn in a continuous ribbon into an annealing lehr.

The versatility of glass is incredible. From objects of art to the everyday utilitarian, from the most fragile to things that resist breaking even if dropped, you are almost never out of sight of something made of glass. Philatelically, if you discount the fact that every building depicted on a stamp has windows, stained glass has to be the most common stamp subject. What variation on the 'glass on stamps' topic can you come up with?

From the Editor…

Please bring some exhibits for the show. Don't forget the items you have volunteered to bring for lunch and snacks. The Club would also appreciate donations for door prizes.

There will be a show cover featuring the 'methods of mail' stamps.

Please help support the stamp club. Don't forget to buy your tickets for our 2011 Stamp Show Raffle. They are 4 tickets for $5.00 or 1 for $2.00.

See you there and see you on Wednesday. The Editor

Coming Events…

- SEPT. 17, Owen Sound, ON
  Owen Sound 16th Annual Stamp Show and Sale, Royal Canadian Legion, 1450 2nd Ave. W. NOTE: New location. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., eight dealers, door prizes, free parking and admission, exhibits and free stamps for kids. Sponsor/Affiliate: Owen Sound Stamp Club. For more information contact Marion Ace, telephone 519-934-1998, email marionace@bmts.com.

- SEPT. 24, Cobourg, ON
  COPEX 2011, Salvation Army Hall, 59 Ballantine St. Hours 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Eight dealers, club consignment table, lunch counter, exhibits, free admission and parking, wheelchair accessible, draw prizes. Sponsor/Affiliate: Cobourg Stamp Club. For more information contact Harold Houston, email hhouston@cogeco.ca.

- SEPT. 24, Milton, ON
  Milton Stamp Fair, Milton Sports Centre, Derry Road and Santa Maria Blvd. Hour: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., free admission, plenty of parking, 17 dealers, club sales circuit, youth table, lunch counter, silent auction, enter through rear entrance and turn right to the Banquet Room. Sponsor/Affiliate: Milton Stamp Club. For more information, contact Diane Jarvis 905-864-6140 or miltonstampclub@gmail.com.

- SEPT. 25, Dundas, ON
  26th Annual Golden Horseshoe Postcard Club Show and Sale, Dundas Lions Memorial Community Centre, 10 Market St. S. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A multi-dealer sale of postcards and related items. Displays by club members. Dealers will provide valuations on collections. Postcards may be bought, sold and traded. Free parking. Free admission. Food will be available for purchase. For more information contact Jon Soyka, telephone 905-388-5840, email jonsoyka@mountaincable.net.

- OCT. 1 - 2, Ottawa, ON
  Ottawa Fall Stamp Fair, Greenery Room, Travelodge Hotel and Convention Centre, 1376 Carling Ave. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free admission and parking, door prizes. For more information contact Roy Houtby, telephone 905-934-8377

- OCT. 15, Guelph, ON
  Guelph Stampex 2011, 685 Woolwich Rd. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 12 dealers, club sales circuit books, lunch counter, exhibits, youth table, draw prizes, free parking and admission, wheelchair access. Sponsor/Affiliate: Guelph Stamp Club. For more information contact George Shepherd, telephone 519-242-8022.

- OCT. 15, Kingston , ON
  Kingston Stamp Festival, Edith Rankin Church, 4080 Bath Road. Hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission, and parking, 10 dealers, door prizes, youth booth and food concession. Sponsor/Affiliate: The Kingston Stamp Club. For more information contact Richard Weigand (Chapter President), telephone 613-352-8775 rweigand@kos.net.

- OCT. 22, Cambridge, ON
  GRVPA Club Fair, United Kingdom Hall, International Village Dr. Seventeenth annual Club Fair, hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., free admission, free parking, 12+ club circuits (15 member clubs), 2 silent auctions, door prize, youth table. Sponsor/Affiliate: Grand River Valley Philatelic Association. For more information email stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca.

John Cortan brought in a few of the new duty paid labels for cigarettes to one of our meetings. These labels have more security features and would be much more difficult to counterfeit.

Owen Sound Stamp Club

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Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

The Owen Sound Stamp Club meets at 7:00 pm on the third Wednesday of each month in the basement of St. George's Anglican Church (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 often held at 8:00 pm. There are presently about 25 active members whose interests cover just about everything at all levels, from beginner to expert. Guests or new members are always most welcome. Annual membership fees: $15; Junior- Free

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