

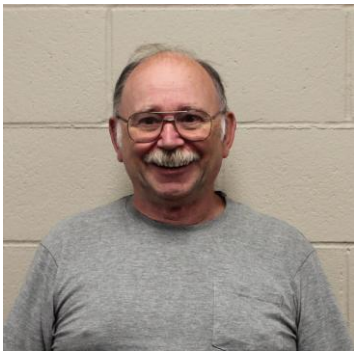
Stamps on the Bay

The Voice of The
Owen Sound Stamp Club
**Meeting Cancelled due to
Health Safety**
Volume 1 Edition 3



From the President

Hello everyone, hope you're all safe and keeping a safe distance from your neighbours, friends, and those you meet on the street, shopping, in an elevator etc. Wash your hands often and use the hand disinfectant frequently. For those that have just returned home from a holiday in a different country, please keep the 14 day quarantine, and play it safe for both you and everyone else concerned.



With the closure of all buildings for meetings, we will be calling off our meetings for the months of April and May. Besides the two meetings, the Grey, Bruce and Simcoe County Club Circuit Book Fair of the North that was to be held on May 23rd will also be cancelled.

I guess the one thing that this Covid-19 has done for most of us, is that it has opened up time for us to look over our so called collections. Some would call it our items of hoarding for future use, but the future is now! Try to be patient and do what you have to do to get along. But the most important thing is to be safe and try and follow what the Health Boards are telling us to do. Hoping to see you all as soon as this virus slows down a lot, hopefully at our June meeting.

John C. Lemon
President OSSC.

From the Editor Phil Visser

Wow, what a change has come about due to this pandemic. As a result there are many changes from the previous edition. To begin with, the header informs you that there is **NO MEETING THIS MONTH**. Another factor that also affects the newsletter is the **Show Listings** section is also removed from this edition. The best way to see when the next shows will

start is to visit the Canadian Stamp News website at <http://www.canadianstampnews.ca/> and look for the heading "Events." Clicking this heading will lead you to upcoming shows. Finally, since the last meeting was cancelled, there is no report on that meeting.

Another important change is that it is now impossible to print the newsletter for mailing, since the print shop is closed. Unfortunately, that leaves a handful of members that cannot receive this newsletter because the internet is not present in their homes, or their email addresses are not in our files.

What is present in this edition is a lengthy article by Randy about another link found on our website. A second article, also lengthy, continues on the topic of local philately. Hopefully there is interest in these topics. Should anyone else have a cork cancel from Owen Sound, please let me know and I'll see if I can scan it for the next edition.

As has been my custom, the front page has a teaser scan. This scan has something to do with a story further in the newsletter. Can you tie the scan in with what story? It also serves as a hook to keep reading the remaining pages.

Here is the teaser scan:



Finally, looking at this card, where is Poulett Street?



Useful Links: StampWorld By Randy Rogers

The previous two articles in this series focused on online catalogue

resources that can assist you in identifying, cataloguing, and establishing a value for the items in your collection. However, there are times when you might come upon a stamp in your collection which you just can't seem to identify. Perhaps you can't read the inscriptions on the stamp or maybe there is some special cancellation that you are curious about.



Fortunately there are many 'experts' out there on the web who are more than eager to help. When I find myself in this sort of conundrum I turn to the **Stamp Community Forum (SCF)** at <https://www.stampcommunity.org/> SCF is a great place to get information on things that you can't seem to find in a catalogue. There are many sections in the forum so it is important to post into the correct discussion area.

Stamp Community Family Stuff			
US Stamps and Covers Discussions			
General Philatelic Discussions (Non-Country-Specific)			
World Stamps and Covers Discussions			
Australian Stamps and Covers This includes all aspects of Australian philately.	851	10873	Today 2 Hrs 2 Min ago Bob041256 →
Canadian Stamps and Covers This includes all aspects of Canadian philately, including provincial issues.	4053	48472	Today 4 Hrs 6 Min ago weil →
World Classic Stamps Mint and Used This includes pre-1940 mint & used stamps of the World.	6973	72136	Today 1 Hr 59 Min ago wkusau →
World Modern Stamps Mint and Used This includes post-1940 mint, used, and new issues.	3021	29633	Today 2 Hrs 2 Min ago per12 →
World Back of Book This includes worldwide Air Mails, Semi-postals, Officials, Occupation Issues, and Revenues.	889	7146	Today 5 Hrs 30 Min ago 22cross →
World Precancels All World Precancel discussions go here.	36	232	01/02/2020 10:43 pm newguv71 →
World Covers This includes worldwide Postal History, Stampless Covers, First Flight Covers, and First Day Covers.	1484	11502	03/24/2020 5:16 pm rod22 →
World Picture Postcards This includes worldwide Picture Postcards of all types, with themes such as architecture, animals, dolls, bridges, holiday cards, famous people, etc.	494	3334	Yesterday 1:55 pm HounddogBill →
On Line Stamp Auction Discussions			
Buy / Sell / Trade 50 Post Minimum			
Support and Testing Area			
Events Calendar			

As a world-wide collector, most of my queries fall into the World Stamps and Covers discussion area. Here is an example of recent inquiry I made after unsuccessfully using my phone and Google Translate to try to read the text on the stamp (it did translate United Arab Republic):

trogers
Valued Member
Canada
71 Posts

Posted 03/21/2020 2:40 pm

I came across a few stamps like this in my collection and can't seem to identify them (I can't read Arabic)

Here is a scan of one of the stamps

I hope someone can help identify it.

Thanks in advance for all assistance.

[Send note to Staff](#)

In less than an hour I had replies and learned a few more things along the way.

studebaker
Moderator
7844 Posts

Posted 03/21/2020 2:42 pm

http://stampsarter.com/learning/Home_HowTo.html and check out 'How To Do An Image Search' video

Don

[Send note to Staff](#)

vayolene
Pillar Of The Community
France
1049 Posts

Posted 03/21/2020 3:14 pm

Political party revenue stamp.
<http://gscf.com/t/55235>

Edited by vayolene - 03/21/2020 3:15 pm

[Send note to Staff](#)

trogers
Valued Member
Canada
71 Posts

Posted 03/21/2020 4:53 pm

Thanks for the links guys. I did find this after a bit more digging.

Arab Socialist Union - monthly installment

Catalog codes: Col:EG 1962-01

Themes: Hands

Issued on: 1962

Colors: Olive

Format: Stamp

Printing: Offset lithography

Face value: 20 Egyptian millieme

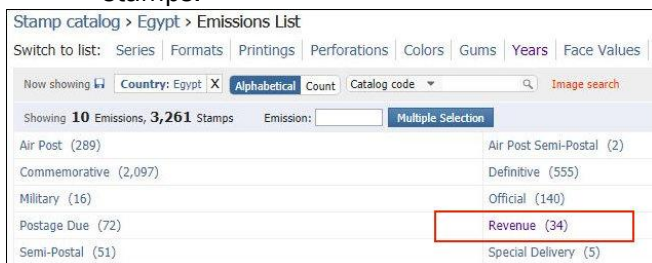
Score: 40% Accuracy: Very Low

Cheers

[Send note to Staff](#)

- 1) It is really easy to do an image search using the Google Chrome browser. Check out the following web site to find several good 'how to' articles related to stamp collecting.
http://stampsarter.com/learning/Home_HowTo.html
- 2) The stamp is a political party revenue stamp from the early 60's. The stamps were used to register payment of party dues.
- 3) Once I knew the stamp was 'Egyptian' I revisited the COLNECT catalogue and discovered that there is, for some countries at

least, an “Emissions” selection for revenue stamps.



I clicked on the Revenue selection to see if I could find my mystery stamp...



SCF is free to use and paid for by advertisers. I purchased a premium membership which allows me to support the forum and minimize the advertising. The images posted at the beginning of this article are other stamps or cancellations that I was able to identify by using the SCF. Take a few minutes to check out the SCF site, post an inquiry, or maybe even lend your expertise to help someone else on the forum.

March Meeting Highlights

At the last minute, the public health authorities urged the beginning of self isolation, especially those in the “vulnerable” age group. This announcement was compounded by most public buildings closing doors to meetings. Randy and Marion attended the Saugeen Stamp Club meeting on March 7th and had good sales from the Circuit Books

Considering the health factors, there is nothing else to add for this newsletter about our last meeting.

Fancy Cancels of Owen Sound

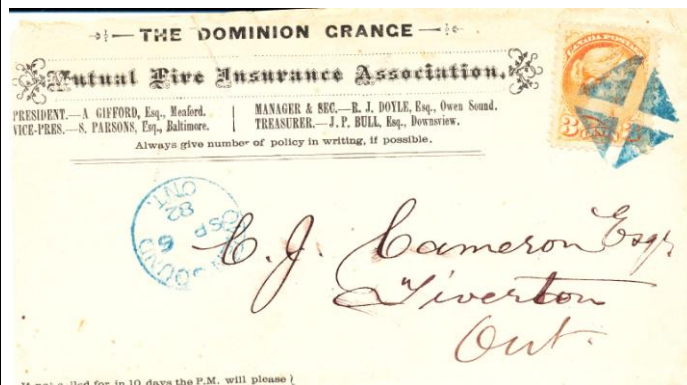
By Phil Visser

One of the benefits of being part of different philatelic organizations is that these organizations keep up to date with the latest news about our hobby. It was about one year ago when the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) mentioned a new publication called “*Fancy Cancellations on Canadian Stamps*” by Dave Lacelle. This topic intrigued me and so I made the plunge and purchased the publication.

First of all, it must be recognized that this publication cannot come out without the input from other collectors and the Study Group that Dave is part of. My interest in this topic is mainly concerned with the City of Owen Sound and the fancy cancels used at this post office. It turns out that the publication indicates

seven different fancy cancellations have been attributed to this city.

With this information it eased the load of finding the fancy cancels used here. The accompanying letter



shows the first numbered type of cancel attributed to Owen Sound. For those receiving this newsletter in black and white, the ink used is blue in colour. Of course the easiest thing to do is to see the post mark on the envelope to identify its use in this city. The date cancel tells that the mailing date was September 6th, 1882 which falls into the date range of July to November of 1882 mentioned in the publication. Lacelle does state that the colour of blue ink was used occasionally. Underneath the “Mutual Fire Insurance Association” letterhead there is a list of officers from the Association. The most likely person who mailed this letter was Mr. R.J. Doyle, listed as Manager and Secretary. One last detail with this letter is the 3 Cent Small Queen postage stamp, most likely Unitrade #37 and likely printed in Montreal. This stamp was printed during the period of 1870-1888 in Montreal. Unitrade #41 was printed after 1888 and is the same design with shades of the original stamp.

An important thing to keep in mind is that this cancel has also been observed from other locations in this province. The Fancy Cancel publication lists these places as Paris, Toronto, Middlemarch, Hagersville, Port Hope, Selkirk, Armadale, and Oshawa; all of these post offices are in the province of Ontario. However, one difference is that these places are only listed for a period of one month during the period between 1876 to its end in Owen Sound in 1882.

Not every time is a collector lucky enough to find a letter, but only the stamp with a socked on the nose cancel. It was this exact thing which intrigued Dave Lacelle as a youngster when he received a bundle of 3 cent small queens from his aunt. One had a cork cancel which he didn't know anything about until a dealer enlightened him and a collecting seed was planted.

This next cancel is exactly like that, a socked on the nose cancel. Unless the seller had not said that this was an Owen Sound fancy cancel, it



wouldn't be in this collection. Here also Dave Lacelle adds more information, because he has listed two other cancels that appear very similar to this one. Only the future will tell if these three different cancels will remain as separate listings. Before its use in Owen Sound a similar cancelling device was used in Guelph, and Providence Bay. After use in Owen Sound, a similar cancel was used in Albany, PEI and in Hanover, ON.

Confirming the fancy cancel being used in a certain



place is a complete envelope. Fortunately the following scan confirms the theory of its use in Owen Sound. This letter is a registered letter, and likely contained money for greater security of arriving at its destination. The letter was mailed on July 1st, 1876. This mailing date falls within the dates of attributed use in this city. Lacelle declares it use as the period between May 1876 and August 1878. While the cancellation appears faint in the scan the similarity with the other one listed above is undeniable.

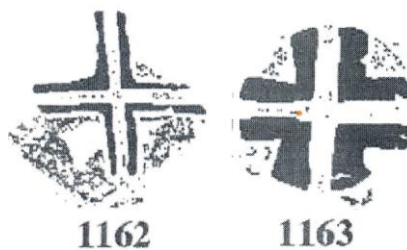
Unfortunately the back stamps are simply too faint to prove the route it travelled, but the next dated cancel is July 3rd 1876 from (Collin)gwood(?) and another very poor cancel

on (Ju) 7 with the only letters legible enough to read is ...Ron=Mani...

Who knows what path it followed, but what would make sense is that

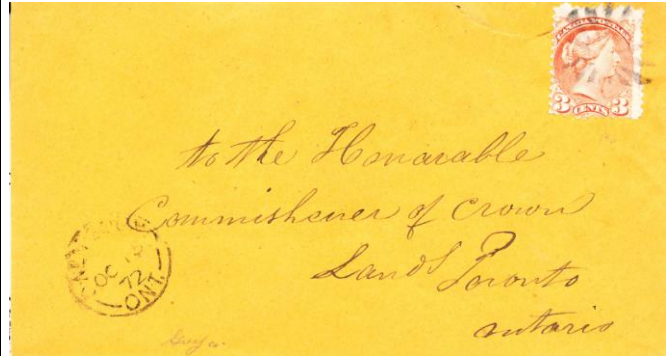
this letter travelled on a steamer from Owen Sound around Georgian Bay to its destination. I do have another letter that was mailed from Owen Sound on September 8th, 1878, which is slightly later than the date provided by Lacelle. This second letter used script writing and only the partial back stamp indicates that the letter was mailed to Sarnia, ON.

Lacelle lists two other cancels very similar to the above one. A scan taken from the Fancy Cancel publication shows #1162 and #1163. Initially my thought was that the cancel on the registered letter in the above paragraph was #1163, but the mailing date suggests that assumption is incorrect. To show



the difficulty any editor has when making a record of something is single copies of one cancel and thus trying to be inclusive, does list a similar cancel as a separate one. For instance, in the forward of this book Lacelle points out that he has made about 200 deletions from the 2nd Edition because he has never seen them in 55 years of collecting fancy cancels. This is a reminder that no catalogue is to be considered as being completely authoritative and later editions will contain revisions as time passes.

Following along in numeral catalogue listings, cancel #1484 is shown as being used from February to



November 1873. This letter shows a clear cancellation date of Owen Sound on October 15th 1872. Lacelle does mention in the book introduction that the dates listed are representative and not to be fully relied upon as a reason for a new listing. I purchased this letter from an auction house in western Canada. That website had a clear scan and a well described item, and became a nice addition to the collection of local postal history. However, it does not match the exact description of #1484. Are they the same, or different?

The last cancel listing is also similar to this one shown, and Lacelle lists it as #1515. This letter resembles #1515 closer but not completely, besides the mailing date also does not coincide with the usage date of January 1874. This Post Card with a cork cancel does fit in nicely as #1515. When a comparison is made between this one and the one in the previous paragraph, differences can be noted. A mystery for sure when neither number matches this scan, but there is other cancels in the collection that is still mysterious.



Fancy cancels that bear an Owen Sound cancel are also part of this collection. There are two letters that bear nearly similar cork cancels. This first letter was mailed on September 14th 1883. It appears that only half of the cork cancel has obliterated the stamp. Again, based on

the date of cancellation, this stamp is Unitrade #37, a Montreal printing of the small queen. A similar cancel on the second letter was mailed at a much later date from Louise to Owen Sound. This letter was mailed on October 15th, 1897, but instead of three bars, it

contains four bars. Discarding these as being different from



each other is not so simple. Superimposing the three bars from the 1883 over the four bars from the 1897 letter, and they are remarkably similar with the first bar of the 1897 letter missing from the 1883 letter. This comparison is done crudely and would be much easier if a visit to the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Foundation could be arranged.



Another cancel that is applied faintly on this following cover is also a mystery. Is it #1163 from the Lacelle publication? A close up on the stamp itself shows only a part of the cancel. The reader can make a

guess on the similarity of this cancel with #1163 above. Using drawing tools from this word processor, I have added green lines to assist in making a guess. Other challenges face a collector with partial cancels.



At first glance, the following scan looked a lot like a partial cancel of #1129. However, some questions may be asked about the cancel. This scan shows the cancellation and a discussion can be



made about it. With only three full sectors and a partial fourth sector we can begin

the comparison. The shapes are pretty well identical to cancel #1129 first shown. One troubling detail just doesn't seem to fit with the full cancel, and that is the date of mailing. This partial cancel is dated as October 12th 1881, whereas the full cancellation is suggested to have been used between July and November of 1882.

Another question mark to this cancel is the apparent wear shown above. A split appears in the Western quarter, a chunk is missing from the southern quarter and the eastern quarter has a split from the triangular shape, and finally the northern quarter is mostly missing. By themselves these observations could be

easily said that the cork cancel had been used and was wearing out and hence the deformations. Now the cancellation date causes a question to be raised if this cancel is new or a deformed cancelling hammer. This "deformed" cancel predates the actual cancel #1129 by almost a year. I leave that discussion for other philatelists with more experience than myself.



The final mystery cancel is presented here. When purchased, the seller stated that the cancel was from Owen Sound, which is handwritten on the back of the partial envelope. Again the

stamp which is obliterated is the 3 cent small queen, but unfortunately the remainder of the letter is missing. The cancel shows seven sectors, and therefore eight lines dividing the compass into the four cardinal points and four inter-cardinal points or sectors. When this cancel did not show among those attributed to Owen Sound the mystery surfaced about the real place of usage. The Lacelle publication is divided into five chapters and ten appendices. A search started in Chapter 4, Fancy Cancels but it turned out to be fruitless. Continuing on into Chapter 5, Geometric Cancels, a better result came although not quite the same as shown in the scan. The closest design is #1536, attributed to having been used in Bothwell ON. All being considered here, someone interested in collecting fancy cancels would probably prefer the cancel to be on a complete envelope and a clearly visible mailing date and place.



At the end of this story it is time to thank Dave Lacelle and the other members of the "Fancy Cancels and Miscellaneous Markings" working group of BNAPS. This publication is a great resource and a treasure chest of knowledge which includes the many hours of patient research. Of course BNAPS consists of more study groups so if anyone may be interested in another aspect of our hobby, consider joining BNAPS.

Covid-19 and the mail: A Future Article

This is a request for members to observe how they are receiving the mail, or anything relating to what activities is being carried out in this present period of a lockdown. In a couple of weeks I will be calling around to see what this pandemic has done for you and our common hobby.

This request is simply to keep ourselves connected and what has this extra time allowed you to do for your collection.

Please keep safe

Phil Visser

Editor

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If you are connected to the internet, now would be a time to visit the web page of the club. Randy has now written us three articles about websites connected to our web page and using some of these links may help you in sorting and organizing a collection. One of the thankless things of being in the executive or actively involved with its operation is the silence of feedback. What is useful for members? Please share experiences.

Soapbox

Each week seems to bring more changes in how to avoid the ravages of this pandemic. As far as is known, membership is symptom free of the virus. If you haven't put pages of duplicate stamps into the Circuit books, now would be a great time to start

To end this newsletter is a scan of the letter mailed from Louise, in southern Grey County to Owen Sound. The letter travelled by train to Owen Sound, and the cancel shows an RPO of "Stratford & Wiarton." South of Hepworth is the small village of Park Head where the tracks had a junction with tracks leading to Owen Sound via Shallow Lake and Benallen and finally into the CNR Station on the west side of the Owen Sound harbour. The letter arrived on October 18th, 1897. The nearest train station to Louise would be in Elmwood, a distance of three miles or so from the village. No information on how long there was a post office in Louise. Does anyone have that information?

