



Owen Sound Stamp Club

Newsletter

Next Club Meeting: March 21st

March 2001

The 2001 OSSC Show & Bourse.

Hopefully, all members are busy preparing material for the Exhibition. This is just a reminder that we are reckoning on using the Saugeen Stamp Club's frames for this event — if that doesn't come to pass, there will be some frantic work going on in the carpentry department!

Anyway, these frames each hold 16 (four rows of four) standard 8½" by 11" pages. Now, if your story is told in less than 16 (or 32) pages, no problem — nine or more pages can be arranged to look fine in one of these frames and if you have eight or less pages, the frame can be shared with another exhibit.

We do urge that all exhibits are enclosed in clear plastic sheet protectors. Assembling the frames on the day of the exhibition does require the use of a hammer, crowbar, and occasional kick which could cause carefully laid out arrangements to "adjust" a little — sheet protectors will stop this as well as preventing losses if a hinge or mount should pop off at any time. Sheet protectors are available from office supply stores and I found some at Grand & Toy in the Heritage Mall. Prices do vary widely depending on the materials used (25-80¢ each).

For the first time, the OSSC exhibition this year will be "competitive" (albeit, very mildly) with medals for the winners in each of the categories outlined last month. Procedures for judging have yet to be finalized but will likely be along lines not recognised (or approved) by the World Association of Philatelic

Judges. In other words, if you win, don't bank on an automatic place in the Royal Yearbook.

And, if you have an exhibit that doesn't fit the "Topical" theme, that's just fine too!

Don't forget: if you have any questions about anything to do with the exhibition, just get in touch with Ken Knight.

Calendars

At the last club meeting calendars were distributed to all present. I'll bring more to the next meeting for any member that doesn't have one. Just to explain what these are about:

Last year (or maybe the year before that), there was some discussion about improving communications between the clubs in this part of the World. The calendar is an attempt to work in this direction by at least letting members of each club know something about the others — like when/where they meet for a start. Hope you find it useful.

Bob Watson

from the Whatever Will They Think Of Next Dept.: *(retrieved from the internet newsgroup rec.collecting.stamps.discuss)*

Subject: Printing techniques (was Thermotronic ink)

The thermotronic ink on the lower right cloud of the UK's 27p weather stamp changes colour when rubbed. However, you need to have a warm digit; it will not work with cold hands. The colour quickly returns to normal so there is little hope of an 'error of colour' making big prices. Royal Mail states that the special characteristic of the ink will last as long as normal inks.

The ink will also be used on one of the Nobel Prizes stamps to be issued in October.

That issue will include a stamp celebrating the prize for

Medicine & Physiology that incorporates a 'scratch and smell' ink. I understand that the scent will be eucalyptus. (Perhaps carbolic disinfectant might have been more apt?)

Please note that the date is NOT April 1st.

The Nobel Prizes set has other innovations. The Physics prize stamp will include a hologram. The Literature prize stamp will incorporate a T. S. Eliot poem in microprint. This can be read only under a glass. The exceptionally high resolution will be achieved by a new version of lithography developed by Enschede of Haarlem, Netherlands.

Douglas Myall

The Owen Sound Stamp Club will be holding its 5th Show in May. Every member is encouraged to consider putting together an exhibit in the show and further details will be announced in due course. For those of you who would like to give it a try but are uncertain about exactly what is involved in putting an display together, Ken Magee has written an excellent guide to exhibiting at the local level. We are pleased to reproduce this (with Ken Magee's permission) as a three (oh, alright, four then) part series. — Ed.

Getting Started in Exhibiting – Part 4: Dos and Don'ts

Things to Avoid

There are several items that you may want to include that should not be used:

- ball point pens – the ink dries slowly and often smears.
- felt tip markers – they "bleed".
- pencil end erasers – very abrasive.
- double spaced typing – very hard to read in paragraphs (but might work for headings).
- over-wide black mounts – a distraction.
- catalogue numbers – they're copyright, and differ from one catalogue to another. If needed, put them on the back of the pages.
- "Scotch" tape – the adhesive migrates.
- colours other than black for titles – distracting.
- changes in the style of text-- another distraction.
- black corners to mount covers – another distraction.
- only standard catalogue information – where's your research?
- black pages – they overwhelm the material on them.
- poor photocopies – try a different machine.

A Good Exhibit Should Not Have:

- write-ups that point out the obvious ("used stamps"; "block of four"; "vertical coil pair"; etc.)
- an **ULTRA BOLD TITLE** that can be read from across the room – you don't want a newspaper headline...
- postmarks reproduced in "original" colours – use black ink;

CD Review

The **Stampville** CD-ROM from the Canadian Museum of Civilization has apparently been out for some years now but, when someone mentioned that it had illustrations of every Canadian stamp, I thought I'd give it a try.

The main part of the package is the catalogue which illustrates each Canadian stamp by Scott number (up to 1629 – Christmas 1996). The catalogue can be sorted by number, year, or by any of 40 themes, and includes brief notes on the artist and/or designer. You can also mark each stamp as "Have" or "Want" and these lists can be printed. The scans are excellent and translate to about 1½ times size at 150 dpi (the generally recommended resolution for printing). However, to do anything but look at the pictures, you do need a screen capture program as there is no built in cut-and-paste facility.

Other parts of the package include a pretty fair quiz of general (philatelically related) knowledge and quite a collection of information tidbits relating to stamps and postal history.

don't try to match the original colour.

- many spelling/grammatical errors – proofread your work carefully in draft form, then get someone else to check it also.
- one stamp per page – unless it happens to be an extreme rarity, such as Canada's 12d. black...)
- too many stamps on a page.
- material outside the scope defined on your title page – your title page should be the first one planned and the last one finished. That way you can scan your exhibit to see that your title, introduction and plan include all the materials in your exhibit.
- more than one non-philatelic page – you waste valuable exhibit space, and make some viewers suspect that you might lack material... The only exception might be a separate plan page in a well-developed thematic exhibit. This page, even then, could/should contain some philatelic material.
- lots of heavy-looking write-up dominating a few philatelic items on a page – it would fail the "squint test"—see part 3 (February 2001).
- material without any write-up – you might know what you are showing, but most viewers probably won't.

In Conclusion...

You must be ready for disappointments once you begin to exhibit competitively. Re-writing and re-mounting will be needed before most exhibits reach their full potential. It's a lot of work, but it's worth it—to see your material on display!

On the down side, the interface is awkward and cumbersome. The catalogue is pretty handy but takes so long to get through the opening screens that it loses much of its charm. Some parts haven't been finished – like the sections on "Stamp Designers" and "Early Letter Carriers of Different Nations". The advertisement on the Canada Post Web site makes it plain that it is primarily targeted towards young collectors and the general presentation style is certainly more cute than business like.

For me, Stampville is worth having for the stamp scans alone and the ability to sort Canadian stamps by topic is a great bonus. Stampville is available from Canada Post for \$14.95 +taxes + p&p = \$17.20. To order, call 1 800 565-4362 or write to: National Philatelic Centre, 75 St Ninian St., Antigonish, NSB2G 2R8. It is also available from the Canadian Museum of Civilization but they are charging about \$30+.

Bob Watson

What's New from Canada Post...

...and two, One Million Dollar Questions...

It is only March and the April programme of Canada Post was already discussed in the February issue of our Newsletter, so let us be brave and venture out into the May's "Harvest of Treasures"

May 11, 2001 is the date chosen by Canada Post to issue its "Tourist Attractions" stamps. Two booklets of 5 stamps each will see the light of day on that date. Before I go on however, a word of warning.... Do you remember the "Fresh Water of Canada series" of last year. These were sold out before they were even released. The office in Antigonish was unable to supply and most (smaller) post offices never saw them. So, either order fast or stand on the doorstep early. One booklet will have five times the 60¢ (USA rate) stamps. Depicting: White Pass and Yukon Route; Butchart Garden (BC); Niagara-on-the-Lake (ON); Maple Syrup (Sugaring off) and Apple

Snippet from Sandafayre's web site (www.sandafayre.com):

Missing "Rowland Hill" Ceylon stamp found!

Sandafayre have discovered a missing 6d brown "Rowland Hill" Ceylon stamp (SG #23) in an old time collection. Dating from 1861 the stamp is one of only two known examples to be in private hands. Hand stamped with "cancelled" in oval, it is the adjoining left hand side stamp of the other example which is in the Royal collection.



The stamp was originally one of up to 450 unauthorised stamps handstamped "illegally" by Perkins Bacon, famous nineteenth century printers of classical Colonial postage stamps, whose story is told in Peter Jaffe's book *Cancelled by Perkins Bacon* published by Spink and Son. During 1861 Perkins Bacon was instructed by Ormond Hill, nephew of Rowland Hill, to supply six sets of stamps from the Colonies to give as gifts to his friends and family. The unauthorised stamps were duly produced with a "cancelled" obliterator but Perkins Bacon did not realise that what they were doing was a crime and that their actions would ultimately lead to the loss of the Crown Agents contract to rivals De La Rue.

The importance of the find is not lost on Andrew Morris of Sandafayre, who says

"Over the years the Rowland Hill stamps have been key pieces for serious philatelists and were eagerly sought after by King George V for the Royal collection, which houses the biggest assembly of these issues. Robson Lowe was also another notable keen collector but very few stamps have remained in private hands and current major exhibitors count themselves lucky to have just one for their Colonial exhibits."

The 6d Ceylon stamp has an estimated value of between £3,500 and £5,000 and will be offered in one of Sandafayre's specialist weekly stamp auctions during February 2001.

Blossoms (NS). The second booklet has five times the \$1.05 (International rate). These are showing: Auyuittuq National Park; Barkerville (BC); The Forks (MB); Tulip Festival (Ottawa) and Signal Hill (NF), all these stamps will be of the self-adhesive variety.

May 16, 2001 will be the 1700th anniversary of the Armenian Apostolic Church. A single 47¢ stamp will commemorate this event. This will be the third in the series of religious events.

That is all the news for the coming month of May. By now you must all have the Club Calendars, so make note of all these dates and get to your nearby Canada Post Office early - if you are lucky, they may have them on day one.

Nice to know... In the 21st issue of Canada Stamp News, all 2000 Canada Stamp issues are listed on page 17 with the Scott and Darnell Catalogue numbers. The definitives, issued on December 28, 2000, are not listed.

And now the moment we have all been waiting for

...DRUM ROLL...

"Who wants to be a Millionaire – February" has a winner!

Remember the question? What is Deltiology???? Our member from Holyrood, Reg Powell knew the answer and responded. He even offered to tell us about it in an upcoming meeting.

Deltiology is: Picture Postcard Collecting.

Two questions for March:

1. The language spoken in Aland is...

A. German B. Afrikaans (Boer) C. Parsi D. Swedish

2. The only stamp showing a man cleaning up after his dog was issued on September 19, 1991 by which country?

A. Denmark B. New Zealand C. Slovaki D. Netherlands.

Good luck. Answers in April (The latter would make an easy topical subject — there were only two stamps, two values:, one red, one blue).

Till next time,

Charles van Rompu



The pair of stamps marking the 4th Games of La Francophonie – a unique combination of sporting and cultural competition with athletes and artists from more than 50 French speaking countries.

At the last meeting:

A motion was passed introducing two new classes of members for the club (see below for further details).

Ken Knight showed a sample medallion and plaque that could be used for exhibition category winners at the 2001 Show. It was agreed that this was a good idea and should be pursued. Ken Knight agreed to report back with further details.

John Cortan agreed to organise the local publicity efforts for the 2001 Show.

Next Meeting: March 21st.

The next meeting of the Owen Sound Stamp Club will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21st, in St. George's Church, Owen Sound (as usual).

Matters to be discussed will include:

- Insurance for club events.
- The 2001 Show.

Upcoming Events

The 5th Annual Show and Bourse will be held on May 27th at the Bayshore Arena. Mark that date!

The Barrie District Stamp Club will be holding its 40th Annual Exhibition and Bourse on Saturday, October 27th in the Sunnidale Community Centre.

New Membership Fees

At the February Club meeting, a motion was introduced and passed that introduced two new classes of members. The club now has membership fees as follows:

Full Membership: Annual fee: \$10 (unchanged)
 Family Membership: Annual fee: \$15 (new)
 Junior Membership: Annual fee: Free. (new)

This new structure is to be made retroactive to the beginning of the "Membership Year" (i.e. Jan. 1st, 2001).

"Family Membership" is for people living at the same address. Each member of the "family" has all the rights and obligations of a full member except that only one copy of the Newsletter and other Club notices will be sent.

"Junior Membership" is for those under 16 on Jan. 1st. Each "Junior" member has all the rights and obligations of a full member except that if a Junior member shares an address with a Full/Family member, only one copy of the Newsletter and other Club notices will be sent. If a Junior member does not share an address with a Full/Family member, then the Club will bear the cost of sending the Newsletter.

Apart from the above membership fees, all Club members and visitors are asked to continue contributing 75¢ each meeting which is passed directly to St. George's Church in appreciation for allowing us to use their room.

Note: The above is not *exactly* the motion that was passed (tho' pretty close!). If anyone has any concerns, please bring them up at the next meeting.

Bob Watson (President)

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

www3.sympatico.ca/rhwatson/stampclub

The Owen Sound Stamp Club meets at 7:00pm on the third Wednesday of each month in the basement of St. George's Anglican Church (on the corner of 10th St. E. and 4th Ave. E.). The main business of the evening is typically to check out the stamps in circuit books from the North Bay Philatelic Society, the Royal Philatelic Society and/or the Peninsula Philatelic Circuit. Members also trade stamps and covers between themselves.

There are presently about 20 members whose interests cover just about everything at all levels from beginner to expert. New members are always most welcome.

For further information, see us on the Web or contact any of the following Club officers:

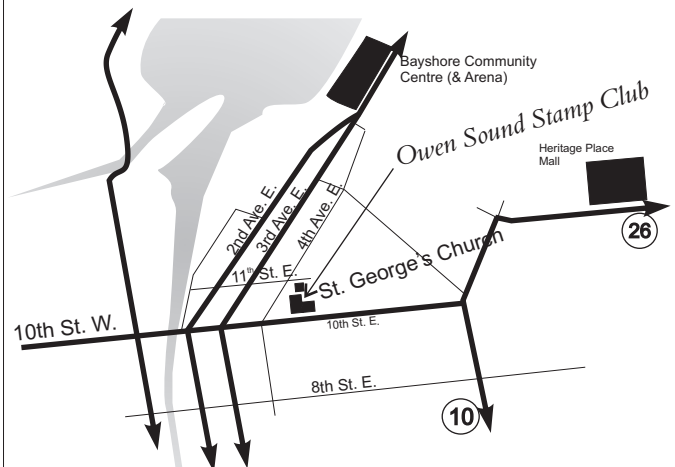
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The OSSC Newsletter

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The OSSC Newsletter is distributed monthly to members of the Owen Sound Stamp Club.

Opinions expressed by contributors to this newsletter are those of the named author and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Owen Sound Stamp Club (nor of the editor).

Contributions are always most welcome. If any reader has news, information, opinions, or announcements that might be of interest to the OSSC membership, please contact the editor.