

# THE NOVA SCOTIA POST

The Monthly Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

April 2025  
Volume 54, Issue 539

## UP AND COMING

**Valley Stamp Club** - April 5  
Port Williams Community Centre  
Presenter: Jeff Newbery "A cruise down the Danube and postal adventures along the way"

**NS Stamp Club** - April 8  
Presenter: Keith MacKay "A Postal History Quest"  
Auction

**Moncton Stamp Fair** - April 12  
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.

**Halifax Stamp Fair** - April 13  
East Dartmouth Community Centre  
Details on Page 4

**South Shore Stamp Club** - April 26  
New Life Christian Church, Elm St.  
Bridgewater, NS  
Presenter: Jeff Parks

**Royal\*2025\*Royale / FILEX** April 25-26  
Fédération québécoise de Philatélie  
<http://www.philatelie.qc.ca/royale-2025-filex>

**ORAPEX 2025** - May 3-4  
Nepean Sportsplex, Ottawa, ON  
<https://www.orapex.ca/>

**NOVAPEX 2025** - August 22-23  
Regional Level Exhibition and Bourse  
Info on Page 3

Check out the status of other events at  
[www.rpsc.org/shows.php](http://www.rpsc.org/shows.php) or  
[www.csdaonline.com/shows](http://www.csdaonline.com/shows)

## New Members

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

1142 Ralph Wardrope

1143 Jocelyn Wardrope

## BODY BAGS 2: UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

by Marty Zelenietz

Continuing the exploration of body bags, those wrappers and bags that hold mail damaged in transit, we come to my two items from the United States. On both, the largest type font is reserved for "WE CARE," a roundabout way of apologizing for the damaged mail enclosed within.

The first item (Figure 1) is actually a sealed entire, never opened by the recipient. It consists of a large-windowed envelope measuring 254 mm by 152 mm (10" x 6"). The contents appear to be a single 8" x 11" sheet, folded



Figure 1

once, advertising theatre tickets. The flimsy object was mangled at some point in its journey across Chicago. The back of the cover bears a message (Figure 2) from "YOUR POSTMASTER" with a "sincere apology" and "sincere regret" for the damaged document, explaining that the USPS "handles over 202 billion pieces of mail each year" and that "an occasional mishap does happen."

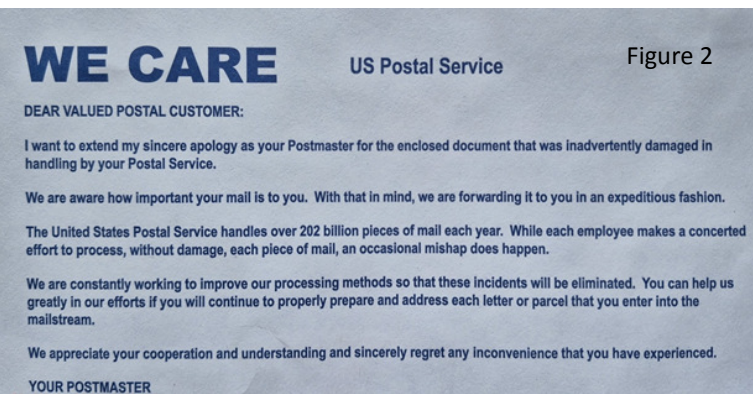


Figure 2

My second item is a clear plastic bag originally measuring about 11 1/4" by 16" (228 mm x 338 mm). The text (Figure 3) is black on a white background (186 mm by 112 mm). It begins with sincere regrets and ends with an apology, ascribing the damage to "the great volume handled and the rapid processing methods" used "to assure the most expeditious distribution possible."

I believe that the bag contained a book sent to me, but I cannot be certain of this.

Overall, I would say that the tone of the first message is slightly more personable and apologetic, while the second message is more impersonal and business-like, with the large font bold text "WE CARE" trying to make a good first impression on both.

Body Bags continued on Page 4

## CANADA DEPARTMENTAL HANDSTAMPS #22

by Gary Steele



Double Oval, 50x31mm

This story has three separate items, four handstamps and a couple of stories.

A C.O.D. Remittance Only envelope is shown as listed on the front of the Saskatoon T. Eaton Co. envelope with a 15 cent Canada Geese stamp, mailed to a Mr. M.S. Martin in Saskatoon Oct 30 1963.

Noticing an empty envelope, it was sent to the City Mail Delivery Supervisor Oct 31<sup>st</sup>, marked in manuscript '*Rec'd w/o contents*'. It is not known whether the Supervisor marked this or a postal employee with the initials shown below.

A memo was drawn up from the District Director of Postal Service, Winnipeg, Man. per the **Quality Control (Q.C.)** handstamp in the upper right dated Nov 4 1963 (clerk 8) OKC. Sent to the DD of Postal Service in **Saskatoon** it was again noted to be without contents and a double address with the flap appearing to have never been sealed. It appears that the *c/o* manuscript address was supposed to be to **Mr. M.S. Martin**, however, Mr. Martin could have been mailing the envelope to the T. Eaton Co. in Winnipeg as they would be the ones receiving a C.O.D. remittance. Marked at the end is '*Intended disposition is not known.*' **R. Firth for.** DD of Postal Service.

On the same date on the second memo, from the District Director of Postal Services **Quality Control** Saskatoon to the Postmaster, Saskatoon, Sask. it is



notated '*If Mr Martin cannot be of assistance or the PM at Sub 6 please return. If Mr. Martin cannot furnish name of sender please advise. W. S. Cummings*'. This item has another rare circle Quality Control handstamp in magenta ink from Saskatoon, Sask.

If the dates are correct a Nov 5 handstamp was then applied to the first memo from the **DD of Postal Service O.S.S.** Nov 5 1963 Saskatoon, Sask. to proceed with enquiries from Mr. Martin.

A total of four different handstamps, three different design types from two different cities that we will probably never find the final facts of how this story ended.

### The Nova Scotia Post

is a publication of the  
Nova Scotia Stamp Club  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Jane Sodero - Editor  
Jeff Parks - Graphic Design

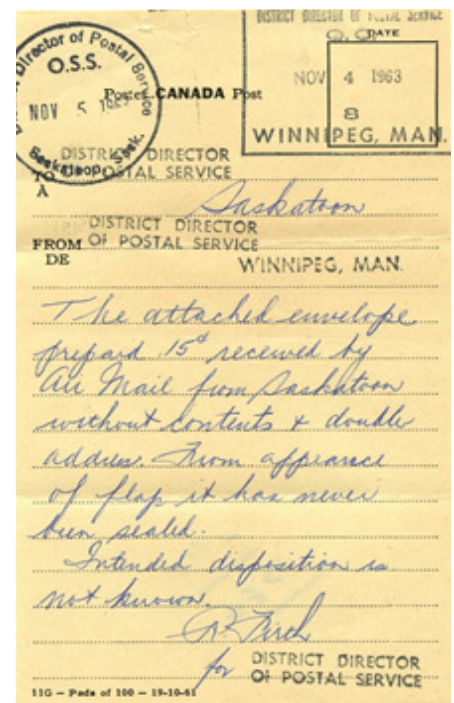
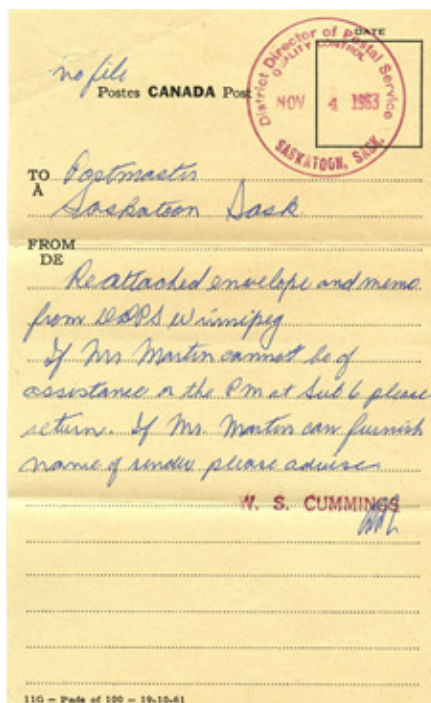
<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/>  
[webnews@nsstampclub.ca](mailto:webnews@nsstampclub.ca)

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



## BITS AND PIECES

## NOVAPEX 2025 COMING IN AUGUST

Mark your calendar. Plans are well underway for NOVAPEX 2025. This will be a Regional Event to be held at the East Dartmouth Community Center, Friday and Saturday, August 22 and 23. The awards banquet will be held Saturday evening at the Dartmouth Seniors Center. Exhibitors will be able to enter both competitive and non-competitive exhibits. Another form of exhibiting that has been gaining support over the past few years across the exhibiting world are one page exhibits, which NOVAPEX plans to explore. Exhibit entry forms along with banquet registration forms will be available in the near future.

NOVAPEX regional shows are a terrific way for people wishing to try their hand at exhibiting to gain experience and receive critical feedback from nationally accredited judges. Regional events are your doorway to having an exhibit accepted at any national show across Canada, including NOVAPEX National shows which are generally held over two year intervals.

## MAY ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS

Discussion at recent round table meetings of the NSSC has indicated that many members have expressed an interest in exhibiting but are unsure of how to go about creating an exhibit. Plans are currently in the works to have a table, possibly two, set aside for the express purpose of discussing exhibiting during May's round table meeting. There are many experienced exhibitors within the club who are more than willing to share their knowledge and insights with you and they will be on hand for the round table discussion. Among the many topics will be preparing your exhibit; creating title pages; creating synopsis; what to expect from judges; what judges expect from exhibitors. Feel free to bring up any subject or question you personally may have. Discussions such as this are full of insights that will be of interest to both experienced and novice exhibitors. If this is of particular interest to you, please let yourself be known at April's meeting so that we can adequately prepare for May's meeting. On the same subject, if there is enough interest it is possible we may schedule a workshop that will go into the subject of exhibiting more extensively.

## CBC DOCUMENTARY ON ROYAL\*2024\*ROYALE

CBC's Land and Sea will be presenting the documentary about made Royal\*2024\*Royale in Fredericton on April 13<sup>th</sup>. The film talks about the many aspects of our wonderful hobby. This series usually shows on a Sunday at 11am in the Maritimes and 1pm elsewhere in Canada. It will also be available on demand on CBC Gem and the show's YouTube channel. You have to sign up for CBC Gem but it is free. Land and Sea on CBC Gem can be accessed at:

<https://gem.cbc.ca/land-and-sea-network/s24>

## ENQUIRY FROM CHERYL GRANTHAM

I have been trying to find out some information on Rev Ralph Harpell for a number of years. She has a number of covers with his name and a Cinderella post label on them, dating from 1995 I am wondering if anyone might have come across this Cinderella post or Rev. Harpell?



## Stamp Oddities

Prior to the Great War (WWI) Latvia was part of tsarist Russia, but following the Russian Revolution (1917) during Latvia's fight for independence, an acute shortage of paper meant that stamps had to be printed on the reverse side of discarded paper.

Latvia declared independence on 18 November 1918 and issued its first postage stamps on 18 December. The 5 kap. (kopeck) stamp shows a rising sun with three



Latvia (SC#1)  
Imperforate  
Dec 18 1918



Latvia (SC#2) Perforated, (12 showing the black/brown map on reverse. (Public Domain)

ears of wheat within a ring, designed by Ansis Cīrulis, a Latvian graphic artist and painter. Lithographically printed by A. Schnakenburg of Riga in a single colour (carmine) available in imperforate (1,600,000) or perforated 11.5 (1,125,968) formats in sheets of 228 (9x12) on the backs of German military maps that were printed with brown and black ink. There were 470 map sheets in the set and only about 79 sheets have been accounted for in the stamp printings. The Michel Catalogue further subdivides the backs into three categories - I black/brown (in the map); II black only (map surround); and III no print (mostly left and right map selvedge), depending on where the stamp is placed on the front.

## VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS - APRIL 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

April 8, 8 pm, Al Raddi, "Albert Einstein: his life on stamps".

April 15, 8 pm, John Noad, "Going postal: dinosaurs on stamps".

### Auxiliary Markings Club

April 8, 8 pm, Andrew Kelley "Twentieth-century disinfected mail in the United States".

### British Empire Study Group (BESG)

April 10, 7 pm, David Leathart, "GB sample revenue stamps 1624-1902".

### Collectors Club of New York

April 9, 6:30 pm Henrik and Iva Mourtisen, "Danish Royal Family sex scandal" and "Denmark's King Frederik VI - a monarch torn between enlightenment and militarism".

April 23, 6:30 pm, Roger Brody, "Stamp Act of 1765 - instructions for the distributors".

### Learning About Stamps Online

April 15, 9 pm, Kurt Streepy, "Collecting the world from the beginning".

### North Toronto Stamp Club

April 17, 8 pm, Klaus Hintz, "Aspects of collecting the stamps of Berlin".

### Postal History Society of Canada

April 15, 8 pm, David McLaughlin, "Householder mail rates, 1889-1989".

### Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC)

April 14, 8 pm, Stamp Talk, Mattia Guida, "Square-circle cancels", with a focus on the Netherlands.

April 21, 8 pm, Stamp Panel: Bruce Pollock, Dianne Earl, Al Hills, "So you want to host a club show".

### Society of Australasian Specialists / Oceania

April 3, 7 pm, Richard Moss, "New Hebrides: British free franks and 1977 provisional overprints".

Contact Steven Zirinsky at [szirinsky@cs.com](mailto:szirinsky@cs.com) for the link.

### West Toronto Stamp Club

April 15, 8 pm, Discussion Group, "Show and tell". Please show "a recent acquisition" and explain how it contributes to your collection.

## BODY BAGS CONTINUED...



Figure 3

# STAMP FAIR

Hosted by The Nova Scotia Stamp Club

Sunday

April 13 2025

9:00am – 3:00pm

East Dartmouth  
Community Centre

50 Caledonia Road  
Dartmouth, NS



DEALERS WILL BE PRESENT SELLING  
AND BUYING STAMPS

LIVE AUCTION AT 1:30PM

FREE ADMISSION

FREE PARKING