



Bulletin

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

The Club meets at
Fairfield Seniors' Centre
80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke, ON
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B. Timberg, Editor

President Sid's Message

Researching, learning, knowing, and appreciating items in one's collection are enjoyable aspects of stamp collecting but the greater joy is sharing our philatelic knowledge, recent finds, projects and exhibits with like-minded philatelic enthusiasts. Doing so fosters comradery and is an encouragement to each other as we pursue our various stamp collecting projects and endeavours.

A most worthwhile way to share is to participate in our upcoming Annual Club Exhibition to be held Tuesday, May 14. How might you participate this year? What philatelic story can you tell? I am confident that there are treasures in your collections that cry out to be written up and to be told. If you have not previously done so, consider participating by building a Single Page, Multi-Page or One Frame Exhibit for this year's club exhibition. Exhibition details are noted on our website and help from fellow members is readily available.

Speaking of exhibiting, congratulations and well done to Denzil Fernandes, Don Hedger and Garfield Portch who were this year's WTSC team at the GTAPA Challenge, held during the National Postage Stamp and Coin Show, March 23 - 24, 2019. They represented our club with distinction and won the GTAPA Challenge Award by a large margin. All three exhibits were of the highest calibre. Don was awarded a Vermeil for "*A Soldier's Postcards - From the Somme & Flanders Fields WW1, May 1915 to Mar. 1916*". Denzil was awarded a Gold for "*Alphabets Spell Life for Travelling Post Offices / Railway Mail Services in British India*". Garfield was awarded a Large Gold and the single frame Grand Award for "*The One Cent Rate in Canada's Small Queen Period, 1870 to 1897*".

Also, as recently mentioned verbally, congratulations to Mark Stelmacovich who participated in the Sarasota National Stamp Expo, February 1 - 3, 2019 in Florida where he shared his exhibit "*Ukrainian Provisional Postage Stamps, 1992 - 1996*" and was awarded a Gold in the Multi Frame category and won the APS Post 1980 Medal of Excellence.

We can be proud of our members who have demonstrated excellence in exhibiting. The recognition they receive is most deserved.

Looking ahead to April, this month again provides WTSC members with many opportunities to delve

deeper into the hobby by attending our learning workshop evening, our twice monthly auction and circuit book events and our discussion group meeting.

This month's discussion group meeting guest speaker will be Dr. Sam Chiu who will share his international Gold medal exhibit "*Canada's C Force in Hong Kong, 1941 - 1945*". This presentation will be most informative and outstanding. Don't miss it!

I look forward to your participation at this month's meetings

April Activities

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

Note that there is no meeting on April 9.

Apr 2 ~ Learning Workshop (starts 7 - 7:15)
Surprising / Unexpected Mail Deliveries or Non-Deliveries

Apr 16 ~ Discussion Group (starts at 7)
Guest speaker **Dr. Sam Chiu, FRPSC** will present his award-winning exhibit **Canada's C Force in Hong Kong, 1941 - 1945**. Sam will use postal history items from a member of each of the three major branches of Force C, the Royal Rifles of Canada, the Winnipeg Grenadiers and Headquarter staff, together with non-philatelic material, to tell the story of Force C. Sam is an award-winning exhibitor at all levels and also vice-president of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

Members wanting to learn about Force C in advance of the meeting might wish to read "*C Force to Hong Kong: A Canadian Catastrophe*" by Breton Greenhouse. The book is available from Toronto Public Library.

Apr 23 ~ Board Meeting

Apr 30 ~ Regular Meeting
Club circuit books, exchange of information, show & tell, and auction

Quotes on Stamps Contest

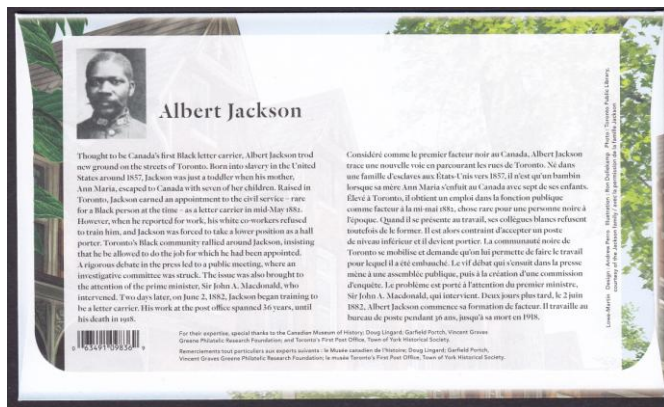
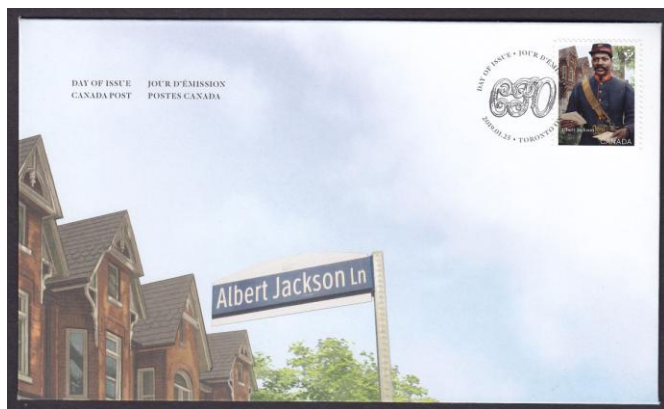
The deadline for entering the contest is April 15. See the March issue of the Bulletin for details.

Albert Jackson Stamp

In the March Bulletin President Sid noted that club member Garfield Portch "is named and recognized on the selvage of the recently released stamp booklet honouring Albert Jackson, Toronto's first black mail carrier. Garfield's contribution to the authenticity of the design was significant and greatly valued."

Set out to the right is the booklet. The wording on the selvage at the very bottom is (you can expand your pdf copy to read it for yourself): "For their expertise, special thanks to the Canadian Museum of History; Doug Lingard; Garfield Portch, Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation; and Toronto's First Post Office, Town of York Historical Society."

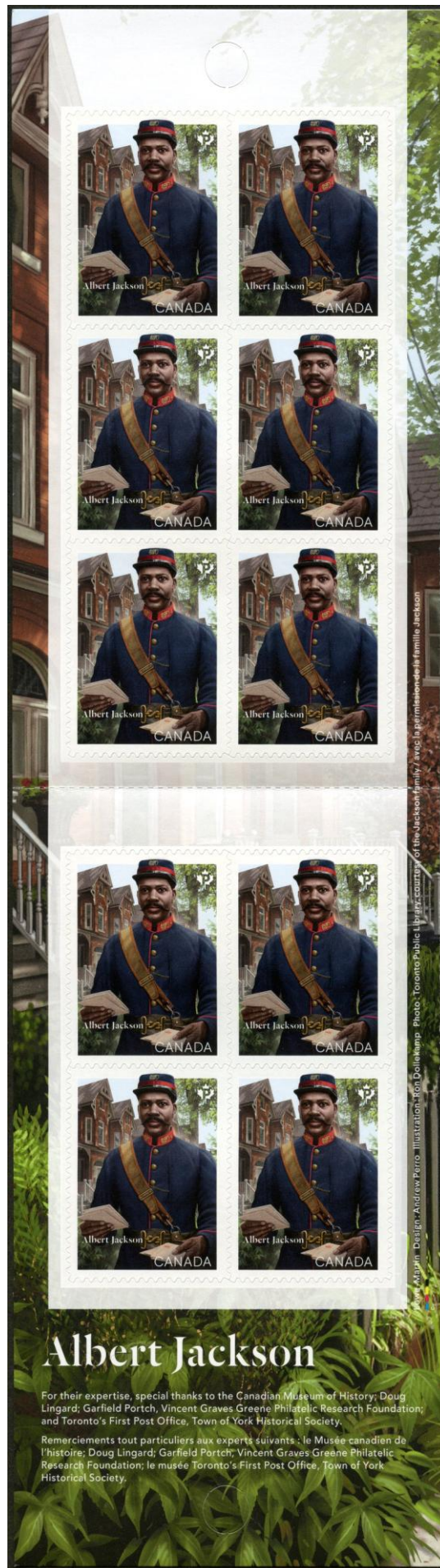
Similar wording appears on the back of the Official First Day Cover, set out below. (Expand your pdf copy to read the back of the cover.)



Thank you to Robin Harris, editor of *The Canadian Philatelist*, for providing the image of the booklet, and to Garfield for providing the image of the cover.

APS Youth Scholarship

APS has announced two scholarships for young stamp collectors between the ages of 16 and 24 who are Canadian or U.S. residents. Each scholarship will help to defray the cost of attending the 40th Annual Summer Seminar on Philately on June 24 - 27, 2019 at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte. See https://stamps.org/Portals/0/SummerSeminarYouthScholarship_1.pdf?ver=2019-02-21-143255-573



2019 Shows (GTA & Vicinity)

ORAPEX 2019, the 58th edition of the **Ottawa RA Centre Philatelic Exhibition (ORAPEX)**, will take place in **Ottawa on May 4 - 5**.

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

Royal *2019* Royale, the 91st annual convention and AGM of the RPSC, will take place in **Mississauga on June 21 - 23**.

<http://rpscroyal.com/>

The **PHSC Symposium 2019** will take place in **Hamilton** and vicinity on **July 18 - 21**.

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

BNAPEX 2019, the 2019 convention, exhibition and bourse of the British North America Philatelic Society, will take place in **Ottawa on August 30 - September 1**.

<http://www.bnaps.org/napex/napex2019-Ottawa/>

Trajan Media's **National Postage Stamp and Coin Show** will take place in **Mississauga on September 7 - 8**.

CANPEX 2019 will take place in **London on October 19 - 20**.

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

The Canadian Aerophilatelic Society's **Toronto Day of Aerophilately** will take place in **Toronto** at the Greene on **November 3**.

First Moon Landing Forever Stamps

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing on July 20, 1969, the USPS has announced two commemorative stamps. See

<https://stamps.org/Blog/post/u-s-postal-service-unveils-1969-first-moon-landing-forever-stamps?fbclid=IwAR3brfU0MXMQhQ1iiRU9Tu1c6IqQbYvMCqFz0WSoumAjp52fzHOTXMMJtgM>

Amateur Radio Philately

Last fall your editor received his amateur radio operators certificate and is now authorized to operate amateur radio equipment using call sign VA3KEP. On March 12, 2019, he presented to the Burlington Amateur Radio Club (BARC) on amateur radio philately. The presentation covered postal history and stamps.

Several members of BARC collect or once collected stamps. Some are/were serious collectors (e.g., one had a fabulous collection of socked on nose cancels).

May Learning Workshop

The title for our seventh learning workshop of the 2018 - 2019 season, on Tuesday, May 7, is "Stamping Grounds - Where You've Been and Foreign Stamps You Bought".

For those who have ventured beyond our shores, the lure of stamp collecting often travels, too — whether for use on postcards to family and friends, or as souvenirs from a trip.

Did they spark a new collecting interest, or do they languish in a tiny folder as a souvenir of memorable trips, to be taken out and enjoyed from time to time?

Were stamps easy to acquire at a post office? Believe it, or not, some countries do not readily stock stamps for across-the-counter purchase. Indeed, I'll tell you about my unusual experiences in that regard in a far-away land — with a happy ending.

Regardless, bring your examples for a fun evening of show-and-tell around the table and regale us with any related stories.

Ian



Huge lot of stamps and souvenir sheets from various countries and eras - were you there? Do you have any of these mini-treasures tucked away to share?

Board of Directors

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