

Owen Sound Stamp Club

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting; Wed. June 17th 2009 @ 7:00

From the President...

Well, it's time for another interesting evening discussing stamps and pursuing our common hobby. It is incredible how quick the weeks have passed by since the last meeting. I hope that many of you are able to come to the meeting on June 17th at St George's Church. I believe we will have lots of parking available.

Our last meeting was a very interesting presentation about Law Society stamps of the province of Ontario by Joe Reichenbach. I received many positive comments on the evening which I hope can be repeated again. If any members have an idea for a guest speaker, or may be willing to speak for an upcoming meeting, please let me know so that the planning for future meetings can go forward and we will be able to share this information through this newsletter.

Our meeting this month will feature a club auction for the evening. This is another chance to share the extra stamps accumulated and which may possibly be of use in another collection. We held one a number of months ago and a large number of lots appeared and changed hands. It ran fairly long, so in the interest of keeping our meetings within our agreement with the church please let either myself or Bob Ford know what you would like to have auctioned off on that evening. This can be done by either emailing your list of items to pvisser@hurontel.on.ca or robford@log.on.ca or calling us by telephone before the meeting. My phone number is 519-376-6760 and Bob's is 519-376-4788.

Phil Visser

President OSSC

Coming Events...

JUNE 12 - 14, St. Catharines, ON

Royal 2009 Royale, Parkway Convention Centre, 327 Ontario St. (exit 47 off QEW).

Friday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking, admission \$2 per day or \$5 for all three days, 40+ international dealers, 200+ frames of exhibits, seminars, youth area. Sunday afternoon auction. Sponsor/Affiliate: St. Catharines Stamp Club and RPSC. See the website <http://royal2009.ca> for contacts.

Notice!-**John Cortan** will be going to the Royal in St. Catharines. Call to share a ride (519) 395-5817

JUNE 20, Toronto, ON

Summer Postage Stamp Bourse, Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge St. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Club sales circuit, exhibition and bourse, refreshments available, free parking and admission, wheelchair access. Sponsor/Affiliate: North Toronto Stamp Club. For more information, contact Herb 416-445-7720, e-mail: ntstampclub@yahoo.ca.

AUG. 8, Fenelon Falls, ON

FENPEX 25, 123 Colborne St. United Church. Hours: 9:30a.m. to 3:30 p.m., eight dealers, silent auction, prizes. Sponsor/Affiliate: Fenelon Stamp Club. For more information, contact Margaret Allen, telephone: (705) 887-5386.

AUG. 15, Kincardine, ON.

KINEX 2009, Royal Canadian Legion Hall 219 Lambton St. Hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eight to 10 tables of dealers, displays, door prizes, youth table, food available. Sponsor/Affiliate: Kincardine Stamp Club. For more information, contact John Cortan (519) 395-5817 or email jcortan@hurontel.on.ca.

Galileo Galilei

By Ralph Wyndham

After reading Marion Ace's article about Canada's beautiful stamps issued for the United Nations' International Year of Astronomy, I thought we should have a quick look into the life of Galileo Galilei. The United Nations chose 2009 to celebrate astronomy as it also marks the 400th anniversary of Galileo's first observations of the heavens with a telescope.



Physicist Stephen Hawking, says, "Galileo, perhaps more than any other single person, was responsible for the birth of modern science."

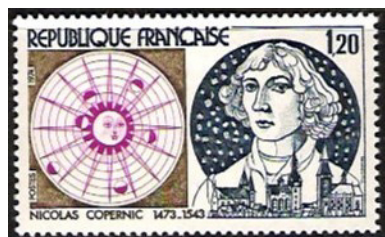
Galileo was much more than a keen observer of celestial objects. In addition to astronomer, he was physicist, mathematician, philosopher and technologist/craftsman. Among his accomplishments are improvements to the telescope (it wasn't his invention), a water pump, and an improved compass.

The great Italian scientist was born February 15, 1564 in Pisa, Italy. As a teenager attending school at the Camaldolese Monastery at Vallombrosa, he enrolled as a Novice, the first step in becoming a monk himself. His father, Vincenzo Galilei, a music scholar, would not allow this career choice and withdrew his son from the monastery. The elder Galilei wanted his son to become a doctor, a profession that would earn some money. To this end, Galileo was enrolled in medicine at the University of Pisa in 1581.

Russia marked Galileo's 400th birthday in 1964 with this stamp depicting the great scientist. To the left, Galileo is using his

Medicine held no interest for Galileo who spent his time studying mathematics and philosophy eventually leaving university without graduating and continued to study mathematics privately. He did well in his chosen discipline, ultimately being appointed Chair of Mathematics at the University of Pisa in 1589. He moved on to Padua in 1592 to teach geometry, mathematics and astronomy at the university there.

Galileo had been actively seeking a place less conservative than the university in which to follow his personal scientific interests. His search was successful in 1611 when he left Padua to take the position of Royal Professor of Mathematics and Philosophy in the court of the powerful Medici family in Florence. Under the protection of the Medici, Galileo's reputation and celebrity grew. In return, the great scientist was sure to first unveil all his new discoveries at court as a form of entertainment for his patron.



These were dangerous times for men of science, however. The Inquisition, a permanent institution of the Roman Catholic Church charged with the eradication of heresies, was powerful and dangerous. Heresy is anything that seems to contradict religious doctrine. In 1610, for example, the Inquisition had Galileo's friend, Giordano Bruno, burned at the stake for declaring that the universe was infinite.

For 1000 years the church had interpreted Biblical scripture as telling us that the earth was fixed in place at the centre of the universe with all heavenly bodies revolving around it. This is called the geocentric, or earth-centered system. Nicolaus Copernicus, a Polish astronomer, published a radical new heliocentric, or sun-centered theory in 1543. This theory stated that it was the sun that was fixed in place with everything, including the earth, revolving around it.

Now, with his powerful new tool, the telescope, Galileo was able to discover such things as the four large moons of Jupiter and the phases of Venus that suggested that the Copernican theory was correct. This was proof enough for Galileo who set out to make his case.

A keen wit and sharp conversationalist, Galileo was difficult to defeat in debate. He could make his (Galileo Galilei continued on the next page)

(Galileo Galilei continued from page 2)

case quite aggressively and was not satisfied with simply refuting an opponent's ideas but would heap ridicule upon them as well. He most certainly used his

France celebrated Nicolaus Copernicus' 500th birthday with this stamp depicting the Polish astronomer with his heliocentric system. Galileo, based on his observations with his

skills in support of the heliocentric system possibly making a few enemies along the way.

His astronomy and strident advocacy of the Copernican system led to his initial trouble with the Inquisition. Called to the Holy Office in 1615, Galileo was cleared of any wrongdoing but the church held that heliocentrism was “false and contrary to scripture”. Without what the church felt was adequate proof, Galileo had to promise to limit himself to pointing out how the new theory explained celestial phenomenon, not declare that it proved the scriptures wrong.

Maffeo Barberini, a former supporter of Galileo, was elected pope in 1623. As Pope Urban VIII, he gave Galileo permission to write about Copernican theory as long as it was treated solely as a mathematical exercise. However, the scientist chose to write “Dialogue of the Two World Systems”, published in 1632, in which three friends discuss the structure of the universe. Of course, the two friends advocating heliocentrism win the argument.



Pope Urban was not pleased and Galileo was called before the Inquisition for a second time in 1633. After months of defending himself, Galileo was finally forced to recant when the Medici court had to stop paying his expenses or risk the Pope's wrath. Galileo was found 'vehemently suspect of heresy' and sentenced to life in prison. Due to his advancing age and ill health, this was commuted to house arrest.

Though he remained under house arrest for the rest of his life, he continued to work despite blindness and poor health. His book *Two New Sciences* containing his work on kinematics (the motion of objects) and the strength of materials was written during this time. Both Sir Isaac Newton and Albert Einstein praised this book and called Galileo the father of modern physics.

Galileo changed the way we see the universe; what we see in the heavens are actual physical objects, not some exotic ethereal substance, and they obey the same laws of motion governing everyday objects on earth. His belief in the honest interpretation of experimental results and accepting them over religious authority got him into trouble during his life but led to the eventual separation of science from philosophy and religion.

He died on January 8, 1642 at his home just outside of Florence at the age of 77.

Thank you Ralph Wyndham for another interesting and informative article!

From Dr. Phil A. Telly...

Stamps got you licked? Feeling stamped out?
Don't worry. Don't let it get you down,

Hey Doc,

How's it goin' eh? I'm doin' pretty good. I've been happily collecting Canadian stamps for quite a while now. I've got lots of them, so now I'm startin' to get particular. Going through my collection I noticed that I needed certain



particular coiled stamps so I went out and bought some. So I'm sittin' there putting away my newly acquired coiled stamps when I see that some of them there stamps look awful crooked. I pulled out my hanky and wiped my

specs but they're still lookin' awful crooked, they just don't line up. Now Doc, I have to tell you that I find that particularly irritating! Can you tell me how on earth these stamps could have been printed in such a disjointed fashion? I have included a picture so that you can see for yerself!

From: Getting' Particular

From Dr. Phil A. Telly... continued

Dear Getting' Particular,



This line pair from the KGV Arch issue is a



What you have here is called a jump strip. It is easy to see how the name was acquired. A shift in height position of the images is obvious. Starting in 1930 coil stamps were printed on a rotary press made by attaching two curved identically engraved printing plates.

Sometimes the plates were not lined up precisely, consequently as the paper fed through the press the last image from one plate did not always line up with the first image of the next plate. When this method was

first used ink would sometimes collect in the seam between the plates and create a line running across the perforations between two stamps. Known as 'line pairs', they can be found on the KGV 'Arch' and 'Medallion' coils. There are no listings for jump strips in these issues but a 'line pair' can also be a 'jump pair' at times. Improvements were made to the rotary press plates that ended 'line pairs' being printed and instead we now have listings of 'jump strips' starting with the 1935 KGV Pictorial coils. From then on 'jump strips' can be found on all of the definitive issue coils through to the 1967 QEII Centennial issue.

Although purchasing a 'jump strip' will cost you substantially more than the purchase of a single stamp, they are fairly common and so generally not too expensive and quite collectable. It is generally preferable that jump strips are collected in strips of four with the 'jump' in the middle, like you have here. So

A closer look at this particular strip reveals some flawed left hand
with your 'crooked' stamp strip, they're just a little jumpy! Dr. Phil

don't get too
irritated

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 and Dr. Phil will be kept anonymous unless he or she requests otherwise.

On the Cover... the Canadian Horse and the Newfoundland Pony

On May 15 2009 Canada Post released two stamps honouring breeds of Canadian horses. The left hand stamp of the set-tenant pair has a portrait of a 'Canadian Horse' and on the right is a 'Newfoundland Pony'. Both of these breeds were known and treasured for their stamina, good nature and ability to perform a wide range of tasks.



The 1st Canadian
stamp to bear
a horse and rider

Horses must be the most beloved of the world's large creatures. Even though we dearly love our little cats and dogs, no other animal has historically fulfilled so many crucial roles in the lives of human beings. They have fought, worked, raced, hunted, jumped, herded, hauled and ploughed for us, we enjoy the simple pleasure of riding them and they are even used to fill our bellies. Despite all the toil and labour they have performed for us we still admire them for their beauty, grace and their often gentle disposition. The same cannot be said of the camel, llama, donkey, ox, wildebeest or even the mighty elephant.

Horses can be found on postage stamps from many parts of the world and are a subject for some topical collectors. The Unitrade 2009 Catalogue of Canadian Stamps lists about 60 stamps that have horses on them. Horses are not always the central feature of the stamps but they are there in some form or other. In recent years the range of topics for Canadian stamps widened vastly. Canada's first stamps featured the industrious beaver, royalty and Jacques Cartier. In the early 1900s we started to see some Canadian scenes. Besides the famous beaver no animal was seen on Canadian stamps until January 8, 1929 when a team of three horses was

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shown harvesting wheat in the prairies. By the end of 1930 a wheat harvesting stamp was released with a combine instead of horses. Now horses can be seen on Canadian stamps: as a part of coats of arms, pulling sleighs, as Police horses, in paintings, as athletic partners and as symbols. Another Canadian stamp honouring a specific breed of horse was the \$2.00 definitive stamp featuring

Sable Island horses released in 2005.

The original stock for the Canadian Horse came from a shipment of Norman and Breton horses sent to New France by Louis XIV in 1665 along with a couple

You'd better get permission from the Canadian Coastguard if you want to see the 200-350 Sable

more shipments in subsequent years. Those horses came from Arabian, Barb and Andalusian stock. The survivors of the trip had to face hard labour under difficult weather conditions with poor quality feed. The stock became sturdier, tougher and smaller without losing their gentle and intelligent nature. They were equally capable of plowing fields as they were of trotting with carriages. They became known as the "Little Iron Horse". They were long lived and fertile

with mares still producing offspring at age twenty. Little Iron Horses became popular across Canada and the United States. In the 1800s at the heyday of their popularity they were used on the U.S. stage coach lines, in the U.S. Civil War and shipped out to the Boer War and to West Indian sugar plantations. They were bred with other lines of horses to lend them strength and durability. Suddenly the tidal wave of technology swept the New World. Horses were no longer needed in such vast numbers and breeding had not been confined to the original lines.

Efforts to maintain the line of sturdy Little Canadian Horses began in 1886. The Canadian Horse breeders Association was formed in 1895. A federal breeding program started in Cap Rouge Quebec in 1913. By the 60s and 70s the Canadian Horse numbered only about 400. The breed is slowly regaining its popularity and now numbers over 5000. It wasn't until 2002 that the horse was finally declared Canada's National Horse.

In honour of the role that the Cap Rouge breeding program played in retrieving the breed from edge of extinction, the Canadian Horse is cancelled at Cap Rouge Quebec on the Official First Day covers.

Here in Ontario breeders can participate with the Upper Canada District (Ontario) Canadian Horse Breeders in various recreational and educational activities around the province. The group is involved with the Royal Winter Fair, a



number of fall fairs, heritage festivals and the Canada Agricultural Museum. They'll be holding the UCD Futurity and Show at the Orangeville Fairgrounds September 19th and 20th this year.

The story of the Newfoundland Pony is not that different to that of the Canadian Horse. The Newfoundland Pony was also known for toughness, durability, flexibility as well as its gentle and intelligent nature. A whole variety of ponies were brought to Newfoundland by early English settlers. The

The Canadian Horse and the Newfoundland Pony are shown at work in the center of this pair of stamps in a gold silhouette in

hardy survivors interbred and eventually emerged as another breed. One can only imagine the importance of having a sturdy reliable horse or pony for the settlers.

Nowadays the animals would replace: your dog, the tractor, snowmobile, car, logging truck, four wheeler and who knows what else!

Only twenty years ago the ponies numbered 12 to 13 thousand according to Beverley Stevens of the Change Island Newfoundland Pony Refuge. Apparently there were only about 100 breeding age ponies in 2005. The population had dropped so drastically that concerned horse breeders and other citizens of Newfoundland managed to get the provincial government to declare the pony a Heritage

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Animal December 19 1996. Under the Heritage Animal Act the Newfoundland Pony Society became the officially designated protector of the rare pony although they had been doing that for eighteen years already. The Society raises awareness, maintains the breeder books, registers the animals, assists breeders and defines characteristics of the breed. The Society works closely with the Pony Refuge. The Town of Change Islands leases pastureland to the Pony Refuge to provide room to roam and to breed. As the hub of the Newfoundland Pony population, the Change Islands Post Office has the honour of being the location for the cancellation of the pony side of the se-tenant pair of stamps on the OFDC.

Newfoundland Ponies are not allowed to be shipped out of province without an export permit.

The handsome stamps designed and illustrated by Bonnie Yam and Wilson Lam are available in a booklet of ten with a dual sided cover.

Marion Ace

From the Editor...

If you didn't make it to the May meeting, then you missed out on my rhubarb muffins which are turning out to be an annual affair. But more importantly

than that, you also missed out on Joe Reichenbach's discussion about Ontario Law Stamps. Our group may be small but it sure makes for a very intimate venue to have a talk or discussion. Joe spoke loud and clearly and held everyone's attention easily. Questions were asked by just about everybody. Thanks Joe, I think we all learned a lot.

A vote was held and it was agreed to raise our annual dues by \$5.00. The motion did not specifically mention what the funds are for but we are all aware that more funds were needed to facilitate the use of souvenir sheets and se-tenant stamps on some newsletters. Since last month's newsletter arrived late for some people, we will allow any dissent to be voiced via email. Thus far there has not been any negative input. Since I have already commenced using extra postage it is hoped that everyone will pitch in the \$5.00 raise in dues rather than wait until next year.

We're having an auction this meeting, not a mini auction so bring lots of entries. See you Wednesday evening and don't forget to call John Cortan if you're heading off to the Royal!

Marion Ace
Editor OSSC

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

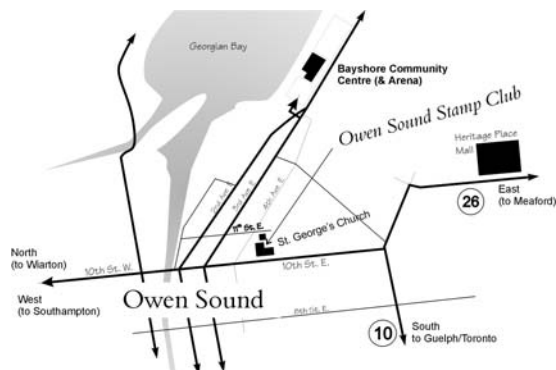
Members and guests contribute \$1 at each meeting which is passed directly to St. George's Church in appreciation for use of their room.

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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