



THE NOVA SCOTIA POST

A Special Summer Edition - Nova Scotia Stamp Club

July 2024
Volume 53, Issue 531

UP AND COMING

[NOVApex 2024- August 16 & 17](#)
East Dartmouth Community Centre

[BNAPEX 2024 Kingston - August 23-25](#)
St. Lawrence College, Kingston, ON

[Moncton Stamp Fair - September 14](#)
100 War Veterans Ave, Moncton, NB

[NS Stamp Club - September 10](#)
Annual General Meeting
Museum of Natural History

[Friends of Philately - September 19](#)
Museum of Natural History

[Royal*2024*Royale - September 20-22](#)
Fredericton, NB

[STAMPEX - November 2](#)
Michelin Social Club, Bridgewater, NS

Check out the status of other shows at
www.rpsc.org/shows.html or
www.csdaonline.com/shows

NSSC 2024 - 25 PROGRAM

We now have program openings for the 2024-25 season. Topics may include anything of philatelic interest and of about 30 +/- minutes in presentation length.

Bring a Show and Tell item to any meeting without prior notice - assuming a philatelic theme, any theme and any topic is acceptable.

If you have a newsletter item that you want to share please let us know. Serials are welcome. Topics may include a "Cover Story": a short rightup on a unique or interesting cover; feature article: about a page in length that addresses a philatelic topic, theme, or you collecting interest. Original work only please.

NOVAPEX 2024

August 16-17, 2024
East Dartmouth Community Centre
50 Caledonia Road
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

A Regional level stamp exhibition and bourse sponsored by the Nova Scotia Stamp Club.

Stamp collecting is a fulfilling hobby with very few rules, but it's actually much more than that. To many stamp collectors, it's a way to explore the world, its many different countries, their diverse history, beautiful artwork and colourful cultures. Novapex 2024 will be a fun filled event with Exhibits from all over Atlantic Canada along with a number of dealers to help you with your collecting needs.

Exhibits provide an insight into the hobby and tell a story using stamps, covers and other philatelic material. They show the interests of the exhibitors and can help new collectors find a focus on their collections and how to present or exhibit them. Novapex 2024 is a Royal Philatelic Society of Canada sanctioned regional event.

Plan now to attend and/or exhibit at NOVApex 2024, August 16 and 17, 2024 at the East Dartmouth Community Centre. Committee planning is now in the final stages. The NSSC website has been updated with NOVApex 2024 information including exhibit prospectus and entry forms, dealer forms, and other pertinent information. To date there are ten dealers registered. Watch the website in the coming weeks for information regarding the awards banquet, accepted exhibits and preview of what you will see at the show.

As of this writing, there are still plenty of exhibit spaces left but the deadline for exhibit entry is coming quickly. Exhibit entry forms must be received by the exhibits chair by July 26, 2024 and payment received no later than July 31. Later entries any not be accepted at the discretion of the Exhibition Committee. Title pages and synopsis should be ideally sent with entry form, however they may be submitted up to August 2.

Accommodations have also been made Dave Cooper Memorial team competition. Teams consists of 5 members each with a single frame entered in the exhibition.

For more information about the exhibits rules and entry forms please refer to the Novapex 2024 website: www.nsstampclub.ca/novapex24.htm

The Awards Banquet will once again be held at the Dartmouth Seniors Center featuring a delicious home cooked meal (turkey or beef), desserts (apple or peach) and all the trimmings. More details are on the Banquet form on the website (noted above) and may be used to confirm your place and meal choices by August 7.

We hope to see you on August 16 and 17 at Novapex 2024.

A SUMMER'S DAY ON THE NORTHWEST ARM - THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION, JULY 31 - AUGUST 3, 1889

by Paul R. Young young_pr@msn.com

135 years ago this summer, Canada's earliest organized philatelic club, the Canadian Philatelic Association (CPA), wrapped up their 2nd Annual Convention with a gala cruise on Halifax's Northwest Arm on Saturday August 3, 1889.¹ After the excursion, the twelve participants posed for a photo (Figure 1) arranged by my great-grandfather and the CPA's 2nd President Henry Hechler.² Photography was a side business for Hechler who had originally found work when he first arrived in Halifax in 1873 in a photographer's studio.



FIGURE 1 – August 1, 1889 Standing from Left to Right: Olaf Larsen, Harry Hart, J.A. Craig, J.E. DeWolfe, J.H. Crane, Frank Kaye, Sydney DeWolfe. Seated: D.A. King, 3 members from the U.S (with US flag): W.L. Emory, W.S. Stone, William Goodrich, and Henry Hechler on the far right.

The small turnout of only twelve for the meeting was not unusual. The APA (predecessor to the APS) had its 4th convention in St Louis that fall and only had 17 members present³ and when the CPA would meet again in Montreal in 1890, there were only 11 in attendance, one fewer than at the meeting in Halifax.⁴

The trip on the Northwest Arm received rave reviews in the Dominion Philatelist, which had taken over the role of the organization's official publication from the Halifax Philatelist that same summer:

I am informed on the highest authority that the picnic excursion to which the Halifax members entertained the visiting brethren on Saturday 4th, August, was very much enjoyed. The trip down the harbor and around the beautiful North West Arm must have been delightful in the fine government steam launch which was used for the occasion. Too much cannot be said in praise of the caterer for the party. He provided everything that could be desired, with a lavish hand. In fruits, there were oranges, bananas, pears. For drinks there was beer, ale, lemonade, soda, etc., etc., and to crown all, an elegant lunch. Even the President's weakness for Limburger was not forgotten. In fact, nothing was wanting to render the excursion one of the most pleasant we have heard described. The delegates indulged their fancies for mixed drinks to the fullest extent, even a decoction of lemonade with the limpid waters of the Nor. West arm was attempted with more or less success. But privately the writer is of the opinion that only the Maritime members indulged in the last-named compound, and attributes it to their superior knowledge of the best way of overcoming the much-dreaded Mal-de-mer probably on the principle of "swallowing a hair of the dog that bit you," or it is just possible that in the excitement of the moment they forgot that while in sight of freshwater, they were sailing on the briny deep. A very enjoyable feature of the days outing was a photograph of the party taken by our worthy president, Mr. Hechler, who is an amateur artist of considerable repute...Mention must also be made of another pleasing portion of the entertainment. I allude to the splendid singing with which the Halifax members regaled their guests upon the homeward trip. To particularize is perhaps unjust, but I feel that it is due the party to say that such a tenor as Mr. DeWolfe deserves special mention, while Mr. Crane with his deep, full bass, cannot be passed without a word, and then such a chorus when the rest of the party joined in. The visitors sat entranced (probably too full for utterance) as the beautiful melody echoed and re-echoed, far across the magnificent harbor.⁵

The photo from the outing does capture a bit of the fun of that afternoon. But in contrast to most of those in the photo who look jovial, Hechler reclining at the lower right in the photo, seems to be a million miles away.

The meeting had been disappointment for him as he was soundly defeated in his attempt at re-election to the Presidency, being bested by fellow Nova Scotian J.A. Craig, a druggist from Yarmouth. The tally was 52 votes for Craig to 21 for Hechler (in addition to the twelve members present, multiple members carried

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<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/>
webnews@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.

Membership is C\$15 per person (C\$20 US, C\$25 International) or C\$22.50 per couple.

Send new membership applications and renewal payments to...
NS Stamp Club c/o Jeff Parks
102 Birch Bear Run,
Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

A SUMMER'S DAY 1889 - CONTINUED

proxies for those not present).⁶ For most of the year leading up to the meeting in Halifax there had been a campaign in the Dominion Philatelist suggesting that the President should not be a stamp dealer and implying that Hechler was deriving a business benefit from the office. The campaign succeeded in turning the majority of the members against Hechler.

In addition to his discouragement over the outcome of the meeting, Hechler's mind may also have been elsewhere for in less than a week, on August 10th, he was to take the S.S. Damara from Halifax bound for London on a trip he had been planning for many months and that would be the one return trip of his lifetime to Europe and his native Germany.

In contrast to the CPA Convention, his European trip was a terrific success and Hechler reported taking orders for Canadian stamps nearly every day. After a week in London, where he met Stanley Gibbons, he next travelled to the World's Exposition in Paris where he visited the newly opened Eifel Tour before making his way to his hometown of Darmstadt Germany. Staying at the home of his older sister Käthe and her husband, he made Darmstadt his base of operations for his three-month visit which included side trips to many other cities including Leipzig, Vienna and Rome. He also made weekly visits to see his older brother Wilhelm who was living in Frankfurt am Main.

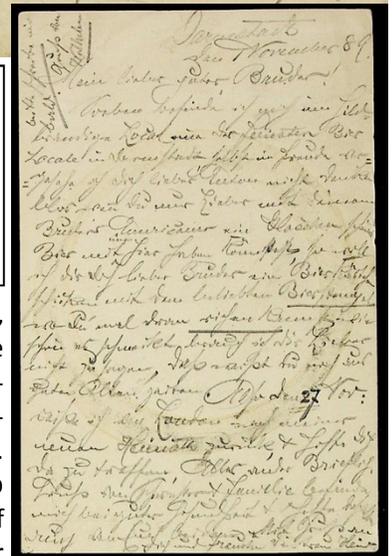
As was his custom when he travelled, he left self-addressed covers (Figure 2) at home for the family to use in sending him news.

In November before his return trip, he wrote to his younger brother Anton, then living in the Colorado mining town of St. Elmo – a ghost town today. Having a beer at Hildebrand's, a famous brewery, he used the post card as beer mat and wrote

that he hoped Anton could at least smell the good German beer. The faint circular outline of the beer stain is still visible on the card today (Figure 3).



FIGURE 3 – A Reichspost postal stationary card sent by Henry Hechler from Darmstadt Germany on November 1, 1889 to his brother Anton in St. Elmo, Colorado.



Before he left for Europe, Hechler put the affairs of the CPA in the hands of Craig asking him to fill in for the remaining months of his term.

But his relationship to this version of the CPA was never the same. The organization struggled over the next few years largely due to challenges in the exchange department which handled circuit books sent to members and also dwindling membership. Henry Hechler himself was dropped from the rolls in 1892 due to his failure to pay his

A Summer's Day 1889 continued on Page 4



FIGURE 2 – A cover sent from Halifax on Oct 9, 1889 to Henry Hechler, c/o his sister Käthe ("Fr. Glüber") who lived on Riedesselstraße in Darmstadt. The cover is addressed in Hechler's own hand. It arrived in London on the 19th and then in Darmstadt at day later on October 20th, 1889.



A SUMMER'S DAY 1889 - CONTINUED

dues. One can easily imagine his indifference to the fortunes of the CPA after his resounding and embarrassing defeat in the 1889 election. But when the CPA was resurrected in 1910 after two successor organizations (the Dominion Philatelic Association and the League of Canadian Philatelists) folded, Henry Hechler was selected to serve as the first President of the newly reconstituted society.⁸



¹ The tumultuous early years of the CPA have been described in a detailed monograph by Yves Drolet entitled "The Canadian Philatelic Association, an Historical Sketch 1887-1897". Charles Verge also provides a summary of these early years in his "125th Anniversary of Organized Philately in Canada," The American Philatelist, Vol. 126, No. 9 (September 2012): pp. 846-849. And Michael Peach provides additional background on a number of the Nova Scotians involved with the CPA in these years in "Early Philately in Nova Scotia", The Canadian Philatelist, Vol. 54., No. 6, Nov/Dec 2003, pp. 336-339.

² The photo and a report of the meeting was printed under the title "The Society in 1889" in The Hobbyist Vol II, No. 15, March 1910 (pp. 78-79). It appears again with a synopsis of the story from The Hobbyist in the Canadian Philatelist, Vol. XVII, No. 4 Jul/Aug 1966, p. 167

³ "Fourth Annual Convention of the American Philatelic Association" The American Philatelist, Vol. IV, No. 1, p. 1.

⁴ Drolet, p. 35.

⁵ The Dominion Philatelist Vol. 1, no. 9 (Sept. 1889), p. 6. There is a mistake in the quoted date. That Saturday was August 3rd and that is the day that the cruise took place, not the 4th. The correct date is given in The Hobbyist article.

⁶ Drolet, p. 30.

⁷ Drolet, p. 45.

⁸ Drolet, p. 62.

UPCOMING VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS - SUMMER 2024

You can register for the event via the host's website. Most of the groups listed have past presentations available to view through their websites, or YouTube. Times listed for the ATLANTIC DST.

British Empire Study Group (BESG):

July 25, 7 p.m., Jamie Smith,
"Enhanced Presentation of Sudan Military History"

August 15, 7 p.m., Ravi Vora,
"19th Century Indo-American History Through Philately"

September 12, 7p.m., Mike Blum and Natalia
"Cyanide and Stamps"

Collectors Club of New York:

September 4, 6:30 p.m., Omar Rodriquez, "Mexico"

North Toronto Stamp Club:

July 18 , 8 p.m., Ingo Nessel,
"Man Yee Arcade: Short-lived Hong Kong Branch Post Office"

August 15, 8 p.m., Klaus Hintz,
"Master Engraver Czeslaw Slania"

Postal History Society of Canada:

All past video presentations are available on their website

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC):

August 12, 8 p.m., Stamp Talk, Yan Turmine,
"Montreal Telegraph Company" (in French)

August 19, 8 p.m., Stamp Panel, You!, "Show and Tell,".

SPECIAL OFFER
for NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB
MEMBERS only

Members attending NOVApex 2024 will be eligible to receive \$20.00 in vouchers, to use anywhere on the Novapex Bourse.

New Memberships accepted at the door.




ROYAL * 2024 * ROYALE
September 20 - 22
du 20 au 22 septembre

Court of Honour / Cour d'honneur
Exhibits / Expositions
Dealers / Négociants
Social Events / Activités sociales
Tours / Excursions

Location / Lieu
Fredericton Inn
1315, rue Regent St.
Fredericton, NB
E3C 1A1 Canada

INFORMATION
Rob Lunn
(506) 460-2159
fredstampclub@gmail.com