

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB



No.

188

Newsletter

Vol. 23 #1

Meetings: Second Tuesday of the month at the Nova Scotia Museum, Summer Street, Halifax, N.S. at 8 p.m.
No meetings July or August.

Next Meeting: May 10, 1988.

Mailing Address: 831 Tower Road, Halifax, N.S. B3H 2Y1.

PROGRAMME NOTES

On the agenda for the May 10 business meeting will be:

1. Vote on the revised constitution.
2. Presentation of awards and certificates of participation.

The programme will be a 52 slide presentation, "Doctoring of Postage Stamps", by G.S. Joseph through the audio-visual committee of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa provided by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club was held at the Museum, Tuesday, April 12 with 45 members present. A motion to raise membership dues to \$15 single, \$20 couple, (\$20, and \$25 outside Canada) was passed unanimously. With the club's decision to change the fiscal year end to June 30, certain changes to the constitution are necessary. Therefore constitution revision appears on the May 10 agenda.

The Nominating Committee report was adopted as read, with the following assuming Executive positions:

President: George MacKenzie
First Vice-President: Marilyn Murphy
Second Vice-President: John Hall
Treasurer: Archie Thomas
Recording Secretary: Russell Saulnier
Corresponding Secretary: Larry Hitz
Newsletter Editor: Elizabeth Sodero
First Director: John Hurst
Second Director: Dave Cole

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Third Director: to be appointed
Honorary Director: Collins Baugild
Past President: Ron Lewis

Ron Lewis, outgoing President, gave his year end report as a year of challenge and change. Financial challenge has resulted in the raising of dues, establishment of a ways and means committee, and by round about means, revision of the constitution. He felt that the club has risen to meet these challenges and strengthened because of them. Through the past year's efforts, the club will have two new judges to call upon at exhibition time, easing the load for those who have served the club so well and for so long. A loss has been the evening coffee break. He then turned the meeting over to the new President, George MacKenzie, and the evening concluded with an auction of 38 lots.

John Hall, Exhibition Chairman, gave a brief review of Novapex '88 and presented Al Burditt with the prize (which John donated) for the most popular exhibit.

EXHIBITION REPORT: NOVAPEX '88

Chairman John Hall provides the following information:

Total attendance: 500 over two days

Entries:	Court of Honour	11 frames from 3 members
	Senior	74 frames from 16 members
	Junior	12 frames from 6 members
	Outside	0 frames
	Total	97 frames from 25 members

Dealers: 13 dealers plus Canada Post, no major complaints.

Awards:

Gold: W.G. Burden, Canadian Constant Plate Varieties.
K.C. MacDonald, Selected Halifax Postal Markings
Gary Steele, 1937-38 Definitive Issue, Rates, Usages

Silver: W.G. Burden, Small Queen Constant Plate Varieties
Carl Munden, Postal Route of the N.E. Margaree Valley
George MacKenzie, History of Aviation, Part 1

Bronze: John Hall, Canadian Map Stamp of 1898
Mary Jane Cooper, 19th Century Mexico
Doug Casey, Black Sheep of the Postage Stamp Family
Heather MacKenzie, Libraries: Legacies to Mankind
Bob Vaison, Red Cross on Stamps and Covers
Elizabeth Soderro, Settling Accounts 1866-67

Novice Award: Heather MacKenzie

Most Popular Exhibit: Al Burditt, Queen Elizabeth Coronation Issue
BNAPS Postal History Award: Gary Steele
Madge Morison Trophy, for outstanding contribution to the advancement of philately in Nova Scotia: Carl Munden
NSSC Award, for outstanding contribution to philately in Nova Scotia: Marilyn Murphy

Juniors:

1. Michael Tucker, age 10, Trains On Stamps
2. Hilary Symonds, age 10, Olympics
3. Simon McKnight, age 8, Israel

The junior exhibitors were presented with First Day Covers and Albums by Canada Post at the opening of the exhibition, and then took part in a spirited auction with Hugh Bignell as auctioneer. On behalf of the juniors, many thanks to those whose contributions made the auction possible.

Club Table: Dave Cole's raffles showed a 50% increase in profit this year.

Banquet: Sixty-five members and guests attended the Saturday night banquet and were delighted by the speech given by Rev. Dr. Allen Gibson on his stamp collecting experiences, highlighting that exhilarating experience of acquisition of a long sought-after treasure, and stressing the personal fulfillment of one's own collection. (All this and a profit of \$238).

John extends his sincere thanks to his committee members for their excellent work, to the judges for another late night marathon, to the novice judges for their dedication, and to all those who helped in any way to make a successful exhibition.

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APOLOGY: Former Editor Steve Vernon's name appeared as credit for the April article on the Toronto Post Office - it, of course, should be attributed to Walter Horne, RPSC PHSC BNAPS ATA NSSC, and is completed in this issue.

TORONTO POST OFFICE (cont'd):

In 1979, the row of buildings became the restoration project of a Toronto lawyer, Sheldon J. Godfrey. He had a M.A. in Canadian history and he and his wife Judith were determined to find out all they could about these buildings. Mrs. Godfrey spent all her time searching through 19th century records and early in 1980 she suddenly came across a picture of the Howard house. It had the same window treatment and two entrances which her husband had discovered while restoring the building.

A few weeks later she discovered the actual bills that Howard had paid to have his house built. They documented dozens of details about its construction. As each detail was checked against the building, the Godfreys realized that they had discovered the existence of one of the original buildings of York.

Finally Mrs. Godfrey found a bill for the painting and gilding of ten unidentified letters. It can safely be assumed that these letters spelled POST OFFICE, the sign on the front of the Howard building.

There is a particularly happy ending to the story. The Godfreys hoped that all three buildings would be returned to their original use. It is now confirmed that one of the leading management consulting firms in Canada, DMR and Associates, whose clients include almost all the major banks in Canada, will be occupying the historic Bank of Upper Canada Building. George Brown College has confirmed that it will occupy the old De Lasalle portion. A few weeks later Canada Post stated that it would like to open a sub-station in the historic first Post Office of old Toronto.

Many will recall that a campaign to get a stamp issued for the 150th Anniversary of Toronto's first Post Office was unsuccessful. It appears now that someone was listening. On February 16, 1987, Canada Post issued a stamp featuring the building. It was the first in a series of old post offices. The Toronto stamp was joined by three others, whose designs show post offices at Nelson-Miramichi, New Brunswick, St. Ours of Quebec and Battleford of Saskatchewan. These four stamps were issued in a special souvenir sheet for CAPEX '87, which opened the next day in Toronto.

Walter H.D. Horne

PHIL-A-TELIC

Now finally for an answer to the previous Editor of the Newsletter, that is the one before Elizabeth and George, regarding TPO's, RPO's and APO's. The problem with abbreviations is that there may be more than one answer but here are my decisions from a Phil-a-telic point of view:

APO's: The United States Army Post Offices were first established in France on July 10, 1917 at St. Nazaire which was assigned #1 as its code. APO's, as these stations were called did not have their locations printed in the postal marking for security reasons, numbers stand for names. Before the end of hostilities in 1918, some 170 United States Post Offices had been established in Europe.

RPO's: These are Railway Post Office obliterations, postmarks or cancellations to indicate that the mail was processed on a railway train. Postage stamps or covers bearing these various impressions are called RPO's.

TPO's: These are the Travelling Post Office obliterations, postmarks or cancellations, applied to mail processed on railway trains. TPO is another name for RPO, depending on the country of origin.

I don't have any other questions from you the members so next time I'll have to ask myself a question or two and the questions as well as the answer may not be too bright so it's up to you. Drop Phil a line at 1333 South Park Street, Apt. 515, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 2K9.

CORRESPONDENCE

Rod Glover sent along the following exchange with Canada Post:

To the Manager of the National Philatelic Centre, Antigonish,
Dear Sir:

I'm getting rather frustrated at the inability of the Canada Post Corporation to respond to philatelist's and collector's needs.

As I have only recently taken an interest in Canadian issues it disturbs me that special blank Olympic cacheted covers are not available from the Corporation to complement the special cancellation series. Also, why is it that the Corporation does not sell unaddressed cacheted covers prior to the issue of special stamps allowing the collector the opportunity to produce their own "real" first day covers. I shudder at the alternative when I see those "fake" things that clutter display cabinets in Philatelic Centres for some 6 months.

I look forward to hearing from you.

In reply Rod received the following,

Dear Mr. Glover:

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding special Olympic cacheted covers.

We have forwarded your letter to the address listed below who will look into your request and take appropriate action if deemed necessary: Ms. Louise Maffett

Postage & Product Design
Canada Post Corporation
Station 923A
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 1H7

We wish to express our thanks for your interest in Canada's postage stamps. Yours sincerely, Emily Ross, Customer Service.

To quote Rod: "Ms. Maffett did not deem it necessary to reply." Any comments?

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MEMBERSHIP: Applications for membership have been received from: Alexander Doucet, 6273 North St., Halifax, B3L 1P4
Collects Canada and the Provinces.
James Arthur Levy, 1 Oak St., Dartmouth, B3A 1Y7.
John A. Murrans, 96 Flamingo Drive, Halifax, B3M 1T3.
Collects Canada, History on Stamps.

EXECUTIVE MEETING: The Ways and Means Committee will report to the May Executive meeting. Members have already initiated financial help to the club, one by adding \$3.70 to his dues to cover postage of his newsletter for the year. A novel and welcome approach. Another member, who prefers to remain anonymous, has donated not only the stamps, but also the licking thereof, to cover the mailing of this newsletter. We are most grateful. The two new judges are entering upon the last phase of their qualifying procedure. The Lord Nelson has been booked for April 14, 15, 16, 1989 for the annual exhibition. The February Giant Auction Chairman is Larry Hitz, assisted by Dave Cole. Expertizing will be available. Another Seniors' Leisure Festival will be held at the Lord Nelson in August, with an anticipated attendance of 1500. Would any club members be interested in participating with a display and information about stamp collecting as a hobby?

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

An EXHIBITION CHAIRMAN is required for Novapex '89. It is to the advantage of all to have a chairman in place the June preceding an Exhibition. See George MacKenzie.

A PROGRAMME CHAIRMAN: Programmes are already in place for May, June, September, October 1988, February, and June 1989. Slide presentations are available from RPSC and APS, and guest speakers are always a welcome addition. See George.

A COFFEE CONVENOR: Some members are missing their coffee break. See George.

DUES: Although memberships are not due until July 1 this year because of the change in the fiscal year end, payment will be received gratefully before that date by Archie Thomas or Marilyn Murphy. It would be most helpful if members would pay early.

ADVERTISEMENT: HOUSE OF STAMPS, Box 398, Station M, Halifax B3J 2P8
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PHONE 423-1780.

Valley Stamp Club Show, Kentville April 30 in the Fire Hall.
Editor's note: Thanks to all the contributors who helped make this task alot easier, and remember if you have any items of interest for future newsletters please pass them along.