

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting; Wed. October 17th 2007

From the President...

Happy Halloween!!

Trick or treat? That is the question. It seems to me that this month is more full of tricks than treats.

Let me bring you up to date on the annual show: notice cards have been sent out, posters have been printed and many postal authorities have responded with sponsorship. We have a full compliment of dealers committed and things are looking good. I received a very interesting response from Post Israel asking if we wanted them to setup a booth at our show. I advised them that for this year all our space had been committed but we would consider their offer for next year. If any one would like to comment on this please speak up at this month's meeting.

With some luck members will receive this newsletter before the weekend and come on out and support or Stamp information booth at Heritage Mall.

Let's all bring some interesting lots for this month's auction and have a real good time. I will be bringing some new material that I have just received that just might help fill in a few empty spaces. Well bye for now as I still have lots to do this month.

Sincerely,
Alan M Charlesworth

Who's Who...

It's time to get to know our various and sundry members to find out what makes them tick. I'd like to introduce you to Rick Lokos. Most of you have met Rick, he's a lively and friendly person who attends the meetings quite regularly. Rick moved to the Owen Sound area from Brantford Ontario when he was 7 or 8. Other than a year and a half foray to Victoria and another one to Vancouver, he's spent his life around here. Let's find out how stamps make Rick tick...

Editor; "How long have you been collecting stamps Rick?"

Rick; "I started collecting stamps in public school then got away from it for a while and then got back into it about 16 years ago. I have been involved with the Owen Sound Stamp Club off and on for 15 years."

Editor; "What are your main stamp interests?"

Rick; "My main collecting interest is the United States, especially the 'BOB' stuff, (officials and revenues etc.) as well as perfins, precancels and the oddball unlisted items such as state revenues."

Editor; "Do you have any interesting secondary stamp interests?"

Rick; "I have been accumulating some used Israel with the intention of maybe putting them together into a collection down the road. Also, anything that catches my attention at the moment."

Editor; "What excites you about stamps?"

Rick; "The thrill of the hunt! There's nothing I like better than digging through a completely unorganized box lot of who knows what. That's why I end up with so much extra stuff to get rid of. I also get excited when I find oddball things that I've never seen before. Just recently I found some unlisted US revenues for doctors dispensing opium and cocoa leaves. Neat items! It's amazing how many different things the US government feels justified in taxing!"

Editor; "Lately at some of the meetings you've mentioned your involvement with a new stamp website called StampWants. What can you tell us about that?"

Rick; "For those familiar with E-bay this a similar site except that it is dedicated just to stamps. It is a few years old, although in the last year it has really taken off and membership is increasing daily. It is extremely well run, with support second to none. StampWants.com is very well suited to beginner and advanced collectors alike. There really is something for everyone with stamps selling in all price ranges from .10 cents to 10,000 dollars. The site is an excellent venue for collectors to sell off duplicates and extras as the fees for sellers are very reasonable. I have had a store setup for about 6 months and have been doing not too bad at selling of my excess as well as purchasing some nice additions for my own collection. The web address for my store is; www.stampwants.com/stores/RickLokos.

Editor; "Thanks for taking the time out to do this interview Rick."

Upcoming Events...

Wow, there are a lot of shows in the next month so we'll give a whole page to upcoming events. Don't forget the most illustrious one coming up on Sunday October 28th right here in Owen Sound. I don't usually include out of province or out of country shows. If there are any shows you'd like to see posted, please let me know.

OCT. 12 - 14, 2007, Toronto, ON. Stampex/Royal*2007*Royale, Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place. Hours: Fri. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Canada's national philatelic exhibition with dealers from Canada (including Canada Post) the U.S. and the U.K. Sponsor/Affiliate: CSDA/RPSC. For more information, contact secretary@csdaonline.com.

OCT. 13, Guelph, ON. Guelphpex 2007, Evergreen Seniors Centre, 683 Woolwich St. Hours: 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Free admission and parking. 15 dealers, children's program (Noon), framed displays, club sales circuit books available. Sponsor/Affiliate: Guelph Stamp Club. For more information, contact Joe Servos, jservos@bserv.com, 519-823-2578.

OCT. 20 - 21, Ottawa, ON. Ottawa Fall Stamp Fair, Travelodge Hotel and Convention Centre, Greenery Room, 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, 905-934-8377.

OCT. 21, Cambridge, ON. 13th Annual Club Fair, United Kingdom Hall, International Village Dr. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission. 400 to 500 circuit books from 12 GRVPA clubs and representation from GTAPA, two silent auctions, draws, two silent auctions (estimated 300 lots). Sponsor/Affiliate: GRVPA. For more information, contact stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca.

OCT. 27, Barrie, ON. 46th Annual Dealer's Bourse, Alladin's Banquet Hall, 41 Essa Road. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and free parking. 14 dealers plus Canada Post. Featuring stamps, covers, cancels, postcards, sales circuit, and other interesting philatelic items. Lunch and refreshments onsite. Sponsor/Affiliate: Barrie District Stamp Club. For more information, contact club president and show chairman Bruce Walter, CD at 705-735-6009 or b.walter@rogers.com.

OCT. 27, Burlington, VT. CHAMPEX 2007 (Burlington Stamp Show), Christ the King School, Locust Street. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. 12 dealers, 36 frames of exhibits, USPS postal station in attendance in the morning, special postal cancellation honouring world's first female licensed steamboat pilot. Sponsor/Affiliate: Chittenden County Stamp Club. For more information, contact Glenn A. Estus, (518) 962-4558, gestus@vermontps.org.

OCT. 28, Owen Sound, ON. Owen Sound Stamp Show and Bourse, Sound Room, Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre, 1900 3rd Ave East. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission, free parking. Exhibits, 10 dealers, buy, sell, trade philatelic material. For more information, contact R.J. Ford, 721 8th Ave East Owen Sound, ON, N4K 3A5, 519-376-4788, robford@log.on.ca or Alan Charlesworth, 1521 7th Ave West, Owen Sound, N4K 5L1, 519-371-0581, a.charlesworth@sympatico.ca.

NOV. 2 - 3, Hamilton, ON. Fall Show - 75th Anniversary - Hamilton Stamp Club, Bishop Ryan Secondary School, Quigley Rd. at Albright. Hours: Fri. 5 to 10 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday: Mega silent auction and larger voice auction, GRVPA clubssales circuits. Saturday: 20 dealers, sales circuit, silent auctions, Canada Post, youth booth. Canada Post will have a special hand-cancel available during the show to celebrate the club's 75th anniversary. Sponsor/Affiliate: Hamilton Stamp Club. For more information, contact Michael Anderson, 905-632-6057 or michael@parcelsplusinc.com. Web site: <http://hamiltonstampclub.com>.

NOV. 4, Strathroy, ON. Strathroy Stamp Association, 430 Carroll Street E. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission. Refreshments available. For more information, contact Brian Hobbs 519-245-0674, jbrianhobbs@rogers.com.

NOV. 10, Trenton, ON. Trenton Stamp Club Annual Show and Sale, Trenton Senior Citizens Club 105. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 10 dealers, table auction, lunch room. Free admission, free parking. For more information, contact Guy Barsi, 613-394-2024 after 5 p.m.

NOV. 11, Ottawa, ON. Regular Stamp & Coin Show, Nepean Sportsplex, 1701 Woodroffe Ave. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking and admission. 17 dealers. For more information, contact Brian Wolfenden, 613-226-2045.

From Dr. Phil A. Telly...

Stamps got you licked? Feeling stamped out?
Don't worry. Don't let it get you down,
Dr. Phil A. Telly has come to town!

Dear Dr. Phil,

I am in a bit of a sticky situation...or perhaps I am not! I understand that when I purchase a beautiful old stamp in perfect condition, I can flip it over and see the still glistening gum on the flip side. On occasion though some stamps become available that on the face of it are gorgeous but on the flip side have no gum at all. Apparently these gumless stamps are virtuously worthless. Then again, some people seem to find mint stamps worthless anyway! Most stamps are valued higher in the catalogues if they are virgins! This does not seem to hold true among the seditious buying public. This does pose a quandary to me. Please educate me!
The Gumless Virgin

Dear Gumless,

Yes the gum on stamps can be a very sticky subject. The hinged, nonhinged controversy is really a personal and of course a budget decision. There are the purists, who must have absolutely perfect gum and from there, some accept light hinging and others are happy with an unused stamp (a stamp with no gum) or heavy hinged. As to value, NH is generally at a premium but other conditions factor in as well, for example a NH stamp poorly centered will usually sell for less than a perfectly centered lightly hinged stamp. Again it all comes to what your preferences are. I would rather have a nicely centered stamp with good perfs and not worry as much about hinging because once it's in my album no one will know unless I tell them. So go ahead and buy those hinged or even gumless stamps because unless you talk, no one will know.

I don't know if this answers your question but it makes me happy.

Dr. Phil

Dr. Phil A. Telly is syndicated column. If you've got questions for Dr. Phil please forward your questions to your editor. Questioners will be kept anonymous unless he or she requests to use their name.

Cattle

By Ralph Wyndham

The agricultural fair season starts in late summer here in Southern Ontario, culminating with the largest event of it's kind in the world, the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto in early November. One feature of most of these fairs is the livestock show. The most popular class of livestock that you will find at the shows will be beef and dairy cattle of various breeds.



A 17000 year old painting of an aurochs bull from the walls of the Lascaux Caves in France.

All modern cattle are descended from a large, fierce wild ancestor, the aurochs (aurochs is both singular and plural). The aurochs ranged from Britain to the Middle East, North Africa and across to China and India. Prehistoric art on the walls of the Lascaux Caves in France, painted 17,000 years ago, depict the hunt for the aurochs. Roman Emperor, Julius Caesar, after seeing the aurochs in Britain during the 1st Century BC, wrote 'In size, these are but little inferior to elephants, although in appearance, colour and form they are bulls.' The aurochs, though now extinct, existed until fairly recent times. The last known individual died in Poland in 1627. The first domestication of the aurochs may have occurred as early as 10,000 years ago in Mesopotamia. It is likely however, that more than one group of people independently domesticated the aurochs across its range. Today, there are two main branches to the family. *Bos taurus* is the European type that we are familiar with here in Canada that is best suited to the temperate climatic zones of the world. *Bos indicus*, the Zebu, is the humped animal of the hot, equatorial zones. The Zebu has greater resistance to heat and pests than does *Bos taurus*. Selective breeding may have begun in Mesopotamia around 5000 BC. Through this practice, the size of the aurochs was made more manageable and their difficult temperament was eventually bred out of them. Since those earliest times, men have continued to produce strains, or breeds, of cattle for particular situations. As the scientific principles of genetics became better understood during the agricultural revolution in 17th and 18th century Europe, specialized breeds of cattle for dairy and beef production were developed. Today, there are hundreds of cattle breeds – I have seen estimates from 275 to 900 different ones – filling the various needs of farmers and their local environments around the globe.

Our modern European breeds are very much beasts of technology. Cattle geneticists have been able to take advantage not only of genetic improvements in forage crops, but also in improvements in farming practices and feed

storage technology, as well as veterinary science, to continue producing ever more milk and meat from each animal. This can backfire, too. I have read of cases where, for instance, farmers in a poor region are encouraged to replace their local animals with “better”, “improved” stock that would produce more but which needed veterinary medicines to cope with local pests. Then, when economic or political conditions made medicines unavailable, they had to struggle to rebuild their herds of local animals that could cope without medication.



A bull of the Sahiwal breed of cattle from the *Bos indicus*, or Zebu, line is depicted on this stamp from Bahawalpur, a state of

Once domesticated, cattle became one of the principal building blocks of civilization. Live cattle were a store of food before refrigeration: meat for future use and a supply of milk for daily use. As oxen, cattle also provided muscle power to mill grain, till small fields and carry heavy loads. More sure-footed and stronger, they could do more work than a horse. After fields were established for crops, and the first rudimentary food processing infrastructure was possible thanks to the humble cow, man had to abandon his early nomadic hunter-gatherer lifestyle to form stationary communities around his new fields. The agrarian society was born!

For these early societies, the cow’s attributes made it a kind of alchemist. Thanks to its ruminant digestive system, its fast growth rate and large size, it was able to turn things of little value to men, the grass and other vegetation that it eats, into wealth. Wealth was counted and traded in cattle. They were one of the earliest forms of currency. Taxes, dowries and fines were paid in cattle. A growing herd of cattle was one of the earliest types of savings account!

Wealth and its acquisition tend to spark conflict between people, and the ownership of cattle and grazing lands have played their part. In 1892, the Johnson County War occurred in the American state of Wyoming. The Wyoming Stock Growers Association, wishing to stop a competing roundup of cattle from public rangeland, hired a group of killers from Texas to come in and put an end to the opposition. The murders took place and a sheriff’s posse surrounded the invaders at the TA Ranch. Word of this reached President of the United States, Benjamin Harrison, who intervened sending the Sixth Cavalry to protect the killers. Charges against them were eventually dropped and they were set free.



Mucki, a bull possibly of the gelbvieh breed, is from the *Bos taurus* line of cattle. He is depicted on this stamp celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Reid, Austria, Agricultural Fair in 1967.

Cattle also became connected to religion. The aurochs on the cave walls at Lascaux, it is thought, were painted as part of a pre-hunt ritual asking for divine help in bringing down the ferocious creatures. The early Egyptians thought that cows and bulls were incarnations of their gods. In Greek and Roman religions, cattle were frequent sacrifices. By 1000 BC, cows were considered sacred in India and still are in the Hindu religion today. According to Mahatma Ghandi, the protection of the cow is a central fact of Hinduism. “The cow”, he said, “was in India the best companion. She was the giver of plenty. Not only did she give milk, but she also made agriculture possible.”

As with most human endeavours, there is a darker side to the business of cattle. Large tracts of tropical rainforest are destroyed every year to create short term grazing lands for beef production. This is not the biggest reason for forest destruction, but it is large. Then, there is the methane, one of the greenhouse gases that all ruminants produce through the digestion of their food. I have seen estimates that as much as 15% of the methane going into the atmosphere is produced this way. The large beef feedlots of today create millions of tons of manure that can pollute groundwater and waterways. The

close interaction between animals and humans has introduced diseases such as anthrax, brucellosis, and tuberculosis into our human population. Over the last several years bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or BSE, has made numerous headlines.

There are well over one billion head of cattle on the planet today and good or bad, man’s close relationship with these adaptable and versatile creatures, built over the millennia, will continue for a long time to come.

From the Editor...

The ever industrious John Cortan is setting up an information booth at the Heritage Mall in Owen Sound from Friday to Sunday (12th to 14th). As Alan mentioned we hope a lot of us will get out there and give him a hand.

Our ‘One Page Challenge’ will be held at the upcoming meeting. The subject is ‘The Harvest’. Boy – oh – boy, this is tougher than I thought! Feel free to interpret the subject matter as you see fit. Ralph Wyndham’s article ‘Cattle’ is a good example of an appropriate subject. Thanks for the article Ralph!

The Show and bourse is coming up quickly! I hope everyone will come and help out and peruse the merchandise. Barb Shelton might bring some pumpkin pie and who knows what’s up my sleeve!

Thanks again to Rick Lokos for participating in ‘Who’s Who’. I am not so sure that my husband is so delighted with him though, I recently checked out the StampWants site and I’m hooked. Previously I have not purchased stamps online. I learned to navigate the site quickly and I also set up a paypal account. In our household, we have been very

(from the editor cont'd)

nervous about purchasing things over the internet, so we got a separate credit card that we use just for online purchases. We got the credit limit lowered to a small amount so that if the card were to be abused it would be discovered before too much mayhem can occur. Whether or not that will make any difference to our security, I don't know, but it makes us feel much more comfortable.

On the Cover...

Endangered Species, Oct. 1st 2007

On October 1st last year Canada Post released the first four of a three year series of stamps depicting endangered species native to Canada. In the first set the blotched tiger salamander, blue racer, Newfoundland marten and the swift fox were chosen to represent land animals in danger of extinction in Canada. This year's set represent animals whose habitat is water. Sadly, it is estimated that the whaling industry has left us with a paltry estimate of 325 North Atlantic right whales. The population of white sturgeon is nearly extinct also due to commercial fishing. The degradation of habitat has forced the northern cricket frog to only Point Pelee and Pelee Island. The sea going leatherback turtle has less than 40% of it's population left since 1982 due to take over of habitat by resorts, water pollution and natural predators. All in all: a sad state of affairs. Our flagrant disregard for the welfare of all the other beings on this planet is going to lead to a planet where only toughest scavengers will survive. I hope you like squirrels, rats, cockroaches, raccoons and Canada Goose. Whether or not the production of stamps depicting endangered species can make any difference is debatable, but hopefully consciousness raising isn't a bad thing. This series is being highlighted by Canada Post in their yearly 'October is stamp month' campaign.



On a lighter note these stamps have been beautifully portrayed in acrylic by Doug Martin, each shown at the same size to suggest the equal importance of all creatures big and small. The names of the creatures are done in a painterly script with 'Canada 52' in a blue tone so as not to overwhelm the delicate paintings. A souvenir sheet of four is available that has a square perforated sticker for each animal. The sheet of eight peel and stick stamps has small round stickers, information and a map showing the habitat area of each creature.

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