



Nova Scotia Stamp Club Newsletter

September 2002
Volume 32, Issue 1
Number 324

In Memoriam

*It is with deep sadness that
we announce the passing of*

Wally Turner

on July 13, 2002

*Wally was a long standing
member and Past Treasurer
of the Club*

Club Approaches 1000

This note appeared in a previous newsletter but is worth repeating as a reminder. (ed.)

The Nova Scotia Stamp Club is rapidly approaching membership number 1000. To speed us there, and to mark the occasion, The Club Executive has decided to offer a bit of an incentive. Member number 1000 will receive a gift suitable for the occasion and the person who recruits the 1000th member will receive a sheet of Canada Post's Picture Postage Stamps with his or her picture on the stamp. Think of it - your own postage stamp, just for recruiting member 1000. So start recruiting today. Application forms are available at club meetings, and in the NSSC brochures prepared by the Bowlbys. Good Luck.

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How I Burnt My Stamps

By Chen Yinbai
From China Philately, March, 1990

I began to collect stamps at the age of 15. Now I am 70. Fifty-five years have passed since I knitted an indissoluble bond with Chinese and foreign stamps and philatelic materials. My philatelic life in more than half a century has seen joys and sorrows. My collection has suffered two catastrophes. The first one happened in 1938 when I moved to the west China with my Alma Mater the Hangzhou Training School of Art during the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression. When we passed Guiyang we encountered an air raid by Japanese planes. I left my small suitcase containing stamps and philatelic materials with a schoolmate from the city. After the raid his home was in ruins. I barely survived the bombing. The second catastrophe was in 1968 when the "Cultural Revolution" was going on. I burnt my whole collection of stamps and philatelic materials under the pressure of events. I regret the matter immensely whenever I recall it even today 20 years after the incident.

In the summer of 1968 the "Cultural Revolution" was at its climax. "Red Guards" were marching past my house shouting slogans such as "It's no guilt to make revolution; it's right to rebel". One day my son came home with the news that Uncle Zhu's house had been searched and all his stamp albums had been confiscated. My wife complained "What's the use of those stamps of yours? Keeping them call only cause trouble. If you don't worry about yourself you should at least think about the future of the four kids." she added. "If you try to transfer them somewhere you would get others involved. In my opinion you should burn them to save trouble." At the moment I really didn't know what to do. Those stamps and materials were the fruit of painstaking labour over the 30 years since my first calamity. How could I bear to reduce them to ashes? While I was hesitating, people in my work unit were gossiping "He not only plays with stamps and writes about them but also has contacts with Hong Kong continued on Page 2 **Burnt**

Up and Coming

September 10 Club Meeting
Annual General Meeting
Auction

September 14 Stamp Fair
Burnside Hotel

October 5 Truro Philatelic Society
Annual Show, Truro

October 12 Stamp Fair
Burnside Hotel

October 14 Club Meeting
"My Ugliest Stamp" Show
Curcuit Books

October 19 Brunpex 2002
Fundy Stamp Collectors Club
Moncton

October 26 South Shore
Stamp Club Annual Show
Bridgewater

November 12 Club Meeting
Bill Burden - Small Queens
Auction

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.

Dues are \$15 per person or \$22.50
Per couple (\$20 US) payable to :
John Harvey, Treasurer
46 Farquharson St.
Dartmouth, NS B2W 4A8

Newsletter Mailing Address:
D. Bedley
385 Poplar Drive.
Dartmouth NS, B2W 4K8
Bedleyd@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

**Nova Scotia Stamp Club
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada**

Burnt continued

they say." (I did have a philatelic friend in Hong Kong whose name was Yang Ziqiang. But we hadn't dared to communicate with each other ever since the beginning of the "Cultural Revolution".) The situation was getting tenser and tenser. My wife began to cry. It seemed that it was time to make a decision.

In the backyard of our apartment there was an old petrol drum not attended to by anybody for years. One day I told my child to buy two ounces of liquor and I drained the cup at one gulp at lunch although I don't like drinking. Then while feeling a little high, I threw all my stamp albums, philatelic publications and newspaper cuttings, as well as, clippings of my more than 100 philatelic essays into the petrol drum, poured in some kerosene and, with my eyes filled with tears and my teeth clenched, struck the match. The fire burnt for five hours. For 12 years after that I didn't touch any stamp.

What I burnt that day included more than 20,000 foreign stamps, over 3000 stamps of the Qing Dynasty and of the "Republic of China" (1911-1949), 1000 regional stamps as well as a basically complete collection of New China stamps. The materials burnt included: a complete set of "Philatelic Journal" from 1955 to 1966, one third of which were stamped with the word "complimentary" by the editorial department; a complete set of 72 issues of "Modern Philately" about half of which were inscribed by the editor-in-chief in his own handwriting with the words "To Yinbai. For your comment and criticism. With the compliments of Zhong Xiaolu (seal affixed)". I am very sorry about it! Even though I can re-collect all the issues of "Philatelic Journal" it is impossible to ask the editorial department to stamp the "complimentary" seal; even though I can get hold of the 72 issues of "Modern Philately" again, never can I ask our revered Zhong to write an inscription on them. (Note: Mr. Zhong Xiaolu has died.)

I concentrated on foreign placename stamps. At that time my collection was almost complete with stamps from all countries and regions of the world, including those from the different states of India. They were invaluable assets to me. I couldn't help feeling sad for the loss of them. In 1980 after a suspension of 14 years the "Philatelic Journal" resumed publication, bringing

about bright prospects to China's philately.

I was already 60 then. Delighted as I was by the good news. I was not able to pick up my courage to begin anew for a third time due to pressure of time and old age. I had no contact with Mr. Yang Ziqiang since the "Cultural Revolution" in 1966. His address was burnt together with my stamps. For fear that he might get me into trouble, he did not write to me or send me any stamps until he came across my article in 1982 in "The Philatelist" published in Guangzhou, and found my address with the help of the editorial department of that publication. He took great delight in writing to me. From then on we have been writing to each other again. He kept sending me parcels of foreign stamps in the past few years trying to heal my trauma. I am very grateful to him for his kindness.

Stamp collectors were thrown into great confusion in those years of turmoil. A notion was abroad that "stamp collecting is something bourgeois". Those who collect stamps were considered questionable guys. As a result stamp collectors dared not talk about stamps for fear people might spot them. That was how stamp collectors felt about it at the time. That is why I committed all my collections to the flames for which I held taken decades of pain.



China's first airmail stamps. The top stamp was issued in 1921 and shows the Republic emblem on the tail. The 1929 stamp on the bottom shows the Nationalist emblem instead.

**Nova Scotia Stamp Club
Program for 2002-2003**

New this year: Every meeting will feature an "Open Frame", pages of material posted by members for display and discussion. We hope that members will take advantage of this opportunity to share interesting philatelic material with others.

Dues are due at the September meeting. Bring your \$15 for John Harvey.

September 10. Annual General Meeting. Short slide show on Papua New Guinea stamps by Marty Zelenietz. Auction- 5 items only per member.

October 14. "My Ugliest Stamp" Show and Tell Contest- Prize awarded to item that garners the most member votes. Back to Basics session-Measuring Perfs and Stamps. Circuit books.

November 12. Bill Burden on Small Queens. Auction, 5 item limit.

December 9. Christmas Social. Michael Peach on Christmas on Stamps. No limit Charity Auction.

January 13. Panel, How to Improve Your Collection. Back to Basics session: soaking and self-adhesive stamps. Circuit books.

February 10. Royal Slide show. Some humour on Valentine Day. "Break the Winter Blues Anything Goes Auction".

March 10. Off site meeting, probably Almon Street PO tour. Details tba.

April 14. Guest Speaker, to be announced. Circuit books.

May 2-4. Novapex 2003, Dartmouth Sportsplex.

May 12. 20th Century Nova Scotia Postal History, presented by Elizabeth Soderer and Hugh Rathbun. Auction, limit 5 items.

June 16. Philatelic Flea Market. Stamp Quiz.

NOVAPEX 2003 : 3-4 May

Please make a note of this important date. It is not too early to start thinking about Novapex 2003. Doug Gray, 465-3268, DJGPS89@accesswave.ca, has agreed to act as the Chair. Novapex is the highlight of the year for the Stamp Club. It is an activity that depends on the involvement of all the members of the club. A small group has already started planning, so that it can be improved. Do you have any ideas? If so please contact Doug.

One of the features of Novapex is the exhibition. Have you considered what you might exhibit next year? It is certainly not too early to think of a topic. With the busy Fall activities coming up, there will be plenty of opportunities to check out the various dealers' stocks to try and find any elusive items. If you have never exhibited before why not try to prepare a one frame non-competitive exhibit. You will not be limited by any of the constraints applying to the competitive exhibits. The judges will be more than willing to give constructive comments to how any exhibit can be improved. Please remember that an exhibit must have received at least a silver at the regional level, Novapex, before it can be submitted at the national level, Royal 2004.

**Preservation and Care of
Philatelic Materials Website**

There is now a website on the preservation and care of philatelic materials put out by the American Philatelic Society's committee on this topic. It is well worth a visit and can be found at:

<http://www.stamps.org/care/pcpm.htm>.

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Canada Post - Summer Issues



Sculptors - June 10

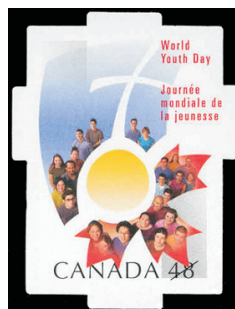
Embâcle,
by Charles Daudelin

Lumberjacks,
by Leo Mol



Canadian Postmasters and
Assistants Association, 1902-2002
July 5

World Youth Day
Self Adhesive
Booklet of 8
July 23



Tourist Attractions
United States and
International Rates
Self Adhesive Booklet of 5 each
June 1

Canadian Stamps To Come

Aug. 30, Tulips. Souvenir sheet of four.

**Sept. 4, Public Services International
World Congress.**

Sept. 10, Public Pensions.

Oct. 1, Mountains. Stamp Collecting
Month.

Oct. 4, World Teachers' Day.

More on these and other Canada Post
releases can be reviewed in *Canada's Stamp
Details* or in the **What's New** section of the
Canada Post website:

[//www.canadapost.ca/personnal/collecting](http://www.canadapost.ca/personnal/collecting)

Fairs and Shows this Fall

Saturday September 14, Stamp Fair
Burnside Hotel, Windmill Rd., 10 am 3 pm

**Saturday October 5, Truro Philatelic
Society Annual Show,** Howard Johnson
Motor Inn (Keddy's), Prince Street, Truro

Saturday October 12, Stamp Fair
Burnside Hotel, Windmill Rd., 10 am 3 pm

Saturday October 19, Brunpex 2002,
Fundy Stamp Collectors Club, Howard
Johnson Plaza Hotel (formerly Keddy's
Brunswick Hotel), 1005 Main Street,
Moncton, 10 am 4 pm

**Saturday October 26, South Shore Stamp
Club Annual Show,** Wandlyn Inn, 50 North
Street, Bridgewater, 10 am 3 pm. Workshop
on "How to Appraise the Value of a
Collection".

Royal*2003*Royale

Royal*2003*Royale, the 75th Exhibition of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, will be held in the arena building of **The Hanover Regional Aquatic Centre and Coliseum**, 269 7th Avenue, Hanover, ON from Friday, May 20 to Sunday June 1, 2003.

All Registrations for Royal*2003*Royale will be through **Hanover Holiday Tours Limited** 197A 10th Street, Hanover, Ontario N4N 1N8 (1-800-265-5530).

The sponsoring club, Saugeen Stamp Club, has pulled together much information for exhibitors, accommodations, directions, etc. on their website

[//log.on.ca/saugeenstampclub](http://log.on.ca/saugeenstampclub).

**Fund Raising for
ROYAL*2004* ROYALE**

There will be a draw at the Christmas Social for the excellent book "**The Edward VII Issue of Canada: a detailed study**" by **George C. Marler**, which was donated by Canada Post. Tickets will be available at all the club meetings, price \$2 each or 3 for \$5. They will also be available at the Stamp Fairs and the various Fall shows at Doug Gray's table.

Royal 2004 pins are now available. These feature the design from the Nova Scotia stamps, Sc. 2, with a deep blue background and Royal Royale replacing Three Pence along the sides and 2004 in the corners. The price is \$8 and they can be purchased at Club Meetings or Seaside Book and Stamp. If these are all sold, we are planning to produce pins with a deep red or green background.

Newsletter Articles

Not everyone has the same stamp collecting interests. Maybe you have a particular interest that you would like to share with the rest of the club or you have a source of information that you would like to pass on to others.

Please submit articles or information to Dennis Bedley by mail, email or in person at the monthly meetings.