

Stamps on the Bay



**The Voice of the
Owen Sound Stamp Club
Next Meeting: Saturday, March 25, 2023 1 P.M.
New Life Centre, 199 4th Ave West, Owen Sound
Volume 4, Edition 2, March 2023**



From the President

Hello my philatelic friends!

First of all I'd like to remind you that our March meeting will be on the **25th...the 4th Saturday** of the month. A bunch of our members have spring fever and are heading down to the Oxford show in Woodstock on the 18th. There is some carpooling going on and Bill Findlay may still have room so give him a call. A few members

have submitted exhibits for the show. Good going folks! Good luck!

Bill Findlay will be bringing the Saugeen Club Circuit books this month. Marion Gibson will also bring our circuit books so we will not have an auction. Don't forget your want lists. You can always do some personal wheeling and dealing too.

Bob Ford once again dazzled us with his entry for the one page challenge. For May there will be a Scavenger Stamp Hunt on the topic of 'birds'. Look for the scavenger hunt page included in this newsletter. We had a lot of participants for the Christmas scavenger hunt and some were very creative! So put on your thinking caps and start digging for those bird stamps!

We had another lively Zoom meeting on Thurs. March 9th. There were lots of presentations and lots of great conversation and a few visitors.

See you on Saturday afternoon of **March 25th** from 1:00 to 3:00. Don't forget this month's one page challenge topic is; Maps on stamps.

Marion Ace

President, Owen Sound Stamp Club

Editors Greeting

One last thing to complete this months edition, my greetings. With two club events each month, readers will find reports about the Zoom meeting and the in person club meeting. This is also a time to remind club members that for this month only, the meeting is on the fourth Saturday of the month. I hope to see many members come to the meeting on the 25th.

There are also a couple of shorter articles to read about stamps. President Marion has put together a new scavenger hunt for the month of May. The twelve topics can be found on Page 5. Funny how the

scavenger hunt and one of the articles are on the same topic, and no, there was no collusion at all. The scavenger hunt should help readers to become reacquainted with their personal collections.

A look at the Canadian Stamp News website provides a list of upcoming shows. It is nice to see that these events are becoming a regular feature again in this Newsletter. This year we are offered an upcoming event in April that is very close by, only about an hours drive away. There is a coin and stamp club in Collingwood/Wasaga Beach/Midland. Many years ago there was a show held in August in Collingwood, but the show stopped due to lack of volunteers. It was always nice to travel there and meet dealers who were outside the circle of regular dealers at our own show and that of Saugeen. The date is April 22nd which also conflicts with Kitchener Waterloo Stampfest. A choice and decision is necessary on deciding where to go or even to stay at home.

It is a constant wonder on what philatelic material can be found in a collectors stamp room or man cave as my kids say. This becomes apparent when collectors participate in online auctions. Recently the North York Stamp club has restarted and several members from this club visited their online Zoom auction. Besides the Zooms auctions of North York, there are also the Zoom auctions from Oxford and our own club. Spreading the word about these auctions helps redistribute excess materials as each collector decides what is surplus and what is essential for a collection. It is funny to see something that was purchased for a little cost and resold for a profit. Auctions have that way of working out.

This month provides space to reintroduce a teaser scan. Happy reading and searching for the tie in:



The Dark Maiden of Hardegg Castle

by Ralph Wyndham

The seventh stamp issued in Austria's Stories and Legends series, released February 19, 1999, was the 8-schilling stamp 'The Dark Maiden of Hardegg Castle'.

You will find Hardegg Castle sitting almost on Austria's border with the Czech Republic about 80 minutes' drive north of Vienna. Living here, centuries ago, was a self-absorbed, pleasure-seeking, young count. Drinking and partying into the wee hours with his buddies was an almost nightly occurrence. The young man had a particular fondness for pretty young ladies and, for the most part, thanks to his social standing and superficial charm, most of these ladies yielded to him without much resistance. Once he had his way with them, though, he quickly lost interest and cast them aside.

One day, he chanced to meet young Regina, a particularly beautiful young woman. His desire for her was great indeed but, no matter how expensive the gift, no matter how grand the promises of love, no matter how heavily he poured on the charm, young Regina steadfastly resisted.

Finally, the count's ego could no longer take Regina's many rejections. His vile true self took over and he had



the young woman kidnapped and brought to Hardegg Castle. Not even captivity and threats of violence could weaken Regina's resolve. When sweet promises and expensive gifts did not work, how could he think threats would? The young count finally flew into a wild rage so great that you could imagine him having a stroke at any moment.

Directly across from the castle, on the opposite side of the steep little valley of the Fugnitz River, is a large rock outcropping with a steep cliff face. During his insane fit of anger, the count decided to try to starve Regina into submission. To this end, he had her taken across the valley to the rock where she was walled into the very face of the cliff. Neither she nor the count would give in and the beautiful girl eventually did starve to death. Masonry, like a large stone swallow's nest, can still be seen on the face of the rock. To this day, this large rock outcropping is known as Regina Rock or Reginafelsen in German.

From here, the unfortunate Regina's story takes a supernatural turn. One day the cruel count, wanting to check on the progress of his brutal deed, rode across the valley to the rock. Here, his horse stumbled and both horse and rider fell back into the valley never to be seen again. Often, at the full moon, hikers would

report sighting a rider on a white horse silently galloping up to the rock only to see the horse falter and both figures disappear into the darkness below. The apparition, believed to be the count forced to relive his own death over and over, became known as the Schimmelreiter.

As for Regina's own restless soul, for many decades after her tragic end, she would be seen coming down from the castle to look for her grave in the cemetery. In her flowing black mourning dress, she was more frightening than dangerous. One unfortunate Jewish peddler, however, encountered her on the road from the castle and was so consumed by fear that he turned in the dark and ran, falling into the valley toward the Fugnitz where he was later found dead.

Her visits frightened many a pedestrian walking among the headstones on a dark night. A maid making a shortcut through the cemetery one such night while returning home from doing laundry, turned around upon feeling an icy chill and found herself face to face with Regina, whose head appeared to be on upside down. After a few moments staring at the startled girl, Regina floated off with a rumble.

The last person to see Regina, apparently, was a forester. He too, like so many others, was in a hurry to get home late one night and elected to take the shortcut through the cemetery. Here, of course, he crossed paths with the ghostly figure of Regina. Instead of turning and running away as did so many others, he stopped, lifted his rifle to his shoulder, and shot at her. What this did to the restless soul of Regina, once starved to death by the black-hearted count of Hardegg Castle, no one knows, but she was never seen again.

February Meeting Highlights

A dozen members braved the sunshine and Owen Sound rush hour traffic to meet at the New Life Centre. As usual the socializing started off quite well. As more members arrived each voice increased the din in the room. With the arrival of the circuit books, the sound level decreased.

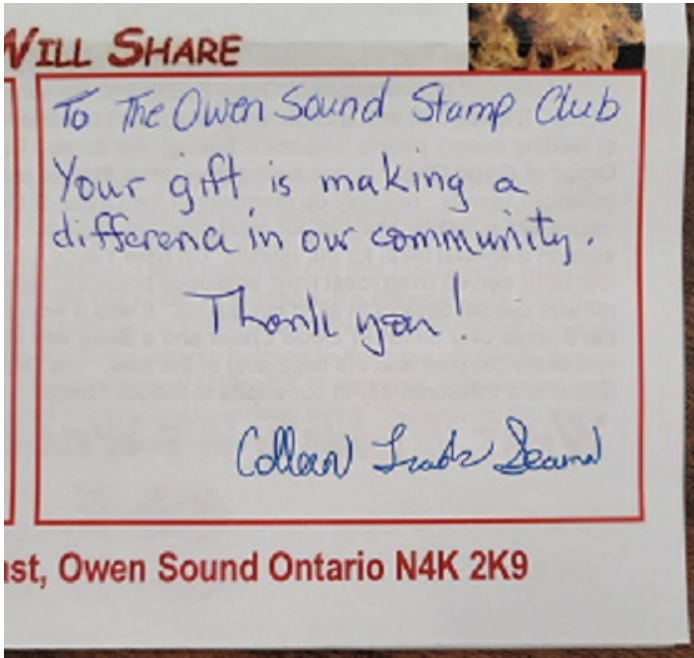
Marion called the meeting to order and club business was dealt with. A report indicates that the club is still solvent. Randy and Marion reported on the circuit books. Randy explained that the circuit books can now be "signed out" after the meeting so that a member can take the book home. While the book is out, the Circuit Book Explorer will not let a person look through that book online until it has been returned. In that way an online collector cannot purchase something from the circuit book only to find that a stamp(s) has already been sold.

The Exhibit frame was put up for use. There were three entries in the One Page Challenge. The topic for February was "Carnivals, Fairs or Exhibitions." Bob Ford was the winner of this competition. On the back side of the frame was a partial exhibit that Marion has prepared for German Exhibitions.

Marion and Bill reported that the RPSC Circuit books would be present at one of the summer meetings. It will be shared with the Saugeen Club with hopefully

enough sales to avoid mailing costs back to BC. It was also confirmed that September 23rd would be a Circuit Book Fair at the New Life Centre.

Bob made a visit to OShare to present the fund-raising cheque. Colleen wrote a note of thanks on one of their newsletters (see the picture below). Three o'clock saw the meeting wrap up.



Show and Tell

It seems that very little if anything was shared for the in person version of Show and Tell. It is an opportunity for everyone to share something that came to their attention since the previous meeting.

One Page Challenge topics

March	Maps
April	Queen Elizabeth
May	Scavenger Hunt

February 2023 Zoom Meeting

Some thirteen members and guests joined together through cyber space. One of the key items covered in this meeting was presented by Neil Elson. Neil is well known to most of those present because he has appeared at bourses held in Owen Sound, Hanover, and Kincardine. A particular area of philately that Neil is passionate about is the Centennial series of definitives used from 1967 to the mid 1970's.

Neil has completed an exhibit on what he has found out about the series. This exhibit did not generate much interest from the larger philatelic community, but for collectors who like to look for details, this series of stamps offer a large quantity of stamps to study. The next few paragraphs offer some of Neil's presentation.

Seven steps were used to identify differences between various printings and varieties. The steps are:

1. Sort by format
2. Paper Fluorescence

3. Tagging
4. Mint only; gum type, PVA or Dextrin
5. Perforation
6. Paper Type; plain or ribbed
7. Shades

When looking at format types, these stamps were issued as panes, with a straight edge, part of a mini pane, in a booklet or as coils. When looking at fluorescence it was suggested that all stamps be placed face down and using a UV light look for the different types of fluorescence. Sort them into groups and then continue onwards.

Tagging was issued a little later in the period of usage. There is general tagging, Winnipeg tagging, one bar in the centre and one bar on the edge, and two bars. Check the Unitrade Catalogue for the differences. If looking at mint stamps, it will be possible to see different gum types, two types used are listed above. Then there are the perforation differences, again listed in the Unitrade Catalogue.

Finally, we come to the paper types, plain and ribbed. A simple magnifying glass would help in that matter. Lastly, we come to colour shades. It has been said that colour is seen differently by each person. To assist in the colour sorting, Neil used the Stanley Gibbons colour guide as the reference point. He showed a page with twelve different shades on the 1 cent dog sled team and northern lights, Unitrade #454.

On the show and tell sharing, Bill Findlay showed an early 1900 stamp catalogue sold by Whitfield, King, and company. The selling price was 2 shilling. This was shared with him by another person in Durham, but it was of interest to Bill. Marion Ace showed a cover with a special Berlin Airlift cancellation. This was her recent purchase. Bill Findlay continued by showing a group of Cinderella stamps issued for the Barcelona World Fair.

Ralph Wyndham shared stamps issued to commemorate "The Baltic Way" It was a civil protest of



sorts held in the early 1989. A solid line of people joined hands all the way from the capital of Lithuania through Latvia and then ending at the capital of Estonia. This demonstration did have some risk as the countries were still in the Soviet sphere but gained independence shortly thereafter. Ralph also showed the silhouette of King Charles.

The gathering ended at 2100 (9 PM).

Early arrival

by Phil Visser

It is the end of February, and last night's snowfall required a scrapping of the driveway. While the day was pleasant, it really surprised me to hear a familiar "honking" in the air. Looking up four or five gaggles of geese were flying by, heading north.

A majestic bird in flight, the gaggles had only five or six birds in each. Shaped in the usual "V" pattern, the birds following the leader were honking encouragement to the leader to keep going, you are doing a great job! This sight brought back memories of this bird on Canadian stamps.



Unitrade # C9 is an outstanding piece of artwork.

Footnotes provide that this design was made from a picture near Sudbury, ON.

Issued in September 1946 its use was for Air Mail

letters. Mention is also made that this stamp was overprinted "OHMS" and "G." C9 was engraved by Mr. Silas Robert Allen. It is easy to mix up #C9 with Unitrade # 320. Both are the same colour of blue and the three-dimensional appearance of the goose is because the same engraver did both of these stamps.

Geese reappeared as subject matter on Canadian stamp in



1963. Unitrade #415 is a fifteen-cent stamp showing four geese on it. It would be hard to distinguish the "V" formation of flight from this engraving. A last impression of the goose can be found in the roadside attraction series of stamps in 2010. Reviewing the archives of newsletter will refresh your memory, but to speed up the search look at the August 2017 edition for that story.

Upcoming Shows

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

Email: mwalsh@trajan.ca

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

APR 22

Kitchener Waterloo Stampfest 2023

Trilium Lutheran Church, 22 Willow Street, Waterloo, ON, N2J 1V5

Free Admission, 16 Dealers – Stamps & Covers & Postcards & Supplies. Judged Exhibits – see website www.kwstamps.org. New and returning collectors area including "The Sea of Stamps." Celebration of 85 years – 1935 – 2020.

Phone: 519-744-3020

Email: kwpskw@gmail.com

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

Apr 22

Georgian Bay Coin & Stamp Club

RecPlex - Prime Time Club 1724 Mosley St. Wasaga Beach, Ontario

12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m.

What to look forward to: Prizes, Draws, Silent Auctions all afternoon, approximately 20 tables of stamps on display and for sale, Several Clubs' circuit books! Free & ample parking, No admission. Please join us at this Premiere Event!

Contact: Ian McRuer

E-mail: imcruer@gmail.com

Website: <http://geobaycoinstampclub.com>

MAY 12

Hamilton Springpex 2023

May 12, 2023 to May 13, 2023

Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School, 1824 Rymal Road East, Hamilton, ON, L0R 1P0

The Hamilton Stamp Club Springpex 2023 Show. Show hours are Friday, May 12, 5 pm – 10 pm and Saturday, May 13, 10 am – 4 pm. Friday evening will have a large voice auction at 7 pm with viewing 5 – 7 pm. Four guest clubs will present their Sales Circuit on Friday evening 5 – 10 pm. Saturday includes a 15 dealer bourse with stamps, postcards, covers and supplies plus Silent Auctions, Club Sales Circuit and Youth Booth. Free admission, free parking, building is accessible friendly and light food / refreshments will be available.

Phone: 289-925-5343

Email: hscshows@gmail.com

Web: <http://hamiltonstampclub.ca>

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

BIRDS SCAVENGER STAMP HUNT

Arctic Birds	Dove	Eagle
Owl	A bird as a symbol or crest	A nesting bird
Penguins	Ducks	Goose
Songbird	A cartoon bird	Tropical Bird

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Wrap Up

While the clocks have changed, and the calendar has flipped to a new month, the last few mornings have been greeted with a dusting of snow on the ground. It seems that the last vestiges of winter are clinging on tenaciously. Fortunately the weather is still good enough to travel. In a few days time a trip to the land of my birth will be happening. No, that is not another country, just another county in this province. I always look forward to the OXPEX show and the friendly greetings on arrival. Zoom has allowed several people from our club to meet members of the Oxford Philatelic Society and it is always great to meet familiar faces. One outstanding feature is the exhibition, but the bourse is also an attraction. Somehow there is a desire to fill those gaps in my collection. I suspect that other club members may have holes in their own collections.

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

Blast from the Past**Stories in Stamps by I.S. Klein****Exiled Fox on German "Dole." (1937)**

Sharp beaked, sharp bearded Ferdinand I of Bulgaria saw the World War coming, in 1914, and planned to profit by it. He let Europe know he needed a loan to build up his railways, and the great powers vied to gain his support. Germany won, but when the war came the crafty old fox declared his neutrality.

In September, 1915, however, Ferdinand secretly signed an alliance with Germany, after Kaiser Wilhelm had guaranteed payment of his private fortune in England, for withdrawal of that money at the time would have revealed the secret.

So to war went Bulgaria. In October, 1918, as defeat seemed imminent and revolt was in the air, Ferdinand fled. Since then he has lived quietly, in a villa-like palace at Coburg, Germany, and since then he has been receiving pensions that already have mounted to more than \$1,000,000. Germany fulfilled its promise to him. Now at 76, ex-King Ferdinand interests himself in birds and the theatre.

His portrait appears on many stamps of Bulgaria. One, issued on the 30th anniversary of his accession to the throne is shown here.

