

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 21st, 2018 @ 7 PM
St Mary's High School, Hillyer Hall, 555 15th Street East, Owen Sound

Volume 5 Edition 11

From the President



Hello everyone, great past month, lots of different type of events in the happening.

First I hope everyone has gotten back on schedule after gaining their hour sleep back. Second, Mother Nature has decided to

introduce to us this new colour and the new temperature as well (something called winter and something we are not used too yet). Third I'd like to thank each of you that has made the effort to go to the last two shows that were the area closest to use. There were six of us at both events which made a good impression to the head of the Grand Committee.

At the Barrie Show their executives were amazed at the club members that showed up. The GRVPA executives were impressed by the turn out at the Cambridge Circuit Book Club Fair. The executive complimented me on how we were doing and were very happy and wondered how we managed to get five new members in the last year. They were totally pleased with our club. While a few clubs are cutting back on the number of meeting nights (from 4 down to 2), our club is growing. Thank you All for your efforts.

4th I hope everyone has giving your thoughts to someone that they knew, who was in the first World War, family member, or loved one, maybe a neighbor or just a friend. We will be going through our usual business, few new ideas, and the last sale of Larry Crane's collection for this year. One to be in January which we have something to introduce to the club on how it will be run or not, mainly to include our Snow Bird who go south in the winter months.

Lastly to go over our December's Meeting with all your funny Munny.

Hoping to see each and everyone at our next Meeting Nov. 21, 2018.

John C. Lemon
President
OSSC

From the Editor

Phil Visser

The year is closing out fast! I look and see that this is the eleventh newsletter for the year. While looking after the distribution and listing of Larry's stamp collection, I have been motivated to organize my own collection, and so the purchasing of more material is being cut back. It is amazing what I have accumulated over the years and how much organization is needed to be able to do an inventory of what I have. I realize that organizing a collection is the BIGGEST task for active collectors.

This newsletter includes a report from last months meeting and an article about the significance that this month and year has for this country. There is also a listing of the auction items for the next meeting. Last month we listed and sold twenty five lots of Larry's collection. The plan was to do that again, but we will increase the number of lots to thirty.

Larry Crane Collection
Auction November 21st

Lot 1	Rubber Maid storage tub for letter sized hanging folders with quadrille pages, Vario sheets (8S), many many page protectors and many many many empty acetate envelopes
Lot 2	Scott's 2011 Classic Specialized Catalogue of Stamps and Covers for the world 1840-1940
Lot 3	Scott's 2009 Specialized Catalogue of stamps and covers from the United States. Very useful information about identifying the early US stamps
Lot 4	Book "The Stamp Atlas" printed in 1986 in Britain and the US. Useful information about he changes in country borders, names, history and currency.
Lot 5	1.5" 3 ring binder with about 5 pages of Vario sheets and about 10 pages of Craft Stock pages filled with stamps. Looks like a start of topical pages on quadrille pages and a few one page exhibits entered at the Hanover Club meetings.
Lot 6	1" 3 ring binder of pages for the Owen Sound Circuit books. No pages are full but feature various countries.
Lot 7	8 page stock book, white pages, half full of stamps, some from GB and other misc countries
Lot 8	8 page stock book, white pages, half full of stamps, some from France and other misc. countries
Lot 9	A Unisafe stock book, 16 white pages, many many birds but the book has other misc stamps.
Lot 10	An 8 black page stock book labelled France, but filled with stamps from Belgium and Austria with a few pages of misc stamps
Lot 11	3" heavy duty binder with a few Vario pages and about 10 Craft pages filled with misc pages and ending with quadrille pages of topical stamps (birds, authors, bridges, animals dinosaurs etc.)
Lot 12	1.5" 3 ring binder with a few Vario pages and about, some from Belgium, 1 page of modern Canada off paper (hockey players etc) a 1 page exhibit on baseball
Lot 13	A dark brown/orange decorative box filled with covers mailed from all over!
Lot 14	A lighter coloured decorative box labelled "covers" and there are many covers in it, but also mint postage from Canada an many other countries, looks like topical stamps.
Lot 15	A Christmas gift tin filled with acetates having stamps form all over. They seem to be mint or CTO, possibly from an approval service.
Lot 16	A 3 ring binder with Owen Sound cancels the focus and some postal stationery, as well as a file folder of Larry's "Moose" collection
Lot 17	A 3 ring binder about GB Machins with pre-printed pages produced by Robin Harris as well as an introduction. Many machins in the album
Lot 18	3 three ring binders with pages from countries starting with the letters I, S, and T. 2 binders are 1" thick and one is 1.5" thick
Lot 19	3 three ring binders with pages containing stamps from Great Britain
Lot 20	3 three ring binder with stamps from Germany. One binder has pages for Germany, from a Minkus album (very few stamps) but lots in other two binders.
Lot 21	3 1" binders of Canadian stamps. Most seem common.
Lot 22	2 1" binders with pages containing stamps from countries starting with letters B and C
Lot 23	2 binders with stamps from Antarctica and A letter countries
Lot 24	A 3 ring binder filled with stamps and pages from C countries. Includes Cayman Islands, many many pages of Chile, Costa Rica etc.
Lot 25	A 32 white page stock book containing used stamps from Canada. Abut two thirds of the pages are full. Duplication to be expected. Stamps from the 40's to modern
Lot 26	A Sterilite container about two thirds filled with loose stamps from all over. Most off paper but some still on paper.
Lot 27	A decorative box filled with hundreds of post cards most seem unused (400+ postcards)
Lot 28	9 small handbooks. 3 Topical Times, 3 ATA Bird checklists and three other books
Lot 29	3 Ring binder of stamps from Spain. Seem to be laid out in year order
Lot 30	3 ring binder of stamps from the Netherlands. Again, seems to be laid out by year

Courage

By Phil Visser

Courage is a common word, and will seem familiar to readers of this story. To begin, Webster's dictionary defines courage as *"the quality of mind or spirit that enables a person to face difficulty, danger pain etc., without fear."* A second point of view on this word is *"to permit one to face extreme dangers and difficulties without fear."* Synonyms for courage are "fearlessness, dauntlessness, intrepidity, pluck, spirit, bravery, bravado, valour."

2018 is a significant year which is the 100th anniversary of the Armistice which ended the "Great War" or more commonly know now as World War One (WW1). Through education we now have the means of remembering events that happened long ago and technology which allows a person the ability to research a topic of interest. This story will try to show how courage, and that feeling, is also in our hobby of stamp collecting and therefore remembering those who demonstrated courage to give us the freedoms we have now.

In military terms, courage is recognized by the awarding of medals. Some of these medals have been printed on stamps and to keep these writings within a limited number of words, only the highest medal will be referred to. Starting from our common nationality, Canadian, 2004 brought the Victoria Cross into the Canadian philatelic world. They are listed as Unitrade #2065 and #2066. Number 2065



illustrates the original medal created by the order of Queen Victoria. The Canadian War Museum gave some strict guidelines to the designer, Mr. Pierre-Yves Pelletier so that all the recipients would be honoured equally.

If you have one available, have a look at it. The medal is embossed, or raised, and the embossing can be felt

when holding it between fingers. Perforations are listed as 13.2 by 12.5 and the Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps (2018) mentions that two million of these stamps were printed. The catalogue also shares that the year of 2004 marks

the 150th anniversary of the awarding of the medal to the Canadian Lieutenant Alexander Roberts Dunn.

Researching the website

<https://www.canadianpostagestamps.ca/stamps/17553/the-victoria-cross-canada-postage-stamp-victoria-cross>, the write up mentions that Lieutenant Dunn was awarded the medal by his act of charging oncoming Russian soldiers to save the life of a fellow soldier. It is Lieutenant Dunn's act that shows courage as defined above. The website mentions that the stamps were printed in panes of 16 stamps, with half being #2065 and the other half being #2066. A central panel lists the names of the 94 Canadian recipients of this medal.

Curiosity may pique the mind on why were two stamps printed showing the Victoria Cross. The second stamp is the Canadian Victoria Cross which Queen Elizabeth II approved of in the creation of this medal in 1993. The only difference between the two medals is that the Canadian version has a bar above the medal and the medal is inscribed by the Latin phrase "Pro Valore" instead of "For Valour." Up to this time, there has been no recipient of the Canadian Victoria Cross.



Since the original Victoria Cross was issued by Queen Victoria, the medal has also appeared on stamps from Great Britain. On September 11th,



1990, the British Post Office issued a series of five stamps showing the Victoria Cross, the George Cross and then three other stamps showing both a cross and a medal of the same name. The Victoria Cross stamp is listed as #1331 in the Scott's Catalogue.

France has also issued a medal originating in the First World War. The Croix

de Guerre was created in 1915 for valour on the battlefield. It could be issued to individuals, or units and the medal varied to the level of the issuing authority, with the Silver Palm being the highest level. With thanks to Bill Findlay, the image shows the medal but not the ribbon which would display the silver palm or a lesser level. The stamp is listed as #1123 in Scott's catalogue and was issued on May 22, 1965.



This medal could also be issued to civilians for assisting on the battlefield or supporting the war efforts. This medal was not restricted to French citizens, but was also issued to many other nationalities. During World War II, the award was changed and changed again until finally in 1944, General de Gaulle reinstated the original Croix de Guerre. The medal is different for each of the conflicts that it has been awarded for, including allowing the medal to be issued to actions outside of France such as the Korean War and the war in Indo-China.

Another fairly well known medal issued for courage, is the Medal of Honor issued by the President of the United States. While not a big fan of movies, I did see one recently titled "Hacksaw Ridge." Courage is shown in a few different ways in the film, the courage of the star, Desmond Doss, to stand up for his convictions as well as the courage to continue to search for and save the lives of the soldiers injured in the battle for Okinawa. For this devotion to duty, Doss was awarded the Medal of Honor. Scott



#2045 was issued in 1983 and shows the three versions of the medal that can be awarded to military personnel.

The Medal of Honor originates from 1861

awarded to Navy personnel and the Army Medal was granted in 1862. The Air Force version was granted in 1965. The Army version is shown as the medal on the left, the Navy version is on the far right with the

Air Force version of the medal in the center. Members of the US Marine Corps and the Coast Guard would receive the Navy version of the medal.

Courage on the battlefield is not limited to one side of the conflict. Many soldiers serve their country at the command of their leaders. An underlying theme to all military units is the camaraderie of the platoon, company, brigade etc. While serving, a bond of trust and trial under fire develops between soldiers, and it is one that continues for a lifetime. For example, this is obvious when observing the members of such organizations as the Legion.

While not illustrated on postage stamps, the Iron Cross (Eisernes Kreuz) originated in the German state of Prussia in 1813 by King Friedrich Wilhelm III during the Napoleonic wars. It was reissued in the Franco Prussian war of 1870 by King Wilhelm I and again in WW I by King Wilhelm II. It was reintroduced in the second war with the swastika included in the design. What is illustrated is a Cinderella stamp showing the Iron Cross on the flag flying from the royal yacht Hohenzollern.



History shows that the Treaty of Versailles was the seed for the next conflict.

As part of the anger to the war, the allies stripped Germany of all of their overseas colonies as well as disputed parts of Europe. In 1921, Dr. Heinrich Schnee (the former Governor of German East Africa) issued a series of labels (Cinderella stamps?) to raise funds as a means of having the colonies returned to Germany. These stamps form an interesting aspect to my nautical collection and explain how they have come into my possession.



Another major country has been involved in the military actions of the last war.

Russia has issued The Order of the Red Star. The medal was instituted in the 1930's. This award can also be given to anyone who has performed significant duty to benefit the Soviet Union. Russia printed Scott #1651 in 1952.

The design shows only the medal and not the associated ribbon. One of the prime reasons for receiving the medal is “for personal courage and bravery in battle.”

Courage is not limited to any one country, nationality, or race. These philatelic items show how courage has been revealed in our hobby, and perhaps may even become a theme for a topical collection for some reader. Good luck and happy hunting.

October Meeting Highlights

There were 19 members present, two guests and a visitor from the Saugeen Stamp Club. While the main business was the upcoming auction, a couple of show and tell items were passed around.

Randy R had come across something that was not catalogued and did not have a country name printed on it. Guesses from the members present suggested that this was a label

attached to a regular issue for some event. A closer look brought a possibility of being of German origin and then one intrepid member thought it looked familiar, and so Bill Findlay solved the mystery. This is indeed a label attached to a Swiss stamp. Alas a cell phone picture sometimes doesn't work out!



Joe P. was the recipient of a collection from an acquaintance at another stamp club. While sorting through the material he came across this War Tax



stamp. The original owner had catalogued it as the English version, but as can be seen, this stamp is in French, and so the value of it jumped significantly. Good find Joe!

A brief report was given about the Stamp Show held a few weeks before the meeting. The show was a financial success with an approximate revenue generation of about \$900. The sale of the Penny Black tickets raised of about \$220.

Bill Findlay raised the idea of a possible Circuit Book Fair between the Georgian Bay club. This idea is

similar to the one held in Cambridge and is probably going to be called Sales Circuit Book Club Fair North. After some discussion, the members thought it was a good idea and so the process is underway for this event to occur on or about May 25th 2019.

The concept came about after the OS Circuit Books had made a visit to the Barrie Club. Discussions with the other clubs present suggested the idea was worth a try and so those participating (at the moment) are circuit books from Barrie, Wasaga Beach and Owen Sound. There may be more interest develop and it could grow bigger between now and the planned date. Keep your calendars clear for that weekend.

The Larry Crane Collection

A big thank you goes to all those who purchased stamps from Larry's collection last month. The sale raised over \$700. A week ago another group of the collection was sold at the Saugeen Stamp Club and the sale there raised almost the same amount.

Bob Ford and I had the opportunity to bring the money raised to date to Mary. She was surprised at the amount raised and thanks all of the members for their purchases.

I have also picked up the last of the collection, and there will easily be other auctions in the new year. By sticking to about 30 auction lots, we may be having a few more. As I make the lists they will come out to you.

Upcoming Shows

NOV 17 North Toronto Stamp Club – Winter Postage Stamp Bourse

Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge St., Toronto, ON, M4T 1Z9

Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Easy subway access at St. Clair subway station. Free admission, 22 dealers, over 100 sales circuit books including recent issues, over 100 ten cent books, members table, door prizes (first prize one kilo of stamps) snack bar, wheelchair access, parking at the Church and on nearby streets, families and children welcome.

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There are many philatelic website's to visit, but don't forget to look at your own club web site at www.owensoundstampclub.org. On the website you will find a "Links" button which can lead you to other areas. If there is something you think would improve the site, contact Randy and share your idea with him.

Soapbox

My email inbox is empty of club members thoughts for this section of the newsletter. Please, put some thought into what you think about the hobby, shows, collecting etc and share those perspectives with the other members. As you saw from the Show and Tell, section, the strength of being in a club is sharing and learning from others.

At the GRVPA Club Fair in Cambridge on Saturday, I saw a man who I have run across at several shows over the last couple of years. He was here at our show and so I asked him if he was ever home on a Saturday? This provoked a chuckle and then it started a lively discussion about the value of stamp clubs and collecting. Like many of us, now that child rearing responsibilities have fallen away, time for the hobby came back. By and large, he relearned the love of geography, history and simple design features of stamps. One last parting word was getting our stamp "corner" organized. Looking at Larry's system and the accumulation I have suggests the biggest challenge we face while still here is to organize our stuff!