

# The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

March 2018 Volume 47, Issue 466

# **UP and COMING**

March 10 Moncton Stamp Fair

March 13 Club Meeting Canada
Post Almon St 730 pm

March 15 Friends of Philately

March 24-25 2018 Spring National Edmonton Alberta

**Travelling?** Check out the time and place of other shows at <a href="https://www.rpsc.org/shows.html">www.rpsc.org/shows.html</a> or <a href="https://www.csdaonline.com/shows">www.csdaonline.com/shows</a>

# **NOVAPEX 2018 ORGANIZATION**

Work on Novapex 2018 is well underway. Most of the major jobs have been filled, but we can always use more volunteers. If you want to help, get in touch with:

Guy guy.jeffery5@gmail.com,

Gary gwsteele57@gmail.com, or

John john hall 13@hotmail.com

Chairs Guy Jeffrey, Gary Steele,

& John Hall

Awards Sean Weatherup

Judges John Hall

Bourse Claude Michaud

Exhibits Gary Steele

Facilities Guy Jeffrey & John Hall

Banquet Jack Forbes Club Table Karen Galbraith

Advertising John Hall

Frames Keith MacKay Program/Website Jeff Parks

Show Covers Hugh Rathbun

Security Marcus Bauer Treasurer Marilyn Melanson

Layout TBD

# BÜSINGEN, A GERMAN ENCLAVE IN SWITZERLAND

By JEFF PARKS

Büsingen am Hochrhein (on the High Rhine) is a German town of 1450 inhabitants entirely surrounded by the Swiss canton of Schaffhausen (Figure 1). The Rhine River forms the southern boundary. At only 7.6 km<sup>2</sup> (about 4 times larger than Monaco) it shares a 17 km boundary with Switzerland. Administratively, Büsingen belongs to the federal state Baden-Württemberg and is located in the district of Konstanz, but economically, it forms part of the Swiss customs area. Büsingen people mostly pay with Swiss francs, although technically



the euro is legal tender in Germany. Swiss francs are more popular, since most of the inhabitants work in Switzerland and are paid in Swiss francs.

Under Austrian control from the 15th century, the town was ceded to the Kingdom of Württemberg in the fourth Peace of Pressburg (1805) during the Napoleonic Wars. In 1918, at the end of the First World War, Büsingen voters were given an opportunity to choose their country - 96% chose to become part of Switzerland. However, it never happened and regular attempts have been made over the years only to be rejected by the German state.

The German post office in Büsingen has two postal codes, D-78266 (German) and CH-8238 (Swiss). Letters may be franked with a Swiss or a German stamp. The international letter rate today from Büsingen to Switzerland is 90 euro cents (~1.04 Francs) for a German stamp or 1.40 F for a Swiss international rate stamp. What isn't clear is if the Swiss franked mail is considered domestic or international.

The postcard (Figure 2) depicting Bergkirche St. Michael Büsingen was posted to Schaffhausen on 28 October 1923, during the post war German hyperinflation period (Oct 1918 – Dec 1923). For context on hyperinflation, a loaf of bread in 1918



cost 0.25 Reichsmarks and by October 1923 it had risen to 670,000,000 M. During this particular period - October 20 to October 31, 1923 - the cost of mailing a postcard in Germany was 4,000,000 M (twice the rate from the week before and 1/10<sup>th</sup> of the rate the week af-

Continued Page 2



#### **BÜSINGEN** Continued

ter). However, since Schaffhausen is in Switzerland the foreign postcard rate of 18,000,000 M (120,000,000 M the following week) is applied (Figure 3).

The franking consists of 8 stamps to make the 18 Million M rate. The 2 Millionen on 5 Tausend M overprint stamps were issued October 4, and the 1 Million and 5 Millionen M stamps were issued on October 10, 1923.

Interestingly, if the Post Offices of these two towns were then where they are located now the distance is only 3.43 km.



Figure 4: The south side of the church shown in a more recent photo (www.buesingen.de).

# The Nova Scotia Post

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> Marty Zelenietz - Editor Jeff Parks - Layout

# http://www.nsstampclub.ca/

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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...

NS Stamp Club c/o Jeff Parks 102 Birch Bear Run, Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

Membership renewals are sent to... NS Stamp Club c/o John Harvey 46 Farquharson St, Dartmouth, NS B2W 4A8

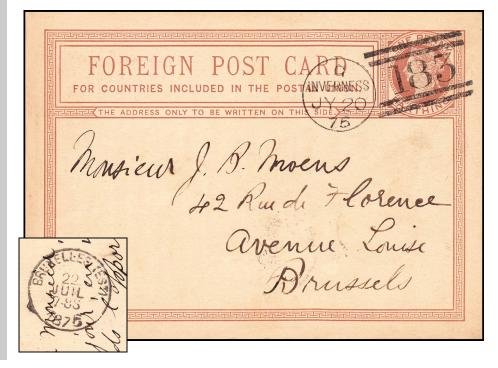
# **1875 OVERSEAS POSTCARD**

by Michael Peach

The Foreign Postcard to well known philatelist and dealer J.B. Moens of Brussels, was mailed from Inverness, Scotland office 183, on 20 July 1875, a relatively early use of this Foreign Postcard.

The brown postal stationery Post Office postcard was issued on 1 July 1875 with a surface printed 1½d stamp for overseas mail to GPU countries. It was replaced by 1d foreign postcard on 1 April 1879.

Both Great Britain and Belgium were initial members of the General Postal Union, GPU, when it was formed in October 1874, and the agreed postal rates within the Union took effect from 1 July 1875. A general postage rate was set, simple prepaid letters were not to exceed 25 centimes, 2½d. Postcards were half the rate, 1¼d. The British Post Office did not produce any adhesive stamps with values in farthings, ¼d, but did produce postal stationery postcards with a 1¼d stamp. This was the only British stamp with a value in farthings, ¼d. From April 1879 the Universal Postal Union, UPU, which had replaced the GPU, postcard rate was reduced to 10 centimes, 1d. A new postal stationery postcard was prepared with a brown 1d stamp and issued on 1 April 1879. Surplus 1¼d cards could be used for the 1d rate.



#### **CANADA POST INTERNAL HANDSTAMPS #8**

by Gary Steele

X277
POSTAGE STAMP DEPOT
HALIFAX
VII 14 1964
N.S.

I never expected to see a Money Order Office Number (MOON) handstamp other than #X275 for Halifax. In this particular case we have an X277 MOON handstamp for the Postage

Stamp Depot at the main post office in Halifax.

The MOON handstamps replaced the Money Order Transfer Office (MOTO) handstamps on 13 January 1950. They were issued to offices to datestamp money order and registration receipts and official mail. Most have seen these numbers on City precancels.

A partial listing at the top of this form (ripped) reads: ...nominative Money Orders and Postal Scrip. On July 13 1964 the Springhaven Post Office ordered various denominations of Money Orders from the Postage Stamp Depot in Halifax.

This particular handstamp measures 30x25mm, sans-serif lettering except for the month and day, all caps, single frame rectangle in black ink. No proof known.

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# Philately Night at the Museum

Though a native Nova Scotian, and living inland these days, Leon Matthys joined the NSSC at the Royal back in 2014. At our 2017 NOVAPEX, he won a Gold on his "The Great Halifax Explosion of 1917" open class philatelic exhibit. Gaining notice and momentum at each improvement suggested at Judges' Critiques, the display won a National Gold and a BNAPS Research Award at the CANPEX 2017 show. His 'roadshow' of the exhibit includes an interactive multi-



media slide-show which continues to make its rounds at stamp clubs and shows since 2015.

The Maritime Museum of the Atlantic will be presenting the exhibit and presentation on March 27 at their Tuesday Talks programme. Come on out to take-in and enjoy the story of the Halifax Explosion presented philatelically on this one-night opportunity!

https://maritimemuseum.novascotia.ca/event/great-halifax-explosion-1917-five-frame-philatelic-exhibit

#### MARCOPHILY FUN 2

by Keith MacKay

Find an issue cancelled at different places on the same date . (See Miner Panning Gold cancelled at Parrsboro, River Hebert & Windsor Forks on May 20, 1958)





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#### **CAPITAL GAINS QUESTION**

by Rod MacLennan

We recently received the following query. If there is anyone who can shed some light on the matter, please get in touch with the editor.

Is there someone in the NSS Club who is fairly knowledgeable on the topic of "capital gains" treatment on disposal of material? Years ago I think there was an "exemption" by CRA on any item selling for under \$1,000, or perhaps it was "the first \$1,000" of any value realized. Anyway, wondered if the Club has anyone up to date on current regulations? Might even make for a good article. I don't think I've noticed anything in Canadian Philatelist on that topic in recent years.

# **EXHIBITING UPDATE**

by John Hall

I was asked to exhibit my Fiscal War Tax issue in Thailand (I received a gold at CAPEX) but I turned it down. However, I did sign up for the FIP International Exhibitor newsletter and noted several things – some FIP stamp shows now include coin dealers, including a special exhibit class in numismatics!; the Seoul FIP show had souvenir dealers selling on the floor, including sunglasses; and the show in England in 2020 will see the frames used twice – exhibits will be changed midweek to allow for a lot more exhibits (and frame fees!!!)

Interesting how things are changing – perhaps our club needs to "expand our horizons". How about displays at our shows by security companies? Locksmiths? Insurance Companies? Does anyone have Novapex 2018 Souvenirs (besides Hugh)??

**CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME** to the Nova Scotia Post: write up an interesting stamp or cover, talk about a treasure in your collection, explain an item of philatelic jargon for Stamp Talk. Write something short - write something long. Write a serial or regular column. Share an outstanding title page from an exhibit. We like everything. Email your contributions to Marty (zelen@ns.sympatico.ca) and we'll get you published.





#### **CLUB NEWS**

#### Important note- March meeting venue change

Because the March meeting coincides with the school March Break, we cannot use the museum on the 13th. We have arranged a field trip- a tour of the Almon Street processing plant, to begin at 7:30. There is parking in the front of building at 6175 Almon St. The door you will use for entry is in the middle of the building next to the Gazebo. The tour will take about 30 min to an hour depending on how many questions you may have. Closed toe and heel shoes are mandatory for anyone entering the plant. Our guide will be Lisa-Marie Blair, the evening shift Superintendent. So remember, don't go to the museum! Also, there won't be an auction. Hope to see you all at Almon Street on the 13th.

It is with sadness that we report the death of club member Alice Moore (NSSC #539) at the age of 100 years. Our condolences to her family.

John Harvey, the membership chair, has made extensive efforts to get in touch with people who failed to renew their membership. As a result, work, we have pruned the membership list, eliminating several people for non-payment of dues. It is time to recruit new members into the club. If you have ideas about how to build the membership, or have the name of someone who we might invite to be a member, please get in touch with Guy, or John, or Marty, or anyone on the Executive. We need to grow.

**MONCTON STAMP FAIRS** take place each month at the Royal Canadian Legion, 100 War Veterans Ave., Moncton, NB 10 am to 4 pm. Silent Auction from 10 to 1, Live Auction at 1:30 Dates: Mar 10, Apr 14 and May 12.



**MEMBERSHIP DUES LAST CALL**. It is your responsibility as a member to stay in good standing with the club. If this is you please correct this now so you are not stricken from the role. Send payments to:

Nova Scotia Stamp Club c/o John Harvey 46 Farquharson Street, Dartmouth, NS, B2W 4A8