

Owen Sound Stamp Club

Chapter 191

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting; Wed. October 20th 2010 @ 7:00

From the President...



I am looking forward to seeing you all again at the regular meeting on Wednesday, October 20th in the basement of the St. George's Anglican Church. A lot has happened since our last meeting in September and so I wish to thank all the club members who pitched in at the show. The show's success depends on volunteers and I appreciate all the efforts made on that Saturday. I have every reason to believe that the show was successful on the financial front, but I sure wish we had been able to have more collectors come out. Fortunately, I met some local collectors who indicated they may be coming to the regular meetings.

This meeting will feature a visit by Tom Griffith who is bringing the St. Catharines club circuit book. I have emailed him the list of stamp collecting interests given to me by our members. I hope that you will find something of interest in the books. This is our first time to see the books from St. Catharines so I am looking forward to seeing them myself. For the month of November, I am responding to a request from another member which I hope will prove interesting to everyone. December includes the Christmas wrap up and the "President's Funny Munny Auction." I do have some material for the mini auction, if anyone else has excess material, donations will be gladly accepted and another lovely evening will wrap up the year.

We will also be having a public stamp "exhibit" at the Heritage Place Mall on October 15th and 16th. I hope that the days are a success and I hope that John will be supported by members to spell him during those two days. Thanks to all who were there.

Cheers and good health until the 20th.

Phil Visser
President OSSC



We have a winner!

Bob Ford was the lucky winner of our annual show raffle prize. Bob is our humble Secretary/Treasurer. As I'm sure you're all aware of by now this year's prize was a creative piece by Will Van Veen. He calls his stamp collages

'StampImages' and each one is unique. This prize was also special because members donated the items that Will Van Veen used in his creation. Will also set up a display at our Stamp Show. I hope that you dropped by to see his work.

Our Vice president **John Cortan** drew Bob Ford's ticket and President **Phil Visser** presented the prize that he has been so carefully guarding these last few months. *Phil Visser shows off the StampImage with prize winner Bob Ford. Congratulations Bob!*

One Page Challenge...

October - Scouting
November - Royalty
December - Christmas

Thanks to everyone who did entries for the September One Page Challenge. We stuck to the rules and all of the entries were displayed at the show. It was fun doing the judging after dinner at

King's Buffet in Owen Sound. Judy Galbraith won that round with her page called 'Farmers Feed Cities'.

Kingfisher Birds on Stamps...by Dave Pugh

Kingfishers belong to the Family Alcedinidae consisting of about 93 species worldwide. In the Americas or western hemisphere, there are only 6 species. A number of them can be found across Northern Europe, Northern Asia and Africa. The majority of species are located in Southeast Asia and the Pacific Region.

Kingfishers live near rivers, creeks and streams feeding on fish, amphibians, aquatic insects and crustaceans. It is a solitary bird when feeding, almost always seen by itself resting on a branch over the water or near the river's edge. When it spies a possible meal below the water's surface, it dives head first into the water catching its prey in its beak. Its powerful wings allow it to explode out of the water and gain flight immediately.

Being cavity nesters, most kingfishers burrow about a metre into the soft ground of banks along rivers or lakes, or into man-made ditches for nesting. In a small chamber at the end of the burrow, the female lays one to three eggs. After hatching, both parents attend to the feeding of the young. There are a few species in Africa and Southeast Asia and Pacific that live only in the forests away from water and feed on terrestrial insects and other food species. Most of these birds use hollow trees for nesting.

Members of the family vary in size but all exhibit similar characteristics: a stout body, long, pointed beak, and usually, brilliant plumage. Both males and females have a strong body, powerful wings, short legs and weak feet used for



The Amazon kingfisher is one of the larger

perching and burrow making. Females may be slightly smaller and duller in colour. When making a burrow, all digging is done with the beak; the legs are used to push the dirt out of the burrow.



The Belted Kingfisher, that we all have seen here in Canada, has a wide range covering all of Canada below the tundra, the northern United States, Greenland, Iceland, Faroe Islands, Great Britain, Ireland, Channel Islands and northern Europe. Fall migration takes them to Mexico and the Caribbean. Another Americas Kingfisher is the Green Kingfisher found mostly in the more southerly United States, Mexico and Caribbean. The most abundant in South America is the Amazon Kingfisher, which several countries have shown on stamps. The United States has never depicted a Kingfisher on a stamp.

Canada issued a se-tenant block of four Migratory Wildlife stamps on August 15th 1985. One design depicts the Belted Kingfisher in flight (#1564). After the release of 4.5 million se-tenant blocks, a typographical error was found on the Kingfisher stamp: the 'f' was omitted from the inscription 'faune migratoire' (French for 'migratory wildlife'). Canada Post responded by printing an additional 800,000 blocks thus crating 200,000 copies of the Kingfisher stamp bearing the corrected inscription. The other three stamps show the Monarch Butterfly, Northern Pintail Duck and the Hoary Bat. Of note; Canada also issued a \$5.00 banknote (1970's) showing the Belted Kingfisher on the reverse side



The most displayed kingfisher on a stamp for countries across Central and Northern Europe, Central Asia, Russia, China and Japan is the Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*), found on stamps of Great Britain, Ireland, Belgium, France, Belarus, Brunei and Japan. Bird references indicate that it is also found in India, Bangladesh and southeast Asia. On the African continent and the Asia Pacific regions, the Kingfisher most depicted on stamps is the Malachite

Kingfisher.

In Africa, several species enjoy a wide range and others are only found in isolated areas. The Maxima Kingfisher is shown on several central African countries' stamps. Another Kingfisher, Malachite, appears to have a wide range throughout Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia, as revealed by the countries that have exhibited the bird on a stamp: Rwanda, Liberia, Japan, Lesotho and Cambodia. Other species found in these areas are the Pigmy, Brown Headed, Half Collared, White Breasted, Forest, Giant and Pied

Kingfishers.

(Kingfisher Birds on Stamps continued on the next page)

(Kingfisher Birds on Stamps continued from the last page)

The 'aune migratoire' version of Canada's

The common kingfisher is the most depicted of the family across



The Laughing Kookaburra, shown on at least six Australian postage stamps, is the most abundant species found across most of mid and Eastern Australia, Tasmania, Papua New Guinea and there was a small introduced population in New Zealand. Of the 10 species living in Australia in addition to the Kookaburra, five have been depicted on Australian stamps: the Azure, Sacred, White Tailed, Forest, and Little Kingfishers. Papua New Guinea also sites a Beach Kingfisher.

The laughing kookaburra is the most abundant kingfisher throughout mid

The reference books and Wikipedia indicate that Kingfishers are found in India listing 13 species, China 11 species, Indonesia 31 and 4 Kookaburra species, Russia 5 species, South Africa 5, Congo un-determined and Angola lists 14 species just to mention a few. This is just a sampling of the total number of species that have been shown on stamps worldwide.

A quick review of the catalogues indicates that a least 53 different species have been shown on stamps from about 78 postal administrations. Fellow collectors will likely find more examples of kingfishers on stamps while attending to their collections, especially bird stamp collectors. As new stamp bird issues are released, maybe additional lesser known kingfisher species will find their way onto stamps around the world.

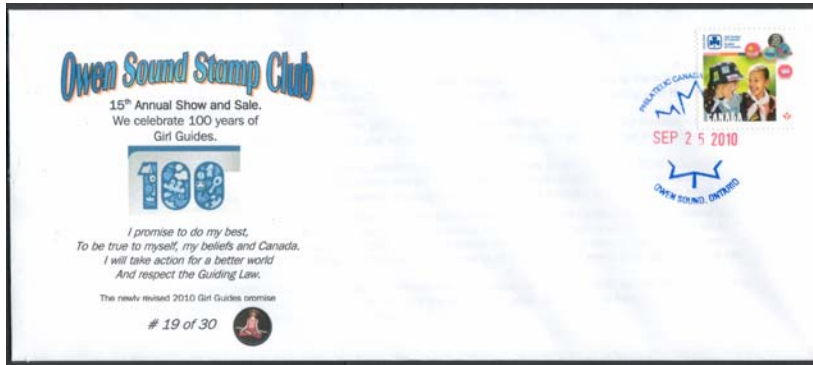
From the Editor...

Well, what a busy September we had. About ten of us squeezed in altogether at King's Buffet on the 15th. Dinner was tasty and I'm sure that everyone had their Phil...oops, I mean fill! We had about eight entries for our 'follow the rules' One Page Challenge. There was laughter and chatter and some final plans were made for the show.

John Cortan had a few really good donations from Canada Post that arrived too late for the Kincardine Show. We put our heads together and decided to have door prize draws. I contacted some members about food and donations for the door prizes and John contributed the donations from Canada Post, so we ended up with a pretty good little door prize draw! Thanks to **Bill Shelson** who ran the draw for us.

If you weren't over weight you should be now! My goodness we a lot of great homemade treats at the show. The homemade sandwiches were delicious and the Vissers brought another great pot of chilli too! Thank you to everyone for their generous donations whether it was canned pop or homemade muffins it was all helpful. Good going gang! I personally owe thanks to **Barb Shelson** and **Shirley Visser** who spent a lot of time behind the counter allowing me to go and frolic among the stamp vendors. Yahoo! Thanks.

Alan Charlesworth managed to make it up from Windsor to show his wares.



Gerd Fehler; another Owen Sound stamp Club member displayed his stamps along with the ubiquitous John Cortan who is everywhere in this corner of the world.

I did manage to create some show covers again this year. I focused on Girl Guides who are

celebrating 100 years of girl power. The cover includes an insert with information about the Owen Sound Girl Guides and their centenary celebrations. A few covers will be available at this meeting for \$3.00 each.

Girl Guides fall under the heading of scouting which is a very popular topic for stamp collectors. Don't forget your scouting entry for the One Page Challenge.

If you get this newsletter by Friday, let me remind you that volunteers are needed to help out at the Stamp Collecting Information Days to be held October 15th and 16th at the Heritage Mall in Owen Sound. John Cortan will be at the mall. Stamp exhibits are also needed.

See you on Wednesday!

Marion Ace, Editor OSSC

Coffee... Part I... by Ralph Wyndham



As I often point out, our hobby does not have to be outrageously expensive to give us a world of entertainment especially when you extend the 'study of stamps' part of philately to topical collecting. At the Saugeen Stamp Club September meeting I purchased (for two cents) a little brown Columbian stamp from Jim Measures' penny box. It depicted several coffee pickers and a coffee tree loaded with berries ...

A nice legend about the discovery of coffee is set in Ethiopia circa 800AD. Kaldi, looking after his herd of goats, noticed them frolicking around, excitedly seeking out and eating the red berries found on some of the bushes. Curious, Kaldi tried some too and was soon dancing with his goats.

Around this time though, Africans were already eating protein-rich coffee and animal fat balls and were drinking wine with coffee berries. Coffee made its way to Arabia a couple hundred years later where roasted beans were first brewed made into a drink. By the 1200s, coffee had percolated its throughout Arabia.



made of and way

When you study your stamps amazing vistas of fact and history reveal themselves to you. I certainly got mu

Arabia tried to maintain a monopoly on the drink by allowing the export of only sterile roasted or boiled beans. Traders successfully maintained their hold on the coffee trade until the 1600s when a Muslim pilgrim from India, Baba Budan, managed to smuggle a few live seeds home with him.

Budan's seeds sprouted, bore fruit, and before very long brewed coffee reached the lips of European traders who immediately scrambled for control of the crop. The Dutch were the first to bring a coffee plant to Europe and established the first European-owned coffee farm on the other side of the world, on the Island of Java, Indonesia, in 1696.

Coffee in Mozambique.



Buoyed by their success, the Dutch began presenting live plants, as gifts, to the nobility of Europe which led to the next phase of coffee's spread around the world. In 1714, a coffee plant was given to King Louis XIV of France for his royal botanical garden, the Jardin des Plantes, where it was seen by a young naval officer, Gabriel Mathieu de Clieu.

With dreams of establishing a coffee plantation on the French colony of

Martinique in the Caribbean, de Clieu asked the king for cuttings from his tree, but the king refused. Risking at least imprisonment and maybe even execution, de Clieu scaled the garden wall in the dead of night and made off with a coffee sprout.

Stealing from the king proved to be the easy part of de Clieu's big plan. The voyage across the Atlantic to Martinique was another matter. Writing in his journal, de Clieu noted that a "basely jealous" passenger, "being unable to get this coffee plant away from me, off a branch". Next, pirates nearly captured the then a storm nearly sank it. With these crises overcome, water supplies ran low and had to be rationed forcing de Clieu to share his ration with botanical charge to keep it alive.



Once safely planted in Martinique, the sprout given its own armed guard. The daring young officer was proved right in thinking that the little island could be France's Java. This single little seedling became the 'great grandparent' of some 18 million trees over the next 50 years.

The next thing you know, Brazil's Portuguese colonists decide that they, too, should have a piece of the coffee business. To this end, Colonel Francisco de Melo Palheta, was sent to French Guiana in 1727. Under the (Coffee continued on the next page)

Brazil is by far the world's largest coffee

(Coffee continued from the last page)

pretence of mediating a border dispute, his real assignment was to smuggle some coffee seeds back to Brazil. Rather than try to sneak into a heavily guarded coffee farm, Palheta chose to charm the governor's wife. The plan worked perfectly. At a state farewell dinner in his honour, the governor's wife presented

Palheta with bouquet with coffee seedlings concealed in it.

Coffee's newest home proved to be a match made in heaven. By 1800, Brazil's giant coffee harvest turned coffee from a drink for the elite into something that even the common man could enjoy. Today, Brazil's coffee production is more than twice that of the second largest producer, Columbia.

Thanks to Dave Pugh and Ralph Wyndham for their interesting articles. Both writers are from the Saugeen Stamp Club.

On the Cover ...Mental Health #3



For the third year in a row Canada Post has released a semi-postal mental health stamp. All three of the colourful mental health stamps are 'permanent rate' stamps with a surcharge of ten cents a stamp which amounts to a dollar per booklet. Donations to the cause can also be made in donation boxes at post offices across the country and of course online. Canada Post employees have contributed a large part of the funds themselves through a 'dime a day' employee deduction plan.

Last September our show cover bore the two previous mental health stamps and included a list of grants amounting to about one million dollars. This September the grants disbursed added up to around one and a half million dollars. Canada Post has the even loftier goal of raising two million dollars this year.

The grant money is spread out across the land from remote native settlements to crowded immigrant city neighbourhoods. The money is used in various ways to enable good mental health. Some grants are used to hire professionals to train volunteers for suicide prevention or quick access to trauma treatment for abused children. Some of the money goes to programs assisting in recuperation such as art therapy classes.

This year's bright yellow and orange stamp has a big yellow sun and a yellow figure on the ground (a precipice perhaps!). The figure is also on a path of green contour lines meshing with the green contour lines forming a mountain reaching into the light with a sprouting tree at the apex representing growth and wellness.

It can be difficult to fundraise for causes such as suicide prevention, depression and addiction recovery and the many mental health issues that so many people face every day. Canada Post deserves a salute for their earnest endeavours and I hope that we will all contribute to the cause.

Coming Events...

- *OCT. 23, Barrie, ON*
49th Annual Stamp Exhibition and Bourse, Canadian Room, Army, Navy, Air Force Club, 7 George St. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., free admission and parking, more than 16 dealers, kids table, club sales circuit, stamp exhibition. Sponsor/Affiliate: Barrie District Stamp Club. For more info contact Bruce Walter, President (705) 735-6009
- *OCT. 23, Cambridge, ON*
Club Fair, United Kingdom Hall, International Village Dr. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. More than 450 circuit books, 12-14 clubs, youth table with free stamp, two silent auctions with 300 plus lots, snack bar, free parking. NOTE: Saturday this year. Sponsor/Affiliate: GRVPA. For more information contact Stuart Keely, email stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca.
- *OCT. 30, Toronto, ON*
Postage Stamp Show, St. Bonaventure Church Parish Centre, 1300 Leslie St. Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission and parking. For more information contact 705-799-2008
- *NOV. 5 - 6, Hamilton, ON*
FALL SHOW, Bishop Ryan High School. Friday auctions. Very large voice and silent auctions with viewing from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. GRVPA clubs' sales circuit books from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday is a 20 dealer Bourse including: Canada Post, youth booth; silent auctions, and the Hamilton Stamp Club Sales Circuit. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ample free parking, Light lunch available. Sponsor/Affiliate: Hamilton Stamp Club. For more information, contact Michael P. Anderson telephone 905-632-6057, email mpanderson@cogeco.ca. Website: <http://hamiltonstampclub.com>.
- *NOV. 6, Chatham, ON*
KENTPEX 2010, KBD Club, 34 Byng Ave. Hours 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Free parking and admission, free door prizes, many exhibits and dealers. Sponsor/Affiliate: Kent County Stamp Club. For more info contact Paul V McDonnell, telephone 519-354-1845, email prmcdonell@sympatico.ca.
- *NOV. 7, Oshawa, ON*
Stamp club auction, Conant Seniors Centre - 115 Grassmere Ave. Free admission and parking. Viewing from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m, sale starts at 12.45 p.m., no buyers fees. There will be 400 lots, for pictures of some lots and direction check oshawawhitby-stamp-club.com. Sponsor/Affiliate: Oshawa/Whitby Seniors. For more information Contact Larry Friend, telephone 905-723-8798 email lfriend@sympatico.ca. Website: <http://oshawawhitby-stamp-club.com>.
- *NOV. 12 - 14, Toronto, ON*
National Postage Stamp Show, Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place. Show hours: Fri. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Canadian Stamp

Dealers' Association National Postage Stamp Show with dealers from across Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States, Canada Post, society and club information, stamps for kids, hourly draw prizes and much more. Sponsored by the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association. Free limited edition set of 10 commemorative postcards plus poster celebrating the Year of The Tiger. Offer good while supplies last. Sponsor/Affiliate: Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association. For information contact director@csdaonline.com. Website: <http://www.csdaonline.com>.

- NOV. 13, Cambridge, ON
Cambridge Stamp Show and Bourse, United Kingdom Club, International Village Dr.
Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Display exhibits, 10 dealers, free parking, lunch counter.
Sponsor/Affiliate: Cambridge Stamp Club. For more information contact Godfrey Fearn, telephone 519-623-4911

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 25 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: \$15; Junior- Free

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