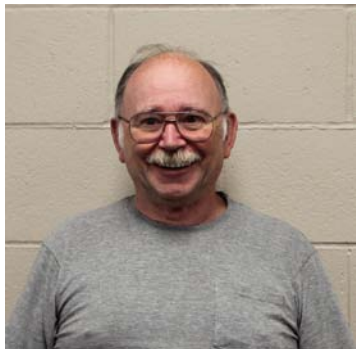


Owen Sound Stamp Club

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 15th, 2019 @ 7 PM
St Mary's High School, Hillyer Hall, 555 15th Street East, Owen Sound
Volume 6 Edition 5

From the President



Hello everyone, it seems like Mother Nature has something against our little ground hog up in Wiarton. The weather has not been the best possible, with lots of high winds, and lots of rain.

This meeting is going to center on the up and coming circuit book show latter on the 25th. I will be asking your help in setting up and taking down the tables. Also who can bring different items for the food booth.

Randy will be bringing the Club's Circuit Books.

See you at the meeting.

John C. Lemon
President OSSC.

From the Editor Phil Visser

Welcome to the new month and an exciting change in the newsletter. In the following pages there are a number of short stories from Jill Carroll, Bill Findlay and Randy Rogers. I have also added in an article that flows from what Bill Findlay wrote about. I hope the articles are interesting and will help us to get to know each other better as a stamp collecting community.

There is also a short report on last meetings activities, and further in are the upcoming show dates and locations/host clubs or organizations. I take a minute to encourage one and all to attend the upcoming Club Circuit book fair on May 25th. There are several other clubs coming with their circuit books, so if one clubs books are becoming stale to you, there will be an opportunity to broaden horizons and search for those elusive stamps missing from our collections.

The Saugeen Show was a few days ago and it was nice to see the many members from this club who attended the show. I hope that it was a successful day and that you had a chance to see the displays. Perhaps there was success in winning a door prize!

In previous editions there has been a mention of the Harry Sutherland Philatelic Library as part of the Vincent Graves Green Philatelic Foundation in Toronto. The Library receives digital copies of our newsletter as well as many other clubs. In the recent "Friends of the Library" newsletter from the Library, John and I received a "shout out" concerning the April newsletter. Perhaps one may think Owen Sound is the end of the earth, but we are known within philatelic circles. Club members can help spread the word of this club by visiting other shows and events. Who knows, this may even add to the club membership.

I take a moment to encourage members to attend the upcoming Postal History Symposium in Hamilton in July. Check out the "Upcoming Shows" section for the details of this event.

Here are a couple of teaser scans that relate to stories further in the newsletter:



Stamp Discolourisation by Randy Rogers



While sorting through several lots of Cuban stamps that I had recently acquired I came upon this stamp, Scott's #364, 2c orange vermillion,

issued Oct 28, 1940.

It looked mostly brown to me and I wondered if I had found some variety. After spending 2 or 3 days searching the internet and specialized catalogues I was unable to find any reference to the brownish colour stamp.

I don't give up easily so my next attempt was to post a topic on the Stamp Community Forum <https://www.stampcommunity.org/>, a free site that I often use when I have difficulty identifying a stamp. I posted my picture and asked if anyone knew of this "variety". It didn't take long for the replies to arrive, the first saying that it was an oxidized colour changeling.

Well as it turns out, the stamp is not really oxidized, it is sulphurized. This type of discolouration is most common on red or orange stamps. Stamps can be discoloured for a number of reasons, bleaching by sunlight for example. Fortunately there is an easy way to repair sulphurized stamps...oxidization! The trick is to soak the stamp in common 3% hydrogen peroxide solution. The length of time you need to soak the stamp depends on the severity of the discolouration. After the true colour returns, simply rinse the stamp in clean water then press and dry it. This stamp is not valuable so I thought I would give it a try. In this case I left the stamp for 45 minutes before rinsing and drying. Here is the final result.



This method only works for stamps that are sulphurized. Other discolourations do not respond to this treatment. Here is the link that another reply provided <http://www.stampsmarter.com/learning/HowToRemoveOxidation.html>

April Meeting Highlights

As expected and mentioned in the last newsletter, the meeting hosted the return of the snowbirds. It was good to see John Appleton, Judy Galbraith and Jim Molineaux return to share their knowledge and

interests with the remainder of the club. Beside the snowbirds, there were 15 other members present, so there was a total of 18 members at the meeting.

Marian Gibson has agreed to take on the vacancy with the club circuit books. Thank you for stepping forward Marian! While on the topic of the Club Circuit books, Randy shared that the Website has had over 33,000 visitors since this edition went live. I am sure that the Circuit Book Explorer has driven much of the visits. Randy also mentioned that another 130+ pages have been added into the Circuit books, covering many different countries.

At the last meeting, Randy had distributed a collecting interest questionnaire for members to complete. He received 17 returned forms and is in the process of compiling the information to show the members' collecting interests. A few more forms were distributed at this meeting.

At the end of the March meeting, I was approached by Jill Carroll about having a column about club members featured in the newsletter. She has agreed to provide a bio of club members featuring the following questions:

- How did you get started with stamp collecting?
- Why do you collect stamps?
- How would you describe your collection?
- What is the favourite part of your collection?
- What have you been working on recently?
- Do you have other collections, besides stamps?
- What other hobbies are you involved in?

Participating in this is purely voluntary, but it is a great way for members to get to know each other. I hope many members will participate and feel free to share answers to these questions. Jill has provided her answers to these questions further in this newsletter. This will appear in the newsletter in a semi-regular fashion, as people share and space allows.

A guest speaker was arranged for the evening. Mr Rick Dupuis is a numismaticist and has a booth at a flea market in Hanover as well as hosting a radio program from Hanover called "Pocket Change." He is also a dealer in coins and in the process of buying a coin collection; there is usually other collections involved.

He got intrigued one summer with stamps, and after the summer was over, he realized the enormous amount of work needed to become a stamp dealer. That time investment convinced him to shelve the idea of being a stamp dealer. But while buying an estate collection, he will take everything from the estate and then split off the

coins from other material. His interest in speaking with us was to find out who collected what so that he could find people interested in stamps that he may purchase.

Rick was also the founding President of the Saugeen Coin Society and operates 5th Ave Coins. The presentation was interesting and offered a chance to remind us that we too can run across collections and now we have an avenue to contact who will buy a coin collection.

OSSC Member Profile:

Jill Carroll

By Jill Carroll

How did you get started with stamp collecting?

My grandfather got me started when I was a little kid. He worked in the mailroom of a big insurance company n downtown Toronto, so he would bring me stamps from all over. I was enchanted by these colourful little souvenirs and the stories they told. It piqued my interests in geography, history and art.



Why do you collect stamps?

I like the stories they tell. A country's stamps are a way of visualizing a national identity, reflecting how people see themselves and the thing they value. I also appreciate the aesthetics involve. The best stamps are works of art.

How would you describe your collection?

A worldwide mix of used, mint and first day covers, with separate binders for countries I've focused on. Canada is till my biggest collection. Nest would be Sweden, UK and France, followed by other Nordic countries and Antarctic territories.

What is the favourite part of your collection?

I love engraved stamps, especially Swedish booklets and French art commemoratives.

What have you been working on recently?

French first day covers, and I'm starting to collect Portugal.

Do you have other collections besides stamps?

I used to collect rocks and minerals, which was easier when I worked as a geologist. It's hard to find nice specimens without being really expensive.

What other hobbies are you involved in?

I swim at the Y several times a week, and I read way too many books, mostly science fiction and mysteries.

ANOTHER NEW TOPIC FOR ME

By Bill Findlay

I am one of those collectors (a border-line philatelist) who likes a lot of variety in my collecting. And so I have a multi-album collection of Canada, Great Britain, the United States, Spain and (my favourite) France. But I also have a "world wide" collection that does not accommodate the wide world – that is because I collect very few African countries and no "sand dune" countries. But even that is subject to exception – I do like the early colonial issues in those areas.

I even have a few areas of topical interest – wine (including beer and liquor, but *mostly* wine!); canoes (but including kayaks and Olympic type canoeing); every collector's favourite – stamps on stamps (but even here I extend myself, because I like those stamps that are *about* stamps and stamp collecting, but don't actually portray a stamp); and two side line topicals (side line because I don't do much with them) – Lord of the Rings issues, and Scott catalogue numbers 611 and 140 (this one is *very* personal, so if you want to know what it is all about, you will have to ask me).

All of which tells you how varied my interests are – I seldom have a plan when I sit down at my desk to "do" stamps. Which brings me to my new topic for collecting – I blame Ken Magee for this one – I am putting together a collection of cancelled stamps where the cancel is a clear date cancel – dates that show the month in alpha and the year in numeric, for the period 1900 to 2000 (but of course, being me, I have a place for such stamps that are pre-1900 and post-2000!).



This topic arose because of the difficulty in "soaking" the newer issues off paper, so I started trimming those stamps to include the cancel (and hence part of the envelope). This in turn caused me to start looking at the cancel on a stamp instead of the stamp itself. And as to Ken's part in this, well, he has a collection that includes not only the month and year but the date! I have heard of others who try to fill a calendar but this is my variation on the theme. I don't care what the issue is or the country of issue, but there are some great

cancels out there, and I have just started to take a closer look at them.

The point here is that collecting should be fun and interesting – collect whatever interests you, don't accept limitations on what you should collect, and enjoy what you are doing!

Adventures in Philately

By Phil Visser

After inheriting my father's collection, I knew the areas we had worked on to further the Dutch collection. The years following his death were busy with child rearing and so the collection rested with some limited organizing when time permitted. On my return to active stamp collecting, I also ventured into the world of eBay, with the mission to fill in the holes.

We had worked on finding perforation varieties and while many issues were already present, it was the back of the book that was particularly vacant. Through the eBay portal I purchased collection/pages of early stamps to fill in the areas of interest. It was through those purchases that



“extras” came into my stockpile. One of those purchases had this particular stamp and cancel in it. I set it aside because the place name was unusual, and it was simply a nice cancel. It was several years later that cancellations became a focus of my Dutch collection. This

is then a tale on how philately came into my sphere of interest.

This particular cancel is called the “small round cancel.” The cancel itself is about 21 mm in diameter and fits nicely on the stamp that it was supposed to obliterate. That last point is what makes collecting this cancel interesting. Looking at the cancellation, three elements are a part of it. First the place name, then the date and year of postal usage and finally, at the bottom is the time of day that the clerk cancelled the letter.

Studying the place names is interesting in itself, but what has complicated and expanded the total number of cancels, is that a language commission change the spelling of names, thus, while the location is the same, there can be more than one cancel from that place. For instance, the town of Doesborgh was respelled as Doesburg, or the town of Hasselt (Ov.) was later changed to simply Hasselt. That is just the city town/village names. Don't forget RPO's, sub post offices in larger cities like Amsterdam which had 14 of them (Amsterdam 1

etc). All told, there is over 2,400 different cancels to collect.

Through eBay, I became connected with the Netherlands Philatelist of Northern California and from there learned more about collecting these cancels as well as other types of cancels from the classical period of stamps (1860-1930). This led to collecting the cancel dates and so I added pages for each month in a calendar year. Because this period was so prolific in mailing letters, it only took three to four years to fill in the calendar. But the calendar must also consider the full year, and don't forget February 29th. I then also started to collect the calendar on one specific stamp, Scott # 35. This calendar is about two thirds full, with no month of the year completed yet.

As mentioned above, the third element was the time of day the stamp was cancelled. This was fairly simple to gather and so I started to collect this on certain stamps as well, Scott # 23, 35 and 40. The collection of #40 is complete, #35 requires one more find, but the early one, #23 is about two thirds complete.

Naturally, there is also catalogues printed which go into the grading of cancels so that values can be assigned. The one bad thing about this is that the pages I had made to house the collection do not have room for new discoveries and the odd deletion. All told, the cancel collection is housed in four three ring binders. Two of those binders house the “numeral cancel” collection while the other types of cancels are in the last two binders

One moral of the story is that collecting stamps is never boring! Even focusing on one country, the average collector will never complete a collection, because every country has some varieties that one or very few copies exist of. Enjoy what you can from the hobby, and yes a worldwide collection is still a reasonable thing to collect.



Upcoming Shows

MAY

25

Grey, Bruce, Simcoe & Area Stamp Clubs Circuit Book Club Fair

St. Mary's High School, 555 15th St. E., Owen Sound, ON, N4K 1X2

Welcome to the first annual circuit book fair hosted by various clubs in the Grey, Bruce and Simcoe area. The show will be open from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and

feature circuit books from different stamp clubs. Door prizes, lunch counter, free admission and free parking.

Phone: 519-375-7161

Email: lembudd@yahoo.com

Web:<http://www.owensoundstampclub.org/>

JUN

8

North Toronto Stamp Club Summer Bourse

Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge St., Toronto, ON, M4T 1Z9

The North Toronto Stamp Club's Summer Bourse will be held at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge Street. Hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Easy subway access at St. Clair subway station, free admission, 22 dealers, more than 100 sales circuit books including recent issues, over 100 ten cents books, members table, door prizes (first prize one kilo of stamps) snack bar, wheelchair access, parking at the Church and on nearby streets, families and children welcome.

Phone: 6479904073

Email: ntsc.programchair@gmail.com

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

JUN

21

Royal*2019*Royale

June 21, 2019 to June 23, 2019

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

Canadian Stamp News, the Bramalea Stamp Club and the West Toronto Stamp Club are hosting the 91st convention of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) on June 21-23. With a nominal admission fee on Friday and Saturday and free admission on Sunday, the show will boast more than 30 dealer tables, a national-level competitive exhibition, society meetings and several insightful seminars.

Email: jtrauzzi@yahoo.ca

Web:<http://www.rpsc.org/royal2019>

JUL

18

PHSC Symposium

July 18, 2019 to July 21, 2019

Hamilton Sheraton Hotel, 116 King St. W., Hamilton, ON, L8P 4V3

Building on the success of the 2018 Symposium, the Postal History Society of Canada is proud to announce the third annual PHSC Symposium. We will visit several different sites of historical interest in Hamilton and the Greater Toronto Area, where invited members will speak about a variety of postal history topics. We will also host a national-level postal history exhibition as well as a bourse with 15 dealers, breakout sessions and additional speakers and activities. The

activities and meals are available at a nominal cost. Admission to the bourse and exhibition is free.

Phone: 905-690-3598

Email: symposium@postalhistorycanada.net

Web:<http://www.postalhistorycanada.net>

AUG

1

APS Stamp Show

August 1, 2019 to August 4, 2019

CHI Health Center Omaha, 455 N. 10th St., Omaha, NE, 68102

Stamp Show 2019, co-hosted with the American Topical Association, in Omaha, Nebraska, marks the 133rd annual convention of the American Philatelic Society. Each year, stamp collectors, exhibitors, historians and members of the general public gather to socialize, increase philatelic knowledge, and exchange stamps. The 2019 show will feature more than 100 dealers, societies, live auctions, literature and philatelic exhibits, more than 100 meetings and seminars, and first-day-of-issue ceremonies for new stamps. The show is free and open to the public.

Phone: 814-933-3803

Email: stampshow@stamps.org

Web:<https://stamps.org/STAMPSHOW-SS>

AUG

10

KINEX 2019

Davidson Centre, 601 Durham St., Kincardine, AB, N2Z 1L6

This annual stamp show and sale features upwards of 11 dealers on the bourse, exhibits, door prizes, lunch booth, a youth table and sales circuit books.

Phone: 519-395-5817

Email: jcortan@hurontel.on.ca

AUG

30

BNAPEX 2019

August 30, 2019 to September 1, 2019

Delta Hotels by Marriott Ottawa City Centre, 101 Lyon St. N., Ottawa, ON, K1R 5T9

The 71st annual convention of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS)—BNAPEX—features a 160-frame British North America competitive exhibition as well as a 20-dealer bourse and about 25 BNAPS Study Group meetings and seminars.

Phone: 905-934-8377

Email: roystamp@cogeco.ca

Web: <http://bnaps.org/>

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Another newsletter has been completed, but the first one using a different work processing software package. There was much to learn and experiment with and hopefully it meets the reader's approval with respect to readability. Following along with tradition, I encourage you to visit the club website whenever you are searching for something. Randy has a fabulous section on links that will make your philatelic knowledge grow.

And now for a few more cancel scans supplied by Bill Findlay:

