

Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance

PhilaJournal

Spring 2003 Edition

VOLUME # 1, ISSUE # 3

Issued Quarterly in Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer

RPSC Affiliate # 4



GTAPA Information & Calendar of Meetings

The GTAPA meets the fourth Wednesday of each month during the school year as outlined below:

March 26, 2003

April 23, 2003

May 28, 2003 AGM and Dinner Meeting

Meeting Locations

The GTAPA meets at various local area club sponsored locations.

Timing of Meetings

Each meeting starts at 6:00pm and ends no later than 9:00pm. All Alliance Members are encouraged to attend.

Annual Member Club Dues

Each club provides \$1.00 per active or honorary member each fiscal year (September 2002 to August 2003). This provides approximately \$325.00 of funds to support this organization and its various planned projects this fiscal year.

Newsletter Scope and Goals

The scope of this Newsletter is to provide a forum for all of our Alliance Members to share their special interests, share their success stories, issues and concerns. In addition it will provide useful information regarding philately in general and special features.

The editor encourages your comments, either by letter, email or telephone calls, to ensure that a state of the art newsletter is produced to meet the needs of the large and diverse Alliance Members

Newsletter Distribution

Your GTAPA Director is given enough copies for their respective clubs and is responsible to

provide you with a copy of this newsletter. Make sure you ask for your copy!

Executive Committee

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| • President | Peter Butler |
| • Vice President | Dorothy Attwells |
| • Treasurer | Frank Alusio |
| • Secretary | Ernie Nyitrai |
| • Editor | Richard Weigand |

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Section # 1 Executive Committee Corner

Welcome to GTAPA

WHAT'S TO SHOW ON OUR FIRST ANNIVERSARY?

Yes, it's been one year since the concept of the Alliance was created by a group of executive members from local stamp clubs in the Greater Toronto Area. Since last January, this motley crew has met a dozen or more times to develop a working constitution, an enthusiastic executive, a representative Board of Directors, and several initiatives to spur on the philatelic organizations of the GTA. With seven member clubs and fourteen reps, the *Alliance* has begun to have an impact and a positive presence with stamp collectors and dealers.

So what do we have to show for a year's worth of effort and planning? Our most obvious initiative is the newsletter, *PhilaJournal*. While there is always a period of time that is needed to work out the kinks, I think this third issue shows the readers, a great deal has already been accomplished. Editor, Richard Weigand, has work diligently to get clubs to contribute and to develop a newsletter that keeps clubs informed about the work of the *Alliance* and to share club activities with the larger community. A first-class communications paper takes time and effort to develop, and we are on the way!

Two initiatives we have begun to put into place are the organization of a speaker's list, to help clubs identify and invite speakers to their meetings, and a symposium on youth, representatives from all clubs to meet and identify what can be done to provide a boost to youth programs. We have organized two excursions to Hanover Ontario, to take in the *Royale* at the end of May. Tickets for that trip will be on sale very soon from your club reps. If you need more information about these day's excursions, speak to your club rep.

At our January Board meeting, we unanimously voted to hold an Alliance event next fall. While many of the details are yet to be worked out, I can tell you that several decisions are already firm. There will be a competitive exhibition for the clubs to enter three, one-frame collections from their own shows held this spring. A trophy has been commissioned as the grand prize, which will be awarded to the winning club. We are hoping that this event can be held in conjunction with the Canadian Stamp Dealer's Association Show in October. There will be other events at the show that will hopefully include; speakers, workshops/seminars and a youth program. A more complete outline will be available in the next few months. In the meantime, keep working on those exhibits, and if you haven't started yet, do roll up the sleeves now!

The Alliance is a vibrant and energetic organization, and I hope our work merits your continued support. Please feel free to contact us if you have concerns or suggestions on how we might better serve the clubs. We are always grateful for good council and helpful feedback.

Enjoy you club's activities and your hobby!

A FURTHER WORD ABOUT PHILAJOURNAL

You have a stake in this publication too! We continually need material to publish: we earnestly need your voice and your contributions. Why not commit to writing something about your club and its program highlights, an invitation to an up-coming club event, or an article on something that interests you as a collector. We want a publication that speaks to the collector, from the collector. Please consider contributing something today. Send it to the editor or through your reps, to the monthly Board meeting.

GTAPA at UNIPEX

The first stamp show of the year was organized by Unitrade Associates and was held at the Shriners Temple on Keele Street, on the weekend of January 11 - 13, 2003. GTAPA requested a table in the front foyer, to share the good news about the Alliance with attendees, and Doug Robinson (manager) asked if we would also look after the door prize sign up balloting. He was also agreeable to letting us run a raffle to raise funds for the Alliance program.

The prizes for the raffle were generously donated by *Canada Post*, and our thanks and appreciation have been sent to Jim Phillips and Elia Anoaia of the Stamp Marketing Department in Ottawa, for their assistance. The Prizes were won by; Maria Wrzosek of Lakeview, New York, Leigh Hogg of Waterloo, and Ernie Nyitrai of Unionville. Congratulations to the winners were extended on the Sunday and the prizes were mailed out the following day.

The Alliance is indebted to *Unitrade* for their support and assistance to us, not only by providing us with the opportunity to meet collectors attending the shows enabling us to share our enthusiasm, but by taking out ad space in our *PhilaJournal*. We have the makings of a mutually beneficial relationship here: I hope our members will patronize the business at every opportunity.

Thanks is also extended to the GTAPA Board members who gave of their time to sell tickets and be a presence at the three days of the show; Joe Malboeuf, Herb McNaught, Art Bone, Richard Weigand, Roy Haina, Dave Williams, Dave Tegtmeyer, Ernie Nyitrai, Garfield Portch, Frank Alusio, Peter Butler.

Bramalea Stamp Club Joins GTAPA

The Board is pleased to announce that the Bramalea Stamp Club has elected to join the Alliance. Representatives Bob Thorne and Steve Singh attended our January meeting and were enthusiastically welcomed by the Board.

"Where did you get the name PhilaJournal?"

"Where did you get the name PhilaJournal?"

Good question! The answer is that we took the words "philatelic" and "journal" and created a contraction. We thought the word, journal, "a periodical esp. an academic one dealing with a specialized subject" *Canadian Oxford Dictionary*, suited our publication better than the word "newsletter".

Another question might be, "Where does the word "philatelic" come from? It is the adjective, of course, of the noun, philately. To quote *Britannica On Line*, the term philately, was coined in 1864 by a Frenchman, Georges Herpin, who invented it from the Greek *philos*, "love", and *atelia*, "that which is tax free". That isn't very helpful, is it?

Looking further, I found a clearer explanation in, *Fundamentals of Philately* by L. N. Williams. Monsieur Herpin did write an article in *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*, stating that postage stamps had been collected and studied for several years since their creation and development into common usage, and referred to the then-current word, "timbremanie" as impossible of acceptance to designate the pastime. He proposed that the word "philatelie" expressed the idea that the odious term "timbremanie" did not. Namely that "philatelie" from two Greek words, meaning, friend, amateur, and (in speaking of an object) free, exempt of any form of tax, and franked... made ultimate good sense. The new word signified: the love of the study of everything relating to franking. (The reader might recall that prior to the invention of the penny post, the receiver of a letter paid for the delivery, not the sender. With the sender paying the "tax", the addressee on the correspondence received the letter, "tax free". The receipt of payment, the stamp, was then cancelled, (franked) then sent on its way.)

As time passed, the term gained in popularity. In 1868, the editor of *The Stamp Collector's*

Magazine wrote, "If our readers wish to become philatelists in the true sense of the word, they must not be content with buying stamps and mounting them in an album – he must also study them." Implicit in this comment is that those who chose to merely, "buy and mount" are simply stamp collectors, while those who "study" are philatelists! A snobbish sentiment to be sure.

Over the years, the term, "stamp collector" has come to mean one who, with some knowledge of what stamps have been issued, seeks to obtain them in order to fill spaces in an album, to complete sets, or for other such reasons. A "philatelist" has come to mean one who has as a prerequisite, the knowledge of the stamp collector, and studies the stamps and the subjects, which enables him/her to classify the stamps according to their production and their use. Perhaps there is still a lingering sense of the latter being a notch above the former. For me, the difference is simply one of preference, with no value judgment as to which is preferable. Surely the enjoyment in what you do in the hobby is what is paramount.

Today, we also use the term, "specialist", as one who has as prerequisites, the background knowledge of the philatelist, and who, by intensive study, has acquired detailed and specific information about stamp production and use that he/she has created new knowledge.

I have recently read about another category that is present in the hobby, that of an accumulator. But that is for another time... another article! Aren't you glad you asked about PhilaJournal?

Yours sincerely,

Peter Butler

Peter Butler

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Section # 2 GTAPA Directors

Ajax Philatelic Society

Richard Weigand & Roy Haina

Bramalea Stamp Club

Bob Thorne & Steve Singh

East Toronto Stamp Club

Dorothy Attwells & Elaine Skinner

North Toronto Stamp Club

Ernie Nyitrai & Doug Irwin

North York Philatelic Society

Joe Malboeuf & Art Bone

Scarborough Stamp Club

Peter Butler & Jim Carleton

West Toronto Stamp Club

Frank Alusio & Garfield Portch

Other Committees

Public Relations/Promotions – P. Butler

Operations/By Laws/Archives – E.Nyitrai

Speakers Program – Doug Irwin

Circuits – J. Carlton, E. Skinner

Exhibitions – Vacant

Section # 3 Member Club Activities

✉ Ajax Philatelic Society

Who ever said "Moving was an adventure" has never had to go through a meeting location change as well as a bourse move! Our club has done both over the past two years and glad to say we are now fully entrenched in both locations.

Club Meeting Dates – Second and Fourth Thursday of each month during the school year.

Location – The new and very beautiful - Ajax Public Library on Harwood Avenue, just south of Hwy 401 and Harwood Avenue exit.

Club Activities – Our club plans this spring include two speakers:

April 10th 2003 – Peter Howe – Collecting Basics

April 24th 2003 – Richard Weigand - Internet Stamp Sites

Bourse – Our 24th Annual Bourse will be held the last Saturday in February 2003 (22nd) in the HMS Ajax Room at the Ajax Community Center. We are pleased to advise this year we again have twenty dealers, Youth Table,

Exhibits, Raffles and our world famous Lunch Counter staffed by the wives of the Executive Committee. We look forward seeing you there.

✉ Bramalea Stamp Club

Club meetings held in the Terry Miller Recreation Centre and meets both -

a) On the First Sunday of each month from October to June between 2:30pm to 4:30pm where a voice auction is held

b) The third Tuesday from 7:30 to 9:30pm.

There are approx. 25 members in our club and we would welcome your attendance at either of both meetings. Our members collect from odd shaped stamps as a topical to classic philately and everything in between.

The Bramalea Stamp Club is a member of the following philatelic organizations:

a) Chapter 144 of Royal Philatelic Society

b) Grand River Valley Philatelic Alliance

Annual Stamp Show

Our annual bourse is held on the first Saturday in February each year.

✉ East Toronto Stamp Club

Founded on February 11, 1938 for the development of the hobby of stamp collecting with membership open to anyone. The club has continued to today with meetings the first and third Wednesdays of each month with the exception of July & August. The club meets at the Stan Wadlow Club House which is behind the East York Arena at Cedarvale and Cosburn Avenues with the main intersections being Woodbine and O'Connor. 7pm to 9pm

A short business meeting is held at each meeting with a membership report, introduction of any visitors, draws and then whatever program is arranged is presented. Table auctions are available at our meetings and occasionally floor auctions. Our members also use circuit Books and many purchases are made.

East Toronto Club Listing of Events 2002/2003

5 March - First Day Covers, Philatelic Items, etc

19 March - Revenue Stamps

2 April - Philatelic Novelty Items

16 April - Elections

7 May - Floor Auctions

21 May - Closing Night

✉ North Toronto Stamp Club

Club Meeting Dates for 2002 – 2003

Our spring programme is not yet complete but we can tell you about some of our presentations in the New Year:

February 27: Stuart Reddington, Canada's Small Queens

March 13: Ted Nixon, The Vincent Graves Greene Foundation and Its Expert Committee

March 27: Member's Night: Buy, Sell and Trade

April 10: Exhibition Award Winners/ Presentation and Judges Critique

April 24: Annual Spring Auction

Other meeting dates are May 8 and 22, June 12 and 26.

Annual Bourse

The North Toronto Stamp Club invites all readers of the GTAPA PhilaJournal to mark this weekend on their calendar: March 22 and 23, 2003 – when the NTSC is holding its 60th Annual Exhibition and Stamp Bourse at the Floral Hall, Edwards Gardens, 777 Lawrence Avenue East, at Leslie Street. There will be 48 frames of one-frame exhibits, competitively judged, and a bourse of 24 dealers, as well as the popular Sales Circuit, freshly renewed for this important show. Come early and stay late -- the doors open at 10 p.m. and there will be sandwiches and coffee available for our guests. The show is open from 10 am to 6 pm Saturday and 10 am to 5 pm on Sunday and features a display of competitive judged one frame exhibits. Door prizes, a silent auction and a selection of refreshments for weary stamp shoppers!

Regular Club Meetings are held the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, except for July and August (social meetings are substituted), at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, on the east side of Yonge Street one block north of St. Clair. Parking is available for members and guests who do not use the transit system. After a short business meeting we turn to a speaker, or have a panel discussion or slide show. Business meetings begin a little before 8:00 p.m., but the Sales Circuit is generally available from 6:30 on and two or three of the Club's dealer-members

also provide material for members to look through.

Coffee and cookies are served and the club's extensive sales circuit is available from 6:30 p.m. on most evenings. A good working library is maintained and is available to members who wish to borrow items for research purposes. A bulletin is published approximately eight times a year, containing reports of speakers' presentations as well as features on stamp issues, postal history, and the stamp world in general. A two-day exhibition and bourse is held each March at the Civic Garden Centre at Lawrence and Leslie, as well as several one-day dealers' shows in the same location throughout the rest of the year. Membership fees are \$15 per year.

✉ North York Philatelic Society

2002 marks the 50th Anniversary of The North York Philatelic Society. It was in 1952 that five members of the North Toronto Stamp Club decided that they should start up a club in the then Township of North York. Of the five only one is living today. They first met in a small wooden building approximately where North York Blvd. is today. The club has grown over the years and North York is now part of Metropolitan Toronto.

North York Philatelic Society meets every 1st. and 3rd. Wednesday of each month with the exception of July and August when only one informal meeting is held on the 3rd Wednesday. Meetings are held in the Skater's Lounge of the Herb Carnegie Centennial Centre - 580 Finch Avenue West, (between Bathurst and Dufferin) North York 7P.M. - 9P.M. Sales Table, Circuit books, and Auctions with Speakers make up the programs. Joe Malboeuf President - (905) 884-5503.

NYPEX 2003

Our 2003 stamp show NYPEX will be held Saturday, May 3-2003 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel - 1677 Wilson Avenue (Hwys. 400 & 401) 10A.M. - 5P.M. 24 Dealers, Sales Circuit, Raffle, Door Prize, plus silent auction. PLEASE NOTE - NEW DATE AND LOCATION !!!

Special Recognition to Herb McNaught
Congratulations to Club Member Herb McNaught, on the publication of a book of his winning collection; the Half Cent Small Queens Issue (1882-1897) of Canada by the British North American Philatelic Society (BNAPS).

This will preserve the research that goes into putting together a first class exhibition. CONGRATULATIONS! HERB!

☒ **The Scarborough Stamp Club**

Meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month during the school year, and are held at the Cedarbrook Community Centre, located behind Cedarbrae Collegiate, at 91 Eastpark Blvd. in Scarborough. (Eastpark is two blocks south of Lawrence and runs from Markham Road to Bellamy Rd.)

The first meeting of the month is for trading, buying, and selling. The club's circuit books are available for buying material submitted by club members. There is no formal meeting nor is there an organized program. Members come any time after 6:00 p.m. and depart at their leisure to 8:30 p.m. when everyone packs up for the night. In the second meeting of the month, there is a brief business meeting, an auction, a raffle and lucky draw, and often, a presentation on some aspect of stamp collecting. The meetings are usually over by 9:30 p.m. Refreshments are provided, and guests are warmly received and welcomed into the activities.

January's Meeting... a Great Start to 2003

At the Christmas Party, club members traditionally play several games of Bingo before a Pot-Luck Buffet is attacked by members, families, and friends! This year, 40 people attended. At the close, the president handed out, to the membership present, a Philatelic Bingo Sheet. It had 25 squares and invited each player to mount a stamp from their collection that best fit the description/challenge in each square. They were asked to bring the sheets to the January meeting to share their "collections" Prizes were to be presented to all, and three special prizes were to be awarded the most complete and creative collection.

Twelve members displayed their Bingo sheets on January 21st - a fine showing and a learning experience for all those involved. Sample sheets were distributed at the January GTAPA meeting to all club reps. Perhaps you may see it soon at a club meeting. Give it a try! You will enjoy the challenge, learn something philatelic, and share your knowledge with colleagues.

Frank Alusio, a member of the West Toronto Club, who is an international exhibitor and

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judge, visited SSC to talk about Topical/Thematic collecting. He shared samples of his exhibits and presented a list of suggestions for would-be exhibitors. We thoroughly enjoyed his presentation. Copies of his handout will be made available to all who attended.

Plan to Attend Scarpex 2003

The Scarborough Stamp Club will host its annual show and bourse this year, on Saturday, May 10th, at its regular meeting place, the Cedarbrook Community Centre. Hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Admission and parking is free. An exhibition of club member collections will be displayed.

Program Highlights include; 18 dealer tables, club circuit books and sales table, door prizes and hourly, lucky raffle draws. Refreshments will be available. For more information, please call 416-690-4666.

☒ **West Toronto Stamp Club**

West Toronto meets on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesday except July and August at 7:30pm, at Fairfield Seniors' Centre, 80 Lothian Ave. (3 blocks south of Bloor Street West, and 2 blocks east of Islington Avenue) in Etobicoke.

Calendar of Activities

The Club's activities scheduled for the upcoming months are:

Jan	14	Regular Meeting, Auctions and Dealers tables
	21	Study Group Session (tba)
	28	Regular Meeting, Auctions and Dealers tables
		•
Feb	11	Regular Meeting, Auctions and Dealers tables
	18	Study Group Session (tba)
	25	Regular Meeting, Auctions and Dealers tables
		•
Mar	04	Executive Meeting
	11	Regular Meeting, Auctions, Dealers tables
	18	Study Group (tba)
	25	Regular Meeting, Auctions, Dealers tables
		•
Apr	08	Regular Meeting, Auctions and Dealers tables
	15	Study Group (tba)
	22	Regular Meeting, Invitational Auctions
		•
May	06	Executive Meeting
	13	Regular Meeting, Auctions and Dealers tables
		Elections of Officers 2003-2005
	20	Stamp Exhibition, Allen Cup
	27	Regular Meeting, Auctions and Dealers tables
		•
June	10	Regular Meeting, Auctions and Dealers tables
	17	Stamp Exhibition, Drake Trophy
	24	Regular Meeting, Auctions and Dealers tables

West Toronto Stamp Club

Spring 2003 Invitational Auction

Will take place on Tuesday, 22 April 2003

Viewing: 7:00-8:00pm
Bidding: 8:15pm sharp

Bargoons Galore

No lot is less than \$20.00 catalogue value

This is an Oral Auction.

Section # 4 Serialized Article Part #3

Editor – Each year we will present a major study that will be split among the four issues of the year. Collect all four so that you will have the entire study!

Editor - Richard Weigand

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

Written by Richard Weigand

This is the history of the UPU and its effect on postal services and philatelic activities worldwide.

Cooperation between the UPU and UN took a major leap forward in 1968 when together they setup large-scale postal projects for Africa, Asia, Latin America and Middle East countries. The UPU also works in conjunction with other related UN agencies such as International Civil Aviation Organization for the transport of airmail around the world.

Today the UPU Executive Committee meets each year and their Director General is Thomas Leavey former assistant postmaster general of the US. The UPU issues a quarterly journal *Union Postale* featuring articles of interest to worldwide postal authorities. The UPU works with third world countries to improve their postal services as well as technology, business and customer service issues for the remainder of its members. Today's member countries number 189 which in practical terms the UPU covers the entire population of the world.

Thirteenth Congress

The thirteenth congress was held in Brussels, Belgium on May 14 to July 11, 1952 with a general agreement on the extension of literature for the blind and prisoners of war at no charge. This congress also abolished the color-coded standard established in 1897. Letter size was also amended to set a minimum standard of 4 inches x 2.75 inches. These changes were effective July 1, 1953.

Fourteenth Congress

The fourteenth congress was held in Ottawa, Ontario on August 14 to October 3, 1957. Although air transport charges were reduced mail rates were increased. These changes took effect April 9, 1959.

Sixteenth Congress

The sixteenth congress was held in Tokyo, Japan on October 1 to November 14, 1969. At this congress the members agreed that the growing imbalance of exchanges required that the administration that receives more mailed items that it sends would compensate for the costs of conveyance, sorting and delivering of this excess international mail. This fee became known as "terminal dues."

Seventh Congress

The seventeenth congress was held in Lausanne, Switzerland to celebrate the centenary of the organization.

This congress started on May 22 and ended on July 4, 1974.

Twentieth Congress

The twentieth congress was held in Beijing, China from August 23 to September 15, 1999.

Countries subscribing to the UPU Rules & Regulations

The UPU has now 189 countries that subscribe to their rules and regulations. This listing is useful when you want to check on the legitimacy of a country that is new to you. The purposes of the meetings are to review guidelines for the international mail handling among its members.

The UPU is organized into four Groups/Councils:

a) Executive Council

Commissions under this council study a variety of matters including" General Affairs, Letter Post, Transit and terminal dues, Airmail, Parcel Post and technical cooperation. This group is

composed of 40 members elected by the Congress with due regard for equitable geographic distribution and its members meet each year at UPU Headquarters in Berne, Switzerland. This group studies the work done by all the sections, supervises the members and makes recommendations to the members at the next congress.

b) International Bureau

This bureau handles Judicial and Administrative issues, Financial Section and Postal Studies. This is a small group elected by the UPU and meets in Berne annually to discuss methods of disseminating information about the UPU to the world. The UPU set up a "Special Fund" maintained by voluntary donations and is mainly designed for financing training, equipment for developing countries.

c) Consultative Council of Postal Studies

This section studies the future of postal studies, postal improvements, postal mechanization, postal management among other areas. This Council is composed of 35 members elected by the Congress for a 5 year term. This group also meets annually in Berne and studies major problems affecting postal administrations affecting the member countries. This Council also studies all postal matters affecting third world or developing countries.

d) Task Force for Unauthorized Postage

The UPU has recently established a task force to study unauthorized postage. The UPU has expressed concern regarding a sharp increase in the number of illegal stamps released by postal administrations without their authorization. Based on 1997 results more than 30 countries reported more than 200 stamps were issued without UPU approval. For example – Republic of Congo issued a series of stamps honoring the Atlanta 1996 Olympics. [Many of these envelopes end up in the international system and the receiving nation has problems, as they do not conform to the UPU regulations.]

International Standards Organization (ISO)
ISO Standard 3166 lists all the UPU countries by two and three letter codes used for mailing purposes.
ISO Standard 4217 lists all the UPU countries and two letter codes for designation for country currencies.

Specimen Overprints

Each year three UPU members in Berne, Switzerland handle over 4 million stamps known as Specimen Overprints. Each UPU country sends 650 examples of their new issues which are then redistributed to the member countries. These stamps given to the UPU traditionally had the word "Specimen" overprinted on the stamp.

UPU Achievements

The establishment of a standard set of rules in a multinational agreement structure has created an easy method for the world's population to communicate efficiently and cost effectively.

An ongoing task of the UPU is to continue the support of the developing countries grow their infrastructure which includes personnel training and equipment so that these countries can enjoy the benefit of the worldwide economy.

The UPU has launched a program for more aircraft usage in the transport of all classes of mail to speed up the delivery process worldwide, which has received support among its members. This has resulted in faster personal and business communications which has a direct effect on global economic performance.

By allowing free postage for mailed items for prisoners of war and civilian internees, as well as for literature for the blind the UPU has transformed its humanitarian aims into reality.

Internet Web Site

If you wish, you can visit the UPU site at <http://www.upu.int>.

Stamps honoring the UPU

Switzerland was the first country to honor the UPU with a stamp to mark the 25th anniversary of its founding. Today many countries honor the UPU by issuing stamps.
October 9, 1999 was designated Stamp Day in honor of the 125th anniversary of the UPU.

Section # 5 Annual Subscriptions

If you wish to subscribe to the Philajournal we would be glad to send you this great publication for \$10.00 per year.

Please send your name, address and donation to the Editor.

Section # 6 Logo Competition

The GTAPA is looking for a unique logo to identify our philatelic association. As an example you will find on the masthead an example of a new logo.

Contest is open to all GTATA club members.

Deadline – February 1,2003

Prize - \$100.00

Use – We will use our new logo on the Philjournal, letterheads, flyers etc. Your ideal logo will be seen by thousands over the next few years alone!

Send your logo to the Editor.

Section # 7 Congratulations to Garfield Portch

by Frank Alusio

West Toronto Stamp Club member and GTA Philatelic Alliance representative Garfield Portch has been recognised by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada for service that can be described as outstanding. Over the past several months, Garfield has compiled and indexed of the contents of The Canadian Philatelist journal from the first issue to the present. His efforts will be invaluable to researchers, writers, postal historians, and the casual readers who may have recalled seeing an article or other item in one of the issues but cannot readily recall which one. The Index has been posted to:

<http://www.rpsc.org/cp/cp-index.htm>
on the RPSC Website.

It will also be made available on a disc, free of charge, to anyone supplying a stamped, addressed return envelope. However, if someone wishes to enclose a dated Small Queen stamp for Garfield's calendar collection, it will be gratefully accepted. Requests for a disc containing the Index should be made to:

Mr. Garfield Portch,
c/o McGowan & Portch,
4894 Dundas Street West,
Islington, ON M9A 1B5

Section # 8 Stamp Show Cork Board 2003

March 1,2003 Milton Stamp Fair, Milton Ontario
Milton Seniors Activity Centre – 500 Childs Drive (off Ontario St between Main St & Laurier Avenue

Saturday Hours 10 – 5 pm.

March 8,2003 Oakville Stamp Club
Oakpex 2003 is being held at St. Paul's United Church on Rebecca St. (north of Lakeshore & East of 4th Line)

Saturday Hours: 10 am – 5pm.

March 15, 2003 Burlington Stamp Club
Burloak Stamp Fair Burlington Seniors Center
2285 New St (Central Park) Monthly Bourse with seven dealers. Hours 9 am – 3 pm.

March 15,2003 Oxford Philatelic Society
Oxpex 2003 is being held at John Knox Christian Church, 800 Juliana Drive, Woodstock

April 5,2003 Kawartha Philatelic Society
KAPEX 2003 is being held at the Peterborough Christian Fellowship Bldg., 300 Milroy Drive
Hours 10 am – 5 pm.

April 11-13,2003 CSDA Spring Show
Toronto National Postage Stamp Show
Queen Elizabeth Building, CNE Grounds
Friday 11am-6pm,. Saturday 10am-5pm and Sunday 10am-4pm.

April 19, 2003 Burlington Stamp Club
Burloak Stamp Fair Burlington Seniors Center
2285 New St (Central Park) Monthly Bourse with seven dealers. Hours 9 am – 3 pm.

April 25-26,2003 Hamilton Stamp Club
SPRINGPEX 2003 is being held at Bishop Ryan Secondary School

Hours: 10am – 5pm.

GRVPA Club Circuit Books, 20 Dealers and Canada Post will be present at this show.

May 3-4,2003 RA Stamp Club
ORAPEX 2003 is being held at the Curling Rink RA Centre 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa. Hours Sat 10 am to 6pm and Sunday 10 am to 4 pm.

Don't Forget! ROYAL *2003* ROYALE,

Dates and Location – Royal Show 2003

May 30 to June 1, 2003 Friday to Sunday 10 am to 5pm daily and Sunday to 4 pm

75th RPSC Convention

The Hanover Regional Aquatic Centre and Coliseum located at 269 7th Avenue, Hanover, Ontario

For information call Peter Kritz at 519-364-4752 or email pkritztc@on.ca

Plan to attend the 75th convention of the RPSC's national show in Hanover, Ontario, May 30 to June 1, hosted by the Saugeen Stamp Club. For reservations and show packages, Hanover Holiday Tours, 1-800-265-5530. Info: web site at <http://log.on.ca/saugeenstampclub>.

Bus Tickets to Royale –

GTAPA is coordinating buses to the show on Friday and Saturday. At this time tickets are planned to be \$35.00 each with two pickup points (one east end and one west end of the city).

Check with your Director for an update.

Section # 9 – Youth Corner

Gearing Up for Fun - Part 2

A judicious selection of equipment

By Scott Lough

In the last column, we began to examine the details involved in starting up a youth stamp club. I suggested that the first question you should ask as you embark on this exciting journey should be, "Where do I get enough stamps?" We explored several low-cost sources of large numbers of stamps; including auction houses on the internet, local dealers, local philatelic clubs, and the post office, which always has a supply of 1- and 2-cent definitives for sale.

Stock book: a place to keep a new collection organized

Practical considerations mean that this question should really be worded, "What is the least number of pieces of equipment I can get away with buying." You will almost certainly be working with a limited budget. Most of the equipment I am going to recommend can be found for little or no money. I recommend a stock book rather than a loose-leaf album for beginners for three reasons. First, young children are still working on the fine motor skills required to manipulate hinges and loose-leaf pages in

binders. Many children find it difficult to achieve the gentle touch required to stick down stamps in traditional stamp albums. The stiff, sewn-in pages of a stock book will withstand the rough handling that young children can dish out. Second, the alphabetical-by-country classification scheme of most stamp albums presents beginning collectors with several problems; it assumes a sophisticated geopolitical knowledge, and the ability to alphabetize. Finally, even the cheapest standard stamp album is more expensive than a top quality stock book and cost is an overriding concern.

The layout of a stock book suits the needs of a beginning collector. There are many identical pages on which to classify stamps according to the characteristic that comes to mind that day. The distinguishing feature that a junior stamp collector first notices is usually the subject of the stamp. Is it any wonder that topicals are a hot commodity among the young? It makes sense because the most prominent and easily recognized feature of most stamps is the subject matter.

Their knowledge of the hobby will be growing significantly in the beginning. Every meeting, you will be teaching them something new about the world of stamps. In a future article, I will outline a core curriculum that, if presented to the children gradually, will teach them to teach themselves. They will have the skills to learn independently. Each week, you will also show-and-tell a different interesting topic in philately (more on this syllabus in a future article.)

Tongs, magnifying glass, glassine envelopes, stamp identifier, Canadian catalogue, and a plastic storage box:

Of course, even the toughest stock book pages will not stand up to repeated use by inexperienced fingers, so I supply an inexpensive pair of stamp tongs. After a lesson on their proper use, the budding philatelists will be able to give their collections the respect they deserve, while keeping the delicate glassine shelves safe for a while. Besides, using tongs whenever handling stamps, however inexpensive, is a good habit to get into.

From the beginning, I encourage the children to look closely at their stamps. This builds their observation skills. At the same time, it improves their familiarity with the stamps. For these

reasons, I include an inexpensive magnifying glass with their start-up kit. Without magnification, it is difficult or impossible to recognise such features as printing technique and errors.

Collecting stamps is an ongoing process involving acquisition, preparation, organisation, and display. Every collector has stamps-in-process: stamps that have not been displayed yet. There are also the inevitable "traders". I help my students organize the stamps that live outside their stock books by supplying them with glassine envelopes, which they label and use to keep errant stamps in order. They receive their weekly supply of new stamps in glassines, so there is no excuse for loose stamps.

You may wish to supply your club members with a few reference materials. The use of a stamp catalogue and a stamp identifier are valuable skills to have, but not necessary for the young beginner. Children under the age of 8 will find enough fascination in the stamps themselves and the stories they tell. Older beginners may find the level of detail involved in reference materials appealing. I have had the greatest success when I have waited to introduce youth to catalogues and identifiers until they are "senior members" with one year experience collecting stamps. Do not forget a Rubbermaid-style box large enough to hold everything.

You may have noticed that I have not introduced the club members to mounting stamps on pages with hinges. I usually wait until one of the last meetings to show the club members how to do it (school clubs often run for a single school term.) That way, they can make it their final project to create a single display page of their favourite stamps. This could be augmented with headings and captions or not, depending on their writing ability. A display of everyone's "final project" in the school lobby will look impressive and be the best advertising for your club. Parents, staff, and other students will see how interesting the Philately Club can be.

Different is good: a place for all

To me, each of these junior philatelists is doing what I told them to do. They are looking carefully at their stamps, noticing the things they have in common, and discovering features that make them unique. Who is to say that their categories are more or less legitimate than the ones in my album? Or yours? They are

practicing careful observation and organisation according to classification schemes that matter to them. There is no better place to start than the basic skills of collecting. For my part, I encourage them and congratulate them on becoming collectors. At the same time, I teach them that there are other ways to classify stamps, such as, perforation, paper type, cancellation type, printing technique, I even show them phosphor tagging with a portable UV light. However, I have to be honest, I am not sure whose categories make more sense: theirs or mine.

Section # 10 Advertising Section

This philatelic journal will be published four times a year Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. It will be distributed free of charge to all members of clubs in the Alliance plus the trade and other organizations.

We will reach close to 400 stamp collectors in the Greater Toronto Area alone. We will be relying on support for this Philajournal from our advertisers. Please support our advertisers and make them aware that you saw their ad in this publication.

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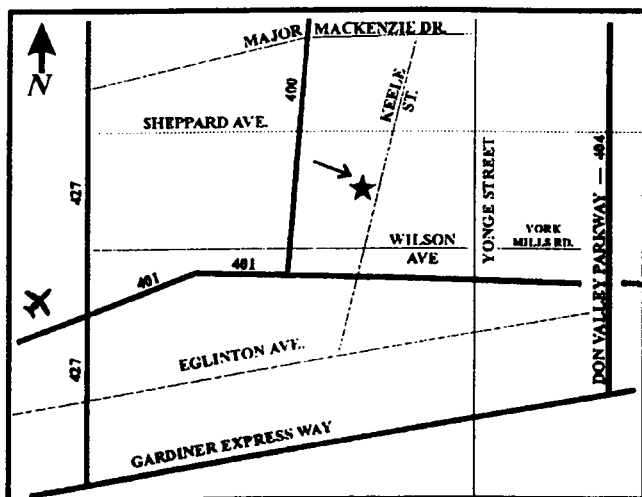
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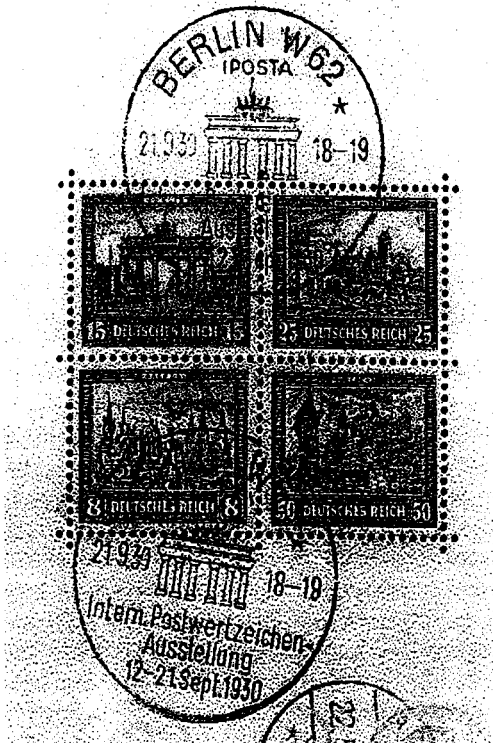
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