

Stamps on the Bay



**The Voice of the
Owen Sound Stamp Club
Branch 191 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada
Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 7 P.M.
New Life Centre, 199 4th Ave West, Owen Sound
Volume 4, Edition 7, August 2023**



Hello my philatelic friends!

I hope everyone is having an enjoyable summer. We took advantage of the warm weather to go camping in our old stomping grounds in the Kawarthas. It would have been helpful if we remembered to bring the tent poles. But I must say that the new tent held up very well to the hail storms and bucketing rain. In Peterborough my Granddaughter and family

had to evacuate their house due to water pouring in through the electrical panel. Some of you may remember Chelsea from some meetings years ago. Anyway, they are all safe. Driving through Lindsay on the way back one could see trees and branches down all over the place. Someone posted a picture of a hailstone 3 inches in diameter. Friends of ours have serious damage to all three of their vehicles!!! So that was my vacation.

Well, on to stamp club news. Our One Page Challenge in July was a battle royale with only two entries from Bob Ford and myself duking it out, matching vote for vote until finally someone cast a late vote to break the tie. So Bob Ford was our winner with his page showing stamps that mark important moments in Canadian History. This month's topic is 'the Red Cross' so get your shovels out and start digging through those stamps! September's One Page Challenge is 'Cars'. I hope that you will put in extra effort and bring your entries to our Stamp Fair on September 23. We will have a people's choice vote on these pages. We are also welcoming some of your favourite pages from over the years. How many we can show will depend on space. Don't forget to put aside some items for the silent auction and we need donations for the door prizes.

As you know we had the Royal circuit books at our last two meetings and also at the Saugeen meetings. Sales were over \$1100 so it was definitely a big success. We will likely do that again next summer. I have started to look into the feasibility of a group trip to the Vincent Graves Greene Foundation (VGGF) in Toronto. The VGGF is a font of philatelic information especially Canadian. They also do expertization of stamps there. I am hoping we can go in October or early November. We'll talk about it at the meeting. Bring some auction items if you've got some.

Hope to see you on Wednesday evening of August 16th at 7:00.

Marion Ace
President, Owen Sound Stamp Club

Editors Greeting

Saved by the bell! Our President explained her adventures and so the message arrived this morning. Happily, her contributions arrived as I was considering preparing the monthly message.

A hodge podge of stories follows on the remaining pages of this month's Edition. A correction was needed from last month's newsletter. No nasty emails or anonymous phone messages were received due to the error. Thank you. Jim Molineux put finger to keyboard and has provided an interesting story. Lots of illustrations have been provided to augment the story.

Some usual items are also included. A report of last month's meeting is included. There is also half a page of temptations. These temptations are given for readers to make plans for the next couple of months. These events may help fill those pesky blank spaces in stamp albums and collections.

If you have any stamps with perf-in's, please bring them along to the meeting. Please bring any perf-in catalogues along. My library includes catalogues from the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, and Canada. Perhaps this sharing evening will help organize that part of a collection.

You may notice that this is the 7th Edition for the 2014-5 year of Stamps on the Bay. Number twelve completes my term as Editor. Please encourage a person that could or would step into the Editors role.

Finding a suitable stamp that ties into the remainder of the newsletter is sometimes difficult. But below is a scan that does. Enjoy the remainder of reading.





Know Your Stamps: Correction and Addendum

By Phil Visser

Last month provided a rather horribly prepared newsletter. An error did occur in the above-named story. Somehow the connection between the eyeball and brain misread the value on the far-right stamp (see the scan provided above). Nova Scotia did print a two-cent stamp, which corrects the denial of its existence.

After the meeting last month, Ken Pugh made an appearance at a Zoom coffee meeting and was able to offer enlightenment on who produced the two forgeries. The centre stamp was produced by the Spiro brothers, a printing house in Hamburg Germany. Some controversy did come from the collecting community, however, the brothers denied any attempt in duping collectors, simply saying that they were printed in England and offered to help collectors fill in the gaps with their collections. See <http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/spiro.htm#:~:text=The%20Spiro%20brothers%20made%20large,stamps%20reside%20on%20the%20Continent%20for%20details%20of%20the%20story>. Typing in “spiro brothers forgeries” in the Google search engine should get one to the story.

The last stamp, right one of the three illustrated above, were prepared by the Senf brothers. Hailing from Leipzig, Germany, they too were printers. At the website <http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/senf.htm>, it is claimed that each stamp was overprinted with “Facsimile” or Falsch.” To read further, visit the website or use the Google search engine with the term “senf forgeries.”

I hope the above clarification and addendum will not detract from this newsletter.

July In Person Meeting

A very good turn out came for the meeting on July 19th. According to my count there were nineteen members present. It was good to see members who are returning after recuperating from medical help.

There was plenty of chatting and it was particularly good to see Lesley Botte visit us again from Pennsylvania.

No guests were present and so the members happily leafed through the Royal Circuit Books as well as the OSSC Circuit Books. Not very many entries were posted for the one-page challenge. Two pages were entered and it was a tied vote.

Marion reported that the upcoming gathering in September is well set. Circuit books will be coming from Barrie, Saugeen (Hanover), West Toronto and Oxford (Woodstock). Naturally the Owen Sound books will also be present. Silent auctions will also be held during the day, depending on the number of items brought to the day.

Meeting ended at 9:05, but the sun had set, and dusk arrived. We can now see the beginnings of new seasons coming.

One Page Challenge topics:

- August The Red Cross
- September Cars
- October TBD

In Memoriam

Tom Griffith passed away on Saturday, July 22nd. Tom was a recent member of the OSSC but was a long-time supporter of this club. He was a supporter by coming to the annual shows. I was honoured that he made the trip from Smithville to the former West High Hill High School for the first show I had organized. Tom also served on the board of the Grand River Valley Philatelic Association. He was gentle man and deeply interested in the hobby.

Tom was always a welcoming voice at whatever place our paths crossed at many shows in Southern Ontario. His love of stamps was the topical subject of trains. It was also mentioned that he had several volumes of world stamps. Besides stamps, he also loved collecting cars. It seems he had a “shed” with Volkswagen and Studebaker cars.

He also loved collecting small town cancellations. I made several trips around Grey Bruce looking for Post Offices that Tom wanted for his collection. Perhaps this interest passed along to John Lemon. John appreciated the support Tom gave him while he served as President of this club.

Please take a few minutes to remember Tom and perhaps you may be able to share some of the memories you may have of Tom at the next meeting.

Postage Due
By Jim Molineux

The terms apply to mail sent with insufficient postage. In the early age of stamp less letter, it was generally accept that the recipient would pay the postage to receive the letter. By the 1850's prepayment of postage became a requirement and letters were marked "PD" or "Paid" at the post office. The need to show prepayment led to the development of the adhesive postage stamp and allowed letters to be mailed at letter boxes. It also created the problem of short-paid mail since customers often made guesstimates about the correct postage.

The short-paid letters were usually delivered with the balance due collected directly form the recipient (Fig. 1). However, this method did not prevent funds being diverted into the pockets of mail carriers rather than returned to the post office.

due stamps used and the amount of funds collected.

Postage due stamps are prefixed with the letter "J" in the Scott catalogue. Because they are intended as an internal accounting tool, they are usually simple in design and many of them do not show the name of the issuing country. The usual practice was to affix a postage due stamp in the amount owed and then cancel it when the money was received (Fig. 3)



Postage due stamps were first used by the French postal authority and the letter "T" ("Taxe") is used to indicate insufficient postage. The "Taxe" could also be paid by affixing and then cancelling the additional postal (Fig. 4).



Short-paid international mail was marked by the originating country to ware the receiving country that postage due was to be collected. The amount owing could be doubled as a penalty. Note that this doubling penalty was used on a postcard mailed from Canada to the U.S. with a nice oval cancel to indicate that the postage due was collected by the U.S.P.S. (Fig. 5). Similarly, a postcard sent from Britain to Canada. In this case, the British "T" alert is enclosed in a hexagon (Fig. 6).

Many countries have discontinued postage due stamps including Canada in 1978, the U.S. in 1986 and Britain in 2000. The procedure adopted by



As an alternative, letters with insufficient postage were identified and a notice sent to eh addressee (Fig. 2). Again, this system did not guarantee payment from the recipient or prevent dishonest postal employees form skimming the postage due accounts. Hence the use of postage due stamps which required the postmaster to balance the books between the value of postage



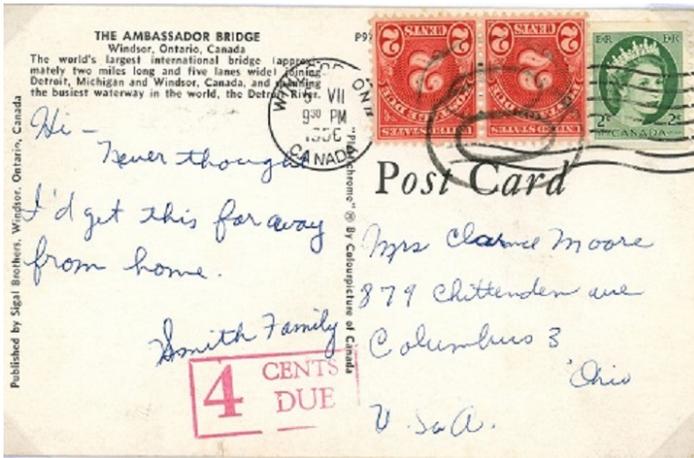


Figure 5



Figure 6

Canada Post is to return the letter to the sender with a handstamp or label indicating the amount of missing postage (Fig. 7).



Mint postage dues have been sold in large numbers and are of little value. Conversely, surviving examples of valid postally used postage due stamps tied by a dated cancel and a postage stamp on cover are less common and are sought after by philatelists.

Other Matters

John Cortan requests either an exhibit or previous one-page challenges entries. Any members who would like to have their exhibit shown at KINEX on August 19th, please bring it along to the meeting on the 16th. John adds, the more exhibits the merrier!

John Lemon shares that the former RJM stamps in Waterloo is still in operation, sort of. Through complicated dealings, owner John has the remaining stamps in his daughter's basement. If anyone is going to Waterloo and has some time to search, please call Trish at (519) 747-3773 to set up an appointment.

IMPORTANT

For the meeting on the 16th, members are requested to bring their Perfins along. Randy has something planned to deal with Perfin's. Some members may be unfamiliar with the term Perfin, but it stands for Perforated Initials. These initials were introduced by companies as a means of stopping the theft of stamps from the "mail room." Apparently stamps could be returned to the Post Office and a refund given. With perforated initials in the stamps, they could not be returned to the Post Office for a refund.

Dead Countries

By Phil Visser

Since a country is not a living thing, it cannot die. Or can it? Searching through several philatelic dictionaries and other notable books, a definition to this term remained elusive. However, Google provided the following definition: "**Dead country:** A former stamp-issuing entity that has ceased issuing its own stamps. Also, the old name of an active stamp-issuing entity that has changed its name, so that the old name will no longer be used on stamps." The credit for this definition belongs to Linn's Stamp News in their "Glossary of Philatelic Terms."

Geography is varied as well as the knowledge of the topic. One example of a former stamp issuing entity is the former country of Czechoslovakia. This country



was created in 1918 as a portion of the former Austro-Hungarian empire. Living in turbulent times, it did change its name during World War 2 into

Bohemia and Moravia and returned to its earlier name following the wars end. Yet it did not stay that way because it divided again on Dec 31st, 1992. There are now two separate postal administrations, the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

Perhaps a better illustration of a former stamp issuing entity is right here in Canada. Originally Canada was the term for the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. Other former provinces issued stamps. These include British Columbia and Vancouver Island, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. Once these provinces joined Confederation, the postal administrations from them merged into the Canadian Post Office.

As time passes along, each postal administration continues to issue stamps for mailing purposes. Dead Countries stop issuing stamps. This fact makes it possible for a collector to complete a collection for that country. Naturally there are challenges on finding issues from these older countries.

Assuming that stamps are produced for mailing purposes, perhaps a modern example can be discussed. Africa is a prime region where name changes can divide the philatelic period. One example



is the Belgian Congo. As a colony of Belgium, it issued stamps for fifty-one years, 1910-60. Independence was granted in 1964 and since then it has issued stamps as the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Another fascinating country to study is now called Burkina Faso. It started life as a French colony of French West Africa. Following independence its name changed to Upper Volta. It achieved its final name in

1984/5 after a coup d'etat. Depending on how detailed a collector would like to become, French West Africa issued stamps between 1944 and 1959. Now there comes an interesting twist. French stamps overprinted with the words "Upper Volta" were issued from 1920 until 1931 and then printed stamps as Upper Volta from 1960 until 1984.



It may be fair to say that stamp collectors would like to see a complete collection. Following that premise, collecting dead countries provides a person the opportunity to complete a collection. There is a member who has boldly

asserted that they have a complete collection for a dead country. We will see if that member wishes to identify themselves!

A search through a stamp catalogue will provide a vast number of names that a person may never have heard of. This could become another obsession for with a stamp collecting bug. Happy collecting.

Upcoming Shows

AUG 19 Kinex 23

Kincardine Davidson center, 601 Durham st., Kincardine, ON, N2Z 1L6

8-10 dealers, sales circuit, lunch booth, kids table, displays

Phone: 519-395-5817

Email: JCORTAN1@GMAIL.COM

SEP 9 National Postage Stamp & Coin Show

September 9, 2023 to September 10, 2023

Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale, 6750 Mississauga Road, Mississauga, ON, L5N 2L3

Canada's best coin and stamp show features 50 dealers and more than 100 tables of coins, medals, tokens, banknotes, stamps, FDCs, postal history, postcards, militaria, coin and stamp supplies, and much more. The show opens on Friday with Colonial Acres Premier Auction on Friday and Saturday evenings. The bourse opens Saturday and Sunday. Check out the website for details on Seminars and other special events. Something for all ages, including the young collectors table and the popular Youth Auction.

Phone: 905-646-7744

Email: mwalsh@trajan.ca

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

SEP 16 Cambridge Stamp Show

Temple Baptist Church, 400 Holiday Inn Dr., Cambridge, ON, N3C 3T1

Temple Baptist Church is located in the old Hespeler part of Cambridge at the intersection with Franklin Boulevard. It is a modern building with no steps. Free admission with lots of parking.

Phone: 519-623-4911

Email: godfreyfearn@gmail.com

SEP 23 Owen Sound Stamp Club Circuit Book Fair & Silent Auction

The New Life Centre, 199 4th Ave. W., Owen Sound, ON, N4K 4V1

Circuit books from various Ontario stamp clubs. Silent auction includes 2 sets of newer Scott's Catalogues. Great door prizes. Lunch counter. One-page Challenge. Wheelchair accessible. Free admission and parking. Hope to see you there!

Phone: 519-934-1998

Email: marionace@bmts.com

Web: <http://owensoundstampclub.org>

OCT 13 Royal*2023*Royale / Canpex

October 13, 2023 to October 15, 2023

The Hellenic Community Centre, 133 Southdale Rd. West, London, ON, N6J 2J2

President**Marion Ace****(519)934-1998**

marionace@bmts.com

Vice President**Phil Visser****(519)387-0271**

pmvisser54@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer**Bob Ford****(519)376-4788**

rob.darford@rogers.com

Newsletter Editor**Phil Visser****(519)387-0271**

pmvisser54@gmail.com

Other Contacts**Circuit Book Manager****Marion Gibson****(519)371-9234**

mamabear54@rogers.com

Website Coordinator**Randy Rogers****(519)373-9732**

rrogers@devuna.com

Zoom Host/Auction Co-Host**Bill Findlay****(519)369-5689**

billfindlay74@gmail.com

Auction Co-Host**Judy Galbraith****(519)379-5891**

jgal472001@yahoo.com

Wrap Up

Another issue ready to be printed. Subjects covered many topics, but at the end, it appears there is a theme after all. World wide stamps is a general thought. This has touched on postal history, history and geography. Page 1 informs you that the OSSC is Branch #191 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. The name is grand and prestigious. It is also a reminder that the Royal is also "Canada's national stamp club." From the Royal circuit books to national level shows, members of this club are part of a much larger body of collectors across the continent.

After mentioning that this club is Branch 191, a quick check on Page 1 revealed that for these four years, this piece of information was missing! Being part of the Royal has benefits. The club is able to rent rooms/halls because of the insurance policy from the Royal that provides liability coverage. Each society needs membership, so please consider being a member of the Royal. Thank you for being members of the Owen Sound Stamp Club. Keep the passion for this hobby.

Blast from the Past**Stories in Stamps by I.S. Klein****A "Lawrence" of the Congo" (1935)**

In the United States, Sir Henry Morton Stanley is known as the soldier of fortune and newspaperman who was given the assignment to find David Livingstone, the explorer lost in the jungles of Africa, and who rescued Livingstone from the savage natives. But in Belgium, Stanley is the man who, on a later voyage, made friends of the Congo valley tribes, established trading posts for European governments and obtained nearly 4000 concessions of land from chiefs of the various tribes. These concessions he turned over to King Leopold of Belgium, as nucleus of what later became the Congo Free State under the protection of Belgium.

In commemoration of the founding of the Congo Free State, Belgium in 1928, issued this stamp in Stanley's honour.

