

PRESIDENT SID'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

Looking forward, March continues to be a month filled with multiple opportunities to share, to learn and to maximize the joy and pleasure this hobby brings. In just a few days we can enjoy an evening of member participation as we focus on the King George V Admiral Issue. We are fortunate that guest speaker Bill Burden will lead off the meeting highlighting his "**online Admiral research file.**" The March 1st Learning Workshop should prove to be most informative.

Again, this month I continue to be impressed by the active and various roles many WTSC members play in the larger philatelic community. When considering how members might contribute locally, I am pleased to share that club member Ted Swain has again agreed to conduct the WTSC election to be completed in May 2022. Members are encouraged to consider how they might be part of the WTSC leadership team. Please give this thoughtful consideration. See Ted's note detailing this opportunity starting at the bottom of page 3.

Also, my recent conversation with Staff at the Fairfield Centre was most encouraging. The city spring permit process and requirements for in-person meetings are being finalized and staff at Fairfield anticipate a mid to late April opening for large group permit holders.

Anticipating face to face meetings, a modified in-person WTSC Annual Exhibition is being planned for May. Even though less extensive than in previous years it will provide an opportunity for members to participate by preparing a single page exhibit. The winner to be awarded the Frank Alusio Trophy

Your one-page exhibit may well focus on Her Majesty's image on a Commonwealth country's stamps. Canadian philatelists, royalist and Machin collectors may well use this superb stamp recently issued to commemorate Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee.



March- Philatelic opportunities for WTSC members via Zoom.

1. **Learning Workshop, 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 1, 2022** - *"Salute to Admiral stamps of Canada."* The zoom link and reminder have been emailed to all members. The Learning Workshop for April 5th is detailed on pages 4 & 5.
2. **Discussion Group, 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 15, 2022** – *Show & Tell – Foreign Mail from Anywhere to Anywhere.* Again, an opportunity for member and guest participation. See page 4 for details about upcoming Discussion Group meetings.
3. **(RPSC) Stamp Talk and Stamp Panel sessions.** Registration in advance required. <https://www.rpsc.org/>
 - a. **Monday March 14** – Gregg Redner – *"Philately of the 1920 Antwerp Olympics"*
 - b. **Monday March 21** – *"Specialization"*



CONSIDERING REGISTERING TODAY!!!!



- Thursday, June 9 – Sunday, June 12, 2022, a "once-in-a-lifetime experience "
- This 4-day exhibition will be held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre (MTCC).
- \$50.00 for a 4-day pass or \$15 per day

<https://capex22.org/event/capex-22-international-one-frame-stamp-championship-exhibition/>

GEORGE MACLEAN celebrated his 102nd Birthday on February 4th!

George can take pride in the fact that he is one of only five “Honorary Members” on the WTSC listing of Distinguished Members. This honour was bestowed in 2005; recognizing his distinguished service to philately, for having served on the board for six years and for being the club’s financial auditor for many years. His contributions have been commendable, significant, and most noteworthy.



George, as you read this Bulletin, we want you to know that we value your many significant contributions to the success of the club, your fine sense of humour, friendship and kind, caring manner.

We wish you well and are pleased that you can take great joy and pleasure as you reflect on many happy memories of being a WTSC member. Congratulations & Happy Birthday!

CONGRATULATIONS to the following WTSC members

CHARLES J.G..VERGE, RDP, FRPSL, FRPSC

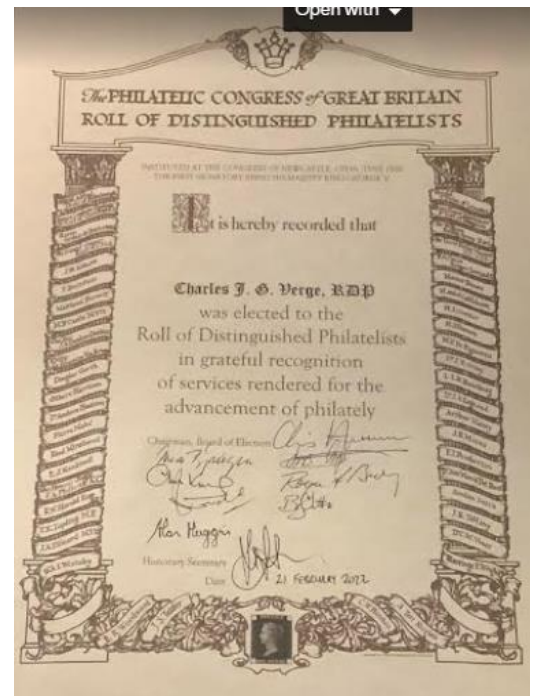


Congratulations to Charles Verge who, although elected in March 2020, was finally able to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in London, England. The invitation to sign the Roll is the most prestigious honour that can be given to any philatelist.

Charles is only the eighth Canadian so honoured and, following the death of Michael Madesker last year, the only living Canadian RDP. Since its inception in 1920, only 396 philatelists from 41 countries have been honoured. Currently, only 89 of those are living.

Charles is a past president of the RPSC, a Fellow of both the RPSL and RPSC, vice-president of the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation, an international philatelic judge and exhibitor and a philatelic author.

To learn more about the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, there is a recording available online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PCBUPbtjDuA>



Exhibiting Excellence

At the recently concluded Emirates 2022 stamp show, in addition to the two members recognized last month, congratulations are also extended to a third WTSC member, **Gregg Redner**: “*The Philately of the 1920 Antwerp Olympics*” (83 points) Well done Gregg. My apologies for this omission last month.

Philatelic Publishing Excellence

Denzil Fernandes:

On his two articles in the GTAPA Spring 2022 PhilaJournal
“Bombay-India Paid-Westward Sea-post Mail”
“WWII Patriotic Art on letter covers of Canada”

Mattia Guida:

On his article in the GTAPA Spring 2022 PhilaJournal
“*The Island of Kastellorizo*”

<http://gtapa.org/philajournal>.

Philatelic Publishing Excellence - Continued

Ken Pugh:

Three references have gone to the printer in Feb.

1. *Release 13A - BNA fakes of Andre Frodel*
2. *Release 26 - BNA forgeries of Giovanni Patroni*
3. *Release 6 - A detailed study of the Canada used souvenir and booklet eBay fakes of 2003-2005 (colour reprint)*

Gregg Redner:

'Voyage to the 1920 Antwerp Olympic Games, Part 1', will be published in the spring edition of 'The Journal of Sports Philately'

-and-

'From Collector to Exhibiter' will be published in the spring edition of 'The Philatelic Exhibiter.'

Ian Robertson:

On his bimonthly columns; *News Bites & Looking Back* in the Canadian Stamp News. In the March 1-14 edition:

"Familiar father, son return for Canadian Tire centenary"

"Leger's advocacy for a unified Canada was timely"

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS to Ian, celebrating **35 years** as a columnist with Canadian Stamp News



<https://canadianstampnews.com/>

Bob Vogel:

On his newly available published book

"Canada Post Office replacement and publicity First day Covers" by Andrew Chung and Bob Vogel

Available at <https://longleyauctions.com/product-category/bnaps-books/>

Well-done gentlemen!

If you are aware of philatelic excellence to be shared, please send to sidmensinga@gmail.com

WTSC BOARD ELECTION

As defined in our constitution, the Board of Directors for WTSC are to be elected by ballot with the election occurring bi-annually at the second regular meeting of May in even-numbered years.

Obviously Covid-19 implications prohibited our holding the election in May 2020.

You may recall that we had an election in May 2021 but with the term of office being only 1 year. This brought us back into line with the Elections Article VI of our Constitution.

As such, President Sid has asked me to conduct the election to be held this May 2022. My first task will be to contact the current Board Officers and Directors to learn if they are interested in continuing to participate in Board activities.

At present, there is one vacancy in the Board, the Secretary position.

I would ask any member interested in joining the Board to let me know no later than the end of March. My email is as follows; ted.swain@sympatico.ca

For your information, following is Article VI-Elections of our Constitution.

ARTICLE VI - ELECTIONS

Section 1 – Term

The Officers and Directors of the CLUB shall be elected by ballot for a two-year term with the election held bi-annually at the second regular meeting of May of even-numbered year. The term of office shall commence on 1 September and shall conclude on 31 August.

Section 2 - Voting

All active members in good standing, and in attendance at the election meeting, shall be qualified to vote. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected.

Section 3 - Nominees

Any member in good standing may nominate a candidate for the Election. Nominations from the floor may also be accepted provided the candidate has given his/her consent.

Section 4 - Conduct

The election shall be conducted by an active member in good standing provided that they are not a member of the Board or a candidate for election.

Please give some thought to this opportunity to be part of our club's operations.

Thanks, Ted Swain

UPCOMING DISCUSSION GROUP MEETINGS

The next meetings will be:

March 15: Foreign Mail from Anywhere to Anywhere

Another member and guest 'show & tell' that will encourage attendees to show some of the magnificent covers that sit in every postal history collection. The only rule for this gathering is that material presented must be addressed to a destination outside the country of origin. Again, it is expected that presenters will show an extensive array of material that others would not have an opportunity to see under normal circumstances.

April 19: Trans Atlantic Airmail

Our presenter for this evening's meeting will be Chris Hargreaves, a recognized expert in the field of Canadian aerophilately. Further details and a synopsis of the presentation will be posted in next month's Bulletin.

May 17: Town Hall and CAPEX22

It has been traditional to set aside one meeting per year to provide our members with an opportunity to present feedback, comments, and requests. The opening segment of this meeting will provide that opportunity. Input is requested to ensure that the Discussion Group meetings and topics are meeting the interests and requirements of our members.

The second portion of this meeting will be a discussion of the upcoming CAPEX22, Canada's first international stamp show of the 21st century. The West Toronto Stamp Club is an active participant in this show through relationships with the organizing committee members, through participation via an information meeting scheduled for Friday afternoon, and through a number of members participating as exhibitors. This will be an event not to be missed.

APRIL LEARNING WORKSHOP

Beginning at 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 5, 2022, via Zoom, our 76th virtual Learning Workshop of the 2021-2022 season is entitled "Flights of fancy — Airmail-related stamps and covers."

Airmail philately has had keen followers since the earliest flights about a century ago. Indeed, there are many branches.

Airmail stamps alone can fill an album or albums, if a collector is keen on them as a worldwide topic. Otherwise, each country's albums have back-of-the-book sections for related stamps.

There are also occasional varieties, such as Canada's well-known punctuation error, on a 17-cent 1946 Special Delivery Airmail stamp featuring a Douglas DC-4 aircraft flying over Québec city. Instead of engraving a backwards-slanted accent grave bar above the second 'E' in *Exprès* — French for special delivery — an inverted 'V' known as a circumflex was used. Corrected stamps were issued just over 10 weeks later. In the early days of pioneering pilots, starting in Canada in 1918, some fliers carried mail between cities, others travelled to and from remote destinations. In all cases, such flights dramatically increased delivery times which previously relied on road transport or, in the case of out-of-the-way communities, mail carried on slow-moving boats, on horses or even on dog sleds. Special 'First Flight' rubber-stamped and occasionally-printed cachets were often prepared for covers. Some are pricey, but others are often inexpensive, providing an opportunity for interesting research into the carriers' history and geography, including tracing the routes they took. Covers and packets flown overseas were stamped 'Airmail', after which gummed labels with text identifying the service were — and still are — applied. Such covers have attracted collectors from the beginning, and at our club's April 19 Discussion Group zoom session, Canadian aerophilately expert Chris Hargreaves will be the guest speaker.

There are also Airmail Special Delivery and Registered covers carried on planes, with myriad postmarks providing clues to the dates and places where they were handled. Some carriers were permitted to apply printed labels to the backs of covers and such collectible Airpost Semi-official issues are well-documented in journal articles and books.

Aircraft were much flimsier back then and mishaps often occurred, with some crashes ending tragically.

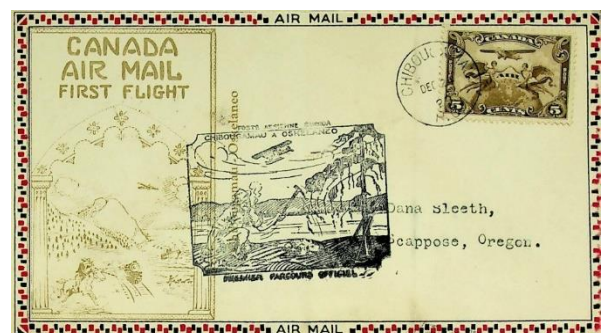
Covers from such incidents, and much later accidents, were marked with special text alerting recipients so they could understand the delay in delivery or — in some cases — reasons for 'Crash Covers' being damaged. The most dramatic are partial, fire-charred envelopes.

Mail was carried out of besieged cities in Europe in the 1800s aboard lighter-than-air balloons, with surviving covers considered rare and highly-collectible. Commemorative stamps featuring several such flights were produced in later years. On the novelty side of our hobby, special balloon flights have been staged, with collectible covers featuring printed illustrations and/or rubber stamp cachets. And, yes, some were flown in Canada. Lastly, in addition to airplanes, mail has been carried on helicopters. Special covers have, of course, been prepared to commemorate inaugural flights.

To put it mildly, the sky's the limit or, following the dictionary definition, there is no limit to this topic!

I certainly hope it takes off well ... so come aboard at the appointed hour and bring your "airmail philatelic luggage" to share enroute.

- Ian Robertson



ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR WTSC MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Consider attending the Mississauga Coin & Stamp Show - March 6th

John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre, 4300 Cawthra Rd., Mississauga, AL, L4Z 1V8

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.

Admission is \$5 (children under the age of 16 are free), and parking is free.

Web: <http://www.troyakclub.com>

A few of our members who are also members of Troyak are actively involved and would be pleased to know you have been reminded about this opportunity.

WTSC MARKET PLACE:

FREE/FORSALE/WANTED

WANTED: Covers with corner cache "Harbord Stamp & Coin Store, 203 Harbord St., Toronto" - Circa 1925 - 1950. Contact Don Hedger at don.hedger@gmail.com

WANTED: - Vimy Pilgrimage (1936) FDCs, postcards, medals, badges, and ephemera. Contact Don Hedger at don.hedger@gmail.com

WANTED: Canadian Centennial covers 1967-1972 to foreign destinations other than Europe. Contact Sid at sidmensinga@gmail.com

This ad space is free and can be used by any WTSC member.

REMINDER TO WTSC MEMBERS

This is your Marketplace

Ads can be submitted anytime during the month to

sidmensinga@gmail.com

Ads show for 3 months.

An 'In-Store' Opportunity for Members

Buy - Sell - Trade



- POSTAL HISTORY
- STAMPED ENVELOPES (COVERS)
 - POSTCARDS
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