

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB



No. 148 Newsletter Vol. 17

Meetings : Nova Scotia Museum, Summer Street, Halifax, N.S.

Next Meeting : Tuesday, March 13th, 1984

NL Mailing Address ; 1333 South Park Street, Apt 515, Halifax,
N.S. B3J 2K9

WANTED

EXHIBITION ENTRIES

WE SUPPLY THE FRAMES - YOU SUPPLY THE PAGES

ALL MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE AN EFFORT
TO MEET THIS PLEA -- SEND YOUR ENTRY FORMS (SENT WITH
LAST MONTH'S NEWSLETTER) TO BOB VAISON, PO BOX 3295,
SOUTH POSTAL STATION " A ", HALIFAX, N.S. B3J 3H5, NO
LATER THAN MARCH 30TH, 1984, OR EARLIER IF POSSIBLE.
MORE EXHIBITION INFORMATION WILL BE FOUND ON THE LAST
TWO PAGES OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

498. Program for the Next Meeting -- Bob Vaison :

The March 13th meeting of the NSSC will feature another one of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's slide program's; The Duplex Cancellation of the Victorian Era 1860-1902, 46 slides by Dr Fred Stulberg. All members are urged to attend as this will probably be a new topic of the hobby for the majority of us.

Advance Program Note :

The program for the June meeting will be a " PHILATELIC FLEA MARKET " which will take place after the business portion of the meeting is finished and will run until the last person leaves. There will be no other program or auction at this meeting. Any member wishing to sell or trade philatelic material are asked to bring along a card table to display their wares on while those wishing to buy only need money. This of course is another trial to see what can replace our previous trading sessions. If popular,

it might be placed in the program a couple of times each year but the end result of this first one will dictate the future. Remember " PHILATELIC FLEA-MARKET ", TUESDAY, JUNE 12th, 1984.

499. Executive Meeting -- Notes :

The February meeting of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club Executive was held on Monday, February 20th, 1984, with the following items of business being brought forward ;

- Catalogue Auction -- Ron Lewis & Marilyn Murphy gave an interim report on the catalogue auction as follows;
 1. Sales \$2,203.50 Paid out \$1,983.00
 2. 305 lots put up of which 100 went for the reserve and 95 were unsold.
 3. 25 members contributed material
 4. 52 auction cards taken out, 37 people placed at least one bid, 10 other people were mail bidders.

Ron noted that, in comparison to last year's auction, this year's was less successful in sales even with 50 additional lots. Another example of declining participation, see comments in this regard later on in the Newsletter.

- 1984 Exhibition -- The Exhibition Chairman stated that the next meeting of the Exhibition Committee will take place on Tuesday, February 28th. An update on planning will be found in the last two pages of this newsletter. All members are urged to participate and react to pleas from specific Chairpeople ie Senior Exhibits, Club Table, Advertising, Banquet, etc.
- New Library Books -- The president stated that the 5-volume Robson-Lowe reference books were no longer in print but George Wegg has offered to sell the set belonging to the late Douglas Patrick for \$225.00. The Executive passed a motion to purchase the set.
- Coffee Co-ordinator -- Ian Yeates has advised the president that he will be unable to look after the coffee and tin-bits after the June meeting. A volunteer is requested to look after this important facet of our meetings starting in September. Those willing to volunteer are asked to contact the president or editor of the newsletter.
- Catalogue auction history -- Peter Ineson requested that the secretary review the minutes and provide statistical history on past catalogue auctions in order to see what might be done to improve sales etc. As the new Executive will be taking over in April, it was decided to leave this for the new people to act upon one way or the other.
- Pope's Visit -- Les Sarkany requested views in regards to commemorating the Pope's Visit in September. He thought, that due to the number of people expected to visit the Metro area at that time, the club may give some thought to a cover etc. After a period of discussion, it was felt that, as was the case with the Pony Express & Tall Ships, the work involved and subsequent lack of sales of previous covers, did not warrant action in this event. Once again, a definite

decision on the matter was left to the new Executive.

500. Is Interest Declining in the NSSC ?

As will be noted in Item 499, Executive Meeting Notes, the catalogue auction this year was not as successful in sales as last years' even with 50 additional lots. This fact follows closely behind the discussion held at the January Executive meeting regarding the decline in membership and attendance at monthly meetings. The end result at that meeting was that we are in good shape compared to other clubs of any given topic worldwide. Regardless of that statement, what is the problem with our own club, or is there one ? We would like the members to help us answer that question.

Two years ago, a membership survey was carried out with numerous questions asked to find out which way the members wanted the club to go. The results were tabulated and just about every change suggested was carried out or at least an attempt was made to action the change ie less Canadian content in programming, better material in auctions, more reference books in the library etc. Maybe some of those changes have been negative instead of positive ; have we lost some Canadian collectors because of the foreign input in programming, are more people looking for bags of stamps instead of mint-nh-f-vf material in the auctions ?, have the Canadian collectors every stamp in their price range that is available at the club and so on. Is it the economy, are our senior collectors staying home more often, is it the winter weather/roads etc.?

The Executive would appreciate every member thinking about this situation and send his/her comments to either the president or the editor so we can get some ideas from you, the members, in this regard. Remember this is your club, the Executive is only in operation to carry out your wishes.

501. Membership :

The following have been accepted into the Nova Scotia Stamp Club ;

791 Carman C. King
792 Larry Hitz
793 David S. Burton

502. Notes on Judging -- Claude Michaud :

The purpose of this article is to help exhibitors by outlining the important points the judges are looking for when assessing the value of an exhibit. The guidelines followed are those

set out for local club exhibitions by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, of which, the NSSC is a Chartered member.

1. TRADITIONAL/RESEARCH & POSTAL HISTORY

- A. Subject Knowledge -- An exhibit should show at least the basic published information, original research being the ultimate. The presence of fakes or questionable items not clearly marked could show a lack of knowledge and will reduce the value of an exhibit (35 points)
 - B. Presentation -- Philately is a visual hobby, the postal item is the most important item on the page, it should be shown in a tasteful manner. A story is told from page to page, completeness being your goal. (30 points)
 - C. Condition -- Damaged, off-centered, badly cancelled postal items should be avoided and are downgraded, especially when better copies are readily available (20 points)
 - D. Collecting Challenge -- The more difficult the subject, the more consideration is given on scoring . ie Large Queens vs modern Canada. This is of lesser importance and can sometimes be used to decide between 2 exhibits (15 points)
- Important ; that you show the judges what you know about the items you are exhibiting. At the local level, the emphasis is clearly placed on Presentation, Research & Study (Subject Knowledge) and Condition of the material. Value of the postal items is of little significance. Remember, local club exhibiting is the stepping stone to National and International levels where the postal item is of much more importance.

2. TOPICAL

Although the same rules as in Traditional/Research & Postal History exhibits apply, in a TOPICAL exhibit eye appeal (presentation) is most important. Subject knowledge is also very important, but here you have to show a good knowledge of the subject as well as basic philatelic knowledge.

This article is only some basic information to help you achieve your goal. Please see the following 3 judges for more information ; Marilyn Murphy, Ken MacDonald & myself, who will be doing this year's show. GOOD LUCK J.C.Michaud

Ed's note ; Thanks a lot Claude for taking the time to basically set out the Royal's guideline for local club's and getting them to me in time for this month's newsletter. Now all members know what the judge's are looking for and can set their display's up with this in mind.

ADVERTISING

LOOKING FOR

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POLAND ; covers, Souvenir Sheets, used singles and blocks. Giving double catalogue value - your choice from stock. Contact Les Sarkany at 443-2640 Will pay cash or trade ; Big Glace Bay, N.S. cancels - on cover or on single stamps - or any information regarding these post offices. Please contact Mrs Georgie Somers, 26 Strath Lane, Dartmouth, N.S. B2X 1Z1 or phone 435-6923

FOR SALE

USA mint at face value - strong early 50's and late 60's. Call Mark Goodwin at 455-9202 after 5PM any day.

503. Exhibition Update -- General Chairman :

The second meeting of the 1984 Stamp Exhibition Committee met on Wednesday, February 29th, at 7PM. This meeting was well attended and very productive from a planning and decision making point of view as it showed that all chairpeople have their individual areas of responsibility well in hand. The detailed information regarding the Exhibition will be found in the next newsletter but to keep all members up to date, the following is a list of the specifics provided at the last meeting ;

- OPENING CEREMONY -- With the first big event of 1984 being the " Tall Ships " visit, an attempt will be made to have the Chairman of the " Parade of Sails Committee " Peter Evans open the exhibition.
- COURT OF HONOR -- Bob Vaison is still looking for help in selecting people to exhibit in the Court of Honor. Members are requested to contact Bob if they know of any member or non-member that have gold medal material.
- ENTRIES -- Returns have been slow to date and although it is still early, members are requested to send their entry forms to Bob Vaison as soon as possible. As of February 29th, we have 41 frames reserved by club members, 8 by outside members of other clubs and a possible 15 by the juniors for a total of 64. Hopefully we'll get another 35 or more before the due date of March 30th.
- FRAME PICK-UP Those members wanting their frames ahead of time are requested to contact Bob Vaison for necessary arrangements. Frames cannot be delivered so if you can't pick them up, make sure you are at the hotel at 6PM, Thursday, April 12th, with your exhibit ready for framing.
- JUNIOR EXHIBITS -- Marilyn Murphy has this item in great shape as is allways the case. Once again the juniors are having an auction and members are asked to donate material for this event. Marilyn will accept donations at any time.
- BANQUET An attempt is being made to hold the banquet ticket prices at the \$15.00 level we have had over the past two years but it may be hard to do. Ron Lewis will be finalizing this item within the next week. The guest speaker of course will be Rob Matthews, among other duties at the Halifax Chronicle-Herald, Mail-Star, the editor of the Mayflower " Perforations ". More about him in the next newsletter.
- CLUB TABLE Les Sarkany will be checking for members to sit at the club table during the exhibition. Those members

interested should check with Les early as there are always more members wanting to participate in this part of the exhibition than can be accommodated. The admission prices are the same as last year and don't forget the Booster Club Ticket.

BOURSE

-- A total of 15 dealers plus the Post Office Dept. will take part this year and as a result of the increase in numbers, a complete change may have to take place in the set-up of the exhibits. The chairman will be contacting the hotel to see the possibilities of doing certain changes and then the Chairman, Senior Exhibits Chairperson and Design/Layout chairperson will meet with the events co-ordinator to finalize the plans. The main problem of course is lighting or the lack of and this especially affects the dealers. The first idea to be checked upon is to have all the dealers in the Imperial Ballroom, Court of Honor & Junior exhibits in the Georgian Room with the rest of the exhibits and the banquet set up in the Regency Ballroom.

Ed's Note : Phil-A-Telic is not ailing and he is still being asked questions but his memory is failing him. As a result he went on vacation and forgot to leave this month's copy with the editor but don't worry, he'll be back next newsletter. Keep those cards and letters coming, especially now that we have those new reference books for him to look through for the answers.

Shown below is a postcard produced by the Nova Scotia Post Card Society for its members purchase and use. It is not known if this is a first for a Post Card club but who knows. Plans are under way to produce another card of a specific event and put them on sale to the public so you never know what the future will bring forth. The back has space for writing along with a lighthouse design and return address of the Societies secretary.

