



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club



UP and COMING

December 11 Club Meeting
Program TBA

December 20 Friends of Philately
NS Museum Boardroom, Halifax

January 11 Club Meeting
Program TBA

January 20 Friends of Philately
NS Museum Boardroom, Halifax

February 11 Club Meeting
Program TBA

February 20 Friends of Philately
NS Museum Boardroom, Halifax

Travelling? Check out time and
place of other shows at
www.rpsc.org/shows.html

Christmas Seals Combat Tuberculosis and Lung Disease

by Brainard Fitzgerald

It is that time of year again the Christmas Seals have arrived in the mail. Although it seems to me that the bulk mailing of a #10 envelope filled with the yearly sheet of seals may be at an end. It seems that in the past two years only donors of the past who have been given their names now receive Christmas Seals. The sheet format has also changed. Addressed envelopes also arrive for Country Hearts, Spring Seals and other material.

What is the history of the Christmas Seal that has brought us to this point?

Canadians have been supporting the Christmas seal campaign since 1908 and has made a difference in the lives of Canadians with lung disease and tuberculosis.

The world's first tuberculosis Fundraising Seal was issued in 1897 by a Red Cross Sanatorium, on Lake Grabow, Germany.

A Danish post office worker Einar Holboell combined two ideas (but probably was not aware of it), first to use a commercial label to be used at Christmas time. The second was to use the seal for fundraising for tuberculosis.

Holboell's idea was too late for the 1903 season so everything was readied for the Christmas of 1904. The first monies collected were used to start building two new sanatoriums.

Norway, Sweden, Argentina and Brazil all released Christmas Seals before the sale of Christmas seals would reach the shores of North America.

In 1907, Emily Bissell, a social worker and a Red Cross worker in the United States, was approached by her cousin to raise funds to keep the Brandywine Sanatorium in Delaware open. Emily Bissell took up the challenge, borrowed \$40 from friends, designed a seal and had 50,000 lithographed. Below left are the designs by Emily Bissell. "Happy New Year" was added for sales after Christmas.

The following year the Seals were issued and sold by the

American National Red Cross with the familiar Red Cross symbol. At right is the 1908 US Christmas Seal.

By 1908 the Christmas

Seal campaign had reached Canada. The sale of the 1908-1909 Muskoka Seal was used to help build a Sanatorium at Muskoka, Ontario. The date of 1908 was for a Merry Christmas for that year and Happy New Year for 1909. Both 1908 and 1909 dates appear on the seal.

As time went on many other cities in Canada tried the Christmas Seal campaign as a means of not only raising money but also creating awareness. Halifax (right) and Hamilton

(over) are just two examples of other cities with their own Christmas Seals.



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Christmas Seals continued



Although the double barred cross was adopted in 1902 and became the recognised emblem in the fight against TB, it wasn't until 1919 that the emblem was used on a US seal and the last time the Red Cross symbol was used on a seal.

It would not be until 1927 that the Christmas Seal campaign was to be the official method for the Tuberculosis Association to appeal to the public for funds. The 1927 Seal is very similar to the U.S. with only the sleigh being a myrtle green instead of green. The French version added "Bonne Santé".

Over the years there have been many episodes in the Seal sale that are interesting to recall. It is known that tuberculosis thrives in times of war. As a war measure the Seals were not sold in 1918. Instead the Red Cross appropriated \$2,500,000.00 to the campaign and the seals were given to the Red Cross members.

The Canadian Tuberculosis Association felt that part of its World War II effort would be to supply the United Kingdom Seals free of charge. Canada also supplied Jamaica, British Guiana, British Honduras and Cyprus. Shipping large quantities of Seals overseas in war time caused great anxiety. Space on a ship had to be spoken for in advance, could not ship all at once for fear of loss due to war time activity and because of heat and humidity seals got stuck on themselves.

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<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.

Nova Scotia Stamp Club Award Citation

by Sean Weatherup

As most of you are aware, at the Novapex 2012 Banquet, we announced that the recipient this year of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club Award is Michael Peach.

I indicated that Michael was receiving the award because of his long tenure with the Nova Scotia Stamp Club executive and for sharing his vast experience with the members of the executive over the years.

I also alluded to the fact that Michael has been a tremendous aid to me as exhibit chair for the past 4 years and to John Hall in his role as show chair; however, it goes so much deeper than that.

For as long as I have known Michael he has been THE driving force behind the Nova Scotia Stamp Club.

Without his efforts, the club as we know it would likely not exist.

He has extended his vast experience to so many facets of the clubs activities it would be difficult to touch on all of them.

Foremost though has been his service to the executive.

Michael invariably has input on nearly every item the executive deals with and more often than not comes to meetings prepared with research he has done on a particular issue up for discussion.

The executive sets the schedule for programs for the regular meetings. This can be a surprisingly difficult task. Fortunately, Michael has been a never ending fountain of ideas. He has proven effective in convincing members that they should come forward and give the club a talk, whether it be brief, such as a show and tell, or whether it be more involved discussion. He also has the ability to speak on a large array of topics and graciously steps forward when we get stuck for ideas for a particular meeting or when a planned program has gone awry for some reason.

His services rendered to the Novapex Shows are another area where Michael has gone above and beyond the call. He has served in many roles such as show chair, serving on the committee, or being in a judge. He has been instrumental in securing Novapex as a National Level Show and bringing the Royal to Halifax. As I mentioned earlier, his assistance to me personally as exhibit chair and awards chair has been invaluable. His ability to network with the different philatelic organizations and judges throughout North America has made life that much easier for the Novapex Show Chair and all the other committee members to accomplish their tasks.

COVER STORY

by Brainard Fitzgerald

As I sat down to write a brief History of the Christmas Seal (Page 1), this cover addressed to Dr. J. E. Hiltz and cancelled with 2 different cancels from the Nova Scotia Sanatorium in Kentville, brings to mind a local connection between the Christmas Seal campaign and stamp collecting.

It was the original intent that the money collected from the sale of Christmas seals was to be used to help children with tuberculosis. The first moneys collected from the Christmas Seal campaign were used to start building two new sanatoriums.

The accompanying cover is address to Dr. J. E. Hiltz, Kentville. He was not only a stamp collector but Medical Superintendent of the Nova Scotia Sanatorium from 1947 to 1969. It was under his leadership that for the most part the TB death rate was reduced to miniscule proportions, from 1500 deaths in 1910 in Nova Scotia. Drug treatment radically changed the type and duration of treatment so that there were unused beds at the N. S. Sanatorium. With Dr. J. E. Hiltz, the focus changed from TB to general lung disease. Upon his death he was in the process of changing the name of the institution and



in particular, to eliminate the word “sanatorium”.

As the minutes of the first meeting, Mar. 2, 1961, of the Valley Stamp Club recorded, there were sixteen stamp collectors present. One of those collectors was Dr. J. E. Hiltz. The minutes indicate that Dr. J. E. Hiltz outlined the function of such a club and gave many suggestions as to how to make the

meeting interesting. He would become a Counsellor on the first slate of officers. He would become President of the Valley Stamp Club from 1965 to 1967. On Oct. 26, 1961 the minutes indicate that a list was made up of what each one collected and Dr. J. E. Hiltz collected Danish West Indies and Nova Scotia.

The “Kentville Sanatorium” Post Office began

in 1929 and it was known by this name until 1960. As indicated by the cancels on the accompanying cover, the Post Office got renamed to the “Nova Scotia Sanatorium Kentville” in 1960 - note the two different cancels of that period. In L. B. MacPherson’s Nova Scotia Postal History Volume 1 Post Offices 1754 – 1981, he makes a notation that it became the Nova Scotia Sanatorium, Kentville because the Superintendent (Dr. J. E. Hiltz) was determined to have the longest post office name in the Province. This was related to him by a philatelist-patient who was there at the time. May this writer offer his opinion who that might be, but the only Secretary-Treasurer for 40 years Anne Marie Belliveau of the Valley Stamp Club.

In 1969 the Nova Scotia Sanatorium received what was regarded as one of the most complete Christmas Seal collections in existence at that time. The collection was put together by a well-known philatelist and coin collector Dr. C. A. Herbin. He practised medicine in Lockeport and Arichat where he spent ten years preceding his retirement in 1968. He had contacts in eighty countries and it is reported by his son, Jack Herbin that he was given excellent co-operation by all foreign Tuberculosis associations contacted by him.

The collection was framed and hung in the hallways of what was called the New Infirmary and was visited often at Christmas time by the members of the Valley Stamp Club. The Valley Stamp Club met in the adjoining new lab and library for many years until it was demolished.

After the demolition of the New Infirmary the frames of Christmas Seals were stored in the former Wolfville Hospital and several years ago the Valley Stamp Club volunteered to organise them in to binders for better safe keeping and stored with other artifacts they keep.

NSSC Award Citation—continued

A fair number of club members have recently started exhibiting locally and at other national shows and they all owe Michael a big thank you for the excellent seminars on exhibiting that he has put a great deal of time and effort into organizing.

One more area where Michael has excelled over the years has been his contributions to the club newsletter. There is rarely an issue that does not contain a well written and informative article written by Michael. I don’t know about the rest of you, but I certainly now know a lot more about collecting outside my own area of specialization.

Michael, on behalf of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club, I am pleased to present you with the 2012 Nova Scotia Stamp Club Award, for your many contributions to the Nova Scotia Stamp Club. Michael, for all you do, this plaque’s for you.



Classifieds

Amanda Lewis has begun a business selling stamps and supplies - more details will follow in future editions. You can contact Amanda at ARL1964@yahoo.ca.

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Douglas J. Gray Supplies Sale

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Vario Sheets: 4 packs for \$20.00

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All mounts: 20% off cat.

Call me with your order at 461-0528 and I will bring them to the next meeting.

For Sale - Frames

I have 6 of the old club 8 page wooden frames in good condition for sale.

Price \$10 the lot, or \$2 each.

Please contact Michael Peach, 832-1662.

Scott's Specialized Albums – FREE

I have 13 various volumes of the Scott's Specialized albums from 1st issue to 1970. No stamps within.

They are hard cover and pages can be added.

I'd like them to have a good home (**no charge**) as I can't bear to put them out curb side for recycling.

Contact Peter Ineson 443-8552

DUES DUES DUES

Only a few outstanding members left. If this is you, you should have received a slip of invoice in your newsletter. If you haven't received your card yet...it should be in here too. If not please contact me.

Deadline for payment is Dec. 15, 2012. Non Payment will require us to strike you from the membership role.

Contact me at 876-0099 or webnews@nsstampclub.ca or if you are unsure if you paid.

Orapex 2013

Dear Philatelist:

I am writing to you to provide information on ORAPEX 2013. ORAPEX is one of the four national level philatelic exhibitions recognized by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. In 2013, we will celebrate the 250th Anniversary of Formalized Postal Service in Canada (1763-2013).

Three documents: a description of ORAPEX, rules for exhibitors at ORAPEX and an entry form for exhibitors are available through your club contacts. I extend an invitation to you to consider exhibiting in our show.

Please note we have established some new rules for 2013.

Of course, all your members will receive a warm welcome at the event whether or not they are presenting an exhibit. ORAPEX will take place at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, on Saturday, May 4 and Sunday, May 5, 2013.

Yours sincerely,
Brian Watson
ORAPEX Exhibits Coordinator
Ottawa. (Oct 30 2012)



Newsletter Articles

Send me your articles and cover stories now. Unless of a timely nature, items will be printed on a first come basis. Thanks for all those who have contributed in the past we look forward to hearing from you again. **The deadline for the November issue is December 28, 2012.**

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James Gray, FRSC, 1923 - 2012

Jim became a member of the club when he was appointed Chair of the Dalhousie University English Department, in 1972. He was subsequently Dean of Arts and Science. After retiring he moved to the Valley, becoming a member of the Valley Club. As a distinguished English scholar he wrote several articles for the Canadian Philatelist. His article *Sir Sanford Flemming: Father of the Three Penny Beaver*, in the January 1999 issue of the Canadian Philatelist was awarded the 1999 Geldert Medal. Until recently he was a regular attendee at Novapex.

St. Pierre & Miquelon 2014

St. Pierre & Miquelon will be hosting an International Exhibition from September 10 -14 in 2014.

Application forms will be available through Charles Verge. There is a limit of 30 frames per country with a maximum of 5 frames per exhibitor.

Their web site will be available in the new year.

