



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

April 2018
Volume 47, Issue 467

UP and COMING

April 10 Club Meeting

April 14 Moncton Stamp Fair

April 19 Friends of Philately

June 22-24 Royale 2018 Royal St Catharines ON

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

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

IN PRAISE OF HINGES

by Marty Zelenietz

The January Post carried an opinion piece about the merits of using hinges or hingeless mounts. Coincidentally, two articles by Jay Smith appeared in the January 2018 *American Philatelist*: one comparing Showgard (split-back) mounts to Hawid (open top), the second telling us "It's time to come unhinged" and preaching the evils of using glassine hinges. I think it is time that an advocate for the lowly hinge speaks up.

To begin, I have never understood the preference for mint never-hinged (MNH) over mint hinged (MH) stamps. We are told it is market driven - collectors are willing to pay a premium (often substantial) for MNH stamps with a flawless field of gum on the back. I don't know about you, but I collect the FRONT of the stamp: the image, the topic, the variety or error. Whether there is a hinge remnant (so long as it isn't hiding damage), or only a trace of a hinge mark (sometimes described as "virtually" or "almost" NH), or a pristine back, doesn't really matter to me. Except when it comes to price, and often, affordability. I know it matters for resale, but if you get an item at a bargain price now, do you really think that you'll get top dollar when you sell? What you *will* get is that annoying empty space filled in your collection.

This is not to say that I hinge every MNH stamp that comes my way - I don't. A stamp that enters my collection MNH leaves that way. But a previously hinged unused stamp, or a used stamp, is a good candidate for hinging.

Why hinges? Here, I will speak directly to the collection that occupies most of my energy these days: used stamps of birds that I have seen in the wild. I could mount every one of these stamps in a Showgard or Hawid mount, but at least two factors militate against this: cost and convenience.

Cost: Hingeless mounts aren't cheap. For a stamp valued at \$2, or \$10, or \$100, they make sense. But for used stamps, often at the minimum catalogue value (and obtained at a fraction of that!), the cost of the mounts (for an inexpensive set) can approach or exceed the value of the stamps themselves. I prefer to spend my money on the stamps, not the mounts. A package of 1000 hinges cost a couple of bucks, and I double my return by cutting the hinges in half- for what I'm doing, this is fine. One note- if I acquire a stamp that has a hinge on it, I remove it and install my own- who knows who licked that hinge before!

Convenience: I create my own album pages: I'm not filling-in somebody else's preconceived spaces. Each page layout is different, based on the material I have at hand when I'm doing the page. But the collection grows- new issues are released, or I find long sought-for items to enhance the collection. Items have to be shuffled, moved around, rearranged. With hinges, I can carefully remove the stamp(s) from a page, reorganize, and then reinstall - all at no cost. Not so with hingeless mounts: the mount may or may not be reusable, and the page is definitely not. More printing, more mounts, more inconvenience, more cost. Less fun, less money to spend on stamps.

Jay Smith warns us that using stamp mounts can prevent damage to the faces of our stamps, that stamps can suffer from dust and abrasion. True. Are my bird stamps subject to these dangers? No. I put each album page in an archival clear sleeve. When I'm looking through the

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REGISTERED INDIAN COVER

by Michael Peach



I recently made a small purchase on eBay from India. Although the value was minimal, it was sent by registered airmail. I was out when it was delivered, so it ended up at the local postal outlet. In the meantime Canada Post had fixed an adhesive label over the stamps. Fortunately I was able to peel off the label, revealing the two used Indian Diwali stamps of the Canada India joint issue.

Is Canada Post friendly to philatelists? A peelable label is certainly preferable to a ball point cancellation.

CANADA POST INTERNAL HANDSTAMPS #9

by Gary Steele



DIRECTEUR DU DISTRICT POSTAL
SERVICE AUX CLIENTS

JAN 12 1972 20

CUSTOMER SERVICE
District Director of Postal Service
MONTREAL, QUE.

This article deals with a large boxed Customer Service handstamp of which there are less than a handful of reports of either proofs and/or similar handstamps. Customer Service sections may exist within a variety of departments, in this case the District Director of Postal Services department that may handle

matters of a serious nature ie. Plane Crash, Theft, or Fire.

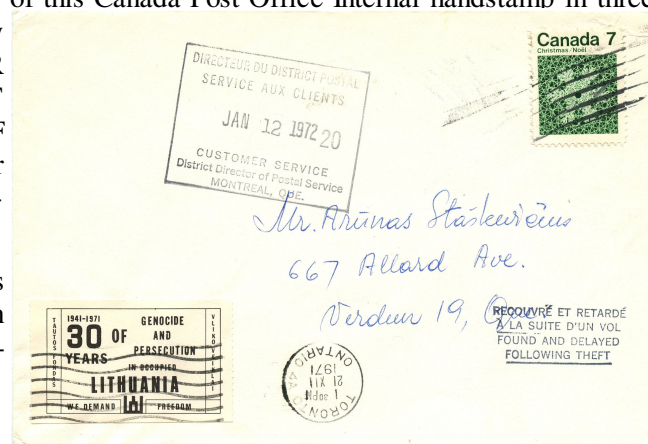
It appears this was a Christmas card mailed on 21 Dec 1972 from Toronto to Verdun, Que. Of first note is a machine cancel placed on the bottom of the cover over a Cinderella stamp while upside down leaving the 7 cent stamp uncanceled. At some point a postal employee applied a roller cancel to the affixed Xmas stamp.

Next, of special interest is the small bilingual handstamp in the lower right stating RECOUVRE ET RETARDE / A LA SUITE D'UN VOL / FOUND AND DELAYED / FOLLOWING THEFT. Requiring the utmost attention, this cover was handled by the Customer Service department of the District Director of Postal Service. They processed the envelope and applied a large 47x36mm single frame rectangular handstamp.

No additional markings are present suggesting a special envelope returned this item. A letter may also have been included to explain the circumstances should something have been removed.

I have set up the listing of this Canada Post Office Internal handstamp in three different areas of my listings: CUSTOMER SERVICE, DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF POSTAL SERVICE, or under SERVICE / SERVICES.

Starting off innocuous this cover has been turned into a very special philatelic item.



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...

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

DLO HANDSTAMPS #35 - EARLIEST REPORTED DATE

by Gary Steele

D.L.O. CANADA**MR19****00****· OTTAWA · BRANCH ·**

Swaziland was under the South African Republic as a protectorate. The Boer War started October 11 1899.

This particular cover was mailed shortly afterward to South Africa. In the early period a small boxed handstamp imprinted MAIL SERVICE SUSPENDED was produced to advise correspondents that mail heading into South Africa will not be delivered further.

A friend has sent me a similar cover from England with the same handstamp confirming consistency in use and time frame involved.

Mailed from Yarmouth, N.S. on 21 October 1899 it was held until January 25 1900 and imprinted with a RETURNED LETTER BRANCH handstamp in red ink. This is assumed to be a South African handstamp whereby it was returned to the Canadian Dead Letter Office, Ottawa Branch on March 19 1900.

This particular DLO steel circle handstamp is the 2nd type reported at 25mm in diameter with lettering approximately 3.3mm in height. The first type is smaller at 24mm in diameter with lettering of 2.8mm. Also of note this is the earliest reported date for this handstamp, however, this is a moving target replacing another ERD in my collection.

**HINGES CONTINUED**

album or showing it to others, the stamps are protected from scratching and flipping over or having perfs snag on some unforeseen hazard. And this is not an additional cost- I put my MNH mounted stamps in those same clear sleeves for added protection and convenience.

Ultimately, what we do with our stamps is a choice that each of us makes. How we treat our stamps now can influence their value in the future. Don't expect anything for your collection if you decide to use white glue to hold your stamps in place. And don't expect a big payback if you diligently mount each used Centennial stamp in an archival quality, individually cut hingeless mount. Whatever you end up doing, remember to enjoy the hobby.

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION

NOVA PEX 2018

National Stamp Exhibition & Bourse



**EAST DARTMOUTH
COMMUNITY CENTER**
50 CALEDONIA RD
DARTMOUTH, NS
LOCATED NEXT TO BEAZLEY FIELD AND
CALEDONIA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
SEPT 14 15 & 16, 2018

Exhibits Stamp Dealers
Souvenirs Group Meetings
Club Table Awards Banquet
Door Prizes Hourly Draws

Youth Day on Saturday with free stamps
and supplies for all youth participants

Hosted by the
Nova Scotia Stamp Club

www.nsstampclub.ca/novapex18.htm



HALIFAX EXPLOSION MARKING?

A reader submitted this May 1918 cover to Halifax inquiring about the marking - "UNDELIVERABLE / DEVASTATED SECTION" that appears to have been applied because the address was destroyed in the Halifax Explosion of 1917. He has not been able to find information on this or other auxiliary markings used in the aftermath of the explosion. If anyone has any information on this please forward it to the editor and we will pass it on.



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: Apr 14 and May 12.

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.

MARCOPHILY FUN 3

by Keith MacKay

The 1964-66 Provincial Flower & Coats-of-Arms issue is a great marcophily subject. This collection is a work-in-progress, looking for NWT & Yukon.

CLUB NEWS

As you all know, we had to cancel the March field trip to the Canada Post processing plant because of the threat of bad weather. Although it wasn't looking too bad at 3 PM, by 7 the cancellation looked like a wise move: blizzard conditions prevailed. We'll try to organize the trip again for next March.

At the April meeting, we are going to try an idea to help speed up the auction action. Each lot will have a sticky note attached. If you are interested in bidding on the lot, just put a check mark on the sticky note. Any lot without a check mark will be withdrawn from sale at the start of the auction. We'll try this once or twice to see if it moves things along.

We'll have two presentations at the April meeting. Bill Burden has promised an "entertaining" talk. Bob Bochner will give a short information session on stamp insurance available through the Royal and Hugh Woods Canada.

In the lead-up to Novapex 2018, we have arranged an exhibiting seminar at 1 pm on Saturday, April 21 for 3 hours, at the Novapex venue, the Dartmouth East Community Centre. The address is 50 Caledonia Road – next to the Beazley Sports Field and Caledonia Junior High School. There is a large parking lot to the right of the building where main entrance is. Entry to the room is via the parking lot side entrance where main desk is. You have to go down in the elevator or one flight of stairs to get to the room. Entrance at front of building is not used as it allows people into building without any security or membership control. This is a great opportunity to take the first steps towards exhibiting, or to pick up tips on how to improve your current exhibit.

If you have been thinking of exhibiting, but balk at the idea of putting together four or five 16 page frames of material, why not give a ONE FRAME exhibit a try? Jack Forbes is organizing the team one-frame competition, and is looking for recruits for an NSSC team. I think we already have teams from BNAPS and SP&M lined up. NSSC should defend the trophy we won last year!

Marcus Brauer has to pull back from moderating the NSSC Facebook page for the next couple of years. We need someone to take over the job. If you are tech semi-savvy, or just want to try your hand at this, please get in touch with Guy or another member of the Executive. We need the help!!

