



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

Volume 82
Issue 417

Nov 2016

B. Timberg, Editor

President Sid's Message

All of us have heard and appreciate the phrase "knowledge is power" as it relates to studying and knowing what we have in our stamp and postal history collections.

This past month we have had the opportunity to increase our knowledge by attending the very informative session(s) given by Ken Pugh on *Fakes and Forgeries of Canadian and BNA Stamps*. Ken underscored the importance of the need to increase one's knowledge by noting that he needs to spend considerable time studying a genuine stamp and the postal history of an item before he can come to any conclusion about a possible fake or forgery.

This month you can further your knowledge and appreciation of our hobby by attending our Learning Workshop on *The Centennial Definitive Series 1967 - 1973* on November 1 and Dr. Galway's Discussion Group session on *Aviation in Western Canada* on November 15.

We are fortunate to be members of a club that provides such quality speakers and learning sessions. I look forward to your attendance at this month's Learning Workshop and Discussion Group evenings.

A special thank you to Garfield Portch and Ian Robertson who provide the leadership and planning to ensure that these very worthwhile sessions happen.

WTSC CHRISTMAS DINNER- Friday, December 9

Yes, the holiday season will soon be upon us with many opportunities to enjoy the festivities. This year plan to attend our Christmas festive get together and dinner, Friday, December 9, at the Canadiana Restaurant, Six Points Plaza; arrive between 6:00 and 6:30 with dinner at 7. If last year is any indication, a great time will be had by all as we visit with fellow club members and their significant others while enjoying a delicious meal of turkey, roast beef, or salmon. There will also be a cash bar and great donated prizes. The cost will be the same as last year - \$30 per person. Sign up during the upcoming meetings or contact me at sidmensinga@gmail.com

November Activities

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

Nov 1 ~ Learning Workshop (doors open at 7, meeting starts at 7:30)

Let's Talk About the Centennial Definitive Series 1967 - 1973

Nov 8 ~ Regular Meeting

Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

Nov 15 ~ Discussion Group

Guest speaker and club member **Dr. Robert Galway** will speak on **Aviation in Western Canada**. This will be a continuation of the presentation begun in September 2015 and will deal with the development of airmail service in the Canadian West.

Nov 22 ~ Regular Meeting

Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

Discussion Group Schedule (January – June)

January 17 ~ Ian Robertson

MR. LIVINGSTONE, I PRESUME - The story of a shopkeeper from Picton, Ontario who branched into postcards before World War 1 and distributed what may be the best quality photographic postcards of Ontario scenes.

April 18 ~ Mark Stelmacovich

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.

February 11, March 21, May 16, June 20 ~ TBA

December Learning Workshop

Tools of the Trade will be the focus of the third Learning Workshop of the season.

Members adept at handling philatelic tools are invited to do a brief show-and-tell about:

- Measuring perforations on stamps with a variety of gauges, and recommending which ones they prefer.
- Detecting watermarks and identifying differences with the help of catalogue illustrations, which can reveal the difference between printings of stamps that look alike at first glance but have separate listings, some pricier than others.
- Using ultra-violet lamps and learning what is not easily visible under white light. UV use can also reveal the difference between printings of stamps that appear similar at first glance but have separate listings, again some pricier than others.
- Handling stamps with tongs, and which types are recommended.
- To soak or not to soak stamps attached to papers with various colours, and for how long if you decide to take the plunge.
- Magnifying glasses, which come in all sizes and styles.
- Hinges, old and new, and how to mount stamps and how to avoid damage while removing them.
- Stamp mounts, which come in different formats and protect stamps.
- What type of stock books are best for protecting stamps.

I've had several requests for an evening devoted to such subjects, so why not come out to our December 6 meeting. If you have tools of the trade to share, bring them along. A few minutes of examination with tools of the trade might also solve the mystery of a puzzling stamp.

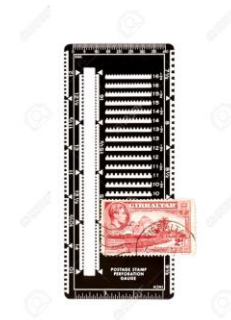
The meeting offers everyone a chance to participate, discuss how far you've gone, or wish to go.

Come early for a place around the table. Don't be shy!

Ian

Illustrations:

Popular metal stamp gauge includes measurement in metric and Imperial lengths



Instanta gauge provides sliding scale of perf measurements with lines printed on clear, thin plastic



Ultraviolet light reveals phosphor image of moose on \$5 Canadian definitive



Flat-tip stamp tongs come in different sizes and angles of attachment; magnifying glasses come in all sizes



Stamp mounts are a safe way to protect stamps in an album



Pre-gummed folded hinge attached this stamp to an album page



Crown and stars watermarks impressed into paper as security measure



Soaking stamps free of paper requires careful handling plus knowledge of printing to avoid thins and ink dissolving



Reminder: Please Renew Your Membership and Confirm Your Member Profile

Reminder: A significant number of members have not yet renewed their membership. Dues are unchanged from last year - \$15.00 if paid by the Learning Workshop on November 1 and \$ 20.00 beginning November 2. For a family membership, add \$5.00.

If payment is not received by November 30, you will be deemed to have resigned from the club.

Also, if you have not yet done so, please update your profile with Patricia Blanchard - phone, e-mail, collecting interests, other memberships, etc.

Toronto Aerophilately Day

Interested in learning about aerophilately? Then come out to the Greene on Sunday, November 6, between 11:15 and 4 for the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society's Toronto Day of Aerophilately. There will be displays, trading and plenty of excellent conversation.

Exhibition at the Smithsonian

If you happen to be in Washington, D.C. in the next while, stop in at the National Postal Museum to see an exhibition on loan from the UK, "From Royal Mail to Public Post". The exhibition displays original documents from 1635 to 1840 charting the expansion and evolution of the UK's postal network. It closes January 16, 2017.

Incidentally, the UK's postal service, Royal Mail, is observing its 500th anniversary this year (2016).

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)

