

Stamps on the Bay



**The Voice of the
Owen Sound Stamp Club**
Next Meeting: Saturday, February 18, 2023 1 P.M.
New Life Centre, 199 4th Ave West, Owen Sound
Volume 4, Edition 1, February 2023



From the President

Hello my philatelic friends! We had a very lively bunch show up for our January meeting. There was so much chatter going on that it was hard to get the meeting started. It was great to see so much socializing going on but I will try to get it started a little earlier this month!

We had 6 entries for the topic of Q. Elizabeth II, too many to vote for by hand. My apologies for not having paper ballots available. I will print some up in time for the Saturday February 18th meeting. Our topic for the one page challenge is 'carnivals, fairs or exhibitions'. If that includes stamp exhibitions then I should be able to produce several hundred pages! Meanwhile we will put Q. Elizabeth II back on the list for April. The possibilities are endless on both of these topics so hopefully we will have even more entries.

Phil Visser has agreed to step up as Vice President. Yahoo! (Insert exuberant happy face here) He has also given us a year's notice that he will be stepping down as our newsletter Editor. Aaagh! (Insert sad face here) Please consider becoming the editor. The newsletter keeps us informed about the club and reminds us of upcoming meetings. Anything beyond that is icing on the cake and totally up to the Editor.

We had a very lively auction including all of the Hill stock books. All the proceeds from auctioning off the Hill books are going to the Oshare program. One of the members topped up the sales with a donation to round out the figures to \$200. Good going folks!

Once again we had a very successful stamp auction online. Don't forget to join in on the first Wednesday each month. Neil Elson is talking to us about sorting Canadian Centennial stamps at our Zoom meeting held on the 2nd Thursday each month. Bill Findlay is our Zoom host so make sure he has your email address to receive an invitation to either event.

Thank you to Marion Gibson who gave us a circuit book report. Members have been paid for their sales and Marion is preparing to retire some of the pages. New pages are always welcome.

Speaking of circuit books; Walt Berry President of the Saugeen Stamp Club has been looking into getting the RPSC circuit books. Bill Findlay is going to be in charge

of the books. Both clubs will get a chance to look at the books sometime this summer. We need to let them know what books we want. The Canada books are always in high demand. If you are interested in obtaining some better quality items from somewhere a little less in demand this is your chance! Let me know.

On a final note, I hear that Randy Rogers is helping the Saugeen Stamp Club set up a web-site. Good going Randy!!!

See you on Saturday afternoon of February 18th from 1:00 to 3:00. Don't forget this month's one page challenge topic is; Carnivals, Fairs or Exhibitions.

Marion Ace

President, Owen Sound Stamp Club

Editors Greeting

Here we are at the start of Volume 4 and another Edition 1. May this find you healthy and still interested in our common hobby. It was exciting to receive an email from Bob Ford about another member joining the club. We welcome Tom Griffith as a new member. Tom is an outgoing gregarious man that has been involved with this hobby for many years. He has visited our club shows as well as those of the Saugeen and Kincardine clubs. While living far away, he can not be attend our meetings in person unless the spirit provides energy to do so on an occasion.

A great deal of thanks should be given to those listed on the back page of this newsletter. Through the individual efforts they provide, this club is becoming known in this province. While thirty plus members may not seem large, the varied activities make this club a thriving community of collectors. Even when members travel to shows, the mention of where we come from brings nods and comments like "ya we know about you folks."

This Edition brings a smorgasbord to stories to skim through. Beside having four stories there are also reports from last months meetings, both in person and Zoom, as well as the Show and Tell. Temptation arrives in the form of a few upcoming shows to attend if anyone is up to travelling.

Last months Edition provided a long story about Belgian and Dutch Cinderella stamps. The teaser scan shows the second Internee stamp for the Belgian soldiers interned in the Netherlands during World War 1. They were never issued for use and so only mint copies are available for a collection.

Saint Konrad Carries Water in His Handkerchief

by Ralph Wyndham

The sixth stamp issued in the series that the Scott catalog calls 'Stories and Legends of Austria' was issued June 5, 1998. It is the 25-schilling denomination depicting the story of St. Konrad collecting water in his handkerchief.

When Hungarian forces were occupying Swabia early in the 10th century, many nobles escaped into the Rhaetian mountains to the south. One such noble was Count Heinrich von Altdorf und Ravensburg who chose to resettle his family high on a mountain ridge overlooking the Rhine River where the Austrian town of Hohenems, in the state of Vorarlberg, would eventually grow. It was here, some 300 metres above the valley floor, that the Count chose to build his new fortress known as Ems Castle.

One hot summer day as the workers toiled with heavy stones for the walls, they, naturally, grew very thirsty but discovered that they had no water. The Count's son, Konrad, heard the workers' complaints. Being the son of the Count, I doubt that he had to feel any obligation to help the builders; nor could they ask Konrad for help, even if he was just a boy, he was, after all, the son of a Count and above their social standing. Nevertheless, Konrad took pity on the thirsty stone masons and volunteered to go down the mountainside to find water.

Once Konrad reached water down below the castle construction, he realized he had nothing in which to carry water back up the slope. Pulling out his handkerchief, he dipped it into the cool water, scooped up as much as he could and started back up the mountain.

Miraculously, not a single drop of water was lost along the way. Before leaving in search of water, Konrad had dug out a spot for a small pond and, upon his return, poured his handkerchief full of water into it. From that moment on there was always water flowing from Konrad's Pond. Having been created with divine help, however, the spring would dry up whenever it was contaminated with things like dirty laundry.

Konrad, born around the year 900, would go on to devote his life to the Church and was voted Bishop of Constance in 934. He would fulfill his duties with great enthusiasm and implemented a church building program. He undertook three pilgrimages to Jerusalem returning with relics and the gifts of prophecy and miracles. He died November 26, 976, and was canonized by Pope Calixtus II in 1123.

As for the castle, construction continued over the next

few centuries. In its prime, the castle was one of the largest in central Europe. The complex was 800 meters long and up to 85 meters wide, had seven gates and a drawbridge and comprised 47 rooms. The castle was destroyed in 1407 during the Appenzell wars but was rebuilt shortly afterwards and remained occupied for another 300+ years. As late as 1760 it was used to house Prussian prisoners of war. It was auctioned off for demolition in 1792. Since 1938, many restoration projects have been undertaken at the castle.

January Meeting Highlights

With a change of meeting time from the usual Wednesday evening to Saturday afternoon, it was pleasing to see sixteen members arrive around 1 PM. High spirits were evident with good driving conditions and daylight to brighten up the day. It is also the first time that a display frame was present by which the one-page entries could be mounted.

This display frame is being stored at the New Life Centre and will be available for future meetings. President Marion explained some ideas on how it would be used in the future. She asks that members contact her before hand to use it for an exhibit. This could either be for a discussion or a chance to see what an exhibit consists of. The frame is double sided, and each side will hold sixteen pages, thus a member would be limited to a total of 32 pages for an exhibit.

Following this introduction, the election of Club Executives was held. Marion Ace remains as Club President. Phil Visser was acclaimed as Vice President and Bob Ford remains as the Secretary Treasurer. The spirit of authorship for the Newsletter is diminishing and so Phil has given a date of January 31st, 2024, as the final edition of *Stamps on the Bay* under his editorship. A volunteer could step forward sooner than that date.

A pay out was made from the Club Circuit Books. Briefly it was said that the yearly sales amounted to approximately \$500. A question revealed that about half of the sales came from the Circuit Book Explorer program and on-line purchases.

A question was raised about whether the club wanted to have the RPSC Circuit books visit. There may be a chance that this visit would be in conjunction with the Saugeen Stamp Club to share mailing costs. Marion also distributed a form with non RPSC members to understand their choice of membership.

An Auction was held with the Hill family stock books. All books were sold and with a donation approximately \$200 will be donated to OShare, the local food service program for the homeless and disadvantaged people living in this city. There was also a discussion about the March 18th meeting. Due to a conflict with this date and the Oxford Philatelic Society show, the meeting has been moved to the 25th. Those present agreed to this change pending availability of the facilities. This change is now approved by the New Life Centre.



Show and Tell

Bill Findlay brought along some very beautifully engraved Stock Certificates. These dated from the 1800's but shows the printing methods that also included the early postage stamps. Rick Lokos also shared a page that appears to have come from an auction catalogue. This page showed nearly forty different fancy cancels and other markings that can be found on postage stamps. This study is called "Marcophilately" and can easily become a stamp collection. There may already be a couple of "addicts" in the club.

There were seven entries in the one-page exhibit on Queen Elizabeth. Due to the busy agenda of the meeting, no voting was held. Hopefully we can have a voting form to mark our choices this month.

One Page Challenge topics"

- February Carnivals, Fairs or Exhibitions
- March Maps
- April Queen Elizabeth

Soviet Aircraft of the Second World War Stamps

by ChatGPT and Randy Rogers

In 1945-1946, the Soviet Union issued a set of 18 stamps showcasing the aircraft used during World War II. One of the stamps depicts the Ilyushin Il-2 ground attack aircraft, while another showcases the Yakovlev Yak-3 fighter and another depicts Petlyakov Pe-2 dive bombers. These stamps are a tribute to the bravery of Soviet aviators who flew these aircraft and played a crucial role in defeating the enemy.



Ilyushin IL 2 Ground Attack Plane

The Ilyushin Il-2 was a Soviet armored attack aircraft that was highly valued for its ability to provide close air support to ground troops. Its heavy armor and powerful armament made it a formidable weapon, and it

was widely used in key battles throughout the war.

The Yakovlev Yak-3 was a Soviet fighter aircraft that was highly regarded for its agility and performance.

The Yak-3 was used on the Eastern Front and also saw action in the Mediterranean and North Africa. It was a formidable opponent to the enemy



Yakovlev Yak-3 Fighter

and was widely used by Soviet air aces to achieve numerous victories in air-to-air combat.



Petlyakov Pe-2 Dive Bomber

The Petlyakov Pe-2 was a Soviet dive bomber and reconnaissance aircraft that saw extensive service during the war. It was known for its high speed, maneuverability, and ruggedness, making it a valuable asset to the Soviet air force. The Pe-2 played a significant role in many key battles, including the Battle of Stalingrad and the Battle of Kursk, providing crucial support to Soviet ground forces.

The Battle of Stalingrad, which took place in 1942-1943, was a turning point in the war and marked the beginning of the Soviet counteroffensive against the German army. Despite being heavily outnumbered, the Soviet Union was able to launch a successful counterattack and eventually capture the city of Stalingrad, a major victory that dealt a severe blow to the German army.

The Battle of Kursk, which took place in 1943, was the largest tank battle in the history of warfare and marked the end of the German offensive on the Eastern Front. The battle was a significant turning point in the war, as the Soviet Union was able to repel the German offensive and eventually reclaim the initiative in the war. The victory at Kursk marked the beginning of the Soviet push westward and was a crucial step in the eventual defeat of the German army.

In conclusion, the set of stamps depicting various aircraft used during World War II is a valuable tribute to the sacrifices made by the Soviet Union and its aviators. The battles of Stalingrad and Kursk were key events in the war, and the aircraft depicted on these



Ilyushin Il-4 Bomber



Lavochkin La-7 Fighter



Polikarpov Po-2 Biplane



Tupolev Tu-2 Bomber

tamps played a crucial role in these victories. They are a valuable addition to any stamp collection and a must-have for aviation and history enthusiasts.

My Favourite Stamp: Part 2

By Phil Visser

Having a favourite stamp can be for several different reasons. Last time this topic arose it was about an Australian stamp. Based on the beauty of a map on stamps, plus the sense of adventure of a foreign country. This time another stamp appears for different reasons.

Scott #448 from the Netherlands grabbed my attention for a few reasons. The beauty of the colour blue seemed to fix my eyes on it. Blue is also the colour of our sky. To see the sky the sun must be shining. This provides warmth, at least in the summertime.



A different shade of blue is visible in the sea. Being at sea is also being in the wide-open spaces and only accompanied by fellow seafarers. No trees, buildings or vehicles to mar the free flow of air. A gentle breeze stirs across the face and contentment is easy to surrender to.

Looking at this stamp brought out a new collecting interest. Stamps on Stamps has been a topical area for most of my collecting life. Mostly the original stamp a country produced is used to adore their stamp to celebrate an anniversary of that stamp. In this case, the stamp was highlighting a national level show, Amphilex '67. When this stamp first arrived at my home the stunning simplicity of the first stamp was crystal clear.

Topical collecting was introduced to this club through this stamp. Sometimes gratifying and sometimes grating. Several members in this club also saw the beauty and then started digging their own personal rabbit holes. A real benefit of being in a club is learning from each other and individual collections.

As the years passed, a study began on Netherlands #1, the reproduced stamp within #448. Time has provided much more information about #1 and another rabbit hole to dig into. First printed in 1852, the first printings provided the sharp clarity shown on #448.

Coming twelve years after the Penny Black was issued in 1840 one wonders why the delay? A legislative need was finally given to pursue the concept. Also there is the need for an organization to run the mail service for the entire country.

The #1 rabbit hole has developed over the years. First by looking at how the stamps were printed, four panes of twenty five stamps on a sheet. This opens up looking for pairs, block of four, strips of three or more and finally the finding of a gutter pair. Postal usage of the stamp would also be needed. This is not too

difficult, nor are the single stamps that expensive to purchase.

An exhibit on this stamp would also require proof prints, an essay and the unusual, a black print. A black print is the printing of a sheet using black ink. Panes would be presented to foreign dignitaries, diplomats, and other esteemed members of society. At this point reality arrives and suggests that a person's eyes are bigger than their wallet.

So, what is your favourite stamp or stamps? Sharing a passion may help an individual enhance their collection because someone else becomes aware of that passion and say, "Did you see that ... at such and such auction house?" Happy collecting.

Found Space

by Phil Visser

Last month I mentioned that Marion Ace had offered a stamp from a large block of Mexican stamps that had been found in the Tara Post Office. The clerks were quick to say that the pen marking had not been applied in Tara, but as you see in the scan below, it is present crossing the American continents. Lack of space prevented showing the stamp, but this month space is available.

A look at Colnect.com showed this stamp. It was issued to commemorate the International Day of Women at Sea. The stamp was issued on May 18th, 2022 and so is too new to have a Scott's catalogue number assigned. The design shown on the right side of the stamp is accurate. The officer has one hand on the engine telegraph (likely bridge control) with a radar screen near the centre of the stamp and other instrumentation panels to suggest bridge control of the engines and therefore ability to manoeuvre the ship as it approaches a port.

One pet peeve is the dashed line crossing the Pacific Ocean. While the top line is correctly drawn, the bottom is not! One has to accept artistic interpretation.



January Zoom Meeting

On the evening of January 12th twelve members joined together to share fun and treasures. It started off with a forgetful reporter joining late but connected when Marion Ace was discussing the differences between genuine and forged Unitrade #3212-16. The forged stamps were issued in 2020 and are easily found on eBay and I have even seen offers to purchase them on Facebook.

The genuine stamps will have brighter colours and the date of 2020 located in the lower left corner will be close to the design whereas the forged stamps will be

lower and farther away from the design. It seems only the "P" postage stamps were forged. It appears that the forged stamps were printed in an Asian country that is known to ignore intellectual property rights.

Randy Rogers shared something about Russian stamps as well as Ukrainian famine stamps from the 1930's. There were seven stamps in the set and can be found in both the perforated and imperf condition. Bill Findlay also shared images of Swiss trial prints. It was also a happy moment when Ralph Wyndham was able to use his "Share Screen" to contribute to the evening. The evening wrapped up at about 8:30.

It is always satisfying to see our distance club members via Cyber space. PowerPoint contributions are always welcome, so join the group whenever you are interested.

Blast from the Past

Stories in Stamps by I.S. Klein

The Island that was a Ship (1937)

On Ascension Day in 1501, Joao da Nova, Portuguese navigator, anchored off the rocky shore of a small island that stood out almost in the middle of the South Atlantic. He called it Ascension, but it was not until 1815 that a British garrison occupied it. British ships stopped there, and their captains became commanders of the island.

From 1844 to 1922, as a result of this practice, Ascension Island actually was under control of the British Admiralty and was listed in the Admiralty records as a "ship." It was used officially as a coaling station. In 1929, however, the island was placed under the jurisdiction of St. Helena, some 800 miles to the southeast.

Its population is only about 300, and its chief attractions are the many green turtles that are picked up on its shores, and the "wide-awakes," or sooty terns, that breed on one of the island plateaus.

Ascension began issuing stamps in 1922. The one shown here is from the series produced in 1934



Upcoming Shows

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

Email: leszekp@rogers.com

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.oxfordphilisoc.com/>

APR 15

National Postage Stamp & Coin Show

April 15, 2023 to April 16, 2023

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

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

Phone: 905-646-7744

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Wrap Up

Can anyone say that Covid was a good thing? If you are an optimist, it is possible to say that Covid had many benefits outside of the disease itself. One of those benefits is the ability to connect with other stamp clubs via Zoom. Credit must also go those willing to put in the effort to make presentation or share knowledge with other collectors. For instance, last night (Tuesday Feb 7th) I attended a meeting of the West Toronto Stamp Club. By now many of the faces are familiar as is their collecting interests. Last night's topic was Cinderella's and Labels. Visitors to the meeting came from Barrie, Nova Scotia, the United States and other Ontario based stamp clubs. I was able to share a PowerPoint presentation of the Cinderella story from last month's newsletter. Thanks again to John Appleton who prompted the search and Gregg Redner for sharing information about the Belgian Cinderella stamps.

If you read Marion Ace's welcome, notice has been given that my term as editor for Stamps on the Bay is about to end. Although I plan on providing newsletters until a year from now, please consider if you would like to accept the challenge of producing a newsletter for this club. A newsletter serves one basic purpose, and that is to share information about upcoming meetings. That can be done on a single page. Anything after that is up to the Editor. Somehow Stamps on the Bay has grown to six pages! There is a lot of work necessary to reach that level. A great assist has been those willing to contribute articles. Each contributor brings in a different perspective to the hobby and perhaps inspiration to the readers. I will probably be able to provide an article or two for the new Editor.

Keep on collecting and organizing because time flies while doing so.

