

THE NOVA SCOTIA POST

The Monthly Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

March 2025
Volume 54, Issue 538

UP AND COMING

Moncton Stamp Fair - March 8
10 - 3pm, 100 War Veterans Ave,
Moncton, NB

The Fundy Stamp Club will hold a Silent Auction which will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and a Live Auction at 1:30 p.m.

NS Stamp Club - March 11
Round Table Discussions / Auction

South Shore Stamp Club - March 22
New Life Christian Church, Elm St.
Bridgewater, NS
Presenter: Show & Tell

National level shows; part of the World Series of Philately, and the last chances to qualify for the annual APS (WSP) Show in 2025 (APS Exhibit entry due May 5).

2025 Edmonton Spring National Show
March 29-30
Central Lions Recreation Centre

Royal*2025*Royale / FILEX April 25-26
Fédération québécoise de Philatélie
See details on Page 4

ORAPEX 2025 - May 3-4
Nepean Sportsplex, Ottawa, ON

Check out the status of other events at
www.rpsc.org/shows.php or
www.csdaonline.com/shows

New Members

Welcome to the five new members
have recently joined the club ...

1137 Lauren Chrtrand-Holden
1138 Liiva Rein
1139 Karen Phinney
1140 Emily Davis
1141 Rev. Ray Corbett

We have 20 new members so far this
year!!

WELCOME ALL!

BODY BAGS - PART 1

by Marty Zelenietz

"Body bag" is the collectors' term for the outer wrapping used to protect mail damaged in transit. Such mail can result from catastrophic transport accidents, so-called "crash mail," a highly collectable branch of postal history. More commonly today, I suspect, body bags are used when letter or parcel mail is mishandled or damaged in automated sorting and cancelling machines. Body bags usually carry messages apologizing or expressing regret for the damage done.

I have accumulated a number of body bags over the years. My interest in them was rekindled in January 2025, when a parcel from friends in Japan arrived enclosed in a Canada Post body bag. One side of the box was damaged, but we think that nothing was missing. The body bag itself was clear plastic, measuring approximately 330 mm by 550 mm. A white text background (about 210 mm by 370 mm), bordered in black and with black text, bore the Canada Post logo and a bilingual "Apology from Canada Post Corporation." In the lower left corner is the number 200-12-522 (08-02), and the upper right edge the date 06-24.

The same text can be seen on a smaller body bag (200 mm by 350 mm), complete with "corpse," shown in Figure 1. The padded mailing envelope (sent 15 September 2014) enclosed (Figure 2) shows substantial dark scuffing along the bottom, but no real damage. I can attest that the contents were intact and undamaged. The lower left corner of the text box carries the number 200-12-521 (08-02) and the upper right edge the date 06/12.

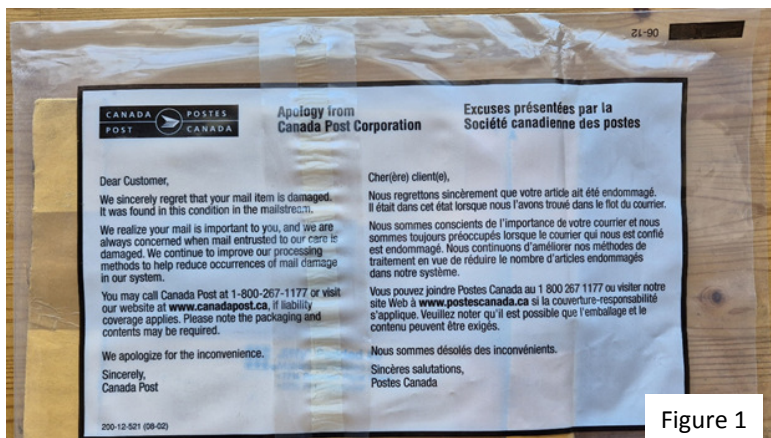


Figure 1



Figure 2

I have one earlier, slightly larger (303 mm by 560 mm) bag that carries different text (English shown in Figure 3). While the apology is effusive, the message does not relay the contact information found in the

Body Bags continued on Page 4

THE AMHERST N.S. INTERNMENT CAMP

by Alan Matheson

Amherst Internment Camp was in operation from 1914 to 1919 and was the largest internment camp at that time and held up to 853 internees/prisoners of war. It was previously the Malleable Iron Foundry that had been requisitioned from its previous German owners to serve as the camp. It consisted of one large building which housed officers and internees' quarters, medical facilities, kitchen, theater, washrooms and stores. A large proportion of the internees were sailors from the German naval vessel, the S.S. Wilhelm der Grosse. This vessel had been engaged by the Royal Navy off the West Coast of Africa with the sailors being taken prisoner. Initially they had been held at the Citadel in Halifax but with this now being overcrowded they had been transferred to the Amherst Camp. The camp's most famous prisoner was the Russian revolutionary Leon Trotsky. On the 27th March 1917 Trotsky had left New York for Russia to lead

the Military-Revolutionary Committee following the collapse of the Tsarist Government. The ship, S.S. Kristianfjord, transited Halifax where he and his family were brought ashore. After spending one night in the Halifax Citadel, he was transferred to the camp at Amherst. While there he tried to revolutionise the other internees. Trotsky was eventually released on the 29th April and along with his family boarded a Danish ship bound for Russia. Prisoner of War interned in Canada were permitted to write two letters per week. Letters to and from P.O.W.s were permitted postage free. Here are some examples of correspondence sent to/from the camp.



Postcard mailed Buenos Aires 6th June 1917 addressed to Captain Franck (P.O.W. number 219) at the Amherst Camp. Purple censor's mark for 29th June applied.



Cover mailed free of charge to San Francisco. Purple "Passed by Internment Camp Censor Amherst N.S. Dec 6 1916" applied. Amherst Dec 6 1916 C.D.C. applied. On the flap on the reverse endorsed from "Lager-Theater Amherst N.S. Canada" applied.

Postcard (unused) showing the faustballclub (fistball club) of P.O.W.s at the camp.



Postcard mailed F.O.C Mainz Germany 23rd September 1918 addressed to W. Basting (P.O.W. number 100).



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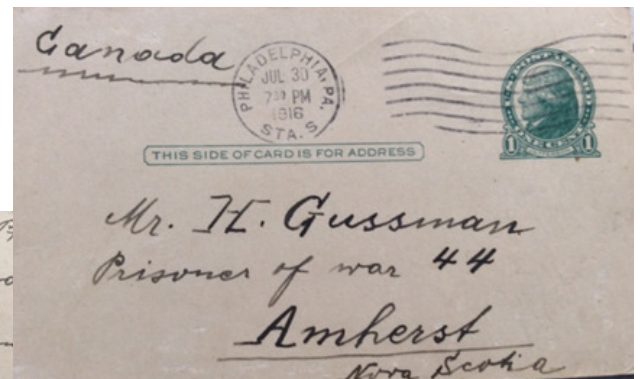
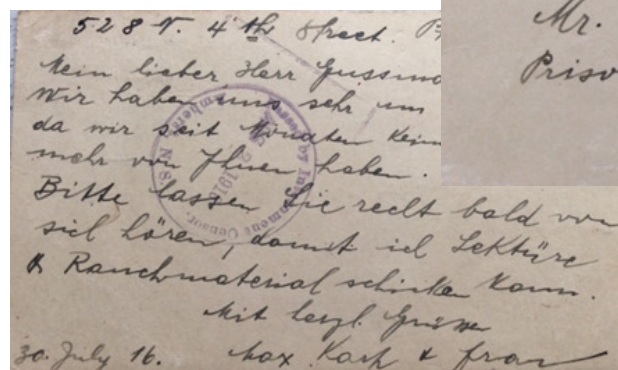
Nova Scotia Stamp Club meets at 7:30 p.m. on every second Tuesday of the month (except July and August) at the Nova Scotia Museum, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, N.S. The club publishes a monthly newsletter (except summer) released in the first week of the month.

E-Membership is C\$10 per person or C\$15.00 per couple.

Print Membership is C\$15 and C\$22.50
Foreign mailings available at a premium.

Send membership applications to...
NS Stamp Club c/o Jeff Parks
102 Birch Bear Run,
Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

One cent stationery card mailed Philadelphia Sta S 30th July 1916 to H. Gussman (P.O.W. Number 44). Amherst purple censor's mark for 2nd August applied.



LISE MEITNER, 1878 – 1968

by Michael Peach

Lise Meitner, a renowned physicist, was born into a Jewish family in Vienna. She surmounted many difficulties in a male dominated world. Girls were only able to enter institutes of higher learning from 1897. Having completed all the entrance requirements, Lise matriculated at the University of Vienna and, in January 1906, she graduated summa cum laude with a doctorate in physics. While teaching high school physics she continued her research at the university. In 1907, she moved to Berlin where she met a young enthusiastic chemist, Otto Hahn. They subsequently worked as a team for many years. In 1912, the new Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for chemistry opened in Berlin and employed both Meitner and Hahn.

World War I interrupted research, but Meitner resumed her work in 1916. In 1917, Meitner and Hahn reported the discovery of a new stable isotope of protoactinium, protoactinium-231. In 1922, she was appointed lecturer at the university (now Humboldt University, Berlin) and an untenured professor in 1926, becoming the first female physics professor in Germany.

Things became much more difficult for her in the 1930s when Hitler became chancellor and people with Jewish ancestry started to suffer. She lost her Austrian citizenship with the Anschluss in March 1939. With clandestine help from her colleagues, she crossed the border into the Netherlands on July 13, 1938. She was eventually secured a new job at the Nobel Institute for Physics in Stockholm.

In the 1930s, during attempts to produce heavier elements by studying the bombardment of uranium with neutrons, Hahn and Meitner originally misinterpreted the results. In December 1938, further experiments by Hahn and Fritz Strassman, a younger colleague, barium was one of the products formed. This result was resolved by Meitner and her nephew Otto Frisch, hypothesising that the uranium had been split into two. Frisch called this fission. Meitner calculated that there would be a chain reaction and a vast amount released. These results were published in *Nature* in February 1939. This was picked up immediately by various scientists including Albert Einstein who informed President Roosevelt and led to the development of the atomic bomb.

The 1944 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded to Hahn for the discovery of nuclear fission. Meitner was probably excluded due to political pressure and misogyny. After the end of the war, her achievements were being recognised. She was hailed as the mother of the atomic bomb by the allies, a title she hated. She disapproved of the military use of the bomb. In 1946, she toured the United States and was given celebrity status and was recognised by the National Women's Press



Club's as the Woman of the Year. She became a dual Swedish-Austrian citizen in 1949.

She retired at age 75 and, after breaking her hip, she moved to Cambridge, UK in 1960 to be near her nephew Otto and his family. She died there at age 89, remarkably she did not die of radiation sickness. The inscription on her tombstone reads *A physicist who never lost her humanity*.

She was honoured posthumously in a variety of ways. Three stamps have been issued honouring Meitner. Austria honoured the 100th anniversary of her birth on November 7, 1978 with a 6öS stamp. Later, Deutsche Bundespost and Deutsche Bundespost Berlin each issued a stamp using the same image, value 1.50 Pf, and issue date

May 5, 1988, as part of the Women in German History series.

Element 109 was discovered in 1982 and, in 1997, it was named meitnerium named in her honour. This is a far greater recognition than a Nobel Prize as she was only the second woman to have a chemical element named after her.

In 2014, a statue of Meitner was unveiled in the garden of honour at the Humboldt University, Berlin, as one of the most important natural scientists of the last century and the first female professor at the university.

Note: In 1949, the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute was renamed the Max Planck Institute.

SPRING STAMP FAIR

Sunday, April 13, 2025

9 am - 3 pm

Dealers / Club Table

Live Auction at 1:30

East Dartmouth Community Centre

50 Caledonia Rd., Dartmouth

Fee Admission / Free Parking

All members in good standing will receive a \$20 voucher that can be used for purchases from any of the dealers present at the Stamp Fair on this day only. The vouchers are not transferable.



Issued
March 3/25

VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS - MAR. 2025

Compiled by Ann Miller

You can register for the event via the host's website. Most of the groups listed have past presentations available to view through their websites, or YouTube. Times listed for the ATLANTIC (ADT) zone.

American Topical Association

Mar. 11, 8 p.m., Tom Broadhead, "The comet and the tapestry"
Mar. 25, 8 p.m. Michele Bresso, "Expand your collection with poster stamps"

Auxillary Markings Club

Mar. 11, 8 p.m., Ken Snelson, "Early British Labels".

British Empire Study Group

Mar. 13, 7 p.m., David Handleman, "Avis de réception in the British Isles and offices"

Collectors Club of New York

Mar. 5, 6:30 p.m. Antonio Alcaná, "Small talk: how a stamp is made"
Mar. 12th, 6:30 p.m., Jeff Hayward, "Beyond the catalogue, expanding your collection in new directions"
Mar. 19th, 6:30 p.m., John Barwis, "North Atlantic non-contract steamship sailings:1838-1875"

North Toronto Stamp Club

Mar. 20, 8 p.m., Ken Snelson, "Early 1900s novelty postcards"

Postal History Society of Canada

Mar. 18, 8 p.m., Ron Smith, "Trans-Atlantic stampless covers to and from Fredericton, New Brunswick"

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Mar. 10th, 8 p.m., Stamp Talks, Arnie Jansen, "A variety of varieties, Chapter 3".

Mar. 17th, 8 p.m., Stamp Panels, Jean Wang and Charles Verge, "A philatelic glossary".

Royal Philatelic Society of London

Mar. 4th, 11 a.m., Mick Bister "France 50c Jeanne d'Arc".

Society of Australasian Specialists / Oceania

Mar. 11th, 7 p.m., Stephen Jones and Darryl Keegan, "New Zealand Cinderellas of WWI and WWII". Contact Steven Zirinsky at szirinsky@cs.com.

West Toronto Stamp Club

Mar. 4th, 8 p.m., Learning Workshop, "Special services of the Post Office"
Mar. 18th, 8 p.m., Discussion Group, Simon Cloughton, "Overseas mail to and from Canada during WWII".

Virtual STAMPEX 2025 (London, UK)

<https://stampex.vfairs.com/>

March 6-8, Three days of presentations and roundtable discussions. Free to attend but you must register. No limit on

BODY BAGS CONTINUED...

later versions. 200-12-522 (00-11) is found at lower left, and 05-05 BP at lower right.

In future articles, I will be looking at body bags from the US, the UK, and Israel.

Figure 3



<p>NATIONAL EXHIBITION IN 2025</p> <p>April 25th and 26th 2025. Friday : 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Saturday : 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. The 60th anniversary banquet will be held on Saturday.</p> <p>At Plaza Universel : 5000, rue Sherbrooke Est, Montréal. Free admission. Parking available. A few minutes walk from the Viau metro station.</p> <p>Convention themes will be :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60th anniversary of the founding of the FQP. • 50th anniversary of the beaver as the national animal. • 100th anniversary of the first philatelic exhibition held in Quebec. <p>For more information : filex2025@outlook.com</p>	<p>EXPOSITION NATIONALE EN 2025</p> <p>Les 25 et 26 avril 2025. Vendredi : 9:00 à 17:00. Samedi : 9:00 à 16:00. Le banquet du 60^e anniversaire sera tenu samedi.</p> <p>Au Plaza Universel : 5000, rue Sherbrooke Est, Montréal. Entrée gratuite. Stationnement disponible. À quelques minutes à pied du métro Viau.</p> <p>Les thèmes de l'exposition seront :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Le 60^e anniversaire de fondation de la FQP. • Le 50^e anniversaire du castor comme emblème animalier national. • Le 100^e anniversaire de la première exposition philatélique tenue en sol québécois. <p>Pour plus d'information : filex2025@outlook.com</p>
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presentation attendance numbers, but roundtables are limited to 40 participants.

Canadian speakers:

Mar. 6, 6:00 a.m., Chris McFetridge, "Collecting modern".

Mar. 6, 7:00 a.m., Roundtable, Chris McFetridge, "Is the hobby dying?".

Mar. 7, 11:00 a.m., Gregg Redner, "Why collect postal labels and markings".

Mar. 8, 10:00 a.m., Darwin Cherniwchan, "Ways to collaborate".

Mar. 8, 11:00 a.m., Jean Wang, "Telling stories through topical and thematic collecting".

Mar. 8, 12:00 p.m., Roundtable, Jean Wang, "Practical tips for exhibiting".