



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

May - June 2017
Volume 46, Issue 459

UP and COMING

May 25-28 Royale 2017
Boucherville, Quebec

June 13 Club Meeting
Closing Social (See pg 2)

June 15 Friends of Philately

September 1-3 BNAPEX 2017
CALTAPEX, Calgary, AB

September 12 Club Meeting

September 21 Friends of Philately

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

NOVAPEX 2017

by Marty Zelenietz

The frames are packed, exhibits have been returned to their binders, and collectors are sorting out the treasures they purchased. Novapex 2017 is history. The Dartmouth Seniors Centre hosted an excellent and exciting regional show. The venue was buzzing with people for both days of the show, despite an unanticipated bridge closure. When I came in at noon on Sunday, I was amazed at how many people were there looking at the exhibits and sitting at the dealers' tables. I was also amazed at how many people I did not know: closet collectors that we somehow have to attract into the club.

One of the highlights of the show was the talk given by Léon Matthys on Saturday and Sunday on his Halifax Explosion exhibit. Entertaining and informative, Leon highlighted the real contributions that collecting philatelic material and related ephemera can make to our understanding of history in the broader context. His material brought home the human impact of the tragedy that struck Halifax and Dartmouth 100 years ago. Léon also gave us a preview of the Halifax Explosion commemorative stamp coming from Canada Post this November. Complimenting Leon's exhibit was the show commemorative cover and cancel, designed by Hugh Rathbun. Hugh may have a few covers left, so get in touch with him if you want to purchase one for \$3.

Léon's exhibit received one of the three gold medals awarded by the judges (see Palmares on Page 4 for a full list of awards and metals). Medals were awarded during the Sunday night banquet, which drew a good crowd despite some last minute cancellations. Lloyd Melanson hosted the medal presentations. In the photo right, Leon receives his gold medal from chief judge Marilyn Melanson, while show chair Sean Weatherup sorts through the awards.

Long-time exhibitor Jeff Parks also received a gold medal for his single-frame exhibit on the Illustrated Business Mail of Clayton and Sons, Halifax, NS 1882-1951. The final gold medal went to Sean Weatherup's multi-frame exhibit on The Railway Post Office between Halifax and Sydney. Congratulations to all the exhibitors and medalists for their efforts and for sharing their material with us.

The Club owes thanks to the organizing committee for pulling together an outstanding show on relatively short notice. This all happened under the direction of the show chair, Sean Weatherup (who also handled exhibits and awards). Marilyn Melanson served as Chief Judge, Gary Steele organized the dealers' bourse, Jack Forbes handled the team competition, Hugh Rathbun provided the show cancel and covers, Gillian Keeping handled the front desk and reception, Karen Galbraith did

Continued Page 2



Chief Judge Marilyn Melanson presenting Sean Weatherup (top) and Jeff Parks with their Gold Awards



NOVAPEX 2017

Continued

DLO HANDSTAMPS #30

by Gary Steele

yeoman's work at the club sales table, Jeff Parks provided the program and website coverage, and Gordon Smith and family covered the Youth Table. Many other club members pitched in to help with various tasks and jobs. Thanks to all who made Novapex 2017 a success.

LAST CLUB MEETING OF THE SEASON

The Club's annual social and year-end meeting will be on 13 June at the Museum. Members are invited to bring guests. Members are also asked to bring some finger-food, snacks, sweets or fruit. Tables will be available for members to swap or sell surplus material. Hope to see you there.

The Nova Scotia Post

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Jeff Parks - Layout

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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.

Membership is C\$15 per person (C\$20 US, C\$25 International) or C\$22.50 per couple. Send **new memberships** to...

Nova Scotia Stamp Club
102 Birch Bear Run, Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

Membership renewals are sent to
NS Stamp Club c/o Marilyn Melanson
28 Birch St Halifax, NS B3N 2V1

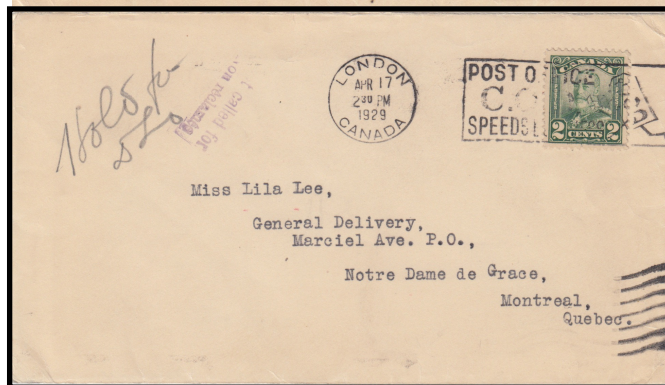
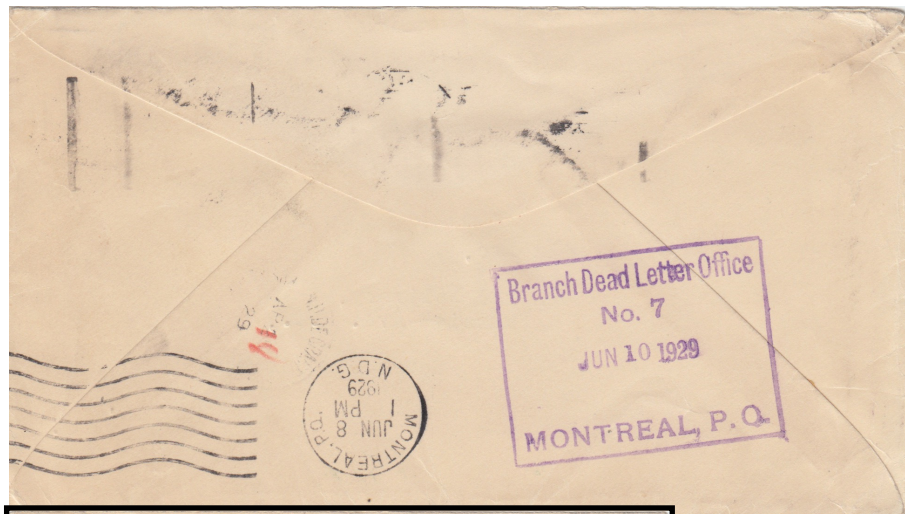
Branch Dead Letter Office
No. 7

JUN 10 1929

MONTREAL, P.Q.

Searching for good postal history is like searching for treasure sometimes, where hunches are formed by past research, ownership of material to compare to, and opportunity to explore. When one sees a scan or picture of an item you sometimes know there is a difference readily apparent. Other times

you just have a hunch that something is not the same and may be a new find.



Handstamps are harder to determine, as you do not know the dimensions even though the lettering may be the same as one, two or more other handstamps. In this

case I was able to obtain the attached and examine it against one other handstamp with similar characteristics in dimensions and type. However, the other handstamp was a 'No. 14' and with this being a 'No. 7' it is a new report, only known copy. The dimensions are quite different at 50x37mm than most other Montreal rectangle handstamps in the 30mm to 32mm height range.

This domestic letter mailed from London on April 17 1929 was sent to Montreal General Delivery whereby it was NOT CALLED FOR held till June 8 and then sent to the Montreal Branch DLO being received on June 10 1929.

I suspect there were thousands of items sent to Post Offices for General Delivery on a wing and a prayer that someone would drop in and ask if any mail was there for them. This took place by many that were travelling and had no means of contact by phone as the costs were probably much more expensive. If no return address were found most would have just been destroyed on a regular basis.

CANADA POST INTERNAL HANDSTAMPS #3

by Gary Steele

POST OFFICE
Ottawa, Canada.

MAY 23 1935
CITY DELIVERY.

Many may have seen similar Special Delivery covers mailed from the U. S. to Canada or Canada to the U. S. where postage due for the Special Delivery fee in the receiving country was charged. However, a lot of postage due covers did not have the stamps tied to cover within Canada.

A City Delivery handstamp was used in this case to tie the ten cents in postage due stamps to the envelope. This particular handstamp used in



POST OFFICE
Ottawa, Canada.

NOV 4 1939

CITY DELIVERY.

1935 has no Proof Strike known, and is prior to the attached Proof Strike of 1939. One can easily see the differences between the handstamps as 'POST OFFICE' is shorter than the 'Ottawa, Canada.' on the cover specimen, and longer in the proof strike.

In addition the 1935 double border rectangle handstamp dimensions are 37x24mm approximately and the 1939 proof strike is larger at 39x27mm.

Originally mailed from Toledo, Ohio on May 21st 1935 a Toronto transit marking on the reverse from Terminal Station A is dated May 22 1935. From there it was received in Ottawa the next day May 23rd whereby the ten cents in postage dues were applied and cancelled.

One of the many questions will be; what were the functions of City Delivery outside of just Special Delivery mail, and how many cities used City Delivery handstamps?. From recent research of proofs and reported items we do know there are various sub-directories such as City Delivery Branch, Directory, Evening, Head Clerk, Mail, Parcel Post, Registration, Special Delivery and Superintendent.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CANADA!

by Herb Colling

Our incredible nation is celebrating its Sesquicentennial this year: 150 years of Confederation; and *The Canadian Philatelist* is celebrating right along with it. The July August edition will be devoted to the kind of stories that give a sense of what makes our nation great. We'll talk about the battles in war that proved that Canadian troops were not to be taken lightly, that Canada could stand on its own in world affairs; no longer a colony, but a nation in its own right.

We'll review the philatelic history of our country: a look at stamps that chronicle our nation's development. We'll also have some fun along the way, talking about favourite stamps from collectors across the country, and looking at Canadian traditions that distinguish our nation, but have since disappeared.

You'll also have a chance to contribute. Let us know, in a letter to the editor, what you think makes this country great, what distinguishes us from others, and about your own philatelic favourites. Write to Herb Colling, the editor of *The Canadian Philatelist*: hacolling@cogeco.ca and your thoughts may be chronicled in the special July August edition of the magazine, our way of saying: Happy Birthday, Canada!



NOVAPEX 2017 PALMARES

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada Sanctioned Medal Awards

Non-Competitive

Marty Zelenietz: Pages from an Album: Parulidae

Bronze

Jim Graham: My Life as an Ordinary Stamp - 4c KGVI Vermillion

Cheryl Grantham: Unusual Stamps

John Hall: Dazzle Paint: Dressing Ships Up for War

Silver Bronze

Brainard Fitzgerald: The Night Before Christmas Visualized through Postcards

Jeff Parks: The Halifax Bicentenary Stamp Issue June 21, 1949

Silver

Doreen Fitzgerald: Camp Aldershot Nova Scotia 1904 - 1918

Jack Forbes: Usages of the Squared Circle Cancels of Cyprus

John Hall: Canadian Centennial Booklets 1967 - 1972

Keith MacKay: A Philatelic Tour of Historic Commercial Buildings in Downtown Halifax

Lloyd Tancock: Lunenburg County Postal History

Sean Weatherup: The 1967 Centennial Logo of Stuart Ash

Gold

Leon Matthys: The Great Halifax Explosion of 1917

Jeff Parks: Illustrated Business Mail of Clayton & Sons, Halifax, N.S. 1882 - 1951

Sean Weatherup: The Railway Post Office operating between Halifax and Sydney

American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors - AAPE Awards

Silver Pin (Regional) :

Doreen Fitzgerald: Camp Aldershot Nova Scotia 1904 – 1918

Keith MacKay: A Philatelic Tour of Historic Commercial Buildings in Downtown Halifax

WE Award - Sterling Achievement Award (Regional) : Sean Weatherup: The 1967 Centennial Logo of Stuart Ash

Novice Award: Lloyd Tancock: Lunenburg County Postal History

American Topical Association - ATA Awards

Gold Medal : Leon Matthys: The Great Halifax Explosion of 1917

One-Frame Award : Brainard Fitzgerald: The Night Before Christmas Visualized through Postcards

British North America Philatelic Society - BNAPS Awards

Best Multi Frame BNA Exhibit :

Sean Weatherup: The Railway Post Office operating between Halifax and Sydney

Best One Frame BNA Exhibit :

Keith MacKay: A Philatelic Tour of Historic Commercial Buildings in Downtown Halifax

Best Researched BNA Exhibit :

Sean Weatherup: The Railway Post Office operating between Halifax and Sydney

Elizabethan Study Group - Corgi Award (Regional) :

John Hall: Canadian Centennial Booklets 1967 - 1972

Nova Scotia Stamp Club Awards - Awarded to NSSC Members Only

J. J. MacDonald Award – Best in Show:

Sean Weatherup: The Railway Post Office operating between Halifax and Sydney

The Ken C MacDonald Postal History Award:

Lloyd Tancock: Lunenburg County Postal History

The J. Doug Allen Novice Award:

Lloyd Tancock: Lunenburg County Postal History

The Dave Cooper Team One Frame Award (Open to any Club):

BNAPS Atlantic Regional Group: Doreen Fitzgerald, Jack Forbes, Keith MacKay and Jeff Parks

STAMP TALK - OVERPRINTS AND SURCHARGES

by Marty Zelenietz

Overprint and **Surcharge** are two terms frequently encountered in stamp collecting. They are related, in that any surcharge is an overprint- but not all overprints are surcharges. So what are they?

An overprint is any text added to a stamp after the stamp has been initially printed. The added text may change the status of the stamp or the service it provides, may indicate a special event or program, or may change the value. When the value of the stamp is changed (often to satisfy a local shortage of postage or utilize otherwise unused stamps), the stamp has been surcharged. Surcharges usually increase the value of a stamp from its original issued value, but they can also decrease the value to accommodate the needs of the public and the post office.

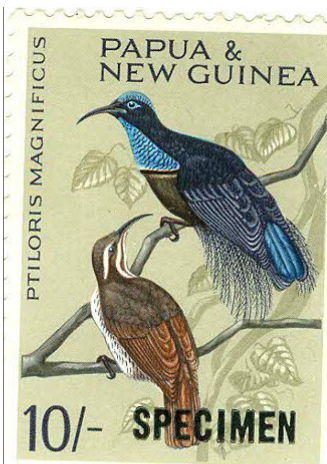
Let's take a look at some overprinted stamps, to understand the distinctions.

Status/Service changes

Officials. The figure (right) shows a 1931 6d Papuan Lakatoi overprinted "O S". The initial stand for "On Service" or "Official Service". Canadian stamps were often overprinted OHMS, "On His (Her) Majesty's Service".

These stamps were used on official government correspondence: it was illegal for private citizens to use them. Many countries, such as Great Britain, had official overprints that specified what department or agency used the stamp.

Specimen. A "Specimen" overprint invalidates the stamp for postal use. Specimen stamps were used to educate postal workers and the general public about new stamp issues, to fulfill Universal Postal Union requirements for member states to supply one another with examples of their current postage stamps, and by security printing firms to demonstrate their wares. Here we see a "SPECIMEN" overprint applied to a 1964 10/- Bird of Paradise definitive from Papua & New Guinea.



Service Change. As airmail delivery grew in the 1920s and 30s, postal authorities scrambled to keep up with the demand for stamps that would indicate the new service. One convenient and inexpensive way to meet the demand was to overprint existing stock to repurpose it. Many countries used a simple airplane design and the words "Air Mail", as seen on the 1930 Papuan 6d overprint (right).



Commemoration/Event/Program

Status Change. Decolonization in the post-World War II era brought the onset of self-government and independence, and such changes were publicized by overprints indicating the transition, as we see in this figure, proclaiming self-government in British Honduras in 1964.



Commemoration. Overprints can also mark special events in a country's development, such as the dedication of the site of the new capital in British Honduras (soon to become Belize) in October 1965.



Program. Overprints also served to alert citizens to new social programs, or to carry appeals from the national leadership, as seen on this "Help me stop smuggling" early 1970s stamp from the Philippines.

Surcharges

An overprint that revalues a stamp is called a *surcharge*. Postal officials resort to surcharging in times of stamp shortages, rate changes, rampant inflation, or



OVERPRINTS AND SURCHARGES CONTINUED

to accommodate military and political realities.

Stamps may have their value increased by a surcharge (top), or decreased (middle).

Collecting overprints and surcharges offers up fun and challenges. Because many early overprints were individually typeset, mistakes were often made. The sharp-eyed collector can find valuable varieties caused by broken, missing, or mistaken elements in the overprint: this figure (3rd from top) shows the scarce “broken p” (actually an inverted d) Papuan 1906 overprint on a 2 ½ d British New Guinea issue.

More variety occurs because, when overprints and surcharges were applied, those doing the work were not necessarily attentive to the task, or working in ideal conditions. Overprints can be doubled, tripled or more (as the sheet was fed and refed through the press), they can read the wrong way (upwards versus down, or vice versa), they may be inverted, as shown here on the right-hand stamp of this 1995 Tajikistan surcharge (bottom of page).

Have some fun: check out the overprints and surcharges you have in your collection. They may be some hidden treasures lurking among them.



Stamp Oddities

French Polynesia consists of five island groups: The Society Islands, an archipelago composed of the Windward Islands and the Leeward Islands; the Tuamotu Archipelago; the Gambier Islands; the Marquesas Islands; and, the Austral Islands. Of these, more than half (67) of the 118 islands and atolls are inhabited. Tahiti, the most populous island, is located in the Society Islands, and is the capital of the collectivity, Pape'ete. It has more than 68% of the population of the islands in 2012.

An 18th century painting of a Tahitian travelling canoe was used as a model by the artist who designed the Free France series for Oceania (French Polynesia) in 1942. The original painting by W. Hodges, who accompanied Captain Cook on his second voyage in the years 1772-4. Polynesians travelled great distances in these migration canoes which were 70 feet long and built entirely of wood shaped with stone tools.



The series included 12 similar stamps of the design shown that only differed in colour and denomination, from 25 centime to 20 francs.

During World War II, French Oceania was considered by the Japanese, unbeknownst to the French and Polynesians, to be a Japanese possession to become part of the post-war “Eastern Pacific Government-General”, however, the Japanese were never able to launch an actual invasion of the French islands. The US did establish a military supply base at Bora Bora, where up to 7000 troops spent of the war years. This base had an oil depot, airfield, seaplane base, and defensive fortifications, and helped prevent Japanese aggression against Australia and New Zealand. The base never saw any action and was closed in 1946.



While French Polynesia did not celebrate the Pacific war on the stamps of the islands, in 1954 a 10th anniversary of the liberation of France by Allied forces was depicted on this Oceania 3F

stamp showing dates - 8 Nov 1942 (“Operation Torch” Invasion of French North Africa), 6 June 1944 (D-Day), and 15 August 1944 (Invasion of Southern France). The stamp shows two scenes: a plane flying over the one of the islands and likely the D-Day landing.

JUDGING UPDATE

by John Hall

At Orapex in Ottawa this May, I attended a Judging seminar hosted by Dr. David Piercey, RPSC Chairman of Judges, Dr. Peter McCann, National Level Judge, and Ed Kroft, National Level Judge. I pass along the following items that may be of interest to club members –

- A topical exhibit was given the “Best in Show” award for the first time at a national show in the United States.
- No experimental exhibit have been seen yet and judges are looking forward to seeing their first.
- Discussed was the encouragement of stamp collectors to become Philatelic Judges. One of the problems noted was the idea that judges could not exhibit at Regional level shows where they judged. This was noted as a problem for small clubs such as ours. Both the RPSC and APS Judges felt that regional shows belong to the club and have no problem in having judges exhibit and judge at the same show as long as reasonable efforts are made to keep things at arms length. (At the NSSC’s Executive meeting on May 23, this was adopted with the suggestion that when a judge’s exhibit was being judged, that judge would leave the room and have no input in the points or awards determination.)
- Discussion centred on the “unwritten or perceived” rules – such as using black vs clear mounts. There is no rule concerning which mount is acceptable and the choice is the exhibitor’s, with no penalty to be assessed with either choice. The same applies to using coloured dots, arrows, borders, mattes, etc. to highlight rare and special items – the choice is the exhibitor’s and all are acceptable.

The new judging guidelines are working well and exhibitors are encouraged to view them at the American Philatelic Society website.

CANADA 150

by Marty Zelenietz

Subscribers to Canada Post's "Details" magazine will have recently received the card illustrated here, announcing the forthcoming Canada 150 stamps. The question arises—what is this card? How do we classify it in terms of Canada Post emissions and collectibles?

I was given the card because the donor thought it fit my interests in the “illustrated admail” realm. On closer inspection, the indicium on the card, while resembling what we find with illustrated admail, is something else. There is no indication of the category of mail (“Addressed Admail”, “Personalized Mail”, etc.) nor is there a permit number. What we have is a simple indicium with the “P maple leaf” that indicates permanent, lettermail payment in Canada. This is, in effect, a postal card issued specifically for Canada Post’s purposes. If you collect Canadian postal stationery, this one belongs in your collection!

Celebrate Canada 150

Canada Post will soon begin to unveil a sesquicentennial stamp issue celebrating 10 unforgettable moments since Canada's centennial in 1967. The milestones captured on these stamps embody our pride and unfold the story of who we are as a nation.

Booklet of 10	Pane	OFDC set
\$8.50	\$8.50	\$16
414048111	404048107	414048131

Watch for how we reveal the stories of our country.

Pre-order starts online **April 25.**
Get yours now

canadapost.ca/canada150



AP25J



The image shows the back of a Canada postage stamp. It features a red maple leaf design with the word 'CANADA' at the top and '150' at the bottom. The stamp is set against a white background with a perforated border. Below the stamp, there is a red rectangular area with white text that reads 'Canada 150 stamps and collectibles on sale June 1' and the website 'canadapost.ca/canada150'. To the right of this area, there is a vertical line and a small rectangular area containing the number '688850-01002292' and the text '3111 VRENTONTON'.



Some of the new Canada 150 stamps available in 2017

CLUB NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

We have received a number of new applications to the club.

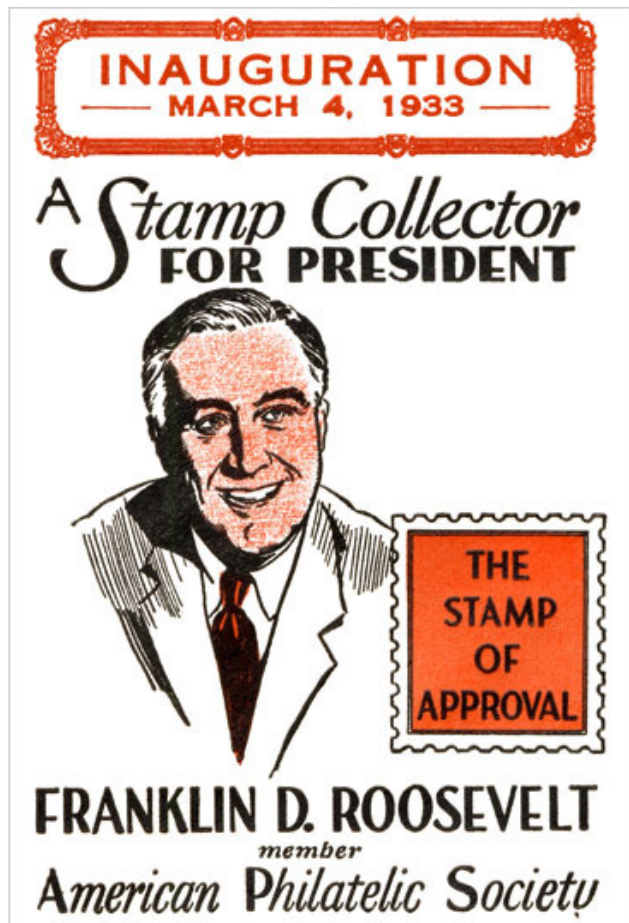
Léon Matthys, Aurora, ON #1074, collects Nova Scotia Postal History, Canada (Except Newfoundland) and Canada.

Bonnie Kostal, Halifax, NS #1075, wants to understand the stamps collected by her father.

Lloyd Tancock, Bridgewater, NS #1076, collects Canada, Lunenburg County postal history, and corner inscription singles.

Neil Kenny, Timberlea, NS #1077, collects Newfoundland, ships and Royal Canadian Navy.

Michael Pierce, Dartmouth, NS #1078, collects Canadian covers of all sorts, excise stamps, Canadian postal stationery and postal cards.



"A Stamp Collector for President" label from about 1932.

George W. Linn, publisher of a weekly philatelic newspaper, created seals and envelopes encouraging stamp collectors to vote for a fellow philatelist for President of the USA.

Source: <https://postalmuseum.si.edu/collections/object-spotlight/fdr.html>

CLUB MEMBERS SHINE AT ORAPEX

Members of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club probably had to pay overweight baggage charges as they came home from Orapex, the national level stamp show held in Ottawa in early May. Congratulations to our members on their fine showing. Here is a tally of their awards.

Gary Steele, Canadian Dead Letter Office Handstamps

Large Gold (Open Class), Postal History Society of Canada Best Postal History (BNA), American Philatelic Society (APS) Medal of Excellence (1900-1940), British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) Best BNA, BNAPS Best Researched BNA, Auxiliary Markings Society Award of Merit

Brainard Fitzgerald, Royal Visit to Canada 1951

Gold (Open Class), American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE) Best Creativity, APS Medal of Excellence (1940-1980), BNAPS Best BNA Railway Post Office

Dorreen Fitzgerald, Postals- Through the Lens of Paul Yates

Large Vermeil (Open Class), AAPE Best Presentation, The Wally Guzman Best Postcard award

Jean-Jacques Tillard, St. Pierre et Miquelon, Le 20F Montagne et Arbres de 1947

Large Gold (One Frame), One Frame Grand Award

PICKERS AND COLLECTORS MARKET

We want to bring to your attention the Pickers and Collectors Market to be held 15 July, 2017, at the Halifax Forum. Vendors of all kinds of collectibles will gather to satisfy your collecting needs and lighten your wallets. If you want to participate as a vendor, an 8' table will run you \$40. You need to contact worldslargestgarage-sale2015@gmail.com to make arrangements.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

The regular meeting year is coming to an end and many still have not paid their dues. Individual dues are \$15 and a Family membership (same address) is still a bargain at \$22.50

Dues are payable to:

Nova Scotia Stamp Club
c/o Marilyn Melanson, Treasurer
28 Birch St Halifax, NS B3N 2V1

MONCTON STAMP FAIRS

The Moncton Stamp Fair is now concluded for this season. Stay tuned for an announcement for when they will be starting again.