



# 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

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**Mar 2017**

B. Timberg, Editor

## President Sid's Message

Last month I noted two exciting WTSC initiatives planned to celebrate Canada's sesquicentennial.

To bring you up to date:

Planning for the WTSC-Canada 150th commemorative cover is well under way. To enable greater member participation in the cachet design competition, the deadline for submissions has been extended to the end of March. Members are therefore invited to submit their sesquicentennial cachet designs with a WTSC focus to me no later than Tuesday, March 28. I look forward to seeing your creativity in action.

Several of you have shared how you intend to participate in the one page exhibit for this year's Annual Club Exhibition celebrating Canada's sesquicentennial. To encourage participation in one page, multi page and/or one frame exhibiting and to help turn your draft exhibits and ideas into an exhibit that you will be pleased to show in May, the March Discussion Group will focus on exhibit sharing and support. Members are encouraged to bring and share what you are working on and will receive the help needed to turn your idea or draft exhibit into a more finished product. By sharing we can help each other. As well, club "Expert Exhibitors" will be ready and willing to assist.

For those who are still considering how you might participate, there are many Canadian lost stories, little known tales, stories of diversity, of heroism and poignant images that need or could be told through stamps or covers hidden in your collections or accumulations. Whether you participate in this year's exhibition or not, I invite and challenge you to set a personal philatelic goal to mark Canada's 150th birthday and to share and to track your achievements throughout the year. Sharing, helping, and building accountability will get us deep into the hobby and build a positive, vibrant, supportive philatelic community.

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

Sid

## March Activities

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

**Mar 7 ~ Learning Workshop** (doors open at 7, meeting starts at 7:30)

### Topicals

### Mar 14 ~ Regular Meeting

Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

### Mar 21 ~ Discussion Group

**Club Exhibition Workshop.** See the president's message for details.

### Mar 28 ~ Regular Meeting

Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

## Discussion Group Schedule (April – June)

**UKRAINIAN PROVISIONAL STAMPS** – This will be a PowerPoint presentation outlining the speaker's research and award winning exhibit of the provisional stamps of the Ukraine in the 1990's.

**May 16, June 20 ~ TBA**

## PHSC Symposium 2017

Mark your calendars. The PHSC will be holding its first Postal History Society of Canada Symposium this summer at the Sheraton Hamilton Hotel from July 20-23.

Details on the Symposium including the Symposium brochure may be found on the PHSC website. To join the Facebook page for the Symposium, go to Facebook and search PHSC Symposium.

# April Learning Workshop

"A for Anything ... and Anyone" is the topic of our seventh Learning Workshop of the 2016-2017 season.

Collectors are attracted to subjects for numerous reasons, some better known or more obvious than others.

Stamps and postal history from a country or countries are lead topics, as are definitives of specific eras and designs, plus postmarks. Topical subjects, which headline our March session, are also popular.

Some people, however, seek less common topics, sometimes just for fun. Which brings us to the letter "A".

There really are no limits to topics covered by the letter, but here are a few suggestions: Alberta, Afghanistan, A-name postmarks, Animals, Armed Forces, Astronauts, Astronomy, Athletics, Atlantis whether the space shuttle or the mystical mid-Atlantic Ocean sunken continent, Australia, and any country that includes the name Africa or Arabia.

Appropriately, how about stamps issued in April, or those postmarked in April.

You get the idea ... let your imagination roam free.

Members with stamps or covers that fit into the "A" category are invited to bring them to our meeting on Tuesday, April 4, 2017. Doors open at 7 p.m.

Our round-table sessions offer everyone a chance to participate. Come early and grab a good seat.

Ian

Illustrations of A-themed stamps

1975 Grande Prairie, Alberta #4 sub-post office postmark on Centennial stamps



Alberta Law Stamp, a revenue fee stamp



Saudi Arabia 1976 World Health Organization blindness prevention commemorative



1996 commemorative featuring Vancouver athlete Percy Williams who won two gold medals at the 1928 Summer Olympics held in Amsterdam (qualifies for two 'A' subjects)



Dominica souvenir sheet showing Plato, an ancient Greek philosopher who wrote more than 2,000 years ago about the lost continent of Atlantis



## WTSC Board 2016-2018

President: Sid Mensinga  
Vice-President: Ian Robertson  
Past President: Frank Alusio  
Secretary: Rhonda Kavanagh  
Treasurer: Lawrence Pinkney  
Membership: Patricia Blanchard

Directors: Simon Claughton, Fred Colbourn, Art Leduc, Jose Restrepo, Rob Taylor, Bob Timberg

Appointees: Garfield Portch (Auctions Chair, Discussion Group, and Webmaster); Denzil Fernandes (Auctions); Bob Timberg (Bulletin Editor)

Guinea souvenir sheet for 2008 launch of NASA shuttle Atlantis



## RPSL

Several years back the Royal Philatelic Society of London approached Royal Mail to see whether it would be possible to mark the Society's 150th anniversary in 2019 with a commemorative stamp. The Society's hopes were not high since, like here in Canada, there are numerous suggestions made each year. However, the Society has been delighted to learn they have been included in the list of possible events to be recognised. The next step in the process is for Royal Mail to gauge market appetite by way of a survey.

Let's make every effort to support the RPSL by completing the survey. It will take only a minute or two of your time. The survey can be found at:

<https://www.royalmail.com/2019>

