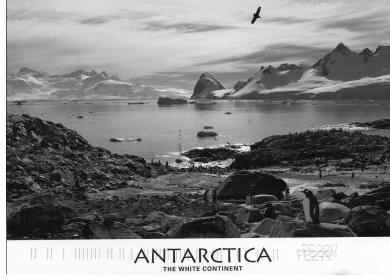
EDMONTON STAMP CLUB

BULLETIN

Volume 101, Number 4 April 2013 ISSN: 0046-1318 Mailing address: P.O. Box 399, Edmonton AB T5J 2J6 Web site: http://www.edmontonstampclub.com



Postally used view card from British Antarctic Territory, courtesy of Tom Savage. For details see page 12.

Regular meetings: Apr 8 & 22, May 6 & 27, June 10 St. Joseph High School Cafeteria, 10830 - 109 Street, 6:30 pm

Summer Meeting, 29 July 2013, Chateau Louis Conference Centre

Editor: Alan Meech

E.S.C. BULLETIN Volume 102, Number 4

The Edmonton Stamp Club

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, comment and articles. These may be forwarded to Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2J6 or ameech@telusplanet.net.

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Greetings, Philatelists!

I feel that these words of mine have as much worth as our late, lamented coppers, but after dodging Alan for two issues, I could not refuse his request for some more "space-filler" for the current issue of our fine Bulletin. Don't be sad, though, because you could always quickly skim down the page until you see the words "President Pete" and then resume reading the really good stuff. It works for me.

On a serious note, though, I will have to state publicly that the Edmonton Stamp Club's 2013 Spring National Stamp Show was a success due to the efforts of Ed Dykstra, our able vice-president. He organized a committee to help with all the varied tasks that need to be attended to, and still ended up doing a lot of it himself. Kelly Liusz Moser brought together a panel of judges who were impressed with the quality of the exhibits on display. Awards were plentiful at the wine and cheese soirée that Saturday night after Ken Tingley presented us with an entertaining program and slide show on the history of the High Level Bridge, our Edmonton landmark.

Our club members put in all sorts of hours—manning the club table, helping erect the frames-assisting Carol Warren with the circuit booksmounting and removing the pages and pages of exhibits-helping Linda Greenley with the juniors at their table–I'm sure you get the idea. The time these volunteers offer and the dedication that they bring to their commitment is invaluable to our club and its reputation. More than once I heard people compare our show to others that they had been to, and they preferred ours. Not all the people who attended were club members, but the Spring Show does give our club a chance to show the public what we do in private and perhaps entice a few of them into joining our modest organization. My gratitude goes out to all club members who worked so hard to make this show the success it was.

The dealers at the Spring Show pay a goodly sum of currency for their table rental in order to display their offerings, to allow us to peruse and, hopefully, purchase some of them. For some, dealing with philatelic material is their life's profession while others came to the business after a career in another field. Some see their dealings as a part-time endeavour while others will criss-cross the country reaching out to collectors wherever they can get the opportunity.

(continued on page 5)



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Check out our web site and follow the links to our current offerings on E-Bay!

(Greetings, Philatelists!, continued)

Dealers regularly give our club bags of stamps for the juniors, offer giveaway prices on the kiloware we organize for our members, and even donate stockbooks, albums, and binders filled with stamps for the club to auction. We get a chance to buy quality wares and the club receives the monetary benefits. Yes, we do have quality dealers at our shows.

This time, one of our dealers, one of our members, was stung at our show. It hurts to say that in our city someone would walk off with a box of material that does not belong to them, but it did happen and I wish I could say it was just a misunderstanding. I wish I could. This puts a cloud over all Ed and his able troop of volunteers were able to accomplish and that is not how I would like to remember our efforts.

Our club members have their own opportunity to become dealers at the May 6 meeting, but Carol warns that there are very few tables left at this point. If you do not wish to sell at a table, then perhaps you would like to consider being the customer because I am sure you will find deals that night. Come see what you can uncover for your collection.

Congratulations are in order for Ed Muxlow, who was presented with the Distinguished Philatelist of the Year award by the Edmonton Stamp Club at the Sping Show. Unfortunately, Ed is dealing with serious health issues at this time and was unable to receive his award at the awards ceremony. We wish him all the best with a speedy recovery so that he will soon be able to return to our fold. It's tough to find a good philatelist and when you do, you don't want to let go.

We're approaching the end of our season and I would entreat all who have managed to hang in there and read all that I've typed to consider putting their hand in the air in the coming months for a position on our board of directors.

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If we can recruit two or three conscientious members each year, those who have served for a number of years may be offered a chance to take a respite, as well as pass on the knowledge they have gained, by acting as a mentor to a new Board members. I believe our club can grow but only with the commitment of our individual members. Yes, we would welcome you to our meetings and may even find your ideas adopted as club policy before your first year is over. Put your hand up and give it a shot. We'll be glad you did. Elections are on June 10.

My final thought before I send this out into the world beyond my computer is to remind you all that the year-end for our club is June 30. After that date, your club membership fees are due. Please see Rob Schutte for details. I contend that for the expenditure, you get excellent value. \$25 can get you a movie ticket, popcorn, and a pop, all of which are gone within a few hours. That same \$25 will allow you twelve months of pleasure with these little bits of paper and the enjoyable company of all who share your passions for stamps. I'd call it a "nobrainer" but some people feel I have a bias. I won't deny it.

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(Greetings, Philatelists, concluded)

There! You've made it to the end. I can't guarantee that you've become smarter but you have definitely aged while you've been reading these words. I just hope it doesn't show too much. All the best until we cross paths again. Yours truly, \Box

President Pete

That's It, I Quit!

I received my Scott new issues update today. I found out from the U.S. catalogue that at least 15 stamps were issued in 2012 that I was completely unaware of. Now I have received the Canada Post publication *details* and I usually am on the phone to the National Philatelic Centre in Antigonish to either get a stamp/souvenir sheet or complete sets that are not available from either the Edmonton Main Post Office or from my local postal outlet. When I asked the Philatelic Centre if I had missed anything, I was told, "no." Now Scott informs me that in November 2012 a set issued in packs of 12 different sets, Scott #2586-2579 (see illustration) was made available to the public. The first day covers are dated 15 November 2012. This series was also used for personalized photograph stamps.

November 16-24, personalized stamps (I assume the same basic design) were offered for sale on iPod and iPhone apps at the P, \$1.05, \$1.29 and \$1.80 rates. Oh yes, I do not have those electronic gadgets. How was this advertised to the public?

On November 24, these 12 different stamps were offered to customers on the Picture Postage Page of the Canada Post web site. Well, I did search and three layers into the web site I did find this page. I could not get it



to sell me just the stamps that I wanted. The site wanted me to send them a photograph to they could produce the very much more personalized stamps. This perhaps is my lack of knowledge. The pack of 12 different stamps does not appear to be available. Only booklets of ten stamps with a minimum of 3 booklets of the same design are available, or sheets of 26 or sheets of 50 are now available. I could not see on this site any sign of the iPod and iPhone stamps.

How can I complete a 2012 year set of Canadian stamps when Canada Post excluded me from the advertising of a select few new issues? Why is this happening? This is the third time a stamp or set of stamps issued by Canada Post was not advertised to the public. It is difficult to get stamps five months after the date of issue. Perhaps Canada Post is telling me to stop collecting Canadian stamps. They are definitely not interested in selling me all the issues put out by Canada Post.

As a follow-up I called Antigonish the next morning. The gentleman I talked to did not know what I was talking about unless I could supply the product number for this 12-stamp set. I got him on the web site, where he finally did locate this set. Yes, he could just sell me the regular non-personalized stamps. He did find the pack of the 12 stamp set selling for \$7.32 plus \$2.00 handling.

As a follow-up, I received my April-June copy of *details* today. On page four is a kind of ad for this set of 12 different stamps. If I was not growling about this set right now, I would not have recognized it. It does not say anything about the different stamp designs—it is selling personalized postage. On pages 22 to 24 there are ads for commemorative envelopes. The designs for this set of stamps are being used to make the specialized postage for these six envelopes. Are they using an actual stamp now, as they did with the Turtle stamp, or are they using the traditional method of printing the postage design onto the envelope? \Box

Richard T. Barnes



Volume 102, Number 4 E.S.C. BULLETIN 9 10 E.S.C. BULLETIN Volume 102, Number 4

Demon Definitives

©Peter F R Kirchmeir (31 December 2012)

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britian (PGJB) is giving me no end of joy. When Keith Spencer offered them for sale at a recent stamp club meeting under the cry of: "There's plenty of good reading in them!" I was sure he was correct. Once I started reading them, in chronological order, I was pleased—lots of detailed and enlarged diagrams and photographs; I was amused—some pseudonyms such as P. Air made me laugh; I was enlightened—much great detail about issues which now interest and formerly didn't; and I sometimes gnashed my teeth, especially when curmudgeonly opinions repeatedly appeared. On the latter I have already written. The same topic has come up again a few years later, to wit; "What is allowed in a proper stamp collection?"

Hippocrates Beer, in the *PJGB* Oct.-Dec. 1960, Vol. LXX, Nos 838-840, pp. 87-88, in *Drawing the Line*, towards the end of his opinions (read; "rant") writes, and I quote:

"One of the placebos of philately is that it is everybody's hobby and that every collector should be free to collect what he or she pleases. It does...harm!"

This comes after a longish demolition of new pictorials, labels, stamps of Herm, Brunei, Clipperton Island, and local posts amongst other stamp issuing places and forgeries, cinderellas and bogus items.

I just had to find out about Clipperton Island [Île de Clipperton or Île de la Passion]. It is one of those overlooked places. I have never seen a stamp from that place. It is an "uninhabited 9 km square coral reef in the eastern Pacific ocean, an overseas possession of France.1" Who knew?



There are ten values, in presumed cents and dollars, U.S., in various colours. The place name is above an aerial depiction of the atoll, and below and on each side is the value, between which is "postage". Only 200 stamps of the \$1.00 were issued. Naturally these are scarce, as is also the fifty-cent stamp. The Clipperton stamps are proved postally used from 23 July, 1895 to 12 May, 1896. Any envelope usually has US stamps as well as Clipperton values.²





8 cent value, gray

\$1 value, black

So much for Clipperton Island.

He goes on to say; "It would surely be in the best interests of our mutual hobby if each and every collector would learn to draw that line, firmly, and in the right place!"

I totally agree with him: we must draw a line firmly; those who collect labels should not confuse the issue with return envelopes; those who collect etiquettes should not cloud the topic with airmail stamps; and those of us who collect any topic, must put some firm limits to it, otherwise the collection becomes impossible to manage. I myself collect Non-profit self-printed stamp meters from the USA. I like them because they have to mention the charity that uses them. Try finding an ASPCA imprint from California (easy) and then one from Connecticut (difficult).

Once again – happy hunting. \Box

Sources

- l http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cllipperton_Island
- 2 http://www.thepostalgazette.com/issues/26/Clipperton_Stamps.pdf

What Year Is It in Watrous, SK?

Ernie Wlock has spotted a series of cancels from Watrous, SK, that make you wonder what happened there in 1996.



Regular post office cancel, dates and year in proper order, 22 July 1996.



The year, 1996, is inverted, dated 26 August 1996.



The year, 1996, is inverted, dated 9 September 1996.

Was the year inverted for the full span of 15 days? When was the first day the cancel was inverted, and when was the error caught and corrected. It appears from these examples that the year was inverted for a minimum of 15 days. \Box

Ernie Wlock

Renos with Jeff Pacey



In an earlier issue of the Bulletin, Jeff Pacey showed us some stamps that he found wedged under baseboards in an older house that he is renovating. Well, his discoveries continue. Here's a post card he found in a heating duct, dated 1969. It's a

typical British sea front view, with Austin and Hillman cars in the foreground. The cancel is unclear but it may be from a seaside resort town in Somerset that has a district called "The Front" in a town called Parkgate. The cancel is not "Parkgate".

Of course that proves little, for we have all bought a post card in one town and taken it onward on our journey and written the message and posted the card in our next stop on the way when the weather was better or the pubs were open.

Jeff also notes that 2013 is the centenary of the establishment of Canberra, and of the first postage stamps of the united dominion, which showed the famous kangaroo image. This was a bit cheeky as protocol should have made the first image that of the reigning monarch. \Box

Antarctica Post Card

The card shown on the cover of this issue was cancelled (very carefully) at Port Lockroy, which Wikipedia tells us is a natural harbour on the north-west shore of Wiencke Island in Palmer Archipelago. It was established as a military base during World War II, and continued to operate as a



British research station until 1962. In 1996 the base was renovated and converted to a museum and post office operated by the United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust. I'd guess the most frequently used stamps from this place are those at the international post card rate. \Box

Biography of a Stamp Collection

(continued from Vol 102, No. 1-2)

I also subscribed again at the various philatelic agencies, now also including the three different regions of the French occupied zone. My dear father did the same for me in East Berlin for DDR stamps, until he passed away in 1967.

But there was no time for stamps during the first several years, after our emigration to Canada. I biographer think it was in early 1961, when things changed drastically. I met Tom Mercer, a once colourful figure in Edmonton's philatelic community. I could have bought more copies of the famous



Siegfried Osterwoldt, our

Volume 102, Number 4 E.S.C. BULLETIN 13

"Blue Nose" from him, but I was still fairly ignorant about older Canadian stamps. I remember I bought once one used "Blue Nose" for \$2.35. I finally found a bit more time for my hobby...and a bit more money to spend on it. I ran into Sien Maky who persuaded me to collect the "Europe" special issues, but I did that for two years only.

I was invited to the Edmonton Stamp Club meetings in the old public library, opposite from the Macdonald Hotel. There, I saw some 20 older gentlemen bent over circuit books with Canada-only stamps, a cloud of tobacco smoke hanging over their heads. Not really for me, I thought, but later that year, I joined anyway. It was good I did. Shortly after, in a circuit book from the Oregon Stamp Club, I found stamps of the old German states at reasonable prices. Ernie Christensen, who took care of the books at that time, allowed me to take that book home and, with agreement of my dear wife Eva, I spent over \$100 on some of those stamps. And \$100 was a lot of money for us in those days.

I had a fair stock of German stamps from the 1950s. They had been retrieved from food parcels I had sent from Hamburg in 'the West' to my parents in East Germany. Their catalogue value had gone up quite a bit. Thinking new issues would be a wise investment, I increased by subscription for new issues of West Germany and of West Berlin considerably. But I was not the only collector trying to be smart, because now they printed 30,000,000 of every new issue, instead of only 5,000,000 or less, as they had done before when people didn't have much money to spare for stamps, leaving the catalogue values for the newer issues at rock bottom.

I was always hoping that at least one of our children would also get interested in collecting stamps. Ralph and Renata tried for a while, but they gave up again soon after. But meanwhile I had set up my "second collections" of post-war Germany, West and East, mostly mint. After my father had passed away, a new stamp trading partner, Tassilo Link in Quedlinburg, supplied me with those many new issues of the DDR, in exchange for Canadian stamps. I even met Tassilo personally in Magdeburg during our visit in 1967. But by 1972 I got tired of the prevalent political tendencies shown on the DDR stamps. With sincere regret on Tassilo's part, I ended my stamp connection with the DDR.

(To be continued)

14 E.S.C. BULLETIN Volume 102, Number 4

2013 Coming Events

May 4-5	Orapex, Ottawa's national level stamp show, at the RA Curling Centre. General information is available from Stéphane Cloutier at (613) 741-1005 or see web site at www.orapex.ca.	
May 24-26	PIPEX 2013, Red Lion Hotel on the River at Jantzen Beach, Portland, OR. For full details go to web site at www.pipex.show.org.	
Jun 21-22	Royal 2013 Royale, hosted by Winnipeg Philatelic Society. Other societies attending are Scandinavian Collectors Club and the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society. Contact Al Wingate for information; al.wingate@shaw.ca.	
Jul 29	Edmonton Stamp Club Summer Meeting, Chateau Louis Conference Centre. Details at meetings.	
Sep 21-22	Edmonton Stamp Club Fall Stamp Market, Fantasyland Hotel Conference Centre, West Edmonton Mall	



This is quite a large format commemorative from Belgium, having something to do with air lines and airport control towers and a rather lightly clad stewardess. (Yes, in 1993 we still had not adopted "flight attendant" as the standard non-gendered term.)

Any guesses as to what this is about? The Belgian airline, SABENA, was in financial difficulties at the time. Was this image an

enticement to fly their planes?

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2013 Meeting Dates

 ${
m T}$ he Edmonton Stamp Club meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of St. Joseph High School, 10830 - 109 Street. Because of recent concerns about school security, entrance to the school is from the main doors on the southeast corner of the building. For information about the regular club call 451-0420 or 437-1787; for the junior clubs, phone Linda at 913-1244.

Apr 2 & 16 & 30; May 14 & 28, Jun 11

Summer Meeting: July 29, 2013 Elections: 10 June 2013.

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Volume 102, Number 4