



Since 1935

Bulletin

The Newsletter of the West Toronto Stamp Club

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Rob Timberg, Editor

President's Message

I would like to take the opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very HAPPY and HEALTHY NEW YEAR, and to thank you for supporting our Club and participating in our many activities. It is because of you that our Club is one of the most vibrant anywhere.

As a new year starts and an old one ends, we contemplate what has brought us joy in the months gone by. Looking back over 2012, I am very pleased that our Club continued to prosper. We grew our membership; our programs are thoughtful and motivating and get better with each year; our finances remain in great shape; and most importantly we promoted this great hobby so that it will survive for all posterity.

If you have been an active member, thank you. If not, remember that a little effort goes a long way and can result in great benefits. We are a member-driven organization and by expressing your desires, you help our Board to shape programs that benefit all.

Before closing, I would like to mention our own Garfield Portch who co-authored with Charles J.G. Verge a paper, "A Comparative Study of Security Measures Used by Stamp Printers", which he delivered to the First International Symposium on Analytical Methods in Philately on November 12–14, 2012 at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C. Garfield, great work.

I would also like to welcome Dr. Robert Galway to the Club. Robert, enjoy!

So as you begin the New Year, please renew your commitment to philately. If you do so, I know 2013 will be a truly HAPPY NEW YEAR!

From the Editor

Each Christmas Day I have a tradition of listening to the Royal Christmas Message. This year as I listened to Her Majesty, I thought of George V, her stamp-collecting grandfather, who delivered the first Royal Message during Christmas 1932. I resolved to learn more about the famous philatelic collection of the Royal Family.

I was astounded to discover that the collection of just George V alone is housed in 328 red albums of about 60 pages each, and that altogether there is

enough unmounted material to fill about 2,000 albums.

George V was such a passionate collector that when in London he tried to spend 3 afternoons a week uninterrupted working on his collection.

It was quite easy for me to find information on the Royal stamp collection, and it could be just as easy for you to learn something about an interesting philatelic matter too.

This year, pick a topic you've always wanted to learn more about. Research it, tell me what you discovered, and I'll put it in an issue of the Bulletin for all Club members to share in your discovery.

To learn more about The Royal Philatelic Collection and its history, click the link below:

<http://www.royal.gov.uk/The%20Royal%20Collection%20and%20other%20collections/TheRoyalPhilatelicCollection/TheRoyalPhilatelicCollection.aspx>

Saving Toronto's Postal Station "K"

Update: Historic Postal Station "K", located on the site of Montgomery's Tavern where William Lyon McKenzie and his rebels gathered in the 1837 rebellion and the only building in Canada to bear the insignia (lion and unicorn) of Edward VIII, has been sold to a private developer, the Rockport Group, with no requirement that the historic integrity of the building be preserved. Press reports however indicate the developer may be prepared to preserve the front of the building by incorporating it into the development. Stay tuned.

January Discussion Group Session

If you are interested in learning how to mount philatelic materials on pages for display, then be sure to come to our January 15 session.

Frank Alusio will give a hands-on and overhead demonstration on how to mount stamps, covers and the like. He will reveal his personal techniques!

Frank will also demonstrate how to research a subject and find appropriate material, then show how easy it is to craft a single page display.

You're guaranteed to walk away from the session with the thought, "It is so simple; I can now do it too."

UNIPEX Stamp Bourse

The UNIPEX Stamp Bourse will take place January 11-13, 2013 at the Rameses Temple Shrine Club at 3100 Keele Street (between Wilson and Sheppard at Maryport). Admission and parking are free. Hours are: Friday, 11-6, Saturday 10-5, and Sunday 10-4.

Fall Invitational Auction

The Fall Invitational Auction on December 11 was a great success. Thirty-nine members attended, 26% more than in 2011. The catalogue value of lots, \$5,380, was up 139% over 2011.

The auction, conducted by our own Reay Cairns, attracted 19 buyers who spent on average \$35 each. The net realization was \$664 or 12% of the catalogue value.

Thank you to all who attended, to Reay for his auctioneering skills, and to Denzil Fernandes and Don Hedger for their assistance.

Details of the auction are:

Comparative Table Dec 2012 vs Dec 2011		
	2012	2011
Attendance	39	31
Vendors	13	7
Lots	64	50
Catalogue value	\$5,380	\$2,247
Lots Sold	52	44
Total price realized	\$664	\$419
Avg selling price	\$13	\$9.50
Commission	\$66.40	\$41.90
Buyers	19	15
Avg buyer spend	\$35	\$22

Christmas Dinner

Twenty-three members and guests attended the annual Christmas dinner on Friday, December 14 at the Canadiana Restaurant. All ladies attending received a box of chocolates, and additionally a number of prizes were given away.

Many thanks are due Frank Alusio, Peter Butler, Simon Claughton, Don Hedger, Rhonda Kavanaugh, Rob Taylor, Vijay Vijayakumar, and our Club for donating the prizes, and Fred Froud and Don Hedger for organizing the event.

Membership

As of December 31:

Summary		
Begin 2012-13		84
Renewed	+64	
Reinstated	+1	
Still to renew	+8	
Not renewed	-11	
Deceased	-1	
New members	+3	
December 31, 2012		76

We extend a warm welcome to Dr. Robert Galway (1042) who recently joined the Club.

Jan — Feb 2013 Calendar

All activities are on Tuesday (doors open 6:30 pm)

Jan 08	7:00 pm	Regular meeting, show and tell, and auctions
Jan 15	7:00 pm	Discussion Group (Frank Alusio): "Mounting Techniques: how to mount stamps, covers, and maximize space, how to create a single-page presentation, etc."
Jan 22	7:00 pm	Regular meeting, short information session, and auctions
Feb 05	7:00 pm	Machin Study Group
Feb 12	7:00 pm	Regular meeting, show and tell, and auctions
Feb 19	7:00 pm	Discussion Group (Dr. David Foot): "Eclipse: presentation on stamps and other philatelic material"
Feb 26	7:00 pm	Regular meeting, short information session, and auctions

PhilaHumor



"Can you believe it... I ordered stamps from a dealer and they Fax them to me."