

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting; Wed. October 15th 2008 @ 7:00

From the President...

Happy Hallowe'en!



Well folks we have had our 13th Annual Stamp Show here in Owen Sound and from all input after the show it was quite successful again. I cannot remember all of the numbers that were initially reported but they seemed quite good, Bob Ford will be able to report more accurately at this months meeting. Let me take this opportunity to thank all those who came out and helped with the show.

I have made arrangements for this years information session at Heritage Place Mall for October 24 to 26th and the booth to be set up down near the food court this year. Volunteers are needed to man this booth which will be located near the food court for everyone's convenience.

A few weeks ago we had our first annual picnic out in Tara and had a very good turnout and a wonderful time. I would like to thank all those who turned out and especially those who were involved in organizing this event.

Now all of you know that I am moving to Windsor later this year so it is time to pass the torch so to speak. So we will have to elect a new club president at this meeting. Anyone who would like to serve please let me know. It would be helpful if all the rest of the membership should show up to vote. Thank you everyone for your friendship and support over the years, I will miss you all.

Please note that the Royal Circuit books should be in for this meeting so please bring your want list with you. As usual there will be an auction after.

President OSSC

Alan M Charlesworth

Picnic Report from Barb & Bill...

September 20th – what a gorgeous day for our 1st Annual Picnic! We arrived early at Tara's Rotary Park and since no one was there we did a fast backtrack to a great little convenience store for a whopper ice cream drumstick and then we headed back to the park. People were showing up by then.

There was a lot of socializing until John decided it was time to eat. There was plenty of good food; burgers, sausages, chicken tournedos, potato salad, devilled eggs, baked beans and coleslaw – man if you left hungry...too bad! Marion's hubby Matthew was BBQ chef for the day and did a fine job even with people telling him how to do it. Ya done good Matt! There was coffee, juice and pop and brownies for dessert. You who did not come out – are you sorry? You missed a great time & lots of good conversation. We tried to solve the problems of the world and maybe even solved one or two. We were the first to arrive and the last to leave. As we were driving away a BBQ was seen rolling down the road driven by our fab chef Matt.

Kudos to Marion for all her hard work. Sometimes we don't appear to appreciate her many talents!

From Barb & Bill Shelson

News flash... News flash... News flash... News flash... News flash... News flash... News flash...



Ladies and gentlemen we have a winner! Live at the Owen Sound Stamp Show and Bourse on Sept. 14th Matthew Brailey (my non stamp collecting hubby in the background) had the honour of drawing the winning ticket for the Penny Black draw! And the lucky winner is Owen Sound's very own Rob Armstrong! (In the foreground holding his cherished prize aloft)

Congratulations Rob and thank you to all who purchased tickets.

Thanks also to John Cortan who provided the Penny Black to the club for a discounted price.

News flash... News flash... News flash... News flash... News flash... News flash... News flash...

From the Editor...

Well, it's Thanksgiving time and the club has a lot of thanking to do. Thanks to the seventeen people who enjoyed a lovely afternoon at our picnic. Thanks to everybody who helped out at the Stamp Show.

Thanks to:

Barb & Bill for running the silent auction and actually contributing to the newsletter. (and the jelly!)

Phil for help calling members about the picnic and telling people that the show was at the Legion.

Bob Ford for taking care of the finances and helping with show and the Royal circuit.

Forrest for helping in the kitchen four years now! Thanks.

Caroline for bringing Forrest and supporting him in his efforts.

Al Roos for helping at the show with the kids corner and at the info booth and other things.

Bob Watson who provided the photo for the show cover and actually came to some meetings lately.

Dr. Phil who supplies me with my meds.

Bob Chapman for staying awake at the picnic. Good job Bob!

Lesley Anne who shows up every year from the States.

Bob Pike... no wait a minute, where were you this year Bob?

Randy for helping out at the lunch counter.

Ernie for donating a bunch of stuff to the club.

John Cortan for being VP, his PR work, his many ideas and great sense of public spirit.

Larry for his enthusiasm and frequent participation in the 'one page challenge'.

Gerd and Rick who have both participated as dealers now and always yak the whole meeting.

Rick's wife for lugging him around all over the place.

Rose Anne for being another female in the club. Hey you can still visit from Mount Forest!

Matt who helped in the kitchen and was our BBQ chef. (I feel faint, don't worry, just a bit of shock!)

Rob who won the penny black! (darn it all!)

Ted who shows up even if he's all bandaged up.

Bob Tucker for being a new face around once in a while.

Bill V.T. who is always friendly and helpful.

Don who never makes too much noise at the meetings.

Ralph who is not a member of our club, but has graciously allowed me to reprint a number of his articles.

And last but not least, Alan for inviting the dealers, booking the gig, making up posters and running our auctions, making great chunky mustard summer squash. Oh yeah, and being the president the last few years! Good luck in Windsor and you all come back now, you hear?

If your not on my thank you list, come on out to a meeting, we only bite a little bit!

But don't think that I'm getting soft. Get off of your duffs and do a page for the 'one page challenge. Our topic this month is 'flight'.



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!

Hey, Doc!

As you may know, a popular area of collecting is the "Europa" stamps issued every year by many European nations. Doc, just what is Europa? Is it a place, a thing, an organization? I thought I would try to find out on my own. I searched the Internet and quickly found myself tied up in knots. Am I losing my touch? Doc, can you 'Phil' me in and straighten me out?

Sincerely,

On the Ropes

Hi There,

This question caught me unprepared as I have never really given much thought to the Europa issues. So it was time for a little research. Here's what I found.

The first thought given to Europa stamps was in 1952. Europa stamps were issued as a symbol of community and cooperation. The first countries to issue Europa stamps in 1956 were Belgium, France, W. Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. These were the original six countries that went on to sign the Treaty of Rome in March of 1957. The ideals of the Treaty were to break down the trade barriers of a broken post war Europe and to cooperate as a community to create a strong and united Europe. This was the first real step in forming the EU (European Union). All of the treaties leading to the formation the EU were based on the Treaty of Rome and its provisions.



This stamp from the 1st Europa issue in 1956 shows Europe under construction.



The millennium issue has a tower of 6 gold stars for the 6 countries whose initiative led the way in building a united Europe.



also led to

the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) in 1959. (CEPT is from the French acronym *Conférence Européenne des administrations des Postes et des Télécommunications*). The organization had the authority to regulate participating European postal services and issue the Europa stamps of which the first was released in 1960 sporting the now familiar letters 'CEPT'.



Perhaps this Roman style bridge represents Europe's path from the Treaty of Rome to the 25th Anniversary of 'CEPT'.

The first official Europa issues were produced by six countries and now there are over 60 nations issuing stamps for Europa. Until 1973 most countries produced stamps with a common design. After 1973 the common design was given up for a more popular common theme allowing more freedom in design to

member nations. The two exceptions were the 25th Anniversary of the CEPT in 1984 and a common design was used to celebrate the new millennium in 2000. Although annual Europa stamps persist today, the letters 'CEPT' have been dropped. Postal authority and telecommunication authority were separated with

the newly formed PostEurop taking on postal responsibilities in 1993. By the way, Europa is the latin form of Europe.

Well I hope this keeps you off 'your ropes' and saves you a research trip.

Thanks for asking,

Doc Phil

Editors note: The theme for this year's Europa issue was 'letter writing', which sure ties in with Ralph Wyndham's article Tokaido Road. Be sure to check it out!

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.

Tokaido Road

By Ralph Wyndham



Every October since 1958, Japan has issued stamps to honour International Letter Writing Week, an initiative of the Universal Postal Union to promote cultural exchange through letter writing. The 53 stations of the Tokaido Road, as represented in the wood cut prints by nineteenth century artist Ando Hiroshige, have been favorite subjects of this series.

When Tokugawa Iyeyasu came to power as shogun in 1603, he made Edo (now Tokyo) his capital. Under his new constitution he required all Japan's daimyo, or feudal landlords, to attend his court in Edo every other year in order to prevent unhappy daimyo from organizing rebellions.

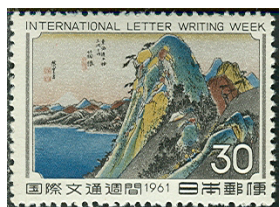


The shogun's palace stood across from the Nihon Bridge that spanned the Sumida River. All distances were measured from this point. The Tokaido Road, stretching 500 kilometers from Edo to Kyoto along the Pacific coast of Japan's main island, Honshu, became the busiest and most important road in the country. The road was a well-maintained lane 5.5 meters wide with a surface of sand on top of a bed of crushed stone except in the four mountain passes where the surface was stone.

Kyoto was the final destination on the road. Travelers crossed the bridge over the Kamo River to finally get into town.



Imaki Point juts out into the sea at Maisaka, a fishing village on Lake Hamana where it joins the Pacific Ocean. Travelers had to cross the mouth of the lake by boat to continue their journey.



Hakone Pass was the most difficult stage on the road. It was a steep, arduous climb with plenty of places for bandits to hide.

Along the way, there were 53 government-mandated posts or stations. The stations served as checkpoints through which all travelers had to pass and show they had proper travel documents. Each station was also required to have inns and teahouses for the weary travelers.

The most difficult stage on the journey to Kyoto was the Hakone Pass, station 11. It was steep, difficult to climb and was home to many bandits. At Maisaka, station 31, a fishing village where Lake Hamana merges with the Pacific Ocean, travelers had to take to boats in order to cross the lake.

The common people often made their way on foot. Those with horses could ride and there were a few ox or horse drawn carts. Most heavy cargo moved along the coast by boat. If one could afford it, horses were available for hire. Wealthier people traveled by palanquin or kago, a type of litter or sedan chair carried on the shoulders of bearers. The most important people would have roomy, ornate palanquins that could be closed to the weather and were carried by 10 or 12 bearers. Lesser nobles may only have a small, cramped kago with no protection from the weather and only two or four bearers. Women were not allowed to travel alone.

The heaviest users of the road were the daimyo making their required trips to Edo. The daimyo did not travel light. They brought with them a procession of servants and lesser nobles sometimes numbering in the thousands. Stations had to be notified in advance to ensure sufficient provisions were on hand for the entourage and word had to be sent to clear the road so common folk would not impede the noble procession. If a commoner were unlucky enough to encounter the parade, they had to prostrate themselves on the ground and stay that way till the entire party had passed. Failure to do so would quickly cost you your life at the hands the daimyo's swordsmen.

At some locations where water had to be crossed, there were bridges or boats available to ferry people across. This was not always the case as the government did not want to make things too easy for invading armies to reach Edo so sometimes travelers had to wade across or were carried across, held above the water, by their servants.

In good weather, the ordinary traveler could make several stations per day and complete an Edo to Kyoto trip in two weeks, one week if in a big hurry. When the weather was bad, though, and rivers were flooded, it could take a month. Professional couriers, running in relay, could make the trip in 90 hours. It was the dream of almost every Japanese during this era to see Kyoto once in their lifetime.

Tokaido Road's importance quickly declined when the Tokagawa era and feudalism ended in 1868. Today, the original stone surface still exists in three of the mountain passes and much of the old road remains. Though most of it is not well marked, the intrepid tourist can still walk this historic old route.

Coming Events...

OCT. 18, Guelph, ON. Guelphpex 2008,

The Evergreen Centre, 683 Woolwich St. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking, door prizes, dealer bourse and sales circuit. For more information, contact John Kneith, jekneith@sympatico.ca, telephone (519) 856-9497.

OCT. 18, Kingston, ON. Kingston Stamp Club Festival,

Edith Rankin United Church, 4080 Bath Rd. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and parking, 11 dealers plus club bourse and youth table. Displays, refreshments and light lunch available. For more information, contact Richard Weigand (613) 352-8775, or Mel Campbell (613) 352-7226, 30 Country Club Dr., Bath, ON KOH 1G0, melcamp@sympatico.ca.

OCT. 18, 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.

OCT. 18, Mississauga, ON. Holiday Inn Stamp Show,

Holiday Inn Toronto/Mississauga, 2125 North Sheridan Way. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking and admission. Specializing in stamps and covers of Canada and the British Commonwealth. Sponsor/Affiliate: Roy's Stamps. For more information, contact Roy Houtby, (905) 934-8377.

OCT. 26, Cambridge, ON. 14th Annual Club Fair,

United Kingdom Hall. Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., 12-14 clubs, over 450 circuit books, two silent auctions (300 lots), snack bar, free admission. Directions: take Highway 401 to Highway 24 exit, south roughly 2 km to Dunbar, turn left (east) to first right (International Village Road), hall is on the right. Sponsor/Affiliate: Grand River Valley Philatelic Association. E-mail: stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca.

OCT. 31 - NOV. 1, Hamilton, ON. Hamilton Fall Show,

Bishop Ryan Secondary School (Quigley Rd. at Albright). Friday: GRVPA Sales Circuits 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Ontario's largest club table. Live auction, viewing from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. auction starts at 7:30 p.m. Saturday: open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 20 dealers, sales circuit, youth booth, Canada Post, silent auctions. Sponsor/Affiliate: Hamilton Stamp Club. For more information, contact M.P. Anderson (905) 632-6057, mpanderson@cogeco.ca. Website: <http://hamiltonstampclub.com>.

NOV. 1, Barrie, ON. Barrie Dist. Stamp Club 46th Annual Dealer's Bourse & Stamp Show,

Aladdin's Banquet Hall, 41 Essa Rd. This year Barrie Stamp Club will be putting on a judged exhibition of stamp frames. Sponsor/Affiliate: Barrie Stamp Club. For more information, contact David Terry, (705) 792-5491.

NOV. 1, Chatham, ON. Kentpex 2008,

Wheels Motor Inn, Richmond and Keil. Free admission and parking. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Seventy-two frames of exhibits. Ten dealers. Free draws. Sponsor/Affiliate: Kent County Stamp Club. For more information, contact Paul V. McDonnell, phone: (519) 354-1845, e-mail: pvmcdonell@sympatico.ca.

NOV. 7 - 9, Toronto, ON. CSDA National Postage Stamp Show,

Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place. Show hours, Friday: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dealers from across Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States, Canada Post. Sponsor/Affiliate: CSDA. For more information, contact secretary@csdaonline.com. Website: <http://www.csdaonline.com>.

NOV. 8, Cambridge, ON, Annual Show and Bourse,

United Kingdom Club Hall, International Village Dr. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Ten dealers, club circuit books, small display, snack bar. Sponsor/Affiliate: Cambridge Stamp Club. For more information, contact Ron Adkin, (519) 650-5136.



Forrest Brooks was presented with a small stockbook full of Australian stamps at the stamp show in September. Forrest has helped out at the show for at least the last four years. Good job Forrest!

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.

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