



Nova Scotia Stamp Club Newsletter

January 2003
Volume 32, Issue 5
Number 328

Some Nova Scotia Philatelists :

Ken C. MacDonald

By Hugh Rathbun

From 1970 to 1999, Ken MacDonald was one of the most active and most widely-known collectors in Nova Scotia. His primary interests were in postal history, philately, and deltiology.

Nova Scotia postal history was his strongest interest, and his collections covered Halifax city, Halifax County, and Pictou County. He published two books, *Post Offices and Postal Routes of Halifax County* (1993; 390 pages) and *Post Offices and Postal Routes of Pictou County, Nova Scotia* (1996; 316 pages). Research was Ken's forte, and the depth of the research in these two volumes, ranging from exhaustive searches of archive records to personal interviews in the communities, makes them invaluable references. For more than twenty-five years, Ken compiled information on the Halifax post office, and this material will be published at a future date. Any item associated with Nova Scotia postal history interested Ken, and his collection included post office scales, hammers, boxes of date dies, badges, uniform patches, and even uniforms.

Twentieth century postcards, from the Edwardian era to the 1990s, became another of Ken's loves, and he formed extensive collections, especially of Nova Scotia views. In addition, he recorded and published several volumes listing all the known postcard views of each county in Nova Scotia. He also maintained a separate list of all the Nova Scotia view cards published by the Valentine Publishing Company.

Ken amassed an excellent Canadian stamp collection, with the Arch issue being his speciality. The imperforate blocks that he possessed of the different values in this issue indicate the quality of his collection.

Ken played a major role in the Nova Scotia Stamp Club, having served as newsletter editor and club president. Many times he was the speaker for the monthly program, and he exhibited annually, with some of his exhibits appearing in the Court of Honour. As one of

Sodero: Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal Winner

Linn's Stamp News recently carried a story that started "Ten members of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada will receive the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee medal. The governor-general of Canada, Adrienne Clarkson, announced the awards in early November."

Among those honoured is our very own Elizabeth Sodero. Elizabeth is a director of the Royal, and has reorganized the Royal's collection of slide programs. Elizabeth served many years as the editor and chief writer for our NSSC Newsletter, and organizes the Youth Booth section of Novapex. The Golden Jubilee Medal has a worthy philatelic recipient in Elizabeth. Congratulations, Elizabeth. We are all very proud of your achievement.

MacDonald - Continued

the few judges in Nova Scotia to receive accreditation from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, Ken devoted much time each year judging at philatelic exhibitions in the province. Ken was also active in other organizations, such as the Halifax Postcard Society and national philatelic groups.

By profession, Ken was a dedicated teacher. However, many collectors met him while he was evaluating and cataloguing material at Scotia Stamp Studio and Seaside Book and Stamp.

Ken formed a large philatelic and postal history library, and he read each book as he acquired it. As a result, he was a walking encyclopedia who generously shared his knowledge with others. When cancer claimed Ken MacDonald at age fifty, collectors lost a friend who had made major contributions to their hobby.



Up and Coming

January 11 Stamp Fair
Burnside Motel

January 14 Club Meeting
How to Improve Your Collection
Back to Basics session
Circuit books.

February 8 Stamp Fair
Burnside Motel

February 11 Club Meeting
Royal Slide show. Some humour
on Valentine Day. "Break the Winter
Blues Anything Goes Auction".

March 11 Off Site Club Meeting
Almon Street Sorting Station.
Details will be announced.

April 15 Club Meeting
Guest Speaker
Circuit books.

May 2-4 Novapex 2003,
Dartmouth Sportsplex.

May 13 Club Meeting
20th Century N.S. Postal History
Auction, limit 5 items.

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Notopfer Berlin

by Michael Peach

When looking through selections of post-war German stamps and covers, one will often find the ubiquitous small blue Notopfer Berlin tax stamps. Notopfer approximately translates as "disaster victims". The stamps do not appear to be listed in Scott, but can be found in a separate section in the Michel German Special catalogue and are also listed in the smaller German catalogues at the end of the Bundesrepublik Deutschland section. Look in the index.



After the end of the war Germany was divided into four

zones, American, British, French and Russian. Although Berlin was located in the Russian zone, it was also divided into four sectors under a control commission. Allied land access to Berlin was blocked by the Russians on 24 June 1948, resulting the allied use of the air corridors, the Berlin Airlift, which started on 26 June. The blockade ended on 4 May 1949, but the airlift continued until 30 September. The Notopfer stamps were used in the Bizone (American and British Zones) from 1 December 1948. During 1949 somewhat different arrangements were made for their use in the French zone. In Württemberg, for instance, the stamps were required from 10 January 1949 until 31 May. Subsequently, from

Notopfer Berlin - Continued

1 July 1949 until the end of the year, the stamps were overprinted in red with "Wohnungsbau-Agabe", a compulsory contribution towards building homes. From August to October a totally different 2 Pf. tax stamp for "Wohnungsbau-Agabe" was used in Württemberg - Hohenzollern. The use of the blue Notopfer stamps was extended to the whole of West Germany on 1 January 1950 and lasted until 31 March 1956. The 2 pfennig stamp was a tax stamp, rather than a postage stamp, and was required to be used on all mail including packages originating in the Bizone for other parts of West Germany. Only one stamp was needed for each letter or packet. Mail without the Notopfer stamp was returned to the sender. The money raised from the stamps went towards the rebuilding of West Berlin. The stamp was not compulsory on foreign mail or mail to the Russian Zone, although it can often be found on such mailings.

Obviously vast numbers of the stamps were produced, which is reflected in the price of the common varieties. The German catalogues have eight listings. The differences are mainly in the printing, particularly the thickness of the lettering in "Steuermarke", the N in "Notopfer" and the alignment of R, N and E at the end of the lines. There are also perforation and watermark varieties. With such large quantities printed there are hundreds of plate flaws. A vast field of study.

There are several articles about these stamps, for instance a series by George Rath in the German Postal Specialist, October, November and December 1997.



No More Free Parking

Starting January 1, 2003, the Museum of Natural History's south parking lot will become a Pay and Display parking lot. This is necessary because government has provided challenging budgets that demand new revenue generation.

Pay and display parking will be in effect at all times, 7 days a week. The parking lot will be available to museum users and the public. Sixteen new spaces are being added, and the lot will be managed and enforced by Partners in Care, the non-profit arm of the QE2 hospital.

The staff lot, north side of the building is now monthly parking for permit holders only, from 7am to 6pm weekdays. The spaces marked as "Rental" are reserved for permit holders 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Newsletter Articles

Do you have an interesting postal history topic that you would like to share? Please submit newsletter articles or information to Dennis Bedley by mail, email or in person at the monthly meetings.



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Nova Scotia Stamp Club Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

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

The newsletter is published monthly (except summer). The Newsletter mailing address is:

Dennis Bedley
385 Poplar Drive.
Dartmouth NS, B2W 4K8
bedleyd@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

The Club website is located at:

<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/>

and is maintained by club members Neil and Judy Bowlby. (bowlby@accesswave.ca)

Stamps Celebrate Italy

Source: Chronicle Herald

(AP) The architectural splendors of Italy are vividly displayed on a new set of six commemorative stamps issued by the United Nations Postal Administration. The stamps are dedicated to the theme of World Heritage Italy.

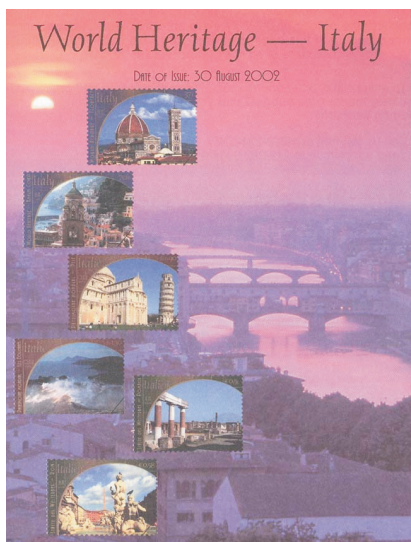
This is the eighth UN stamp issue to illustrate World Heritage sites in one geographical location. The stamps were designed by Rorie Katz of the United States.

The six designs feature the following sites: Florence, the Amalfi Coast, Pisa, Aeolian Islands, Pompeii and Rome. Florence is built on the site of an ancient Etruscan settlement. The stamps show the 13th century Cathedral Santa Maria del Fiore, the Santa Croce Church, the Uffizi Palace and the Pitti Palace.

The Amalfi Coast stamp depicts the physical beauty of the area. Noted are the Amalfi Cathedral founded in the ninth century. The Pisa stamp illustrates the Piazza del Duomo which houses a group of monuments including the Tower of Pisa, often referred to as the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

The Aeolian Islands are located in the Tyrrhenian Sea, off the northern coast of Sicily. The Pompeii stamp pays tribute to the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79 AD which engulfed the towns of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

Founded, according to legend, by Romulus and Remus in 753 BC, Rome was the centre of the Roman Empire.



James's Photo Graces Stamp of Scenic Peggys Cove.

By Tom Mason

tom.mason@ns.sympatico.ca

Source: Chronicle Herald

Terry James career has come full circle.

In his youth, Mr. James was an avid stamp collector. As a young man, he supported his family by working as a Canada Post letter carrier for several years. Now he's a professional photographer, and his work has just appeared on a Canada Post stamp for the second time in six years.

On June 6, Canada Post unveiled a new set of international commemorative stamps featuring Canadian tourist attractions. Along with photographs of the northern lights, Stanley Park and Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump in Alberta is one of the Peggys Cove Lighthouse, taken by Mr. James.

"I'm very proud to have my work used in this way", Mr. James said. "I think it's a significant professional achievement."

Mr. James's work came to the attention of Canada Post in 1996, when he received a commission to produce a picture of the Cabot Trail for a series of stamps featuring Canada's scenic highways. He worked as a part of a design team that included Halifax's Semaphor Design and the late Lou Cable. In the five years before that, Nimbus Publishing produced five books of Mr. James's photographs.

His latest commission came from Bradbury Design of Regina, which produced the Tourist Attraction series.

Mr. James took the Peggys Cove photograph using the large format camera he prefers. He admits the heavy camera is sometimes difficult to carry to remote locations, and the 10 centimetre by 13 centimetre negative it produces is several times larger than the final postage stamp image. But Canada Post expects the highest level of quality.

"It has to be of a quality to work for any application", he said.

So far, the image has appeared on a postcard, on the back of a playing card and on a poster produced by Canada Post.

Mr. James said he was extremely pleased

Club Approaches 1000

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.

Remember: we are only 15 people away from our 1000th member.



James-continued

when he saw the overall design of the the stamp.

"Stamps sometimes have a lot of design elements on them.

"This set has a lot of uncluttered space and an open-window format that provides a real showcase for the photographs. It's a very elegant design.

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**Edmonton Spring National Stamp
Show 2003**

The annual Edmonton Show is a national exhibition and will be held March 28 to 30, 2003. Details of the Rules and Regulations for the Entry of Exhibits as well as an Entry Forms are available from Michael Peach, 832-1662.

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.

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

Do you know of anyone who might like to make a donation towards Royal 2004? If so, please contact Michael Peach, 832-1662. We are also looking for advertisers for the programme. The price of advertisements will be very reasonable, from about \$25 for a quarter page to a about \$100 for a full page. The prestigious spaces inside and outside the cover have already been allocated. If you can think of any names of potential advertisers, please contact Doug Gray 465-3268, DJGPS89@accesswave.ca.

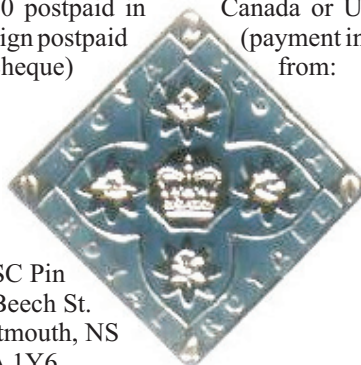
The draw for the excellent book "**The Edward VII Issue of Canada: a detailed study**" by **George C. Marler** was made at the Christmas Party. The lucky winner was Dave Cooper. The proceeds were \$130. Thanks for your participation.

There will be another draw for a painting of the **Bluenose** donated by **Peggy Bignell**. Many thanks to Peggy for this donation. The draw will be made at the Novapex reception. Tickets will be available starting at January the club meeting, price \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

Royal 2004 pins are now available and are already selling well. If you have not purchased yours yet, do not delay - see details below. When the current lot have all been sold, we are planning to produce pins with a deep red or green background.

Now Available

The Nova Scotia Stamp Club - Royal 2004 Royale Pins. The pins feature the design from a Nova Scotia stamp, Scott 2, with a deep blue background and Royal/Royale replacing Three Pence along the sides and 2004 in the corners. They can be purchased at Club Meetings or Seaside Book and Stamp for C\$8. Mail in orders are available C\$10 postpaid in Canada or US\$10 foreign postpaid (payment in cash or cheque) from:



NSSC Pin
33 Beech St.
Dartmouth, NS
B3A 1Y6

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

The Open Frame will host pages of material posted by members for display and discussion. We hope that all members will take advantage of this venue to display some of their collection.

Don't forget about those club dues. Please contact John Harvey if you are in arrears.

January 14. Panel, How to Improve Your Collection. Back to Basics session: soaking and self-adhesive stamps. Circuit books.

February 11. Royal Slide show. Some humour on Valentine Day. "Break the Winter Blues Anything Goes Auction".

March 11. Off site meeting, Tour of the Almon Street Sorting Station. Details will be announced when available.

April 15. Guest Speaker, to be announced. Circuit books.

May 2-4. Novapex 2003, Dartmouth Sportsplex.

May 13. 20th Century Nova Scotia Postal History, presented by Elizabeth Soderro and Hugh Rathbun. Auction, limit 5 items.

June 10. Philatelic Flea Market. Stamp Quiz.

Donated Materials Needed

Philatelic material is required for the Youth Table for Novapex 2003 and Royal 2004. Please contact Elizabeth Soderro for more information.

Royal*2003*Royale

The Royal 2003 will be held in Hanover, Ontario, May 30 June 1. The official prospectus and entry form for exhibits is in the January/February Canadian Philatelist. More details can be found at the website: <http://log.on.ca/saugeenstampclub> Please contact Michael Peach, 832-1662, if you would like a copy of the prospectus and entry form.