



Nova Scotia Stamp Club Newsletter

www.nsstampclub.ca

Number 338

Volume 33, Issue 5

January 2004

International New Year Postal Stamps

The Japanese Communications Museum displays many of its over 200,000 postage stamps from various countries. These are popular with many people because of the wide variety of subjects and places for which the stamps were designed. Shown here are stamps related to celebration of the New Year.

Most countries now use the Gregorian calendar which was created in the 16th Century. It is a solar calendar that counts 365 days as one year, and adds a leap year for compensation. Originally used by France and other Catholic countries, its international popularity now means that during the final months of each year, a variety of New Year's stamps are issued from many countries.



The custom of representing years by twelve hourly animal signs, such as the mouse, cow, tiger, etc., comes from the Chinese calendar, which has a long history and a profound influence in East Asian countries. Even though the solar calendar is now used, the twelve hourly signs are still commonly used on New Year's stamps as a traditional holdover from the old calendar.



Calendars are closely related with culture, climate and natural features of different regions, as well as with religion, so even now, for example, the Islamic and Ethiopian calendars are used. In many regions, an official calendar is used along with a traditional local calendar.

In the Persian calendar, the vernal equinox marks the beginning of the year, so New Year's stamps are issued around the month of March in Iran. And in the Judean calendar the New Year begins in September, so New Year's stamps are issued around August and September in Israel.



However, there are many calendars that are no longer used, such as the Mayan and Aztec calendars depicted in these stamps.



The Royal*2004*Royale website:
<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/royal>

Up and Coming

Every Saturday 4pm Auction
Seaside Book and Stamp

January 10 Stamp Fair
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

January 13 Club Meeting
Stamp Collecting and the Internet
Circuit Books

February 10 Club Meeting
Auction

February 14 Stamp Fair
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

March 9 Club Meeting
Circuit Books

March 13 Stamp Fair
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

April 13 Club Meeting
Auction

May 28 - 30 2004
Royal 2004 Royale
Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax, NS

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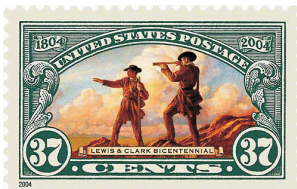
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e-mail: seaside@seasidebs.com
Web: <http://www.seasidebs.com>



USPS Honour Bicentennial of Lewis and Clark Expeditions

To commemorate the bicentennial of the official launch of the Lewis and Clark expedition on May 14, 1804, a special 32-page prestige booklet will be issued. The booklet contains two semi-jumbo stamp designs in self-adhesive panes of ten. Featured are individual portraits of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. The larger self-adhesive stamp, issued separately from the prestige booklet in panes of 20 stamps, depicts Lewis and Clark standing on a promontory surveying the countryside.



Nova Scotia Stamp Club Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

<http://www.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) which is released on the first week of the month.

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 mailing address is:

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

or Jeff Parks, Layout Editor
jlparks@accesswave.ca

Advertising Rate: \$25 (CDN) per year

The Club website is maintained by Neil and Judy Bowlby. (bowlby@accesswave.ca).

Meet the New 'Fellow' in the Club

The pictures are a bit of old news (last May) but since I was remiss in putting them in a subsequent newsletter - I thought of no time like the present to make amends. - Ed.

Elizabeth Sodero signs the Book of Fellowship to the Royal Philatelic Society at the annual convention in Hanover on May 31st. With Elizabeth is Harry Sutherland, custodian of the book. Elizabeth also received the Queen's Jubilee Medal and was re-elected to the board of directors of the RPSC.



Pictured below is Jane Sodero receiving her certificate for regional judging from RPSC president Charles Verge at the annual meeting.

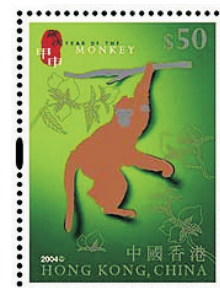


Stamp Oddities

The infamous Hans Frank, Nazi Governor of Poland was so egotistical that he ordered stamps printed depicting himself. Hitler hearing of this, ordered them destroyed and the printer punished. At the end of the war some of the stamps were found and labeled "Top Secret". This specimen was recently sold in auction for \$600.00 USD.



2004 - Year of the Monkey



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AROUND the WORLD on ONLY 5¢ by John Eldridge

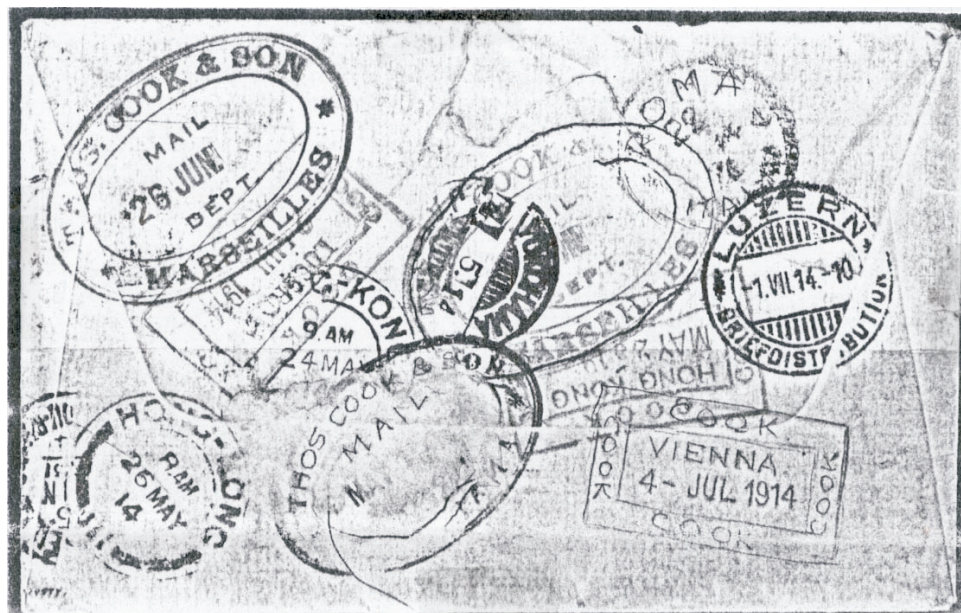
In the early 1900s for those with money it was the style to travel around the world so one could broaden one's education. This is an interesting example of a letter that took such a trip chasing after its intended recipient.

Thomas Cook and Son noted that the addressee had left and forwarded the letter on to the next port of call which was Hong Kong, where route marks show that it arrived on May 24.

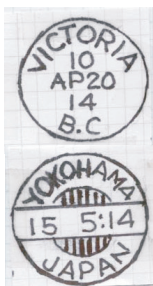


An examination of the back stamps show that the letter next travelled to Rome (Roma) Italy where it received a transit stamp on June 22, 1914. It was the forwarded to Marseilles, France.

The Marseilles receiving stamp can be very clearly seen. From there it was forwarded to Lucerne, Switzerland on June 26, and where the letter was received (Lucerne) on July 2, 1914. The last receiving marks show the letter forwarded to Vienna, Austria where there it was presumably delivered to the addressee.



Originating cancel shows the letter was mailed in Victoria, B.C. on April 20, 1914. It next shows arrival in Yokohama, Japan on May 15, 1914 and was forwarded to Thomas Cook and Son, the then worldwide travel agent.



Following the young lady around shows that she must have left Hong Kong ahead of the letter and the Cook Agents forwarded it on to her next destination.



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76th Annual Meeting and Convention
Hosted by the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

HALIFAX

ROYAL ROYALE 2004 May 28 - 30

National Philatelic Exhibition
Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia
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EXHIBITING AT ROYAL 2004?

Are you still thinking about exhibiting at the Halifax Royal? The frames are going rapidly. The prospectus and entry forms are in the current issue of the Canadian Philatelist. The space is **limited** and is allocated on a first come first served basis. Please contact Marty Zelenietz, 463-0687, exhibits chair, as soon as possible to reserve you space. There is a frame charge of \$12 per frame for two or more frames or \$20 for one frame exhibits. The fee for youth and junior classes will be \$3 per frame.

CHRISTMAS DRAW ROYAL 2004

The draw at the Christmas Social and the lucky winners were:

Ed. Morrissey - The 2000 Millennium Collection from Canada Post.

Marty Zelenietz - The 1999 Official First Cover Collection.

Marilyn Melanson - The 2001 World Figure Skating Championships Medallion Set.

This draw yielded \$149 towards Royal*2004*Royale. Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets.

VOLUNTEERS ROYAL 2004

Lots of volunteers will be required during Royal 2004 for set up, registration on Thursday, lots of things during the show, and tear down on Sunday evening. Remember that the show is being sponsored by our club and a smooth running show will reflect credit on the club.

Please make a note of the volunteer dates, **Thursday 27 May to Sunday 30 May.**

STAMP LAUNCH ROYAL 2004

There will be a stamp launch during Royal*2004*Royale. The stamps to be issued mark the exploits of shipping magnates Sir Samuel Cunard and Sir Hugh Allen. The stamp will be designed by the local partnership Page & Wood.

Fund Raising for ROYAL*2004* ROYALE

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 Heather MacKenzie by email -

h.mackenzie@ns.sympatico.ca.

The Nova Scotia Stamp Club - Royal 2004 Royale Pins with a deep blue, magenta or green background can be purchased at Club Meetings or Seaside Book and Stamp for C\$8. Mail 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



Do you know anyone who might like to make a donation towards Royal 2004? Please contact Michael Peach at 832-1662.

If you wish to receive the newsletter in an electronic format (Adobe Acrobat - pdf) you can either download it from the club website www.nsstampclub.ca or have it emailed to you. The web version has a reduced resolution and usually has a size of approx 300 Kb. The email version is better suited for those with high speed lines - higher resolution and therefore larger file size 1 - 2 Mb. Please contact Jeff jl parks@accesswave.ca if you would like to have the email version sent automatically each month.

The Russian 2003 3.50-ruble Happy New Year stamp, Scott 6733.



Membership

NSSC is rapidly approaching membership number 1000. 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 (depending on availability). Think of it - your own postage stamp, just for recruiting member 1000. We are now only 5 people away from our 1000th member.

Ask Phil your philatelic questions. The Collectors Club of Chicago website has an amazing number of individually answered questions - www.askphil.org.

Donations of philatelic material is required for the Youth Table for Royal 2004. Please contact Elizabeth Soderro for more information.

Worldwide Cover Box

Thanks to member's generosity, our "Worldwide Covers" box is full again and surely a bargain at 50 cents each, or 5 for \$2. This is worth checking out!

NEW!!! - a second box of covers, exclusively from Canada and the USA. Three for a buck, a lone loonie - what a deal!! Stock up while they last! All proceeds from cover sales go directly to the club.

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