

Stamps on the Bay



**The Voice of the
Owen Sound Stamp Club**
Next Meeting: Saturday, January 21, 2023 1 P.M.
New Life Centre, 199 4th Ave West, Owen Sound
Volume 3, Edition 12, January 2023



From the President

Hello my philatelic friends! I was absolutely delighted to see how many members showed up for the Christmas meeting! It was a good thing we got some Christmas socializing in before the nasty weather ruined so many Christmas plans. I hope that you all had the opportunity to see some loved ones.

I was also delighted to see how many entries we had for our Christmas stamp scavenger hunt. Good going folks! Judy and Randy tied as the winners. I am not sure how other groups proceed with the judging for scavenger hunts so we decided to have paper ballots with everyone choosing their two favourites. Randy has chosen 'maps' for the topic of the March 'One Page Challenge'. We are fairly certain that Judy will approve of the topic!

Just to spice things up a bit, for April let's do a spring stamp scavenger hunt. I am thinking the topic should be birds. We'll discuss it at the meeting and if we all agree, I'll make a scavenger page about birds for the February newsletter.

We had our funny money Christmas auction at which I think everyone had fun. There were lots of donations and I hope that everyone managed to win something. I thought it would be nice to raise some money for the Oshare program like we did the previous year but still have our funny money auction so what we did was sell our door prize tickets for \$5.00 each. Thank you to Gerd who had donated a lovely bunch of Canadian FDCs that we used as a grand prize. We raised \$85.00 and the club chipped in to round that up to \$100.00 to help feed the people of Owen Sound. We all know that between the cost of groceries and the cost of housing there are many people that need help. Thanks for chipping in everybody!

Speaking of donations, the Owen Sound Stamp Club was very fortunate to receive the Hill stock books around a year and a half ago. We have given members the opportunity purchase stamps from the books at a nickel each which was a pretty good deal for all of us. This month we will auction off the stock books with whatever stamps remain in them. There are 21 books, most in great shape (one is missing, if you have it please bring it to the meeting). Although the stamps were only a nickel each, we managed to raise a fair

chunk of change for the club. Bob will give us a report at the meeting. With that in mind we'd like the funds that are raised through the auction to go to a charity. I am fine with sticking to the Oshare program. If you have other ideas please mention it at the meeting. There are many great causes that have huge fundraising campaigns but I think we have to remember the people in difficulty right under our noses.

Feel free to bring in your items for auction too but please limit it to 3 items each (not for charity). Also I am hoping to bring one of our frames to the meeting so we can start doing presentations at the meeting. This will be a great way to show the things you are interested in, passionate about or curious about. Get some opinions from your fellow stamp collectors and find out what questions you haven't thought of. You do not have to fill the entire frame. It is also a great way to share fragile and/or expensive items that should not be handled by many hands.

See you on Saturday afternoon of January 21st from 1:00 to 3:00. Don't forget this month's one page challenge topic is; Queen Elizabeth II.

Marion Ace

President, Owen Sound Stamp Club

Editors Greeting

Hello and wishing every reader a happy, healthy and safe New Year. May this year bring philatelic surprises that keep you enthusiastic about our common hobby and your private collection.

Leafing through the pages may provide new information, and perhaps even an inspiration to delve into another aspect of this hobby. Boredom should not enter the stamp collectors vocabulary! Even if the items are outside the reach of a persons wallet, a simple side step can lead into more excitement and discoveries. Whatever road you travel readers are encouraged to keep their collection organized, labelled and perhaps even appraised. It is surprising how a collections value can add up to a significant sum. This is something your Editor is now considering.

As usual, temptations are being provided in the form of upcoming shows. At the present, Winter has moved to another part of this country and we are given an opportunity to socialize at shows and exhibitions. Now that the gasoline prices are decreasing, it may even be affordable to travel long distances. Wisdom suggests that carpooling is still something to consider when

planning on going to explore or mine for new additions for a collection. Those pesky holes may sometimes be a challenge to fill.

The last newsletter provided a teaser scan of Unitrade #3079c. The stamp shows an image of Danielle Goyette as well as her sport, Hockey. Danielle was a long time member of Canada's National Womens Hockey team that won many gold medals in international and Olympic hockey. This scan is tied into the story "The Greatest Game" dealing both with the Aislin cartoon stamp and 1997 stamps issued to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of game. A teaser scan is simply a way of drawing recipients of the newsletter to keep turning the pages until the end is reached.

So how does this scan tie into something found further in this Edition?



The Pied Piper of Korneuburg.

by Ralph Wyndham

The fifth stamp in the series, Tales and Legends of Austria, is the 13 schilling *Pied Piper of Korneuburg*, issued the same day as the 9 schilling *Dear Augustin*, January 23, 1998.



In a time long ago, the town of Korneuburg, not far from Vienna in the eastern part of the country, was suffering with a plague of rats. One day, a stranger dressed in colourful (pied) attire came to town and offered to rid the town of its rodent menace.

After negotiating with the stranger, the mayor agreed to pay a considerable sum in gold should the stranger succeed in getting rid of the rats. Once the agreement was made, the man pulled out a flute and began to play a tune. As the man walked up and down the streets playing, rats emerged from everywhere and followed along behind him. Once his musical tour of the town was done, the stranger led his procession of rats down to the Danube River where they were all swept away in the current.

Despite successfully ridding the town of its rats, when the stranger came back to town to collect what he was owed, the mayor refused to pay and drove the piper away. Weeks later, a colourfully dressed musician arrived in a boat on the Danube. He walked the streets playing his flute as the stranger had done not long

before. This time, however, it was the children of the town who could not resist the music and followed the stranger back down to the river and onto the boat. Except for a deaf child who could not hear the tune and a second who went home for a jacket, the boat disappeared down the river with all the town's the children who were never seen again.

The grieving town folk believed that it was the cheated piper who had returned to lure away the children so that he could sell them to get what he was owed.

This story sounds like its more famous cousin, the Pied Piper of Hamelin, that was documented by the Brothers Grimm and made even more famous by Robert Browning's 1888 version. (Jacob and Wilhelm did not actually write the stories in their famous anthology; they were German scholars who collected over 200 German folk tales during their academic careers.)

Although the Austrian tale takes place in a later time than the Hamelin story, it would appear that it is not simply the re-telling of Hamelin in a different setting. Historical records in the German town refer to a specific date, June 26, 1284, for the disappearance of the children. On that date a midsummer festival was taking place. A piper appeared and, while playing a festive tune on his instrument, led the children out of town for a fire lighting ceremony – or at least that is what the trusting parents thought. However, to the dismay and undying regret of their parents and of whole town itself, the children never returned.

At that time in Europe, agents were employed to recruit immigrants to move to under populated areas. To attract attention to themselves, these recruiting agents dressed colourfully and played an instrument. Is it possible that an unscrupulous recruiter took advantage of the town's festive mood to pull off mass kidnapping? Or was it simply a case of bad timing and the unsuspecting parents allowed their children to join an immigration caravan that just happened to pass through town during the festival?

Interestingly, the two stories have opposite beginnings. In the Hamelin event, it was the children that disappeared first – rats were not part of the initial story. A piper luring away the rats then returning for the children did not appear in the narrative until 1559. In Korneuburg, according to old town records, a man named Hans Mäusloch appeared in town around 1646 and lured the rats away with his musical skills; a disgruntled piper returning afterwards to lead the children away did not become part of that story until many years later.



In what is called the wandering legend phenomenon, similar-sounding stories seem to arise independently in different places. In this case, rats and children are central to the story but the details vary – someone refuses to pay but is talked into honouring the deal; only one child is kidnapped then returned after

payment is made; sometimes, unlike Korneuburg and Hamlin, the children return. The theme is found in stories from Spain, Hungary, France, and Ireland. In Paraguay, the children are led away into a mountain but one lame child turns back, finds a magic flute, plays it, and the other children can come home.

December Meeting Highlights

Sixteen members and one support person (Kale's Mom) were in high spirits on the evening of December 21st. There was an abundant number of treats to sample as well as the hot apple cider. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the evening. Empty stomachs belong to those who made the choice to eat in moderation.

An especial thanks is to be sent out to the weather forecaster who delayed the Christmas storm for a couple of days. With the clear roads and good visibility members traveled from afar to attend. It seems that this may have been the largest indoor gathering since the Covid business disrupted our usual habits.

As mentioned above, there were many entries for the Christmas scavenger hunt. Thirteen entries were submitted, wow, what an exciting moment to see the effort in making pages for display. It does help that a few members made more than one entry, but still it looks like seven or eight people participated. Congratulations go out to all those who participated.

After the votes were tallied, it turned out that Randy R won by adding decorations to the blank page distributed in the newsletter and at the meetings prior to the Christmas meeting. However, it was also good to see that Judy G. earned second place in the contest.

One Page Challenge Topics

January	Queen Elizabeth
February	Carnivals, Fairs or Exhibitions
March	Maps

Show and Tell

President Marion A brought along a large block of several Mexican stamps that had somehow been found in the Tara Post Office. It seems like there were about 10 or more stamps. The friendly postal clerks in Tara were kind enough to donate them to Marion because they didn't where and how that had arrived in Tara. Marion divided up the block to anyone present the meeting interested in having one.

A new contributor to the Show and Tell portion of the meeting was Neil B. who showed some letters from Germany that also used barcoded stamps. This led to discussions on the British Post Office initiative. We all are wondering when Canada will enter this realm of philately.

Jim M introduced club members to the term Marcophilately. This simply is the study of markings found on letters. Of course, the most common marking is the town/city cancellation. Jim brought along two examples that come from remote places of this country. The first one is loco, British Columbia and the second one is Frederick House, Ontario.

In a unique coincidence, it turns out that Bill F lived in loco for some time. The name is short form for **Imperial Oil Company**. The community was founded in 1918 with the formation of the oil refinery there. loco is now absorbed in the Greater Vancouver city limits. Some members have received Bill's emails and they are ended with the saying "don't let the old man in." Is that a hint of something?

Frederick House is a small whistle stop on the railroad to Moosonee Ontario. This post office was established in 1912 and operated until 1986. The place is a community in Clute Township, of the Cochrane District of Northern Ontario.



Figure 1

A final item of Marcophilately was a circular cancellation containing the words "Way Letter" (see Figure 1). When considering what this could be, it was thought that it was placed on a letter mailed by a person on a mail carriers' route.

Further research provided this definition found in *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada* by W.S. Boggs. "Way letters are such letters as are received by a mail carrier on their way between post offices, and which are to deliver at the first post office encountered." While on a Zoom coffee break with the West Toronto Stamp Club some of those present added that the letter was to be mailed more than one mile (1.6 km) from the local Post Office. While the circular cancel is most common, Way Letter can also be applied with a straight-line stamp, or even by a slogan cancel machine at the next Post Office.

A Cinderella Story

By John Appleton, Dr. Gregg Redner, Philip Visser

Editors Note

What follows is a collaboration between the three names listed above, with the Editor combining the elements into one story.

It all started so simply. Many stamp clubs will hold auctions during their meetings. The approach will vary with the clubs meeting schedule, but it is usually enjoyed by all members. Following his move out west, John A. visited the Calgary Philatelic Society meeting in November and made a few purchases. Finding the set



of stamps illustrated in Figure 1 (see below), John's search was stymied on what they were.

Seeking information, John scanned and emailed the Editor if there was any information available about them. Looking at the scan it was easy to see that they were not regular postage stamps, and so an answer crossed cyber space to suggest that these were "Cinderella" stamps.

New philatelists may wonder at the term "Cinderella." Cinderella is more familiar with the Disney movie of the 1950's. Yet the term originates in folk tales written in several languages, with the earliest version is attributed to Greek geographer Strabo between 7 BC and 23 AD. Its modern version can be traced to Italian G. Basile in a story written in 1643. Our English version is more closely based on the Charles Perrault French version written in 1697. Brothers Grimm also included the story in Grimm's Fairy Tale printed in 1812.

Looking for a philatelic definition for this term produced two sources. L.N. Williams in his book *Fundamentals of Philately* provides the definition of "stamps not listed in all the general catalogues." That is very generic definition, so a search continued, and *Linn's World Stamp Almanac* gives a definition as "stamp like labels that are not postage stamps." Essentially a Cinderella is a stamp that is not recognized by the Universal Postal Union as being valid for postage.

A fall back to identifying a stamp is Colnect.com. John's original scan was broken into six different scans and then entered the search program in Colnect and bingo, the first stamp provided the background on this set of Cinderella stamps. Figure 2 turned up the information that the stamp was printed in June of 1915. Further information provided that these stamps were to support the refuges living in Harderwijk and Nunspeet the Netherlands.

"Pour les mutilés" can be translated as "for the injured." During World War 1 the Netherlands was a neutral country, and so any combatant from outside the country was interned. Some soldiers crossed the border from Belgium to the Netherlands to avoid being captured. Some of these soldiers did need hospitalization to recuperate from their injuries. Thus, the revenue generated from the sale of these stamps provided health care for them in the neutral country.

Some may wonder if Covid was a good or bad thing for the general population. One good thing was meeting Dr. Gregg Redner, a Belgian philatelic specialist. After being limited to what has been provided above, the original scan was sent to Dr. Gregg to maybe find out more information about these Cinderella's. A reply was quickly received and so the tale continues.

Figure 2 is the first stamp in the series. It depicts a picture of General Leman who was stationed at the garrison in Liege (French), also known as Luik (Dutch).

As the German army approached the garrison at Liege, the German commander requested the freedom of passage. Naturally this request was forwarded to the government and King Albert is said to have replied "I govern a nation, not a road. The answer is no, you may not pass."

General Leman and the garrison were attacked and after heroically defending the city for 12 days, they surrendered. Besides the picture of General Leman and the year of 1915, the vignette shows an image of the city of Liege and the Meuse River. History suggests that these 12 days provided the French Army a period to prepare a defence against the attacking army.



Figure 3

Each of the remaining stamps show aspects of Belgium and its story in World War 1. Figure 3 shows an image of Cardinal Mercier and the cathedral at Malines (Mechelen). Cardinal Mercier was noted for his resistance to the German army. He also wrote a strong pastoral letter, Patriotism and Endurance, and was read through all the Catholic churches in Belgium. This strong work during the war has led Belgium to issue two series of Semi-Postal stamps in 1932 And 1933.

Our next Cinderella (Figure 4) shows Adolphe Max and the Palais de Justice in Brussels. Mr. Max was a lawyer and was elected as mayor of Brussels in 1909. He held this position until his arrest and imprisonment at the start of the war. He escaped this arrest in November of 1918 and returned to Belgium and resumed his duty as Mayor until elected to the Belgium Chamber of Representatives. Mr. Max was also commemorated on a postage stamp in 1957. Not only in Belgium, but France also issued a stamp in his honour in 1976.



Figure 4



Figure 5

Figure 5 shows one of the great tragedies of the war, the burning of the University Library in Louvain (Leuven). This event occurred in August of 1914. Many important texts were lost forever as they were the only copy. This led to the stereotype of German brutality, but it is believed that it was started from a case of "friendly fire." It is believed that some German units fired on other German units. Friendly fire is difficult to determine immediately, and it was supposed that civilian resistance was occurring. Emotions ruled resulting in the burning of a large part of the city and the execution of many civilians.

Our next Cinderella (Figure 6) shows a soldier standing on the banks of the Yser River. This river provided the last barrier to the German army and allowed a small



Figure 6

part of Belgium to remain under the Belgian Government control. The remnants of the Belgian Army remained on this front until the wars end.

A final stamp is shown in figure 7. It shows King Albert on the left of the stamp and the rallying Belgian Troops on

the right side of the stamp. It is known that King Albert was on the front lines with his army during the war. Reports suggest that he was an effective leader of the troops. In December of 1919, Belgium issued a series of stamps depicting King Albert wearing the helmet and army uniform.



Figure 7

This brings us to an apparent end of the story. At least for the Cinderella's the topic has been covered providing some information of the events up to 1915. However, the story does continue for the soldiers interned in the Netherlands. To remain neutral, the Netherlands was under the obligation to keep these individuals from rejoining the conflict, and so they were interned in two camps. The first camp was in Zeist and the second was in Harderwijk. Some 33,000 soldiers were interned in the two camps.

Most of the internees escaped from the city of Antwerp (near the Dutch border) to avoid capture by the German army. Apparently some 40,000 escaped to Holland, but of that seven thousand then boarded ships sailing from Holland to England and rejoined the war. The Dutch government being responsible for the internees recognized that communication with family in Belgium was essential.



Figure 8

In 1916 the Dutch government provided the internees with two of the Internee stamps each to mail letters. This stamp was not recognized by the UPU and so many of the letters were returned to the Netherlands. This first stamp was issued in February of 1916 (see Figure 8). In the meantime, a second stamp was commissioned, but never issued to the soldiers because of the failure from the first issue.

These two stamps are also classed as Cinderella stamps.

The NVPH Specialized catalogue warns collectors that the first stamp has been forged, including the cancellations on them. Figure 8 shows the February 1916 issue; however, this could be a forgery. Some 65,000 stamps were printed. Figure 9 shows the second non issued stamp and is only available as a mint stamp.

And so, a fairy tale comes to an end. Indeed, these

stamps while appearing to be legitimate, are only fairy tales in the opinion of the UPU.

References

Fundamentals of Philately; L.N. Williams; American Philatelic Society, State College, Pennsylvania; P 20 Revised Edition 1990

Linn's World Stamp Almanac; 4th Edition; Amos Press Inc.

<https://colnect.com/en/stamps/catalog>

Wikipedia searches on Liege, Adolphe Max, Cardinal Mercier, Louvain.

Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue; Amos Media

Upcoming Shows

JAN 28, '23

73rd CATHEX

Grantham Lions Club, 732 Niagara St., St. Catharines, ON, L2R 5L3

St. Catharines Bourse featuring 10 (or 11) dealers. 10:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lunch Counter, Free Parking, Free Admission, Club Circuit, Free Stamps etc. for youth.

Phone: 905-227-9251

Email: stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca

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

MAR 5, '23

Mississauga Coin & Stamp Show

John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre, 4300 Cawthra Rd., Mississauga, ON, L4Z 1V8

Sponsored by the Troyak Club, the Mississauga Coin and Stamp Show will be open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., with 60 tables and more than 30 dealers. There's something for everyone, with Canadian and world coins, stamps, paper money, tokens, medals, trade dollars, official mint products, hobby supplies, reference books and more. Free evaluations plus buying, selling and trading. Admission is \$5 (children under the age of 16 are free), and parking is free.

Phone: 416-505-7999

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

MAR 18, '23

Oxford Philatelic Society OXPEX & OTEX 2023

St. Mary's Catholic High School, 431 Juliana Drive, Woostock, ON, N4V 1E8

Oxford Philatelic Society presents 71st OXPEX & 41st OTEX from 9:30 am - 4:00 pm. Free admission and parking. Framed and Judged Exhibits. 15 dealers. Youth Gift bags. Sales circuits. Draw Prizes.

Phone: 519-485-2886

Email: countryowl@rogers.com

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

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Wrap Up

A New Year has arrived and with it perhaps even some philatelic resolutions. My resolution is to continue organizing the stamp accumulation inherited and accumulated. Determination will be the open question, but I have a goal and look forward to seeing how much can be achieved in 2023. Another resolution is to remain active in this hobby. This includes at the local club level, in other philatelic organizations within the borders of this country and continuing to learn about exhibiting.

Looking at involvement in the philatelic world, membership in several circles is important. It provides an avenue to learn as well as a source of information which can be shared with the Owen Sound Stamp Club. Please consider whether membership in the **Royal Philatelic Society of Canada** would benefit you. Besides the Royal, there is also the **British North America Philatelic Society** (BNAPS), the **Postal History Society of Canada** and then International groups such as the **American Topical Association**, the **American Philatelic Society**, the **American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors**. These are located in our neighbouring country, but there are more International societies such as the **Royal Philatelic Society** (Great Britain) and the **Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain**. Membership with any and all of these societies brings benefits, information and knowledge to an individual collector. Why not make a resolution to get connected with something outside of Grey County?

Keep plugging, your collection will thank you.

Blast from the Past

Stories in Stamps by I.S. Klein

In Defense of the King of Kings (1935)

The threat of Premier Mussolini of Italy to defend the honour of his country against purported insults of Abyssinian troops at the border of Italian Somaliland, has brought out a vast army of well equipped troops in defense of the only remaining independent kingdom in Africa. That is the answer of Haile Selassie, King of Kings of Ethiopia, conquering Lion of Judah, Elect of God and light of the World, who traces his descent directly from King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba.

That the soldiers Mussolini has sent to Eritrea and Somaliland will have a tough battle on their hands is generally agreed, for the natives of Abyssinia are considered among the best fighters in the world.

Their ruler, shown on several stamps of hte country, has introduced many modern innovations among his people.

