

## PRESIDENT SID'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

Our final in-person meetings for the 2022/23 philatelic year were times to recognize exhibiting accomplishments, years of membership dedication to the club and the value of volunteerism.

Congratulation to Bob Timberg on receiving the RPSC volunteerism certificate and pin. Bob's efforts to build the hobby locally and his many years as editor our WTSC Bulletin are most noteworthy. His recent submissions of postal history articles have added to the richness and depth of our last two Bulletins. With the recovery of his health, Bob looks forward to again taking on the responsibility of the WTSC Monthly Bulletin and I too, though I have enjoyed it, look forward to relinquishing this responsibility.



President Sid presenting Bob with his RPSC Volunteer Certificate and Pin.



Ongoing active commitment and dedication to the WTSC are also most noteworthy. Congratulations to our newest Distinguished Loyal Member, Ferdinand Olde Weghuis. He has been a member of the WTSC for 25 years. Ferdinand is an eager auction participant, serious student of the hobby and encourages others as he enthusiastically participates in all aspects at our regular meetings.

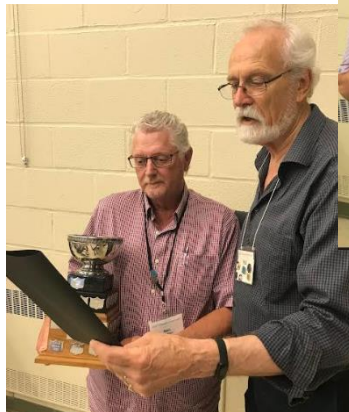
Ferdinand receiving his 25-year membership certificate.

Congratulations were extended to our three most deserving 2022/23 WTSC Exhibition winners, who received their engraved Trophies and Certificates and a free WTSC 2023/24 membership at our most recent meeting.

- **David Gooderham** -Everett Drake Trophy ~ Single Frame Exhibit,
- **Ben Heintzberger** - Ted Allen Trophy ~ Multi-Page Exhibit
- **Aulis Narhi** - Frank Alusio Trophy ~ Single Page Exhibit



David receiving his trophy and certificate.



Ben receiving his trophy and certificate.



Aulis receiving his trophy and certificate.

Even though we have come to the end of the WTSC 2022/23 year, we will continue our informative online Learning Workshop and Discussion Group programs this summer. See details on pages 2 and 4.

Please note - Our first meeting for the 2023/24 club year will be an in-person meeting to take place Tuesday Sept 12.

I look forward, as I am sure you do, to a restful summer with opportunities to catch up on personal philatelic projects and to participate in other summer family activities.

## **JULY/ AUGUST - PHILATELIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR WTSC MEMBERS AND GUESTS**



**July 4 - LEARNING WORKSHOP, 7 p.m. via Zoom, “A Red-Hot Topic”**

**July 18- DISCUSSION GROUP, 7 p.m. via Zoom, “The Postal History and Examples of Usage of Low Value Definitives”**

**August 4 - LEARNING WORKSHOP, 7 p.m. via Zoom, “One-on-One.”**

**August 15 - DISCUSSION GROUP, 7 p.m. via Zoom, “Canada’s First Issue: The Large Queens of 1868”**

## **UPCOMING DISCUSSION GROUP TOPICS**

### **July 18, 2023**

#### **“The Postal History and Examples of Usage of Low Value Definitives”**

This Discussion Group meeting will be a ‘Show & Tell’ type of event supported by contributions from the attendees.

Every nation or stamp issuing entity produces sets of definitive stamps – the workhorse of the philatelic world – in which there is usually a planned purpose for each value in the set.

For this meeting, attendees are being asked to select any definitive issue from anywhere in the world and show the postal use (or uses) of the low value of the set.

To simplify viewing, we ask that nothing be held up to the camera but that the item(s) be scanned and shown as a PowerPoint. If You don’t have PowerPoint please send your scans to either Garfield [garfield.portch@gmail.com](mailto:garfield.portch@gmail.com) or Sid [sidmensinga@gmail.com](mailto:sidmensinga@gmail.com) for inclusion in a combined presentation.

### **August 15, 2023**

#### **“Canada’s First Issue: The Large Queens of 1868”**

The subject for this evening’s discussion was requested by a member during the Town Hall meeting in May. This too will be a ‘Show & Tell’ type of event supported by contributions from the attendees.

Attendees are invited to create a PowerPoint presentation of some of the interesting aspects of their Large Queen holdings (stamps or postal history).

Attendees are also invited to ask questions or initiate conversations on the subject.

## EXHIBITING EXCELLENCE

# EUROPHIL 2023 in Saint Pierre and Miquelon

EUROPHIL 2023 was organised by the European Academy of Philately (AEP) on Saint Pierre of Saint Pierre and Miquelon this past month. The event was an international level competitive exhibition of one-frame exhibits, under AEP patronage. It was open to the members of the AEP, the American Philatelic Society, and the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

**Congratulations to the following WTSC members on their exhibiting excellence,** as reported in the Europhil palmeres.

- STELMACOVICH Mark - The 'KLCs' Kyiv's Souvenir Sheet and Usage, 1992-1995 - 78 points
- STELMACOVICH Mark - Kyiv Oblast Original Design Utilitarian Postage Stamps, Wrapper and Usage, 1992-1995 - 79 points
- HOUDE Michel - A Family Correspondence Between Saigon/Bangkok/Russia and France 1883 to 1921 - 79 points
- REDNER Gregg - The Evolution of Port-Payé Auxiliary Markings on Pre-Philatelic Belgian Mail - 87 points



Ingo congratulating Mark and presenting him with his Europhil medal.

- NESSEL Ingo - Queen Elizabeth 5c Wilding Definitive of Hong-Kong - 86 points
- HEDGER Don - Epic of Vimy - A Canadian Pilgrimage - 85 points



Ingo congratulating Don and presenting him with his Europhil medal.

As well, a big thank you and congratulations to Ingo Nessel, the Canadian Commissionaire representing Canada at this exhibition. Also, as commissionaire Ingo took responsibility for all aspects of bringing/getting all the Canadian exhibits to and from the exhibition, mounting them and ensuring their security. Ingo's dedication and excellence in executing this responsibility is most commendable and definitely noteworthy.

## SUMMER PHILATELIC EXPLORATION

**Are you or do you have an interest in becoming a topical / thematic collector/exhibitor?**

Be sure to review Dr. Jean Wang's superb presentation "The Art of Building a Thematic Collection" to help you get started.

[http://www.westtorontostampclub.org/resources/df\\_WTSCDG\\_sm\\_The\\_Art\\_Of\\_Building\\_A\\_Thematic\\_Collection.mp4](http://www.westtorontostampclub.org/resources/df_WTSCDG_sm_The_Art_Of_Building_A_Thematic_Collection.mp4)

Stamps can help tell some amazing stories. Enjoy!!!!

- American Topical Association, My One-Page Exhibit! (Not judged) <https://ataexhibits.com>
- British Thematic Association, One Page Virtual Competition 2022 exhibits: <https://britishthematic.org.uk/gallery/bta-one-page-virtual-competition-2023.htm>
- Exponet: select exhibits by territory, subject, time period or class, [www.exponet.info/index.php?lng=EN](http://www.exponet.info/index.php?lng=EN)

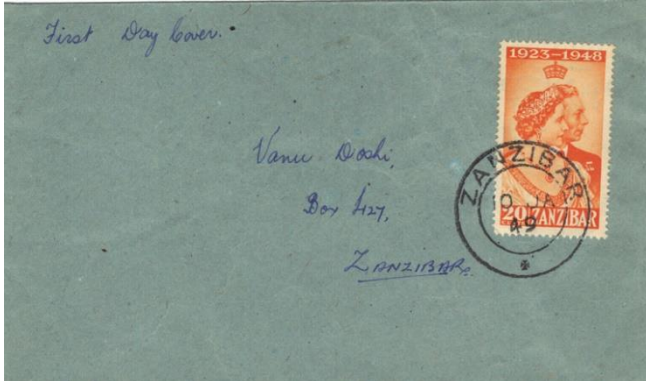
## AUGUST LEARNING WORKSHOP

Starting on Tuesday, Aug. 1, 2023, at 7 p.m. via Zoom, our 11th virtual Learning Workshop topic of the 2022-2023 season is “One-on-One.”

That doesn't mean we'll focus on one stand-alone stamp. Hardly.

Instead, this hot summer topic invites you to consider any country's stamp — or stamps — that involve a '1'. Consider a regular definitive or Postage Due issue with that number.

Participants could talk about their absolute favourite Numero Uno.



Do you remember the first stamp you owned? Where did it come from? How? Why?

If you were born in the first month of a year, postmarks and covers with January cancellations would be apropos. How about First Day Covers?

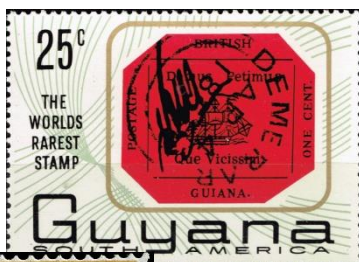
Here's a tough, unusual topic: Have you heard of a collector who wanted the first stamp every country issued? I've heard rumours, dating from before vast quantities of issues were not in vogue.

Some “First Issues” are very expensive, so that would be a

challenge now — even for someone with deep resources.

How about the world's first stamp, the One Penny black Queen Victoria definitive Great Britain put on sale in May 1840. With a plethora of 'Penny Blacks' produced, many survive, and I saw a decent four-margined one on eBay recently for \$150 Cdn. Though they may not specialize in UK issues, lots of collectors have one simply because it is, after all, No. 1.

For Canada aficionados, our first stamp, the 1851 Three-Penny Beaver, was designed on a napkin in a Toronto restaurant by Sir Sandford Fleming. It is a tad costly, but the 1852 reprint is more affordable. And several 'Stamp-on-Stamp' alternatives were produced, starting in 1951.



While stand-alone rarities — such as the 1856 1-cent magenta British Guiana, which sold in 2021 for \$8.3 million, and Sweden's 1855 yellow Tre-skilling printed in the wrong colour, which reportedly sold for \$2.3 million in 2010 – are far beyond most collector's means, Guyana issued a stamp-on-stamp commemorative in 1966, and equally-inexpensive reproductions of the unique Swedish definitive can be found on eBay.



As with all Learning Workshops, we welcome the involvement of members and guests, so tune in, join in, and even consider being like the 1965 Petula Clark hit song, 'You're the One' and be first off the mark — Numero Uno, as they say!

- Ian Robertson

## POSTAL HISTORY CORNER - "THE RAILWAY SCHOOL CARS OF NORTHERN ONTARIO"

In 1926 the Ontario government, and the CNR and the CPR, agreed on an innovative approach to delivering schooling to isolated areas of northern Ontario.

That fall, each railway received a railway school car having a 12-desk state-of-the-art classroom, and modern living accommodations for a teacher (and his wife).

The railway's role was to haul the school car to designated remote sidings where local children without access to a school could be taught (sometimes adults were taught in the evenings). The school car would spend 6-10 days at a siding before being moved to another siding. At its height, the CNR and CPR had a total of 7 travelling schools on their lines.

In the early 1930's, the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway (later the Ontario Northland Railway) joined the initiative. One school car operated on its line between North Bay and Cobalt.

For years I looked for a cover or another philatelic item dealing with the railway school cars. I knew the locations of the school cars and dates, the nearest post offices, and the names of the teachers. Luck was not on my side. I found nothing. (Photos of railway school cars on the other hand are readily available.)

Then, several weeks ago in mid-June, my luck turned. I acquired a 1952 cover from an antique dealer that was addressed to a railway school car teacher. As an added bonus, it had a letter inside.

The cover (see image) was mailed to "Mr. Andrew D. Clement, B.A., O.N.R. School Car, Redwater, Ont. Via North Bay". Redwater was a stop on the ONR line southeast of Temagami. It had a siding, which made it ideal for the travelling school.

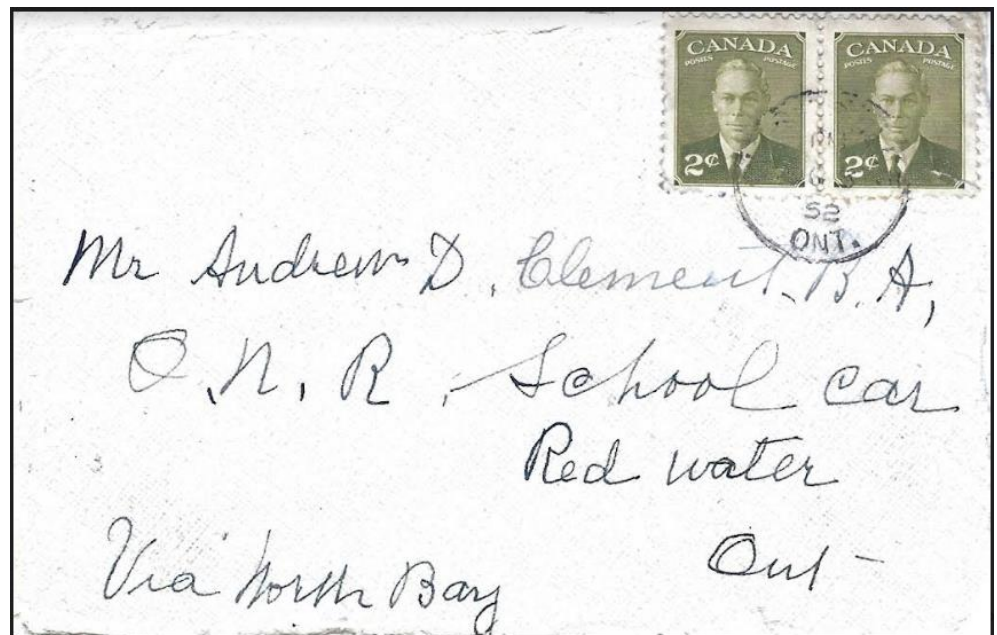
The sender was Andrew Clement's mother who lived in Chesterville in eastern Ontario. Her letter was dated October 23, 1952. It was a typical letter a mother would send her son and his family, even one 47 years old. She was concerned about their health and well being.

Andrew Clement taught in northwestern Ontario in CPR and CNR school cars from 1934 to 1946, then moved to the ONR line where he finished his career as a railway school teacher in 1958. In 1987, when he was 82, his autobiography *The Bell and the Book* was published by the Highway Book Shop in Cobalt.

By the early 1960s, the era of travelling railway schools in northern Ontario was drawing to a close. Most were gone by the middle of the decade. One remained on the CNR line from Sioux Lookout west to the Manitoba border until 1973.

A school car from the CNR line is on display at the Schools on Wheels Museum in Clinton, Ontario.

My next order of business is to find another philatelic item (hopefully more quickly than it took to find the present cover) and prepare a 1-page exhibit on railway school cars. Wish me luck.



## OTHER PHILATELIC OPPORTUNITIES THIS SUMMER



### ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA: STAMP TALK AND STAMP PANEL SESSIONS. Registration in advance required. <https://www.rpsc.org/>

- July 10 - Alexandre Fortier - Duplex de Montréal - Oblitérateur chiffré et lettré
- July 17 - Show and Tell: Summer Come and show us your summer-themed goodies!
- August 14 - Lisa Tam - NFTs: What are these New-Fangled Things?
- August 21 - Exchanges and swapping - [Jean Wang, Selene Tang]

### FENPEX 37



**Fenelon Falls Community Centre, 27 Veterans Way, Fenelon Falls, ON, K0M 1N0**

Fenelon Stamp Club's Annual Show and Sale

**August 12<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am – 3:30 pm.** 8 dealers, silent auction, club sales, draws, 5 and 10 cent table, snack bar.

Free admission & free parking.

### GANANOQUE STAMP SHOW



**Gananoque Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92, 55 King Street East, Gananoque, ON, K7G1V8**

- **August 12<sup>th</sup> 10 am - 4pm** Free Admission
- Parking and ground level entrance to the show is off Pine Street at the rear of the Legion Hall.

Gananoque is a great destination for a weekend family trip with a show in the middle. There are lots of interesting sights and activities within walking distance of the show including a crafts fair, beach & splash pad, cruises on the St Lawrence River, kayaking, theatre, and many excellent local restaurants.

## SUMMER READING

### 1. Considering purchasing a new book to deepen your knowledge.



**British North America Philatelic Society**  
The Society for Canadian Philately

To browse through the BNAPS books on the Longley Auctions website, go to:

<https://longleyauctions.com/product-category/bnaps-books/>

### 2. If you have not yet done so be sure to read the Summer 2023 PHILA JOURNAL

<http://gtapa.org/philajournal>



## CIRCUIT BOOKS - A WTSC MEMBER BENEFIT

Members can not just buy, but sell their surplus stamps through our Circuit Book Program.

Summer is a great time to fill circuit pages with your surplus stamps/covers. For members wishing to sell, Circuit Book templates are available online at <http://www.westtorontostampclub.org/meetings.htm#circuit-books>

Completed pages should be brought to the Sept 12 meeting to take advantage of the 4 out of town trips planned by the Circuit Book team.

### **WTSC MARKET PLACE: FREE/FORSALE/WANTED**

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#### **WANTED:**

EKKO radio reception stamps for Canadian Radio stations



Issued by radio stations to confirm station reception.

circa 1920's. Mint; used; on cover or card.

Example CFCA 1921 became CFRB in 1928

Contact- Don Hedger; [don.hedger@gmail.com](mailto:don.hedger@gmail.com)

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#### **WANTED:**

- Worldwide Airmail labels, in all languages and all alphabets.
- Canadian illustrated permits.
- Back issues of Canada Post's *Details* magazine.

Contact Douglas Hill at [dahill3973@rogers.com](mailto:dahill3973@rogers.com)

**REMINDER TO WTSC MEMBERS Ad space is free.** Send to [sidmensinga@gmail.com](mailto:sidmensinga@gmail.com)