

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB

BULLETIN

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Mailing address: P.O. Box 399, Edmonton AB T5J 2J6

Website: <http://www.edmontonstampclub.com>



CANADA 1924 xmas seal, veteran's association

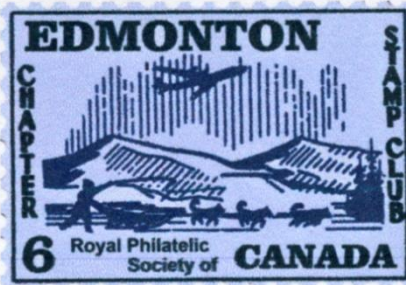
Seasons Greetings

Regular meetings

St. Joseph High School Cafeteria, 10830 - 109 Street, 6:00 pm

December 5th & 19th

January 9th & 23rd



The Edmonton Stamp Club dates back to 1912. The Club is Life Chapter #6 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and Chapter #680 of the American Philatelic Society. **The editor welcomes communications of all kinds—letters, comments and articles. Deadline, 25th day of each**

month. These may be forwarded to Fred Tauber, Edmonton Stamp Club, Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2J6, click “contact” on our website or email to fxtauber@shaw.ca

2016 - 2017 Board of Directors, etc.

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Advertising rate schedule: Full page \$30, half page \$18, quarter page \$10 per issue. Nonmembers, \$1.00 per line up to 5 lines. Ten issue discount 20%. Five issue discount 10%. Members, Free, up to 5 lines. Contact Fred Tauber at fxtauber@shaw.ca or Edmonton Stamp Club by mail.

Messages

SEASONS GREETINGS

The membership comes from many backgrounds and languages. There are also members who I am sure do not celebrate Christmas.



Merry Christmas

Joyeux Noël

Fröhliche Weihnachten

Felice Navidad

Gelukkige Kerst

RS

BEHIND THE SCENES

By Bill Vanderstelt

Have you ever wondered where the estate auction items come from, who selects them and prices them. Well we can thank our friend Bud Cutler for that. Bud puts a tremendous amount of hard work and effort into selecting and looking up catalogue values or estimated values for the 30 items he brings to our meetings every other week. He is currently working on about 30 estates some of which take 2 years or more before final settlement. Bud manages to make every auction interesting as well as maximum profit for the estate. Some very nice items show up at these auctions.

Jim Miller, an expert in evaluating estates often accompanies Bud in deciding if the club will except a collection. They work well together.

Bud has been a club member for 25 years and has taken on many important rolls. He was the club treasurer for 12 years during which time he also took care of the coffee. He currently helps out in the silent auction. And occasionally fills in as our auctioneer.

Bud's other activities include helping Jim Miller at Jim's dealer table at bourses all over western Canada. He has also assisted at the Wild Rose auctions for many years.

Bud received the distinguished service award for the Edmonton Stamp Club in 2007, A well-deserved award for a super guy.

Bill Vanderstelt

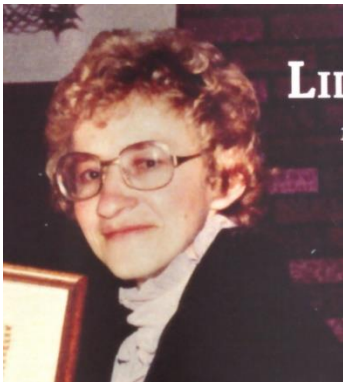
NOTICES

Edmonton Stamp Club National Spring Show 2017

March 25th & 26th, 2017
Central Lion's Recreational Centre
113 St & 111 Ave
(Large Gym – North end)
SEE PAGE 17

The Summer Auction Committee is now accepting
auction lots.

See Rod Verrier at any club meeting.



Lil Geddes (#2400) past away
October 16th, 2016.

The club sends condolences to her
husband, Gary Geddes. Lillian will be
remembered for her devotion to her
Savior, her family and friends.

(eBay)



CAN-23_U, (26 bids) \$38 CAN-28_U, (24 bids) \$34 CAN-46_U, (11 bids) \$30

Soaking Self Sticking Stamps

At a ESC meeting I was asked about my experiences soaking off used Canadian self- stick stamps. I have not checked on how many different forms of gum Canada Post has used since the introduction of the self- stick stamps but there has been several different gums used just from the way the different stamps have responded to soaking. The big factor in soaking self-stick stamps is the interface between the stamp and the gum. On many Canadian self- stick stamps when soaked in the traditional manner leaves a sticky mucus like remainder on the back of the stamp. On others (particularly the early “P” stamps) the gum just does not come off using tepid water and remains sticky.

I do not have the only practical solution to this problem but I have had success using the following process. I use HOT tap water. When the stamp has floated off the paper check the back of the stamp prior to placing it face down on the newspaper to dry. If there is the sticky mucus material on the back of the stamp I try to role it off. If I cannot get it all off the stamp or the back of the stamp is sticky I put it face down on a separate newspaper to dry. After the stamp is dried I use the chemical Bestine, solvent and thinner. Bestine is very volatile so use in a *well ventilated* space. I have to remember to ensure my ash tray with my pipe ashes is removed from the area. This chemical will go **BOOM**. I place the stamps in a glass/ceramic flat and wide container so I can use my tongs to pick up each stamp and use a GLASS eyedropper to wet down the back of the stamp then again put it down on newspaper to dry. The Bestine dissolves the glue and evaporates into the air. Again, check the back of the stamp and reuse the Bestine as necessary. It is good procedural practice to press all soaked stamps.



This process does not work on the \$5.00 Flag stamp # 2808i issued in 2015. I have tried without success to use the various chemicals suggested for use to remove gum that I have found in the

literature on this stamp. Has anyone had success getting this stamp off paper?

Richard Barnes

Post and Go Stamps – Great Britain

Bill Stone

Post and Go stamps, also called Faststamps are variable rate postage stamps printed on self-adhesive labels and sold by stamp vending machines by Royal Mail in the U.K. They are also sold by Jersey Post since 2014, Guernsey Post since 2015, Royal Gibraltar Post since 2015 and Q-Post (Qatar) since 2015.

The first trials were called Weigh and Vend and conducted in three post offices in 2004. Covering a range of postal services the apparent complexity and relative slowness deterred customers. Further trials were carried out in 2007 in nine locations using three different makes of machines (IBM, Fujitsu and Pitney-Bowes). These were replaced by Nixdorf machines in 2008 and 700 machines were installed nationwide. The NCR machine was introduced in 2014 and has replaced almost all of the Nixdorf machines in the U.K.



There are two main groups of Post and Go stamps:

(1) Those with service inscriptions and no explicitly imprinted value exist for letters and post cards of lowest weight sent by First Class mail, Second Class mail or Airmail. They can be printed on labels bearing an effigy of the Machin head or with a pictorial design and a silhouette of the Queen's head in one corner.

(2) A group for heavier letters and parcels where the service depends on weight. They are printed on labels with the Machin head design and no longer

show a "post by" date. Originally they had to be used no later than one day after purchase and were not supposed to be cancelled (this is in line with the usage of "Horizon" labels).

Pictorial Post and Go stamps include Birds of Britain, British Farm Animals, Freshwater Life, British Flora, Working Sail, Royal Mail Heritage Transport, Ladybirds and the Union Flag. Jersey has issued stamps showing the country's flag as well as a set showing protected animals while all the stamps of Guernsey and Gibraltar show their flag. The stamps of Qatar show the country's coat of arms.

Nest page



The first six figures in the code printed in the lower left corner of the stamps correspond to the vending machine from which the stamps were sold.

There is some controversy among collectors as to whether these are

stamps or just postage labels. The criteria for a postage stamp are:

- ~ Issued by the country's official postal administration.
- ~ Issued to be used by the general public, businesses or postal staff.
- ~ Shows the amount paid or the service paid for.
- ~ Shows the originating country name or a symbol indicating the country.
- ~ Has the characteristics generally associated with postage stamps - Queen's head, perforation and phosphor but may be missing one or more of these characteristics for operational reasons (some Machins do not have phosphor).



A large variety of Post and Go stamps have been issued since inception in 2008. One U.K. stamp dealer (Arthur Ryan & Co.) lists many of these on their website. Scott's catalogue does not list these stamps - Stanley Gibbons lists some but not all of them.

Horizon Labels

An "Horizon Label" is an adhesive postage label that is a type of variable value stamp. They were introduced in the U.K. in 2002 as part of the computerization of the counter services of the post office network. The first labels were large plain labels composed largely of text but later labels are of a gold colour with a Machin head and a repeated pattern of the words ROYAL MAIL to prevent forgery.



Initially the labels received a frosty reception from collectors fearing they would replace postage stamps but as they have become more complex they have now become a popular collecting specialism in the U. K. and an established part of British postal history.

(eBay)



GERMAN_MONTENEGRO-3NB7_MNH, occupation, Michel 29, (9 bids) \$16

GER_MONTENEGRO-3NB8_MNH, occupation, Michel 30, (7 bids) \$15

GER_MONTENEGRO-3NB9_MNH, occupation, Michel 31, (5 bids) \$15



GER_MONTENEGRO-3NC1_MNH, occupation, Michel 33, (6 bids) \$15

GER_MONTENEGRO-3NC2_MNH, occupation, Michel 34, (6 bids) \$19



GERMAN_MONTENEGRO-3NC3_MNH, occupation, Michel 35, (11 bids) \$30

Who Was GOOD KING WENCESLAS?

by: Raymond W. Ireson



Which of you is not familiar with the popular carol “Good King Wenceslas”? But how many of you know the true story behind that carol? I’d like to tell you about it ... The words of the carol tells us that the aforementioned good king was looking out of his castle and saw a poor man foraging for firewood in the forest. In an act of Christian charity, Wenceslas decides to spread the Christmas cheer and sets off with his page, into the cold and the dark, to make sure the wretch enjoys himself to the full. But who was the real-life inspiration for the saintly monarch, and was good King Wenceslas as good as the carol would have us believe? Well, first of all you can discard the narrative from the carol as fact, as it was invented by the Victorian caroler, J.M. Neale, in 1853. But, you’ll be relieved to hear that Wenceslas did at least exist, although he wasn’t a king. He was actually a duke, but you could call him a prince if you were feeling generous. Born circa AD 907, in Stochov near Prague, in what is now the Czech Republic, he was the ruler of the principality of Bohemia. He was raised as a Christian by his grandmother, Saint Lyudmila. His mother, Drahomira, was a pagan, and ruthlessly ambitious. She had Lyudmila murdered and then ruled as regent herself until Wenceslas came of age. However, intrigue plagued her court and a desire on the behalf of the populace to see an end to the conflicts between the Christian and non-Christian factions within the region led to Wenceslas taking the reigns of government himself. As a mark of his Christian upbringing, it is said that Wenceslas took a vow of virginity and that German missionary priests, seeking to make Bohemia Christian, enjoyed his wholehearted support.

next page



By AD 929 Christianity was spreading throughout Bohemia, but Wenceslas' own converting zeal upset his non-Christian rivals. That same year, faced with the threat of invasions from Germany, Wenceslas submitted to the German King, Henry I. This upset the nobles still further, who then plotted to get rid of him. These same nobles colluded with Wenceslas' own brother, Boleslav, who waylaid him on his way to mass. Boleslav cut him down at the door to the church, hacking him to pieces. Wenceslas was only twenty-two years old. Almost as soon as he was buried, there came reports of miracles taking place at Wenceslas' tomb. In AD 932, fear of reprisals from beyond the grave, the superstitious Boleslav had his dead brother's remains disinterred and moved to the Church of Saint Vitus, in Prague itself. The church was a popular pilgrimage site during Medieval times and eventually became a cathedral. Wenceslas himself was canonized and made patron saint of Bohemia.



Raymond W. Ireson FRPSC, he is the editor of the Lakeshore Stamp Club Inc. newsletter, "The Shoe Box". He joined our Club (#2468) in 2014. Ray won the Grand Award at the 1994 Royal show. The winning exhibit was titled "The Panama Canal Story". The frames were scanned and will be published in future issues of the Bulletin. Ray was kind enough to send your editor many articles from his tenure as the editor of The Shoe Box. Many, many thanks to Ray.

Meeting Dates

The Edmonton Stamp Club meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of St. Joseph High School, 10830 - 109 Street. Park to the north of the school and use the main entrance at the south-east corner of the school. For information about the club call 780-451-0420 or 780-437-1787.

2016

December 5th, 19th

Spring Show

March 25 & 26, 2017

2017

January 9th, 23rd

February 13th, 27th

March 13th, 20th

April 10th, 24th

May 8th, 15th, 29th

June 12th (elections)

Summer Meeting July 31st

Edmonton BNAPS (British North America Philatelic Society) meets from time to time. All BNAPSers welcome. For information contact David Piercey at 780-437-2771 or Steven Friedenthal at 780-458-1233.

Obituary

(Reprinted from The Times, of London)

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

- * Knowing when to come in out of the rain
- * Why the early bird gets the worm
- * Life isn't always fair
- * Maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher

next page

fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children. It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses, and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense

Truth and Honesty, Discretion, Responsibility, Reason was preceded in death by his parents, by his wife, by his daughter, and his son. He is survived by his four stepbrothers: **I Know my Rights, I Want it Now, Someone Else is to Blame, and I'm a Victim.**

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone. If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing.

(eBay)



LUXEMBOURG-8_MH, (14 bids) \$32

LUXEMBOURG-12_U, (16 bids) \$22

LUXEMBOURG-21a_MH, (21 bids) \$30

LUXEMBOURG-25_U, (16 bids) \$15

Profit-making collectibles

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(Continued from November 2016)

USA 1873 23c Lost Continental – \$325,000

A fabled American stamp, the Lost Continental is the only known example of the 24 cents General Wilfred Scott that was printed by the Continental Banknote Company – the stamp's rarity justifies its high value.



Hong Kong 1941 \$2 Inverted Dr Sun Yat-sen – \$353,500

Dr. Sun Yat-sen's head was printed upside down on just one sheet of \$2 Hong Kong stamps in 1941. A total of 50 stamps feature the error but only two vertical pairs remain in existence – this pair achieved \$707,000 at auction in 2012.



UK 1840 Penny Black Heath Proof – \$400,000

More worthy of a public museum than a private collection, this excellent example of a Frederick Heath-engraved Penny Black proof has been described as “one of the major exhibition pieces of world philately”. It is available to buy from Stanley Gibbons.



next page



China 1953 800Y Blue Military – \$428,700

This Chinese military stamp was recalled when the authorities realized the paper was slightly transparent and there was a risk that confidential information contained within secret correspondence could be seen through the envelope. Only a few of these valuable stamps remain.



UK 1840 Master Die Proof Penny Black – \$429,000

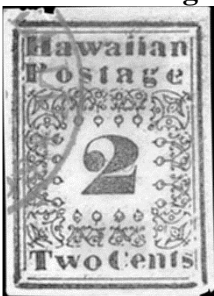
The Daddy of Penny Black stamps, Stanley Gibbons is selling a master proof of this world first. Just three Penny Black master proofs are in private hands – the other three are in the Royal Philatelic Collection and the United States National Postal Museum.



China 1897 2c Red Maiden in the Green Robe – \$444,000

The legendary 1987 Red Revenue, aka the Red Maiden in the Green Robe, was issued as a temporary measure during currency reforms – the 2 cents face value was overprinted with green ink. Very few exist and the last one that came up for auction went for \$444,000.

Kingdom of Hawaii 1851 2c Hawaiian Missionaries – \$450,000



The Hawaiian Missionaries is the name given to the first stamps issued by the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1851. A mere handful of these covetable stamps exist. Needless to say, they are each worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.



China 1968 8f The Whole Country is Red – \$475,000

This Chinese stamp was recalled within a day of issue after it was discovered islands in the South China Sea were missing and the borders of the People's Republic were incorrectly depicted. A few slipped through the net, and they fetch a fortune these days.



Canada 1851 12d Black – \$488,900

While it's not the rarest Canadian stamp, the 1851 12d Black is the most valuable. Only a handful of specimens remain and the few that come on the market command colossal prices of anything up to \$488,900.



UK 1863 Penny Red Plate 77 – \$600,000

This example of the rare Plate 77 Penny Red stamp was sold by Stanley Gibbons for \$600,000 earlier this year. Plate 77 stamps were considered poor quality at the time and all examples were supposed to have been destroyed. The five that miraculously survived are regarded as the holy grail of British philately.



USA 1918 24c Inverted Jenny – \$977,500

In 1918, the Curtiss JN-4 airplane was accidentally printed upside down on 100 24-cent stamps. A super-valuable error stamp, the famous Inverted Jenny can fetch up to just shy of \$1 million at auction.

Netherlands on eBay



#3_U, (14 bids) \$49 #29_MH, (11 bids) \$38 #48_MH, (11 bids) \$34



#52_MH, (14 bids) \$63 #80_MH, (17 bids) \$30 #84_MH, (27 bids) \$66



#B466A_MNH, (13 bids) \$38

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB 2017 SPRING NATIONAL STAMP SHOW



Mar 25-26, 2017

Saturday 10-5pm, Sunday 10-4pm

- LOCATION -

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113 St & 111 Ave**

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(eBay)



HAWAII-11_MNG, (23 bids) \$195
HAWAII-23_MNG, (32 bids) \$190



HAWAII-28_U, (30 bids) \$202
HAWAII-73_MNG, (27 bids) \$58

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CAN-106_Post Card, Muskoka Free Hospital 1912 xmas seal, Jan 1913 to Germany, (2 bids) \$46 (eBay)

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