



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

September 2009
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Number 394

UP AND COMING

Every Saturday 4pm Auction
Seaside Book and Stamp

Sept 8 Club Meeting
Annual General Meeting
Members Stock

Sept 11-13 BNAPS Convention
BNAPEX 2009 SEAWAYPEX
Ambassador Conference Resort
Kingston, Ontario

Sept 25-26 Novapex 2009
Dartmouth Sportsplex,
Dartmouth

Oct 13 Club Meeting
Program TBA
Auction - First one of the year!!

Security - Reused Stamps

by Michael Peach

The Post Office has been concerned with the fraudulent reuse of stamps since the first stamp, the penny black, was issued. Initially the Post Office was so concerned about the removal of the red cancellation of the penny black, that it changed the colour of the stamp to red and used black printers ink for the cancellation. It was effectively impossible to remove the black cancellation. Security measures were also intended to prevent forgeries. Initially the engine turned background to the Queen's head was assumed to deter forgeries.

Piecing, joining two uncanceled portions of two different stamps is another method of reusing stamps. In 1858 the British Post Office tried to counteract this by using corner letters on the penny reds, and various other Victorian stamps. The lower corner letters were repeated in the reverse order in the upper corners.



Early in the 20th century some British stamps were printed on chalk-surfaced paper. Attempts to remove the cancellation resulted in damage to the surface of the stamp.

Another stratagem was the use of fugitive inks. Fugitive inks contain colours that will change, fade or wash out, if the stamp is tampered with. Soaking these stamps will cause the colours to run. It is noted for the 1883/4 series of British stamps, ½d to 1/-, that stamps with the true dull green colour which have been soaked and the colours have run, are virtually worthless.

In more recent times the new self adhesive Machin definitives, 2nd, 1st, 2nd large, 1st large, 50p, £1, £5.50, £2, £3, and £5, issued in February, have additional newly introduced security features. They all have four U shaped slits as a deterrent to forgery, and to inhibit unfranked stamps being peeled off and re-used. The stamps are supposed to tear and fall apart on peeling off. Collectors of used stamps are up in arms.



Enter Peter Butler. Remember my article in the September/October 2008 Post about soaking self adhesives. Well Peter has done it again (Canadian Stamp News 34 [2009] June23/July 6) using household air fresheners. Spraying the paper side softens the glue and the stamp can be carefully peeled off. I am sure that bestine, or a similar solvent, would also work. The glue remains on the stamp, and rubbing a small amount of talc on the back takes away the stickiness.

Will Canada Post be instituting similar means to prevent soaking and reuse of used stamps?

DUES

Club Dues are now owing and payable before Dec 1. Please remit early. Details on page 4. Member cards were not ready in time for mailing and will be sent out in Oct.

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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 C\$15 per person (US\$20 US, US\$25 International) or C\$22.50 per couple payable to :

Nova Scotia Stamp Club
102 Birch Bear Run
Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8
webnews@nsstampclub.ca

Advertising rate for the newsletter or website is \$50 (CDN) per year.

Constitutional Changes and Other Business at the Annual General Meeting

You will undoubtedly notice the inclusion of two versions of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club Constitution and By-laws in this month's mail out. The first shorter version is the current and accepted constitution and of course this is followed by the proposed version. The committee and executive spent considerable time looking at the wording and bringing our constitution up to date with current practices. The accepted version is from 1988. Please read each carefully. The changes will be brought to the consideration of the members present at the Annual General Meeting on September 8th.

The AGM is also a time of election of new officers to the club executive. Several members have reoffered their positions, however some vacancies need to be filled. Many of you have given of your time to the club over the years and many new faces have joined in recent years. If you have a desire to become more involved with the club workings, now is your chance to volunteer or be nominated.

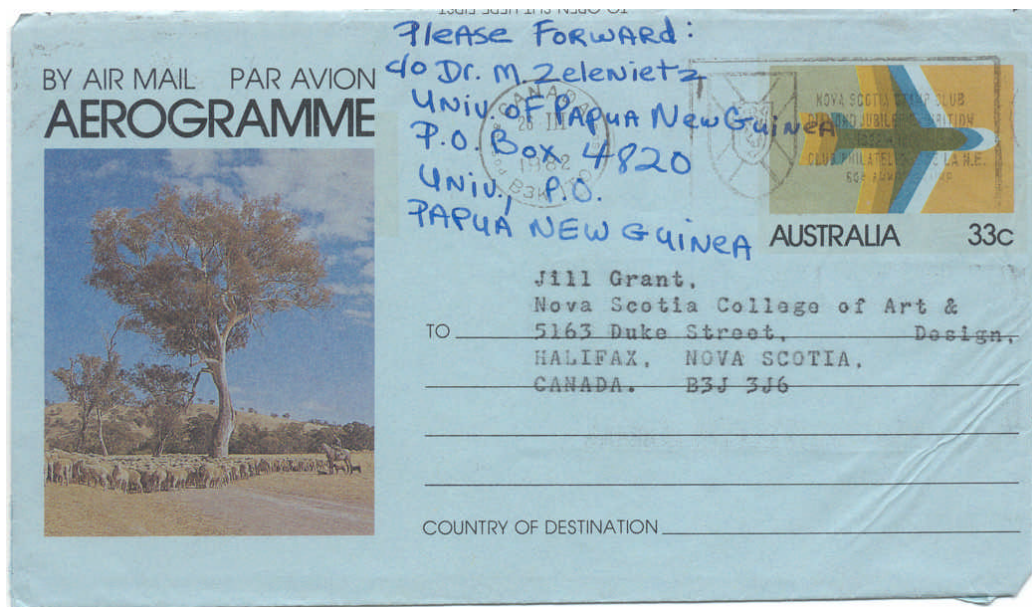
The club program is starting to take shape for 2009-2010. If you have an idea for a presentation or a suggestion for a guest speaker, please speak to one of the executive or bring it up at the meeting. Finally, I would like to thank on behalf of the club, a hearty thank you to Michael Peach for two years of service to the club as President. Michael will continue on the executive as Past President and RPSC liaison.

Curious Cover Story by Marty Zelenietz

I came across this cover while poking through a box of my stuff. It ties, in an interesting way, the stamp club to one of its members.

This 33 cent Australian airletter was sent to my wife from the South Pacific Commission's Publication Bureau in South Sydney, NSW, on 12 February 1982. The airletter made it to Canada with no postal markings applied. At my wife's office, the cover was redirected to her (then) current address, in care of me at the University of Papua New Guinea. Back in the mail stream, the cover was cancelled 26 March 1982 with the Nova Scotia Stamp Club Diamond Jubilee Exhibition bilingual machine cancel. Thus, the special cancellation for the Club's 60th anniversary caught up with a club member half way around the world.

Oh, for the good old days when Canada Post publicized local events across the world by using slogan machine cancels.

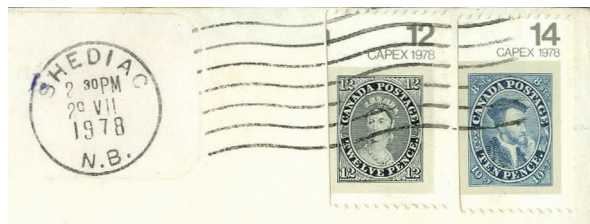


Stamp Oddities

Cooper's Capex Capers

by Michael Peach

Capex '78, the Canadian International Stamp Exhibition was held in Toronto, 9 - 18 June and to mark this event Canada Post issued a series of stamps, 12¢ on 18 January, followed on 10 June by 14¢, 30¢ and \$1.25 stamps, as well as a souvenir sheet with the three latter values. The first class inland letter rate had increased from 12¢ to 14¢ on 1 April 1978. All the designs had two classic pence value stamps of the Province of Canada reproduced in smaller format, side by side on each of the stamps.



In the summer of 1978 the Cooper family took a vacation to the Niagara Peninsula. On the way Dave mailed covers from several places with a variety of bisects to the Cooper residence in Porters Lake.

These covers and others had single bisects, or a combination of bisects, some were charged postage due, others passed unscathed through the post.



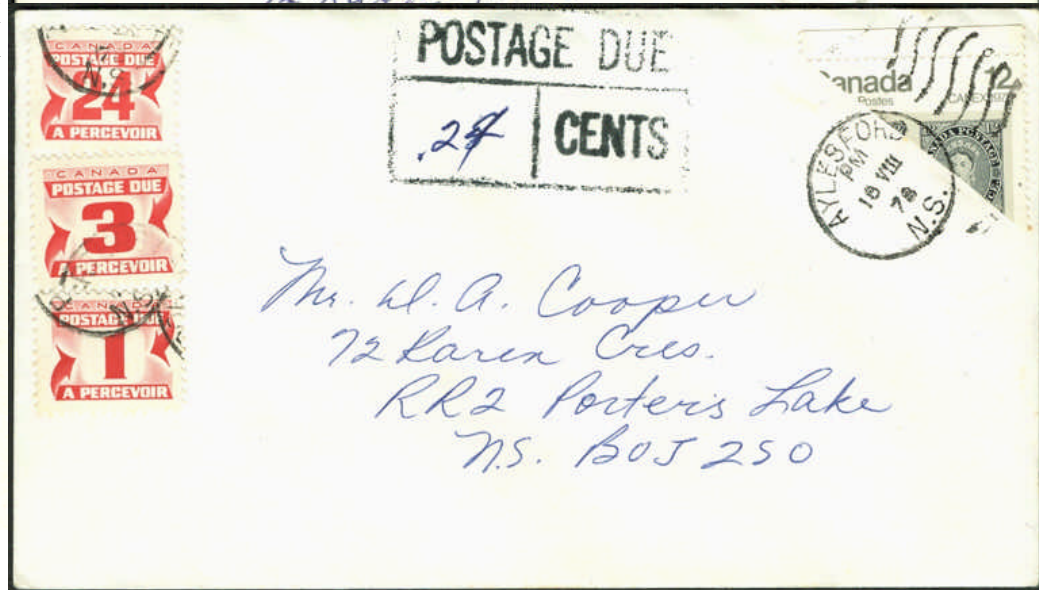
Vertical bisects show one half of the original stamp, but appear as a single stamp. The 12¢ had two black 12 pence Queen Victoria stamps, and a bisect was used by Dave on a cover from Cap Pele, N.B. 31 VII 78. It was not charged postage due. A diagonal of the 12¢, not showing the 12¢, was cancelled at Magnetic Hill, N.B., 78 31 VII, and also passed without penalty, but one showing the 12¢ from Aylesford, N.S., 18 VIII 78, was correctly charged 28¢ postage due.



Two bisects, one each of the 12¢ and 14¢, can be recombined to give the appearance of a single stamp. Covers with two vertical or diagonal bisects, one with a Shediac, N.B. machine cancellation 29 VII 78 and the other cancelled Scoudouc, N.B., on 31 VII 78. Both passed unscathed through the mail. However, a cover with two different diagonal bisects of the 14¢, arranged with the sides touching, was charged 34¢ postage due at Porters Lake on 6 X 79. The domestic rate had been increased to 17¢ on 1 April 1979, so the postage due was correctly charged at 34¢.



These covers together with others were shown in the two frame exhibit CAPEX BISECTS – WHY? 'Cause I like Them by Dave at Novapex 1996.



WANTED:- I would like to accumulate examples of the Gottingen Street and Morris Street post offices (on stamps, cards & covers) in the period 1894-1910. The cancellations (CDS and roller of both offices) may be found on the issues of that period, namely: Small Queens and Widows Weeds, Jubilees, Victoria Leafs and Numerals, the Map and Special Delivery stamps of 1898, Edwards and Quebec Tercentenaries (i.e. Scott Nos. 41-103). I would be interested in either purchasing, or trading for, any number (one, or many) of examples. Keith MacKay (NSSC Member No. 1036), 5669 Victoria Road, Halifax NS B3H 1M9 Tel: 902-421-1376 keithmackay@eastlink.ca

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New National Exhibit

On June 19, 2009, a new exhibition opened at the Canadian Museum of Civilization, entitled **Her Majesty's Stamps**. This wonderful exhibition will give you the opportunity to discover rarely-seen postage stamps and other treasures from the Royal Philatelic Collection, the person collection of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The exhibition will last until January 2010. The exhibition website is http://www.civilization.ca/cmcc/index_e.asp?DetailId=19316&EventId=466

If you locate the Friends section, NSSC is listed there just ahead of the Official Website of the British Monarchy - grand company indeed!

NOVA PEX 2009

Novapex 2009 planning is in full swing and we need your help. The show and bourse, under chairman John Hall, will be held on September 25 and 26 at the Dartmouth Sportsplex, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

It is anticipated that between 40 and 60 frames will be exhibited and about a dozen dealers in attendance. The Team Competition will again be a highlight of Novapex 2009.

For the third or fourth year in a row, the stamp club will host a club table where members can sell their wares. Let Hugh Rathbun know if you are planning to bring items or willing to help out.

A children's table will be set up for Saturday and people are also needed to help out through the day.

Help is needed in several areas - setup, tear-down, club and registration tables - please contact John Hall if you are interested or plan to be there. Final details will be revealed at the September meeting.

Comings and Goings

We have received a member application from Douglas Langley of Lunenburg who collects Nova Scotia stamps and postal history. His name will be put forth at the next club meeting.

John Harvey received a note about our Canary Islands representative. Noble Albert Farage (NSSC #1010) passed away earlier this year.

Finally, we note the passing of Bruce S. Oland (NSSC #199), our longest serving member, on August 6, 2009 - age 91. Mr. Oland was a veteran of the Second World War. He later joined the company brewing business and became president of Oland Breweries in 1971. He was made a member of the Order of Canada in 2006 for his philanthropic efforts in the community, especially with youth and the disabled.

The Nova Scotia Post Needs You!!!

Please. Please. Please!!!...new material and writers are required. This is the club newsletter, it would be nice to have more member participation. If 20 members committed to writing 2 articles (one feature and one cover story or other short piece of interest) per year we would be brimming over with material. Currently we have a stable of 3 to 5 writers providing material and thanks to those who contribute - like you!!!

Send your material to:

webnews@nsstampclub.ca

Unless of a timely nature, items will be printed on a first come basis. **The deadline for the Oct. '09 issue is Sept 30, 2009.**

Membership

Don't forget that dues become payable after July 1 for the 2009-10 stamp collecting year. **Cards will be sent out paid member in Oct. They were not ready in time for mailing. The first invoice will be sent out with the October mailing. This is a lot of extra work, please don't make me hound you!!!**

The club does not have a large operating budget and all activities come out of our dues. If dues are not paid on time then programs may be in jeopardy or...member dues may need to increase to cover any future shortfalls. Payment can be sent to the Club care of my address on page 2.

Thank you for supporting the work of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club.

Kermesse Table Material

As you probably know, our Kermesse Stamp Table project has been permanently cancelled due to my recent illness. As a result, I have a lot of material to dispose of - mainly world wide used stamps and other philatelic material. I can be reached at 443-9458 or by e-mail at jasi@eastlink.ca

Harry Steele