



Since 1935

Bulletin

The Newsletter of the West Toronto Stamp Club

Meetings are held at
Fairfield Centre
80 Lothian Avenue, Etobicoke, ON
tel: 416-394-8687
www.westtorontostampclub.org

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Rob Timberg, Editor

President's Message

I am pleased to report that our activities are well underway.

Auctions – Our new process, “walk-in lots and pay-out the same evening”, is working quite well. We owe sincere thanks to Reay Cairns, Peter Wood, Denzil Fernandes and Fred Colbourn for making the new process run smoothly. Members can make the process run even better, particularly at the end of the auction when payments and payouts are being processed, by waiting for their number to be called. Your cooperation will be much appreciated.

Acknowledgement – Thanks are also due the Sansford Family Trust who have donated a complete set of Scott Postage Stamp and Unitrade 2014 catalogues to the Club for use by members on the evenings of regular meetings.

Project – I must confess to a wee bit of disappointment and sadness that only 9 Club members participated in Peter Butler's project “your favourite philatelic item” and greater disappointment when only 2 participated in the next stage of the project, a story to accompany the item. I'm at a loss to understand why this project was not a hit because it has been successful at other clubs. Was it because the project required some research? I'd be happy to speak to anyone who has thoughts on this.

Special Trip – Speaking of research, we had a relatively poor turnout to the special visit to the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation on October 15. Eleven members attended, 7 of whom were board members. Those who attended were given a demonstration by the Greene's librarian on how to use the library to research philatelic matters, and a presentation by Club member Garfield Portch on the Greene's work in the area of analytical philately.

GTAPA - George MacLean has had to step down as one of the 2 Club representatives to the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance. Peter Wood has volunteered to replace George. Thanks Peter for taking on the role and, to George, our sincere thanks for having been our ambassador to the GTAPA and also for the many other duties you have filled so admirably over the years.

Last but not least, I want to welcome James Carleton to the Club. Enjoy!

As this is the last Bulletin for 2013, **I wish to extend to you and yours the very best of the holiday season.**

Happy collecting!

You've Been SNAPD

SNAP Etobicoke recently took several photos at a Club meeting. The “Fun-loving Philatelists” of the West Toronto Stamp Club may be viewed at: http://www.snapetobicoke.com/?option=com_sngevents&id%5B%5D=595442&utm_source=email&utm_medium=snapd

November Discussion Group

At our November discussion group we will be welcoming well-known philatelist and fascinating speaker, Michael Millar, FRPSC. Michael will present on “Perfin Travel Planner”, and will also explain using a show-and-tell how we can easily get into serious philately as well as social, business and commercial history with perfins.

“Perfin” is an acronym derived from PERForated INitial or PERForated Insignia. It is a stamp that has been punched with holes in the shape of a design, symbol or letters. A perfin stamp can only be used by its owner and was once a way for organizations to prevent theft of their stamps. In addition, governments have used them to note official mail.

Michael is a National and International exhibitor, National and FIP Juror (Emeritus), as well as an organizer. He also serves The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada as Chair of the Ethics Committee and Chair of the 50-Year Club. He is currently Secretary of the Barrie District Stamp Club.

The presentation will be held Tuesday, November 19 at 7 pm at the Fairfield Centre. Let's do our utmost to have a great turnout and show our WTSC hospitality to visitors.

We'll see you there!

GTAPA

Several members have asked for specific examples of the type of article that would be suitable for publication in GTAPA's PhilaJournal.

As a reminder, articles should be on a topic of interest to GTAPA members. Reflective articles should have a philatelic perspective, and opinion pieces should maintain a positive tone. Specific topics include: your role in the hobby, what you collect, how you got started, a mentor, what your club is doing.

Articles are to be sent to the editor, Susan Butler, at subtler@ilap.com

Our Members

In September Peter Butler resumed writing his Grassroots Philately column in Canadian Stamp News. The column is expected to appear monthly.

Also in September Garfield Portch was appointed to the Board of Directors, and Vice-President, of the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation. Mark Stelmachovich was appointed Assistant to the Greene's Expert Committee, replacing Garfield.

The Fall 2013 issue of GTAPA's PhilaJournal has pieces by 3 Club members: "The Utility of Lateral Thinking" by Peter Butler; "What is a Lettersheet" by Frank Alusio; and "Tools of the Trade, Part 1: Celestron Microscope Model 44302" by Peter Wood; and a tribute to Syd Griffin on receiving a GTAPA Certificate of Merit.

The Summer 2013 issue of the PHSC Journal, Our Second Annual Favourite Cover Issue, has a note from Rob Timberg on a cover, "Unique WWII Mail Service Suspended Cover".

The October 2013 issue of American Philatelist has 2 letters from Peter Wood on POW matters, "Finding Lt. Alfred" and "Adding to the Story".

Garfield Portch spoke in early November to the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society, and then the St. Catharines Stamp Club, on forensic philately and the Greene Foundation, his 13th and 14th guest speaking engagements of 2013.

If you have done something interesting, or know a member who has, please let us know. If we don't know about it, we can't let members know of the achievements and accomplishments of others.

Christmas Dinner

Reminder - the Christmas dinner will be held Friday, December 13, 6:30 pm, at the Canadiana Restaurant, 5230 Dundas Street West, Etobicoke (6 Points Plaza). Cost is the same as last year, \$30 per person, taxes and gratuities included, alcoholic beverages extra. Tickets must be purchased in advance from Fred Froud or Don Hedger. Dress is smart casual.

The Canadiana is a fine, centrally-located restaurant with plenty of free parking. Fyi, its website is: <http://www.canadianarestaurant.ca/en/>

Membership

As of October 31:

Summary		
Begin 2013-14		77
Renewed	63	
New members	1	
Still to renew	12	
Resigned	2	
October 31, 2013		76

We welcome to the Club James Carleton (1046).

For those still to renew, the \$20 annual fee may be given to Chris Edwards, Membership Secretary, at a meeting or mailed (cheque made payable to the West Toronto Stamp Club) to Chris at:

WTSC Membership Secretary; #505-63 Waterford Drive; Etobicoke, ON M9R 2N7

Nov – Dec 2013 Calendar		
All activities are on Tuesday (doors open 6:30 pm)		
Nov 05	7:00 pm	Machin Study Group
Nov 12	7:00 pm	Regular meeting, show and tell, and auction
Nov 19	7:00 pm	Discussion Group (Michael Millar): "Perfin Travel Planner"
Nov 26	7:00 pm	Regular meeting, short informational session, and auction
Dec 03	7:00 pm	Machin Study Group
Dec 10	7:00 pm	Regular meeting, and invitational auction
Dec 13	6:30 pm	WTSC Christmas dinner at Canadiana restaurant