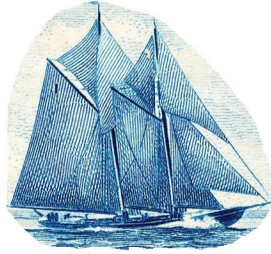


Stamps on the Bay



The Voice of the
Owen Sound Stamp Club

**Meeting Cancelled due to
Health Safety**
Volume 1, Edition 8, September 2020



From the President

Hello Everyone. I hope everyone is still healthy and staying safe. Same as the previous months nothing has changed, our September meeting is cancelled, along with our Fall Show. due to the Covid-19 Virus. We have not heard anything about getting back to St. Mary's

High School yet. (The price will probably go up per meeting, as well as the shows.) if and when we get the word to go.

On the BRIGHTER side of things, one of our members was looking into trying something different, so we can have a meeting together. She will let us all know what she finds out by email. A lot of groups and organizations are using it for shows, meetings or just to see each other.

That's it for now, stay healthy and most of all stay safe.

John C. Lemon
President OSSC

Editors Greeting

Welcome to the latest edition of Stamps on the Bay. It seems isolation is the thing we are becoming used to, but President John is offering some hope for technological ways of seeing each other. During this pandemic period, I have had the opportunity to "attending" meetings with a professional organization I am a part of, as well as meetings with family and also BNAPS study groups. The platform used was called "ZOOM" and it was good so see each other and have a chance to converse with each other. One challenge is when the group size gets larger and there are multiple members trying to speak at the same time. However, it does keep people connected which is something more than we are doing at present.

While Zoom was the platform I used for the meetings, there are other platforms "out there." For instance, Google has come out with a program called "Meet," while Microsoft also has a platform called "Chat." I have no experience with these other platforms, but I am sure that something will be useful in them. However, to use these platforms, the members will need a computer or a cellphone with a camera. Initially I used the cellphone but it suffered from a limited screen size and so the

number of people visible was four. When my new computer arrived and was set up, the monitor was built in with a camera and microphone and so that was fairly simple to download the "Zoom" program and participate in a meeting. The number of people visible on the screen has increased and participated in meetings with twenty plus other participants. It would be nice to make contact with other club members to see how each is doing and what progress is being made on the hobby.

Adaptation is an interesting thing for this hobby. I sense that we are diligently trying to organize our accumulations, and rediscovering the surprises we had forgotten about. It seems that some of the enterprising people in our hobby are finding ways to doing business. Online sales are booming from what I hear, which raises some other challenges on how to receive purchases from out of country sites. At present the mail system seems to be returning to normal and so that allows for online purchases, with some delivery challenges from other countries. For me, I experienced two letters from Australia that took almost four months to arrive as well as another one from Brazil that took five months to arrive. So far no lost transactions! Apparently some dealers are also travelling about the region and making appointments with collectors to peruse their wares.

This edition contains three stories plus a short "Show and Tell." Randy Rogers has provided another "Useful Links" introduction, there is another story of Owen Sound and area postal history and to wrap up this edition, a UPA Tip. Hopefully these articles stimulate readers collecting interests and provide useful information. Alas, stamp shows are still being cancelled with no foreseeable date for the shows to resume. Let us hope that the second wave of the pandemic is also controlled as this first wave has been.

Last months teaser scan was a partial scan of Scotts Catalogue US #2959i. The bottom part of the scan was cropped out, but it reads "Japanese bomb Pearl Harbour, December 7th. The date was too close to the continuation of the Canada Map Stamp, as December 7th is the first day of issue of the Map stamp. This month the teaser scan is also an indirect reference to one of the following articles. Can you guess the article that is tied to this scan?"





Useful Links

by Randy Rogers
Country Specific References - Belgium

This month's edition of Useful Links continues our focus on the Country Specific reference material that can be found on our club website. Use the

following menu choices to find the links mentioned in this article:

Links » Reference » Countries » Belgium

First up is the **Small Albert I** link. Here you can find specialist information on the Belgium Albert I series of 1915. There are numerous varieties of the stamps in this series and the document found here describes the differences and how to tell them apart. The stamps are common, inexpensive, and make for a fun 'specialist' project.



Next in the Belgium section we find a link to detailed descriptions of the **Mérode Monument** stamps of 1914. This site is in Dutch so I use a feature of the Chrome browser to translate the page to English. In 1914, the Red Cross of Belgium had been mobilized, like the army, and in order to meet its financial needs, the government decided to issue postage stamps with a surcharge, in favor of this humanitarian work. A series of 3 stamps was produced featuring the Red Cross and a statue that honors the memory of Count Frédéric de Merode, hero of the Belgian revolution. Much like the



Small Albert stamps, there are many collectable varieties for a specialized collection.

World of Belgian Stamps combines the author's interests in Belgian culture and history with a continuing fascination for its philatelic history. There are more than 5,400 Belgian stamps online with facts and figures. Philatelists will find full-color representative philatelic exhibits, reviews of the latest in Belgian related philatelic

H.M. King Leopold I type "Medaillons".

Date of issue: 17th of October of 1850.

OBC/COB numbers: 3-5A



Designs	: Charles Baugniet (1814-1886)
Composition	
Painting :	
Engraving :	: John Henri Robinson (1796-1871)
Denomination	: 10 cent ; 20 cent ;
Perforation	: none
Size Stamp	: 19.5 x 23mm
Size 'beeld'	: 18 x 22 mm
Composition of the sheets	
Printing Process	: Line-engraved bookprinting
Number of plates	: 1
Printing Run	: 3 - 498.000ex ; 4 - 376.000ex ; 5 - 392.000ex
Out of use	: 01/07/1866
Paper	: H1 - Thin or Thick parchment look-alike Paper
Watermark	: 2 weaved capitals "L" in frame

research, on-going research topics and a dictionary of philatelic terms.

Until next month, stay safe and check out the links mentioned in this month's article.

Show and Tell

Marion Gibson sent an email along with this scan:



Marion's comment was "Definitely out of my price range for stamps but fun to look at!" These three items are made of gold and enamel and were issued in 1967 at the coronation of Mohammed Reza Shah Pahlavi. The gold version is not listed in Scott's catalogue, but the same three stamp designs were issued in 1968 on the 1st anniversary of the coronation. These reproductions issued in 1968 are listed as #1488-90 in Scott's catalogue. The 6 Rial stamp features an image of Empress Farah, the 8 Rial stamp shows Mohammed Reza Shah Pahlavi. The final stamp, 10 Rial face value is a family picture of the Shah, Empress and the Crown Prince. Marion found these items at "The Saleroom," a UK based website which dealers can list their auctions of fine art and antique auctions as well as other collectibles. And yes, there is a category for stamp auctions!

In case some people are not aware of it, there is a similar website that many auctions put their listings on here in North America. This site is called "Stamp Auction Network." One of the dealers I visit is Ron Leith Auctions from Vancouver. To search his listings, contact the network and then apply to be a bidder. Once the listings are available, a person would have to also be accepted as a bidder by the auctioneer, which is usually not a problem.



While sorting through my accumulation, I remember seeing this stamp on one of the collections purchased. By definition, this is a "Cinderella," but it resembles Scott # 53 and somehow the previous owner included it in the collection. The image shows a young milkmaid, which is a hint at the origin of this stamp. Neerlandia is the firm name and around the

image of the milkmaid is written "Fabrieken van Melk Producten" which can be loosely translated as Dairy Product Factory. The research was made easier with the cancellation in the bottom left corner. Weesp is a small city south east of Amsterdam. It does make me wonder if this fooled the Post Office and they accepted this as valid postage?

The following article is reprinted with permission of the Editor for the BNAPS Publication "BNA Topics," Mr. Mike Street. It was originally printed in BNA Topics September 1964 and written by Mr. Max Rosenthal. He passed away in 1985 before which he contributed several articles to the BNAPS Publication. This publication is printed three times year and is mailed to the members of the British North America Philatelic Society.

EARLY POST OFFICES OF THE OWEN SOUND AREA

by MAX ROSENTHAL

In 1815 Captain William Fitzwilliam Owen, on an exploring trip, sailed up that stretch of water narrowing southwards from Georgian Bay which was to be called Owen Sound in his honour. Nothing more happened around there until by the Sauking Treaty of 1836 the white man took from the Indians land in Grey County from the west line of St. Vincent Township to a line directly west of Owen Sound, and extending south from that point, so that the remainder of the county, except Keppel and Sarawak Townships, was surrendered. A survey in 1837 by Charles Rankin laid out a small portion of the town plot of Sydenham, where the Sydenham River empties into Owen Sound, but was then discontinued.

In 1840, Charles Rankin, who had resumed work on the Garafraxa Road, connecting Fergus with Owen Sound (now Highway 6), was ordered to Owen Sound to meet John Telfer, land agent for the locality, who had come by batteau from Coldwater, by way of St. Vincent. Telfer's duties were to locate settlers and build houses. As the summer was already passed, he had time only to choose the site of his office and put up the exterior of the first log house, and then he left, to return the next year. During the following spring and summer quite a few settler hewed clearings and houses out of the swamp and forest. The settlement soon took the name Sydenham village.

Before the establishment of a post office at Sydenham, the nearest one was at St. Vincent (now Meaford) William Stephenson, the postmaster there, who carried the mail from Barrie on his back, would send over letters as he found the opportunity to Telfer, who, acting as postmaster without appointment, distributed the mail which came sometimes by Indian trail, and sometimes round the shore from St. Vincent by sailboat.

In the Ontario Archives is a letter sent by Richard Carney (who in 1857 became Owen Sound's first mayor) to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, Montreal, dated November 28, 1846. Since there was no post office in Sydenham as yet the first postmark on the front is St. Vincent, Dec. 1, 1846.

In 1846 a post office was established, in a roughcast building which stood until some years ago north of the fire hall. It was called Owen's Sound, after its geographic location - not Sydenham - with George Brown as postmaster. A letter in the Archives from Brown to the Commissioner in Montreal is postmarked Owens-Sound (no apostrophe but hyphenated) C.W., the name breaking the usual double circle of the time. It is in red, except for the date Aug. 1, 1848, which is written in by hand by Brown. In the letter he writes:

"My object at present in writing you is to say that I should be glad to contract for cutting out a portion of the new roads about to be opened, say from the Garafraxa to Lake Huron. Having had some experience in road making in Canada, I flatter myself, that I will be able to finish

satisfactorily any contract."

In 1856 Sydenham applied to incorporate as the town of Owen Sound, dropping the "s" after "Owen." The post office changed its spelling to this form.

The trail which connected the Old Mail Road, on Government Road, from Barrie to Meaford, with Owen Sound was cut through in 1849, and is now Highway 26. The west half of it goes through Sydenham Township, the one immediately east of Owen Sound, which was surveyed in 1842 and 1843. For the first few years township farmers' grain was taken to a flour mill at Inglis Falls, four miles above Owen Sound, on the Sydenham River. However, in 1846 a flour mill was built by Telfer at Leith, northeast of Owen Sound, as the land was cleared. In 1851 the town plot was surveyed. In 1853, at the corner of the Lake Shore Road and sideroad 33 a store was built and conducted by one Wylie, and Leith post office was established.

The same year a post office appeared at Woodford on the Mail Road (Highway 26), at the 3rd sideroad, halfway between Meaford and Owen Sound, where the mail carriers and stagecoaches halted. Also in Sydenham Township, Johnson post office was opened in 1854, kept in the house of a Johnson, on the concession C road in lot 11. Although Derby Township west of the present Highways 6 and 10, began to be surveyed in 1842 also, its first post office, Kilsyth, on the Owen Sound and Saugeen Stage Road, was not established until 1855. It is in the very centre of the township at the corner of the 7th concession road and the 9th sideroad.

Around 1860 came Hoath Head post office, named for its first postmaster Robert Hoath, in Sydenham, on the 9th concession road south of the 9th sideroad.

In 1854 the Saugeen or Bruce Peninsula was sold by the Indians. Bounded on the south by a line from the Indian village of Newwash, where the Pottawatamie River flows into Owen Sound, to the Indian village of Saugeen, where the river of that name flows into Lake Huron, in this surrender several small reserves were excepted among them a strip at Owen Sound and a tract of land at Colpay's Bay.

By the Peter Jones Treaty of 1857 the Chippewa (Ojibway) Indians surrendered their reserve at Newwash, immediately northwest of the town of Owen Sound, and it became the township of Sarawak, after the Bornean Kingdom where Sir James Brooke became the "White Rajah". It was surveyed by Rankin, who included the town plot of Brooke, just north of the Pottawatamie. Brookholm post office was opened here in 1878.

Sarawak's first post office, named after the township, was established in 1863, on the 3rd concession road in lot 42, but, after a lighthouse was built in 1873 at Presqu'île ("Almost an Island") on the Lake Shore Road just south of the northern boundary, it was moved there. Lighthouse keeper McKenzie was postmaster.

In 1861 the Colpoy's Bay Indian Reserve was surrendered to the white man. All of the lands in Grey County north of Derby Township to Colpoy's Bay, and east of the present Highway 6 to Owen Sound water, except for the Sarawak portion, is Keppel Township. In 1855 Rankin surveyed it, as well as Amabel Township, in Bruce County west of Highway 6. He included a diagonal road from west of Owen Sound which is now the county road through Shallow Lake to Hepworth.

As early as 1857 there were settlements on the Big Bay shore, that broad bay which curves into the shore east of Colpoy's Bay and west of the Owen Sound bay. Gradually a little village made its appearance, the post office established there in 1863 at the corner of the Lake Shore Road and sideroad 37 being called North Keppel. The same year appeared a post office further west at Oxenden, at the corner of the 11th sideroad and what is now the county road from Warton. The mail went from Owen Sound every Tuesday through Sarawak, North Keppel and Oxenden to Colpoy's Bay, a village north of the water of the same name.

In 1864 opened Alvanley, at the extreme southwest corner of Derby Township. In the early 1880's it was temporarily closed, soon reopened, and closed for good in the 1890's. The same year was opened Daywood, in Sydenham Township, at the corner of the Lake Shore Road and the 23rd sideroad. It closed in the early 1880's.

In the same township Leith Corners had sprung up around a school at the corner 1 ¼ miles east of Leith. A store was erected by 1860 taken over by William Speedie in 1865. In 1874 its name was changed to Annan.

The first Post Office serving Amabel Township also appeared in 1865. It was Elsinore, at the corner of the road at lot 40 and the south side of the present Highway 21- which actually put it just within Arran Township. Amabel's largest village, Hepworth, began to take form in the middle 1860's. The original owner of the land, William Plews, proposed laying out a town plot. He asked the Methodist Reverend Mr. Greene to suggest a name. Greene asked him why he did not name his town Epworth, after the birthplace of John Wesley. Plews being an Englishman, pronounced the name as if it had an initial H. Since others were unaware of this error, the name stuck. In 1866 a post office was operated actually on the east or Keppel Township side what is now Highway 6 and the country road from Owen Sound, from where it received its mail.

Park Head post office was also opened in 1866, on the west or Amabel side of Highway 6, at the 6th concession road, named for the birthplace in Scotland of the wife of its first settler, William Simpson. Also named after a place in Scotland, by David Reed, was Skipness, at the corner of the 4th concession road and the 15th sideroad in the same township. He lived in the house where the post office was established in 1858. At the same time Clavering was opened at the corner of the 16th concession road of Keppel with Highway 6.

The second settler in Amabel Township had been James Allen, in 1857. The village of Allenford which was surveyed on his land in 1867 took the name of its founder and its post office was established in 1868 on the present Highway 21, at the sideroad next to lot 10.

At the heads of Colpoy's Bay, Warton town lots were not offered for sale until 1868, although James Lennox had built a log shanty there two years earlier. The absence at first of a wharf resulted in the nucleus of the town being built on top of the hill, on Gould Street. There in 1868 B. Miller built a hotel and opened the post office. Warton received its name from the birthplace of Sir Edmund Walker Head, governor general then, who was born at Warton Place, near Maidstone, Kent. After wharves were construed and mills built below the hill business moved to Berford Street, the present main street.

In the early 1870's was opened in Sydenham Township

Sydenham Mills post office at the southeast former of the 3rd concession road and the 6th sideroad. It lasted about 10 years. In Derby Township there appeared Ashley, at the corner of the present Highways 6 and 10 and the 6th sideroad. Jackson, on what is now Highway 21, at the road at lot 10, Keady, at the 9th concession road and the south boundary road. It moved in the early 1880's south across this road into Sullivan Township. Keppel Township added Cruickshank, on the diagonal county road to Shallow Lake, on its corner with the sideroad at lot 10, and Kemble, at the corner of the 20th concession road and the 40th sideroad.

In the original survey of Amabel Township, two town plots were laid out, one Warton, the other Oliphant at the westerly termination of the North Diagonal road which runs parallel to and 2 ¼ miles north of the Shallow Lake road, from Owen Sound to Lake Huron. It was named after Laurence Oliphant, who, in 1854, as Superintendent-General of Indian affairs, negotiated with the Indians their surrender of the Saugeen Peninsula. John Hutchison opened the Oliphant post office in 1874, walking to and from Warton carrying the mail, and walking south to Sable River with it the next day. Sable River, the site of a large sawmill for many years, established its post office at this time, west of the concession C road, just north of the Sauble River. In the early 1880's the post office name and spelling changed to Sauble Falls.

Around 1875 was opened Wolsely, on the 20th concession road of Keppel west of the 25th sideroad. The second settler in the vicinity of Colpoy's Bay in this township had been Alexander Greig, in lot 14 concession 25. On the 24th concession road of Amabel Township, a few miles west of Warton in the early 1880's Greig post office was opened. Being less than a mile east of Oxenden, after a few years it was closed, in 1886.

Other post offices opened up to 1885 were:

Sydenham: Bognor, 5th concession road and 6th sideroad; Garryowen, 5th concession road and 25th sideroad;

Keppel: Lake Charles, 24th concession road and 25th sideroad;

Amabel: Chippewa Hill, on what is now Highway 21, in the Saugeen Indian Reserve, a mile before the Saugeen River; French Bay, concession D road and 15th sideroad.

In 1885 were opened in Keppel Shouldice, 12th concession road and 20th sideroad and Lindenwood, 16th concession road and 30th sideroad.

In 1870 the Bruce Peninsula north of Warton was being opened and the settlers for that district went by way of the South Road in Keppel Township from Owen Sound to Hepworth, which led by Shallow Lake, a mile-long water. In summer when it is dry, the bottom, full of boulders, is seen to be chalky. Mrs. John Spencer opened the Buttermilk Tavern. In 1884 a plant was begun for making cement from the chalky deposits. A post office was opened in 1887. Previously the community had been known as Stoney Creek, but there was already a village of this name near Hamilton. Shallow Pond was proposed, but it sounded too slight, so Shallow Lake was decided upon.

In the 1890's a post office was opened at Inglis Falls, on the Sydenham River, in lot 10 concession 2. Millwright Elliot commenced a mill there in 1842, but sold out to W.C. Boyd, who in time sold to Peter Inglis. Balaclava, at the corner of the concession C road and 8th sideroad, Sydenham, had been named after the Crimean War

battlefield, but it was not until this decade that it got a post office. It was spelled Balaclava. In Derby, at the corner of what is now Highway 21 and the county road to Shallow Lake, Springmount sprang into existence, in Keppel, on the railway line five miles east of Shallow Lake was opened Murphy. Hepworth Station, on the railway to the west of the village, in Amabel, also got a post office.

In the 1900's Derby Mills opened on the 6th sideroad, on the line between the 11th and 12th concessions. Squire also opened in Derby Township, at the corner of the 5th concession road and the 9th sideroad. In Sydenham Township in the 1900's appeared Bothwell Corners, on the 6th sideroad, east of Bognor, Burnhouse, on the present highway 26 at the 5th concession road, Grey on the 11th concession road in lot, Silcote, at the corner of the 3rd concession road and the 30th sideroad. In Keppel Township, where the railway from Owen Sound crosses the boundary road with Sarawak, was established Ben Allen.

Since the Owen Sound region is predominantly rural, many of the small post offices still exist, in spite of rural mail delivery.

BNA Topics / Volume 21/ September 1964 / pages 214-7

UPA Tip #25: It's all about 'Effective Catalogue Value' ...

Dear Philip,

Following on from 'No Money Spent: little value' ... we are finally discussing when does a stamp actually have value? The answer is when a stamp actually has 'effective value'.

Now when does effective actually become 'effective' ... if we compare Stanley Gibbons with the 'kitchen table eBay seller' then the answer is simply that 'effective value' is relative to the overhead / structure of the seller. So that you can find kitchen table internet sellers offering stamps for sale at 1p on eBay which Stanley Gibbons catalogue at 50p ... that's one fiftieth of catalogue value ... but with a postage delivery minimum supply cost of £1. In theory that is Stanley Gibbons minimum 'Strand' retail shop price when you select/collect the stamp yourself so you pay the cost of delivery by visiting their shop at your expense ... effectively paying for the pleasure of the experience.

Let's make a simple comparison our UPA target is to sell £2 million pounds of stamps in the next financial year ... that's one seventeenth of Stanley Gibbons annual turnover and in stamp company sizes UPA must be within the top ten philatelic companies in the UK. So when does an 'SG catalogue value' become realistic for us? In selling terms we are unusual because we will actually sell you SG 50p catalogue price stamps for 1p without prohibitive delivery cost ... provided that you are happy to participate in a mixture selling system requiring a current minimum purchase of £6.45 (UK): http://upastampauctions.co.uk/contents/en_uk/d3_Mixtures.html

Or if you are prepared to make a minimum average 'spend' of £12 then we'll supply 10p catalogue stamps for less than 10p in our traditional 'stamps on approval' service: http://upastampauctions.co.uk/contents/en_uk/d2_Approvals.html ... so in 'selling terms' we handle low catalogue prices by bundling stamps supplied through selling systems ... that's the only way we have been able to devise to supply collectors at lowest possible unit price and to stay in profitable business ... and we've been doing this for over 50 years.

BUT what happens when you wish to sell ... here's our

thinking ... 'effective' for us is when we purchase a stamp collection for several hundred pounds or more and we constantly strive to purchase collections from £1,000 upwards ...

Now, I can just hear you saying ... "how does that break down in practice ?"

The answer lies in a combination of three factors:

- 1) ... catalogue value;
- 2) ... actual demand; and
- 3) ... cost of handling / supply
which taken together feed into 'effective catalogue value'.

So if we are offered a collection of say classic British Empire ... we would consider how much we believe we would have to pay to obtain similar material from public stamp auction. This is the starting point. Then we would examine how well the material actually sells and over what length of time it takes to sell it. If we know that we can sell your stamps to clients literally the next day then we would gladly work upon a very small profit margin ... but if we suspect that we are still going to be trying to sell the rump of stamps purchased in two years time ... then a price that might be offered would take this factor into consideration ... or even if it should be purchased at all !

"keep going ... give us a tangible example" ...

OK we were offered a collection of valuable British Empire high values and complete sets in high quality with hardly an item with an SG catalogue value of less than £100 ... we paid more than 3 other dealers offered for this collection £73,000 which was approximately 33% of SG catalogue price. Another B.E. collection catalogued £45,000 we paid 45% of SG catalogue value. (It does depend upon the 'mix' of constituent countries and their desirability.

"OK relate it to everyday material" ...

Oh all right ... mint British Commonwealth sets catalogued a few pounds each on average ... a few pounds each CV is much more difficult to handle and many dealers may not purchase so this is NOT REALLY EFFECTIVE CATALOGUE VALUE ... but depending upon whether previously lightly hinged, time span, desirable or 'Mickey Mouse' Country ... from as little as 8% to 10% to up to 20%+ but at this level they would need to be unmounted mint from desirable countries and have higher catalogue values ... does that help?

"So give us a conclusion" ...

Effective Catalogue Value depends upon how the purchaser is going to try to re sell your stamps ... in practice (unless face value is a factor) sets / stamps catalogued less than £10 per item may be factored in as profit and the price proffered/paid may be for the more valuable material only. Therefore it goes without saying that if you are purchasing low price stamps for enjoyment then enjoyment is your profit, mixed with some financial return ... but low priced stamps will never provide an investment as their handling cost is too high.

Happy collecting from us all,

Andrew

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

Andrew McGavin

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Conclusion

A recent browse through You Tube showed that Graham, who has been providing videos in the "Exploring Stamps" series is switching to a means called "vlog." I watched his first vlog and he explained the cost of maintaining a channel was getting expensive, and so is trying the weekly vlog format. It is still informative and reminds me that there are many other stamp collecting videos on You Tube. There is no end to the knowledge found on the internet about our hobby! It is time again to encourage everyone to visit our own website, owensoundstampclub.org to see what interesting things can be found there. It is also a time to encourage members to visit the Circuit Book Explorer and see what stamps on these pages would fill a gap in a collection. Happy hunting and please keep in contact with Randy and other members.

Soapbox

It can be dizzying looking at stamps continuously! With eclectic collecting interests, there is certainly no boredom. I hope you are also finding the same, the pleasure of sorting through an accumulation, whether that is a box or large envelope or some other container into which has been stuffed stamps for sorting on a rainy day. Although it is not raining, at least not at this moment, projects are filling my time. Presently I am soaking and sorting through my modern Canada so that I know what I have and what to look for whenever we are able to attend shows again. I have also done some sorting through the accumulation of small queens, looking for that elusive 11.5 x 12 perforation and trying to make sense out of the differences between the Montreal and Ottawa printing. That is a challenge! And as usual, local postal history is looking at what has happened here in Owen Sound in the one hundred and fifty plus years of the mail being in Owen Sound.

While I appreciate Andrew McGavin's view on the "effective value" of a collection, there is also the reality that value is subjective. There is the time when a "variety" is discovered but that experts don't consider to be a "variety." At one of the "Zoom" meetings I attended from the BNAPS Large and Small Queens Study group, one of the participants went so far as to say that the experts that grant a certificate of authenticity can always be disproved at a later date when better tools allow the experts to analyze the stamp afresh and venture another opinion on its authenticity. This does make one wonder what to do when a rarer item is discovered lurking in some accumulation after hastily being put in this container for a later time of sorting. Whatever is being done with a collection it is important to know what is present in a collection and it is organized in a manner that a dealer is able to determine the value of this collection, especially the higher catalogued value stamps. That means any stamp is is catalogued at \$1,000 or more should be easily found because the dealer is limited in time to look at and appraise the value of a collection. Keep on sorting and organizing folks!

Besides the matter of working with stamps, there is also the business of researching information for upcoming articles. At present, I have two articles in the works, neither of which is ready to be published soon. If you are able to do so, consider writing a short piece about a discovery you have made during this pandemic period. I would be grateful for contributions received.

stampauctionnetwork.com/auctions.cfm?gclid=CjwKCAjwkoz78R8PEiwAeKw3qyZHPNnd1zOqvFg-bb8zlbvRfNgdRVFKft3xdyv_38wR_VW-KXABoCYD8QAvD_BwE

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