

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting: Wed. July 16th 2008 @ 7:00

From the Editor...

Hi folks! I hope you're enjoying your summer. I've got the grandkids here, which is great but I have also got some unexpected deadlines. So again you are going to be deprived of a full length newsletter. I'm sure you'll survive, but if someone else wants the job, go for it!

The Royal Circuit books will be at this meeting. John Cortan will have tickets available for the Kincardine Penny Black raffle. Their show is coming up soon so plan on a little trip on August the 9th.

There was discussion at our last meeting about a theme for our upcoming show and bourse in September. We are considering "Famous Owen Sounders" or perhaps a topic in line with a Canada Post new release. Looking at the latest 'Details' magazine a few thoughts leap to mind. There is of course the summer Olympics but that will be old hat by September. There is also a stamp getting issued on September the 8th celebrating the entrepreneurial spirit of Sam McLaughlin and 100 years of General Motors. That's even more ironic than the timing of the oil and gas industries stamps! However the stamp could lead to topics such as: entrepreneurs, inventors or vehicles. Come to the meeting and let's chat about it.

Upcoming Events...

AUG. 9, Kincardine, ON.

Kincardine Stamp Show, Royal Canadian Legion, 219 Lambton St. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Silent auction, door prize draws. Legion lunch booth and exhibits, free admission, nine dealers and sales circuit. Sponsor/Affiliate: Kincardine Stamp Club. For more information, contact John Cortan 519-395-5817 or E-mail jcortan@hurontel.on.ca.

AUG. 9, Fenelon Falls, ON

Fenpex, Fenelon Falls United Church, 123 Colborne St. Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free admission and parking. Dealers, draws, displays. For more information, contact Margaret Allen (705) 887-5386, arscott@sympatico.ca.

AUG. 10, 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.

AUG. 16, 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.

AUG. 23, Bracebridge, ON

MUSPEX 2008, Riverside Inn. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., free admission and free parking, display, dealers. Sponsor/Affiliate: Muskoka Stamp Club. For more information, contact Larry Matthews, (705) 645-9747, muskokapost@sympatico.ca.

SEPT. 13, Merrickville, ON

Eastern Ontario Postcard Show, Merrickville Community Centre. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsor/Affiliate: Eastern Ontario Postcard Club. For more information, contact Jim Skelding, telephone: (613) 269-2085, email: jim.skelding2@sympatico.ca.

SEPT. 14, 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.

SEPT. 14, Owen Sound, ON

Owen Sound Stamp Show and Bourse, Bayshore Community Center, Sound Room, 1900 3rd Ave E. Show hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission and parking are free. Features are: dealers, silent auction, exhibits, club table, kid's korner, kitchen. For more information, contact Alan Charlesworth (519) 371-0581, a.charlesworth@sympatico.ca or Bob Ford (519) 316-4788, robford@log.on.ca.

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 read your column last month about the Allied Military stamps from Germany. I agree that cataloguing German stamps can be a headache but they are always fascinating. One of the first things that really strikes anybody starting to collect German stamps are the issues surcharged with higher and higher values. The rates on the stamps start at a few pfennigs then abruptly go up to a few thousand marks and the next thing you know, some are surcharged with millions of marks! What's with that???

Shocked at prices!



Here are a range of values of over inflated German

Dear Shocked,

The German Inflation period started slowly about 1921 but the worst started in 1922 and came to a head at the end of 1923. All of this was a result of world conditions following WWI and Germany's huge war reparations debt which quickly became unmanageable as inflation increased. This would all be eased at the end of 1923 with a 200 million dollar loan from the U.S.

Inflation increased gradually until Aug. 1923 after which rates increased as much as five fold in one week and by year end rates as high as trillions of Marks were not uncommon. The German Post office failed to keep up with the need for new issues of the new rates and started to reuse old stamp dies and simply reprint them with new values overprinted on them and with the rapid rate changes there were quite a few printed.

After the inflation period there were many leftover mint stamps with the overprints and certain unscrupulous individuals acquired these. Because of the short usage period, used examples on some of these stamps became slightly more valuable whereas mint were plentiful so worth little. This of course inspired these individuals to have these stamps cancelled to take advantage of the better price for used stamps. This is the reason that any stamp being claimed as used, especially higher values, should be expertised if you are buying them; otherwise a large reduction in price is called for.

For those of you looking for a challenge, a collection of these stamps on cover showing the proper rate at the proper time would be very interesting when you consider rates changed as often as daily towards the end of 1923 some of these could be very hard to find.

Well I kept to the basics I hope I've helped your dilemma. One last little tidbit; in 1923 the price of a loaf of bread in Germany was 300,000,000,000 yes 300 billion marks! So take a valium and call me in the morning (ha ha)

Dr. Phil

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 otherwise.

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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.

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