



Since 1935

# Bulletin

The Newsletter of the West Toronto Stamp Club  
www.westtorontostampclub.org

The Club meets at  
**Fairfield Seniors' Centre**  
80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke, ON  
416-394-8687

Volume 88

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March 2023

## PRESIDENT SID'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

The value and importance of building the hobby beyond the walls of our local club is again evidenced by the actions of WTSC members. Leadership at the local club level and in the larger philatelic community continues to be essential and deserves to be recognized.

- Thank you to WTSC members for your support and attendance at the Bramalea Stamp Show.
- Congratulations and thank you to Jerry Piotrowski for again taking on the responsibility of President of the Greater Toronto and Area Philatelic Alliance (GTAPA)
- Congratulations to Douglas Hill for his RPSC presentation, *Collecting Modern Canadian Beaver Stamps*. A most interesting presentation showing the North American Beaver (*Castor canadensis*) in all it's iterations on Canadian stamps and revenues, as well as on postal artifacts; demonstrating the value, interest, and scope for the study of modern definitive and commemorative stamps.
- Thank you to Simon and Victoria Cloughton and Ted Swain as they take the WTSC Circuit Books to the North York Philatelic Society Circuit Book Event to be held this coming Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Thank you to Tom Malicki from all of us who are members of the Postal History Society of Canada as he takes on responsibilities as editor of the PHSC journal
- Thank You to Garfield Portch for his tireless work to promote the hobby, in particular as Chair and host of our Monthly Discussion Group online sessions. Again this past month we experienced a Superior Discussion Group session as Dr. David K. Foot presented. "*Australia's First Contract Airmail: Western Australian Airways 1921-1936*".
- Congratulations to Dr. Gregg Redner on his appointment as Vice President of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. We know that members of the RPSC will be well served by his fine leadership.
- And finally, as reported in more detail in the Canadian Stamp News (CSN) – Special Congratulations to WTSC member Charles Verge – one of three winners of the prestigious Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award presented by the Collectors Club of New York. As a prolific author, exhibitor, and international level judge, Charles joins only two other Canadians, the late Vincent Greene, and late Harry Sutherland, as recipients of this award. Charles is also one of eight Canadians to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelist.



## MARCH - PHILATELIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR WTSC MEMBERS AND GUESTS



**March 7** - LEARNING WORKSHOP, 7 p.m. via Zoom, '*What Matters to You*'.

**March 14** - Auction & Circuit Book evening. In-person - Fairfield Centre.

**March 21** - DISCUSSION GROUP, 7 p.m. via zoom, *topic to be confirmed*.

**March 28** - Auction & Member/Vest pocket dealer tables evening. In-person - Fairfield Centre.

## Closed Album - Reay Cairns

This past week we were saddened to learn of the passing of **Reay Cairns** on February 14, 2023.

Reay was member #571 having joined the West Toronto Stamp Club in 1972. He served as President from 1989 to 1995, then served as auctioneer until health problems forced his resignation in 2018. Although he remained a member of the Club, he had been unable to attend meetings since then. Reay was an avid collector of Canadian booklet stamps and was an active member of our Machin Study Group.

Condolences were expressed to his sons Robert and Steven and extended family this past Wednesday at the funeral.

A book will be placed in the Harry Sutherland library at the V. G. Greene Foundation in Reay's memory, recognizing his significant contribution to philately.

Reay will be missed by all who knew him.

## WTSC Circuit Books @ the

North York  
Philatelic Society

- WTSC will be participating in the **NYPS --Circuit Books night** Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup> in co-operation with the North Toronto Stamp Club.
  - Location Edithvale Community Center (131 Finch Avenue West)
  - 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**Mattia Guida President NYPS and also a WTSC member** notes *"As most stamps in the circuit books are identified by catalogue number, this will offer a great and unique opportunity to those who work with a want list, to find the stamps they are missing in their collection. Please also note that the books also include a topical section, and we will also have a selection of 10 cent books.*

## The Spring 2023 PhilaJournal is now available at -

<http://gtapa.org/philajournal>

The Good Reader Award is again open to be won!!!!

See page 4 in the PhilaJournal for the instructions!



## APRIL LEARNING WORKSHOP

Starting at 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 4, 2023 via Zoom, our 7<sup>th</sup> virtual Learning Workshop topic of the 2022-2023 season is, **'Tying Your Collection to a Calendar'**.

In other words, appropriate dates.

The format could be a 'show & tell' of dated items relating to or produced on specific occasions.

These could include: Birthdays; anniversaries; social and special occasions such as a Moon Landing; world events ranging from good to tragic — such as U.S. President John F. Kennedy's assassination on Nov. 22, 1963; the horrific Sept. 11, 2001 hijacked passenger aircraft attack on New York city that claimed 2,996 lives and forever called '9/11'; a war's start or finish; festivals, plus cacheted covers for philatelic exhibitions. The list goes on.



Some people collect covers cancelled with slogans, some of which include dates for special events, which is a nice and somewhat challenging commemorative topic.

Days in the lives of special people could also be worth pursuing: A coronation; an abdication; a major election; a political leader's first or last day in office.

Postmarked stamps could be from those days, or from another time period that echoes the subject. For instance: If you collect Queen Victoria stamps, perhaps

include one with a postmark dated May 24 — the day she was born in 1819. An album page featuring definitives depicting Canada's other monarchs could have an appropriate birthday-dated one at the top. Hint, Queen Elizabeth II was born April 21, 1926, her son and successor, King Charles III, on Nov. 14, 1948.

Collection'? I recently saw a Canadian dealer's online offering of 1870-97 Small Queen definitives cancelled with different dates, one for most days of a month. A WTSC member said he'll be happy to show similar pages from his collection, which likely took awhile to assemble!

Dating from takeoffs that began more than a century ago, First Flight covers are popular, usually with cachets or rubber-stamped artwork plus text identifying locales plus the service's inauguration date on accompanying postmarks. More recently, Canada's first



successful flight, by the Silver Dart biplane at Baddeck, Nova Scotia in 1909, has been featured on two commemoratives, with corresponding First Day Covers produced.



How about a 'Calendar

Finally, on that note, FDCs are readily available. But how about envelopes bearing stamps cancelled with a regular postmark the day they were released? Such covers are not as easy to find.

As with all Learning Workshops, participants are invited to share treasures from their collections. Whether you register your items early or reveal them at the right moment as a show-and-tell, this topic offers another great opportunity.



## Radio Reception Cinderellas, by WTSC member Don Hedger

Philatelists of a certain age will remember the “crystal radio”- no batteries, just a “cats’ whisker” to tune, a long wire antenna, and headphones. While radio, or wireless, was around prior to and during WWI, it wasn’t until the early 1920s that commercial radio stations were popping up in every city in North America. In those early years of AM radio (no FM or TV yet perfected for the general public) new stations grew from less than 100 to more than 500 in 1922 and well over 800 by 1960s. This included Canada, the U.S.A, Mexico, and Cuba.

Most of those stations, to promote reception, issued “verified reception” stamps, an example of which is shown here from CFCA Toronto. When the station was heard, the date, time, and frequency along with 10 cents was sent to station to confirm reception and in return the staff would send a confirmation by station card/cover with a “verified reception” stamp attached or included in the letter. There were a plethora of philatelists or stamp collectors worldwide in the early years after WWI; the collection of Cinderellas that confirmed radio reception was a natural extension of the hobby. In fact, there were albums available with station call signs, frequencies, city names and provinces so that a collector could keep track of reception stamps from the radio stations.

These stamps were printed by the American Bank Note and produced for EKKO Co. Chicago, as in the example shown you will note EKKO letters, top left, clockwise in each corner. All Canadian stamps featured a Beaver, the U.S. ones depicted an Eagle. A couple of rare stamps are known to have an Eagle; those of CKNC in Toronto and CKAC in Montreal.



The short history of CFCA, owned and operated by the Toronto Star’s owner Joseph Atkinson. Mr. Atkinson got the idea to promote the Star through radio from his son, an amateur (Ham) radio operator with station license 3EC. The Star, through radio “Star Concerts” and in conjunction with CITCO (Canadian Independent Telephone Co.) began in late 1921 to produce concerts from the WWI Christie St. Military Hospital (Christie and Dupont streets, Toronto). These were aired on 9AH and later became CFCA. Broadcasting was on 400m or 750kc at a power of 100 watts. The antenna for this station was a 5-wire, flat (horizontal) top, mounted on two 80ft towers on the Star building of the time. In early 1922, the station call sign 9AH was replaced by CFCA broadcasting concerts from the old CGE plant on Wallace Ave and Ward St.

By 1923, CFCA was broadcasting hockey games from the Mutual St. Arena with announcer Foster Hewitt, who used a telephone for a microphone. In 1924 it moved its studios to Yonge and St. Clair streets, where in 1928 it ceased operating as CFCA (sold to Ted Rogers) and became CFRB 1010; the “RB” stands for “Rogers Batteryless”.

This is a short synopsis of the beginnings of radio, the Cinderellas for radio stations to verify reception, and the production and distribution of the related stamps.

The writer is a collector of these stamps and would appreciate locating covers, station cards, postcards, and used or mint labels produced by EKKO Co. (*Editor’s comment - Please see Don’s Ad in the WTSC MARKET PLACE at the end of this Bulletin*)

## OTHER PHILATELIC OPPORTUNITIES THIS MONTH



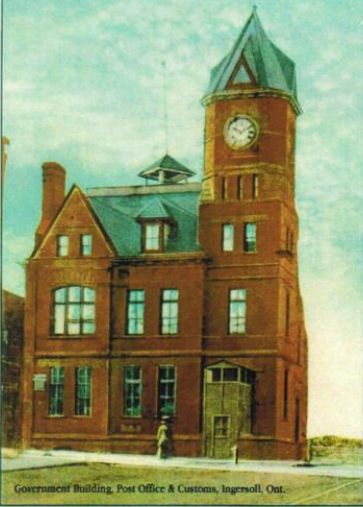
### • ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA: STAMP TALK AND STAMP PANEL SESSIONS.

Registration in advance required. <https://www.rpsc.org/>

- **Monday March 13** – Ken Snelson – “The Human Side of Philately”
- **Monday March 20** - Tools of the Hobby



- **March 16** Bombay General Post Office - Foreign Mail by Denzil Fernandes
- **March 18** **SPRING BOURSE**



Government Building, Post Office & Customs, Ingersoll, Ont.

**OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY**  
*presents*  
**71<sup>ST</sup> OXPEX & 41<sup>ST</sup> OTEX**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
9:30am - 4pm

**St. Mary's Catholic High School**  
431 Juliana Drive, Woodstock, ON - N4V 1E8

*Free admission & parking • framed exhibits  
15 dealers • youth gift bags • sales circuits • draw prizes*

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**450 LOT  
WHITBY AUCTION  
THURSDAY MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup>**

Viewing 10 am– auction noon

**Whitby Seniors Centre**  
801 BROCK STREET WHITBY

Limited lunch will be available  
Lots of other eating places near  
10 LOT LIMIT PER CLUB MEMBER  
**\$1 per lot**

\$2 entry donation to Senior Centre

**MAR. 5, 2023, MISSISSAUGA, ON**  
Mississauga Coin & Stamp Show, John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre, 4300 Cawthra Rd. Sponsored by the Troyak Club, the Mississauga Coin and Stamp Show will be open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., with 60 tables and more than 30 dealers. There's something for everyone, with Canadian and world coins, stamps, paper money, tokens, medals, trade dollars, official mint products, hobby supplies, reference books and more. Free evaluations plus buying, selling and trading. Admission is \$5 (children under the age of 16 are free), and parking is free. For more information, email [leszekp@rogers.com](mailto:leszekp@rogers.com), telephone 416-505-7999. Website: [www.troyakclub.com](http://www.troyakclub.com).

**LOOKING AHEAD**



**KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY**  
Waterloo Post Office, 2013

**STAMPFEST 2023**  
SATURDAY April 22, 2023  
10 to 4 pm

**Trillium Lutheran Church**  
FORMERLY  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
22 Willow Street, Waterloo N2J 1V5  
UPTOWN WATERLOO

*Free Admission • 15 Dealers  
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**EXHIBITOR ENTRY FORM STAMPFEST 2023**  
Saturday, April 22, 2023. 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Trillium Lutheran Church (formerly St. John's Lutheran Church)  
22 Willow Street, Waterloo, Ontario, N2J 1V5

**ENTRY FORM**  
Exhibit Chair, STAMPFEST 2023 P.O. Box 1000, Waterloo, Ontario, N2J 4S7.  
PHONE: 519-744-3020 1-800-361-6631 e-mail: [kwpskw@gmail.com](mailto:kwpskw@gmail.com)

## WELCOME TO THE FIRST NATIONAL “UP TO 2 PAGES” EXHIBITION

### At the *Québec City Old Paper Show* (28-29 October 2023)

After the great success of its 1st edition, which welcomed nearly 500 visitors over two days, the second edition of the **Québec City Old Paper Show**, which will take place next October 28-29 at the Patro Roc-Amadour in Québec City, has in store for us a great surprise! Indeed, the first national “Up to 2 Pages” exhibition will be organized there.

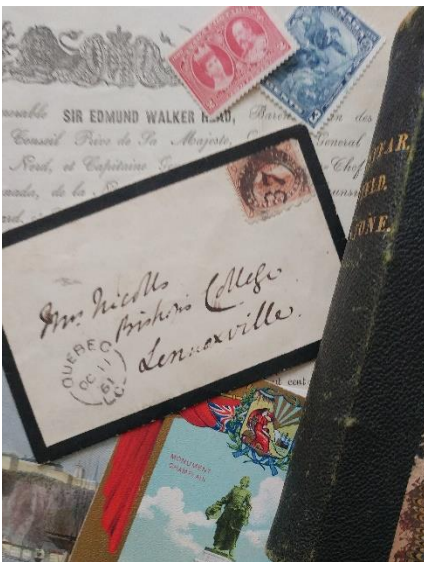
Collectors, if you hold an exceptional item, that is to say unique, rare or simply unusual, curious, funny or bizarre, in short an exceptional piece, which is commonly called a "talking piece", well this exhibition will be an opportunity for you to show it!

Hugo Deshaye and Grégoire Teyssier, the co-organizers of the Québec City Old Paper Show, explain the concept:

“Many collectors, whether they are philatelists, lovers of postal history, marcophily or historical documents, often hold real treasures, but rarely have the opportunity to share them. The exhibition we are organizing is an opportunity for these collectors to show their treasure to the general public. No need to embark on the long and tedious work of assembling a collection of several pages on several frames, since here, a single piece presented on a single page is enough! It's simple, fast, and effective! We hope that with this exhibition concept, many collectors will want to present, on a single page, their hidden treasure. At the same time, the public will be able to come and admire these exceptional pieces which will be brought together in one place”.

At the choice of the exhibitors, the presentation may or may not be judged. If judged, it will be judged by a panel of recognized judges. The judging criteria will be roughly the same as for traditional exhibits: Importance, a good title - clear and precise, a nice presentation, appropriate research and one or more well-arranged piece(s) on one or two (8½ x 11) inch page(s). We have developed a new revolutionary scoring grid adapted to the judging of “Up to 2 Pages” exhibits.

The public will also be invited to choose the best presentations in each of the 3 main categories: Philately (which also includes postal history, marcophily, thematic, subject, first days, stationeries, etc.); Illustrated postcards and finally, historical documents.



The 2nd **Québec City Old Paper Show** will therefore be an opportunity for collectors to share their treasures and for the general public to come and admire them. An awards ceremony and dinner will be held on Saturday evening at the Québec Yacht Club.

All the details (prospectus, new judging grid, registration form and details) will soon be available online on the Show's website, but can be requested now by contacting Grégoire Teyssier at [gteyssier@videotron.ca](mailto:gteyssier@videotron.ca)

And as usual, on site, about twenty dealers of postal history, postcards, postage stamps, old papers and books, coming from the four corners of the Province, but also from Ontario and the Maritimes; two days of conferences; the presence of La Société d'histoire postale du Québec, la Société philatélique de Québec, le Club des cartophiles Québécois. Door prizes, philatelic souvenirs, and much much more.

In short, a weekend not to be missed in the beautiful and historic Quebec City!

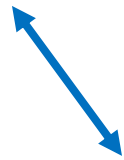
Resource person: Grégoire Teyssier [gteyssier@videotron.ca](mailto:gteyssier@videotron.ca) 418-930-5656



**POSTAL HISTORY CORNER**



Item 517-32 – **5¢ Jubilee on religious patriotic cover** – 1897, 5¢ Jubilee tied by Toronto Orb cancel on EL “Look Up Lift UP” multi-coloured religious patriotic cover paying 5¢ double weight letter rate to U.S. (b/s). Ex McNaught, Bursery.



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## WTSC MARKET PLACE: FREE/FORSALE/WANTED

### WANTED:

1. Scott catalogue with United States listings - doesn't need to be current, something used and bit older. Contact Jim at [tazzwild@hotmail.com](mailto:tazzwild@hotmail.com)
2. Scans (both sides) of covers cancelled at Old Mill Post Office needed for article on history of this post office (open 11/21/1928 – 11/25.1933). It was located in the Old Mill complex at Bloor St W and Humber River. I don't wish to purchase your covers. I need only scans for the article. Email Bob at [timberg@bell.net](mailto:timberg@bell.net)

### 3. CANADA WANTED

I) Canada #1900 (47c beaver) on FDC issued at the AGM of RPSC, *Royale\*2001\*Royal*, at Dorval, QC.

(II) M or U "muddy water" unlisted variety of the 1898 Canadian map stamp. For either item, send a scan of what you have and your price, including shipping, to D. Hill at [dahill3973@rogers.com](mailto:dahill3973@rogers.com)

4. 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)

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