

# Phila Journal

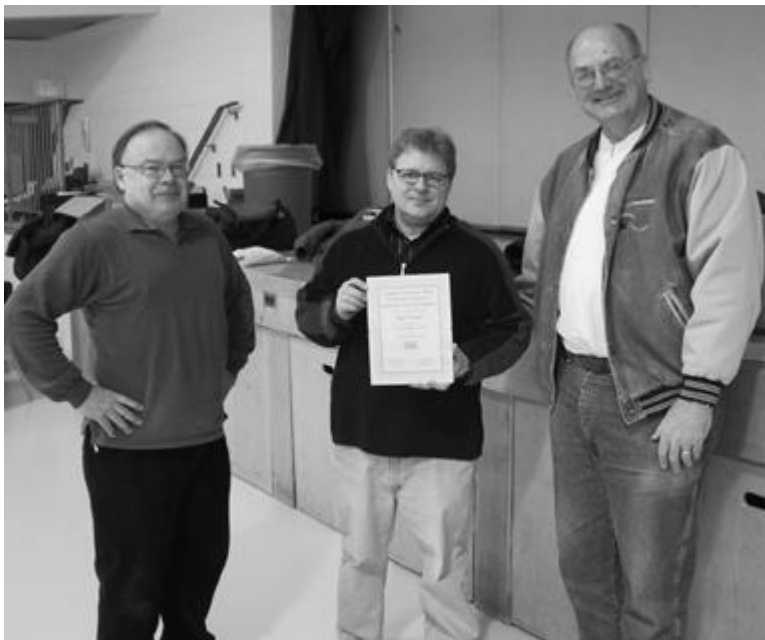
The official publication of The Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance



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## Ingo Nessel Awarded Certificate of Merit



Bob Thorne, Ingo Nessel & Ernie Nyitrai

**Ingo Nessel** became the most recent recipient of a GTAPA **Certificate of Merit** at the Bramalea Stamp Show on February 3, 2007. Presented by **Ernie Nyitrai**, Secretary of the GTAPA, the award recognizes long-term outstanding service to the Bramalea Stamp Club.

In addition to the Bramalea Stamp Club, Ingo is a member of several clubs including the American Philatelic Society, Grand River Valley Philatelic Association, the Hong Kong Stamp Club, the Postal History Society of Canada and the Philatelic Specialists Society. He holds executive positions in several clubs.

*continued on page 2*

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### AN OPEN INVITATION

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](mailto:pbutler@ilap.com)

The Alliance meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday at the V. G. Greene Research Foundation  
10 Summerhill Avenue, Toronto

### WEB SITE

[www.gtapa.org](http://www.gtapa.org)



## GTAPA DISPLAY AT TORONTO REFERENCE LIBRARY

*Alena Pascual*

Throughout the month of October 2006, to commemorate Stamp Collecting Month, a display promoting our hobby was on view on the second floor of the Toronto Reference Library (TRL), in the area of the Picture/Video collections.

Featured in the display were:

- Tools of the trade (magnifying glass, perforation gauge, stamp hinges, tongs)
- Topical collecting (the topics included opera, horses, and airplanes; there was as well an issue of *Topical Time*)
- Philatelic literature (various books and journals such as *The Canadian Connection*)
- GTAPA (represented by an issue of *PhilaJournal* and a sign showing the GTAPA web site)

The display also included postal stationery, covers, maximum cards, and a quantity of loose stamps scattered about (in an artistic fashion, of course).

The TRL provided an interesting handout headed "Guide to Collecting Canadian Postage Stamps". Bret Evans, the editor of *Canadian Stamp News*, generously sent copies of CSN which were made available for anyone interested. My sincere thanks are extended to TRL staff, particularly those in the Picture/Video section, for their splendid cooperation in arranging this display, and to Bret for his kind assistance.

In addition, other handouts such as a variety of postal bulletins and back issues of a number of philatelic journals were provided. When I went to the library to dismantle the display, I found that almost all the material had disappeared, which I consider to be an indication of interest on the part of library clients.

In an earlier *PhilaJournal* (Spring 2006, page 16), I wrote about a display at the North York Central Library. I suggested that displays could coincide with various events. For instance, a Christmas theme would be appropriate for the month of December and could feature stamps, covers, and articles related to Christmas. Another possibility would be sports, which would no doubt appeal to collectors of all ages. Taking this a step further, in the summer of 2007, the FIFA U-20 World Cup Canada 2007 will take place in several cities across Canada. Canada Post plans to issue a stamp in honour of the Youth Championship. Toronto will be the host for several of the soccer matches, including the all-important final. This would be an excellent opportunity to present a display featuring soccer in philately.

Displays of this nature need not be complicated. I strongly encourage you – individuals or clubs – to consider doing something similar at your local public library. You never know – you just might have some fun!

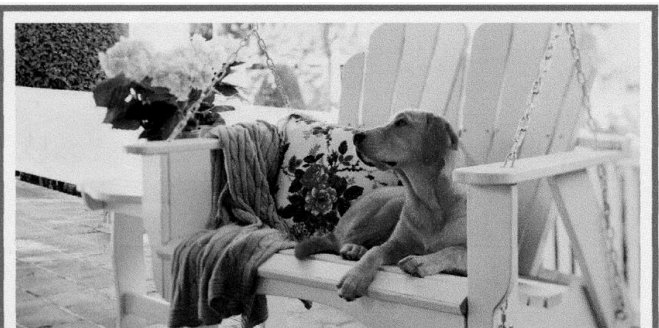
## INGO NESSEL *(continued from page 1)*

Ingo has a range of collecting interests and specialties that include

- Hong Kong: Destination covers, Branch post offices,
- King George VI postal history,
- Queen Elizabeth II postal history,
- Official mail, used stamps in multiples
- Canada: Queen Elizabeth II postal history and postal stationery
- Great Britain: Queen Elizabeth II official royal mail
- Any philatelic item that catches his fancy

Ingo has gradually become an exhibitor, a writer of articles and, most of all, he enjoys speaking engagements covering a wide variety of stamp related subjects. He considers the sharing of philatelic knowledge to be a delightful way to feed his passion for lifelong learning.

*gjp*



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# PhilaJournal

The official publication of The Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance

*PhilaJournal* is published quarterly, in the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. The *Journal* is distributed free of charge to members of stamp clubs that are affiliates of the Alliance.

### 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.

Permission is granted to reprint material from *PhilaJournal*, provided that appropriate credit is given to both *PhilaJournal* and the author.

### Editorial Staff

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### Subscription

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e-mail:enyitr618@rogers.com

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Your feedback is important to us. If anyone has any philatelic item for publication, or any suggestions to improve *PhilaJournal*, 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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## THE EDITOR'S SPACE

It is difficult to "think spring" when I have 3 cm. of ice in my driveway and the temperature is hovering in the -20 degree range. However, the Stamp Show program never lies and with Bramalea finished and Troyak & North Toronto coming next month, spring can't be far away.

We gratefully welcome **James McKenzie** and **John Rudnicki** as advertisers. Please remember that the production of *PhilaJournal* is made possible by the ongoing support of our advertisers.

**Robert Pinet** of the North Toronto Stamp Club has written another in his series of postal history essays on the subject of Refugee Mail.

We welcome **John Wilson** of the North Toronto Stamp Club as a contributor. Many of us know John as a serious researcher and a keen student of Postal History.

Thank you to the auction house, **Matthew Bennett International** for permission to reprint the story behind the Inverted Jenny.

*gjp*

### DEADLINE

The Summer Issue of *PhilaJournal* will be distributed in the last week of May. Contributions must be in the editor's possession by the **30<sup>th</sup> of April**.

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### ROYAL\*2007\*ROYALE

is being hosted by

#### GTAPA

October 12, 13, 14, 2007

Please contact your club representative

or

call Peter Butler directly to volunteer your services.

## Messages from the President

This is the first time in the history of *PhilaJournal* that the message from the President is missing. In actual fact, the President is missing as well. Peter and Susan have escaped for a well-deserved vacation in the South Pacific.

Peter's absence gives me an opportunity to tell our members a bit about the man who has carried the title of President since the beginning of the GTAPA.

I first met Peter at the meeting hosted by the Scarborough Stamp Club to explore the possibilities of a philatelic coalition out of which the GTAPA evolved. Peter was President of the SSC at that time.

When GTAPA elected to work with the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association to bring high level exhibiting back to Toronto, it was Peter who accepted the leading role. Under his capable direction, we have successfully hosted STAMPEX as a regional and national level show and AMERISTAMP EXPO as a multi-national show. This year, Peter is the chairman of the committee that will organize ROYAL 2007 ROYALE, the annual meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

Peter has become a huge supporter of 'single page' exhibits. He has visited a number of stamp clubs in Ontario, Quebec and in the USA to promote this aspect of the hobby and to spread the word about the GTAPA.

To ensure that the interests of the Greater Toronto Area collecting community are represented, Peter became an active member of the Stakeholders in Philately (SIP) and was elected to the Board of Directors of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. He operates the headquarters of the RPSC in a Toronto office graciously provided by the Vincent Graves Greene Foundation.

If those activities aren't enough, Peter also writes a column, *Grassroots Philately*, that appears in almost every issue of *Canadian Stamp News*.

He is a member of the Scarborough Stamp Club, the North Toronto Stamp Club, The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, The British North America Philatelic Society, the American Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada.

Occasionally, when he has nothing else to do, Peter works on one of his many stamp collections. Among his many collecting interests are Canada and Sweden with topical collections including the RCMP, Lighthouses and Polar Bears.

The Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance is fortunate indeed to have this man as our President.

Enjoy your well deserved vacation Peter!

*gjp*

## Unusual Postage Stamps

*Jerry Piotrowski*

Hidden dates and other marks have often been incorporated into stamp designs. Canadian stamps are well known to have such hidden dates, and Czeslaw Slania one of the most famous and respected stamp engravers was known to incorporate the names of family and friends and even his own face (as one of the skiers on Sweden Scott 994) into his designs. The U.S. Postal service went one better. As part of a security feature, the Postal Service added secret images using a technique called "Scrambled Indicia" to the design of some 44 stamps issued between 1997 and 2004. The images added to the designs were not visible to the naked eye. However, using a plastic "decoder lens" available from the United States Postal Service, one could see the added image. These additions included the letters USAF\*USAF\*USAF on Scott 3167 issued for the Department of the Air Force, a birdcage on Scott 3233 Parakeet stamp and Houdini in chains on Scott 3651 Harry Houdini. As well as being a security feature these hidden images were intended as a novel way to attract younger collectors. An article in the May 29 2006 issue of *Linns Stamp News* indicates that the decoder lens is still available from the U.S. Postal Service.



**Herb Kucera** of the Insurance and Banking Philatelic Society recently showed me an unusual item. It was a 100 lire Italian definitive stamp (Scott type A354) inside a plastic sleeve. It is the intended usage of the stamp that for me made it unusual. A small printed card inside the sleeve indicated that the item was intended for use as small change. A shortage of coins in Italy in the 1960's and 70's inspired novel ways of providing alternatives for small change, this being one of them. A bit of Internet surfing provided information that postage stamps encased in small sleeves or coin sized cases are known to have been used not only in Italy but also in Denmark, France, Austria and Germany.

If anyone has information about unusual stamps and would like me to add it to future articles on this subject please email me at [jerrypiotrowski74@hotmail.com](mailto:jerrypiotrowski74@hotmail.com) using "unusual stamps" in the subject line or send the information to me at 74 Glenmore Crescent, Brampton Ontario L6S 1H8

# LOOKING CAREFULLY...

by John Wilson

## Annotations Add Flavour to a Cover



The postcard illustrated here is a prime example of the hidden stories that make postal history irresistible. It looks simple, but... A woman writes from Hythe, in Kent, to a married friend living in Shanghai. Postmarked October 28, the card receives its next marking six weeks later – not in the Chinese Post Office there, but in the British agency. Later that day, it was conveyed to the Chinese, receiving the scarce marking “B.P.O. to C.P.O.” (and this, incidentally, predates the earliest example of this marking listed by Proud by three days). A nice cover!

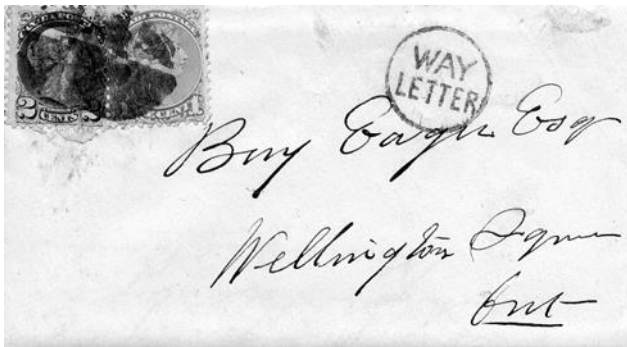
But there is much more to it. There are two identical markings in Chinese, the characters attempting a phonetic version of the very un-Chinese street address, Macgregor Road. This may indicate two different attempts to deliver it, but in any case the Jones family were no longer there and the card had to be forwarded. Their address was now

Hong Kong, where Captain Jones was the master of one of Butterfield and Swire’s coastal steamers, the “Hupeh”. Arriving in Hong Kong, the card now received another Chinese character annotation – this time, the two ideograms which spelled out E-wo, the honoured name given to this most senior of Hong Kong business houses. When delivered at the company’s offices, it required the final annotation in pencil, just below the stamp, indicating that the Captain had been transferred to a different vessel, the “Kayong”.

Careful examination of the cursive markings shows several interesting aspects of the mail handling of the day. The determination of postal employees to get mail into the hands of the addressee is evident, and the aura of Shanghai and the China coast between the wars glimmers still.



## WAY LETTERS



Prior to Confederation, a regulation in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia required mail carriers on coach roads to accept letters for mailing when presented to them at a minimum distance of one mile from the nearest post office. Couriers were instructed to place such letters in a locked leather pouch and to post them at the first post office where the postmaster was instructed to stamp them with the words “WAY LETTER”. The practice continued well into the Small Queen period.

*This cover from my collection bears transit marks on the back showing receipt in TORONTO and WELLINGTON STATION on April 17, 1875.*

# A WELL KEPT secret

Some may say so, but why not find out for yourself? We hold regular stamp auctions that cover the world. If you are looking for a single stamp or a box full, a specific set or cover, that special item or an entire collection you may find it in one of our auctions. With hundreds of lots each year in all sizes and price ranges, each sale has *something for everyone!*

A complimentary catalogue of our next sale is waiting to be mailed.

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### A Small Queen Primer

*Garfield Portch*

Almost every time I get involved in a discussion of Small Queens in a club meeting, the question arises, "*Is there an easy way to sort the various printings?*"

In response, I have created the chart shown on the next page. It is not foolproof, but is sufficient to give some general guidelines that should assist the general collector.

I find that catalogue listings are generally not helpful in classifying this issue. For my own purposes, I consider five groupings as follows:

- the original Ottawa printings of the 1¢, 2¢, 3¢ and 6¢ perf 12 (Kiusalas 65)
- the early Montreal printings of the 1¢, 2¢, 3¢ and 6¢ plus the new 5¢ and 10¢ all perf 11½ x 12 (Kiusalas 68 x 66)
- the later Montreal printings of the above values plus the ½ ¢ all perf 12 (Kiusalas 66)
- the last (1888) Montreal printings of the 1¢, 2¢, 3¢ and 5¢ perf 12 x 12¼ (Kiusalas 66 x 64) – these are not listed in catalogues
- the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ottawa printings of all values perf 12 (Kiusalas 65)

If one plans to do considerable work with the Small Queens, I strongly recommend the acquisition of a Kiusalas perforation gauge. It is a most useful tool for differentiating between the tight metric perforation values of 11.9, 12 and 12.1 often used in Small Queen descriptions.

If you choose to work with identification by colour, it is worth buying an Ott Light (Office Depot has them) and a set of colour chips by Richard Morris.

The most useful reference book on the subject (in my opinion) is *The Small Queens of Canada* (2<sup>nd</sup> revised edition) by John Hillson. Although long out of print, one occasionally pops up in an auction lot of literature.

The study of the Small Queen Issue is complex in that there was a production period of twenty-seven years for which little data was maintained. A casual collector of the issue can easily be forgiven if he is unable to classify his holdings on the first attempt. Don't get discouraged!

Suggestions for improving the chart on the next page will be appreciated.

## Small Queen Identification Table © Garfield Portch, 2007

	Ottawa (1870 - 1873)	Montreal (1873 - )	Montreal (- 1888)	Montreal (1888)	Ottawa (1889 - 1897)
½ φ plate colour perf, reg Kiusalas pos dot			new black to grey-black 12 x 12 66 top centre	none printed	continued black 12 x 12 65 top centre
1 φ plate colour perf, reg Kiusalas pos dot	new red-orange to orange 12 x 12 65 lower left except left column	continued orange 11½ x 12 68 x 66 lower left except left column	new in 1886 yellow 12 x 12 66 3 or 9 o'clock on medallion rim	continued bright yellow 12 x 12¼ 66 x 64 continued	new in 1888 bright yellow 12 x 12 65 none
2 φ plate colour perf, reg Kiusalas pos dot	new emerald green 12 x 12 65 lower left except left column	continued deep green 11½ x 12 68 x 66 lower left except left column	new in 1886 green 12 x 12 66 3 or 9 o'clock on medallion rim	continued blue-green 12 x 12¼ 66 x 64 continued	new green 12 x 12 65 none
3 φ plate colour perf, reg Kiusalas pos dot	new copper red to rose-red 12 x 12 or (rare) 12½ x 12½ 65 or (rare) 63 lower left except left column	continued orange red 11½ x 12 68 x 66 lower left except left column	new in 1886 vermillion-red 12 x 12 66 3 or 9 o'clock on medallion rim	continued rose carmine 12 x 12¼ 66 x 64 continued	new bright vermillion 12 x 12 65 none
5 φ plate colour perf, reg Kiusalas pos dot		new olive green 11½ x 12 68 x 66 lower left except left column	new in 1886 slate green 12 x 12 66 3 or 9 o'clock on medallion rim	continued slate green 12 x 12¼ 66 x 64 continued	new pearl grey 12 x 12 65 none
6 φ plate colour perf, reg Kiusalas pos dot	new yellow-brown 12 x 12 65 lower left except left column	continued yellow-brown 11½ x 12 68 x 66 lower left except left column	continued yellow-brown 12 x 12 66 lower left except left column	none printed	continued chestnut to chocolate 12 x 12 65 continued
8 φ plate colour perf, reg Kiusalas pos dot					new slate 12 x 12 65 none
10 φ plate colour perf, reg Kiusalas pos dot		new pale lilac 11½ x 12 68 x 66	continued lilac-pink 12 x 12 66	none printed	continued orange-pink 12 x 12 65 continued



## CLUB NEWS & ACTIVITIES

### BRAMALEA STAMP CLUB

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

Check out our web site at  
[www.bramaleastampclub.com](http://www.bramaleastampclub.com)

Our annual Show and Bourse was successfully held on Saturday February 3<sup>rd</sup>, Thank you to those who put in the time to set up and take down the exhibits, run the auction table, man the club sales circuit, run the refreshment booth, and generally do all the things that are required for running a show.

**Bob Thorne** was again successful in getting club members to try their hand at exhibiting. **Don Garlick, Dick Jansen** and **Joe Trauzzi** prepared first time exhibits and *PhilaJournal* editor and experienced exhibitor **Garfield Portch** was kind enough to spend time with each of them and provide comments and encouragement. Thank you Garfield.



During the show, **Ernie Nyitrai**, secretary of GTAPA, presented **Ingo Nessel** with a GTAPA Certificate of Merit for his contribution to the club. Ingo is the past treasurer of the club, representative to the Grand River Valley Philatelic Association, exhibitor at the local, national and international level and has been a speaker at not only our own club but also at other clubs. Ingo is also the treasurer of PSS and has recently accepted the position of acting Vice President of GRVPA (a position which will become full Vice president when the by-laws of GRVPA are amended later in the year) with responsibilities for liaison with other philatelic organizations.

Do you remember **Steve "I am not an exhibitor" Johnson**? Well, based on his success at *Orapex* last year Steve has been invited to exhibit in New Zealand and asked to submit an application to exhibit in Russia.

*Jerry Piotrowski*



### EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Meetings are at Stan Wadlow Senior's Action Centre on Cedarvale Ave., (Woodbine & Cosburn area) on the first and third Tuesdays of the month, October to May, at 9:30 to 11 :00 a.m.

The membership fee is \$5.00 yearly, payable to the Stan Wadlow Clubhouse for Seniors.

Activities include stamp exchanges, a stamp dealer who buys and sells stamps, estate evaluations and disposals, stamp chats and fellowship. Full benefits at the centre are available to the members including: social events, bus trips, card playing and exercise classes.



Plans for the meetings in 2007 have not been finalized.

The objective of the club is to provide a meeting place to enjoy the hobby. Stamp collecting is often a solitary hobby so having a place to meet and enjoy the various activities, in a social atmosphere, is very worthwhile.

*Doug Cockburn*



## INSURANCE & BANKING PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at 6:00 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from September to June. We have lost our meeting room in the offices of Canaccord Capital Corporation and, until further notice, we will meet at the Vincent Graves Greene Foundation.

*Don Peach*



## NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB

The North Toronto Stamp Club holds its meetings at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, Yonge Street at Heath Street, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4th Thursdays of each month.

Feb. 8: Doug Irwin, Exhibiting Beyond the GTAPA

Feb. 22: Bob Thorne, Building an Exhibit from a Favourite Item: The GB Halfpenny Jubilee

Mar 8: The Business of Auctions -- panel discussion.

Mar 17: NTSC Bourse 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at our revised location, Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, east side of Yonge Street one block above St. Clair

Mar. 22: Spring Floor Auction

Apr 12: The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada: Speaker TBA

April 13-15: 64th Annual Exhibition at the CSDA spring show, Queen Elizabeth Building, CNE.

Apr 26: Grand Award Winner and Judges' Critique

May 10: Members' Buy-Sell-Trade Night

May 24: Speaker TBA

Contact John Wilson, [wilsonjn@sympatico.ca](mailto:wilsonjn@sympatico.ca), for details or go to the North Toronto website.

Visitors are always welcome and coffee and

cookies are provided. Membership is \$15 per year. E-mail us at [ntstampclub@yahoo.ca](mailto:ntstampclub@yahoo.ca)!

*John Wilson*



## NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month from September to June (July & August, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday only) in the Skaters' Lounge at the Carnegie Centennial Arena, 580 Finch Avenue West, Toronto (1½ blocks west of Bathurst Street). Meetings feature convivial atmosphere, auctions, and a number of dealer members. Membership is \$10 per year. Ample free parking. NYPS is a member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada as well as the GTAPA.

March 7 – Wilf Cowen: Slide presentation

March 21 – Open meeting

March 24 – Annual Stamp show, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Carnegie Centennial Arena, 580 Finch Avenue West

April 4 – Presentation of the slate for the new executive

April 18 – Auction (all welcome)

May 2 – Leslie Meisels: Stamps of Hungary

May 16 – Annual General Meeting

For more information about the North York Philatelic Society, contact Mike Turk at (905) 731-8380 or via e-mail at [turkm@accessv.com](mailto:turkm@accessv.com).



## POLISH-CANADIAN COIN AND STAMP CLUB "TROYAK"

Club "Troyak", meets on the last Sunday of each month, except holidays, at John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre, 4300 Cawthra Rd. (just south of Hwy. 403), Mississauga, Ontario.

Club's mailing address is: 2550 Goldenridge Road, Unit 14, Mississauga, ON L4X 2S3 Canada.

"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 member at the Ontario Numismatic Association and is an active member of the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance.

The Polish - Canadian Coin and Stamp Club "Troyak" 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.

"Troyak's" Executive Team has established in February 2005, "Troyak Junior" Philatelic Club, and Zygmunt (Ziggy) Borowski is club's director. For more information, contact: Ziggy at 416-454-2790 or [ozygmunt@hotmail.com](mailto:ozygmunt@hotmail.com)

"Troyak" next meetings are: March 4, 2007 - IV Polish-Canadian Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show 2007, and April 29, 2007; May 27, 2007; June 24, 2007 at 4:30 p.m. Refreshments are always available. Club issues monthly info/bulletin on its website and also publishes bulletin for the members who attend club meetings.

For more information, contact:  
Janusz (Peter) Machulec at 647-400-7857.  
[www.troyakclub.com](http://www.troyakclub.com) [info@troyakclub.com](mailto:info@troyakclub.com)  
New members are always welcome.

MARCH 4, 2007

**IV Polish - Canadian Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show 2007**, at the John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre, 4300 Cawthra Rd. Mississauga, Ontario (just south of 403). Organized by the Polish - Canadian Coin & Stamp Club "Troyak" of Toronto. Many tables of coins, medals, paper money, stamps, militaria & antique papers. Polonica & historical souvenirs. Exhibit of Upper Silesia's coins, stamps, paper money, sports pins, medals & collectibles...Exhibit of Polish POW camps stamps of WWII. Stamp Exhibit - John Paul II On World Stamps. Polish Mint info table. Polish stamps expert info table. "Troyak Junior" table with boxes of free stamps. Troyak special medal and show souvenirs. Free admission and parking. Refreshments available. Sunday March 4, 2007, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

*Robert Owczarz*



## TORONTO STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB

Toronto Stamp Collectors Club meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month from September to, and including, June. Our regular meetings are held at the Royal Canadian Military Institute, 426 University Avenue, Toronto, starting at 8pm. Business attire with a tie is a required dress code at the RCMI.

For more information contact **John Talman** at 416-363-9997 or by email at [jtalman@interlog.com](mailto:jtalman@interlog.com)



## SCARBOROUGH STAMP CLUB

Plans for the meetings in 2007 have not been announced to date.

Out-of-towners call Rick Howard (416-778-4175) to confirm the program.

The first Tuesday of each month will continue to be a general trading night. The third Tuesday will be devoted to a brief business meeting followed by an auction. Special guest speakers may be held on either night. Members of other clubs and visitors new to the hobby or experienced collectors, are always welcome to attend meetings.

The doors are open at 6:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Cedarbrook Community Centre, 91 East Park Blvd., (Lawrence and Markham area) in Scarborough. For more information call **Doug Cockburn** at 416-757-4072



## UKRAINIAN COLLECTIBLES SOCIETY (TORONTO)

Society meetings are held the first Monday of every month. Attend and meet people with similar interests.

For information call Jerry Kalyn at 416-251-6898. We meet at:

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## WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Activities are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:30pm from September to June at Fairfield Seniors' Centre, 80 Lothian Avenue, Etobicoke (3 blocks south of Bloor Street and 2 blocks east of Islington Avenue). Ample free parking.

Membership Dues: \$20 per year for new members and \$15 per year for renewals.

The WTSC has been operating for over 70 years so its program is well established with respect to a club newsletter, regular and invitational auctions, study group sessions, guest speakers and exhibitions.

Our November 2006 meeting at the Vincent Green Foundation was extremely enlightening for those who attended. This has got to be one of the best kept philatelic secrets in Toronto. Entry is free

and one can peruse the wealth of philatelic literature for hours. Call 416-921-2077 for a visit. On the same evening the Club held its annual One-page competition (F. Alusio Award) to which 12 members brought the exhibits and the entry that garnered most points was "Postal Services: Efforts in War Times" by **Denzel Fernandes**.

The annual Christmas dinner held at the Linden Restaurant was a great success and even the spouses in attendance enjoyed the food and conversations. Member **Gord Payne** provided a Christmas exhibit of Colorano Christmas covers from 1978 to 2005. The draw for door prizes was spirited with Board members seeming to win an inordinate number of the prizes...sheer coincidence I'm sure! Thanks are conveyed to **Fred and Yvonne Froud** for organizing the event.

On December 12, 2006 another Fall Invitational Auction was held. 107 lots submitted by the member, ranging from \$20.00 to \$400.00 with a total catalogue value of \$6,112.00, were hammered by **Reay Cairns**. The club holds two such activities: one in December and one in April. Anyone is welcome.

For more information, contact Frank Alusio at 416-621-8232, or e-mail: [falusio@sympatico.ca](mailto:falusio@sympatico.ca)

*Ted Swain*

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Contact John Chabrol (416) 510-0159  
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INDEPENDENT THINKING



## THE "INVERTED JENNY"

In the last issue of PhilaJournal, we told the story of the mailed Florida ballot that was franked with an Inverted Jenny and other exotic stamps to make up the rate.

Shortly after PhilaJournal was distributed, it was announced that the stamp was a counterfeit. The American Philatelic Society published a news release on the APS web site stating that **Mercer Bristow**, Director of Expertizing at the APS had gone to Florida to deliver a professional opinion on the subject stamp.



The story behind the "Inverted Jenny" is certainly one of the most well known and fascinating in all of stamp collecting. It began with the somewhat hurried decision, in early 1918 (with the First World War still in progress), to issue a set of three postage stamps for the first official U. S. airmail flight, then scheduled for May 1918. As a result, production time was extremely limited and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing was also under wartime pressure to produce government bonds, currency, etc. Moreover, the high value of the set, the 24¢ value, was to be issued in two colors (red and blue). First the frame of the stamp would be printed in red, then the plate would be changed, the partly-printed sheet would be re-inserted into the press, and the center design, the "Jenny", would be printed in blue. As a result of the two-step process, the B.E.P. had to use the older "Spider" press. Despite all efforts to catch any printing errors, one sheet of 100 stamps, printed with the "Jenny" upside down, managed to escape the scrutiny of the postal inspectors and enter the public domain.

This error sheet was sold to Mr. William T. Robey, a stamp collector living in Washington, D.C. He normally bought a full sheet of each newly issued postage stamp for his collection. So one day, on his lunch hour, he went to the post office to get a sheet of the new 24¢ airmail stamp. Robey could barely contain his excitement when the postal clerk, not suspecting or noticing the error, brought out the sheet of inverts for him. Robey bought the sheet and returned to his job as a stockbroker's clerk, where he told a few friends about his amazing find. Some of them went to the post office and tried to buy more of those stamps "with the upside down airplane" A few hours later postal clerks were asking Robey to sell the sheet back to them. Robey naturally refused. The

Careful on-the-scene scrutiny of the rumored rarity confirmed what Bristow and others at the American Philatelic Society had previously concluded from digital images: it is a counterfeit. Though it differs in a number of respects from an authentic Jenny invert, the telltale discrepancy is that the generally accurate-looking replica is perforated 10, whereas all genuine inverts are perforated 11. While in Florida, Bristow issued American Expertizing Service certificate No. 173905 to that effect.

next day, May 15, 1918, Robey wrote to prominent stamp dealer, Eliot Perry, saying "...I have secured a sheet of 100 with inverted centers..." (the actual letter was sold previously by Matthew Bennett, Inc.).

In the end, though, he did not sell the sheet to Perry, but rather to another well-known dealer, Eugene Klein, who immediately sold the sheet to Col. Edward Green. After discussion with Green, Klein broke the sheet into singles and blocks, recording the position numbers lightly in pencil on the reverse of each stamp. Col. Green retained the plate block of eight and three other positional blocks for his own collection. The famous plate block was later reduced to a block of four after passing through Amos Eno's collection. Green also placed one example, position 9, in a locket and gave it as a gift to his wife, Mabel.

The two singles from the Dr. Maffeo collection are among only a relatively small number that are fresh and well centered. With so many of the 93 known examples (seven positions have never been accounted for and are apparently lost) having distractions-19 originally had straight edges, many are poorly centered, and quite a few have disturbed gum or are entirely without gum, the Maffeo copies are clearly two of the most attractive and desirable available.

*Editor's Note: This story and illustration of the Inverted Jenny is reprinted with the permission of **MATTHEW BENNETT INTERNATIONAL**. The story appears in the catalogue for auction #314 that features two (2) examples of the Inverted Jenny. The illustration is the stamp from position 89.*

# Searching for a French Refugee of the Great War

by Robert Pinet



Covers from displaced persons, especially with enclosures, allow us to catch a glimpse of the hardships simple people have endured through wartime. This aspect – social philately – brings history to life by telling the small, telling, tragic, human story. Such is the case with this 1917 First World War cover addressed to Madame Chevrin, a refugee from Frières-Failloël, at a hospital in Villers-sur-Courdin, near Compiègne, France.

Frières-Failloël is a village in Picardie, approximately 20 kilometers almost due south of St. Quentin. In 1999, it had a population of only 774. In the invasion of France (August 27-September 5, 1914), the St. Quentin region was overrun by the German Second Army under General Karl von Bulow, and was to remain behind enemy lines for the duration of the War. (1,2)

The cover bears a variety of interesting markings, including a red circular military camp handstamp of *Le Commandant/ C.R.E.* (The Commander, C.R.E.) picturing a seated Lady Liberty, two black 'RETOUR/A L'ENVOYER/7139' (Return to Sender 7139) handstamps, two St. Jean d'Angely/ Charente Inférieure 17:16/ 24 6/ 17 CDSs and a *Trésor et Postes* CDS on a 15 centimes Sower stamp. Manuscript markings at the bottom read "*Voir au dos*" (See Back). The back of the cover bears the sender's address: Lalaste/ 27 rue de l'horloge [Street of the Clock]/ St. Jean d'Angely, Charente Inférieure. (Note that this region of France is over 500 kilometres southwest of the Picardy region, suggesting that Madame Chevrin's family had had to move a great distance to find refuge.) A manuscript notation, also in red, in the same hand as the first, reading "*Destinataire/inconnu au CRE de Villers/ Retour*

*a l'Envoyeur*" (Receiver unknown at CRE de Villers/ Return to Sender').

The enclosure, translated by me, reads:

*Saint Jean d'Angely, 14 June 1917.*

*Very Dear Madame,*

*I learn from Madame Dumont-Chevrin that you are in hospital. I want to tell you that I am the godmother of one of your dear children, Léonard Chevrin, who, for the past four years, has not had the pleasure of [...] having had any news about you. We have written everywhere without finding the location of your present residence [...] In reading the bulletin "The Country Woman" I saw the name of Madame Marie Dumont Chevrin.*

*I wrote believing that this was you, but no luck, only she knew where you were [...] sick and fleeing, they would have put you in the hospital at Villers and it is there that I am sending this short note [...] As soon as you receive this, respond quickly so that I can quickly send word to your child who is in the trenches three years and has had a difficult time [without] news of his dear parents...*

*Sincerely,  
Marie Laloste Maille*

Unfortunately, the cover, marked "*Return to sender*" testifies to the fruitlessness of her search. Did Madame Laloste continue with her enquiries? Was Madame Chevrin ever found and reunited with her family?

The answers elude us. What we do know is that, not far from the hospital where this cover was addressed, "the armistice treaty between the Allies and Germany



was signed in a railway carriage in Compiègne Forest on November 11, 1918, and marked the end of the First World War on the Western Front. Principal signatories were Marshal Ferdinand Foch, the Allied Commander-in-chief, and Matthias Erzberger, Germany's representative." (3)

(1) Willmot, H.P. (2003). World War I. New York: Dorling Kindersley Publishing Inc.

- (2) Battles: The First Battle of the Marne, 1914. Retrieved January 15, 2007 from <http://www.firstworldwar.com/battles/marne1.htm>
- (3) Armistice with Germany (Compiègne). Retrieved February 1, 2007 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armistice\\_with\\_Germany\\_%28Compi%C3%A8gne%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armistice_with_Germany_%28Compi%C3%A8gne%29)



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# Philatelic Tips

by Charles J. G. Verge, FRPSC, FRPSL

*(This series of tips was originally published in The Brigham Auction catalogues starting in April 2000. Some have been revised).*

## **Philatelic Tip #23: A Postal History Exhibit Primer.**

When putting a postal history exhibit together you must remember the major elements needed to make your exhibit an award-winning one. What do judges look for in such an exhibit? There is no space here to go into a complete list but basically a postal history exhibit must show the exhibitors knowledge of the rates, routing, usages and postal markings of any cover or folded letter shown as well as whatever other story the cover may tell. I suggest that before starting your exhibit—this also applies to writing-up covers for your collection—you take a sheet of paper and write down notes on every aspect of each of your covers based on the divisions listed above. In the rate paragraph ask yourself questions like, “What is the rate? What additional fees were paid?” For the routing section, “What was the route? Did it travel by different modes of transportation?” If so, list them, find out the ship’s name, the date and time the plane left. For usages you can ask yourself whether the stamp used was issued for the fee it paid. Was this a multiple weight cover? Were bisects officially authorized? Study the postal markings: this is more than just the cancellation. Is this an early or late usage? Does it come in other colours? What was the period of use? Don’t forget that the addressee, the sender and other notations on the cover may be of interest and may further your story. The addressee may have been the first postmaster of the town or an important individual who influenced the development of the steamship lines that carried the mails. Read the stampless letters or those found inside envelopes, as there may be very relevant information inside. A low registration number on a cover posted in September may indicate that registration service was not used frequently or that the post office was a small one with little income. This information may add to your rarity or difficulty of acquisition factor.

## **Philatelic Tip #24: Postcard Collecting.**

In the 1890s and 1900s it was very fashionable to collect postcards and to exchange them through the post with like-minded individuals. Many of these cards were mounted in fancy albums with no thought to arrangement. With the advent of the First World War, postcard collecting took a downturn. The collecting of postcards returned with a vengeance in the 1960s when people started to travel the world and send postcards home. Now, at the beginning of the 21st Century, collecting postcards is at the same level of sophistication as stamp collecting. You can collect them in many a way. The postcard collector can also use most of the classes used in philately. A traditional class postcard exhibit could be the study of the production of postcards. A postal history exhibit would see, for example, the study of the postage rates assigned to postcards. One could use postcards to illustrate a thematic story while

postcards could be integrated with other material in a display class type exhibit. Many philatelists also collect postcards and The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and the American Philatelic Society agreed to establish an experimental postcard class in our stamp shows during a three-year experiment that ended in Toronto at AMERISTAMP EXPO 2006. Many stamp collectors and postal historians abhor postcards but let me tell you that, at a minimum, used postcards can be very useful in a stamp or postal history exhibit. Examples of finds on postcards include the elusive Edward VII 1¢ re-entry; first day of use of the War Tax (1915); unusual censorship markings and elusive rates and postal markings. Registered postcards are also sought after.

## **Philatelic Tip #11: The Internet and your stamp collection.**

There are many uses for the Internet in our hobby. I will write about some in future PBB. This time, I would like to suggest that the Internet could be a useful tool to find out what others are doing in your collecting area. It is simple process. Go to your search engine and type in words that convey what you seek. If you collect Canada’s Admiral issue then type in the following three words: Admiral Stamps Canada and see what you get. If your interest is in thematics/topicals try these two words: Scouts (or whatever your theme is) Stamps. You can also do this for postal history: United States Postal History. If you want to know more about a stamp designer you could look up the designer’s name and see what you get. If you use the full name of an individual (highly recommended) put it between quotes such as “Robert Bateman” or your going to get a list of all the sites that have the name “Robert” and all the sites that have the name “Bateman” in addition to those that have “Robert Bateman”.

## **Philatelic Tip #12: The Internet and your stamp collection - Part II**

In the last tip, I told you that there were many uses for the Internet in our hobby. I once wrote an article on a cover that had returned to Canada after 144 years of being abroad. In it there was mention of a William Graves, the person to whom the cover was addressed. Much of the historical information concerning Mr. Graves and his business was found on the Internet naturally. You can enhance you collection and your albums by adding additional information or, as a friend says, “other stories my cover tells”. You can use the addressee’s name, the return address or any other piece of information found on the cover to search on the web. You’ll be surprised what you find and how that information may, in some cases, make your cover a little more valuable.

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A few tears and part of B/F missing but Pence period Registered covers from Newfoundland are extremely rare let alone the earliest known.

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