

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 21st, 2017 @ 7 PM

Hillyer Hall St. Mary's High School

From the President



Hi Everyone. Our September meeting returns to St. Mary's High School. The plan for the meeting is to finalize arrangements for the show in October. We will also have a guest at our meeting. Kathy Hartley from the Harry Sutherland Library of the Vincent Graves Greene

Philatelic Foundation will be visiting. She will speak about the Library and what it offers to club members. I encourage everyone to prepare a one page exhibit for the show on the topic of Canada. The plans for the October meeting has changed and it will be an opportunity to share something about your stamp collection as well as closing with a club auction.

Larry Crane
President
OSSC

From the Editor

Phil Visser

Changes, changes, changes! Nothing seems to stay the same at work, but here is the latest edition of the Owen Sound Stamp Club Newsletter. I hope you will find it interesting and if there are any editorial comments to add, please feel free to send them along and hopefully everyone will benefit from those thoughts.

Last month I added two categories to the newsletter. Unfortunately, no one has sent along anything to include in the **News Flash** section but the **Looking For...** section has some wishes. As the editor I am always looking forward to helping club members build up their collections. I did receive one members collecting interests which you will see in the second section mentioned above.

This months article is a continuation from last month about "Scenic Wonders." The scan below is sort of on the topic of this article, but we'll leave the mystery until you have read the article. Following the article on Scenic Wonders is another Tip from Andrew McGavin and then the usual listings of stamp shows to tempt your wallet.

I attended the Kincardine Stamp Show and it seemed like it was well attended. Thanks goes out to the members from our club who traveled there for the day. It appears to have been a success for the dealers and presumably also the collectors. It was for me!

I did receive an email from the Barrie stamp club reminding us of their show a few weeks after our own show. I haven't had the opportunity to visit it, but maybe this year will be a first for me.



Figure 3 Unitrade # 1694, the \$8 Grizzly Bear. A dangerous predator roaming Western Canada. This stamp was issued October 15th, 1997

Scenic Wonders: Continued

By Phil Visser

After the stop at Wawa, On, the vehicles appetite for go-juice was satisfied. We returned to Highway 17 to continue on the trip. Then the construction season made its largest appearance for us. We ran into several stops for one lane traffic and travelled on bare roads, partially paved roads, and finally the fully paved road. By this time we discovered the need for some food for ourselves.

The next major place along the road was White River, ON. A fellow philatelist had mentioned the presence of another scenic stop with a link to stamp collecting. The stop there was to have a meal and upon our return to the vehicle, right beside the restaurant was a plaque and smaller silhouette of Winnie the Pooh. This statue is a lot smaller than the Big Goose at our previous stop. Of course, my question was “what has Winnie the Pooh got to do with White River, On.”

The plaque was very informative. On August 24th, 1914, Lieutenant Harry Colebourn purchased an orphaned bear cub for the princely sum of \$20. Lt Colebourn was part of the Canadian Veterinary Corps and was attached to the Fort Garry Horse Regiment. The regiment was on its way to Val Cartier PQ for further training and then on to England. The bear cub joined the troops and arrived in England later that year.

Winnie became a pet for the soldiers and slept under Lt Colebourn’s cot until it had grown too big, and was then relegated to being outside the tent at night. When the regiment received orders to proceed to France, Lt Colebourn arranged for the bear to become part of the London Zoo. While in the zoo, many children loved to watch it play and see it open the door of its house. The bear was such a delight with the visitors, Capt. Colebourn (Harry had been promoted) decided to leave the bear at the zoo instead of taking it back to Canada following the end of the war.

One of the children who fell in love with Winnie was Christopher Robin Milne, the son of A.A. Milne. The elder Milne wrote a number of children’s book about Winnie the Pooh. These books became favourites for children. This attracted the attention of Walt Disney who then made the books into cartoon movies. This is the connection with our hobby.



Figure 4 Unitrade #1618-21. This block of four show a lovely first day cancel from White River Ontario as well as the proverbial “Hunny” pot that Walt Disney created as the plot for the cartoon.

In 1996, Canada Post issued a series of four stamps about Winnie the Pooh. The four stamps show the progression of Winnie the Pooh into what we know about the story today. The Unitrade Catalogue numbers this series from #1618 to 1621. These stamps were issued in a booklet, and a souvenir sheet and finally as a booklet pane as an outer cover for a 16 page souvenir story booklet. It is interesting to see that the single stamp from the souvenir sheet has double the value of a single stamp from the booklet. The differences can be found by looking at the tagging from both, and they will be slightly different from each from of printing. See the Unitrade catalogue on how to find those differences.



Figure 5 Sir John A MacDonalD, the first Prime Minister of Canada and a father of Confederation.

Going back to White River, the statue of Winnie the Pooh was unveiled in August of 1992. The statue is based on the Disney version of Winnie the Pooh. After travelling through wilderness in Northern Ontario, it makes one wonder how in the world White River was every founded in the first place.

The answer to that is simply someone we know as the first Prime Minister of Canada, Sir John A. MacDonalD.

One of the enticements that Sir John A. offered to British Columbia, in order for them to join Canada, was a railway joining East to West. This railway is known as the Canadian Pacific Railway. To get a real picture of what it took to build the railroad, the books that Pierre Berton wrote, "The National Dream" and "The Last Spike," provide an excellent start. In summary of those books, the two most difficult places in Canada to build the railroad was Northern Ontario and the Rocky Mountains. White River was a work camp for the railroad strategically spaced for trains to refill the water for the boilers on the steam trains as well as fuel for the boilers with which to produce steam and therefore motion.

The camp was first called "Snowbank" by William Van Horne, the chief engineer for the Canadian Pacific Railway. This location was also a key place for which food and water was made available for the livestock travelling on the railroad. The town's history doesn't tell when the name was changed from Snowbank to White River; however, the name of White River has been in use for many years.



Figure 6 Copied from Wikipedia, the picture was taken by Richard BH from Hamilton ON.

Another little fact arose from the memory banks. At one time, White River was known as the "coldest place in Canada." Pierre Berton even adds a few words in the book "The Last Spike" where he writes "another

construction camp not far from the site of modern-day White River, reputedly the coldest spot in Canada (p368)." Mr Berton hails from the Yukon, so this quote is probably an indirect swipe at the claim. Some research into the background of this claim shows that the claim is indeed a myth.

Many people have different opinions about Wikipedia, but this source provides the answer to the claim made in White River. The coldest place in Canada is recorded as being Snag, Yukon which recorded a temperature of -62.8° C on February 3rd, 1947. Even in Ontario the coldest temperature is found in Iroquois Falls, which had the lowest temperature in Eastern Canada of -58.3° C on January 23rd, 1935. The coldest temperature in White River is -58° C. The Wikipedia

article continues to suggest that this term may originate from the daily reported temperatures and White River was reported to be "the coldest in the nation today." The official weather station was closed in 1976 and so we don't here about White River anymore.

This story began with Lieutenant Harry Colebourn and so it would also be fitting to share some further information about his life. During the war year, Lieutenant Colebourn was promoted to Captain and finally to Major. Following the end of the war, Colebourn did post-graduate work at the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and later in England in 1920 in Winnipeg MN. Mr Colebourn passed away on September 24th 1947, seventy years ago this month.

Scenic wonders can be found anywhere in Canada. It takes a person to slow down and wonder about what they are really seeing. Of course this is nature, but there are also many things that humans have made in order to distinguish themselves or their communities. One wonder that did not make it into the philatelic world is the "Big Nickel" in Sudbury ON. We did stop there to show our gradn-daughter is wonder but she wasn't impressed. Following along the financial side of things, there is also the "Big Loonie" in Echo Bay ON (near Sault Ste Marie) and the "Big Toonie" in Campbellford ON (between Peterborough and Belleville). These last two await another road trip.

Club News

The August meeting was another lively gathering. About fifteen members were present and had the opportunity to go through the Club Circuit books that Chris Tschirhart manages for our club members. Chris received over a hundred and fifty pages to add into the binders. Pages have been added from Australia, Austria, Canada (some nice high value stamps), France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, India, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia, San Marino, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States.

Of course each meeting is a chance for club members to show what they have found and might be of interest to others in the club. Trading, buying and selling between club members is always part of the evening!

As a reminder, don't forget the Show and Tell portion of

the meeting.

Looking For...

I received an email from Randy Rogers who shares what his collecting interests are:

I collect worldwide stamps primarily from 1800's to 2000 although if I do come across newer issues I create pages for those too.

My specialized albums are for Australia, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Great Britain, India, and USA, so those countries are of particular interest to me.

Additionally I collect worldwide perfins (including ohms) and precancels (especially Canada and USA) and British Machin's.

I enjoy collecting definitive issues and generally prefer used stamps.

SELLING YOUR STAMPS?

Summary Tip #18: When it comes to Selling - all collections are Not created Equal.

Dear Philip,

I will return to the surprisingly large subject of 'certificates' in another article - but this article is prompted by developments we have observed over the past few years when purchasing private stamp collections.

Traditionally there are 5 different ways to sell your stamps:

1. The Stamp Dealer or Stamp Auction buying on their own account.
2. Dealers 'runners'.
3. Private Treaty - the idea of Private Treaty is that collectors 'place' their collection with a dealer or auction that charges a small commission (or the buyer a commission) to purchase the collection outright. Historically 'Private Treaty' has acquired notoriety as an excuse for the company handling the transaction to 'buy-in' the collection for themselves. Fortunately things are more transparent now.
4. Selling through auction on your own account - the auction house charges you a commission and handling costs.
5. Finally - the internet now permits you to sell your stamps on-line upon your own account via internet giants such as 'eBay'. (Editors note: See the comments at the end of this article.)

In selling your stamps there are two principles to understand. Collectors want to buy stamps that are

missing in their collections: this is why Dealers exist. Dealers buy collections to 'break-down' into usually smaller units that collectors need for their collections: generally speaking breaking down for sale into small/smaller units adds 'value' and profit for the dealer.

Some collectors are 'hoarders' and will buy general lots - other collectors will buy intermediate sized collections in order to 'extract' the stamps they want ... and then 'turn' the balance back for resale to dealer or auction. The idea that collectors will buy large complete intact collections at retail prices is quaint and outmoded. In almost 40 years of dealing I have seen few intact collections purchased by collectors and continued by new collectors. Collectors enjoy creating their own collections. Few collectors have the budget to purchase a substantial intact collection and develop it still further.

Know your 'strengths' - (know the strength of your collection).

Choosing who is best to approach to sell your stamps or handle them depends upon your knowing the 'strength' and merits of your collection. For example ... on a basic level - if your collection consists of all different modern British sets that you have bought from the Post Office at 'face value' ... the last thing you want to do is send this collection to auction. All you will be doing is paying an auction's commissions - up to 35% for them to sell your stamps, most probably, to a dealer below 'face value' - who will use a fair percentage of them upon commercial correspondence.

A few phone calls to dealers will elicit the percentage of 'face value' that the trade is paying for stamps that there are too many of - because the Post Office has recently printed and sold them.



Figure 7 Unitrade #1690 issued October 21st, 1998. Another type of bear found in the Canadian wilderness

Just don't forget to ask if there is anything 'better' in the period that you are selling - that may command a higher price.

In our next article we'll focus on the merits of the 5 different ways to sell your stamps ... and which may be best for you.

Happy collecting from us all,

Andrew

PS. If you find this 'tip' interesting please forward it to a philatelic friend.

Andrew McGavin

Editors Note:

While eBay is one of the largest markets for stamp collectors buying and selling, don't forget the new kid on the block, HipStamp as well as the European based Delcampe. There are also many private auction websites and dealers so don't feel restricted in your search for treasures.

Upcoming Shows

OCT 7 Owen Sound Stamp Club Show

St Mary's High School, 555 15th St. E., Owen Sound, ON, N4K 4T4

Owen Sound Club holds their annual stamp show from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., including stamp dealers, exhibits, circuit books and ongoing draws. Lunch counter available. Free admission.

Phone: 579-371-7054

Email: larrynmarycrane@gmail.com

OCT 14 Guelphpex 2017

Trinity United Church, 400 Stevenson St. N., Guelph, ON, N1E 5C3

NEW LOCATION!! Guelph Stamp Club invites you to attend 71st Guelphpex 2017. Exhibition, dealer bourse & sales circuit from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission & door prizes, parking available.

Phone: 519-822-2658

Email: gary.repta@sympatico.ca

OCT 14 CANPEX 2017

National Philatelic Exhibition

October 14, 2017 to October 15, 2017

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

CANPEX 2017 is one of the National-level stamp shows held annually in Canada. Sanctioned by The Royal

Philatelic Society of Canada it is also part of the American Philatelic Society's "World Series of Philately". Features 150 frames of competitive exhibits and National dealers. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free and there is plenty of free parking. Reception and awards presentation Sat. 5:45 p.m. (ticket holders only). We invite you to join us as we celebrate "Stamp Collecting Month." At Canpex 2017 you will be able to visit dealers you would not normally see and view world class exhibits. You will also renew old acquaintances with fellow collectors and meet new collectors with similar interests. In short, an opportunity not to be missed! Plan to attend and mark these dates on your calendar now!

Phone: 519-871-7637 Email: info@canpex.ca

Web: <http://www.canpex.ca>

OCT 21 56th Annual Barrie Stamp Exhibit and Dealer's Bourse

Allandale Recreation Centre, 190 Bayview Dr., Barrie, ON, L4N 4Y8

Hosted by the Barrie District Stamp Club (BDSC), Chapter 73 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, the show will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be approximately 12 dealers present as well as a Children's Table and the Sales Circuit binders of the BDSC. Admission and parking are free. Refreshments available through the Rec Centre. For more information contact Bourse Chairman, Bruce Walter Phone: 705-735-6009 Email: b.walter@rogers.com Web: <http://www.barriedistrictstampclub.ca>

OCT 28 National Postage Stamp and Coin Show

October 28, 2017 to October 29, 2017

Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale, 6750 Mississauga Rd., Mississauga, ON, L5N 2L3

Presented by Canadian Stamp News and Canadian Coin News, the fall edition of the National Postage Stamp & Coin Show will be held at a new venue for 2017. Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Featuring stamp and coin dealers from across Canada, who are selling, buying and appraising all kinds of philatelic and numismatic materials. Admission is only \$3 on Saturday and FREE on Sunday. Parking is also free. Special room rate available at the hotel. Check out our website for show updates and list of dealers.

Phone: 800-408-0352 Ext 228

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

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When you have a chance, why not visit the club web site at www.owensoundstampclub.org. Feedback is always important to keeping this means of connecting up to date. The only way to end a newsletter is with more pictures of our common obsession, stamp collecting!

