



Next Club Meeting: 17th May 2000

May 2000

Just in case you had forgotten...

The Owen Sound Stamp Club will be holding its 5th Annual Show and Bourse at the Bayshore Community Centre on Sunday, May 14th, from 9am. to 4pm. The theme of the show will be "Postal History in Grey, Bruce, Dufferin, and Simcoe Counties. Twelve dealers will be participating in the bourse and there will be a silent auction of year collections and other philatelic material donated by our most generous sponsors. *More inside!*

From the President...

"The Glue of the Hinge that Holds Our Hobby Together"

I would like to take this opportunity to reflect upon our club and stamp collecting in our area. Our club has grown in the last five years with a membership of about 40 and as it has grown we have attracted some very enthusiastic and energetic people, who have donated much time and effort in planning our auctions, newsletter and our annual show. This year at the Annual Show we will have a non-competitive exhibit of local postal history. I would like to see an effort made to move to competitive exhibiting in the future.

One day I was looking for a printer in the yellow Pages and came across Conestoga Press (Gus Knerim) in Thornbury. We were fortunate in finding Gus because he has not only printed our material but has designed excellent promotional material for our Club. As well, he has given us excellent advice, being himself a philatelist. Others who have been helpful in the development of our Club are Ed Rebel, Area Sales Representative, Jim Phillips -Stamp Marketing, Canada Post Corporation, Ottawa and the helpful and friendly staff at the Owen Sound Post Office.

In the last couple of years there has been the formation of a local postal history study group, two new Clubs, one at Durham and the other being the Saugeen Club at Hanover, a Stamp and Coin Shop (Don Nichol at the Hanover Flea Market) and a new Sales Circuit and to top it off, the Saugeen Stamp Club is applying to have the Royale come to Hanover in 2003. There are probably more collectors in our area than in the St. John River and Fredericton catchment area where it was held last year. This show would be a great boost to philately in

our area.

The thrill of receiving "approvals in the mail" is not all there is to stamp collecting. Filling in those gaps in your album at a show, buying at an auction, learning at a club what to buy and not to, what area to specialise in and the proper handling and storage of stamps are just some of the rewards of joining a stamp club.

Our hobby will grow if Philatelic societies, dealers, clubs and collectors and the post office realize that mutual support as well as dependency is necessary. Dealers as well as collectors should join stamp clubs and societies. I would encourage new collectors to join a club and a society such as the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. Collectors and club members should support dealers who, in return, support our club by paying for a booth at shows. This is "the glue of the hinge that holds our hobby together".

Robert Charles Pike,

President, Owen Sound Stamp Club

Hope you noticed...

Many of this year's Show reminder cards were sent out using the newly released 46¢ Supreme Court of Canada commemorative. Charles van Rompu made a point of sending these on April 10th (the first day of issue) and also persuaded the Post Office to cancel them neatly.

Hope yours arrived in good shape!

Show 2000

The 5th Annual Show

The Owen Sound Stamp Club will be holding its Fifth Annual Show and Sale on Sunday, May 14th between 9 am and 4 pm at the Harry Lumley Bayshore Centre.

Thanks to the Grey, Bruce, Dufferin, and Simcoe Postal History Study Group there will be an outstanding display of postal material from our area.

Contributors include: John Cortan of Ripley; Gus Knierim of Thornbury (publisher of The Grey, Bruce, Dufferin, and Simcoe Postal History Newsletter); John McTavish of Owen Sound; John Rossiter of Barrie; and Carl Wright of Hillsdale.

John McTavish and Bill Van Trigt will be acting as floor hosts and would welcome any volunteer help during the day.

It is very important that all members should attend!

Since membership growth is always important, please bring a friend, neighbour, or even a family member who would be interested in stamp collecting. We always need new members, so we have to keep in mind American General Douglas McArthur's saying that "Old stamp collectors never die – they just fade away"...

Since the show committee blithely forgot that May 14th is Mothers' Day, said committee will present a rose to each of the first dozen mothers to come to the show!

John Fredrickson — Show Chair

Silent Auction

One of the features of the 5th Annual Show & Bourse will be two Silent Auctions featuring some fine "Year Collections" and other philatelic material donated by our very generous sponsors. Among the items offered will be:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>
Canadian Millenium		
Collection Album	\$65	Canada Post
Canadian 1999 Collection	\$42	Canada Post
Isle of Man 1996 Collection	\$108	Isle of Man P.O .
Isle of Man 1997 Collection	\$75	Isle of Man P.O.
Irish 1999 Year Collection	\$43	Irish Post Office

Bids for the first auction will be taken through the morning and close at 12:30 pm. Bids for the second auction will be taken during the afternoon until the close at 3:30 pm.

All proceeds will go to the Owen Sound Stamp Club and used to promote philatelic activities in the area.

The Club Table

Apart from the Auction, there will be a number of interesting items available at the Club Table at very reasonable prices. These will include:

- Packages of Canadian First Day Covers;
 - Letter size prints of the paintings used for the Canadian Birds stamp series;
 - A Canadian NHL series mini-sheet;
 - A Stock Book;
- and much more!

The Dealers

At the time of printing, we are expecting the following dealers to be participating in the Bourse:

Jim Carde of 22 Mystic Court, Brantford, N3R 7E5

John Cortan of P.O. Box 280, Ripley, N0G 2R0

D. & T. Stamps (Bob & Gord Treffry) of 210 Ridgewood Cres., London, N6J 3G6

D.A. Enterprises (Don Atanasoff) of 450 Bristol Crescent, Unit 34, Oshawa, L1J 6M3

Hills Stamps (Richard Hills) of P.O. Box 20005, Grimsby, L3M 5J3

I.E.K. Philatelics (Ivan Killins) of P.O. Box 224, Mount Hope, L0R 1W0

K. & L. Stamps (Frank Kendle) of 14 Theresa Ave., North York, M2M 1W5

Denny LeBlanc of 437 Jackson St. W., Hamilton, L8P 1N3

Marshall Stamps (Kerry Young) of 7 Oak Ave., Holland Landing, L9N 1A7

The Peninsula Circuit and **Pike Philatelics** (Bob Pike) of P.O. Box 637, Owen Sound, N4K 2K0

Our Sponsors

We are most grateful to all our sponsors for their most generous support. Without their help, this show would simply not be possible! At press time we had received donations from the following:

Canada Post

An Post (Irish Post Office)

Canadian Wholesale Supply

Trajan Publishin

Toronto Dominion Bank

Conestoga Press

Isle of Man Post Office

U.S. Post Office

Lighthouse Publishers

Coates & Best

Grey Bruce Museum

What's New From Canada Post

After the stream of Millennium related new stamps issued by Canada Post, they are now slowing down to their regular activities and commemoratives.

The first ones of the year 2000 were the popular Chinese New Year series. After the Ox, the Tiger and the Rabbit, this time it was the Dragon, the fifth ranking creature in the 32 animal cycle of the lunar calendar. Two stamps were issued on January 5, 2000. A 46¢ and a 95¢ — the last one in a souvenir sheet. The more than 16 million 46¢ values were sold out before “Collections”, a Canada Post magazine which announced the stamps, could reach its readers.

Interesting details about these and other stamp issues are obtainable from Canada's Stamp Details, another magazine from Canada Post and a very good source of information.

On February 5th (a Saturday) we saw the release of the souvenir sheet marking the 50th NHL All Star Game. Six 46¢ stamps flanked with the portraits of six stars of the game.

On the first day of the Springmonth, March, we saw the fifth, or was it the sixth series of “Birds of Canada”. The Canada Warbler, the Osprey, the Pacific Loon and the Blue Jay were chosen for this year's bird parade.

As we get nearer to our own 5th Annual Stamp Show and Bourse on May 14th, we are also running in a speeded-up release programme by Canada Post.

On April 10th it will be 125 years and 2 days ago that the Supreme Court of Canada was founded on April 8th 1875. This event will be commemorated with a 46¢ stamp, featuring a painting by Claude Le Sauter, showing the 9 justices in a very colourful setting, available in panes of 6.

On April 25th an unusual pane of 16 stamps will be presented. The Ring plays an important role in the “Ritual of the Calling of an Engineer” 19252000 The stamps are printed tête-bêche (head-to-foot) format thus showing 8 Rings formed by 16 stamps. The show value of these stamps will certainly be the full pane which also has a printed label in the middle, or as vertical tenants.

Around Owen Sound there are still many Rural Route Mailboxes. Canada Post is going to issue a booklet of 12 stamps (\$5.52) depicting three times 4 Rural Mailboxes. The tradition to deliver into these boxes goes back to October 1908 when the first 37 mailboxes between Hamilton and Ancaster were introduced. This started when mail was delivered from horseback or horse-drawn carriages. Strict rules were imposed as to how and where these boxes were to be placed, so that the courier could deliver without having to dismount. Today, when one sits on the left side in a vehicle, delivery into boxes on the right side often requires acrobatic manoeuvres by the driver!

It was not to happen, but... the 300th Birthday of Britain's Queen Mum on August 4th will be commemorated with a special Canadian Stamp. What will it be ?? A souvenir sheet for 100 cents is my best bet. Or, perhaps, a semi-postal 46¢+54¢.

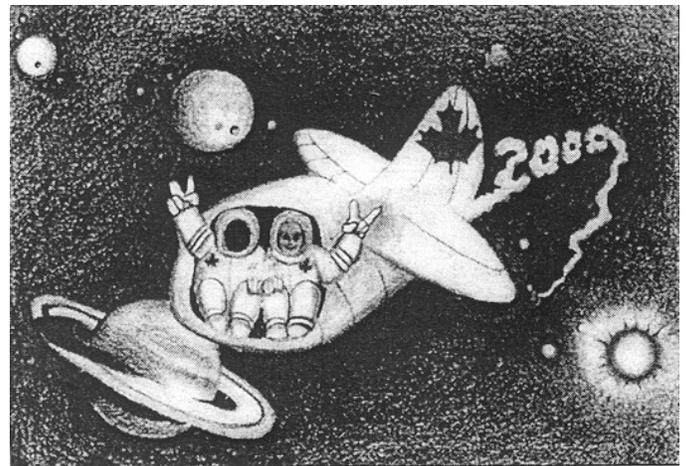
July 1st, Canada Day is traditionally the release day of some handsome stamps, some more so than others. This year, more than 56,000 kids participated in a drawing contest. The four winners are Andrew Wright of Collingwood ON, Sarah Lutgen of Vernon BC, Christina Weera of Edmonton AB and

Rosalie Anne Nardelli of Montreal QC. The four stamps will be released to celebrate “Stampin the Future” on July 1st. If anybody knows the whereabouts of Andrew Wright of Collingwood, please invite him to our 5th Annual Show on May 14th.

Also coming (but not too many details available at press time) are: Boys and Girls Clubs stamps, Fresh Waters of Canada, The Seventh Day Adventists, etc. etc.

The last one may be the second one of a very long line of stamps. Remember the long running War series, 1939—1945 (7 years), the Birds (so far 6 years), Chinese New Year (4 out and 8 still to come)? On April 19, 1999 Sikh Canadians was the first of a series on “religions”. Guess how many religions there are around the world. Sure there will be many more stamps to come.

Charles van Rompu



Andrew Wright's winning design of Canada Post's *Stampin' the Future* contest.

Some interesting Web Sites

Canada Post has an excellent site for philatelists. Apart from ordering information and issue dates for new designs, there is detailed information on each issue released including the stories behind the designs and full stamp specifications:
<http://www.canadapost.ca/CPC2/phil/stamp/stamp.html>

An Post (Eire/IrelandPost): have a page describing their 1999 issues along with details for ordering:

<http://www.anpost.ie/Philatelic/1999stamps.html>

The **Isle of Man Post Office** have issued their own stamps since 1973. They have a philatelic page with a few illustrations and details for ordering:

<http://www.gov.im/postoffice/bureau.html>

Canadian Wholesale Supply have a comprehensive online catalogue at their site (including prices). They also have a downloadable version which includes illustrations:

<http://www3.sympatico.ca/collectors/index.htm>

Surfing



In December of 1999 yours truly purchased a computer. (Kind of a Christmas present for me)! I signed on with a server and now had full access to the Internet. Now the WWW would be mine.

Not so fast. The Internet is a vast web of addresses and sites that allow you to find, browse, purchase and communicate with almost any one or thing you can imagine.

I have the unfortunate addiction of collecting postage stamps. A hobby called philately. With this in mind I decided to search for stamps on the net.

After typing in a search address like stamps, I soon got my eyes opened. There are thousands of matches for what I thought I was looking for. I happened to find 290,000 matches for stamps on one search engine (the web-searching device). Not all the addresses were for the common postage stamps. There were rubber stamps, metal presses etc. all mixed up with postage stamps and they were not listed in any language I understood!

The next thing was to narrow the search. I looked for dealers, auctions, collectors, photos, specific issues, etc. This let me enter another realm on the web. You don't always get what you ask for. The search will give you what it thinks you want and offer links to associated sites. Some of the sites were more interesting than the one I was looking for.

With perseverance I continued and eventually found something I was looking for. Postage stamps for sale at an auction and the site even had photos of the better stamps. Now browsing through the auction pages took a little time, but I had some to waste anyway, after all I am addicted. The photos were better in colour than in a auction catalogue and you could see if the stamp had any perf faults hidden by a heavy cancel. I did not buy any stamps from the auction. Browsing is one thing, buying is another.

This was my first attempt to use the computer to supplement my hobby. It was a mixture ranging from extreme interest and pleasure to confusion and frustration.

As time goes by a person learns to use the tools of the computer and the Internet. I am still learning.

Here is a brief guide on how to find stamps on the net.

1. Type in the search information and select find — eg. "postage stamp" or "philately".
2. Narrow the search by adding phrases describing what you are looking for — eg. "Canadian Edward VII issue" or "Canadian stamp dealers".
3. You may option to just look in Canada or you might want to search the entire web.
4. View through the listing of offered Web addresses. The Web address is usually underlined and will be highlighted. Click on this address and you will open that web site. There are likely to be multiple pages of listings

Good surfing and have fun!

Bob Ford

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB Chapter 191 Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

www3.sympatico.ca/rhwatson/stampclub

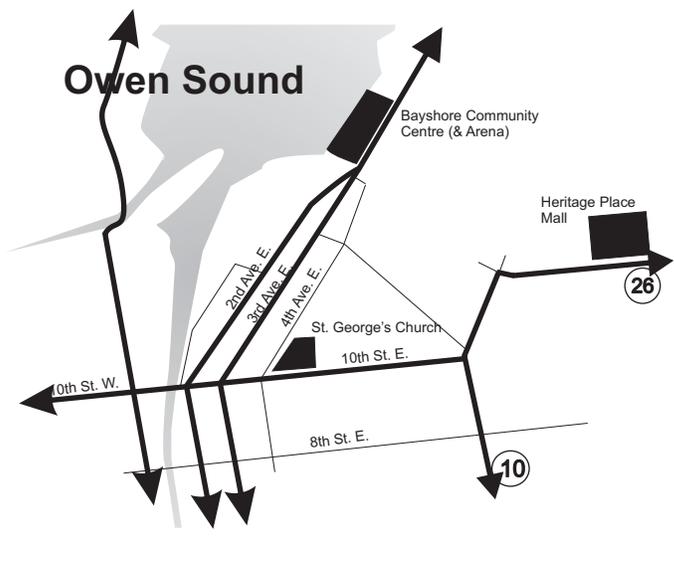
The Owen Sound Stamp Club meets at 7:00pm on the third Wednesday of each month in the basement of St. George's Anglican Church (on the corner of 10th St. E. and 4th Ave. E.). The main business of the evening is typically to check out the stamps in circuit books from the North Bay Philatelic Society, the Royal Philatelic Society and the Peninsula Philatelic Circuit. Members also trade stamps and covers between themselves.

There are presently about 40 members whose interests cover just about everything at all levels from beginner to expert. New members are always most welcome.

For further information, see us on the Web or contact any of the following Club officers:

President:	Bob Pike	(519) 371-8821
	P.O. Box 637, Owen Sound, N4K 2K0	
Sec./Treas.:	Bob Ford	(519) 376-4788
	721 8th Ave E., Owen Sound, N4K 3A5	
Show Chair:	John Fredrickson	(519) 369-6026
	R.R. #1, Markdale, N0C 1H0	
Committee:	Charles van Rompu	(519) 538-4673
	305 Trowbridge St. W., Meaford, N4L 1K8	
	Bob Watson	(519) 376-1270
	327 11th St. W., Owen Sound, N4K 3S9	

Contributions to this newsletter are always most welcome. Please contact Bob Watson either at the above address/phone or at rhwatson@sympatico.ca



Saugeen Stamp Club Show

The Saugeen Stamp Club will be holding its Second Annual Show and Sale on Saturday, May 6th from 9 am to 4 pm at the Legion Hall in Hanover. All welcome!