

# Owen Sound Stamp Club

Chapter 191  
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting: Wed. November 16<sup>th</sup> 2011 @ 7:00

## From the President...



*It is time again to extend a welcome to the club members for the meeting on November 16th. Since our last meeting I have received a large listing from Vance Auctions. How large you may ask? Well there are over 150 pages of lots, profusely illustrated. This put me to looking at them and I wondered how many collections have gone into this sale.*

*The prices given as "Estimated" suggest that there is still a demand for philatelic material. Either way, I don't remember an auction listing from Vance being this big.*

*Last week I received my copy of the Canadian Philatelist and saw a short ditty about the average age of stamp collectors. Interesting that the author said the prime stamp collecting group was in the ages between 40 and 70 years old. The explanations seemed reasonable, but I can't help and wonder how many closet stamp collectors are in the area of Owen Sound. It is always nice to see new members which we had at the last two meetings and perhaps we can have some more join. Please spread the word around and encourage friends and family to join the club or to develop an interest in the hobby.*

*The meeting this month will have Brian and Gerry Lemanski coming to our meeting with the circuit books from the Oxford Philatelic Society (Woodstock). In making the arrangements, I spoke with the club president and was pleased to hear that he had been at our stamp show this past September. He enjoyed himself and was interested in the displays that we had at our show. Mind you, if anyone has been to the Woodstock show, they will know our attempts were very small compared to the exhibition that they host every March.*

*I remind members of the "President's Auction" coming up in December. If any one has excess material to participate in the event, I will be very grateful for donations. For the new members, the President's auction is a "free" auction in that I distribute the President's Funny Money which is used to purchase whatever material that is there. No real money is allowed! In the past, members ganged up on one another so as to keep a certain item from going there, or made ridiculous bids, or whatever, but the outcome is simply a fun evening with lots of hilarity.*

Cheers, good health and happy stamp collecting 'til the 16th when we meet at the St. George's Anglican Church.

Phil Visser  
President OSSC

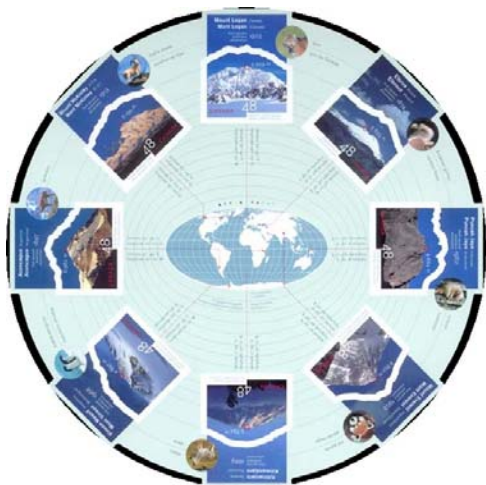
### On the Cover...International Year of Chemistry



If you've still got a grip on that telescope that you used celebrating the Intl. Year of Astronomy in 2009 turn around and grab your microscope. We're going from the macrocosm to the microcosm with 2011 being declared the Intl. Year of Chemistry by the United Nations.

This is the second Canadian stamp issue to celebrate a special designation by the UN for the year 2011. In May a lovely pair of stamps and a souvenir sheet was released celebrating the Year of Forests. But...it doesn't end there; this year is

*(On the Cover is continued from page 1)*



also Intl. Year for People of African Descent. The tradition of specially designating years to raise awareness about various issues in the world began in 1959/60 with World Refugee Year. Since then many years have been given special designation. Since 1999 each year has been given more than one special designation. Like just about everything else in this age we seem to take good ideas and keep on milking them past their best before date. Raising awareness of various issues by specially designating a year is a great idea but do we really need three separate issues in one year? That seems to water down the importance of each given issue.

No matter how many special designations there are for 2011, the focus is now on chemistry. The Intl. Year of Chemistry stamp was released on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. This year was chosen in recognition of the centenary of the International Association of

Canada has issued commemorative stamps for a number of UN special year initiatives. This unusual disc of eight stamps of mountains

Chemical Societies (IACS). Also in recognition of women's contributions celebrates Marie Curie Chemistry The object of



to the field of chemistry, it one hundred years since M. won the Nobel Prize for for her study of radioactivity. Chemistry Year is to raise

awareness of the many contributions to the betterment of humanity through the study of chemistry and to encourage youth into that field of study.

Canada Post has elected to celebrate Chemistry Year by honouring our own Nobel Prize winner for Chemistry: Dr. John Charles Polanyi. The U of T professor won the prize for his study of reaction dynamics in chemistry in 1986. He developed the method of chemiluminescence to measure and analyze newly formed molecules. He began his academic career in 1956 at U of T and is still there today.

John Polanyi is certainly a well renowned scientist and a worthy representative of Canada in the world of chemistry. He is a fellow and/or officer of numerous prestigious scientific societies and he has won many awards and prizes from them and other institutions. He has been awarded 25 honorary degrees from universities across Canada as well as from England, Israel, Italy and the USA. Dr. Polanyi is also a Companion of the Order of Canada.

The International Year of Chemistry stamp is only available in a booklet of ten self-adhesive stamps. The 'OFDC' is cancelled in Ottawa.

This 1956 stamp is the only other Canadian stamp that

## Tall Buildings...Part II

By Ralph Wyndham

In part one of this article, we looked at early tall buildings. I, for one, was surprised that even in Roman times 10 to 12 storey 'apartment' buildings existed. We went on to learn about some of the key early architectural developments, such as the curtain wall and the steel skeleton that paved the way for today's super tall buildings.

From the late 1880s, the race to build the tallest building plateaued after about 40 years with the 1931 completion of the Empire State Building in New York. With a roof top height of 373m/1250ft, the Empire State Building remained the world's tallest building until the completion, in 1972, of the ill-fated World Trade Center which stood at 417m/1368ft.

A Bangladeshi-American architect, Fazlur Rahman Khan, invented the tubular design for tall buildings in the early 1960s. He realized that if closely spaced  
(Tall Buildings II is continued on the next page)



The Empire State Building, shown here on a Zazzle.com custom stamp, was the world's tallest

(Tall Buildings II is continued from the last page)

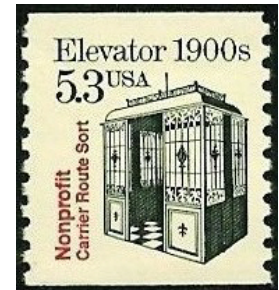


The downtown Vancouver, B.C. skyline

vertical columns are carefully braced together to form the outside walls of a building, essentially forming a tube, the building would have greater resistance to the forces of wind and earthquake. This technique requires less steel for overall construction making for a lighter building that can be built even taller. Bundling tubes together provides an even greater advantage. The structural strength supplied by the tubes around the

exterior of a structure means interior tubes do not have to be as rigorously braced saving even more in cost and material. Tubular construction and its variations have been used for most buildings over 40 stories since its invention 50 years ago. The World Trade Center towers were built using the tube concept. Burj Khalifa in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, currently the world's tallest building at 828m/2717ft, was also built using the bundled tube concept.

The weight of a building is called the load. The weight of the actual building itself, (the dead load), plus the live load, (all the people and contents), needs to rest on a very good foundation. If it is faulty or insufficient, if the foundation begins to sink or shift, damage could result. An uneven or weak foundation, or uneven weight distribution across it, could cause a structure to start leaning like that famous tower in Pisa, Italy. It's unlikely a super tall building could lean very far before leverage would topple it.



The skyscraper's inseparable companion, the elevator. Without it,



To prepare the foundation, all loose, easily compacted earth is cleared away. (In preparation for the foundation for the World Trade Center, a staggering 900,000 cubic meters of earth were removed.) Smaller buildings may rest on a layer of hard clay but very large ones must rest on columns of concrete resting on bedrock. All the vertical columns extend through any underground levels beneath the skyscraper to the substructure below. Here, each column rests on a spread footing, a pyramid of steel girders, each layer placed 90 degrees from the one below it all sitting on top of a concrete pad.

Once everything is perfect, the whole array of spread footings is encased in concrete.

While weight is important, wind is the primary factor in designing tall buildings. In fact, the force of wind blowing against such a structure can be greater than the building's total weight. Tall buildings can sway as much as three feet in either direction in a strong wind. There are many strategies to deal with this force depending on the building. One interesting one involves a complex system installed on an upper floor that senses the sway of a building. When motion is detected, the system kicks in and moves a large (400 ton)

Construction cranes lift tons of construction materials into place

concrete block back and forth in time with the sway to counteract it.

There is one invention that is indispensable in the development of very tall buildings: the elevator. I think it's safe to say that without it, there simply would not be tall buildings. Even if one had the strength to repeatedly climb the stairs to the 50<sup>th</sup> floor of the office tower or condo complex, the time factor alone would make it impractical. And you'd need to be Superman reversed the Without economic strata of the tall building. one, the lowest floors were the most valuable, but with an elevator, that top floor penthouse is the most expensive and prestigious place to live or work.



complex,  
Superman  
reversed the  
Without  
valuable,

No one knows for sure what the maximum height for a super tall building might be. Some observers think that a building one mile high could be possible with just the techniques available today. For sure, however, we have not seen the last of super tall skyscrapers. There are three buildings of more than 600m/1969ft currently under construction in Asia with some 50 other tall buildings proposed or planned.

Burj Khalifa in Dubai,  
828m/2717ft tall, is  
the tallest building in the world.

### Coming Events...

- NOV. 11 - 13, Toronto, ON  
National Postage Stamp Show, Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place. Hours: Fri. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association National Postage Stamp Show with dealers from across Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Canada Post, society and club information, stamps for kids, hourly draw prizes and much more. Free admission, TTC close to Exhibition Place. FREE... #2 in a series of limited edition postcards. Offer good while supplies last. Sponsor/Affiliate: Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association. For more information contact [director@csdaonline.com](mailto:director@csdaonline.com). Website: <http://www.csdaonline.com>.
- NOV. 12, Cambridge, ON  
Cambridge Stamp Club Show and Bourse, United Kingdom Club, International Village Drive. Hours 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., free parking and admission. Door prizes, draws, snack bar. For more information contact Steve Klages, telephone 519-622-6204
- NOV. 18 - 20, 2011, Montreal, QC  
EXUP 31 / The International stamp show of Montreal, Saint-Mathieu Center, 7110, 8th Ave. Hours: Fri. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and parking, 20 dealers will be participating from USA, Ontario and Quebec. There will be an exhibit, meetings, Canada Post draw etc. Sponsor/Affiliate: Canada Post. For more information contact Patrick Chalifoux, email [timbratheque@videotron.ca](mailto:timbratheque@videotron.ca), telephone 450-922-1399 Website: <http://www.timbratheque.com>.

- **NOV. 19, Burlington, ON**  
Burloak Stamp Fair, Burlington Seniors Centre. Regular Monthly Stamp Show on the third Saturday of every month. Between six and nine dealers. Free parking. For more information contact Michael Anderson, telephone 905-632-6057, email mpanderson@cogeco.ca.
- **NOV. 26, Toronto, ON**  
Winter Postage Stamp Bourse, Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge St. Free admission club sale circuit, wheelchair access, refreshments available. Sponsor/Affiliate: North Toronto Stamp Club. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information contact Herb, telephone 416-445-7720, email ntstampclub@yahoo.ca. Website: <http://www.NorthTorontoStampClub.tk>.
- **DEC. 17, Burlington, ON**  
Burloak Stamp Fair, Burlington Seniors Centre. Regular monthly stamp show, free parking. For more information contact Michael Anderson, telephone 905-632-6057, email mpanderson@cogeco.ca.
- **DEC. 17, St. Catharines, ON**  
Best Western Stamp Show, Niagara Room, Best Western Hotel, QEW at Lake St. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 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

### From the Editor...

Hello everybody! Ron Mc Donald from Kincardine visited us again last month. We saw another new face at October's meeting. Jim Molineux from Wiarton joined in. I hope that we will see more of Jim but he's a busy fellow and he goes south in the winter. Member Judy Galbraith has probably headed to Arizona by now. We hope that your knee operation went well Judy! We should be seeing another new face at our meetings soon. Gordon Speers of the Saugeen Club has moved up Owen Sound way. Welcome to the club Gordon.

Thanks again to Ralph Wyndham for his Tall Buildings article.

I hope that everyone will join in to welcome the folks bringing the Oxford Club Circuit Books. Bring your want lists and some shekles too!

### Dues are due!!!

The end of the year is quickly approaching. Please bring \$15 in the form of a cheque or cash to this meeting. Those of you who don't get out to the meetings can

mail your annual membership fees to **Bob Ford**, the treasurer, but we'd love to see you at the meeting! Bob's address can be found on the bottom of the page.

If anyone needs a ride to the meetings please contact one of the officer's listed below and we'll see if something can be arranged.

# Owen Sound Stamp Club

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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 10<sup>th</sup> St. E. and 4<sup>th</sup> 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

**Club Officers:**

President: Phil Visser (519) 376-6760

RR #5., Owen Sound ON N4K 5N7

[psvisser@hurontel.on.ca](mailto:psvisser@hurontel.on.ca)

Vice-Pres.: John Cortan (519) 395-5817

P.O. Box 295, Ripley, ON NOG 2R0

[jcortan@hurontel.on.ca](mailto:jcortan@hurontel.on.ca)

Sec./ Treas: Bob Ford (519) 376-4788

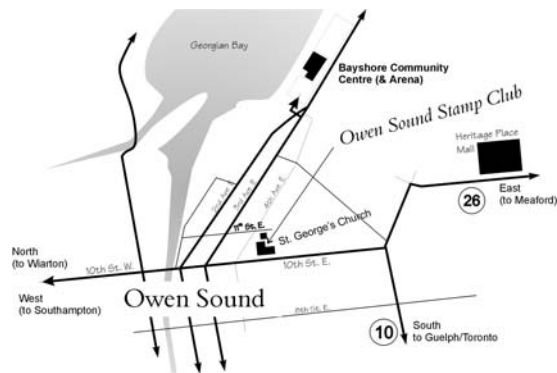
721 8th Ave. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K 3A5

[rob.darford@rogers.com](mailto:rob.darford@rogers.com)

Editor: Marion Ace (519) 934-1998

P.O. Box 286, Tara ON NOH 2N0

[marionace@bmts.com](mailto:marionace@bmts.com)



King George VI and Queen Elizabeth after unveiling Canada's National War Memorial