

PhilaJournal

The official publication of The Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance



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RPSC Affiliate No.4

Santa Claus Parade is 100 years old

We all know he's coming to town, but the question is how will he arrive? Driving a traditional sled, or conducting a vintage train? Or perhaps at the wheel of a flashy convertible?

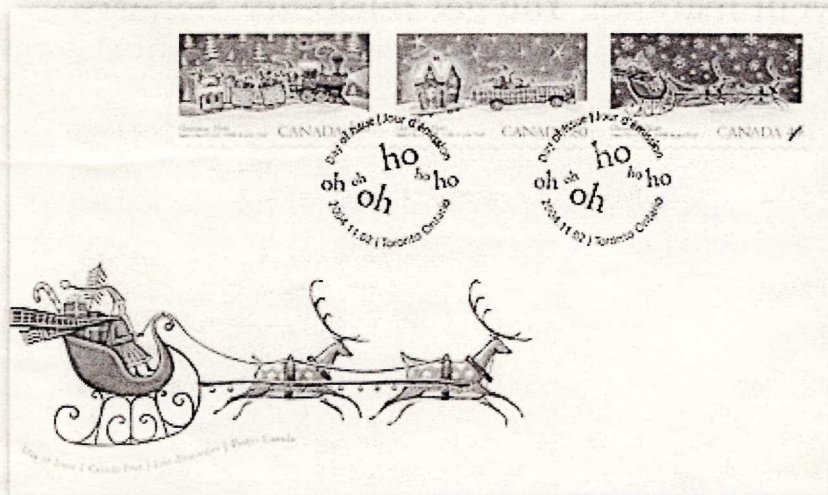
The guest of honour has made his grand entrance in all these vehicles over the years at Toronto's venerable Santa Claus Parade. This year, as this well-loved event marks its 100th consecutive parade, Canada Post has issued its annual set of three Christmas stamps in honour of jolly old Saint Nick.

The man in red is the main attraction, after all, not only on these stamps but also in parades across the country each year. The Toronto event celebrates 100 consecutive years in 2004, which makes it the longest-running Santa Claus parade in the world.

In 1905, a few hundred people came to see Santa arrive by train at Toronto's Union Station, then make his way to the downtown Eaton's department store. This first parade was a success, and Eaton's, its sponsor, made it an annual event. Over the years, it grew ever larger and more elaborate. In 1913, Santa arrived in a sleigh drawn by four live reindeer from Labrador. By 1917, he was joined by the first floats, which were decorated in fairy tale and nursery rhyme themes. Beginning in 1925, the parade became a traveling show, with floats and costumes sent by train to Montreal for its parade a week later.

By the 1950s, Toronto had the largest Santa Claus parade in North America. It often stretched over a mile and a half in length, and was televised across Canada and in the United States. Eaton's continued to finance the entire production each year, making all the costumes and building the floats.

Given the ongoing costs, Eaton's finally withdrew its sponsorship of the parade in 1982. Since then, it has been successfully funded by private sponsors. One afternoon each November, floats, clowns, and marching bands parade along a six-kilometre route through the city. The show isn't over until Santa himself appears, but just how he'll arrive in this 100th parade is anyone's guess. ■ (effea)



Christmas: Santa Claus Parade stamps issued on November 2, 2004

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Philatelic clubs operating in the Greater Toronto Area are invited to join the Alliance. Remember:

**"we work best when
we work together"**

For more information contact:

Peter Butler
416-690-4666 or
e-mail: pbutler@ilap.com

or
Frank Alusio
416-621-8232 or
e-mail: falusio@sympatico.ca

The Alliance meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday of the month at the V. G. Greene Research Foundation
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SEASON'S GREETINGS



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PhilaJournal

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The Mission

The mission of *PhilaJournal* is to provide its readers with news and information on philately in general with emphasis on the GTAPA members giving them something new and interesting to enjoy.

Opinions expressed in articles in this *Journal* are those of the writers and are not necessarily endorsed by the Alliance. The GTAPA cannot be responsible for the accuracy of any information provided herein.

Individuals or Affiliated Members are welcome to reprint material from *PhilaJournal*, with proper credit given to the source.

Editorial Staff

Editor: Frank Alusio falusio@sympatico.ca or 416-621-8232
Assistant: Peter Butler pbutler@ilap.com or 416-690-4666

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Your feed back is important to us. If anyone has any philatelic item for publication, or any suggestions to improve the *Journal*, please contact the editor.

This is the medium that keeps the members of The Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance in touch and informed.

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EDITORIAL

The New STAMPEX (second edition) has come and gone surpassing all our expectations. It was proven how Toronto needs a large annual show to meet the demand of the GTA collectors. The Committee has read what type of show attracts people to its venue and will deliver what other similar shows don't provide. One of which is the public is greeted by volunteers at the door handing a free copy of a souvenir show program. They really like that!

A new member (one of the oldest clubs in North America) has joined the Alliance: the Toronto Stamp Collectors Club. Welcome friends!

It is with sadness to learn the sudden passing of our dear friend Dorothy Attwells, one of the Directors of the Alliance. She will be missed at the GTAPA Board meetings but she will not be forgotten.

GTAPA together with GRVPA staged a Stamp Fair in Bramalea bringing together their affiliate clubs under one roof. The fair consisted of circuit books produced by clubs and made available to collectors for purchasing items for their collection. According to organizers, approximately 500 persons attended. Again the "Ted's Tubs" made their appearance 'till well after the show hours.

You'll read this and other interesting article in the following pages.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I take this occasion to wish you and yours Season's Greetings and the best of the New Year. ☐



SEASON'S

GREETINGS



Contributors:

Frank Alusio, Peter Butler, Efeea, Art Halpert, Herb Kucera, Robert Owczarz, Jerry Piotrowski, Garfield Portch, John Wilson.

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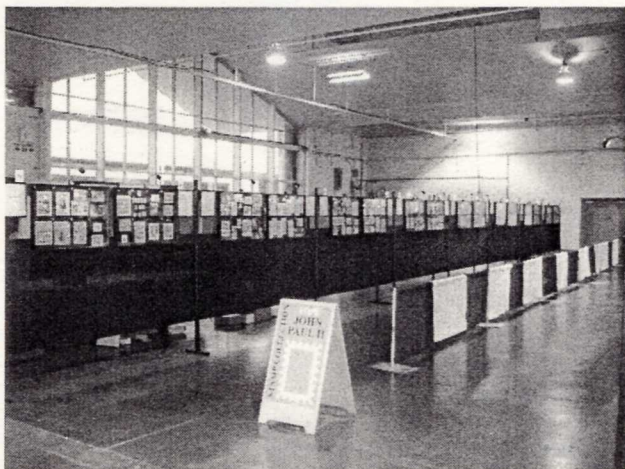
FROM THE PRESIDENT

A Review of STAMPEX '04

The STAMPEX Planning Committee gave a brief report to the Alliance Board at its October meeting. Chairman Frank Alusio announced that a full financial statement would be presented at the November meeting. He said that all indications were that the show was another great success and financially, will end in the black. All Alliance clubs were represented in the workforce over the three days, and club presidents were given certificates to present to those members who helped out, at one of the club's November meetings. We could never have done it without the great support from the member clubs. Thanks and appreciation are extended to all the volunteers who came out to make it happen. Your support and commitment to GTAPA is deeply appreciated.

We believe over 2500 people attended this year's show, and the dealers felt it was the busiest Toronto show in many a year. There were several "firsts" for the rejuvenated STAMPEX show this year:

- The expanded exhibits added greatly to this year's show. There were many positive comments about the dealer's involvement and the Pope John Paul exhibit was outstanding. Robert Owczarz and Stan Korzepa are to be congratulated on their wonderful collection and their tremendous effort in mounting the exhibit. Thanks to Ken Magee (Oakville, Woodstock & London), Tom Hare (Ottawa), and Robert Zacharias (Winnipeg) who responded to our invitation and sent youth exhibits from their towns and cities (in brackets), to provide beginners in the GTA with samples of excellence.



Pope John Paul II exhibit after being mounted.

- The youth program was expanded to include grade six students from two schools in Toronto to attend the show on the Friday. Thanks and appreciation is extended to the RPSC's Foundation for providing financial support to enable us to bus them to the show.



The Youth Workshop

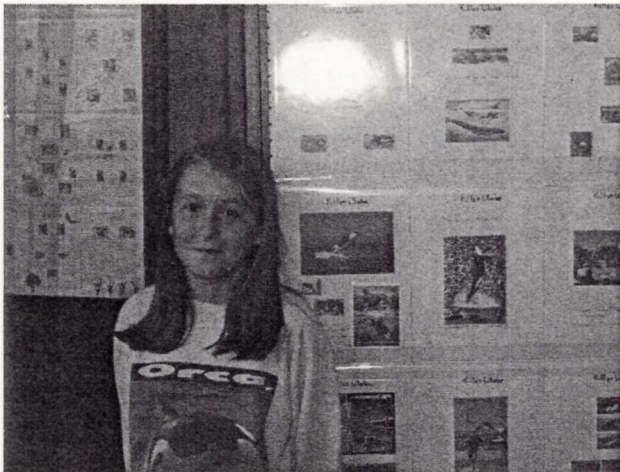
- It was an honour to have Charles Verge, President of the RPSC, in attendance to assist with the awards ceremony and later in the day, to assist the docent program. His 2:00 p.m. group began with six people and by the end of the first row of frames it had grown to twenty. Two hours later there were still several listeners hanging on his every word. We believe the docent program is a very important part of our effort to help beginning collectors and exhibitors become knowledgeable about exhibiting.
- Our first attempt at an appraisal service met with limited success. There were 19 people who showed up at 1:00 p.m. to obtain information about what to do with collections in their possession. This service will need to be expanded in the future for it is an important service we should be providing members of the community.
- And finally... congratulations go out to the Bramalea Stamp Club who were this year's winners of the Club Challenge Award. Club members Bob Thorne, Ingo Nessel and Jerry Pietrowski were worthy winners indeed for their fine one-frame exhibits. The "Stamp Collector" trophy is theirs for the year, until the next competition at STAMPEX '05

At the October Alliance Board meeting, the Planning Committee asked for approval to expand the exhibition and bourse again next year and to seek approval to have STAMPEX '05 a national show. This will mean we will be required to have over 100 frames in the exhibition, an appointed panel of five judges and an expanded program of workshops and seminars. Our partners the CSDA has already begun enlisting more dealers for the show. Hopefully we will be able to attract more from the United States.

GTAPA Gets a Banner...courtesy of Jim Carleton

At the September GTAPA Board meeting, the group approved funds to purchase a banner to be used at various functions to announce the Alliance and its mission. Those who attended STAMPEX saw it hanging at the GTAPA Booth. When the bill was

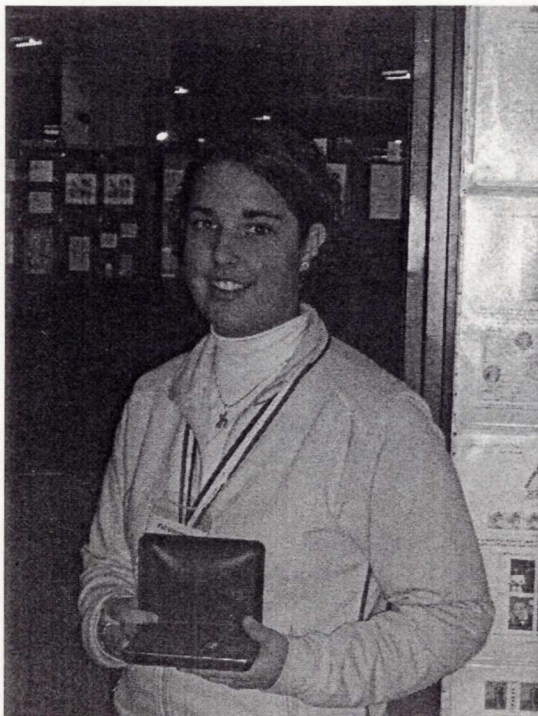
presented at the October meeting, SSC representative Jim Carleton offered to pay for it, as his personal contribution to the work of the Alliance. A round of applause followed the announcement, in recognition of Jim's generosity. Thanks Jim, your dedication and commitment to GTAPA are appreciated.



Youth exhibitor Jessica Donahue posing in front of her exhibit "Killer Whales."

STAMPEX to Go National

At the October Board meeting the STAMPEX Planning Committee requested that the Board approve a motion to go forward with a request to have the show declared a National show in October of 2005. It was approved and the letters have since been written. The Planning Committees of GTAPA and their partners the CSDA, anticipate a positive response from the RPSC and are working hard already to assure an exciting program for the further expansion of STAMPEX.



Kristen Ollies, the recipient of the Roland Mitchner Medal for being voted the 2003 Youth Philately of the Year.

Toronto Stamp Collectors Club Joins the Alliance



I am very pleased to announce to the PhilaJournal readers that the Toronto Stamp Collectors Club has voted to join the Alliance, its ninth member club. Joe Janthur, a representative of the Insurance & Banking Philatelic Society on the GTAPA Board, and also a member of TSCC, reported to me that a discussion had taken place at a recent TSCC meeting and that the members present had approved the motion to join the GTAPA.

At our October Board Meeting, Joe explained that he would be the liaison for the TSCC and invited me to attend the TSCC's November 2nd meeting, to give a brief presentation on the Alliance, its vision and its program. I was pleased to attend and meet some of the members. I had expressed my pleasure in receiving the news, to their President, John Tallman, earlier in the month, at the 50th Anniversary Dinner of the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada. The November 2nd meeting gave me a second opportunity to express the Alliance's positive and joyful response to their decision.

The TSCC was founded in 1892 and meets at the Canadian Military Institute on University Ave. The club has over 50 members and many are among Canada's best known and respected philatelists. The GTAPA Board looks forward to the development a fine working relationship with our newest member club. We will all reap the benefit of their involvement in the work of the Alliance, and we sincerely hope that TSCC will profit greatly from the association. □

Peter Butler



Charles Verge, RPSC President, conducting one of the Guided Tour of the Exhibits.

IN MEMORIAM

Peter Butler



East Toronto Stamp Club and the Board of GTAPA were saddened in mid-October to learn of Dorothy's sudden passing. She had been ill with cancer for over a year but had made great progress early, in her battle with the disease. In the spring, however, she required further treatment and Recently had learned it was terminal. Given but a few months.

The members of the East Toronto Stamp Club and the Board of GTAPA were saddened in mid-October to learn of Dorothy's sudden passing. She had been ill with cancer for over a year but had made great progress early, in her battle with the disease. In the spring, however, she required further treatments and recently had learned it was terminal. Given but a few months, and the prospect of further treatments, Dorothy, it would appear, sought her eternal rest early.

At the funeral service, Reverend Ravi Kalison asked the congregation for words of thanksgiving for Dorothy's life. Many spoke of her dedicated work in St Bede's Anglican Church. She possessed a wonderful mixture of forthrightness and kindness. "She was strict on principles and strong in love," one admirer said. Another suggested that once past the crusty side, she had a heart of gold. "And whatever the church needed at any social function, Dorothy always had it in the truck of her car!"

Reverend Kalison closed his address with the proclamation, "She had kept the church well maintained, she was a treasured chorister and she was deeply involved with the community. Well done thy good and faithful servant."

I sat with Doug Cockburn of the East Toronto Stamp Club who was a pallbearer, and we both agreed that next to her church, her stamp club was the other love of her life. When the club's declining membership threatened its demise, Dorothy held things together and brought new life to it by arranging, along with Doug, to have the members meet in a nearby senior's program and invite members there to join in the fun of collecting stamps. She was a dedicated Board member of the

GTAPA and was instrumental in donating club funds to the GTAPA for its youth initiatives. Dorothy also proposed that the club's old trophies could be given to the Alliance, to be rejuvenated for STAMPEX use in at future exhibitions. She will be missed in the club's new surroundings but she will not be forgotten. She will also be missed at the GTAPA Board meetings.

Well done thy good and faithful servant.

The Story of the "Old Trophies"

At a Spring Board meeting, Dorothy had announced that a carton of old trophies was sitting in Doug Cockburn's basement. They were no longer used, in fact they hadn't been used for many years. They were to be disposed of, but would the Alliance see any use for them. The prospect of rejuvenating some of them, at least, seemed worthy of investigation so we said we would make arrangements to pick them up. The photo below shows the collection after a brief dusting. I then, with the club's approval, dismantled them keeping the metal sculptures and disposing of the bases. As you can see, some of them will make fine trophies for STAMPEX exhibition award winners in the future. Trophies of similar design only come in plastic now, so the metal sculptures will harken back to a generation ago, which is just fine given the Alliance's respect for the history of the hobby and the traditions of our member clubs. With new bases and shiny new plaques, they will make a fine tribute to the East Toronto Stamp Club and its involvement in GTAPA.



The collection of East Toronto Stamp Club trophies.

GTAPA's Tribute to Dorothy Attwells

At the Board meeting on Wednesday, October 27, the directors voted unanimously to refurbish one of the trophies to Dorothy's memory. On a suitable plaque, will be engraved: The Dorothy Attwell Memorial Trophy, and will be presented at STAMPEX. The category of the prize will be determined at a subsequent meeting of the Board. □

CLUBS ACTIVITIES

Bramalea Stamp Club

Meets the **1st Sunday** (from 2:30 to 4:30pm), October to June and the **3rd Tuesday** (from 7:30 to 9:30pm) year round at Terry Miller Recreation Complex, Williams Parkway (between Dixie Rd. and Bramalea Rd.), Brampton. For more information, contact Bob Thorne at 905-792-3526 or Email: r.thorne@Sympatico.ca.

The membership of the Bramalea Stamp Club takes great pride in the fact that the entries of three of its members combined to win the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance Club Challenge Trophy at STAMPEX '04.

Our Sunday meetings will continue to feature a voice auction run by Bob Thorne, while the Tuesday meetings will offer a show and tell and a silent auction. Planning will continue for our annual show.

Upcoming special events include a visit from a certain old gentleman in red on Tuesday December 21. Information has been leaked that everyone attending the meeting that evening will be pleasantly surprised. The Bramalea Stamp Club annual show is scheduled for Saturday February 5. Although exhibits will be shown in a non-competitive format it is planned that a qualified judge will be available to provide comments and guidance to those exhibiting.

☞☞☞

East Toronto Stamp Club

Meets the **1st and 3rd Wednesday**, from September to May, at Stan Wadlow Clubhouse, Cedarvale Avenue Toronto. After a short business meeting, there usually is a presentation by Club members. Refreshments are always available.

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Insurance & Banking Philatelic Society

Meets the **3rd Thursday** at 6:00pm of every month from September to June (Except in December, when it is the second Thursday) on the premises of Canaccord Capital Corporation, 320 Bay St. 13th floor, in Toronto. The Xmas Party will be held on Thursday, December 14.

The Society congratulates member Josh Hodgson (gold) and Joe Janthur (bronze) for winning the awards at STAMPEX '04

☞☞☞

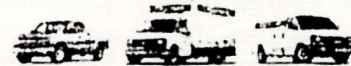
North Toronto Stamp Club

Meetings are held on the **second and fourth Thursdays** of each month from September to June (except December), starting at 7:00 p.m., at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge Street, east side at Heath Street. The Club's circuit books are available to members and visitors, and some of the

members who are dealers provide material for purchase as well. A brief business meeting is followed by a speaker's presentation, a panel discussion, or a club auction. No admission charge. Visitors are always welcome. Coffee and cookies are served.

The Club congratulates member Doug Irwin (gold) and Don Welsh (gold) for winning the awards at STAMPEX '04

☞☞☞



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North York Philatelic Society

Meets on the **1st and 3rd Wednesday** from 6:30 to 9:00 pm (July & Augusts 3rd Wednesday only) in the Skaters' Lounge at the Carnegie Centennial Arena, 580 Finch Avenue West, (11/2 blocks west of Bathurst Street), Toronto.

Meetings feature convivial atmosphere, speakers, auctions, a sales circuit and a number of dealer members. Membership is only \$10 per year. Ample parking is free. NYPS is a member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance.

For more information, contact: Art Halpert at 416-643-2020 (days) or 416-499-4406 (evenings /weekends); e-mail: ahalpert@sympatico.ca

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Polish-Canadian Coin and Stamp Club

Also known as "Troyak", meets on the **last Sunday** of each month, except holidays, at Art Metal Studio, 2550 Goldenridge Road, Unit 34, Mississauga.

"Troyak" was established with goals towards education, collecting and preservation of coins, stamps, paper money, orders and medals of Poland's history.

The Club is officially registered at Ontario Numismatic Association and active member of the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance.

The Polish-Canadian Coin and Stamp Club is a non-profit organization which can always provide assistance in dealing with issues concerning coins and stamps. Persons who are interested in the education and study in numismatic and philatelic matters are welcome. Next meetings are scheduled for: December 12, 2004; January 30, 2005; February 27, 2005 at 4:30 pm. Refreshments are always available.

"Troyak's"...II Polish-Canadian Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show 2005 is planned for March 2005 at Polish Cultural Centre in Mississauga.

For more information, contact:

Ignac K. at 905-273-5561 or,

Janusz M. at 416-724-4410 or,

Robert O. at 416-462-9097.

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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. At 8:30 p.m. 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.

Congratulations to SSC Team of Exhibitors

At STAMPEX '04, the Scarborough Stamp Club was well represented by exhibits from; Josh Hodgson, Don Beaumont and Peter Butler. Josh won gold, Don silver and Peter bronze. Congratulations are extended to all three competitors, the *Palmares* is printed elsewhere in the PhilaJournal for all readers to see the complete listing of the exhibition and the awards.

Ted's Tubs Come to SSC

Jim Carleton decided that if *Ted's Tubs* was a great idea for the West Toronto club, it was worth presenting at the SSC. Last meeting Jim brought in the SSC version and set them up beside the auction table. It's a great fund-raising idea for youth philately. You can get the full story by reading Garfield Portch's item elsewhere in the PhilaJournal, and you can contribute to this worthwhile venture by donating stamps to the Tubs or shifting through them yourself and dropping a donation in the pot to support the cause.

Certificates of Thanks

At our November meeting, Certificates of Thanks were presented to the following SSC members who volunteered at STAMPEX. Ron Dell'Agnes, Dave Stone, Wendy Bargh, Alice Burke, Elaine Skinner and Jim Carleton. Their work was truly appreciated by the Planning Committee. Without them the show would not have been such a success.

☞☞

West Toronto Stamp Club

Meets on the **2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesday** 7:30 pm, from September to June, at Fairfield Seniors' Centre, 80 Lothian Avenue, (3 blocks south of Bloor St. West, and 2 blocks east of Islington Ave.).

Ample free parking, Club's Newsletter, Regular and Invitational Auctions, Study Group Sessions, Dealers Tables, and Exhibitions.

Activities

The annual Christmas Party is scheduled for December 7, at the Canadiana Restaurant.

On December 14, the Fall Invitational Auction will take place. Only lots with a minimum catalogue value of \$20 will be hammered.

The regular meetings and auctions are scheduled each month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday; the 3rd is dedicated to the Study Group.

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Basic guidelines

- Exhibits shall consist of One-page 8.5" x 11" size. The page should be white or light pastel colour to mount postage stamps and/or any other postal material.
- As an alternative, a collector may choose a combination of postal and non-postal material to create a One-page "Display" providing that the non-postal items do not overwhelm the postal material.
- Choose one of your favourite subjects, a country, or a personality, etc. and arrange the material for presentation.

Basic rules

The One-page exhibit is to contain the following:

1. **A Title** - A short one.
2. **A Statement** - Provide a few words describing what you are attempting to do.
3. **Selection of Material** - In addition to stamps the presence of other philatelic elements will enhance the exhibit.
5. **Presentation** - The exhibit should be neat, clean and attract attention to the material
6. **Creativity** - An unusual approach in developing a subject or reflects a new or unusual subject.

Great News!!

As we go to press, we have the results of the West Toronto "Single Page Exhibition." The results were astounding and gratifying for the Study Group organizers.

- Attendance at the Study Group is normally 20 to 22. The Exhibition attracted 33 attendees (from a total membership of 67 = 50%).
 - There were 21 exhibits (would have been 23 but the two judges did not enter any).
 - Awards were: 3 gold, 13 silver, and 5 bronze.
- George MacLean** was judged the overall winner and became the first recipient of the **FRANK ALUSIO AWARD**.
- Ernie French, while describing his entry, announced that this was the first time he had ever shown anything in 70 years of collecting stamps.
 - A short judging critique/seminar filled the rest of the evening.

When all was said and done, the Exhibition proved to be a success. The numbers support the high level of participation. Members expressed their support of the event and declared that it was Fun, Informative, and Entertaining. We recommend that all clubs take a shot at similar events. This will likely be a formalized competition for all member clubs in the GTAPA. □

COLLECTING / EXHIBITING

Frank Alusio & Garfield Portch

ONE-PAGE EXHIBIT

On November 16, 2004 the Study Group of the West Toronto Stamp Club is staging a One-page exhibition for its members. The idea is not new; but, the committee has formalized the process so perhaps other clubs may try to have a go at it themselves.

The purpose is to assemble a One-page exhibit to encourage individual stamp collectors to show others what they collect and perhaps be an incentive to become regular exhibitors.

STAMPEX '04 PALMARES

Frank Alusio

What the Organizing Committee had realized with the experience of previous shows was that patrons who attend exhibitions are not all seasoned exhibitors. There is a large segment of collectors who are just interested in non competitive exhibits; they just want to show what they like do best: display what they collect. This is the reason why this year's STAMPEX had five

components in the exhibition: Non-competitive, Dealers Exhibits, Competitive, Junior / Beginners, and Exhibit by Invitation.

There were 41 exhibits on display: 5 were non-competitive, 10 were from Stamp Dealers, 8 from Juniors, 1 by invitation and 17 were in the competition class. Here are the awards:

GOLD

- Hong Kong: George VI Mails 1938-1941
Ingo Nessel, Bramalea
- Censored Covers of Trinidad
Bob Thorne, Bramalea
- The Coil Stamps of Canada's Centennial Issue
Doug Irwin, North Toronto (special prize)
- Fiji-The Pirogue Issues 1893-1902
Don Welsh, North Toronto
- The Coil Issues of Canada's Admiral Series
Art Halpert, North York
- Registration Labels
Josh Hodgson, Scarborough
- The Half-Cent Small Queen
Garfield Portch, West Toronto
- Microcosmos - The Insect World
Alan Hanks. Independent



Ingo Nessel (C) and Bob Thorne (R) receiving the Club Challenge Award from Frank Alusio.

SILVER

- Censor Markings on Polish Mail
Jerry Piotrowski, Bramalea (special prize)
- Insurance
Josh Hodgson, Insurance & Banking
- The Royal Tour of 1939
John Robertson, North York
- QE II Stamp Varieties 1953-83
Don Beaumont, Scarborough
- German & Russian Occupation in Latvia 1915-1919
Victor Skidra, West Toronto
- Victoria and the Penny Black
Frank Alusio, West Toronto (special prize)

BRONZE

- Small Queens Covers as Witnesses of their Time
Joe Janthur, Insurance & Banking
- The Great Mail Rubbery
Peter Butler, Scarborough

The Club Challenge Award (The Stamp Collector trophy) was presented to Bramalea Stamp Club represented by the team of Ingo Nessel, Jerry Piotrowski and Bob Thorne for their great efforts.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee I would like to thank very much all the exhibitors who made STAMPEX '04 the success it was. And last but not least I thank Michael Madesker and Duncan Barber for providing the judging and the critique. □

50 YEARS AGO

Garfield Portch

The new "Postage Stamps" book issued by the U.S.A. Post Office featured the following statement by A. E. Summerfield (PMG) in the forward:

"The postage stamps of a nation are a picture gallery of its glories. They depict in miniature its famous men, the great events of its history, its natural wonders. Because of this, philately has a distinct educational value. No one can pursue this hobby intelligently without developing a greater knowledge of his national heritage."

In the November, 1954 issue of the Canadian Philatelist, the West Toronto Stamp Club was thanked for donating its entire library to the Canadian Philatelic Society.

Hurricane Hazel flooded the shop of the printer who was in the process of binding the Canadian Philatelist which needed to be reprinted due to the water damage.

For those interested in Canadian coil stamps, there is a technical explanation of the reason for faulty alignment of coil stamps. The article is reprinted elsewhere in this journal.

The last article published in The Canadian Philatelist in 1954 was a defense of Thematic Collecting. This item is also worthy of a reprint in view of the recent beginning of a thematic study group within the GTAPA.

Hans Reiche, in the July-August issue of BNA Topics presented his first attempt to classify the cancellations on the Admiral Issue. For anybody considering working that field, it is an article that should be visited.

The Perfin Study Group of BNAPS gives a recommendation for a collection with a real challenge – Canadian Perfins used on cover!

For the Air Mail collectors in our midst, the November Topics begins a series on the Trans Canada Air Lines by J.S. Gordon.

BACK TO THE PRESENT

Bob Thorne, President of the Bramalea Stamp Club deserves congratulations for the completion of his huge checklist of Canadian machine cancellations.

As I understand, only two copies of this work exist in a bound form -one is in Bob's possession while the other resides in the library of the Vincent Greene Foundation.

The next time you visit the Foundation, take time to admire this 3 volume work! **Machine Cancellations of Canada** compiled by Bob Thorne. □

TED'S TUBS

Garfield Portch

Early this year I was asked to assist in the disposal of a large philatelic holding on behalf of Ted Allen, the last President of the Etobicoke Philatelic Society.

Included in the accumulation was an enormous holding of modern Canadian used stamps. In realizing that there was no significant commercial value to this material, I asked permission to put the stamps, unsorted, into plastic tubs to be taken to stamp shows. The idea was that anybody could take any stamps needed for beginning a collection or filling holes in an existing collection. The only form of payment was to be a donation to a fund to be used for the promotion of youth philately.

I took the tubs to the 50+ show, the GRVPA / GTAPA gathering in Bramalea and to STAMPEX. Additionally, the tubs have been "borrowed" by members of the West Toronto Club and other GTAPA associates.

The results have been astounding! At the end of October, the proceeds of the donations have passed \$250 and we still have 50 litres of stamps remaining.

The tubs have also been taken to an after school program where I have been invited to start a stamp club for kids. We have 14 new collectors, each of whom was encouraged to start a thematic collection rather than a traditional "country" collection.

Based on the outstanding (and unexpected) success of Ted's Tubs, I now challenge each club in the GTAPA to start a local chapter of Ted's Tubs. It is a great way to get rid of those piles of modern duplicates; it is a great way to get new collectors started; it is a great way to raise some funds; and it is a great tribute to the generosity of Ted Allen.

The GTAPA has awarded a Certificate of Merit to Ted Allen for his outstanding contribution to Philately in Toronto. □



Schoolchildren expressing the joy of searching through Ted's Tubs.



Schoolchildren rummaging through Ted's Tubs


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IN BRIEF

RECOGNITION

The Alliance recognizes those "spark plugs" who have made an outstanding contribution to its home club and philately.

At the last Board of Directors meeting held at the Toronto First Post Office on October 27, 2004, Peter Butler presented to **Ernie Nyitrai** of North Toronto Stamp Club with the GTAPA Certificate of Merit in recognition of his outstanding contribution to GTAPA for exemplary work in obtaining advertisers, producing the operations handbook and facilitating the storage of exhibit frames.

Congratulations Ernie! (Editor)

New Issues

The current issue of Canadian Geographic magazine celebrates the 75th anniversary of the magazine's inception. In this issue, it is announced that Canada Post is commemorating this event with a special FDC bearing a cachet of The Royal Canadian Geographic Society's Coat of Arms (in colour) left of centre and a copy of the first issue (originally called Canadian Geographical Journal) in the lower

right hand corner on the envelope. It also bears a special Ottawa cancellation dated 2004.11.04. Apparently, there will be about 12,000 FDC's produced and sold mainly to collectors with some going to Canada Post outlets with philatelic counters across Canada. (Gord Payne)

SHOWS & BOURSES

Dec. 18, 2004, Burlington, ON

Burloak Stamp Fair, Burlington Seniors Centre, 2285 New St. (near Guelph Line). Hours: 9 am to 3 pm. Ample free parking. For more information, Contact Michael Anderson at 905-632-6057 or michael@parcelsplusinc.com

Jan. 8, 2005, Brantford, ON

Brantford Stamp Club's 2005 Show & Bourse, Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey St. Hours: 10 am to 4 pm. Free parking and admission. Silent auctions, draws, Canada Post with show cancellation. For more information, contact R. Livingstone at 519-753-5214 or rj.livingstone@Sympatico.ca

January 14-16, 2005, Toronto, ON

UNIPEX Postage Stamp Show, Rameses Temple Shrine Club, 3100 Keele Street, between Wilson and Sheppard. Free admission, free parking, door prizes. For more information call 416-242-5900

Jan.22-23, 2005, St Catharines, ON

Catex '05, Fairview Mall, Geneva St. at QEW. Hours: Sat. 10 am to 5 pm; Sun. 10 am to 4 pm. 14 dealers, free parking and admission, draws, raffles, club circuits, exhibits. For more information, contact Roy Houtby at 905-934-8377.

April 8-10, Toronto, ON

Postage Stamp Marketplace hosted by the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association. Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place. Free Admission, Draw Prizes, Exhibits

October 14-16, Toronto, ON

STAMPEX '05 hosted by the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association and the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance. Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place.



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The lighter side

Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.

How long a minute is depends on what side of the bathroom door you're on.

Birthdays are good for you; the more you have, the longer you live.

Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open.

Ever notice that the people who are late are often much jollier than the people who have to wait for them?

You may be only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person.

Don't cry because it's over; smile because it happened.

A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

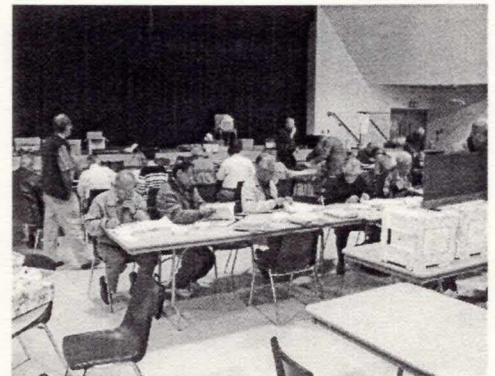
Have an awesome day, and know that someone who thinks you're great has thought about you today!

JOINT VENTURE

Jerry Piotrowski

The Grand River Valley Philatelic Association and the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance stage STAMP FAIR

"Great!", "Fantastic!", "We should be doing this more often!" These were just some of the comments heard from many of the approximately 500 people who attended the 10th Grand Fair hosted by the Bramalea Stamp Club on Sunday October 3rd. This year's Grand Fair was different than in the past since for the first time clubs from both the Grand River Valley Philatelic Association (GRVPA) and the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance (GTAPA) participated. With the sales books from fifteen clubs and a table with Canada Post there was plenty for everyone to look through and buy. Two large and very successful silent auctions were held during the day, capably run by Stuart Keeley of the St. Catherines Stamp Club. A big hit to collectors young and old were "Ted's Tubs" which offered free stamps for youngsters attending the show. These tubs containing hundreds of thousands of postage stamps were donated by Ted Allen of the West Toronto Stamp Club to the GTAPA to promote youth philately. Many adults were also content to rummage through the tubs and make a donation towards the GTAPA Youth Program. Although many people contributed to the success of the event, special recognition should be extended to Ingo Nessel and Bob Thorne of the host Bramalea Stamp Club for all the organizational work they did. □



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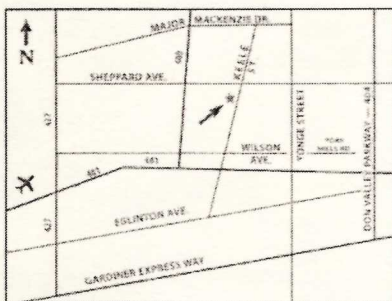
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