

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting; Wed. May 21st 2008

From the President...

May Day! May Day!

Well the purpose of the headline is to get everyone's attention, I hope it worked. Besides I am running out of material so I thought I would have a little fun.

The local stamp show season has started with the Saugeen Club stamp show on May 3rd. They had a good turn out and sales were brisk. This is a good sign that stamp collecting is alive and well.

This months meeting we have a special guest Ali Mason of the Stratford Grand River Club will be bringing their circuit books to the meeting so please everyone bring their want lists and let us make this trip worth while for him.

John Cortan offered to supply the club with a GB penny black Scott# 1 at a favourable price for the purpose of raffling it off to raise money for the stamp club. I would appreciate some input on this from the membership at large, please see me at this months meeting.

Now let us have some real fun at this meeting and put on a really big auction, every one bring lots of lots and lots of cash and go a little crazy!!!

Well that is all for now, Happy Stamping !

Alan M Charlesworth
President OSSC

Upcoming Events...

APRIL 25 - 26, Hamilton, ON. SPRINGPEX, Bishop Ryan High School; Quigley Rd. at Albright. On Friday view the G.R.V.P.A. Club circuits, with the biggest club voice and table auctions in Ontario. Circuits open from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Auctions start at 7:30 pm.

On Saturday is the Dealer Bourse from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. 20 dealers, Canada Post, Youth Booth, Hamilton Club Sales Circuit, Lunch counter, and a Silent Auction. Sponsor/Affiliate: Hamilton Stamp Club. For more information, contact M.P. Anderson at (905) 632-6057; or e-mail michael@parcelsplusinc.com. Web site: <http://www.hamiltonstampclub.com>.

MAY 25, Thornhill, ON. 2008 Postcard & Paper Show sponsored by Postcard-Directory.com, Thornhill Community Centre, South Hall, 7755 Bayview Ave. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Free Admission with Printed Flyer from web site (otherwise \$2). More than 20 dealer tables full of old postcards, postal history and some ephemera. Sponsor/Affiliate: Postcard-Directory.com. Janet Dalton, (705) 835-5917, shows@Postcard-Directory.com. Web site: <http://www.Postcard-Directory.com/SHOWS>.

JUNE 7, St. Catharines, ON. Holiday Inn Stamp Show, Holiday Inn, Niagara Room, Lake St. and QEW. Hours: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free admission and parking. Sponsor/Affiliate: Roy's Stamps. For more information, contact Roy Houtby at 905-934-8377.

JUNE 8, Ottawa, ON. Stamp and Coin Show, Nepean Sportsplex, 1701 Woodroffe Ave. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking and admission. Seventeen dealers. For more information, contact Brian Wolfenden, (613) 226-2045.

JUNE 14, Toronto, ON. Postage Stamp Exhibition and Bourse, Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge St. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Club sales circuit, free parking and admission, wheelchair access. Sponsor/Affiliate: North Toronto Stamp Club. For more information, contact Herb, (416) 445-7720, fax (416) 444-1273, e-mail ntstampclub@yahoo.ca.

JUNE 15, Vancouver, BC. Vancouver Coin and Stamp Show, Oakridge Centre Auditorium 41st and Cambie. Vancouver Coin and Stamp Show, Oakridge Centre Auditorium - 41st and Cambie St. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking and admission. Sponsor/Affiliate: North Shore Numismatic Society. Sponsor/Affiliate: North Shore Numismatic Society. For more information contact L. Balmer: balmoralnu@telus.net (604)299-3673.

JUNE 21, Burlington, ON. Burloak Stamp Fair, Burlington Senior's Centre, 2285 New St. (at Seneca). Hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Between five and nine dealers, always new stock to explore. Collections bought. For more information, contact M.P. Anderson, (905) 632-6057, e-mail michael@parcelsplusinc.com.

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,

Please help me, I am getting dizzy. I've been around and around catalogue pages but I can't find these stamps. Between East Germany, West Germany and occupations, including Berlin, each of these having their own section for semi-postals, air mail, official stamps, overprints of further occupations and more....I cannot find these darn stamps!!! Deutsche Bundespost, DDR, Deutsches Reich, Deutsche Post, Flug Post, Dienstmarke, Reich Post, Deutschland and Deutsche Demokratische Republik are all names used on German stamps. That list does not include the various German States and Provinces and overprints on states and occupations. Whew! Collecting German stamps is not a simple task. For now though, perhaps you could help me with this type of stamp. What is AM Post? It sounds like the morning paper. I have a couple of them. As you can see, they also come in different sizes. Please help before I spin out of control, Dizzy Stamper

Dear Dizzy,

In the Scott catalogue these stamps are listed under the heading of; A.M.G. Issue in the German Occupation Stamps section. Allied Military Government postage stamps were issued

after WW II during 1945 and '46. These were done in three printings. The whole range of values was printed in Brunswick Germany and a smaller range of values came from Washington and London. These can be differentiated by perforations and small differences in the design. The Brunswick and the Washington issues are lithographed while London's are photogravure. They do not have watermarks but there are many paper types (Scott lists three). Michel's has pages of varieties and plate flaws listed in their specialized catalogue, but knowing German would be a great help. There are many more occupation stamps besides the military ones which are also listed in Scott's Stamp Catalogue right after the AM post stamps, which follow the Airmail and Official stamps.

This is a great collecting area and would keep a collector busy just trying to find all the varieties. I hope this answers your question and prevents you from going into a tail spin.
Dr. Phil



A number of differences can be spotted in these stamps. The Brunswick printing seems to have more white dots in the curlicue pattern. The tip of the strokes in the central 'M' come to a soft point in the left hand stamp and is squared off on the right. The 'white' lines and lettering are thinner on the left. The London printing of the 6 AM Post shows a



Dr. Phil A. Telly is our little 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.

It's a fact...oil travels slowly through a pipeline, roughly 4 to 8 kilometers an hour taking up to a month to reach its destination, while compressed natural gas travels 40 kilometers an hour and takes six days to go from Alberta to Southern Ontario.

Beetles By Ralph Wyndham

When I sat down to write this, we were experiencing the heaviest winter weather by far for that year. How could I possibly not long for the warmth of a southern Ontario summer on a day like this? And what could possibly say "summer" better than insects? Chances are that the insect you encounter scurrying across your path will be a beetle.

There are more species of beetle than of any other creature. More than 350,000 species have been described and more than 2,000 new species are described every year. To provide perspective on the beetle population, all creatures on earth total about 1.4 million species.

Estimates exist that there could be well over five million beetle species on the planet. When the British geneticist, J.B.S. Haldane was asked what his study of nature revealed to him about God, his reply was, "An inordinate fondness for beetles."



The citrus weevil depicted on Scott #597 from St. Vincent, damages citrus trees, sugar cane and a

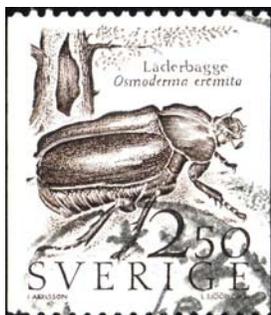
Beetles belong to the insect order Coleoptera (co-le-OP-ter-a). Aristotle first used the term 5,000 years ago. It is derived from the Greek words "koleos" meaning sheath, and "ptera" meaning wings.

The key distinguishing characteristics of beetles are the elytra and complete metamorphosis. Elytra (singular is elytron) are their most visible characteristic. Elytra are the beetle's body armour; the hard, shiny forewing made of chitin that helps protect them from injury. The insect has to hold the elytra out of the way so it can take flight using its second pair of wings that are folded away underneath the elytra.

Metamorphosis is the growth cycle of the beetle from one form, first the egg, then the larva or grub, into a totally different-looking adult insect. The larval phase of the life cycle is when growth actually occurs. The soft skin of the grub allows it to shed the skin (molt) as it grows. When it has finished growing, the larva will turn into a pupa and then emerge from the pupa stage, completely transformed, as an adult beetle. Once the beetle emerges from the pupa, its size will not change; the hard chitin armour of the adult does not allow for growth.

If I had to choose just two words to describe the world of beetles, they would have to be 'incredible variety'! Various beetles can be found in the dry deserts, the rainforests, 6000m up in the mountains, along the seashores, and in bodies of fresh water. The only places they are not found are in the oceans and permanently frozen areas like Antarctica. In size, species vary from a near-invisible 0.3 mm to a behemoth that would stretch nearly across this page.

Food? If it's organic, there's likely a beetle or its larva that will eat it: fresh vegetation, rotting vegetation, animal droppings, dead animals and insects, living animals and insects, dry lumber. They can be terrible pests destroying crops, stored food, forests, buildings and clothing. Almost all of us have heard of Chinese long-horned beetles and emerald ash borers killing many hardwood trees in North America. They can be beneficial as well. Ladybugs feed on aphids and fireflies (yes, they are beetles) feast on snails that can be crop pests.



I find the variety in colouration of beetles particularly fascinating. In some beetles, pigments of black, brown, red, yellow, or any mix of these are incorporated in the chitin so that the insect is a fixed colour or pattern of colour. Some beetles have chitin that is actually transparent but, due to diffraction as light passes through it (similar to oil on the surface of water), the insect appears a shiny metallic green or blue. Another group of beetles produce a coloured powder that they coat themselves with for camouflage. There are even beetle species that employ all three methods.

How long do beetles live? Guess what. It varies! Most species have one generation per year. In tropical areas two or more generations are possible in a year. At the other extreme, development of some long-horned beetles, whose larvae are eating hard, dry wood, can be stretched out to 30 years. The largest part of the beetle's life span is spent in the larval stage. Adults of some species can live several years but once an adult has successfully reproduced, their purpose fulfilled, they tend to die quite soon afterward.

Shown here is the hermit beetle on Scott #1625 from Sweden. These insects stay close to their homes in the hollows

Insects have appeared on thousands of stamps over the years. Obviously, a great many of these insects will be beetles and would make a good topical collection on their own. A great help in such a pursuit would be *Insects on Stamps of the World*, volumes 2 & 3, by Donald Wright, Jr. Volume 2 incorporates volume 1. Both volumes are available from the American Topical Association, Arlington, Texas.

It's a fact.. There are approximately 580,000 kilometers of pipeline in Canada.

On the Cover... Industries: Oil and Gas

Two stamps commemorating the impact of the oil and gas industries in Canada were issued together on May 2, 2008. One of the stamps portrays the story of the first commercial oil well in North America. The other stamp commemorates fifty years since the completion of the TransCanada Pipeline.



Oil Springs Ontario is celebrating the 150th anniversary of the start of the first commercial oil well in North America. Known as 'gumbeds', the land in the Oil Springs area oozed a tar like substance that New Yorker Charles Nelson Tripp wished to build an asphalt empire with. Although Charles and his brother Henry managed to attain a very large contract to supply asphalt for Paris, the cost of transporting their product proved to be unmanageable. (The railroad from London to Sarnia was not completed until 1858.) Tripp sold a chunk of his land to James Miller Williams in 1855. James Williams's dream was to produce cheap refined lamp oil as patented by Dr. Abraham Gesner from Nova Scotia. Both Williams and Dr. Gesner have been referred to as the 'Father of Refining'. By 1858 Williams's hand dug well struck oil. Actually 'drilling' for oil didn't begin until 1862. The oil discovery began a 'black gold' boom in the area that lasted forty years. People flooded the area. Oil wells and refineries sprung up in Oil Springs, Petrolia and Bothwell. Businesses sprung to life and even an opera house was built in Petrolia. Gushers flowed freely into the river systems until they could be brought under control. Fires often raged, including one in 1867 that burned over an area of 20 acres for weeks. Powerhouses were created, some large enough to power over 100 wells. Petrolia paid for its own railway spur to link up with a railroad to Wyoming. The first Canadian pipelines of any serious length were made. In 1897 Imperial Oil of Petrolia moved its operations to Sarnia and was later taken over by J. D. Rockefeller's company Standard Oil Trust. This move was a big blow to

the economy of Petrolia and surrounds. Standard Oil was known as S.O., hence the name Esso.



The boom years may be gone from the oil fields of Lambton County, but there is still a vestige of the oil industry remaining there today...well maybe more than a vestige! Imperial Oil's Sarnia refinery is one of Canada's largest producers of petrochemicals and Suncor's refinery (Sunoco) refines 70,000 barrels of fuel per day.

At 22ft across, the Fitzgerald Rig's bull-wheel is the largest of its kind in the world.

This bull-wheel can be seen at Petrolia Discovery, a 60 acre open air museum that contains a working oil well, a Victorian village and various museum displays located right in Petrolia.

More information can be found at petroliadiscovery.com.

The story of Canadian natural gas pipelines goes back 125 years to a spot outside of Medicine Hat Alberta now called Alderson. (Yes Barb and Bill, that is near Lethbridge, which is not in Manitoba!) The first major natural gas deposit was discovered by Canadian Pacific Railway workers while drilling for water for the railway engines. It wasn't long before it was piped to town to be used for heat and light and water had to be looked for



elsewhere. The original line was made from hollow logs linked together. (It is believed that the very first natural gas pipelines were constructed with bamboo ca. 500BC. in China.) Not too far away another well was drilled and gas was found again. Soon natural gas was discovered in several locations around Medicine Hat. One hundred years ago in 1908, a gas well named 'Old Glory' was discovered at Bow Island that proved to be Alberta's first significant commercial natural gas well.

Developing the gas fields in this area led to the construction of a 16 inch pipeline running 270 kilometers from Bow Island to Calgary in 1912. This was now the longest pipeline in Canada, surpassing the length of oil pipelines running from Ohio to Sarnia. In 1957 the TransCanada Pipeline began construction thanks to loan guarantees from the Canadian Government. The line opened for business fifty years ago in 1958 sending natural gas right across the prairies to Ontario. Since then pipelines have been built that run down into California and into the American Midwest east to Illinois. Pipes also run from the Maritimes to Maine and Massachusetts.

On the Cover is cont'd. on page 5

On the Cover cont'd. from page 4

The province of Alberta continues to flourish by the sales of its unrenewable natural resources. While it does concern me that we seem consume all the world's resources with reckless abandon, it is interesting to note that the Albertan Government was the first to announce that it intends to run all government buildings on wind power in the near future.

These highly stylized stamps are reminiscent of Art Deco posters. The warm metallic colour outlines make the designs appear like they could also be made with cloisonné enamel techniques. I really like the gas stamp with its bold colours and simple dynamic layout with streaking sparks from a welding torch, it is very striking. The oil industry stamp is much more complicated, having a backdrop of a sepia toned photograph of an oil refinery with the poster like figures of Charles Tripp and James Williams in the foreground. This style is not flattering to the human face, mind you, oil fields and refineries are not flattering to the landscape. I find the stamp very interesting and overall find that the stamps have a real industrial look but wonder whether the designer should have had both stamps either be simple like the pipeline stamp or more convoluted like the oil industry stamp.

The 52 cent stamps are available in booklets of ten sporting a strip of five of each stamp. The booklet cover has the appearance of being reversible, one side for oil and one for gas. The First Day Cover comes with two postmarks, one depicting a pipeline from Calgary and the other has a spurting oil well from Oil Springs.

Marion Ace

From the Editor...

Hello and happy spring to you. I saw lots of familiar faces at the Saugeen Stamp Show in Hanover. It's great that so many of our members dropped by there. Hopefully we can get a lot of their members out to our show:

At our last meeting we had our 'one page challenge' on the topic of domestic usage of animals. I am a little embarrassed to say that I won again. A valiant effort was put forward by Larry Crane. That's good, but we really do need more entries! Larry and I decided that June's challenge will be about boats, large or small or any boat at all!

John Cortan mentioned his idea for a penny black raffle at our next show. Personally, I like the idea but please come and express your opinion at this month's meeting and let's all peruse the Stratford circuit books.

See you Wednesday!

Marion

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

The Owen Sound Stamp Club meets at 7:00 pm on the third Wednesday of each month in the basement of St. George's Anglican Church (corner of 10th St. E. and 4th Ave. E.). The main business of the evening is typically to trade, buy and sell stamps and philatelic material. An Auction is often held at 8:00 pm. There are presently about 20 active members whose interests cover just about everything at all levels, from beginner to expert.

Guests or new members are always most welcome.

Annual membership fees: Full-\$10; Family-\$15; Junior- Free

Members and guests contribute \$1 at each meeting which is passed directly to St. George's Church in appreciation for use of their room.

The OSSC Newsletter is distributed to all members. Opinions expressed in the newsletter are expressly those of the individual author.

Contributions to the newsletter are most welcome. Please submit any news, information, opinions or announcements to the editor.

Club Officers:

President: Alan Charlesworth (519)

371-0581

1521 7th Ave. W., Owen Sound ON N4K 5L1

a.charlesworth@sympatico.ca

Vice-Pres: John Cortan

(519) 395-5817

P.O. Box 295, Ripley, ON NOG 2R0

jcortan@hurontel.on.ca

Sec./ Treas: Bob Ford

(519) 376-4788

721 8th Ave. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K

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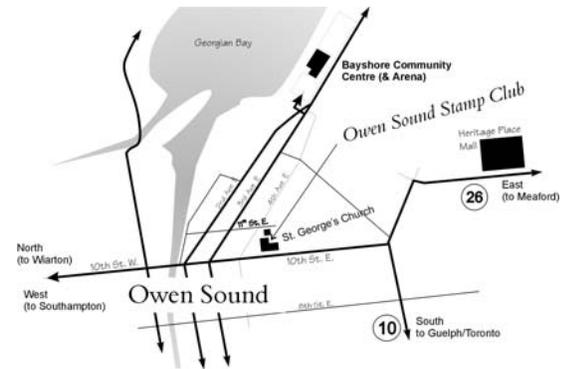
robford@log.on.ca

Editor: Marion Ace

(519) 934-1998

P.O. Box 286, Tara ON NOH 2N0

marionace@bmts.com



It's a fact...About 2.65 million barrels of crude oil and 17.1 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day travel through Canada's oil and gas pipelines.