



Since 1935

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

Club Year 2025/26 - Vol. 91
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Chapter 14



Chapter 148

PRESIDENT SID'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

This year end WTSC Bulletin provides you with a window on the year in review, highlighting our many successes. We have much to be proud of and to be thankful for. WTSC is more than a club known for its excellent bi-weekly auctions and face-to-face meetings. It is a community shaped by friendship, shared knowledge, and a mutual passion for the hobby. Whether we connect in-person or online, your participation continues to strengthen the WTSC community, foster camaraderie, and helps this great hobby grow.

Last night's year- end **"What and How do you collect "** in-person meeting was most informative and enjoyed by all as we shared a piece of year end celebratory cake and ended the meeting with a successful special auction.; and an excellent example of the superb sharing and the positive support we continue to experience at WTSC. (See page 2 for highlights.)

Thank you to all members for their attendance and active participation both in-person and online. As well, thank you to the WTSC leadership team and to everyone who stepped up to complete tasks or supported others to "get it done".

Looking Ahead: 2026/2027 Program As we plan for the year ahead, what ideas, themes, or activities could help shape and strengthen our 2026/2027 in-person and online programs? How might you volunteer to make it happen?

Be sure to share your thoughts with the coming year's 2026/27 leadership team.

Sid Mensinga - President - Bulletin Editor- Auction Co-chair – Annual Exhibition Co-chair – Online Program co-leader

Ian Robertson – Vice President – Online Learning Workshop Program Chair

Douglas Hill - Secretary -

Janice White - Treasurer – Circuit Book Manager

Ted Swain – Membership Director – Circuit Book Leader

Directors

- Simon Claughton - Circuit Book team - Auction team
- Denzil Fernandes - Club Webmaster - Auction team computer lead
- Don Hedger - Director at large - Coffee/refreshment team
- Marilyn McKay - Director at large
- Jose Restrepo - Auction team (web & computer backup)

Appointees

- Lionel Collier - Coffee/refreshment team lead
- Garfield Portch - Online Discussion Group Program Chair - Auction Co-chair – Annual Exhibition Co-chair
- John Robertson - Auction Finance team

Even though we will not meet in-person during the summer our **Discussion Group sessions** will continue during the summer on the 3rd Tuesdays 7:00 p.m. (Note: online Learning Workshop sessions will not be held this summer.)

Our first meeting for the 2026/27 club year will be an in-person meeting to take place **Tuesday Sept. 8th**.

On behalf of the WTSC leadership team have a terrific and safe summer.



SUMMER PHILATELIC OPPORTUNITIES

July 21 - DISCUSSION GROUP, 7 p.m. via Zoom, "A Senior Philatelist Discusses Thematic Philately"

August 18 - DISCUSSION GROUP, 7 p.m. via Zoom, **TBA**

EXHIBITION CERTS & TROPHIES/ "WHAT AND HOW DO YOU COLLECT "/ CELEBRATORY CAKE / SPECIAL AUCTION
EVENING - some of the HIGHLIGHTS
JUNE 30TH 2026



WTSC MEMBERSHIP Update

As our 2025/26 season comes to a close, I am pleased to say that your Club added 17 new members this year. Our total PAID membership is now 111 compared to 2024/25 paid membership of 98.

I am sure this growth reflects both the friendliness of our in-person meetings and the valued information via our zoom programs.

I look forward to seeing everyone in September to collect your membership renewals!

Have a good summer!

Ted
Membership Director

WTSC CIRCUIT BOOK ACTIVITY



Hello from the Circuit Book Team. The circuit books contain stamps submitted by our members. Reconciliation of the books are completed in December and June. 10% of the sales are given to the club with the remainder paid to the members.

We wish to thank all those who submit pages to our circuit books. Also, to the club members that peruse and purchase each month.

Here are our sales information for the past 12 months.

- Sept to Dec 2025 - \$1,885.20 from 81 customers
- Jan to Jun 2026 - \$1,393.85 from 83 customers.

Total \$3,279.05

The circuit books are made available to the members the 1st "IN PERSON" meeting of each month. Also, the team travelled to Owen Sound, Woodstock, and Hamilton last fall. This spring we travelled to Hamilton and North Toronto as well as our own Circuit Book night.

We are looking for additional persons to help with the sales either during the club evening or when we travel to other areas.

Please consider joining our team and helping with this very important activity.

Ted and Janice



WTSC ONLINE

Another year of outstanding sharing & learning – great evenings of fun and digging deeper!

Thank you to our engaging and informative guest speakers, and to the attendees who prepared and shared PowerPoint presentations. As well, strong attendee participation and thoughtful questions asked helped deepen our learning and appreciation of various stamp and postal history topics.

If you missed any of the sessions or want a second look, be sure click on the links below.

DISCUSSION GROUP - 11 sessions - a year in review

2025,

- 17 June - What is in Your Secondary Collection?
- 15 July - The Earliest Canadian Airmail by Chris Hargreaves
- 19 August - The BNA Faked Bisect Covers of Raoul Charles de Thuin - by Ken Pugh
- 16 September - Princess Elizabeth, Before She Became The Queen - by Ann Miller
- 19 November - Canada #1 Beaver Stamp - Laid Paper or Not - by David Hobden

2026,

- 20 January - Toronto Mail to 1866 From Mudhole To City - By Alec Globe
- 17 February - Toronto Mail to 1866 From Mudhole To City - Part II
- 17 March - Mail of the Jane Austen Period - by Simon Claughton
- 21 April - Oldest Philatelic Items in Your Collections
- 19 May - What is this Philatelic Item doing in my collection?



<https://www.westtorontostampclub.org/discussion.htm>

LEARNING WORKSHOP - 10 sessions - a year in review

2025,

- 3 June - What floats your boat in the hobby of Philately?
- 7 October - Show and Tell" meeting with the letter "J" theme.
- 4 November - American Topical Association (ATA) Awareness - Topical Collecting.
- 2 December - What do you value in your Collection(s)?

2026,

- 6 January - Initial Letter Consonant "K" - Philatelic item Presentations
- 3 February - Collecting Cinderella Stamps as a Hobby
- 3 March - What it's Worth Mar. 3, 2026 - Bill Longley
- 7 April - Interpreting Postal History Covers - Chris Green, Garfield Portch, and Kenneth Snelson
- 5 May - Philatelic - Letter 'L' Presentations
- 2 June - Philatelic - Postcards That Enhance Collections!



<https://www.westtorontostampclub.org/machins.htm#time>

OTHER PHILATELIC LEARNING link to explore.



For those with an enthusiasm for worldwide stamps and postal history. Check out this link!!!

<https://www.rfrajola.com/exhibits.htm>



WTSC 2025/26 – a year of EXHIBITING EXCELLENCE!!

WTSC ANNUAL EXHIBITION was most successful. The evening was very well attended and set a record for the numbers of exhibits entered; 14 single-page, 4 multi-page, and 9 single frame exhibits.

THE GARFIELD PORTCH SINGLE-FRAME COMPETITION - Your WTSC team won top honours by winning this inaugural competition competing against six other Ontario club teams.



Royal * 2026 * Royale

PALMARÈS - ROYAL * 2026 * ROYALE WTSC member participation/ results

Grand Award - Grand Prix

Single Frame Grand Award - Sid Mensinga WWII Gravenhurst German Prisoner-of-War Camp Mail

Multi-Frame - Multi-cadres (5 of 36 exhibits)

- Ken Snelson - UK International Postage Due Letter Mail: Formative Years of Postal Union - The First 25 Years 93 LG
- Charles Livermore - The Canadian National Exhibition - A Philatelic and Social History 88 G
- Ann Miller - Princess Elizabeth Stays in Malta: Malta's 1950 "Royal Visit" Issue 83 LV
- Ted Nixon - 1880-98 Newfoundland Issue - British American Bank Note Company Printings 81 LV
- Dharmendra Patel - Gandhi: Father of the Nation, Babu & Mahatma 73 LS

Single Frame - Un-cadre (19 exhibits)

- Sid Mensinga - WWII Gravenhurst German Prisoner-of-War Camp Mail 93 LG
- Duncan Barber - Great Britain Pre-Decimal Registered Express to Europe at the UPU Surface / All-up Rates 1892-1971 90 LG
- Garfield Portch - Steamboat Mail on Lake Ontario, 1818 to 1856 88 G
- Don Hedger Epic of Vimy - A Canadian Pilgrimage 86 G
- Vladimir Niderman -The 1931 Polar Rendezvous of the Graf Zeppelin 83 LV
- David Gooderham -The 'Boots' Minisheet of Great Britain 81 LV
- Don Hedger -A Canadian Soldier's Postcards - Mailed from the Somme & Flanders, May 1915 - April 1916 76 V
- Dharmendra Patel - World Naval Heroes and Naval History 69 S

SPECIAL AWARDS

RPSC Awards of Excellence

Title /Synopsis - Ken Snelson

American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors

Gold Award of Honor - Vladimir Niderman

Novice Award - Sid Mensinga

American Topical Association

Single Frame Award - Don Hedger

British North America Philatelic Society

Best BNA One Frame Exhibit - Sid Mensinga

Postal History Society of Canada

Ritch Toop Best Military Postal History Exhibit - Sid Mensinga



Boston 2026 World Expo Palmarès

Class 2C - Traditional Philately – Europe- Multi frame exhibit

Mark Stelmachovich - Ukrainian Provisional Postage Stamps and Usage, 1992-1996 85 LV

Class 13 - One Frame Exhibit

Ingo Nessel - Hong Kong 1945/6 - Post War Restoration of Postal Services 90

Jean Wang - Smokes for the Troops: British and Canadian Tobacco Funds in World War I 90

Class 15D - Literature – Digital Literature, Websites and Software

Jerry Kalyn - Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society Website (www.upns.org) 76 LS

OTHER PHILATELIC OPPORTUNITIES



ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA: Virtual ZOOM sessions Registration in advance required. <https://www.rpsc.org/>

- July 13 - David Foot - Maralinga & British Atomic Bomb Tests in Australia, 1952-67

Aug 8/26

FENPEX

Fenelon Falls Community Center, 27 Veterans Way
Fenelon Falls, Ontario

9:00 am to 3 pm

Fenelon Falls Community Center, 27 Veterans Way, Fenelon Falls, ON, K0M 1N0 Fenelon Stamps Club is proud to present the FENPEX 26 Stamp & Coin Show. Hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enjoy free admission and free parking, member exhibits, wheelchair accessible, free door prizes, refreshments only, a sale table and an auction table. The show will feature over 10 dealers with a large range of stamps and coins collecting material. Everyone is welcome.

Contact: Yvan Racine

E-mail: yvan_racine@yahoo.ca



**GEORGIAN BAY
COIN & STAMP CLUB**



presents

WASAGA BEACH COIN & STAMP SHOW

Saturday, August 22nd, 2026, 9:30am - 3:30pm
YMCA RecPlex: 1724 Mosley Street, Wasaga Beach

Over 60 tables of coins and stamps, tokens, bank notes, mint issues, collectibles and supplies, RCNA Youth Booth.
Admission is \$2 per person, free for youth 16 and under (with an adult)
SILENT AUCTION • FREE PARKING

Eastern Ontario Vintage Paper Show Brockville, ON

Including postcards, postal history, stamps, books

Saturday, August 29, 2026
9 am - 3 pm

Sponsored By Eastern Ontario Postcard Club
Wall Street United Church - Gym
5 Wall Street, BROCKVILLE, ON

info: savery611@gmail.com 613-345-7598

roybrooks@sympatico.ca 613-213-2389

 Eastern Ontario Postcard Club



BNAPS convention, exhibition and bourse 17-20 September 2026

Thursday - BNAPEX prelude: full-day bilingual guided tour of Montreal
Friday (10:00-17:30) Saturday (10:00-17:30) Sunday (10:00-15:00)

Convention venue

Hôtel MOCO Valleyfield
40 Av du Centenaire
Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, QC J6S 3L6

WTSC MARKETPLACE:

WANTED

1. Mail addressed to Camlachie, Ontario and any mail postmarked Camlachie, Ontario. Also happy to learn about any other postal history you may have related to Camlachie. Please contact John at jd33smith@yahoo.com
2. Looking for Scott number 33 for plate collection. Contact David Bray dbray12traditions@gmail.com
3. WANTED: Queen Elizabeth II era Canadian covers 1950's - 1980's. Registered, special delivery, auxiliary markings, foreign destinations, anything unusual. Email Ingo at b62hkg@yahoo.ca if you have some for sale or trade.
4. WANTED - Straits Settlements with clear company hand stamps.
SEE: <https://michelhoude.com/BMSM/Index.html> email: mjrhoude@gmail.com
5. WANTED- German "Germania" stamps of any wmk. nowmk. overprint, surcharged from Germany, and all the regions, countries occupied by Germany. Please contact Vijay at vijaystamps@gmail.com.
6. If you are burdened with an excess of used Canada Admirals, I may be able to help. I am always looking for Admirals in quantity to further my research on plate flaws. Contact wgburden@mac.com for details. Thanks.
7. Wanted: Worldwide **Perfins** and Worldwide **Precancels**. Gary Douglas grandbankman@yahoo.ca
8. Wanted: Philatelic Society journals from any society and Stamp news publications. Maple Leaves, BNA Topics, Linns Stamp news, Gibbons Stamp monthly... **ANY** periodical and books. Auction catalogues any era. Gary Douglas grandbankman@yahoo.ca
9. THEME STAMPS WANTED- SHIP
As a collector of specific ship stamps – the Russian memorial cruiser AURORA - moored at St. Petersburg/Leningrad. I have all the Russian-issued stamps (I think). Searching for any issued by ex-communist countries I may have missed – the ship, her gun or searchlight (to start the 1916 'revolution'). Such as Albania, Bulgaria, Poland, Romania, Mongolia, China, Seychelles, etc. Possibly 1943 – 1997. After that date Russia discouraged such commemoration of 'revolution'! Or Theme lists?
Fraser McKee, fmmck22@rogers.com or 416-655-8911.
10. Looking for Medical philately: material related to the following topics:
 - Blood donation (slogans and clinic appointment reminders)
 - Hospital for Sick Children material (letters, covers, cards)
 - WWI tobacco funds - Canadian and British, any material
 - Canadian Family Allowance envelopes (1948-1956)
 - Asbestos advertising (Canadian)
 - Mutual Aid Association cards listing cause of death.
 - Proprietary and patent medicine advertising (Canadian)Please contact Jean jcyw65@rogers.com
11. Interested in India Italy and Netherland colonies squared circle postmarks, stamps and covers Contact Mattia at 6479904073 email stampsofitaly@yahoo.ca

WANTED- Continued

12. Perfins: I am setting up a small display of perfins for a relative who expressed an unfamiliarity but interest.

These criteria:

- a. Not over \$1 or so per stamp (for now!)
- b. Not 'Canada & OHMS' (which I had)
- c. Any other country; or stamp ¢ or \$ amount
- d. Preferably minimal cancelation or unused
- e. Private companies or governments
- f. Mail, deliver or pick up - your convenience.

Contact Fraser McKee, fmmck22@rogers.com or 416-655-8911.

13. Wanted. Any large queen with Bothwell paper. Contact John @416 742 2347

14. WANTED: WW1 covers and postcards from both the soldiers in the field in Europe and also from the various UK camps and hospitals used by Canadians. The keys for me are clear postal and censor markings. If you do not wish to sell, a scan would help me update the books and I would be pleased to help you in researching those items. Contact Wayne at gwschnarr60@gmail.com

FOR SALE

1. BOOKS

- The Canadian Posted Letter Guide, The Classic Period, 1851 -1902, Volume 1, 1996 Edition; by Charles G. Firby & Victor L. Willson. - \$5.00.
- The Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada; printed 2017 - \$10.00
- The Edward VII Issue of Canada; by George C. Marler, printed 1975 - \$30.00
- The Admiral Issue of Canada; by George C. Marler, printed 1982 - \$30.00 Used – Excellent condition.

Contact Janice.white@rogers.com

2.

UNITED STATES MINT PLATE BLOCK COLLECTION in Blue Ribbon

Mounts on Minkus album pages.

1982 thru 1985- 103 pcs, including 24 blocks of 20 and 79 blocks of 4.

All 796 stamps are MNH.

2017 cat value = \$967- **face postage \$167.20**

~~Your price~~ **only \$80**

New Rock bottom price \$60.

Contact Michael Graf at mljig@icloud.com

3. I would appreciate the opportunity to speak to anyone interested in a four-binder set of the Royal Air Force covers signed by the pilots." Contact info is as follows: greg@jgsholdingcorp.ca



4. **EASTERN EUROPE HORDE FOR SALE**

East Germany, Russia, Hungary, Poland, Romania stamps on album pages and in binders

Bulgaria (1896-1993) in two three-ring D-ring Lighthouse Classic binders with hundreds of printed pages (60% filled)

Hungary (1898-2006) in four three-ring D-ring Lighthouse Classic binders with 1,000s of printed pages (20 % filled)

Poland (1919-2012) in three three-ring D-ring Lighthouse Classic binders with hundreds of printed pages (70% filled).

Robert Pinet, (416) 878-8529 or robert_pinet@yahoo.ca

FOR SALE - FROM AN ESTATE

ITEM #1



An accumulation of plate blocks and inscription blocks from the Queen Elizabeth II period.

Housed in 4 3-ring binders and mounted on black stock sheets.

This holding includes an extensive collection of early QE II definitives, recent commemorative stamps in 4 corner sets and many high value (\$1, \$2, \$5) blocks.

Total face value is **\$1547.76**

ITEM #2



A smaller holding of plate and inscription blocks from the Queen Elizabeth II period.

Housed in Lighthouse 'Safe' albums (6).

This holding includes an extensive collection of early QE II definitives, recent commemorative stamps in 4 corner sets and many high value (\$1, \$2, \$5) blocks.

Total face value is **\$620.34**

ITEM #3



Four Lighthouse 'Grande' 3-ring binders and slip cases in absolutely perfect condition. Currently listed online at US \$38.99 each.

This holding also includes 12 packages of 'Vario' pages priced online at US \$6.50 each.

There are also 15 unused Vario pages plus some used pages.

Total value approx. **\$253 (US)**

There is no fixed price for these lots. All reasonable offers will be considered.



Garfield Portch 416-561-0385 garfield.portch@gmail.com

Buying and Selling Italy and Italian
area including Italian States and
Colonies. Send me your want list
Contact Mattia at 6479904073
email stampsofitaly@yahoo.ca

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