

Owen Sound Stamp Club

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting: Wed. April 21st 2010 @ 7:00

From the President...



Time just seems to fly and it is time to write this greeting and general invitation to attend our monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 21st. Our meetings are still at the St Georges Anglican Church in the basement. I hope that this finds you all in good health and looking forward to participating in the meeting.

Our guest for this meeting is **Howie Mason** who will be bringing the **Stratford Sales Circuit** books. I hope this selection from further a field will interest you into coming out for the evening. Tentative plans for the May and June meetings include having the Saugeen sales circuit books come and having a speaker come about making display pages so that we can have a number of frames for public display at the show this coming fall. Any other suggestions for future club meetings would be gratefully received and pursued.

Our last meeting proved to be very interesting and makes me take a few lines of type for the upcoming show. The last meeting saw our guest speaker, **Mr. William Van Veen** show some "paintings" that are related to stamps. We agreed to gather philatelic material for the commissioned raffle prize which we will promote for the show in September. We are donating extra stamps that are related to stamp collecting such as stamp on stamps, letters, universal postal union, mail boxes and modes of mail delivery, perf gauge etc. I have received one donation already of a few stamps on stamps from the United States and Cuba, a paper perforation gauge as well as some mail boxes from the U.K. Please bring them in so that Mr. Van Veen can begin and complete the art work. This will give us some time to advertise the draw and help make the show a financial success. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Phil Visser
President OSSC

One Page Challenge...

Bill Findlay's page "Chateaux & Fortifications of France" was the winner of our 'One Page Challenge' in March. The page had a map of France at its center. Lines extended from a location on the map to each stamp depicting the chateau from that area. Bill has chosen the topic of Postal Services around the World for August, so get your thinking caps on now!

Don't forget to bring your 'Famous People' page to the meeting. This does not include royalty; we'll do that in July.

One Page Challenge Topics

April - A Famous Person or People, (no
royalty)

(people- i.e. scientists or musicians
etc.)

The Taming of Yellow Fever

By Ralph Wyndham

Yellow fever is a disease found in the tropical regions of Africa, the Caribbean, and South America. Once a victim has this frequently fatal disease, there is no cure; it must run its course. Symptoms begin with chills and headache followed by severe back, leg and arm pain with a high fever and vomiting. Next comes a 'stage of calm' where symptoms lessen and the fever falls. Some patients recover at this stage but more often the high fever returns and may be accompanied by liver or kidney failure and internal bleeding. Jaundice, which turns the skin and whites of the eyes yellow, is caused by liver failure and gives yellow fever its name.

It is believed that it reached this side of the Atlantic aboard slave ships from Africa. Once here, the disease established itself quickly and exerted a significant influence on the history of North and Central America. Between 1596 and 1900, there were 90 epidemics in the United States reaching as far north as New York City. In 1793, an outbreak caused the US Government to flee the capital as 10% of the population perished. In the early 1800s Napoleon was unable to keep control of Haiti and was influenced to sell Louisiana to the United States because yellow fever took over half of his army. Yellow fever and malaria put an end to the first attempt to build the Panama Canal.



As many as 20,000 workers died between 1882 and 1888, many from malaria and yellow fever.

During and after the Spanish-American War in 1898, yellow fever was again a threat to an army. American forces were to spend four years in Cuba after the war's end and the American Surgeon General, George Sternberg, called for a board of

army medical officers to 'study infectious diseases in Cuba paying particular attention to yellow fever.' To lead this board of doctors, Sternberg named Major Walter Reed who earlier led a similar investigation that successfully identified the cause of typhoid fever and eradicated it from American Army bases.

Walter Reed was a brilliant student. At the age of 17 he became, and remains, the youngest graduate from the University of Virginia's medical school, completing the two-year course in just one year. In 1875, he began his career in the Army with the first of a long series of postings to frontier army bases. One Reed historian observed, "One of the marvels of his life is that his relegation to frontier garrisons, unfavorable for intellectual contacts, did not ruin him."



In 1893, Reed was promoted to Major and posted to Washington, D.C. as curator of the Army Medical Museum and professor of clinical microscopy. He would also later become professor of bacteriology. His academic work was both accurate and original. In May 1900 Reed was appointed to lead the investigation in Cuba.

The other members were his friend, James Carroll, Jesse Lazear, and Aristides Agramonte of Havana. The previous year Reed and Carroll published a paper refuting the findings of Italian researcher Guiseppe Sanarelli that a bacterium was the cause of yellow fever. The board's first step was to revisit this idea to try to prove the Italian doctor's theory was correct, but by August, *Bacillus icteroides* was ruled out as a potential cause.

The doctors decided that the best way forward was to learn how yellow fever was transmitted rather than worry about the cause. Cuban doctor Carlos Finlay believed that the disease was spread by a mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*, but was never able to prove it and he was scoffed at as "the mosquito man". However, the random way that yellow fever spread was only seen in one other disease, malaria, and a British army doctor had recently proved that the *Anopheles* mosquito transmitted it. The board hatched mosquitoes from eggs provided by Dr. Finlay and tried without success to infect themselves and some volunteers. Dr. Carroll later caught yellow fever but it was unclear how this happened. Private William Dean of Ohio presented the first clearly experimental case of the disease. Both he and Dr. Carroll survived. Dr. Lazear then came down with yellow fever and died a few days later.

Major Reed, who was then in Washington completing his typhoid fever report, returned to Cuba. He studied

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Lazear's notes on his observations from their carefully controlled experiments and learned some

important facts. In order for a mosquito to become infected, it must bite a yellow fever victim during the first three days of illness; it then took another 12 days before the mosquito's bite could infect another person. In October 1900, Major Reed announced that "the mosquito serves as the intermediate host for the parasite of yellow fever." However, Major Reed still felt it necessary to repeat the experiments to verify the results and to prove to everyone that mosquitoes were the culprits in the yellow fever story. Ordinary people still believed that the mosquito idea was complete foolishness; the true means of transmission of yellow fever was exposure to clothing and bedding soiled by the blood and vomit of yellow fever victims. These soiled items were known as fomites.



Cuban doctor, Carlos Finlay, believed that mosquitoes were responsible for spreading yellow fever but was unable to

A search was made for a suitable non-human subject for this next round of experimentation because of the obvious high risk to humans. Unfortunately, no such laboratory animal could be found. Human volunteers would be needed. At this time, questions were being raised about the morality of using human volunteers without telling them of the risks involved. Major Reed, therefore, created a form outlining the risks and benefits of being the subject of an experiment. Each volunteer was required to sign the form before taking part marking the first time informed consent was ever used.

To answer once and for all the question "mosquito versus fomites", Camp Lazear was established. Two separate buildings were constructed. In the Infected Clothing Building, the windows were screened to keep out mosquitoes and the walls were covered with 'fomites' and volunteers slept in bedding fouled with the blood and vomit of yellow fever victims. Can you see yourself volunteering for such an experience? The Mosquito Building was also screened against mosquito intrusion but was divided into two parts by an interior screen. On one side, a volunteer was exposed to yellow fever-infected mosquitoes, on the other side volunteers were kept from any mosquito exposure at all. Volunteers occupied the buildings for 60 consecutive days. Those in the Infected Clothing Building remained disease-free. Those in the mosquito-free room in the Mosquito Building remained disease-free. Only the volunteer exposed to infected mosquitoes suffered from yellow fever thus proving for all time that this tiny insect was responsible for the transmission of this terrible, deadly disease.



Just before the US Army started its investigation into yellow fever, it had been proven that

Dr. Carroll continued his studies of yellow fever after this. Using a filter that removed all bacteria, he filtered infected blood and injected the filtrate into volunteers to prove that a virus was the cause of yellow fever.

In 1901, an attempt was made to 'vaccinate' people against yellow fever by trying to induce a mild case of the disease in

volunteers. However, the death of nurse Clara Maass and two other volunteers put an end to human experimentation. In 1927, it was discovered that certain species of monkeys are susceptible to yellow fever and this helped to speed research. A true vaccine was finally created in 1937. The American Army put the vaccine into routine use in 1942 and it remains in use to this day for everyone traveling to danger zones.

Once the mosquito connection was understood, steps were taken around Havana to eliminate all potential mosquito-breeding sites close to human habitation. As a result, within just five months, the two-hundred-year-long struggle with yellow fever was over. These same mosquito control techniques were implemented in the Canal Zone of Panama and allowed the completion of the Canal in 1914.

Today, in yellow fever endemic areas, there is an urban/rural divide. In urban areas, where mosquito control is fairly easy, yellow fever is rare while in rural areas it remains a problem.

After an appendectomy, Dr. Walter Reed contracted peritonitis and died on November 23, 1902. He was only 51 years of age. The simple monument marking his final resting place bears the epitaph: "He gave to man control over that dreadful scourge, yellow fever."

Thanks again to Ralph Wyndham for another interesting and informative article.

I already got my first mosquito bite on that lovely Easter weekend, so beware!
The Ed.

The Spotlight: Saugeen Stamp Club Annual Spring Show

Greetings one and all!

I would like to take the opportunity to let you know how much I enjoy my membership in the Owen Sound Stamp Club, and equally, how much I enjoy seeing OSSC members at our meetings in Hanover - the circle becomes complete.

I also want to invite all of you to SSC's annual spring show, Saturday May 1 from 10am to 4pm. It is at the Knights of Columbus Hall, just west of Hanover on Highway 4. Free parking and free admission, as well as numerous door prizes, make it worthwhile to attend. Of course, some terrific stamp displays and a dozen enthusiastic dealers are good incentives too!

Our regular meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month, year round, at the Hanover Public Library. Some upcoming events at our meetings include: The Guelph Stamp Club circuit is coming on June 1st; Gerd Fehler will bring in his stock of Germany on July 6th; John Cortan brings some stock to all our meetings; and of course our sales circuit is always ready for your perusal.

Happy collecting!

Bill Findlay

President, Saugeen Stamp Club

I hope that everyone will participate in this column. The 'spotlight' can be focused on anything philatelic. Whether you love it, hate it or you just have a story to tell, drop us a line. It can be a paragraph or two or a page or two. I'll need a good scan or photo of the

On the Cover...Flag Over Historic Mills



Souvenir sheets have been issued for definitive issues as well as commemorative stamps in the last few years. The 'Flag Over Historic Mills' set is



The 'corrected' ...

of ways from their elder siblings. This set had serpentine die-cut edges instead of the straight die cut edges the others had. Rather than random scenes, this set had the theme of lighthouses. The Pachena Point lighthouse stamp was issued using an image which was flipped, so this set became the first of the series to have a sixth stamp issued. The corrected image of the scene was released a few months later.

Another significant change was the use of the Permanent rate symbol instead of a numerical denomination. This meant that stocks of the booklets could be sold at new higher rates instead of being jettisoned. It also meant that a new set did not necessarily have to be issued for every rate hike. Canada Post put the series on a back burner while they put out stamp booklets that promoted the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics.

Other than the extra stamp, this year's lively Flag Over Historic Mills stamps share the same changes that were made to the Flag Over Lighthouses stamps including some additional security features. The 'P' of the Permanent rate symbol fluoresces on the lighthouse stamps and they have tagging on four sides with a pattern on the left and the bottom 'comprising of small waves of water'. I am quoting ('On the Cover' continues on page 5)

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the description of the tagging found in the 2009 Unitrade Catalogue. The tagging is readily visible under ultra violet light but in no way do I recognize the pattern as 'small waves of water'. The tagging on the Historic Mills stamps varies in that it is the background of the 'P' rate symbol that fluoresces and the patterned tagging can be found on the top and bottom of each stamp. Since the Historic Mills stamps are not yet in a Unitrade Catalogue, I have no idea what the pattern represents. These days all of our domestic rate definitive stamps have interesting little differences in their tagging. If you haven't sat down lately with an ultra violet light to look at recent Canadian definitive stamps, I highly recommend that you do.

Since the beginning of the series each *Flag over Canada* stamp has a ©



(copyright symbol) and the year date in the lower left corner. This is in very tiny lettering that many people would need to see with a bit of magnification. The *Lighthouses* and *Historical Mills* stamps also contain the name of the location hidden in the image in microtype. Microtype is definitely the appropriate

name for this lettering. I thought that the year dates were tiny but some of these microtyped locations are really hard to find. Some can at least be located with the naked eye and some I had difficulty finding even with my 15X magnified and lighted loupe.

This stamp was scanned at 1200 pixels/inch and enlarged 1000% and still the

To provide unity to the set, the images of the five mills are shown on bright sunny summer days with blue skies and rich foliage. If you like picturesque post cards then you'll like the set that goes with these stamps. The OFDCs will have

cancellations from Watson's Mill in Manotick Ontario which is celebrating its 150th anniversary and the Old Stone Mill Historical Site in Delta Ontario which is celebrating 200 years. Here is a bit of information about each of the five sites.



Originally **Watson's Mill** was called Long Island Flouring Mills because of its location on an island in the Rideau River in Manotick Ontario about 20 km. south of Ottawa. It was built from the limestone quarried on the western shore of the river. The Mill became known as Watson's Mill after it was purchased by Harry Watson in 1946. It has been restored by the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority. You can purchase used books at the mill and a number of period events with actors in full costume are held regularly along with actual milling demonstrations. Extra celebrations are in store for their 150th anniversary.



The **Keremeos Grist Mill** is south of Penticton near the Canada/USA border in beautiful British Columbia on Keremeos Creek. It was built in 1877 by Barrington Price and all of the best milling equipment of the time was installed. It was eventually left to rot with all of the

equipment removed and left in a heap. It took years to restore but it is now proudly BC's only functioning grist mill. Now it is a little historical oasis among the desert-like mountainous terrain. The Mill and the old store act as hands on museums and the grounds contain gardens with heritage wheat fields and apple orchards.



The **Old Stone Mill** is in Delta Ontario which is north of the midpoint between Kingston and Brockville. The structural restoration of the building was completed in 2003. Since then the 'Let's Get Grinding' fundraising campaign began. The fund's objective is to raise money in order to purchase equipment for the mill. They now have several pieces of equipment and a number of displays in the building. Ultimately, the Mill's supporters hope to have the oldest standing grist mill in Ontario actually functioning by this June to coincide with their 200th anniversary 'Deltabratations'. The Old Stone Mill is a National Historic Site and an Ontario Heritage Site run by the Delta Mill Society.



The **Riordon Grist Mill** is located in a historically reconstructed Acadian village near Caraquet New Brunswick. The village is quite large and contains houses and other structures from as far back as 1773 up until the early 1900s. After you attend the musical dinner theatre at the Hotel Chateau Albert you can even stay overnight. Apparently the Riordon Grist Mill was built in 1895, but where? Actually, it came from Pokeshaw NB where Irish immigrants built a three story grist mill and a sawmill. According to the website of the Irish Canadian Cultural

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Association of New Brunswick, "Both the building and each part of each machine were completely disassembled and painstakingly repaired and reassembled to their original condition at the Acadian Village in Caraquet."



The **Missisquoi Museum** is made up of three historical buildings, one of which is the **Cornell Mill**. They are located in Stanbridge East in Missisquoi County which sits just north of Vermont in Quebec's Eastern Townships. The area first became populated by three thousand Loyalist squatters after the American Revolution. These pockets of Loyalists created areas where the architecture and general way of life were different than other areas of Quebec. The Museum's website says very little about the Cornell Mill, except to say that it is a three storey 1830 red brick building. The other two buildings that make up the Museum are the twelve-sided Walbridge Barn and Hodge's General Store.

Coming Events...

- **APRIL 23 - 24, Hamilton, ON**
 SPRINGPEX, Bishop Ryan High School. Friday auction with viewing from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., GRVPA clubs' sales circuit books from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday is a 20 dealer bourse including Canada Post, youth booth, silent auctions, and the Hamilton Club Sales Circuit. Hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking. Light lunch available.
 Sponsor/Affiliate: Hamilton Stamp Club. For more information contact Michael P. Anderson, 905-632-6057 email mpanderson@cogeco.ca. Website: <http://hamiltonstampclub.com>.
- **APRIL 24 - 25, Sudbury, ON**
 SUDBURY STAMP SHOW 2010, Tom Davies Square Foyer, 200 Brady St. Sat. and Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dealers, exhibits, door prize, hourly draws, silent auctions, lunch counter, free admission and free parking. Sponsor/Affiliate: Sudbury Philatelic Society and Canada Post. For more information contact William Biff Pilon, telephone 1-705-560-1274 1-705-560-1274 , email stampless1@hotmail.com.
- **APRIL 25, Oshawa, ON**
 Stamp Auction - Special meeting, Conant Seniors Centre - Gym - 115 Grassmere Ave. Viewing starts at 10 a.m. Auction starts at 12:45, hot lunch available. Free admission and Parking, no buyers' fees, cash only. Sponsor/Affiliate: Oshawa/Whitby Stamp Groups. For information contact Larry Friend, telephone 905-723-8798 905-723-8798 , email lfriend@sympatico.ca, or Jim Stevenson, telephone 905-576-4449 905-576-4449 , or Gordon Wick, telephone 905-404-0796 905-404-0796 .
- **MAY 1, Hanover, ON**
 Saugeen Stamp Club Annual Show and Exhibition, Hanover Knights of Columbus Hall, 1 km west on Main St. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., more than 10 dealers, judged exhibits, youth table. Lots of free parking with a lunch booth at the event. Sponsor/Affiliate: Saugeen Stamp Club. For more information contact Peter Kritz, telephone 519-364 4752 519-364 4752 , email pkritz@coldwellbankerpbr.com.
- **MAY 2, Stratford, ON**
 Mayday Stamp Show, Kiwanis Community Centre, 111 Lakeside Dr. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., show cachet cover, bourse, exhibits, club sales circuit, free admission and parking, wheelchair access, lunch counter. Sponsor/Affiliate: Stratford Stamp Club. For more information contact Richard Blackburn, telephone 519-273-0429 519-273-0429 , email richard.blackburn@utoronto.ca.
- **MAY 8, St. Catharines, ON**
 Holiday Inn Stamp Show, Holiday Inn, QEW at Lake St. Free parking and admission. Specializing in stamps and covers of Canada and the British Commonwealth. Sponsor/Affiliate: Roy's Stamps. For more information contact Roy Houtby, telephone 905-934-8377 905-934-8377 .

- MAY 8, Toronto, ON

Postage Stamp Show, St. Bonaventure Church Parish Centre, 1300 Leslie St. Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission and parking. For more information contact 705-799-2008 705-799-2008 .

William Van Veen



Mr. Will Van Veen came to our March meeting to have a little discussion with us and show us his work. He creates one-of-a-kind collages with stamps. The StampImages® have a stamp-shaped watercolour background and a number of stamps chosen for a particular theme. Sometimes they also have other paper items or images within the collage including photographs. The picture frames for the larger pieces are from different sources (not necessarily new) and some are matted as is

deemed necessary. The Stamp Images® can be found at the Owen Sound Artists' Co-op which is downtown on 10th Street East. He also has frame-ready cards available for about \$10.00 each.

A custom Fly fishing StampImage®
hrr

Many of the members were enthusiastic about Will's work and so it was decided that we would purchase a StampImage to be the prize in our annual show raffle.

The topic will be philately, which we thought would have the widest appeal to our raffle ticket purchasers. We thought that it would be fun and more personal if we donated the items for the collage. I hope that everyone will donate a few stamps or paper philatelic items. Phil mentioned some of the items that he has gathered for this project already. If you want any unused items returned to you, please put your donations in a labelled envelope. We want the project to begin with reasonable haste so that tickets can be made for the raffle. If you can't bring your philately stamps to this meeting, then please mail or drop them off with Phil Visser.

Since all of the StampImages are topical Mr. Van Veen is always on the look out for topical stamps. He is currently looking for stamps depicting trains, cycling, automobiles and hockey. The stamps don't have to be perfect but certainly presentable. Will would be happy to pay a reasonable price for the stamps and will also accept donations of slightly damaged stamps.

From the Editor...

I hope that you'll make it out to the meeting. Bring your Famous Person or People 'One Page Challenge' and stamps for the philately collage. The Stratford Circuit Books should keep us all busy.

Just to keep things interesting, the Historic Mill stamp on your cover is from the souvenir sheet!

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 basement of St. George's Anglican Church (corner of 10th St. E. and 4th Ave. E.). The main 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 25 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

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