



Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 15th 2017 @ 7 PM

From the President...

Hi Everyone.

Remember, our March meeting will be held at the New Life Centre on 4th Ave. West. Please bring a small selection from your collection to show to other members. We would all like to see what other people collect and how they arrange it. Since very few people showed up for last month's meeting we didn't have the auction we had intended. We will reschedule it for a future meeting.

The club has a small philatelic library which is available for members to borrow. We have a complete set of Scott's for 2014, donated by the Owen Sound Library book sale. We also have 2016 Unitrade Canada catalogue; a 2004 Gibbons Great Britain Concise; and an older Van Dam Revenue Catalogue. These are all stored in our locker at the school, so anytime we meet at the school, you can borrow one. Please keep them for only a month so other members can get at them.

Larry Crane
President
OSSC

Next meeting at the New Life Centre, 199 4th Ave West, Owen Sound

Summary Tip #15: When did you last look at your stamps properly?

Dear Philip,

We all look at our stamps - or do we? In fact often we don't actually look at our stamps properly at all. Each year my company is offered to buy many hundreds of stamp collections and as the years go by I have lost count of how many of them have been incorrectly stored.

Judging by what we see - damp, environment, improper storage - even cigarette smoke must cost collectors literally millions of pounds annually on a national/global basis. It is extraordinary how many collectors advise that their stamps are in perfect order and how many are not.

This is not a statement to alarm collectors - but to inform. Take a good look at your collection. How is it stored? Is it in a cupboard near to the floor? Often this is not a good place to store your collection - especially if your house is damp or areas are unheated.

It never ceases to amaze how even valuable collections may be badly stored. I remember visiting the owner of a very valuable collection which we purchased. Some of the stamps were worth literally thousands of pounds

each. They had all been stored in albums inside black hawid-type strips - surely this was the perfect method to store valuable stamps?

Perhaps it would have been except for two important ingredients which had been added to the cocktail of storing those rare stamps: each album leaf was inserted inside a 'plastic' exhibition protector - now what could be wrong with that? Perhaps nothing if the collection had been kept in a stable environment and the leaves had been regularly 'aired' - but it hadn't - and worse still each hawid mount in which each stamp was inserted had been 'glued' to the album leaf - with a 'rubber-based' glue, not light 'lick-moistened' as they are designed for

... think old sellotape (Scotch Tape) - sometimes it breaks down into a gooey gluey substance that never dries - and indeed it never had - doubtless the plastic exhibition-protector sheets had 'incubated' the glue - so it never had stabilised (are you old enough to remember those batteries we left in torches (flashlights) that 'leaked' all over the place?) - well the gooey glue had literally leached around the ends of the hawid mounts and insidiously 'reached' the perf tips of some of the valuable stamps. That small decision probably cost thousands.

Take another collection which arrived a few weeks ago. The stamps had been stored with great care. Doubtless when they entered the stock-book they were perfect - but it was a very old stock-book - and the stamps had never once been checked or moved probably in twenty + years - yet, amazingly the collection had been added to each month until only a few months ago

... those early stamps had toned around the perfs - in fact it was not immediately obvious - until we moved a stamp - and a yellow-brown outline of where the perforations had been was indelibly imprinted onto the stock-leaf (which also smelt slightly musty).

Take our advice - take a close look at your stamps, how they are stored, where they are stored and if they are housed in one of those incredibly cheap 'chinese type' stockbooks which were so prevalent 20+ years ago ... consider moving your stamps now, especially if they are mint.

Happy collecting from us all,

Andrew

PS. If you find this 'tip' interesting please forward it to a philatelic friend.

Andrew McGavin

Canada and its Landscapes.

By Chris Tschirhart



One of the things I enjoy about Canadian Stamps is the way in which the landscapes of our vast country are presented on stamps. Having traveled in Canada from coast to coast I have had great opportunities to appreciate what it is we have. For example, look at the Scenic Highways set (Unitrade #1650 - 1653) from 1997. The images brings back some great memories of me bombing across Canada on the praries and BC. The western scenes are #1650 in the upper left and #1653 in the upper right

of the scan. These two stamps show the “Big Muddy” highway (#1653) in Saskatchewan and the “Sea to Sky” highway (#1650) in British Columbia. The other two stamps show the wine route in the Niagara Peninsula and the Cabot Trail in Nova Scotia. (*Editors note: The Cabot Trail is spectacular!*)

Another example is Unitrade #269, Great Bear Lake, in the North West Territories from the King George VI Peace issue. #269 is the 10 cent stamp in the top row of the six stamps in the set. With the end of the war, it was appropriate to switch stamp designs from the war effort to Canada’s natural resources and industriousness. All of the peace issue reflect great examples of our natural landscape. If one looks at the landscape stamps over time you get a sense of how we viewed ourselves, and it is evident that our resources were, and still are important to all Canadians.



The Blacksmiths shop, Unitrade #610, is a painting by Cornelius Krieghoff. The painting on which the stamp design is based on is located in the Art Gallery of Ontario (Toronto). This picture places us in the simplicity and the winter hardship of early Quebec. It also represents that all too well known milieu of the Canadian landscape know as winter! I have always liked this stamp and if you ever get to see an exhibit of Krieghoff go because you really get an idea of Canada when it was first settled by Europeans.

There are times that the Canadian landscape is seen as simplistic and even sparse. This view of our urban landscape is best represented in the late 1970’s definitive issues of urban landscapes. The 60 cent stamp shows what is termed “an Ontario street scene” in the Unitrade Catalogue (723c). Seeing the high-rise in the background it suggests either a scene from Hamilton or Toronto. A less descriptive title is given for the 75 cent stamp (#724), which Unitrade simply says is “row houses.” Called “a Maritimes street scene,” the 80 cent stamp could be of either Halifax or St. John’s which a careful inspection of the stamp will show a ship in the background.



More recently, in the last three years, I find that I am looking forward to the issue of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Canada. To me these seem to represent our landscapes at their most rugged, and majestic. These stamps show how the nature and climate of Canada can vary across our geography. Sometimes the change across the land occurs in just short distances across a single province. I am looking forward to more of these stamps because to me they are depictions that let us know what it is we really have and should appreciate more. I also find that they give me “itchy feet” and I find myself planning my next trip to see some of these places across Canada.

The souvenir sheet was issued in 2014 with five scenes from across Canada. The three stamps with a face value of \$1.20 show, from left to right, “Head Smashed in Buffalo Jump” in Alberta, the “Old town of Lunenburg”, Nova Scotia, and finally another scene from Nova Scotia, called the “Landscape of Grand Pre.” Interestingly enough, the souvenir sheet has stamps for both the postage rate to mail letter to the United States and for International destinations. Shown in the sheet at the International rate is, from left to right, “Sgang Gwaay” British Columbia and the “Rideau Canal” in Ottawa Ontario. Canada really is a beautiful country!

Coming Events...

- MAR 18th OXPEX/OTEX2016
Woodstock Christian School, 800 Juliana Dr., Woodstock, ON, N4S 8X3
Exhibits, dealers, club circuit books, youth gift bags, prizes, draws, lunch/snack counter. Free admission, free parking. Everyone welcome. Phone: 519-529-5055 Email: viking37@rogers.com
Web: <http://www.oxfordphilsoc.com>
- MAR 19th Post Card Memories Show & Sale — Volume VI
Bingemans, 425 Bingeman Centre Dr., Kitchener, ON, N2B 3X7
Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission \$5 – kids free with an adult. Postcards featuring an unlimited array of interests. Royalty to race cars – trains to toads and towns & real photo cards, breweriana, sports dogs & cats and more! 10,000’s of cards all in one well-lighted location. Leading dealers, free parking, hourly door prizes, lunch counter. Phone: 519-885-3499 (DM) or 800-361-6631 (LH) Email: stamphogg@hotmail.com
Web: <http://postcardshow.blogspot.com>
- MAR 25th National Postage Stamp & Coin Show
March 25, 2017 to March 26, 2017
Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale, 6750 Mississauga Rd., Mississauga, ON, L5N 2L3
Presented by Canadian Stamp News and Canadian Coin News, the spring edition of the National Postage Stamp & Coin Show will be held at a new venue for 2017: the Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale at 6750 Mississauga Road, Mississauga, Ont. The Saturday (10 a.m. – 5 p.m.) and Sunday (10 a.m. – 4 p.m.) show will feature stamp and coin dealers from across Canada, who are selling, buying and appraising all kinds of philatelic and numismatic materials. Admission is only \$3 on Saturday and FREE on Sunday. Parking is also free. Special room rate available at the hotel. Check out our website for show updates and list of dealers.
Phone: 1-800-408-0352 Ext 228 Email: mwalsh@trajan.ca Web: <http://www.stampandcoinshow.com>
- APR 1 Lonpex 125
Ramada Inn, 817 Exeter Road, London, ON, N6E1W1
Lonpex 125 sponsored by the London Philatelic Society will be held on the Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Churchill Room. Exhibits, 12 dealers, draws, free parking and admission. For more information contact Don Slaughter. Email: donslau@execulink.com Web: <http://londonphilatelicociety.com/>
- APR 8 Best Western Stamp Show
Niagara Room, Best Western Hotel, QEW at Lake St., St. Catharines, ON, L2N 4G9
Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking, free admission and free appraisals. Sponsored by Roy’s Stamps, specializing in the stamps and covers of Canada and the British Commonwealth. For further information, contact Roy Houtby Phone: 905-934-8377

- APR 15 Burloak Stamp Fair
Burlington Seniors Centre, 2285 New St., Burlington, ON, L7R 1J4
Hours: 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Twenty years of regular monthly shows on the third of Saturday of every month. Six to nine dealers, active buyers, and always something new. Phone: 905-575-2950 Email: bas6@bell.net
- APR 22 STAMPFEST 2017
ST John's Lutheran Church - Fellowship Hall, 22 Willow St., Waterloo, ON, N2J1V5
NEW LOCATION 2017! Kitchener Waterloo Philatelic Society's annual STAMPFEST Show & Bourse. 19 dealers, sales circuit, competitive judged exhibition. Youth booth featuring the 'Sea of Stamps' and more.
Phone: 800-361-6631 Email: kwpskw@gmail.com Web: <http://www.kwstampclub.org>
- APR 28 Hamilton 2017 Springpex
April 28, 2017 to April 29, 2017
Bishop Ryan Secondary School, 1824 Rymal Road East, Hamilton, ON, L0R 1P0. Large silent and voice auctions Friday evening with viewing starting at 5 p.m. Saturday is a 20-dealer bourse with stamps, postcards, covers and supplies, plus youth booth and silent auction from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. GRVPA clubs circuit sales books Friday and Saturday. Light food and refreshments available with ample free parking. Sponsored by the Hamilton Stamp Club. Email: southont@cogeco.ca Web: <http://www.hamiltonstampclub.com>

From the Editor...

It has been some time since the newsletter included a "Stamp Tip" from Universal Philatelic Auctions. These tips are included for a reminder to see what the dealer who is considering buying the collection we have so patiently accumulated over the years looks for and considers before making an offer. This month's tip seems particularly fitting about looking at our collection and how it is being stored.

Another article is included from our club member Chris Tschirhart. It seems that many of us focus on filling the "holes" in the collection but not really taking a moment to see what the stamp is depicting. Although not quite as foot loose as Chris, I have had an opportunity to see a lot of the country of Canada and have to agree that we are so spoiled by the beauty that surrounds us, we take it for granted. I hope this article will stir everyone to slow down, open their eyes, and take in the beauty of nature around us.

At the meeting last month, the past editor (Marion Ace) said, "you know, how are people going to send you something if you don't include yourself as part of the last page?" A very wise observation, so thank you Marion of your guidance. That gentle reminder has been corrected and now comments, corrections or articles can be sent to me by email or even more supportive of our hobby, through a letter. A newsletter is an avenue where we all can learn, share and benefit from this hobby.

Our last meeting was light on attendance, so the auction was postponed until this month as well as a chance to show off parts of our collection. It was nice to see Joe Perrone return for the February meeting and his younger brother also came along. Our meeting falls into the March break at St Mary's High School, so we have to use a temporary meeting place for this month. Please note the temporary meeting place for the month of March is the New Life Centre of the Christian Reformed Church at 199 4th Ave West.

Due to the busy period at work in April, there is an opportunity for a club member to contribute a story. If you are so inspired, please submit the article to me before the end of March. That time line gives me an opportunity to edit and format the newsletter during the 1st week of April.

Owen Sound Stamp Club
Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

During the school year, 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 Street East. Meeting agendas will vary between having visiting club circuit books, speakers and an auction. Guests and new members are always welcome. Annual membership fees: \$20.00

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