



Bulletin

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

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PRESIDENT SID'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

Each of us I am confident spend many hours sorting, thoroughly inspecting, appreciating, studying, organizing, writing up and mounting the ever-growing philatelic material that at times crowds our "stamp rooms or nooks".

What is it that draws us? Hooks us? Is it: our desire to create order out of chaos, the need for completeness, the thrill of the hunt, the appreciation of the complexity/beauty of the designs and engravings, our quest to understand rates/routes, or is it the need to uncover the philatelic and social stories tied to these little pieces of paper or covers, these philatelic windows into the past?

Yes. All or some can provide understanding and effective reason and rationale to continue to pursue the many facets of the hobby that give us pleasure and joy. A hobby we can freely pursue in our own unique ways and for our own reasons. Doing so continues to drive us to inspect, to research, to understand, to know and to share as we connect with likeminded colleagues and enthusiasts.

So much for this month's philatelic musings.

As Ted Swain noted in last month's Bulletin, the **WTSC election** is to be completed in May 2021. Thank you for considering how you might be part of the WTSC leadership team. See Ted's update on page 3.

As previously mentioned, the WTSC website needs to be reformatted into a more user friendly, easily updateable template format. If you have template website development knowledge and skills, your assistance is needed and will be greatly appreciated.

See this month's **FREE/FOR SALE/WANTED COLUMN** there are some items for you to consider. Ads will appear in the WTSC Bulletin for up to 3 months - submit to Bob Timberg timberg@bell.net or Sid Mensinga sidmensinga@gmail.com

March again provides multiple philatelic opportunities for WTSC members.

1. **Learning Workshop, March 2, 7 p.m. "Topic of Conversation"** The zoom link and reminder was recently sent to all members. Be sure to participate and plan to attend the **Learning Workshop** session planned for April 6th. Details page 3.
2. **Discussion group, 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 16** - Plan to attend and join attendees from across the country. **Guest speaker:** Ed Kroft FRPSC **Topic: The Doar Ivri First Stamps of Israel: Postal and Commercial Usages of the Three High Value Doar Ivri Stamps.** Details page 2
3. As well consider attending this month's (RPSC) **Stamp Talk and Stamp Panel sessions**
 - a. Monday March 8th Liz Hisey - *"Telling stories with postcards."*
 - b. Monday March 15 - *"Moving beyond album collecting. Why would I want to? What are some areas to collect?"* Ken Lemke(moderator), Ed Kroft(panelist), Bill Longley, (panelist)Sid Mensinga(panelist),

Registration in advance is required for both RPSC webinars. See RPSC website for details. <https://www.rpsc.org/>

The WTSC board and leadership team will be meeting March 30th exclusively to discuss transition planning as we consider future face to face meetings. Your thoughts and ideas are welcome and will be given every consideration. They can be sent to me at sidmensinga@gamil.com.

Virtual meetings continue to be our meeting format for the foreseeable future. If you need any help to get started using Zoom contact me at sidmensinga@gamil.com for assistance.

DISCUSSION GROUP

7 P.M. TUESDAY, MARCH 16 - GUEST SPEAKER: ED KROFT FRPSC TOPIC:

The Doar Ivri First Stamps of Israel: Postal and Commercial Usages of the Three High Value Doar Ivri Stamps

This postal history talk deals with the commercial usages of the three high values of the first stamps of Israel (Doar Ivri or Hebrew Post) issued on May 16, 1948. The discussion will focus on:

- The usages of each of the three high values on commercial airmail, commercial parcel post and commercial documents during 1948-1950.
- The reasons why this mail is rare and highly sought after.
- The alternatives to the three high values available to pay high-rate postage and revenue fees during 1948-1950: and
- The immediate successors to the three high values issued during 1950-1952.

Ed's talk is based in part on his book "*The Doar Ivri Issue of Israel: Postal and Commercial Usages of the Three High Value Stamps*" published in 2020 by the Society of Israel Philatelists Inc.

Ed is the President of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

APRIL 20: ANNUAL TOWN HALL MEETING

This meeting is convened annually to allow Club members an opportunity to provide input for both the Discussion Group and the Learning Workshop. We hope that members will provide constructive criticism and provide us with ideas and suggestions for future programs.

MAY 18: TORONTO'S FIRST POST OFFICE

Although the presentation is not yet firm, one or two representatives will provide a virtual tour of Toronto's First Post Office followed by a discussion of the current operations of the office and a presentation of 19th Century postal history.

Toronto's First Post Office is celebrating the 187th anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Toronto on March 6, 2021. The celebration will be a virtual program. The small ad below gives the contact information for the purchase of tickets. Support by members of the West Toronto Stamp Club will be appreciated.



ELECTION UPDATE

As the Board election scheduled for May draws nearer, I am pleased to announce that all current directors have been contacted. And they are excitedly looking forward to continuing in their roles.

However, there is an opening for the position of Secretary.

Please advise ted.swain@sympatico.ca if you are interested in being part of WTSC's dynamic management team.

APRIL LEARNING WORKSHOP

Our eighth Learning Workshop of the 2020-2021 season starting at **7 pm, Tuesday, April 8, 2021** via Zoom, is titled **'Varieties are the Spice of Life'**.

As spring approaches, whether or not rain, sleet, hail, or snow has affected your life, our hobby hopefully continues to put — shall we say — a spring in your footsteps.

There are many types of stamp varieties to consider. Dramatic ones, such as misperforations, imperforates, hairlines, engraving re-entries, lack of tagging where it should exist, different papers, off-register colours, absent images, plus watermarks or the lack thereof, are often found listed in catalogues.

Less dramatic varieties, such as scratches, dots of ink sometimes called 'donuts', plus small lines on engraved stamps, are considered common and are often not referred to in catalogues. Noticeable ink smears that can occur during printing, absence of part of a design due to a lack of inking during production, plus pre-printing paper folds, are popular with variety fans, but are considered freaks and are also rarely listed.

While some collectors lobby for all to be included, editors tend to focus on major, consistent examples. Otherwise, their catalogues could be unwieldy and unusable for most hobbyists.

Regardless of their status, finding even minor varieties can be fun to find and could enhance pages in your album.

Indeed, several members have made worthy discoveries while checking piles of long-accumulated, supposedly common duplicates prior to disposal.

It is with all this in mind that we offer an open invitation for anyone interested in varieties — plus those who might take the plunge and learn how to spot them. Since these evenings are aimed at sharing and learning, I have included a few illustrations purely as guides, to whet your appetite.

Participation is what we aim for, so sift through those lucky finds, or turn the pages of your album with a view to varieties that you can share.

Come one. Come all. Spring into action and join us on the Zoom Express.

The more, the merrier.

- Ian Robertson



Pre-printing paper crease on 1868 3¢ Small Queen,



The 'Weeping Princess' (upper left) a well-known, listed variety.



'Cockeyed King' (left) is a well-known, listed variety.



1986 listed 34-cent 'Hudson Bay Discovered' 'Pink flaw' variety.





The GTAPA Single Page Exhibit to be held April 28th. Club members are welcome to participate. Consider developing a single page for this event or use your entry developed for our Club Exhibition in the fall. More details to follow.

PhilaJournal- WTSC Members are reminded that hard copies of the PhilaJournal are no longer being distributed. Your digital copy and back issues can be found at GTAPA PhilaJournals - Google Drive: <http://bit.ly/2LWtIYJ>

NTSC March 11,7p.m. Mattia Guida will be the virtual Guest speaker on the Stamps of Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel paintings. To get an invitation to this event contact Klaus at NTSC.Membership@gmail.com

FREE/FOR SALE/WANTED COLUMN

FOR SALE: For your philatelic library-

"The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Newfoundland" - Winthrop S. Boggs - a must have (out of print) resource for the Newfoundland collector. Hardcover with dustjacket - Quarterman Publication Inc. 1975. - Price \$30. – offers considered.

"The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada" – Winthrop S. Boggs - a classic (out of print) reference for the serious Canadian collector- Hardcover with dustjacket Quarterman Publications Inc. 1974 - Price \$40- offers considered.

Contact Sid at sidmensinga@gmail.com

WANTED:

I am looking for a couple of Machins for my collection.

10p greyish orange, regular perf. Narrow value

17p olive, elliptical perf.

25p salmon pink, regular perf.

26p post office red, regular perf. Narrow value

Please email ted.swain@sympatico.ca if you are able to help.

WANTED: First Day Cover of Canada Wildlife Habitat Duck FWH23. Contact Jim at tazzwild@hotmail.com