



Nova Scotia Stamp Club Newsletter

September 2005
Volume 35, Issue 1
Number 354

UP AND COMING

Every Saturday 4pm Auction
Seaside Book and Stamp

Sept. 10 Stamp Fair
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

Sept. 13 Club Meeting
"Annapolis Royal 400th Anniversary", AGM, Circuit Books

Sept. 17-18 Novapex 2005
Dartmouth Sportsplex

October 11 Club Meeting
"Bermuda Postage & Postal History", Auction

October 29 South Shore Stamp
Club Annual Show

November 8 Club Meeting
NSSC Website, Circuit Books

Canadian Cut-outs

by Michael Peach

Cut-outs are defined in The Museum Stamp Dictionary as a term used to denote impressions originally part of envelopes, postcards,

staff are aware of this. A recent letter from England, with various stamps cut out from aerogrammes, has a sticker noting that the cut-



or from postal stationery or wrappers that were cut off for use as ordinary stamps. Stamps cut out from all items of postal stationery are imperforate. The use of cut-outs in Great Britain is permitted, although as they are seldom used, it is doubtful whether many members of the Post Office

outs are valid for the prepayment of postage. The use of cut-outs in Canada as well as the USA is illegal, and any passing through the



NOVA PEX 2005

September 17-18, 2005
Dartmouth Sportsplex

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Cut-outs... Continued

postal systems are regarded as curiosities.

While looking through several Canadian used covers, I came across the two covers shown, both with cut-outs to pay the postage.

The earlier one was used locally in Montréal, 28 X 1963 and has two green 2c stamps from postal stationery envelopes of the second Karsh issue, 1962, with die dated 1961 at the right. The 4c postage was the drop letter, or local letter, rate. The other from Florence,



Digby, Nova Scotia
Post Office ca. 1910

Canada Post - 2006 Rate Increase

For the third time in as many years Canada Post has announced a domestic letter (30 g) rate increase of 1 cent to 51 cents effective January 16, 2006. US and International rates will also rise by 4 cents to 89 cents and \$1.49 respectively. Under the price cap formula approved by the federal government in 2000, a rise in domestic rates cannot exceed 66.67 % of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index from May prior to the previous rate change to May of the current year (1.6% 2004-05; 2.5 % 2003-04). Canada Post also cites the use of the unused portion of the previous allowed change in calculating the current rate increase and has used this formula in the last three changes.

Latest issues of stamps with Nova Scotia content.



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:

Jeff Parks
102 Birch Bear Run
Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

webnews@nsstampclub.ca

Advertising rate for the newsletter or website is \$25 (CDN) per year

Cape Breton 12 III 74, has a black slate 8c centennial cut out from a postal envelope and a 2c centennial adhesive, for the 8c domestic rate. Both apparently went unnoticed through the postal system.

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Dr. John James MacDonald
Science Academic, Renowned Philatelist
1925 - 2005

by Michael Peach



John James MacDonald, usually known as JJ, a long-time member of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club, passed away on 7 July 2005. He was a chemist by profession, graduating from St. Francis Xavier University with the B.Sc. degree and the Ph.D. degree from the University of Toronto. In 1949 he returned to his Alma Mater as an Assistant Professor of Chemistry, and there he remained for his



entire career, retiring as Academic Vice-President. He was involved in a wide range of scientific, educational and community activities. St. Francis Xavier University honoured him with a Doctor of Laws *honoris causa*.

JJ was prominent in philately

in Nova Scotia for many years. He joined the Nova Scotia Stamp Club in the 1960, and in 2001 he was awarded an honorary membership. The September 1987 club meeting picture, shows him with a group of distinguished Nova Scotian philatelists (from left to right, JJ, Henry Hicks, Collins Baugild, and George Robertson), all Fellows of the RPSC. More recently many will remember him sitting on the front row at Club meetings, and discussing aspects of Nova Scotia philately with members. He was a familiar figure at many of the local stamp shows, particularly those in Kentville, Truro, as well as Novapex, and in past times Sydney. Earlier with Jack Forbes he traveled from Antigonish to



JJ being presented with an honorary membership by John Harvey, Fall 2001.

attend the monthly meetings of the Truro Stamp Club. He tried to form a Stamp Club in Antigonish, but this was rather short lived. His collecting interests included the stamps and postal history of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. He was a member of the exhibits

See MacDonald....page 4



Distinguished Nova Scotian Philatelists
 (l to r) JJ MacDonald, Henry Hicks, Collins Baugild, George Robertson

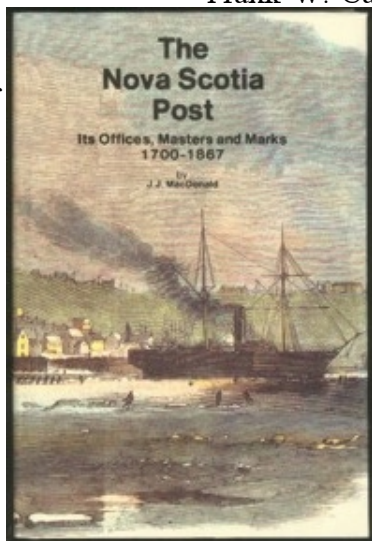
MacDonald...continued

committee for the 1965 Halifax Royal, where he had two exhibits, *Canada – Large Queen Issue* and *Registered Letters, from the Money Letter System to 1964*. Similarly he was on the exhibits committee for the 1971 Halifax BNAPS Convention. He had two exhibits in this show *Nova Scotia Cents Issue of 1860* and *The Connell Story*. He was one of the initial movers behind the 2004 Halifax Royal, of which he was an honorary co-chair.



At the Royal 2004 reception - JJ, an honorary chair, with Michael Peach, chair.

He was active in the affairs of several national philatelic societies, including the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, of which he was Fellow and a long-time director. He served as editor of *The Canadian Philatelist* 1997-1999, during its transition to the current format. After having collected Nova Scotia stamps and proofs, he turned to the covers of Nova Scotia, and their postmarks. The culmination of this



was his definitive book, *The Nova Scotia Post: Its Offices, Masters and Marks, 1700-1867* published 1985. He was awarded the Geldert Medal of the RPSC in 2001, for his article "Charles Connell and His Stamps – The Stamp's Survival", *Canadian Philatelist*, 51 [2000], 211-2 & 256-9, also http://www.rpssc.org/cp/charles_connell.html. Intrigued by the notoriety of Postmaster Charles Connell of New Brunswick, who substituted his own portrait for that of Queen Victoria on the 5 cent stamp of



1860 (Scott #5), JJ sought out and indeed acquired a remarkable number of specimens, which had somehow been circulated despite the fact that the stamp had never been officially issued. His exhibit *The Connell Stamps of New Brunswick* received the Best Exhibit Award at the 1987 BNAPS Convention. He received the Frank W. Campbell Award of the

Postal History Society of Canada for major contributions to the study of BNA postal history.

JJ leaves his wife, Jane Gordon, seven children, two step-children, and eight grandchildren. He was predeceased by his first wife, Mary Lou.

His last exhibit, *One Hundred Years over the Waters, Mail by Ship in and around Nova Scotia from Mid-18th to Mid-19th Century* was awarded Gold at BNAPS '97



JJ with BNAPS award 1997.

and Novapex '97, and will be in the Court of Honour at Novapex '05. The club is planning to honour JJ's memory, and donations in his memory can be sent to the club c/o 831 Tower Road, Halifax, NS B3H 2Y1. No tax receipts will be issued.



BNAPS 1997, JJ with Heather Gillis, then at the Philatelic Centre, Antigonish.

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Canadian Army Post Office (CAPO)
Number 1 mailed Jan 18 1946 from
Newfoundland.



Stamp Oddities



This stamp was to blame for Nicaragua losing out to Panama in the struggle for a canal to join the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans across Central America.

The United States, the leading advocate for an inter-oceanic link, reached an agreement with Nicaragua for a jointly owned canal in 1884. In 1902 the Nicaragua proposal was stopped by Panama.



Panama contested the Nicaraguan route because they said it was in danger of being destroyed by lava to which the Nicaraguans rebutted that any news of eruptions since 1835 in Nicaragua were false. Three days before the US Senate vote, a pro-Panamanian lobbyist, Philippe Bunau-Varilla, sent the each senator a letter enclosing a one centavo Nicara-

guan stamp showing the Momotombo volcano erupting. The Senate had been asked if it was reasonable to undertake such a "colossal work in a country taking a smoking volcano as an emblem for its postage stamps."

Even though the volcano was 150km from the proposed route, the stamp was enough to persuade the Senate to vote 42-43 in favour of Panama.

Momotombo is the most illustrated volcano on a stamp of any country. The volcano erupted in 1902 and

again in 1905, but ironically, has not erupted since. The stamp episode marked the start of deteriorating relations with the US.



Did you know that?

The British Post Office Jubilee of the Uniform penny Postage stamped envelope was a semi-postal forerunner. The 1d envelope was sold for 1s (12d) with the 11d surtax going to the Rowland Hill Benevolent Fund for the assistance of post office widows and orphans.

All the articles in *BNA Topics* from 1944 to 1999 can be viewed free of charge in the BNAPS On Line Library. From the BNAPS home page, www.bnaps.org, go to publications and then "The Horace W. Harrison Online Library".



Worldwide Cover Box

Covers are available at the monthly meeting in our "Worldwide Covers" box - a bargain at 50 cents each, or 5 for \$2. A second box of Canada and the USA cov-



NOVA PEX 2005

NOVAPEX

Novapex 2005 and 2006 will be held at the Dartmouth Sportsplex. **What would you like to see at Novapex?** Any suggestions and ideas would be most welcome, please contact Doug Gray or Michael Peach.

NOVAPEX 2005: Sept 17-18, 2005

This will be the "normal" exhibition, with exhibits judged at the regional level and several dealers.

NOVAPEX 2006: Sept 15-17, 2006

Based on our experience at the Halifax Royal, 2006 will be a regional/national show. This means that exhibits can be judged at the national or regional level. It is hoped that as many members as possible will be exhibiting at the national level. There will be space for 160 frames. It is expected that there will be several out of province exhibits. We hope that there will be several out of province dealers. It will be the only national exhibition in the east since Royal 2004. **Please make a note of the date.**

Book Notes: What's New In The Stamp Club Library!

by Heather Mackenzie

Mailboxes: Urban Street Furniture in Canada, by Bianca Gendreau

The mailbox is kind of a magical beast - we put our letters in its red mouth and somehow (most of the time!) they arrive at a destination that can be thousands of miles away on a different continent. For much of our mail, the journey begins at the mailbox - but how much do we know about these shiny red symbols of our postal system?

If you want to learn more about this part of our postal heritage, then this new publication from the Canadian Museum of Civilization is a great place to start. Well illustrated with historical photos and images of mailboxes from the collection of the Canadian Postal Museum, this interesting little book traces the history of the Canadian mailbox from 1859, when they first appeared on the streets of Toronto.

Did you know that Canada Post chose red and blue as the primary colors on the mailboxes because red denotes activity, warmth and progress and blue is associated with stability and reliability? Browse this interesting book and become a mailbox expert!

Also recently added:

The Canadian Posted Letter Guide: The Classic Period, 1851 - 1902, edited by Charles G. Firby and Victor L. Wilson

Special Delivery: Canada's Postal Heritage, by Bianca Gendreau

New Members

Three new members have recently joined the fold. Tena Keefe from Enfield collects pre world war and Asian stamps. Lorraine Rasmussen of Chateauquay, Quebec, collects Henry Heckler Covers (she is his granddaughter). Members may recall that Ms Rasmussen attended and help open Royal 2004 in Halifax. Noble Farage from the Canary Islands, is a part time dealer who buys, sells and trades world wide stamps.



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Newsletter Articles

How about writing an article or something of philatelic significance for the fall newsletter. A typed page will fill several columns - add images and the text length can be shorter. Contact Jeff for details at: web-news@nsstampclub.ca

Your notice of intent to submit should be sent by the middle of the previous month. Submission deadlines for fall are as follows:

Sept - Sept. 2	Oct. - Sept. 30
Nov. - Oct. 28	Dec. - Dec. 2