



# Bulletin

Since 1935

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

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B. Timberg, Editor

## President Sid's Message

This past month, while in Texas visiting family, I took the opportunity for some personal time by attending a stamp show in Richardson. I am pleased to report stamp collecting and philately are alive and well in Texas. Dealers noted that attendance was up and that the two-day event was most profitable. Unfortunately, there were limited foreign (Canadian) stamps or covers to peruse. However, I did purchase a great book for my philatelic library and had an in-depth conversation with its author, Charles W. Deaton. His book "The Great Texas Stamp Collection" details "How some stubborn Confederate Postmasters, a handful of determined Texas stamp collectors and a few of the world's greatest philatelists created, discovered and preserved some of the world's most valuable postage stamps." It is a fascinating read about the creation and use of Texas Confederate Postmasters provisionals during the U.S. Civil War. To date 29 types of these provisional stamps are known to exist for ten different towns. Amazingly, three of these stamps were recently discovered with the last two being found in 2008.

Reading about the hunt and discovery of these rarities is not only fascinating and educational but also reminds me that:

- If you know what to look for, rarities are out there to be found, possibly hidden in dealer's stock, old collections/accumulations or possibly in a box of local history ephemera.
- Researching, learning, knowing, and appreciating items in one's collection is more than half the fun. We can always learn more about the how, when, where and why of a philatelic item.

Coming home I was pleased to find the latest Canadian Philatelist, PHSC Journal, Canadian Stamp News, and several upcoming auction catalogues to peruse.

We are so fortunate to live in a part of the country where there is an active, thriving stamp collecting community. Be sure to attend the National Postage Stamp and Coin Show April 7-8 and if you're a Canadian collector consider attending this year's PHSC Symposium July 19-22. Attending shows not only provides opportunities to hunt for those special items

but will also increase your pleasure by giving you opportunities to meet and build personal connections with like minded collectors and dealers.

I look forward to your attendance and participation this coming month.

## April Activities

Meetings are held on Tuesday evening unless otherwise specified. Doors open at 6:30, meetings start at 7:30.

**Apr 3 ~ Learning Workshop** (starts 7 – 7:15)  
**Trains, Planes and Automobiles**

**Apr 10 ~ Regular Meeting**  
Club circuit books, exchange of information, show & tell, and auction

**Apr 17 ~ Discussion Group**  
Guest speaker **Dr. Richard Judge** from Chicago will present on **The Admiral Issue of Canada: A Colour Study of the 2 Cent Carmine**. This presentation was done at the Institute for Analytic Philately Symposium at London last October. It is the best and most understandable approach to colour in any stamp issue.

**Apr 24 ~ Regular Meeting**  
Club circuit books, exchange of information, show & tell, and auction

## Discussion Group Schedule

**May 15, June 19 ~ TBA**

## Board of Directors Election

The **election** to fill the board for a **two year term (2018 – 2020)** will take place at the club's **May 8 meeting**.

**If you are interested in serving, or wish more information about the various positions**, please **talk to Don Hedger** as soon as possible. Don may also be contacted at [don.hedger@gmail.com](mailto:don.hedger@gmail.com).

Without your active and continued support, our club cannot exist.

# May Learning Workshop

"Flaunt Those Flaws" is the topic of our eighth Learning Workshop of the 2017-2018 season on May 1.

And with that in mind, for your fun and edification, I penned a poem to describe a few of the types of flawed stamps with outstanding printing errors, which you're invited to bring and share with all.

## Errors On Stamps Can Be Fun

The world of stamps is not always smooth;  
Designs and printing can miss the groove.  
Mistakes do happen — but that's all right  
Makes searching for errors a big delight.

Perfs can drift to the edge of sheets,  
Leaving spaces blank and less than neat.  
Papers can wrinkle on a high-speed press  
Leaving folds that simply look a mess.

Overprints have been known to double  
Getting a printer into trouble.  
Colours can shift, even stumble  
Leaving designs all a-jumble.

And if some text failed to print  
The resale value can cost a mint.  
Take, too, the case of wrong ink used  
Leaving colours mute or misconstrued.

Printing flipped to back from front  
Leaves mailers muttering terms gone blunt.  
Try as you might to stick it down,  
Without the gum, you can only frown.

Collecting them while they're still mint  
Is the only way — here's a useful hint.  
Soaking one glued to a cover  
Dissolves the ink and it won't recover.

Collecting mistakes can be a lot of fun  
A talking point — even prizes won.  
Like all good things preparation is key  
Before you begin your hunting spree.

Remember, the Learning Workshop starts at 7 p.m.,  
or thereabouts and goes on until whenever.

Come early on May 1, select a good seat and prepare  
to share — all for good fun, naturally.

Ian

Illustrations — see the column to the right and the  
column on the left on the next page.

1902 U.S. Benjamin Franklin 1-cent definitive with  
major pre-printing paper fold, resulting in split design



1915-19 Fiji 'WAR STAMP' overprint KGV ½d, with  
overprint inverted



1932 Cook Islands 2½d black and blue engraved  
definitive, with centre inverted



1985 Canada Banff National Park \$2 definitive with  
'\$2, Canada and Postes-Postage' engraved inscriptions  
omitted



1987 Yugoslavia block of four 30-Paras Postal Tax stamps (Scott RA75) with additional horizontal row of perforations on top pair



## Harry Sutherland Library

The library has announced its extended hours for April, May and June. Regular hours are Monday to Thursday from 10 to 4.

### Saturday Extended Hours

April 14, 10 to 4

May 19, 10 to 4

June 9, 10 to 6 (coincides with the North Toronto Stamp Club bourse taking place up the street from the library; also, members of the Toronto Postcard Club will visit the library between 2 and 4)

### Wednesday Extended Hours

April 25, 10 to 7

May 23, 10 to 7

June 27, 10 to 7

From the library: "Sign up for our Friends of the Harry Sutherland Newsletter and receive the latest updates. Simply email: [library@greenefoundation.ca](mailto:library@greenefoundation.ca) to be placed on our mailing list or call (416) 921-2073."

## Shows

The **National Postage Stamp and Coin Show** will take place in **Mississauga** on **April 7-8**. For details, see:

<https://stampandcoinshow.com/>

**ORAPEX 2018**, the 57th edition of the **Ottawa RA Centre Philatelic Exhibition (ORAPEX)**, will take place on **May 5-6** in **Ottawa**. For details see:

<http://www.orapex.ca/>

**Royal 2018 Royale**, the 90th annual convention and AGM of the RPSC will take place in **St. Catharines** on **June 22-24**. For details, see:

<https://www.rpsc.org/royal2018/>

The **PHSC Symposium 2018** will take place in **Hamilton** and vicinity on **July 19-22**. For details, see:

<http://www.postalhistorycanada.net/php/Symposium/>

**BNAPEX 2018**, the 2018 convention, exhibition and bourse of the British North America Philatelic Society will take place on **September 21-23** in **Ville de Québec - Quebec City**. For details, see:

<http://www.bnaps.org/bnapex/bnapex2018/>

## 50 Most Popular Hobbies

In a survey conducted about seven years ago, the most popular hobby in the USA was said to be reading followed by watching television. Stamp collecting was not on the top 50 list, nor for that matter was any type of collecting. For the list, see:

<http://www.notsoboringlife.com/popular-hobbies/>

Forty to fifty years ago, stamp collecting would almost certainly have been on the list, and likely near the top.

## Annual Club Exhibition

The **annual club exhibition** will be held on **May 8**. Three types of exhibits are welcome:

Single page (for the Alusio Trophy)

Single frame (for the Drake Trophy)

Open class (for the Allan Cup, to be determined by popular vote at the meeting)

Sam Chiu, exhibitor, judge and RPSC vice president, will again be the guest judge.

## CAS

Those interested in aerophilately should consider the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society. CAS has over 115 members and publishes quarterly The Canadian Aerophilatelist. The journal won a vermeil at the APS's Stampshow 2017 in Richmond, Virginia. The annual membership fee is a reasonable \$15.00 (electronic copy of the journal) and \$25.00 with a paper copy.

<http://www.aerophilately.ca/>

## This Day in (Philatelic) History

Many of us are interested in what has happened on a particular day in history, especially from a philatelic perspective. In the U.S., Mystic Stamp Company sends out a daily e-mail This Day in History. The first link below is to their e-mail of March 28, 2018 about the American Radio Relay League, to provide an example, and the second is to subscribe to their daily e-mail.

[https://www.mysticstamp.com/info/this-day-in-history-march-28-1964/?utm\\_source=wysija&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=This+Day+in+History](https://www.mysticstamp.com/info/this-day-in-history-march-28-1964/?utm_source=wysija&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=This+Day+in+History)

<https://www.mysticstamp.com/info/subscribe-to-mystics-this-day-in-history/>

In Canada, philatelist Robin Harris provides something similar from the Canadian perspective. See his website at:

<http://www.adminware.ca/stamps.php>

## New Home for the RPSL

The RPSL has announced its new location in London at 15 Abchurch Lane.

<http://www.rpsl.org.uk/abchurch.asp>

## Happy Easter



## FDR and Camp David

I find when I read a book or magazine that I focus on and seem to remember anything of a philatelic nature. "Inside Camp David: The Private World of the Presidential Retreat" by Rear Admiral Michael Giorgione (Ret.) is no exception.

Camp David was opened by FDR in July 1942 and christened as a naval facility, the USS Shangri-La. The camp was intended as a place for presidents and their families to escape the fishbowl that is Washington and unwind and recharge. From time to time FDR met foreign leaders like Churchill at the camp, and his top military and political advisers as well. However the site was primarily a place to relax and not to work. The book mentions how FDR often made time to work on his beloved stamp collection. After one dinner, "the President went back to his favorite corner of the porch and asked for his stamps".

Incidentally, the site was renamed Camp David by Eisenhower. Ike didn't have the same love of the sea as FDR. But the camp remained and still is a naval facility, run by the U.S. Navy.

## Mail Delivery

New Zealand ~ A parcel sent to a couple in New Zealand addressed only with "a farm, situated up a long driveway with cows, opposite a pub or thereabouts" reached its destination, with the assistance of Facebook.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/mar/17/parcel-addressed-to-new-zealand-farm-up-a-long-driveway-near-pub-finds-its-way>

Brazil ~ Brazil's state-run postal service says it will start charging extra to deliver letters and packages in Rio de Janeiro due to a wave of violence in the state.

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/brazil-mail-implements-security-tax-deliveries-rio-210327525.html>

Italy ~ Italians fed up with the country's lousy postal service may now have found a culprit. Police say they discovered nearly a half-ton of undelivered mail in a rogue postman's garage. The postal police said the 573-kilogram stash in the Vicenza home of the 56-year-old postman was the biggest seizure of mail ever undertaken in Italy. The missing mail had been collecting for the past eight years and included utility bills, bank statements, old phone books and political propaganda mailings from the 2010 regional elections. Police were tipped off when volunteers from a recycling center reported receiving 25 big yellow containers from the postal service, with mail still inside. The postal police say the mail will now be delivered to its rightful owners, a few years late. (Courtesy of the New York Times, January 29, 2018.)

