

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB



NEWSLETTER

Vol. 20 #2 Whole Number 177

Meetings: Second Tuesday of the month, at the Nova Scotia Museum, Summer Street, Halifax. 8:00 PM. No meetings July and August.

Next Meeting: 10 February 1987.

Newsletter mailing address: 33 Beech St., Dartmouth, N.S. B3A 1Y6

PROGRAMME NOTES.

Don't forget! Our next meeting is our **GIANT** February auction on 10 February. The first group of lots will be available for viewing about 6:45 PM, so if you haven't dropped off your lots with Bob Vaison or Larry Hitz, you can come to the auction early to do so. The auction starts at 7:30 (note the early start time), and the second group of lots can be viewed during the coffee break. Bob reports that many lots (nearly 90) are already in hand, so it is not unreasonable to assume that this will be at least a 150 lot auction: plenty of material to cater to everyone's interests. Bring lots of lots (maximum 15) and lots of cash!!!

The January 13th meeting of the NSSC proved of great interest to the members in attendance. Ken MacDonald and Claude Michaud gave people the judges' perspective on exhibiting philatelic material in a competitive show. Ken and Claude were showered with questions, so much so that Ron Lewis had to call a halt- the meeting would have run way overtime otherwise! We look forward to seeing the fruits of this presentation at our Annual Exhibition. Thanks go to Ken and Claude for a job well done.

NEWSLETTER NEWS

Well folks, the well just went dry. I've got no more feature articles on file. That means you might find a large blank space in the next Newsletter. So why don't you help out your old embattled editor? Sit down at your desk, your typewriter, your computer, and write about your favorite stamps or stamp subject. Do about 400-700 words (more or less is acceptable) and then put your ego on the line by sending it in to me, your friendly editor, for consideration for the Newsletter. Don't put it off- do it now!

EXHIBITION WATCH, by George MacKenzie

As you all know, the 1987 NSSC Annual Exhibition will be held at the Lord Nelson Hotel on Saturday, 11 April and Sunday, 12 April. Set-up will take place on Friday night, 10 April, starting at 6 PM. The various Exhibition chairpeople are now actively executing their tasks, and need assistance from time to time. If you want to volunteer your services, call the Chairman at 422-5514 to see how you can help make your show a better show. The following information is listed for you reference:

Senior and Junior Exhibits-- The Rules and Regulations are enclosed with this Newsletter so please read them over, fill out the entry form, and get it back to Doug Casey as soon as possible. You don't need to have your exhibit completed before you enter, so send the form in now. We want at least 100 frames this year, so enter!!

Bourse-- As stated at the last meeting, the bourse is our main resource for revenue, so if you know of a dealer possibly interested in being at the show, have him/her contact Marty Zelenietz (Newsletter editor, phone 463-0687) or let Marty know and he'll do the rest.

Club Table-- Around March, Dave Cole or one of the Executive will be contacting members to see if they'll volunteer at least one hour to sit at the Club table and greet people coming to the show, give out programmes, etc. This is no great task, since with no admission fee, there are no money worries. We need 2 members each hour from 10 AM to 5 PM on both Saturday and Sunday.

Publicity-- Hugh Rathbun has some plans in the works regarding publicity, and he may need help in putting up poster in stores, etc.

Programme/Advertising-- John Hall is always glad when members can come up with advertising, either by themselves or by letting him know of somebody who may be interested in advertising in our programme.

Layout/Design-- This was covered in the opening paragraph of this summary. Help will be needed on Friday night to set up the (hopefully) 100+ frames. All you need is desire: the direction will come from the experienced members in this type of operation.

Banquet-- The banquet will be held on Saturday night at the Lord Nelson. Bob Vaison will have further information on this once the menu and costs are fixed. A guest speaker will entertain us and the awards earned at the exhibition will be presented.

Judging-- I don't need to say any more after the excellent presentation by Ken and Claude at the last meeting in regards to what judges look for and what gains as well as loses you points. As I've stated before, you are not in competition with any other club member: if your entry is worthy of an award, you'll get it. Don't forget, you can enter in the non-competitive section if you so desire.

GERMAN STAMPS ON FLUORESCENT PAPER, by Bob Vaison

(ed.'s note: Bob recently addressed the German Stamp Club on this topic, and he kindly agreed to write it up for the Newsletter. Many thanks, Bob.)

Most of us are familiar with the fluorescent (and earlier phosphorescent) tagging bars that have been a feature of Canadian stamps since the early 1960s. These tagging bars are essential to the operation of the high speed sorter-facer-canceller machines used in modern postal procedures, and 'bar' types of tagging have also been applied in recent years to the stamps of other nations such as Great Britain and France. The presence of such tagging is easily, and most readily, detectable under an ultraviolet lamp.

The Federal Republic of Germany, in company with other countries like Switzerland and the Scandinavian states, have taken a somewhat different route towards the same objective. These nations have printed their stamps on fluorescent paper, a characteristic that again is best detected with an ultraviolet light.

Fluorescent paper was first introduced to the stamps of West Germany during the life of the second definitive issue of the Republic, an issue portraying President Heuss. The original denominations of this issue (Scott #'s 702-21) were printed on ordinary paper and appeared in 1954. They were current until about 1959. During 1956-7, higher denominations (Scott 755-61) were added, again on non-fluorescent paper.

In the spring of 1960, the post office prepared several denominations of the Heuss definitives on fluorescent paper as an experiment or trial. These were first put on sale 1 August 1960 at Darmstadt. The following values appeared on both ordinary and fluorescent paper: 5, 7, 10, 15, 20 and 25 pf., and of the later higher values, the 30 and 40 pf. Issued quantities of the fluorescent varieties ranged from under 1 million (5 pf.) to over 17 million for the 10 pf., according to the Michel Deutschland-Spezial catalogue.

While not minuscule, these quantities are certainly indicative of a price premium over the issues on non-fluorescent paper, as the Michel catalogue bears out. It is worthwhile checking any copies you have to see if they are the fluorescent types. A note of caution should be mentioned: philatelic authorities point out that falsified copies have been on the market.

Management of the German post office appeared to view the trial use of fluorescent paper favourably because the practice was continued and expanded. Quite a few values of the Famous Germans definitive set (Scott 824-39) were issued on both fluorescent and ordinary paper, in roughly equal numbers. They were the 5, 7, 8, 10, 15, 20 and 40 pf. There is little if any premium for these fluorescent copies but your collection would not be complete without them. As well, all the

remaining values of this set came out only on fluorescent paper.

Of interest also is the single commemorative issued prior to 1962 on fluorescent paper only. It is the Nuremberg messenger (Scott 842). Two pre-1962 commemoratives came out on both paper types, Scott 737 & 844.

Since the first emission of 1962, all West German and Berlin stamps have been issued only on fluorescent paper. Random sampling I did of recent commemoratives indicates at least two distinct degrees of fluorescence on several issues. I would be interested to hear about similar findings.

PHIL-A-TELIC

Apropos Bob Vaison's article on tagged German stamps, Phil received the following inquiry this month.

Dear Phil-a-telic:

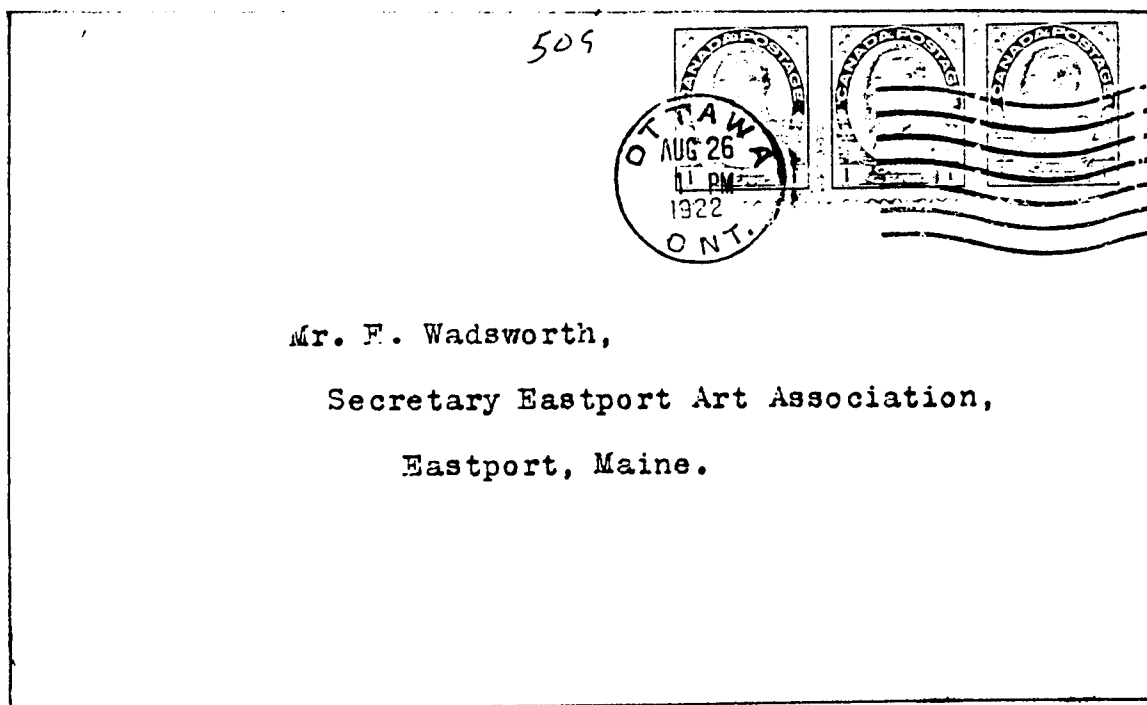
Recently I noticed that the 1969 USA "Man on the Moon" stamp is coated with red phosphorus. I have also noticed the specialized use of red phosphorus on a couple of Russian stamps. My question is: can you tell me anything about the peculiar use of red phosphorus by various countries.

Sincerely,
Bill Grandy

Phil passed this hot potato on to your editor. I can't help you with the Russian stamps, but do have some info on the U.S. material. Please note that the 1969 stamp you refer to is an airmail stamp. Starting in 1960, U.S. airmail stamps were tagged, as well as regular issues. The regular issues luminesce yellow-green under the ultra-violet light, while the airmails react with a orange-red glow. Some time between 1979 and 1983, however, the US dropped the orange-red colour and tagged their airmails with the same yellow-green as their other issues. The 1979 regular issue 25 cent air has the red tagging, while the 1983 Los Angeles Olympic commemoratives (and later issues as well) have the yellow-green tag. I've got the intervening issues somewhere, but can't find them to put them under the light now. The precise date should be available in the Scott U.S. Specialized catalogue, or you can work it out simply by putting the post 1979 issues under the uv lamp. We welcome members' help with the Russian stamps.

COVER OF THE MONTH, by Dave Cooper

This month's cover is addressed to F. Wadsworth, Secretary Eastport Art Association, Eastport, Maine. The interesting feature here is the regular surface North American rate of 3 cents, paid by a strip of three yellow George V Admirals cancelled in Ottawa on 26 August 1922 at 1PM. As the 1 cent Admiral was only issued on 7 June 1922, this cover shows it in a fairly early usage.



FROM OUR ASSOCIATE EDITOR, Elizabeth Sodero

My husband and I had just finished making arrangements for a late November trip to London, England. Imagine my delight in finding Doug Allen's article in the November NSSC Newsletter, "Experiences in British Philately", with the accompanying map of London dealers. Gibbons is always a necessary stop, but we never would have stumbled on the Saturday Collector's Market at the back and under Charing Cross Station- with not only stamps, but postcards, buttons, cigarette cards, prints, military collectibles, etc., in the most contemptible setting, but what fun! A genial gentleman in Strand Stamps took time to give us a rundown on the expertise of the various dealers on Doug's list, directing us to those who would have material for our particular interests (since the map was printed, a few have moved, changed, or gone out of business, but we were definitely in the right area). We came across a wonderful character in the International Stamp Centre, 27 King Street, whose yearly rental for his 5' by 10' stall is £100 a square foot, and whose personal expertise is Bhutan. Time is always a factor, but we did manage to visit the Phillips Collection (19th Century British) in the National Postal Museum, King Edward Street, and the Tapling Collection in the British Museum, which with its alphabetical form of display allowed us to see New Brunswick but not Nova Scotia. All in all, philately added another dimension to an already jam-packed visit and thank you, Doug, for a timely article.

MEMBERSHIP

The following have been accepted as members of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club:

#856. Robert DeBay #857. Thomas Goodyer #858. James Merriam

EXECUTIVE MEETING

The January Executive meeting of the NSSC was held on the 19th, in the Saint Mary's Library. It was reported that business-sized cards advertising the Club had been found by Marilyn: they will be distributed to the Executive for further distribution next meeting.

Archie Thomas, our treasurer, won't be available to the Club in April, so he will close the books a bit early in March, and leave some signed cheques for normal and Exhibition expenses with the President. Archie will also prepare some forms for the people at the Club table at the Exhibition, so that they can collect early dues from members, and save the Club a few dollars in postage costs.

Hugh Rathbun checked into the Club cancel held by Canada Post. CP has, on hand in Halifax, two cancelling devices, one metal and one rubber. The Executive decided to use the rubber cancel at this year's Exhibition. Hugh also reported on his dealings with CP regarding publicity for the Exhibition. The Executive decided to go with CP's proposal of an electronic mass mailing to the South End of Halifax, which would reach about 10,000 households and 2,000 businesses. CP will do it for the Club for free.

Marilyn Murphy, who was unable to attend the Executive meeting, forwarded a report on the formation of our "judging and exhibiting" policy. She had yet to hear from the RPSC, so no action was taken. It was emphasized that the policy aimed to protect the credibility of our exhibitors, awards and judges, particularly when judges wish to exhibit. All Executive members agreed that the Club needs more accredited judges, to avoid future problems.

The position of Recording Secretary in the Club is now open: we'd like to find someone to fill the vacancy for the rest of this year, and continue on into next year.

Ron Lewis asked the Executive if there would be any conflict of interest if he had his usual table at the Exhibition Bourse, seeing that he is now also President of the Club. It was pointed out that previously a serving president had had a bourse table, so the precedent had been set, and the Executive endorsed Ron's participation in the bourse.

The Executive decided that the Club should join the American Philatelic Society, to get inexpensive insurance for our exhibitions, and derive other benefits as well.

We still have not yet made the 25 new frames already budgeted for in preceding years, and we need them. A final decision will be made at the next Executive meeting.

Advertising

Write or phone for **FREE Price List** of mint and used Canada and Provinces stamps. Large discount and special consideration for NSSC members. Quality material at reasonable prices. Will not knowingly be undersold. Satisfaction guaranteed. Want list welcome. **HOUSE OF STAMPS**, Box 398, Station M, Halifax, N.S., B3J 2P8, 423-1780.

WANTED: a used Minkus Album for Iraq-Lebanon-Jordan, with pages to about 1970. I need the pages, not the stamps. If you've got what I want, please call Doug Casey at 422-2918.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE 1987 ANNUAL EXHIBITION
NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB

REGULATIONS FOR EXHIBITING

1. Any member of any stamp club in Atlantic Canada may exhibit. Priority will be given to members of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club if too many exhibition applications are received for the space available.
2. Each exhibit in competition must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor.
3. Each exhibit shall be entered in its correct class. The jury may transfer an incorrectly entered exhibit to its proper class.
4. Exhibits may be entered "not for competition".
5. All exhibitors are responsible for mounting their own material in frames. Exhibits should be delivered to the Lord Nelson Hotel on Friday, 10 April 1987, between 6 and 7 PM. Out of town exhibitors may make other arrangements with the Senior Exhibits Chairman.
6. The Senior Exhibits Chairman reserves the right to reject any exhibit in whole or in part, without assigning any reason for such action.
7. No exhibit may be removed prior to the close of the Exhibition. Closing time is 5 PM Sunday, 12 April 1987.
8. The jury, consisting of a group of appointed judges, will effect its own organization from the general guidelines, and its decision will be final. The judges shall have the right to consult independent opinion if they so desire.
9. Medals will be awarded in each class on the basis of merit if sufficient worthy entries are received.
10. The jury bases awards primarily on the following criteria: presentation; philatelic knowledge; condition; collecting challenge.
11. Exhibits which have previously won a gold medal or grand award of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club may not be exhibited competitively for a period of 3 years. If exhibited after this period, the exhibit must be improved and/or expanded by at least one frame. Such an exhibit may be placed in the Court of Honour if requested by the Exhibition Committee.
12. Although all reasonable care will be taken, no responsibility shall be attached to the Nova Scotia Stamp Club or the members thereof, the members of the Exhibition Committee or its volunteer assistants or employees, the Lord Nelson Hotel or its employees, for any loss or damage to an exhibit arising from any cause or reason whatsoever.
13. The signature of the exhibitor on the entry form will be deemed to imply acceptance of these Regulations for Exhibiting.

CLASSES OF EXHIBITS

Class 1.....Canada and British North America
Class 2.....Great Britain and British Colonies
Class 3.....Worldwide
Class 4.....Postal History, Cancells, etc.
Class 5.....Topical
Class 6.....Junior

FRAMES

Standard frames which hold eight pages (8 1/2" x 11") will be available for mounting your exhibit at the Lord Nelson Hotel the evening of 10 April, or in advance by arrangement with the Senior Exhibits Chairman, Doug Casey. He can be contacted at 422-2918.

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OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

(please print)

All entry forms must be received by Doug Casey (address below) by FRIDAY, 27 MARCH 1987, to allow for programme preparation.

Name..... NSSC#.....

Address.....

Telephone Number.....

Club Affiliation if other than NSSC.....

Title of Exhibit.....

of Frames Needed (8 pages/frame)..... Class.....

Competitive/Non-competitive (please circle one)

Signature..... Date.....

(Please read the Regulations for Exhibiting, especially #13, before signing Official Entry Form).

Send completed forms to:

Doug Casey
6689 Second Street
Halifax, N.S.
B3L 1G2

NO FORMS ACCEPTED AFTER FRIDAY, 27 MARCH 1987.