

Owen Sound Stamp Club

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting: Wed. September 18th 2013 @ 7:00

From the President...



It is time to welcome all members and guests to come out to the monthly meeting at Hillyer Hall in the St Mary's High School. My summer has been spent on the endless task of organizing my collection. I sure have accumulated a lot of stamps, but my children won't have a clue what to look at or how to divide the collection, or even auction it off if the occasion arises. With this thought, the activities of the upcoming meeting have gelled together.

We will begin the meeting with a discussion and a division of duties for the upcoming stamp show. Everyone's participation is essential to make the show a success. We will need members to assist the dealers to unload their vehicles, members to welcome guests and sell tickets for the door prizes and members to contribute to the luncheon table. The last two items are very important as the revenue earned here helps operate the club and keeps the membership dues low. Of course we will also need donations of philatelic material for the door prizes and food and beverages for the luncheon table. These things will be organized during the first part of the meeting.

A regular feature of all our meetings is a show and tell. Sometimes there are a limited number of items that are passed around so please consider what you can share with other club members. I have received a couple of interesting pieces of mail during the summer and I will bring that along but I hope others will have something interesting as well, no matter how small or insignificant it might be to you. As part of the show we would like to have a display about what we have in our hobby. One frame will be set aside for "One page Challenge" which is one page showing stamps on a topic that you the collector feel you could put together. I will be bringing a couple of pages I have made and I know Marion has made many different ones, so I hope some other members would like to do something similar. These one page challenges will be open for voting on which page people at the show like the best. We will have time to discuss more about this at the meeting.

Following the business about the show and then the show and tell, there will be time for a club mini auction. I would suggest we restrict the number of items that each person wants to enter in the auction to three, but some people may have more and we reserve the right to refuse more depending on how many members bring items for the auction.

At the recent meeting of the GRVPA executive, I had the opportunity to talk about something of philatelic interest. Apparently I was so enthusiastic about my topic that some of the other executives commented on it. What that puts into my mind is that we all need to be enthusiastic about our hobby and share it with others. This creates an undercurrent that will lead to other collectors that are hiding in our community to joining the club.

I am looking forward to seeing you on the 17th.

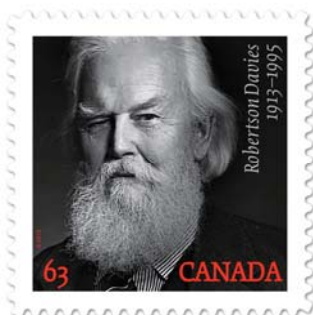
Phil Visser
President OSSC

Coming Events...

- SEPT. 21, St. Catharines, ON
Best Western Stamp Show, Niagara Room, Best Western Hotel (formerly Holiday Inn), QEW at Lake Street. 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: Roys' Stamps. For more information contact Roy Houtby, telephone 905-934-8377.
- SEPT. 27 - 29, 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. Reasonably priced parking alternative, just a short 10-minute walk to the show, in Liberty Village. Enter 43 Hanna Ave. into your GPS to find the parking lot at the corner of Liberty Street and Hanna Ave. Sponsor/Affiliate: Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association. For more information telephone 519-681-3420, or email director@csdaonline.com. Website: <http://www.csdaonline.com/shows>.
- SEPT. 28, Owen Sound, ON
Owen Sound Stamp Show, Royal Canadian Legion, Main Hall, 1450 2nd Ave West. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission, 8 to 10 dealers, exhibits, club table (no club

circuit books), draws, and lunch can be purchased. Sponsor/Affiliate: Owen Sound Stamp Club. For more information contact Phil Visser, telephone 519-376-6760, email visserps@bell.net.

- OCT. 5, Sarnia, ON**
 LAMPEX 2013 Stamp Show and Bourse, Sarnia Collegiate Institute and Technical School, 275 Wellington St. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Free admission, free parking, 10 dealers and displays. Everyone welcome. Sponsor/Affiliate: Sarnia Stamp Club. For more information contact John E. Armstrong, telephone 519-464-2688, email sarniastampclub@cogeco.ca. Website: <http://www.home.cogeco.ca/~sarniastampclub/newLAMPEXshowlocation.htm>.
- OCT. 5, 6, North Bay, ON**
 Stamp and Coin Show, Voyager Inn, 123 Delaware Ave. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission. Youth table, silent auction, and exhibits and displays. Sponsor/Affiliate: North Bay & District Stamp Club. For more information contact John Burns, email jlburns65@ontera.net.
- OCT. 16, Toronto, ON**
 Semi Annual Stamp Auction, Skaters Lounge Room, Herbert H Carnegie Centennial Centre, 580 Finch Ave W. (one & a half blocks west of Bathurst St.). Hours: 6 to 9 p.m. Free admission and parking, and easily located on TTC routes. Sponsor/Affiliate: North York Philatelic Society. For more information contact Mike Turk, telephone 905-731-8380. Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/northyorkphilatelicsociety>.
- OCT. 19, Barrie, ON**
 52nd Annual Dealer's Bourse and Stamp Exhibit, Army, Navy, Air Force Association, Canadian Room, 7 George St. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eighteen dealers from across Ontario, framed exhibition, table for junior collectors, club sales circuit books. Free admission and parking, light refreshments available. Sponsor/Affiliate: Barrie District Stamp Club. For more information contact Bruce Walter, CD - Vice President, telephone 705-735-6009. Website: <http://www.barriedistrictstampclub.ca>.
- OCT. 19, Guelph, ON**
 GUELPHPEX2013, Evergreen Seniors Centre, 683 Woolwich St. Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ten dealers, club circuit books, door prizes, free stamps for the kids, free parking and admission. Sponsor/Affiliate: Guelph Stamp Club. For more information contact George Shepherd, telephone 519-242-8022, email ngshepherd@rlproyalcity.com.



On the Cover ... Robertson Davies

If you think that a picture is worth a thousand words, then perhaps that's why you became a stamp collector. When you look at this new stamp commemorating Robertson Davies' 100th birthday you might think "certainly Davies is a Canadian worthy of quite a few words – but the stamp seems so simple what does it have to say?"

There are actually a few points of interest about this new stamp. The rich tones of the black and white portrait of Davies with it's very dark background is the hallmark of Yousuf Karsh's photography. A greater portion of the shot can be seen on the booklet cover. We now have a number of stamps featuring the work of Yousuf Karsh. I have been unable to discover where and when this photo was taken. If you know please inform us.

The bright red '63' and 'Canada' is very dramatic against the black and gray tones of the photo. The red is likely used to represent our country's colours but did you realize that this is the first domestic rate stamp issued this year with a denomination? In the 'Details' magazine this stamp is shown with the permanent rate symbol not the numerals. I'll bet you that most Canadians don't even know what a stamp costs anymore. Of course the price keeps creeping up each year and the HST made the cost go up too. Having some permanent rate stamps hanging around for a while could make some people unaware of the rising costs. A single stamp adds up to 71 cents which now gets rounded down to 70 cents. You could save a whole dime if you bought your stamps individually but of course, most of them have to be purchased in booklets now, just like this issue.

The other point of interest on this stamp would not be recognized by anyone except an expert. The typeface used on this stamp (the name and date) is based on the 'Cartier' type face designed by Carl Dair. It is considered to be the first style of typeface to be Canadian and believe it or not that brings us back to the topic of Robertson Davies.



Robertson Davies greatest passion may have been for playwriting but he had much greater success at writing novels. After being educated at Upper Canada College, Queen's U. and Baliol College in Oxford, England, he did some acting in London. There he met his sweetheart Brenda Matthews, an Australian who was working as an assistant stage manager at the Royal Vic in London.

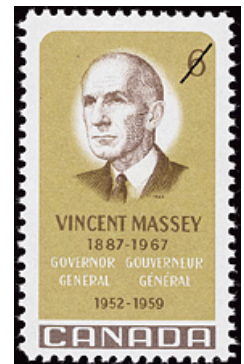
Upon his return to Canada in 1940 he became the editor of 'Saturday Night' magazine and a couple of years later became the Editor of the Peterborough Examiner. He was Editor for fifteen years and then publisher for another ten. During this period he was able to write and publish a number of books, plays, articles and essays. He was involved with the local theatre group and also helped to found the the Stratford Shakespearian Festival.

Davies had a passion for Shakespeare and playwriting. He encouraged

While still publishing the Peterborough paper Davies began teaching literature at Trinity College (part of U of T) in 1960. In 1963 he became the first master of the newly formed Massey College which was affiliated with the University of Toronto. You may notice that there is that number '63' again. It is intriguing to note that this year is also the 50th anniversary of Massey College. This college is not the Community College that many of us are familiar with – it is more like a college community. It is a residence for post graduate students, the best and brightest, who have been selected from a wide range of studies. The object of the College is to bring together some of the best minds from various fronts. Every year they produce the Massey Lectures series which may be familiar to CBC Radio listeners. It was funded primarily by Vincent Massey and the Massey Foundation.

Robertson Davies served as Master of Massey College until 1981. (Subsequent Masters have served seven year terms.) Davies founded what was known as the Lower Library in the college. Just as the college is unusual so is the Lower Library. The Upper Library is what you might expect in such a refined place of scholars with beautiful first edition books and volumes and volumes of weighty knowledge. The Lower Library

– since renamed as the Robertson Davies Library is more of a living, working museum of print and publishing. Here you will find information about printing techniques, typography, graphic arts, papermaking and binding, the original machines still functioning and put to work. The College always has a master printer and an apprentice among their fellows. Davies began the 'Library' and he and his father, Senator William Rupert Davies contributed a great number of items for its benefit.



As you may have guessed by now, the Robertson Davies Library contains the files and references of Carl Dair (1912-1967), the Canadian graphic designer and typographer who designed the 'Cartier' typeface that is depicted on the Davies stamp.

Now we have come full circle and perhaps we know a little more about our simple little stamp honouring Robertson Davies. Davies lived until 1995. His wife Brenda died only a few years ago, living to be 95 years old. It was said that she was a tremendous support to him when he ran Massey College and of course she participated in all theatrical adventures they had.

Massey College was the brainchild of Governor General

Davies wrote several highly regarded novels and won many accolades including a large number of honorary degrees and the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour. If you would like a list of his works, look online or check out your library.

He was writing and publishing right up to his final years. A toast to Robertson Davies who would have turned 100 on August 28th, 2013!

From the Editor...

Hi folks. We have a lot to discuss and organize at this meeting. I will bring a list of items we hope to have for our lunch counter. If we all chip in and give a helping hand we'll make the burden light for all. We are not having a raffle this year, but there will be door prizes and a silent auction at the show. See you on Wednesday!

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 cafeteria of St. Mary's High School, 555 15th St. East. Please park behind the school. The 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 30 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

Club Officers:

President: Phil Visser (519) 376-6760
554 9th St. 'A' East, Owen Sound ON N4K 0C4
visserps@bell.net

Vice-Pres: Larry Crane (519) 371-7054
2633 8th Ave. 'A' East, Owen Sound, ON N4K 6T4
larry.crane@sympatico.ca

Sec./ Treas: Bob Ford (519) 376-4788
721 8th Ave. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K 3A5
rob.darford@rogers.com

Editor: Marion Ace (519) 934-1998
P.O. Box 286, Tara ON NOH 2N0
marionace@bmts.com

