

Stamps on the Bay



**The Voice of the
Owen Sound Stamp Club**
Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 7 P.M.
New Life Centre, 199 4th Ave West, Owen Sound
Volume 3, Edition 5, June 2022



From the President

Hello my philatelic friends! It is June already! The tulips and daffodils have come and gone. Now the irises are waving their beards in the breeze. That is lovely but what does that have to do with Capex '22?

Absolutely nothing! Some of you will get this when Capex has started. Phil tells me that news about Capex is already in this newsletter but how can I

even think about anything else! I hope that many of you joined in for our 'Live at Capex' Zoom meeting Thursday June 9th. Bill should start letting people in around 4:00. I hope to be on there by 4:30. This will be very experimental so we'll see what happens!

We had our Owen Sound Stamp auction on June 1st. When I mentioned the Zoom at Capex at the auction Rick Lokos suggested that we record the meeting. So we recorded the auction while we had a chance to do a trial run. I just spoke to Bill Findlay and apparently the recording of the auction worked just fine. We should be able to post our 'Live at Capex' meeting on our website in the near future. We had close to 20 people for our online auction, join us July 6th for the next one.

Our illustrious editor Phil Visser has been busy acquiring accolades. His page about 'Barn Owls' won our first One Page Challenge in ages. We'll see what topic he has chosen to add to the list. This month's topic is 'a building'. So put your thinking caps on...this could be anything from a pyramid to the CN Tower to a sugar shack! Phil also won the 'People's Choice Award' at the Saugeen show in May for his exhibit about Owen Sound Postal History. Good going Phil!

I hope to see you Wednesday June 15th at the New Life Centre if I've recovered from Capex '22. Please bring some items for an auction and a one page exhibit on buildings. Don't forget to bring the Hill books to circulate and we should have the circuit books available to peruse. For those of you online we'll see you on July 6th for the OSSC Zoom auction and live at Capex '22 Thursday June 9th at 4:30.

Marion Ace, President
Owen Sound Stamp Club

Editors Greeting

Wow, looking at the calendar and I see the month of June. We are half way through the year, where did the time go. Another edition has been completed and ready for readers to go through two articles, a club report and a Capex 22 reminder. Capex is now a few days away as this is written. Some other regular features also appear on the following pages. First a listing of upcoming shows and on the last page, a Blast from the Past. It is funny this never crossed my consciousness, but it seems that opera is the predecessor to the modern day movie.

Last month the teaser scan showed a German stamp overprinted with Belgian. This stamp was an occupation stamp in the parts of Belgium that were occupied by the German Army. It seems that regular Belgian stamps had been used up and so to satisfy the paths of communication, the overprinted stamp was put into useage. There was also a nice cancellation on it, from the city of Jumet. This then tied the teaser stamp with the first story about the half Belgian stamp used following the end of the First World War. Generally bisect stamps are looked at with caution.

Mention was made about the Facebook group called "Ken Pugh Forgeries." To participate, one does need to have a Facebook account, but the individual can choose who to "friend" and "follow." Our club does have a Facebook page with only a few people posting anything in it, but yet, once I joined the forgeries group, Facebook soon brought other philatelic groups. It is a way of connecting with other collectors and learn philatelic knowledge.

Last weekend I attended a BNAPS Zoom meeting. It was a joint group meeting between the forgeries group and the digital philately group. What is becoming scary is the number of forgeries that are in the marketplace. As one presenter shared, he thought that eBay was the "wild west" with lawless and unscrupulous sellers. It is really becoming a "caveat emptor" world out there. The major outcome is the need to visit shows and deal with reputable dealers, who stand behind their sales. There are a few dealers who have questionable reputations, but that information passes around very quickly.

And now for the teaser scan:



S.S. City of Owen Sound: A ship with four lives

By Phil Visser



A lovely, illustrated advertising cover arrived several months ago. It presents a lot of subtle changes in the postal system. Eyes become riveted on the upper left corner of the envelope (see above scan). One wonders when this was permitted by the Postmaster General (PMG)?

More scholarly research will be needed to determine when the PMG allowed illustrated and or advertising covers to enter the mail system. A search through my collection shows the first cover with advertising is dated in 1874 (see scan 2). The rather plain advertisement showed the business where the letter originated. Malone's brewery was located on the present 8th Street West, either on or near the river.



Returning to the first envelope, a search was needed to learn more about the career of this ship on the Great Lakes. An internet search provided only two sources of information. Published in the "Mariners Weather Log" was a short story authored by Skip Gillham. A second and more detailed reference is provided by the website <http://www.steamboatstories.ca/>. It is this reference that provided the seed for the title above.

At its beginning, the S.S. *City of Owen Sound* was built in the Simpson drydock on the west side of the harbour. This drydock was located between 14th and 15th Street West, near the present Family Health Team building and the boat launching facility. The *City of Owen Sound* was launched on June 25, 1875. It was equipped with a low-pressure steam engine developing 280 horsepower. This engine was itself salvaged from the wreck of the *City of London* which

had burned in Collins Inlet, near Killarney.

Its ownership changed several times during its shipping career. It entered service for Smith & Keighley on a contract with the Chicago and Sarnia Line and the Grand Trunk Railway. In 1877 the ship was modified and began trade with the Collingwood and Lake Superior Line, the firm traded between Collingwood and Fort William (Thunder Bay today).

Ownership changed to the Canada Transit Company in 1881 and changed again to Canada Lake Superior Transit Company around 1887. Another transfer occurred to the Collins Bay Rafting and Forwarding Co in 1892. In 1895 the ship changed name to the "*Saturn*." Under this name the ship finally sank on September 19, 1901.

Its first life occurred from its launch in 1875 until it was driven ashore near Michipicoten Island on November 12, 1884. It was salvaged and repaired at the Owen Sound drydock and was ready to resume sailing for the 1886 season. Its second life began.

This second life was short lived. In a snowstorm while transiting the North Channel off Manitoulin Island it struck Robertson Rock and sank. This occurred on October 24, 1887. Most thought the ship was beyond repair until it was refloated in 1891. After being towed to Collingwood, it was repaired and ready for service at the end of 1892 but renamed the "*Saturn*."

On November 5, 1895, it found itself again in a storm on Lake Huron. The captain of the *Saturn* (aka *City of Owen Sound*) sought shelter behind Cove Island at the north end of the Bruce Peninsula. While attempting to find shelter it ran aground again and was abandoned. A third life had come to an end.

Salvage was again attempted, and it was successful. It was towed to Collingwood again and repaired. It re-entered marine service in the spring of 1898. It had a steady trade of carrying lumber from Lake Superior to Collins Bay on Lake Ontario (near Kingston). While carrying coal from Cleveland to Owen Sound, it sprang a leak and sank northwest of Southampton. The ten-person crew abandoned the sinking ship and rowed for seven plus hours, reaching shore at the north end of Sauble Beach.

From a philatelic perspective, a Killarney split ring cancel adorns the front of the cover. Letter was mailed on September 28, 1880. Postage was paid with Unitrade #37. A fancy cancel obliterates the stamp, so reuse of the stamp was now out of the picture. The cancel is smeared and may be a Maltese cross in design. This design does not compare with two other fancy cancels that Lacelle lists in "Fancy Cancels on Canadian Stamps" 3rd edition.

On the back of the cover is a circular date cancel from Owen Sound, arriving on September 30, 1880. Road and rail transport were in their infancy, so this letter most likely travelled on a ship between Killarney and Owen Sound. The early steamers did not have a Post Office aboard, so no "Paquebot" or ship cancels are found on these letters.

J.W. Maitland is listed in the 1881 census of Canada, along with his wife and two children. Under the

heading of "Occupation", Mr. Maitland is listed as a forwarder, thus being involved in supplying the smaller settlements around Georgian Bay.

It is a unique history that the *City of Owen Sound* survived in the marine business after three sinking/groundings. That would not be the case in today's marine industry. Certainly, the grounding on Robertson Rock would have made this ship a total constructive loss. But necessity and limited manufacturing facilities made it worth while to rebuild.

References:

https://www.vos.noaa.gov/MWL/aug_10/shipwreck.shtml Mariners Weather Log; Vol 54, No 2; August 2010.

http://www.steamboatstories.ca/city_of_owen_sound.pdf The Misfortunes of the S.S. City of Owen Sound.

A Port of Some Importance; M. Croft; Conestoga Press
The People of Owen Sound; M. Croft; self published
Fancy Cancels on Canadian Stamps: 1855-1950; 3rd Edition; D.M. Lacelle; BNAPS Ltd

Club News

May 18th saw some fifteen or sixteen members gather at the New Life Centre for the monthly meeting. It was nice to see John C. return from Ripley. Although the selling of stamps has stopped, John continues to sell stamp supplies. Monthly business progressed as usual with the addition of the auction near the end of the meeting. A certain member is cleaning his philatelic area in preparation for a move to the west.

Marion G arrived with the Club Sales Circuits binders. There were several members that took advantage of the binders and made purchases. It was also nice to see Nathan S return, with other hobby members gathered around him discussing the hobby and his collection.

One very important topic was discussed. Now that in person meetings have resumed, what about the cyber meetings? At the April meeting it was suggested that we have a second general meeting for those members prefer to meet that way. With the monthly online Zoom auctions occurring on the first Wednesday of the month, and the in-person meeting on the third Wednesday of the month, another time was needed to schedule the cyber meeting. After some toing and froing, it was decided that the cyber meeting would be held on the second Thursday of the month. While it would be nice to have afternoon meetings, we do have members still in the workforce, so the cyber meeting will be held at 7 PM.

With many articles available for auction, bidding started shortly after 8 PM. There was some spirited bidding and also some that didn't sell. A good evening was had by all and I closed the New Life Center at 9:30 while most of the members had departed well before that time.

Show and Tell

It is confession time. My notes of what was shared have disappeared and so the thoughtfulness of club members sharing interesting items is a blank. Your reporter did bring a couple of things to share. The first was a page of Buenos Aires stamp forgeries. The second was the exhibit titled "Fancy Cancels of Owen Sound: 1870-1882." They both were passed around to show what can be done with a collection and actually receive positive results. They achieved much more than I had ever thought

This meeting was the first one page challenge for several years. A total of five pages were submitted. A big thanks go out to all those who entered a page. Club members chose the page titled "Just for the Hoot of It." It showed a page of common barn owls. As luck would have it, your editor had submitted it. Thank you for the votes.

The subjects for the next few months for the one page challenge are as follows

June 15: a building

July 20: an athlete or sports team

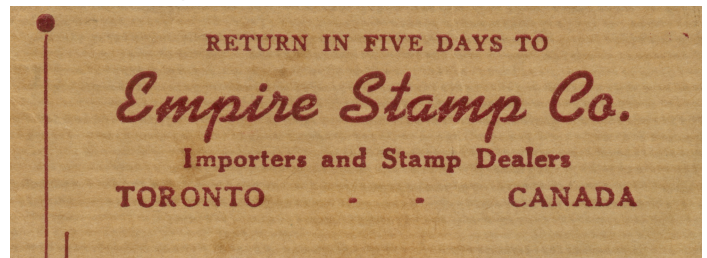
August 17: astronomy, stars or eclipses

Joy to the World

By Phil Visser

A common beginning of this hobby was collecting any and every stamp that crossed a path. What excitement there was when a letter arrived from some far off and exotic place in this world. Comparing our collection with a friend, classmate or acquaintance was fun. At the same time disappointment arrived when these people would have a stamp from a country you didn't have.

Entering the world of exotic stamps were the stamp companies. Somehow, they entered a home and looking at the approval books tempted the young collector. Temptations arrived in the form of stamps bearing images of animals, planes, fish etc. Not satisfied with that, temptation would be also come with the various shapes, triangles, diamonds and circular stamps.



Some youth transitioned into clubs. These could be under the tutelage of a teacher at school, attending a stamp show (bourse) or getting involved with a local stamp club. As the youth matured, words from the elders lead to a migration into a single country collection. The next step was specialization into philatelic areas.

A rabbit hole got deeper into studying stamps for perforation varieties, plate faults and plate types. The

“hunt” for just the right stamp or variety leads into a deeper hole. This perhaps results from the technical nature of collectors. We all come to the realization that collecting every stamp from one country is impossible. There are only so many 12 penny blacks, never mind the inverted seaway. So, what is wrong with a worldwide collection?

Catalogue editors can attest to the vast number of collectors who surface with a “variety.” Looking for and finding that rare stamp is the thrill of a lifetime. Disappointment arrives when the supposed variety is considered an error, freak or oddity.

While there is disappointment, the early joy of a worldwide collection should never diminish in a collector. Accumulating and organizing a worldwide collection may seem frustrating, but it can be simplified. Looking at organizing a worldwide collection, collectors soon get directed to the general catalogues available. For English speaking collectors in North America, Scott’s “Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue” is the most likely reference to look up.

There is nothing easy with Scott’s, especially when not every stamp is illustrated. An alternative English catalogue is Stanley Gibbons “Stamps of the World.” Both are simplified and that they don’t show detailed information about the stamps. This based on the recognition that more than 95% of all stamps are common.

Over the last few years, articles appeared in this newsletter about computerized methods of assisting collectors. An article was written about colnect.com. While the idea seemed good, it didn’t cross my path until the organizing of the worldwide stamps started. Some may wonder why that process even started yet the realization that organizing what had been accumulated was important for my heirs.

It was through the colnect.com website that some basic information was available. For instance, “how many stamps have been issued over the years?” Colnect has over 1.1 million stamps to reference. Looking at the catalogue, a list of countries is provided for a person to help sort through an accumulation. Counting the names in the country list provided four hundred and thirty-two countries.

Confusion arose when at the bottom of that page connect states that there are 1,223 countries, certainly not the four hundred and thirty-two mentioned previously. A “more” hot link button is provided beside the statement of 1,223 countries. Following that link Colnect states “the term “country” is loosely used, and this list refers to any separate area or region that has issued stamps in the past, present or future.” For example, looking at China, we may think of the two today, but there is thirty-seven listings due to the complicated history of this country.

This information is not to be discouragement, but just to show how complicated things can be when trying to organize a collection. Questions keep arising on “how did this get into my house?” Suspicion arises it comes with “accumulation” purchased through club auctions or perhaps by a collection donated to free up space in someone else’s house.



With the aid of a scanner, taking a scan of unknown stamps can help find a similar or match using the “image search” feature of the Colnect catalogue. Yet even that doesn’t always find a stamp. For instance, while sorting through Argentinian stamps I ran across this stamp. A double take told me that it was a telegraph stamp, not a postage stamp. It did not appear under the regular Colnect Catalogue.

Going to the “Catalogue” in Colnect, there are several bold hot buttons to select what may be of interest. In much smaller print the Colnect programmers have a lot of other options to home in on your search. By accident, I found “telegraph stamp” and yet again there was disappointment, because “correos y telegrafos” was not a telegraph stamp. Using a translation program correos y telegrafos is post and telegraph. Yet the stamp is not in either section. So, the search continues on where it belongs.

Once a country collection has been sorted into similar stamp designs or sets, then begins the question “how do they get organized.” World General Albums say from Scott or Harris for example, only show spaces for common definitives and some commemoratives. Having done that as a child, frustration soon set in when there was no space for a stamp in that country.

Another method of organizing the stamps is just to use blank paper and fill the page up. While this is efficient in space conservation, a problem arises when later a stamp is in between some on that page, but there is no space for it. Putting it on that page then becomes disorganized and duplicates can crop up in the collection.

Alternatively, Randy R suggests using preprinted pages from a provider. Randy uses pages from W. Steiner who makes preprinted pages for most of the stamps listed in Scott’s Catalogue. Once a stamp has been identified and numbered, the page can be printed. Randy prints the pages double sided and uses glassine paper in between pages to stop stamps from catching each other on opposite pages. When later, more stamps arise, more pages can be printed and added into the album. Somehow stamps keep accumulating!

Several years ago, a fellow club member started on the task of organizing his worldwide collection. After working on that diligently for a long period of time, he got frustrated and overwhelmed. The plans came to an end. Perhaps by having several different projects on the go, rotating between them can help keep a person excited and determined to finish the organization. One thing for sure, a million different stamps are not in my home.

Capex 22

It is one week away from Capex 22. I am excitedly looking forward to this International Exhibition. It will probably be the biggest show I will ever attend. A possible future rival would be the American Philatelic Society annual show should it be near enough for me to attend.

Of key interest is the over four hundred one frame exhibits that will be there for viewing. Once the exhibiting bug hits, then it is always time to learn more about exhibiting. Besides inspecting the exhibits, it will also be an opportunity to purchase the latest book on exhibiting. For the last nine years or so, David Piercy has been writing articles in The Canadian Philatelist. These columns have been combined into a book which will be available for purchase at the show.

“Let’s talk Exhibiting” will be available for purchase at the Trajan booth in the bourse section of the show. Members of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) will receive a \$15 discount on the purchase of the book. A Membership Booth will also be present, and visitors can join the RPSC and then will receive a discount coupon to purchase the book.

When joining the RPSC at Capex 22, a prospective new member will have the choice of subscribing an e-membership at \$17.50 (half price) for one year. Full membership and receiving the paper copies (4) of The Canadian Philatelist as well as two e-copies is \$48.

While Capex is a RPSC initiative, the show couldn’t have come together without the support from the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS). BNAPS will also have a booth in the bourse part of the Convention Centre. New members will also receive special offers if you are interested.

It happens to be that the second Thursday of the month is June 9th, the opening day of Capex. Both Marion and I are attending the Exhibition. Marion thought it would be an excellent idea to have a Zoom meeting on that Thursday but offer the meeting at 5 PM. Marion and I would join by our cellphones and give a “tour” of the show as part of the Zoom meeting. The exact time is open for debate, but the Exhibition closes at 6 PM so our participation would have to be before the closing time. Apparently, there is some excitement from those who attended the Zoom Auction last week Wednesday in also seeing what we can share through cyber space.

A premier event such as this will have many different opportunities for collectors. Dealers and auction houses will be present with material to buy. I am looking forward to diving into Owen Sound Postal history, but who knows what other gems will come north from Toronto. There will also be seminars put on by various philatelic organization. Hopefully these seminars will be offered when I am not at the Membership Table. Alas the dealers cost will not be discounted, so come prepared to spend significant money on those hard to find philatelic gems missing from your collection.

Hopefully this edition of the newsletter will arrive at your address before the show starts.

Upcoming Shows

JUN 9-12, CAPEX 22

Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 255 Front St. W., Toronto, ON, M5V 2W6

It will be Canada’s first international show in 26 years and just the fourth North American international exhibition since 1996. In addition to having an 86-

booth bourse with dealers, auctioneers and postal services from Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Europe and Australia, the show will also be the world’s first International One-Frame Stamp Championship Exhibition. Four hundred single-frame exhibits are set to compete for international honours in the largest showing of single-frame exhibits the world has ever seen. The exhibition will also include an international literature competition.

More than 25 national and international groups will participate in CAPEX 22 with seminars, presentations, book launches, exhibit tours, society tables and booths, member meet and greets, annual general meetings, board meetings and social events.

CAPEX 22 has the patronage of the Federation Inter-Americana de Filatelia (FIAF) and recognition from the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie. The international exhibition is also supported by several sponsors, including major trade organizations such as CSN, Eastern Auctions, Gary J. Lyon (Philatelist), R. Maresch & Son Auctions, Sparks Auctions, Stanley Gibbons, Stamp Auction Network and major societies such as the British North America Philatelic Society and American Philatelic Society. The Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation has also participated in developing the first-of-its-kind International One-Frame Stamp Championship Exhibition.

Web: <http://capex22.org/contact/>

AUG 20, KINEX 22

Kincardine Davidson Center, 601 Durham st., Kincardine, ON, N2Z 1L6

Kincardine stamp clubs annual show is back there will be door prizes, 10 dealers, lunch booth

Phone: 519-395-5817

Email: jcortan1@gmail.com

SEP 9-11; Fall 2022 National Postage Stamp & Coin Show

Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale, 6750 Mississauga Rd., Mississauga, ON, L5N 2L3

The National Postage Stamp & Coin Show is Canada’s largest show featuring top philatelic and numismatic dealers from across Canada. The show starts Friday with Colonial Acres’ Premier Auction, with daytime viewing and the auction going live at 5 p.m. For auction details, visit Colonial’s website, colonialacres.com. The two-day coin and stamp bourse opens at 10 a.m. and runs until 5 p.m. on Saturday and to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Admission on Saturday is \$5 and only \$2 on Sunday. Children under 16 are free. The popular Young Collectors Table will be open both days, and the Young Collectors Auction will be held on Sunday starting at 1 p.m. For full details on dealers, seminars and more, check the show website at stampandcoinshow.com.

Phone: 905-646-4820

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Readers have now arrived at the final page of this months edition. A mix of information contained on these pages may provide inspiration and broaden ones knowledge. Fortunately there are more sources of inspiration in the philatelic world. Remaining in the hobby may have been a challenge, but yours truly has not become bored over the pandemic period. To broaden the source of knowledge, consider getting involved with the three main philatelic organizations in Canada.

An opportunity to meet and greet these societies is coming in a few short days. Capex 22 will offer attendees to meet and join the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, the British North America Philatelic Society and the Postal History Society of Canada. Each society shares information with readers of their publications. Trajan Press, publisher of the Canadian Stamp News will also be present offering subscription information.

Looking forward to seeing club members who will attend the Capex 22 exhibition in Toronto. Safe travels.

Blast from the Past**Stories in Stamps by I.S. Klein****Tannhauser**

The goddess Venus had misled the innocent knight and minstrel Tannhauser with her unearthly passions, so that, when he entered a Tournament of Song to gain the hand of Elizabeth, he fell under the evil influence of the goddess and poured out notes of profane love.

Realizing his error too late, Tannhauser found himself banished from his home and wandering toward Rome with a group of pilgrims. He sought the Pope's forgiveness, while Elizabeth waited for his return. Rebuked, instead, he was about to re-enter the "Hill of Venus," when pardon came. It came too late, for Elizabeth had died of grief.

This great opera, by the famous German composer, Richard Wagner, is the subject for the first of a series of nine charity stamps, issued by Germany in 1933, illustrating the works of Wagner. The Tannhauser stamp is shown below.

