

Owen Sound Stamp Club

Chapter 191

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting; Wed. April 20th 2011 @ 7:00

From the President...



Greetings to the members of the Owen Sound Stamp club. I invite you to come out for the regular meeting on April 20th in the basement of the St. George's Anglican Church. This will be a really brief note now, but the meeting will feature a visit from Tom Griffith who is bringing the St Catharines circuit books. I hope this finds you in good health and we're looking forward to seeing you on the 20th.
Cheers!

Phil Visser
President OSSC

From the Editor...

As you can see our illustrious president is a bit brief with us this month. I believe that he is dealing with the chaos that is the end of the college year.

At our March meeting Phil Visser read a letter he wrote on behalf of Ted Mehlfuhrer and the club to Jim Phillips of Canada Post regarding a stamp honouring the rebellions of Upper Canada and Lower Canada in 1837. Now we wait breathlessly for his reply.

We also had some discussion about the location of our annual stamp show. It was decided that we would look into the costs of renting a room at the Legion. I believe that Ted Mehlfuhrer looked into that for us. I talked to Phil a couple of weeks ago and he told me that it has been decided that we will hold our show at the Legion in the North Atlantic room. I have quarter page ads ready for the dealers and ourselves to handout. I will have half page ads available to put up in post offices etc. Ads have been posted to the Canadian Stamp News and the RPSC websites. The Grand News will have ads in the next two issues. If anyone has any ideas as to where to advertise bring your ideas to the meeting. Bring your want lists too.

Don't forget the Saugeen Stamp Club show is on Saturday May the 7th.
See you on Wednesday! The Editor



One Page Challenge...

Last call for the one page challenge! It seems that we cannot get enough participants for our challenge. I know, we're a small club. Even the Saugeen Club only gets a few entries sometimes. I think it has been a good idea and has certainly got me going...but never mind, I've been through all of that before. It is good to at least have single page exhibits for our show...but just forget it, I'll try to get over

it! But for all of you who missed the baseball topic in March I printed a copy of this entry because I think that it contains two very important messages:

April - Plants

1. The Blue Jays stamp really is the only baseball stamp that matters and...
2. Have fun!

The Travels of a Volunteer, Part 1

By Dave Pugh

I recently participated in a volunteer outreach program that took me to Peru. This was my fourth volunteer trip with Friends of the Orphans Canada, a charitable organization helping to raise funds for NPH Orphanages in Latin America. My previous three trips were in

2005 to Guatemala, and 2007 and 2009 to the Dominican Republic.

Our group of 22 flew to Lima, Peru on January 31 of this year and on arrival travelled south for 3 hours on a bus to San Vincente de Canete, the location of the new NPH Orphanage. There are currently no children living here. We have traveled here to assist the local workers on site with various construction tasks. These

Cleaning up construction debris in front of the new orphanage at San

tasks included moving masonry rubble, piling wall and ceiling brick, pulling nails, carrying bags of cement, shoveling gravel, wheeling wet concrete and cleanup around the four nearly complete housing "Casas".

Our accommodation while on site was individual tents and mattresses, outdoor dinning room and washroom facilities. Our meals were prepared for us by a dedicated staff. Our days started at about 6 - 6:15am and finished around 4:30 to 5pm with frequent breaks for fluids and

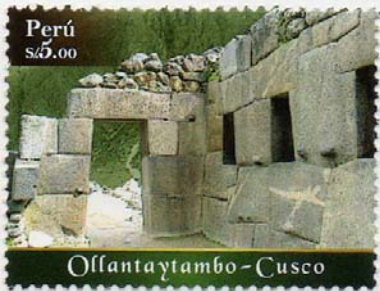
Washroom facilities



relief from the intense sunlight and temperatures nearing 40°C.

On the following Sunday we accompanied about a dozen of the older children from the Orphanage to the local beach in Cerro Azul. We spent the afternoon visiting the current orphanage site in Lunahuana about 1 hour away further inland beside the Canete River. It is hoped that the majority of the children will move to their new home by April. We stayed in a local resort for that evening with free time for the following morning. From here, we traveled back to Lima to catch a flight from Lima to Cusco. By this time, most of us have already started to take our altitude medication for the thinner air at Cusco, and likely because of that, no one got into any great discomfort while at the higher elevations.

Residents shopping for dinner at the local



Arriving in Cusco at 11,400ft, we bused to several Inca sites, Moray and Ollantaytambo, and spent one night here. Next morning, we chanced to tour the market and shops of Ollantaytambo before boarding a Peruvian Rail Dayliner for the one hour trip to Macchu Picchu village, arriving in the late afternoon. We experienced fantastic views of the mountains, deep valleys and the rushing white water of the Rio Umbamba River, along with excellent service on the rail.

Reaching the village at Macchu Picchu, elevation 10400ft, in late afternoon, we had a chance to visit the village craft shops & market and stayed in the village for one night. The next morning, we traveled by bus up the side of the mountain back and forth around about 12 switchbacks to see the Inca ruins at Macchu Picchu. A short climb up another 200 feet we were joined by our guide for the 2 hour plus tour around the site at 10,600ft.



Inca ruins at Ollantaytambo near

Late afternoon, we returned to the train for the 1 hour trip back to Ollantaytambo, where we loaded onto the bus for the 2 ½ hour drive back to Cusco, our home for the next two nights, arriving about 930pm.

We had one full day in Cusco, doing what ever we wished, shopping, visiting churches, squares and so on. Four of us and our tour guide purchased tickets to the local football game at the University (The Travels of a Volunteer, Part 1 continued)

stadium. 30,000 people watched a game between Cusco and another high elevation team in Peru. After the game, we went to the highest Paddy's Irish Pub in the world for refreshment.

Very early next morning, we caught the bus to Cusco Airport and a flight back to Lima. In Lima, the other Dave and I said our good byes to the group as they were on their way back to Canada



on an overnight flight. That evening, Dave and I (the 2 Daves) flew to Iquitos in the Amazon Basin on Peruvian Lines, a 2 hour flight.

Now for something philatelic; this was Monday and at the Lima Airport in the departures lounge, there is a Philatelic Sales counter, selling singles of recent issues and year sets of previous issues. I did purchase a few articles and post card postage.

I was to see this counter again the following Monday, when returning to Canada. The counter was still open at 11:00 in the evening.

Waterfalls cascading down mountainsides are seen on the

Dave Pugh is a member of the Saugeen Stamp Club. We look forward to seeing part 2 of his adventures in S. America.

On the Cover...Sunflowers



In early March Canada Post released a number of products featuring two sunflowers. Over the last few years it has been a tradition to issue a pair of stamps with flowers on them this time of year. No doubt the people in charge of the stamp program realize that many of us are getting desperate for spring, sunshine, warmth and flowers by March. The new sunflower issue is strikingly different from the soft look of the previous flower issues.

I thought that I would write a quick little blurb about these big bountiful flowers and bring a smile to your face as you contemplate summer skies with giant sunflowers reaching for the sun. As it turns out, sunflowers are a lot more than just a pretty face! Sunflowers have a long history in North America; grown by aboriginal peoples perhaps even before corn. They are loved by birds and gardeners alike and are highly nutritious. So we're going to take a little deeper look, beyond the surface beauty...

The seeds of the sunflower are a valuable commodity. They are natural to North America and grow well on Canada's southern prairies. They are in fact grown as an export product in all provinces except Newfoundland. A small amount is grown on PEI and the vast majority of Canada's sunflower exports come from Manitoba. More than half of our sunflower seed production is exported with sales more than quadrupling from just under \$20 million in 2005 to just over \$80 million in 2008. A large percentage of the seeds are sold as bird seed but there are many other uses as well.

There are many varieties of sunflowers of which there are two basic types, oil seed varieties and confectionary varieties. Most of the oil seed varieties are the ones sold as bird seed.



Confectionary seeds are used in baking, are roasted and sold as snacks with or without their shells and are also used in animal feeds. Certainly the use of sunflower seeds is common in breads now. The black shelled oil seed variety is the source for sunflower oil which is much higher in polyunsaturated fatty acids than most other oils and fats. This makes it easier to digest and a much better fat choice for low cholesterol diets.

While the high levels of polyunsaturated fatty acids in sunflower oil make it an excellent dietary choice that's not all! The seeds contain a protein level of a whopping 35 % which is why the birds like them so much.

To top it off they also contain most of the vitamins except vitamin C and a number of minerals. How can you go wrong?

Vincent Van Gogh did a number of

Well, they also contain a huge caloric count but we don't normally eat them in huge quantities and they are still considered one of the healthiest snack foods around. (continued on the next page)

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As you can see there is a lot more to sunflowers than their large size and sunny faces. The sunflowers on our new stamps were grown at the Central Experimental Farm (CEF) in Ottawa. The varieties used in the photographs, Sunbright and Prado Red, were chosen well ahead of time and grown specifically to be the models for the new stamps.



The CEF is one of nineteen experimental farms across Canada run by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC). The CEF in Ottawa began in 1886 and it is not the only one over one hundred years old. The farm was situated on the Rideau Canal and Dow's Lake on the outskirts of Ottawa. Over time Ottawa expanded quite a bit and now the farm is a part of the city. Carleton University is stone's throw

away across the Canal.

2011 is the 125th anniversary of the CEF and as the home of the AAFC headquarters and the site of the Eastern Cereal and Oilseed Research Centre these

stamps are perhaps a nod to the farm as much as a nod to the flowers. The farm is a National Historic Site open to the public year round. The public enjoys the ornamental gardens, the Fletcher Wildlife Garden, heritage buildings, greenhouses and the arboretum. The northern area houses the offices and laboratories of the Earth Sciences Sector, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), and their Dominion Observatory. The Dominion Observatory is responsible for Canada's time service.

This view of the Eastern Cereal and Oilseed cropping area on

But besides all the special areas and buildings it is still an experimental farm with a few hundred hectares of fields growing and hybridizing grains, oilseed products and special crops. They work to develop hardier, disease resistant plants, greater nutrition and developing plants suitable to different growing conditions across Canada. One interesting research project is working with various seed oils from ancient grains to fight bacteria in the digestive tracts of hogs in order to lower the use of antibiotics in the pigs. Of course there is research into herbicides and pesticides and their effects as well. Canada began its official sunflower breeding program in 1930. The crop had made its way to Europe and Russia and it was Russian immigrants and Mennonites who helped develop the sunflower breeding program back in Canada.



Getting back to the stamps, the Sunbright and the Prado Red sunflowers come in three different formats. They come in a booklet of ten peel and stick stamps with a lovely big yellow sunflower on the cover. The same 1" by 1 1/4" stamps are on a large souvenir sheet next to the large copy of the yellow sunflower. In an unusual move these 'permanent' rate stamps are also available in a coil of fifty stamps about 1" by 3/4". There are two first day covers available, the one for the coil stamps depicts stamp printing machines and has a sunflower coil cancellation. A sunflower note card set of ten cards, envelopes and a booklet of ten stamps is on sale for \$14.95. Two post cards are available and a mailbox shaped coil stamp dispenser adorned with sunflowers. Isabelle Toussaint is the designer and photographer of the sunflower stamps and the rest of this flower series.

Sunflowers are a greater part of our history and economy than I was aware of. I will certainly look at them with a new appreciation. If you enjoy sunflowers look for fields of them in the hills around Ravenna in the Grey Highlands.

Coming Events...

- APRIL 16, Kitchener, ON
Stampfest 2011, Community Christian Reformed Church, 1275 Bleams Rd. at Fischer-Hallman Road. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Everyone welcome. Show features dealer bourse, competitive exhibits including one-page entries, free parking, free admission, hourly and special draws, stamp pull, lunch counter, and other surprises. For more information contact Jim Oliver jimoliver10@hotmail.com. Website: <http://www.kwstampclub.org>.
- APRIL 29 - 30, Hamilton, ON
SPRINGPEX, Bishop Ryan Secondary School. Friday auctions and GRVPA sales circuits, auction viewing from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. GRVPA club books from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday is a 20 dealer bourse featuring Canada Post, silent auctions, youth booth, and the Hamilton 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 Anderson, telephone (905) 632-6057, email mpanderson@cogeco.ca. Website: <http://www.hamiltonstampclub.com>.

- **APRIL 30 - MAY 1, Ottawa, ON**
ORAPEX 2011, RA Sports Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Theme: ORAPEX: Celebrating 50 years. This year's exhibition will feature an exhibit of ORAPEX's first 50 years. ORAPEX will also honour Dr. Robert C. (Bob) Smith for his contribution to the postal history of Canada. Dr. Smith has written more than 200 articles, editorials, booklets and books. More than 150 frames of exhibits. More than 40 stamp dealers, free admission and free parking. Sponsor/Affiliate: RA Stamp Club, Ottawa Philatelic Society. For more information contact Robert Pinet, 400 Slater, #1011, Ottawa, ON K1R 7S7, email pinet.robert@gmail.com.
- **MAY 1, Stratford, ON**
Mayday Stamp Show, Kiwanis Community Centre, 111 Lakeside Dr. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Show cachet cover, bourse, exhibits, sales circuit, free admission and parking, wheelchair accessibility, lunch counter. Sponsor/Affiliate: Stratford Stamp Club. For more information contact Richard Blackburn, telephone 519-273-0429, email richard.blackburn@utoronto.ca.
- **MAY 07, Hanover, ON**
Saugeen Stamp club Annual Show, Knights of Columbus Hall just west of Hanover on Hwy 4. 10 Dealers Free admission, youth table, door prizes, exhibits and lunch booth, free parking. Sponsor/Affiliate: Saugeen Stamp Club. For more information, contact Ralph Wyndham, telephone 519-529-3487 email rw@hurontel.on.ca.
- **MAY 13 - 15, DORVAL, QC**
ROYALE*2011*ROYAL, Sarto Desnoyers Community Centre, 1450 Dawson Ave. Hours: Fri.: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat.: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sun.: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission, free parking, youth activities, seminars. Sponsor/Affiliate: Lakeshore Stamp Club and Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. For more information contact Gary Misener, telephone 514-426-0432, email gmisener@sympatico.ca. Website: <http://www.ROYALE2011.com>.

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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 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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