



Owen Sound Stamp Club Newsletter

Next Club Meeting: 21st June, 2000

June 2000

The Owen Sound Stamp Show

John Fredrickson - Show Chair

The Owen Sound Stamp Club's fifth annual show and sale, held on Sunday, May 14, can be considered a great success!

Our opening ceremony, featuring ten year old Andrew Wright of Collingwood, was a satisfying beginning to a good day. Andrew was chosen as the result of his being one of four winners from across Canada in the Canada Post contest to design a new stamp. Andrew's stamp will be issued on July 1st, 2000.

The attendance was reasonable considering the fact the committee chose Mothers' Day to hold this year's show.

Our display of philatelic material from Grey, Bruce, Simcoe and Dufferin Counties received many positive comments. The contributions of Brian Draves, John Cortan, Gus Knierim, John McTavish, Glen Rawson, John Rositer, and Carl Wright made possible a great display of local historical importance.

The dealers I spoke to seemed to be generally pleased with their sales. Two or three dealers actually asked about next year's show, which is a good sign!



Andrew Wright opened the 5th OSSC Show

The efforts of Charles Van Rompu in obtaining vast amounts of valuable philatelic material from around the World made the silent auction an important attraction in the Show.

Bill Van Trigt was his usual affable self as floor manager while Charles Van Rompu, John McTavish, and Bob Ford handled the club table with a flourish. Special thanks to John Cortan for bringing the stamp package for the younger set to browse through.

The contributions of Canada Post in Ottawa, regionally and locally; area businesses such as Coates & Best and the Toronto Dominion Bank; and members of the philatelic trade such as Canada Wholesale Supply, Lighthouse Publications, Trajan Publishing and Unitrade Associates made the whole thing possible.

According to Bob Ford, our treasurer, total revenues from the Show exceeded expenses by a little under \$400. The show committee propose that we use some of this money to get more frames for next year's exhibition. Bob Watson has already come up with a design at a reasonable cost for the club to consider.

I would like to conclude by giving my personal thanks to show committee members Bob Ford, Charles van Rompu, and Bob Watson, to the help of John McTavish and Bill van Trigt, on show day and to Bob Pike our president, for his valuable comments and assistance throughout the planning period.



The exhibition at the OSSC's 5th Annual Show and Bourse.

What I think ...

If you have an opinion on anything relating to philately or if you wish to comment on or respond to something in this newsletter, please write/email the editor!

"You Get What You Ask For"

The very first thing that you learn as an infant is that you are equipped to get what you want. But first you must ask. By getting red in the face, flapping your arms, and bawling like a banshee "they" will feed you, hold you and get you out of that sticky wicket they call a diaper. If you don't ask you get diaper rash. And have you noticed? Quiet babies are thinner.

The next thing that I learned is that as a newcomer to any social group, including stamp clubs, the best strategy one can use is to maintain a low profile until other members of the club accept you. No one is amused by the strident voice of a Johnny Come Lately who assumes the role of critic. So why do I have the audacity to comment on Owen Sound Stamp Club's 5th Annual show held Sunday, May 14th? Because I was asked and, even though I joined the club just this year, I have enjoyed all five shows that the club has held.

So how was the 5th annual show? It was great. Every bit as good as the other four, and perhaps the best of them all. I spent a good part of the day looking at the fine displays of covers, cancellations and stamps. Certainly the presence of The Grey, Bruce, Dufferin and Simcoe Postal History Study Group was an asset, and it would seem important to have them join us every year to make their exhibits of postal history and their meeting part of all our shows. We are also indebted to the out of town exhibitors, John Cortan of Ripley, (who has since joined our club), Gus Knierim of Thornbury (editor of the "Grey, Bruce, Dufferin & Simcoe Postal History Study Group Newsletter"), John Rossiter of Barrie, Carl Wright of Hillsdale, Glen Rawson, of Hanover, and Brian Draves of Toronto. And a great big hip hip hurrah for John McTavish of Owen Sound, the only exhibitor from the host club.

I have said that the 5th annual show was great. I truly enjoyed it. But was it good? No! No show can be good if members of the host club do not participate with their own exhibits.

Why didn't our members enter their material in the display? You get what you ask for. Maybe we didn't ask them. I asked Bob Watson, why he didn't show. His answer was that he does not collect covers, and so he didn't have anything to fit the postal history theme of the show. This raises a very interesting point. Does creating a theme for the exhibits limit entries? I think, in this case, it should not have. After all, postal history is not limited to old covers. Every stamp ever issued passes from being current to being part of the history of the delivery of mail.

Perhaps at our 6th show, while continuing the pursuit of the postal history of local counties, we should adopt another theme. Why not thematics for starters? Whatever country you collect has series of stamps about birds, animals, public buildings, ships, aircraft, royalty or famous people etc, etc.

But most importantly, we must know what we want at the show. And then we ask the members of our club to provide what we want.

First, we need more room. The "show room" is filled with dealers. Even this year, given the limited number of exhibits, it was crowded. Another room would cost \$150. Let's spend that money in 2001 and provide adequate space. A crowded room

tells our members that there is not space for their exhibit and that they are not really needed. If we provide space for exhibits, they will come. Remind you of the movie *Field of Dreams*?

Secondly, we need to provide frames – a minimum of one per member – then ask each member to get busy preparing their exhibits well in advance of the show date.

Thirdly, we need to provide security, so members are confident that their exhibits are safe.

Finally, we need to encourage and assist our members in the preparation of exhibits. We can help one another. Part of each of our club meetings could be devoted to helping members decide what material that they own, or could obtain, would make an exhibit, and then how to present it.

In recent news releases about the Royal Philatelic Society's show in Hanover in 2003, it has been announced that "stamp lovers from across the area will have the chance to see not only the best collections from across Canada, but the top exhibits from across the world as well. And most importantly they won't have to go far for the opportunity."

And I say, stamp lovers who are members of our club have the opportunity to SHOW their exhibits right there with the best in the world. The whole complex at the Hanover Community Centre will be used for the event with dealers and meetings upstairs and down, The exhibits will occupy the entire ice surface and there will be a space there for you. All you have to do is ask for it.

Should the Owen Sound Stamp Club begin a three year project wherein each member enters an exhibit in our 2001 and 2002 shows in preparation for the big show in Hanover in 2003? I think so.

Even if none of our exhibits is accepted by the Royal Philatelic Society Show Committee, the next two shows at the Bayshore Centre will be better, and I will be delighted to write more positive reviews about them — if I am asked!

Ken 'Johnny Come Lately' Knight

The "Royal" Circuit Books

The Owen Sound Stamp Club recently ordered a trial circuit from the RPSC for the club meeting. As a collector of Canadian and Newfoundland stamps I was able to obtain some useful pieces of the quality I collect for my collection. These items were a welcome addition to my collection, as I cannot obtain this material from the local dealers or trade for it with fellow collectors/members. Personally the RPSC circuit books were a success and I would invite their return in the future.

As for the Club: the sales from the circuit books, which were high enough to cover the return postage, were made to 7 out of 14 members in attendance. The majority of sales were made to 2 members. Sales to most of the collectors were of minimal value and number. This may not always be the case. It would be my opinion that the club would not support a regular circuit and this should be a bi-yearly event. Perhaps this event could be scheduled for a regular meeting similar to an auction?

Bob Ford

What's New From Canada Post

Charles van Rompu

In the last Newsletter, the one just before the very successful Stamp Show, I mentioned some new stamps to be released just before, or closely after the show. By now you may have added some nice new issues to your collection.

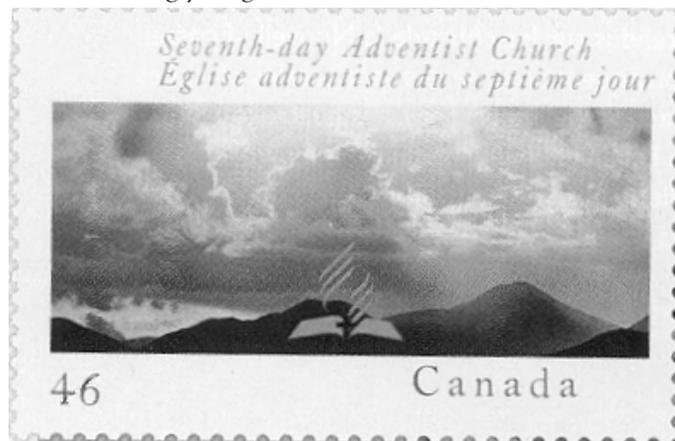
The 100th birthday of the Queen Mother, on August 4th, is commemorated with a nine stamp souvenir sheet in a special presentation folder.

During the "Royal" in Winnipeg, Canada Post unveiled a unique and patented new feature, the "Picture Yourself on a Postage Stamp." A 46¢ stamp in the shape of a frame, in which one can glue a self-adhesive greeting sticker. But that is not all. Personalized stickers are available. Flyers explaining the details are widely available from your nearest Post office.



On the same day the Queen Mother was honoured, two booklets each with 5 stamps were released. These self-adhesive stamps depict "Fresh Waters of Canada" 5 x 55¢ and 5 x 95¢. The pictures were selected from the works of Mia and the late Klaus Matthes. No specific locations were revealed but, in short, they are beautiful. The issuing of these two booklets was to replace the touristic stamps which normally are out at this time of the year.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada are celebrating 100 Years of serving young Canadians and Canada Post celebrates



Surfing

Last month, I commented/wrote about the struggle to get web sites related to stamps (philately), and how to find them. Since that time I have found a new source of web sites. The Canadian Stamp News publishes a list of web sites under the heading of "Internet Directory". All site listed have an email address while only some have a web site address. Selling or buying stamps should be as easy as contacting any one or all of the dealer by e mail or on line, telling him what you have for sale or what you wish to buy. Also in the Canadian Stamp News are dealer advertisements listing websites and/or email addresses. The dealers are looking for collections or rarer pieces, offering specials on their material, offering freaks and errors and advertising for auctions and stamp shows. Click and browse!

Recently, I was successful in purchasing my first stamp using the Internet. It was a mint NH Newfoundland stamp

Details:

23 rd May	Queen Mother	Pane of 9 stamps in folder 95¢ each (international rate); pane: \$8.55
28 th May	Picture frame	Booklet of 5 & 5 stickers 46¢ each (domestic rate); book: \$2.30
28 th May	Fresh Waters	Booklet of 5 USA rate 55¢ each (USA rate); book: \$2.75
28 th May	Fresh Waters	Booklet of 5 International 95¢ each (international rate); book: \$4.75
1 st June	Boys & Girls' Club	Pane of 16 stamps 46¢ each (domestic rate); pane: \$7.36
29 th June	"STAMPIN the Future"	Pane of 16 stamps 46¢ each (domestic rate); pane: \$9.20
7 th July	Masterpieces	Pane of 16 stamps 95¢ each (international rate); pane: \$15.20
19 th July	Tall ships	Booklet of 10 stamps 46¢ each (domestic rate); book: \$4.60

this event with a domestic rate stamp.

Another commemorative will be out on June 29th. It will mark the 57th General Conference Session of the Seventh-day Adventists which will be held in the SkyDome in Toronto. It images the sun breaking through the clouds in the Rocky Mountains superimposed with the symbol of the SDA Church: an open Bible with a Cross and Flames.

"STAMPIN the Future", a series of four stamps, including the winning entry of Andrew Wright of Collingwood, is scheduled for July 1st.

The annual "Masterpiece of Canadian Art" (as usual, at the international rate of 95¢), is to be seen on envelopes as from July 7th.

To close where the sun rises: the city of Halifax will be hosting "Tall Ships - 2000". A gathering of some 150 vessels from 22 nations. Canada Post will issue a booklet of 10 stamps @ 46¢ 5 x se-tenant and self-adhesive on July 19, 2000. The vessels will leave in a race to Amsterdam on the 24th. Whether or not the Dutch Postal officials will commemorate this event with a special stamp(s) is unknown to me.

Have a nice summer!

Bob Ford

Scott # 60. I accessed the auction site, (Coates & Coates), bid on line and paid by Visa. The package arrived about 10 days after the auction closed. This was a secure site - as it should be if you wish to purchase using a credit card.

I also bid on-line at another site (Calgary Stamp Shop) and again was successful in my bidding. I bought some Newfoundland album pages. This site was not secure so the method of payment was by cheque. This package also arrived in about 10 days after the auction closed.

In both auctions the information on site security is spelled out before you place your bid.

At this time I have not sold any material on line. I do believe that I am a collector and not a seller.

It is easy to buy on the Internet. If I can do it, you can too!

Good bidding and have fun.



New Members

A big welcome to the following new members of our club:

Bob and Louise Ebel

Ken Knight

Gerald Homier

Betty Warrilow

John Cortan

(John Cortan is also president of the Kincardine Stamp Club and proprietor of Royal Oak Stamps).

Royal*2003*Royale

It was recently decided that the Saugeen Stamp Club would host the Royal Philatelic Society's Exhibition in 2003.

At this time, about the only information available is that it will be held at the Hanover Community Complex from May 29th to June 1st. Peter Kritz of the Saugeen Stamp Club will be holding a meeting in September for everyone who would like to be part of the organizing committee.

This will, of course, be the major philatelic event of that year and involve a massive amount of preparation. I look forward to providing regular updates in this newsletter.

Buying, Selling, Trading Stamps at Club Meetings

Members are reminded that one of the purposes of the OSSC is to provide a forum where members can freely buy, sell, and/or trade stamps amongst themselves.

The Club does make a levy of 10% on sales to members from the various circuit books (including the Peninsula Philatelic Circuit; Stratford Sales Circuit; etc.) to help cover the costs of postage and insurance on the books. A similar levy is charged at Club Auctions to help offset the costs of mailing notices to members and other interested parties.

Next Meeting: 21st June

The next meeting of the Owen Sound Stamp Club will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 21st June, in St. George's Church, Owen Sound (as usual).

The agenda for the business part of the meeting will include:

- ♦ Financial report on the conclusion of the OSSC's 5th Show;
- ♦ Selection of a committee to manage the 2001 Show;
- ♦ Solicitation of (moral) support for the hosting of the Royal Philatelic Society's Show in 2003 by the Saugeen Stamp Club in Hanover.

Following club business, circuit books from North Bay and the Peninsula Philatelic Circuit will be distributed.

Further ahead

Howie Mason will be bringing the Stratford Sales Circuit books to the meeting on **September 20th**.

The **October 18th** meeting will be devoted to the OSSC's annual Auction. Whilst this may seem some way ahead, it is not too soon to start putting aside some items for this event. There will be further information about this in the next issue.

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

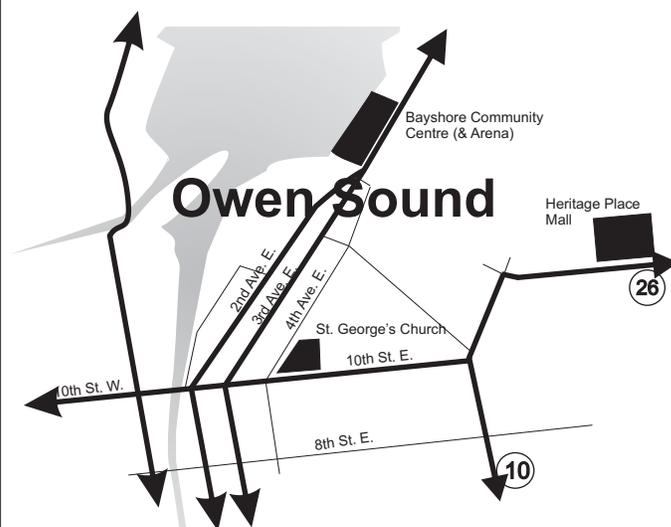
www3.sympatico.ca/rhwatson/stampclub

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/or 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:

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The OSSC Newsletter

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The OSSC Newsletter is distributed to members of the Owen Sound Stamp Club on an irregular basis (but hopefully several times a year). 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.