

Stamps on the Bay



The Voice of the
Owen Sound Stamp Club

Meeting Cancelled due to
Health Safety
Volume 3, Edition 1, February 2022



From the President

Hello my philatelic friends!
Well here we are and it didn't get dark until almost six o'clock yesterday! Hallelujah maybe Warton Willie really did see his shadow! We've had quite the variety pack of weather, the weirdest being when all of southern Ontario had a huge dump of snow....except us...how weird is that! And there is the ray of

sunshine through all of these Covid clouds...we don't have to drive on snowy dark nights to have a meeting. It would be nice to have some relaxed in person socializing in the coming warmer months. It is my hope that we will also have our annual stamp show. The way things are looking it may be difficult to hold it at St. Mary's High School. If you have an idea for another venue for the show please let us know.

We had a number of guests at our January meeting. These are people who often attend the monthly stamp auction. I'm not sure if they thought it was going to be a stamp auction but we were certainly delighted to have them aboard for the meeting. Randy Rogers gave us a very thorough demonstration of the Colnect website. I find myself using it more and more. The individual stamp listings have more information than you find in a typical catalogue. Good job Randy!

This month Peter McCarthy is returning to the club with his presentation 'The Railway Post Office, The Story and Markings.' I know nothing about the presentation, but have no doubt that it will be interesting and informative. We have a couple of members who collect railway cancels and I have a few for my exhibits. Be sure to join in before 7:00 on Wednesday February 16th.

We had a pretty good crowd for the February auction on Ground Hog Day. We don't invite Warton Willie as he tends to eat the stamps! The next OSSC stamp auction is also on the 2nd in March. I hope you'll join in. Stamp auction information is now on our website. Bill Findlay and Judy Galbraith are doing a great job running the auction. Give one of them a call if you have any questions.

Don't forget to find an item for 'show and tell' and send your \$20.00 annual dues to Bob Ford. Also I hear there are some new items in the club circuit books. Stay safe but reach out to somebody!

Thank you to all our members who are making things happen!

Marion Ace

President Owen Sound Stamp Club

Editors Greeting

Welcome to a new volume and another edition of Stamps on The Bay. Inside this edition are four stories of different interests as well as the update from last months Zoom meeting. As the current health situation stands, we are limited again to meeting via paper and cyberspace. I am hoping that this latest variant is the final one and we will be able to meet in person later this year. There is also a belated "In Memory" for Gord Speers, who passed away last fall and only came to my attention recently. Like the hope that comes with spring, there is also a section on upcoming shows.

I am also happy to share that a new member has joined the Club. Mr. Bruno Rudolph has collected for many years, but due to scheduling conflicts with Wednesday evening meetings, he has never attended in person. However, we welcome him to our club and hopefully we can meet each other at a social gathering over the summer. Bruno lives in South Bruce Peninsula. While on the topic of membership, if you are receiving this newsletter, please make arrangements to keep your membership valid for this calendar year, if you haven't already done so. Contact Bob (information on the back page) to make those arrangements.

Last month there were two teaser scans provided on the front page. The scan on the left showed the image of H. Von Stephan's's head and in the background, the worlds first postal museum. Of course this was directed to the story about the opening of the first Postal Museum written by Marion.. The second stamp showed the castle of Forchtenstein with reference to Ralph's story about the Cruel Lady Forchtenstein. The teaser scan follows below:



Barcodes on Stamps

By Phil Visser

In the recent pass there was a discussion about the use of barcodes on stamps. Many wondered why they were being added, with ideas being mentioned about the automation of mail sorting at terminals to defeating counterfeiters. A recent newsfeed brought a couple of articles to the forefront and lead me to share the following information with the newsletter readers.

Credit needs to be given to the sources of information, the first source came from Euronews.com and a search brought me to skynews.com. Going straight to the horses mouth, I visited the Royal Mail website (royalmailgroup.com/en/press-centre/press-releases) and continue on with that. The press release brought the following five points as the highlight of the new stamp:

- Following a successful national trial, barcodes will be added to all Definitive stamps, the 'everyday' stamps featuring the profile of HM The Queen
- Recipients of mail featuring a barcoded stamp can watch an exclusive video featuring Shaun the Sheep by scanning the stamps in the Royal Mail App
- The video was created exclusively for Royal Mail by the multi- award-winning British animation studio, Aardman
- Non-barcoded Definitive stamps will be phased out but will remain usable until 31 January 2023
- Royal Mail is encouraging customers to find any non-barcoded stamps they have at home so they can use them up, unused stamps will be exchangeable under a 'Swap Out' scheme



These points seem self explanatory, yet doesn't fully answer "why the change?" Looking at the scan of the new stamp notice the simulated perforation line between the Queen's image and the barcode. Several year so ago Garfield Portch explained that duplicating the elliptical perforations was not as easy as it would seem to the average collector. Garfield then went on to speak about the \$10 whale stamp and some unexplained features that were discovered on it when placed under the VSC 6000. Yet despite the security measures a barcode has been added onto the definitive stamps of Great Britain.

Also in the press release from the Royal Mail is the

mentioned that the non barcoded definitive stamps will be phased out and their use will end on January 31, 2023. They then added that non barcoded stamps could be exchanged with the Royal Mail's "Swap Out Scheme" starting March 1, 2022. This information was presented by Nick Landon, the Royal Mail's Chief Commercial Officer.

Euronews was able to tease out some further information from Mr Landon. "The introduction of unique barcodes on our postage stamps allows us to connect the physical letter to the digital world," said Nick Landon, the group's commercial director, said in a statement. While it will improve "operational efficiency," the new generation stamp will also provide "additional security features and open the door to innovative services," the company said. One final item was shared by Euronews mentions that Germany has been using barcoded stamps since February 2021 and that France has also been using the same method on stamps. One wonders what innovative services these Post Offices are anticipating.

As a late addition to this topic, Royal Mail is planning on charging a fee for using non-barcoded stamps. In a report from dailymail.co.uk on February 7th, Royal Mail will be sending out delivery slips to people to pick up their mail from a sorting centre (Post Office?) and pay a fee of £2 for a letter and £3.50 for a small parcel. This has brought out many critics pointing out the difficulties people in rural areas will have in receiving mail following the full implementation of the bar-coded stamps in a years time.

References:

<https://www.royalmailgroup.com/en/press-centre/press-releases>

<https://www.euronews.com>

<https://news.sky.com>

<https://dailymail.co.uk>

The Lindworm of Klagenfurt

by Ralph Wyndham

The lindworm is a beast of mythology in a number of European cultures. In Swedish mythology, it is depicted as snake-like with skin to match and a pair of upper body appendages that were not quite legs. A lindworm is also part of the legend of the founding of Klagenfurt, the capital of the Austrian province of Carinthia.

In southern Austria during the 13th century, there was flooding along the river and people and livestock were disappearing. For all of this mayhem a lindworm was blamed. To watch for it, Duke Karast von Karnburg built a tower by the swampy wilderness where the monster was believed to be living and offered a reward to anyone who could capture and kill it. Some brave young men devised a plan to end the animal's reign of terror. They tied a bull to a chain with a hook attached and went 'fishing' for a lindworm. The beast took the bait and swallowed



Scott # 696;
The lindworm, or dragon of Klagenfurt

the bull, the hook was set, and after a long struggle, the exhausted animal was finally killed. Where the beast was finally subdued, a settlement sprang up that eventually became Klagenfurt.

In 1335, a large skull was found in a nearby quarry that was believed to have belonged to a lindworm. Some 500 years later, zoologists discovered that the skull actually belonged to a woolly rhinoceros, an animal that went extinct at the end of the last ice age. In the 1500's, however, belief in the lindworm's existence remained strong.

Believed to be the first attempt to imagine an animal's body from its bones, the sculptors Ulrich von Vogelsang and his brother Andreas were commissioned to do so. In 1582, they went to work on a big block of slate, and by 1594, completed their monster: a winged dragon with a long curly tail and fierce head, mouth wide open in a mighty roar, set on four legs as if ready to pounce upon yet another unlucky traveller. Originally intended to be a fountain, this feature was not completed until 30 years later.

January Zoom Meeting

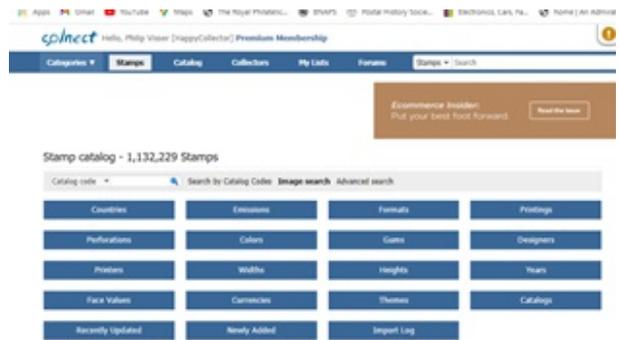
What a turn out. In the past, our meetings invited members from other clubs to attend, and January had many guests visit the meeting. It seems that there were 21 or 22 attendees to the meeting. It started with a lot of sharing and greetings to members from the Saugeen Club, Oxford Philatelic Society, and other clubs as well. Seeing this gathering was positive and we all hope to be able to gather in person soon.

Bob shared the club's financial status and mentioned two outstanding bills to be paid. One of those bills was to reimburse the postage purchased which our treasurer has been looking after. Thanks, Bob, for mailing the newsletter monthly, it makes the job of the newsletter editor a little easier. A second bill that needs to be paid is for Bill F to reimburse him for the purchase of the Zoom license for this upcoming year. Bill has assumed the role of Zoom host for our meetings and auctions. Thank you, Bill, for taking that role on as well.

A short presentation was made about the upcoming Capex 22 exhibition in June. It will be held in Toronto from June 9-12. An article follows further in this newsletter. A motion was put forward for the club to support the Capex 22 show by donating to the Capex committee. Some information is lacking about the show, but as the information comes forward, it will be shared with the club members.

From that point on, Randy R shared his screen showing the attendees how to use Colnect to research for unknown stamps. If a person has a scan or picture of the unknown stamp, it can be uploaded into Colnect, and the program will search its library of over 1 million stamps.

As a first step, a researcher needs to enter the website colnect.com. When one reaches the site, this website covers more than just stamps! Remaining true to the hobby, Stamps is chosen and then the search begins. On the "Stamps" page about one quarter down the screen is the title "Catalog" and just below that is the



choice a collector can use for a search. Three choices are provided, "Search by Catalogue Code," "Image

Stamps

Search by Catalog Codes Image search Advanced search



Searcher, and finally "Advance Search." Randy demonstrated the use of an image search. At the Image Search page, the searcher is given a choice with a file (from your computer) or a camera (if the computer is provided with a camera or by inputting a URL, say from eBay. Randy shared some other tips such as searching by a



country and then inputting a value of the stamp. Who runs the site is unknown, but it offers many options besides stamps.

While it has over a million listings in its catalogue, there are times when a stamp is not found on Colnect. In those situations, Randy goes to "Stamp Community Forum" at stampcommunity.org. One needs to register to use the website, but some research can be done as a guest. That explains Randy's super sleuthing ability.

Show and Tell

Ralph W had shared a letter mailed from Columbia at a previous meeting. In the interval, he had found out more about the letter. Apparently, it was mis mailed but the Columbia Philatelic Stamp community helped him out. He also shared something about the Pestalozzi Foundation, but my notes didn't catch the details. As a final share, he mentioned the use of Lemon Citrus magic to remove the difficult to impossible to remove stamps from paper. This was rejoined by Judy G who uses Pure Orange Citrus for the same purpose. This product is not available in Canada for some reason. A different odour but same application.

Judy G shared some postcards with pictures from the New Yorker Magazine. These pictures appeared as cartoons in the magazine. Some also shared how she had shared a recent acquisition of Russian letters and Postcards that had passed through the mail. It

appears these letters predated the Communist Revolution.

Randy R. proudly showed a recent addition to his collection, the 1 penny red magenta from British Guiana. Readers may be aware that Stanley Gibbons recently purchased the only copy of it and can be seen in London, UK. Randy did fess up that this was a fake, but he did put it in his collection. Always on the search for more information, Randy was able to get a PDF file of the book "French Colonies Revenues of North America and the Middle East" by D Duston. While on the topic of PDF files, he also mentioned that he had a 2009 PDF version of the Scott's Catalogue. Apparently, it is still available as an ecatalogue, at \$75 US. A final share was made by Phil V about the new 2022 Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps. This is a paper version. Some people may be more comfortable using paper over ecatalogue, the choice is up to each collector to make.

The meeting ended at approximately 9 PM

IN MEMORIAM



W. Gordon Speers passed away on September 27, 2021 at the age of 92. Gord was a member for the last several years and regularly attended the shows which our club held. A quiet gentle man who always encouraged me with club matters. What his collecting interests were has escaped me but we did share some trips to stamp shows

together and the time passed away pleasantly. He joined the Owen Sound club when he and his wife moved to Sydenham Township but lived the last few years of his life at Neustadt and then Allan Park. This memorium is belated because the information only recently came to my attention.



Capex 22 By Phil Visser

For the last year or so I have been a member of the Membership Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC). As part of the Committee, we have been trying to engage more stamp collectors to become members of the RPSC. As part of that effort, we will be present at the upcoming Capex 22.

Capex 22 is an internationally sponsored event. This is the 4th International Stamp Exhibition held in Canada, the others occurred in 1951, 1978 and 1987. AS can be seen, this event is seldom held in Canada, so it will be a prestigious meeting with many opportunities to search for those items that would make a collection stand out.

This exhibition is the first ever one frame exhibit. Many stories can be told about a topic which have in the past been held in a multiple frame exhibit. What this exhibition will show is the condensing of an exhibit into one frame of sixteen pages. Looking at the exhibits can place many ideas into a collector's mind and perhaps help focus a collection.

While the show is International, the location is too small to host a full worlds exhibition, and so the exhibits will come from Europe and the America's plus likely some form other Commonwealth countries. While the term is Exhibition, the gathering is also an opportunity to meet many Organizations, large Auction houses, and Stamp Dealers.

There are several auction houses coming from Europe, with several others coming from our southern neighbour as well as some of the larger Auction Houses in Canada. These include Eastern Auctions, Sparks Auctions, Vance Auctions and Longley Auctions. Many Organizations will be represented including Canada Post, Royal Philatelic Society, American Philatelic society, Stanley gibbons, Amos/Linns (Scott Catalogue) and Lighthouse as well as the American Topical Association.

Stamp Dealers were mentioned earlier. A larger show will attract major stamp dealers. Some dealers from Canada include Brixton Chrome, Frank Hoyles, John Beddows Jr., Deveney Stamps, R.D. Miner and Firmin Wyndels. International dealers that are coming include Bill Birrell, David Morison, Willard Allman, Compustamp, Philanges Ltd, Zatka Philately and more.

Besides these opportunities, there will also be seminars held during the show period. A list of seminars is not available yet, but usually larger Societies will host some seminar in that period. Of the Societies in attendance is the American First Day Cover Society, Canadian Aerophilatelic Society, Erie Philatelic Association, Hong Kong Study Circle, Philatelic Specialist Society of Canada, Postal History Society of Canada and I know that several BNAPS study groups will have some presentation during this period.

Hosting an event of this size will need lots of volunteers. If you can see yourself clear for a few hours, why not volunteer. As a member of the Membership Committee, I will be at the front desk a few hours each day. Besides volunteers, the Capex 22 Committee would appreciate donation to offset the cost of the show. Renting the Metro Toronto Convention Centre for four days is not cheap! Individuals can go to the Capex 22 web site to donate and receive a tax receipt for this donation. If donations are made before Feb 15 the donation will be matched by another organization. The Owen Sound Stamp club has agreed to donate to support the overall show needs.

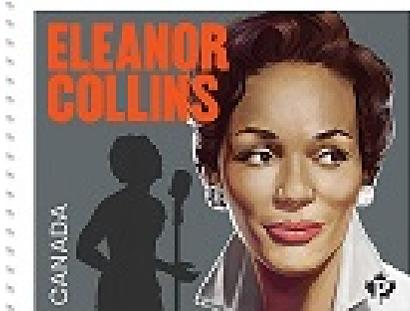
Since the January meeting, the Capex 22 committee

ahs posted the entry fee at \$15 per day or a four-day pass at \$50 per person. For those intending to stay for the entire show period, hotel booking is now also available from <https://capex22.org/>. I believe that Covid will leave this stamp show alone and hopefully we can all go back to enjoying meeting in person.

Latest Canadian Stamp

By Phil Visser

January 21st, 2022 is the issue date of the latest stamp from Canada Post. It features/highlights the career of Eleanor Collins. Significantly, Eleanor is still living at the time of this writing. This stamp is issue as part of Black Hisotry Month showing people who have contributed to our society and being a visible minority.



As has been the custom for the last several years, it is printed with "P" postage and so will have and indefinite period of use from the issue date.

Eleanor Collins was born as Elnora Ruth Procter on November 21, 1919. She is a jazz singer, television

host and a civic leader. She is also known as the Canadian First Lady of Jazz. Her singing skills were developed at a young age while singing with her cousins and family under her uncle's firm guidance. She was born in Edmonton and moved to Vancouver in the late 1930's

Her parents were of Black and Creole Indian heritage who were originally from Oklahoma. They moved to Edmonton in 1906 after seeing an advertisement to purchase a quarter section (160 acres) of land for \$10. They were among 1500 black homesteaders who took up the challenge of a new life.

Eleanor married Richard Collins in 1942 and they remained married for 70 years. They had four children, three boys and a girl. When they moved to Burnaby, they were the only black people in the neighbourhood and so face racism. To this challenge, Eleanor taught music for the local Girl Guides and she joined the parent teacher association for the school which her children attended. She participated with the church choir and visited patients in the children's hospital as well as prison inmates. She continued her civic support by raising funds for civic and charitable organizations in Burnaby.

As a performer, she was active in gospel music and jazz. Her skills landed her with CBC where she hosted shows and appeared as a guest in other shows. She continued to appear on many television and radio shows through the 1950's, 60's and 70's. She hosted "The Eleanor Show" in 1955 and later the show "Eleanor" in 1964. These shows predate my interest in music and being able to watch TV at all.

Her family appeared in the video documentary "Hymn to Freedom: The History of Blacks in Canada" in 1994.

It took a long time, but Eleanor was awarded the Order of Canada on her 95th birthday in 2014. Now she has finally reached the pinnacle of recognition by being featured on a postage stamp.

References

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki>

<https://www.canadapost-postecanada.ca>

UPCOMING SHOWS

Please note that these shows are subject to the health and safety conditions at the time of the show.

MAR 6, '22 Mississauga Coin & Stamp Show

John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre, 4300 Cawthra Rd., Mississauga, AL, L4Z 1V8

Sponsored by the Troyak Club, the Mississauga Coin and Stamp Show will be open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., with 60 tables and more than 30 dealers. There's something for everyone, with Canadian and world coins, stamps, paper money, tokens, medals, trade dollars, official mint products, hobby supplies, reference books and more. Free evaluations plus buying, selling and trading. Admission is \$5 (children under the age of 16 are free), and parking is free.

Phone: 416-505-7999 Email: leszekp@rogers.com

Web: <http://www.troyakclub.com>

MAR 19, '22 70th Oxpex-40th Otex

St. Mary's Catholic School, 431 Juliana Dr., Woodstock, ON, N4V 1E8

The Oxford Philatelic Society will host the 70th Oxpex-40th Otex shows at a new venue this March. Open from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m., the one-day show boasts dealers, competitive framed exhibits, a silent auction, club circuit books, a youth table, light refreshments plus free admission and parking. Dealer and exhibitor Brenda Hoyles is also set to lead a presentation.

Email: countyowl@rogers.com

Web: <http://www.oxfordphilsoc.com>

April 8, 2022 to April 10, 2022

Spring 2022 National Postage Stamp & Coin Show

Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale, 6750 Mississauga Rd., Mississauga, ON, L5N 2L3

The show starts Friday with Colonial Acres' Premier Auction, with daytime viewing and the auction going live at 5 p.m. For auction details, visit Colonial's website, colonialacres.com. The two-day coin and stamp bourse opens at 10 a.m. and runs until 5 p.m. on Saturday and to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Admission on Saturday is \$5 and only \$2 on Sunday. Children under 16 are free. The popular Young Collectors Table will be open both days, and the Young Collectors Auction will be held on Sunday starting at 1 p.m. The Spring 2022 National Show will also feature the 79th annual exhibition of the North Toronto Stamp Club.

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Conclusion

Whew, six pages done again. A real mixed bag of stories that will inspire a reader with a desire to continue collecting. I can't wait to return to having a normal meeting, in person at the St. Mary's High School. I can just imagine the loud hub bub of voices and people greeting each other again, but alas, we are confined to the Zoom portal again this month. Perhaps new ideas have popped up when looking at a collection. Even better when our collecting area has been organized, or at least started to become organized.

I received an email from Dave Pugh mentioning that he is now the proud owner of the 2017 US Specialized Catalogue. Should you have a question about specialized US information, give Dave a call or email. Perhaps you may even send him a scan. This is just one benefit of being a member of a stamp club.

Don't forget to check out the club web site, owensoundstampclub.org. It is still possible to purchase stamps from the circuit books by contacting Randy/Marion to complete the desired purchase. Randy is also accepting more pages in the circuit books. Taking the time to do your search now using Circuit Book Explorer will give a collector the step up on another member getting the book before you do.

Happy collecting and keep in touch with each other.

SOAPBOX

This months first story creates a wonder on what direction philately is headed for. One thing is certain, collectors are resilient and collect many things that might fall in the category of "ephemera." I think there a a few collectors who collect metered mail envelopes from organizations that have private meters representing their organization. Below are two examples that are open to interpretation on whether they would fall under bar-code category or something else. I think the scan on the left is a metered mail and the one on the left is a label. Any other opinions?



BALTIMORE MD 212
 28 DEC 2021 PM 8 L

