

# PhilaJournal

The official publication of The Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance



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## Insurance & Banking Honours Jim Bickford



On December 13, 2007 Mr. **James G. Bickford** was awarded an Honorary Life Membership in the Insurance and Banking Philatelic Society of Great Britain, Canadian Branch. He was awarded a framed scroll so attesting by the Club's President, Mr. **Joe Janthur**. The event took place in the premises of DEPAG Deposit Agency of Canada Inc., where the Club regularly meets.

Jim Bickford was born in the Eastern Townships of the Province of Quebec 79 years ago. His father was an avid stamp collector. When a young boy, Jim begged his father to allow him to help him mount stamps. But his father was not convinced. So Jim's mother bought Jim a stamp album of his own, into which, with the aid of LePage mucilage, Jim mounted his treasures. Later, Jim concentrated on the stamps of Canada and Newfoundland and has built up valuable collections.

As a member of the IBPS Jim solved many questions of procedure and administration with his wise advice with the help of his many years of senior executive experience in business. Jim served a lifetime in the former The Canadian Bank of Commerce, later amalgamated into the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, both in Canada and abroad. He was manager of the Bank's main branch in Kingston, Jamaica and of the large operations off Wall Street in New York.

From there Jim was appointed manager of the Bank's branch in London, England, where he served many years and built valuable relationships for the Bank in Canada, Europe, Africa and elsewhere.

*continued on page 2*

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Yorkminster Park Baptist Church is 1 block north of St. Clair Avenue on the east side of Yonge Street. There is subway access from the St. Clair station. Free parking at the church is limited. City parking (Green P) is available on Alvin Ave., 1 block east, for which there is a charge.

## Jim Bickford, continued

In that function he worked closely with Joe Janthur, then manager and resident representative of the Bank in Frankfurt. They still have a close relationship after about 40 years. Before he retired Jim became Executive Vice President in charge of the Bank's overall international operations.

His stewardship was marked by great success and growth of the Bank's global operations. Jim is admired, nay, revered by those he led in banking and to this day chairs the club of retired Bank executives of senior rank who together built the Bank's important presence.

At his investiture as an Honorary Life Member Jim was accompanied by his wife Jetta with great charm and dignity. Josh Hodgson and Herb Kucera, board members, catered the food and refreshments and Joe's son Charles Janthur and Miss Christine Lackan helped with the hospitality. Everyone wished Jim and Jetta many more years of good happiness and good health and assured both they would be welcome at all Club meetings forever.

*Joe Janthur*



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#### **Did You Know...**

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# PhilaJournal

The official publication of The Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance

*PhilaJournal* is published quarterly and is distributed free of charge to members of stamp clubs that are members 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 *PhilaJournal* 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.

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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

This Spring edition of *PhilaJournal* has been a fun and interesting exercise. With many of the regular contributors (yours truly included) escaping to warmer climates for a winter break, the co-ordination of communications has been a challenge.

This issue features honours bestowed upon **Jim Bickford** by the Insurance & Banking Society and to **Ron Walker** by the Bramalea Stamp Club. With regret, we also note the passing of some members of our community.

Of significance in this issue is the evidence that our hobby is alive and well in the Toronto area. We have reports of shows, auctions and trips taken by clubs, individuals and groups of individuals.

I thank **Robert Pinet** (North Toronto), **Jerry Kalyn** and **Mark Stelmacovich** (Ukrainian Collectibles Society), **Ken Lewis** (RPSC director), **Joe Janthur** (Insurance & Banking) for their contributions. **Jerry Piotrowski** (Bramalea) gets the credit for the mini-articles

By the way, Jerry is still asking for submissions for his occasional column entitled *Unusual Stamps*.

I too am soliciting submissions for *PhilaJournal*. My reserves of articles have been used. Your contributions will be appreciated.

Thanks also go to **Keith Nummelin** of Catmedia who joins us this issue as a new advertiser

*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 **10<sup>th</sup> of May**.

## In this issue

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# Messages from the President

## **The ROYAL Financial Statement**

For most readers of *PhilaJournal*, the words ROYAL\*2007\*ROYALE seldom come to mind. It's been several months since the event took place and whether you attended the show or not, it's history! For those who attended to purchase material for their collections, those items are now probably amid the older stamps and covers in your albums and the search for more material provides a new focus. For those who attended the opening ceremonies, the seminars or workshops, the exhibition, the reception and the banquet or the judge's critique, the memories are still vivid in our minds and form a clear remembrance of a great show. But, that was four months ago and in the day-to-day activities of your involvement in the hobby, the ROYAL has become a distant or fading memory albeit the best stamp show Toronto has seen in over a decade.

For a handful of us in the GTAPA, the experiences of the ROYAL have, until very recently, continued to be on our minds, the subject in our e-mails and the topic of many discussions and debates at several meetings of the Board of Directors and of the ROYAL Planning Team. At the January Director's Meeting, the Financial Statement was finally approved. It was announced that all bills had been received and paid in full and that the required documents for distribution to all our stakeholders would be prepared and sent out. This *Messages from the President* is one of my final responsibilities as Chair of the Planning Team to report to the members of the GTAPA clubs, the results of our budgetary efforts and the decisions made regarding future plans.

It was remarkable that the Budget created by **Ernie Nyitrai**, prior to the show, was very close to the actual outcome in terms of income and expenses:

- In terms of the anticipated income from: advertising, exhibitor's fees, sales of covers and cards, entrance fees, banquet and reception ticket sales and donations and grants, the anticipated budget was within \$200.00 of the actual income received. The anticipated income was \$24,400.00 while actual income was \$24,208.50
- In terms of the anticipated expenses of: giving half of the entrance fees collected to the CSDA (previous agreement of the partnership with CSDA), extra tables and chairs required for seminars, society meetings, Society Row and RPSC meetings, program and palmarets printing, commemorative cover costs, exhibition expanses (medals, ribbons, certificates, transportation of frames, prizes, judges' expenses, mailings and photocopying, bussing of children, banquet and reception charges and many small miscellaneous costs (e.g. volunteer parking fees, signage and sandwich boards), the anticipated

expense was \$24,470.00 while actual expenses were \$20,712.13.

- The cost of the premises, furnishings and security was assumed by the CSDA.
- The balance, considering income and expenses, created a profit of \$3,496.37.
- The Board approved the final statement and also reached consensus on giving a donation of \$500.00 to The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. (See below)

For a complete account of the GTAPA's ROYAL Financial Report of January 23, 2008, please see your club president for a copy of the approved document.

The donation of \$500.00 to The RPSC had originally been voted on unanimously at the Planning Team's final meeting as a donation of \$1000.00. The Executive Committee had also approved this. These decisions, however, were made prior to the final profit being calculated. With final figures in and a substantial bill still unpaid, the Directors realized that the initial amount represented a third of the final profit figure. In light of this, the Board decided \$500.00 would be a more realistic donation, representing nearly 15% of the profit.

It was recognized that the "title" ROYAL adds substantially to the interest within the hobby, to the number of exhibits entered and the overall attendance figures. For GTAPA, this translated into more income than usual from various sources. And while this fact also increased expenses, the overall profit expected was higher than a regular stamp show.

We were also aware that at The RPSC Director's Meeting held during the show, a motion had been approved that a request be sent to all future ROYAL planning committee chairmen that consideration be given to donating a percentage of their show's profit to The RPSC as joint hosts of the event. (The rationale for this request was the same as mentioned above as to why the GTAPA wished to make a donation.) Since our Board is an affiliate of The RPSC and very supportive of our national association, we wanted to be the first planning committee to honour this request.

## **The GTAPA's Financial Report.**

At the January meeting, the Board also approved the GTAPA's Financial Statement (Annual Report for '06-'07) for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2007. Although an official audit is not required for our kind of organization, Treasurer **Joe Janthur** has always insisted that someone qualified to inspect the books be appointed each year to go through the records and produce a report to the Board. This year, **Steve Haddock** from the East Toronto Stamp Club was assigned to carry out that responsibility. The job was done through November and December and Steve's report was presented at the January meeting. Joe's work as the treasurer was found to be exemplary, all

figures balanced for the year, all cheques were accounted for, expenses paid and the bank accounts were accurate. Thanks and appreciation were extended to Steve Haddock and Joe Janthur. In Joe's inimitable way, he finished his report with, "All bills have been paid, there are no outstanding debts and there's money in the bank. We are in the black, we are solvent, we owe nothing!"

### ***GTAPA's Planning Committee – tired but positive!***

In the final paragraph of the ROYAL's Financial Report above, I mentioned our pride and our accomplishments in holding five major philatelic shows in as many years. I have no recollections of any organization in recent stamp show history taking on such a heavy responsibility and providing so much for the stamp collecting community over such a short time period. The Planning Team, for the time being, is finished with its commitment to that kind of a schedule. It was a commitment of time and energy that we made five years ago, not knowing what we were really getting into.

At that time, **Frank Alusio** was the only member of the team who had had any experience in organizing stamp shows. After the early planning, he was not able to continue with us. The rest of the team learned quickly! We made mistakes but we instituted several innovations to exhibiting and provided show goers with much more than the traditional philatelic exhibition and program.

Two of our shows put us in the red, two more broke even and our last effort produced a modest profit. The original GTAPA commitment is now over and the planning team has disbanded. We have not been able to enlist younger members to our group and while we have always had a great response from club members as volunteers at show times, it is in the search for the positions of managers, responsible for one of ten portfolios, that has been unsuccessful.

As one member has often said, "I just want to show up at a stamp show for a day or two and be a greeter at the front door! I want to chat with friends and colleagues and tour the dealer booths and the exhibition on my own time. That's what I want to do."

We have decided that there will be no STAMPEX in October of 2008. After the wrap-up of the ROYAL, this decision was made and passed on to key members of the philatelic community. (STAMPEX, you will recall, is the name of a national show in Toronto that was given to the GTAPA to use at the discretion of The RPSC, who owns the rights to the name.) The CSDA has had the Queen Elizabeth Building booked for some time and will continue with an October show.

Over the next several months, the GTAPA Board will discuss new possibilities for a Planning Team, possible locations for future regional/local stamp shows and

what the priorities of a GTAPA sponsored stamp show would look like. As you know, we have often incorporated new ideas on how a stamp show might be better organized to better meet the needs of the GTA stamp community.

In closing, I wish to state that the planning team realized it is not, "the only act in town." If other organizations come forward to carry the torch, we would be supportive. That would not deter us from continuing with our efforts to create something new. We all agree that now it is time to return to our basic set of values as stated in our constitution, work for the betterment of our member clubs and focus on their expressed needs and wishes. Some of us believe that we have, to some extent, neglected these expectations. So it's back to work on other initiatives.

If any of our member clubs or individuals from those clubs would like to invite any executive members of the Board to explain these points in greater detail at a club meeting, please contact me to discuss the possibilities. We would be happy to oblige. And as always, I would be pleased to attend your club meetings to discuss and explain any GTAPA business that arises from club discussions.

In the meantime, I'm going to spend an inordinate amount of time on my stamps. They have been sadly neglected and are screaming for some attention!

Sincerely,

**Peter Butler**

### **Errata**

Apologies are due for two errors in the President's Message of the last issue.

We misspelled **Jerry Kalyn's** name.

We failed to thank **Wsevolod Sokolyk** from the Ukrainian Collectibles Society (Toronto), who did the presentation on thematic collecting with hockey as a topic.

### **In Memoriam**

It is with great regret that we announce the passing of **Joe Malboeuf**. Joe was one of the three presidents that first agreed to meet with other club representatives in February of 2002 to propose an organization to bring together the stamp clubs in the GTA. As president of the North York Philatelic Society, his was one of the original signatures on the GTAPA Constitution.



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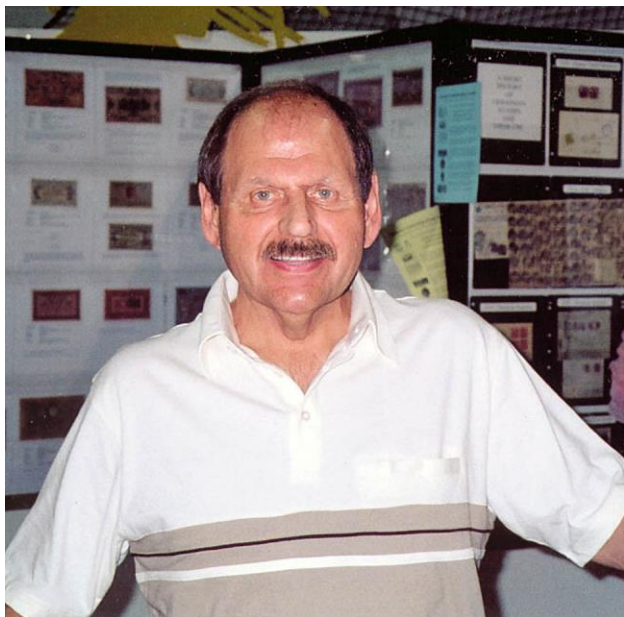


# A Farewell To Ron Zelonka

Jerry Kalyn

President, Ukrainian Collectibles Society (Toronto)

Leafing through my trident album with each stamp in its place, I come to realize how much I will miss the greatest über-collector of tridents, our own Ron Zelonka. Dr. Ronald A. Zelonka passed away peacefully with his family at his side on Friday, October 26, 2007. This tragic and untimely loss to the international Ukrainian philatelic community will be felt far and wide. Ron was a long time member of UPNS #334, the Ukrainian Collectibles Society (Toronto), and known to many collectors and dealers from every continent.



Ron was a quiet man with many friends ranging from fellow university graduates, his work colleagues, and his Ukrainian stamp collecting friends. Ron graduated from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario with a Science degree in 1969 and a PhD in Chemistry in 1972. He recently retired as Vice-President, Technology and Innovation, DuPont Canada Inc. where he pursued his passion for science and innovation, aimed at improving people's lives, not only in Canada, but globally.

Ron brought the disciplines he lived with in everyday life, his family, and his career to collecting. His interests in Ukrainian collectibles covered many areas: trident overprints, Western Ukraine, medals, postcards, paper money, DP postage, postal history, as well as, Star Trek figurines. Of all his collecting passions, he is best known for his love of the trident overprint and medals. His expertise in tridents was eagerly sought after and he was more than willing to share his in-depth knowledge and encouraged his fellow philatelists to discover this specialized area. Few have had the privilege to admire his fabulous collection and be overcome with the feeling that they were looking at something one of a kind.

Ron's wife Pat fondly remembers the day in the early 70's when Ron decided to sell part of his BNA stamp collection to purchase some fieldpostcards for \$300, a princely sum for those days, especially for newlyweds. This was Ron's introduction to Ukrainian philately. He reasoned naively that for a country like Ukraine, with such a brief history of independence in 1918-20, it would be possible to acquire one of everything that was ever issued or mailed. Ron continued his lifelong quest to find that one rare overprint or that elusive cover that no one had ever seen before.

In 2006, Ron's philatelic interests cumulated in accreditation as UPNS Expertiser of Trident Overprints. He was a contributor to the *Ukrainian Philatelist Journal*. Whenever his busy schedule permitted, he attended the Society's annual Zustriches. At UKRAINPEX 2007 Ron and his son Ben won Gold for their *Military Operations in Western Ukraine 1914-1920* exhibit, the last of many medals won in philatelic exhibitions. Everything Ron did was driven by his personal goals, his pursuit of excellence. He expected nothing less from his friends who on many occasions were persuaded to take that difficult extra step towards self improvement.

We will miss Ron at our Monday club meetings. As well, we will miss him as Exhibition Chairman for our UKRAINPEX exhibitions, his albums of trading material, his laugh, his sense of humor. And I will miss Ron and the occasional visit to his home to talk shop. I got my first introduction to Ukrainian philately at CAPEX 1986 by unknowingly purchasing from a dealer a number of Ron's stock books. Many a stamp in my trident album is from those stock books. Ron, May the Tridents Always be with you!



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# GTAPA MEMBER CLUBS' 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 e-mail  
[r.thorne@sympatico.ca](mailto:r.thorne@sympatico.ca)

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

The snow storm that Mother Nature dumped on us the day before did not deter the faithful in coming out in force to the annual Bramalea show and bourse held on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.



During the show **Garfield Portch**, editor of *PhilaJournal*, presented club member **Ron Walker** with a Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance Certificate of Merit in recognition of the work Ron has done for the club for many years. As well as being Bob Thorne's assistant at the Sunday club auctions Ron has for years run the table auctions at the annual shows. He is also instrumental in obtaining door prizes from the dealers. Ron always shows up for our second meeting each December but for some reason always seems to be missing when Santa Claus arrives with gifts for everyone in

attendance. Surprisingly Ron somehow wanders back to the meeting after Santa has left.

Exhibitors at this year' show were:

**Don Garlick:** *The Liberty Series*

**Bob Thorne:** *Sweden, Military Stationary World War II* and *½ Queen Victoria Jubilee*

**Fred Messecar:** *King George VI*

**Malcolm Cook:** *Little towns on the prairies*

**Steve Johnson:** *Jack V. Elliot Air Service*

**Ingo Nessel:** *Hong Kong King George VI 8-cent, A stamp interrupted by war*

**Henry Vander Top:** *Buttons made from postage stamps*

**Walter Krasowski:** *The 2-cent Arch issue study with emphasis on the overprinted counterpart*

**Jerry Piotrowski:** *Common and not so common philatelic terms; and Censor Markings on Polish mail 1915-22; and Poland 1941-48, Issues of the Government in Exile and other issues*

*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.

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*



### Did you know.....

The only country to print all it stamps in the same colours was Heligoland. All 33 stamps printed between 1867 and 1890 were printed in green, white and red.



## Insurance & Banking Philatelic Society

Our next meeting will be on the premises of DEPAG Agency, 14th floor at 67 Yonge Street on Thursday, December 13, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

The discussion of meeting venues continues to be a lively topic. Meetings will continue to be held in the office of DEPAG pending resolution of the issue. Visitors to meetings are advised to phone Joe Janthur (416-364-4112) to arrange entry as the building closes at 6:00 pm.



## 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. 28 - **Let's Focus on the Circuit Books!** with Herb Letsche. Herb will review pages for the circuit books, the use of # 102 cards, ideas for improving and increasing them.

March 13 – **Canada's Gannet Stamp of 1954** with Charles Verge. Charles will show his one frame exhibit with emphasize on the pre-production elements (artist's proofs, approved drawings, trials, die proofs etc.), items that are often difficult to obtain to include in exhibits.

March 27 – **NTSC Floor Auction** with auctioneer Geoff Ewing.

April 10 - **Buy, Sell & Trade Night** (Some of the members will be busy setting up the exhibition at the CSDA Show at the Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, so a buy, sell and trade night works well prior to the show.

April 24 – **Awards Presentation Night.** Awards & certificates will be presented. The Grand Award winner will be the evening's speaker.

April 11-13 **Annual Exhibition** in conjunction with the CSDA Spring Bourse in the Queen Elizabeth Bldg. at CNE Place

**Bourses** scheduled for 2008:

March 22, June 14, Sept. 20, Dec. 6 at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church

Geoff Ewing



## North York Philatelic Society

Meetings are on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month from September to June (July and August 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday only) in the Skaters' Lounge at the Canagie Centennial Arena, 580 Finch Avenue West, Toronto, (2 blocks west of Bathurst Street). Everyone is welcome at any of our meetings. Membership is \$10.00 per year. NYPS is a member of Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

Upcoming events of note

March 29 10am –3pm NYPEX our annual show

April 19 Club auction with everyone welcome

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).



## Oshawa/Whitby Stamp Groups

The Oshawa Stamp Group meets twice weekly. There is a \$10 annual fee to join Oshawa Seniors.

Tuesdays 1:15 pm to 3:15 pm  
Northview Community Centre  
150 Beatrice Street East, Oshawa

Fridays 11:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Legends Community Centre  
1661 Harmony Road North, Oshawa

The Whitby Stamp Group meets weekly. There is a fee of \$1 per meeting with the proceeds to Whitby Seniors.

Mondays 10:30 am to 12:30 pm  
Seniors Building  
801 Brock Street South, Whitby

**See page 15 for details of our 3<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR AUCTION on April 26<sup>th</sup>**

For information contact:

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Larry Friend   | 905-723-8798 |
| Gordon Wick    | 905-404-0796 |
| Jim Stephenson | 905-576-4449 |
| Don Beaumont   | 905-426-3612 |
| Ron Christie   | 905-432-7628 |



## 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.

The 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 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 [bzygmunt@hotmail.com](mailto:bzygmunt@hotmail.com)

"Troyak" Club next meetings are planned for March 30, 2008; April 27, 2008; May 25, 2008 and June 29, 2008. 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 info call: Ignacy Kania 905-273-7313 or Wieslaw Grzesicki 416-258-1651 or visit website: [www.troyakclub.com](http://www.troyakclub.com) or [info@troyakclub.com](mailto:info@troyakclub.com) New members are always welcome.

### MARCH 2, 2008, Mississauga, ON

V Polish - Canadian Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show 2008, 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 for kids. Troyak special medal and show souvenirs. Free admission and parking. Refreshments available. Sunday March 2, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

For more info call: Ignacy Kania 905-273-7313 or Wieslaw Grzesicki 416-258-1651 or visit website: [www.troyakclub.com](http://www.troyakclub.com) or [info@troyakclub.com](mailto:info@troyakclub.com)

*Robert Owczarz*



## Maple Leaf Chapter, Sossi Scouts On Stamps Society International

The annual Rochester Philatelic Exhibition, ROPEX 2008, will be held Friday through Sunday, May 16-18, 2008 in the ESL Sports Centre on the campus of Monroe Community College in Rochester, NY.

Scouts On Stamps Society International (SOSSI) will be holding their Annual General Meeting there on the Saturday at 1pm. As well, SOSSI will have a Booth throughout the show and a SOSSI Dinner on the Friday evening.

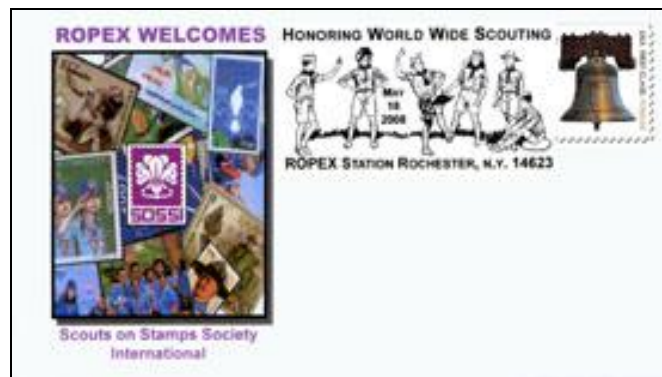
There will be many dealers there, including scouting specialist Barry Mann, who for many years was SOSSI's Sales Manager. As well, there are already a number of scouting competitive exhibits confirmed.

Rochester is an easy drive from this area and has many local attractions. A major mall is only minutes away, and the world-famous Lilac Festival will be in full-bloom in mid-May at Highland Park with over 400 varieties of lilac.

Details can be found in the latest SOSSI Journal or at the ROPEX website at [www.rpastamps.org/ropep.html](http://www.rpastamps.org/ropep.html)



*Sunday, May 18 Cancel for ROPEX*



*ROPEX Cover for SOSSI  
SOSSI will also have their own covers*

The Maple Leaf Chapter meets on the third Sunday of each month from September through May at 2:00 pm (coffee/cookies at 1:30 pm). Meetings are held in different locations within Toronto and southwestern Ontario as follows:

Mar 16 – Kitchener Scout House – Clothesline

Apr 20 – Hamilton – World Jamboree report

Jun 15 – Niagara Falls Scout House/Museum – 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Scout Stamp Issues.

Contact: Tony Manson at (416) 447-4281



## 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 8 p.m.. Business attire with a tie is a requested dress code at the RCMI.

For more information contact  
**Owen White** at 416-481-4731  
or by email at [owen.white@sympatico.ca](mailto:owen.white@sympatico.ca)



## Scarborough Stamp Club

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.

Meetings are held at the Cedarbrook Community Centre, 91 East Park Blvd., (Lawrence and Markham area) in Scarborough. The doors are open at 6:00 p.m. 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 further information contact  
**Jerry Kalyn** at 416-251-6898.

We meet at:  
Ukrainian Canadian Social Services  
2445 Bloor Street West, Toronto



## West Toronto Stamp Club

Activities are held from September to June on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at 7:30pm at the 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.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month is a Study Group session that deals with a variety of philatelic topics.

December brought 2007 activities to a close with the annual Christmas dinner on the 4<sup>th</sup> and the Invitational Auction on the 11<sup>th</sup>. The dinner, held at a local restaurant, was attended by 46 members and guests who again enjoyed excellent food and camaraderie. Many thanks are conveyed to **Fred and Yvonne Froud** who again co-ordinated the event. The Fall Invitational Auction was a great success with close to 75 lots being hammered after the frenzied bidding subsided.

On a sad note, the club lost one of its long serving members in December when **John Harvey** passed away. John had been an active member in the Club since 1965. We will miss him.

The 2008 season started with the usual meeting and auction on January 8<sup>th</sup>. The study group on the 15<sup>th</sup> was treated to an excellent presentation from **Frank Alusio** on his latest philatelic project - "The Castles of Italy." Between 1980 and 1984 sixty-nine castle stamps and postal stationery were issued and Frank has assembled quite an exhibit. He is anticipating it to be a minimum of 5 frames (80 pages) when completed. Look for it to be shown at one of the stamp shows in the Toronto area probably a year from now as it is still a work in progress.

The Club's next Invitational Auction is scheduled for April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Visitors are always welcome!

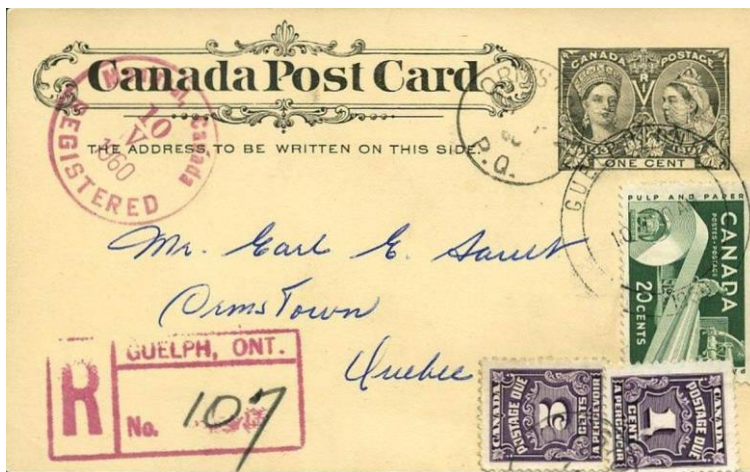
We are always looking for new members. So if you would like to be part of an active membership, please give us a call.

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



# Registration Errors

By Ken Lewis



Whilst rummaging through a dealer's stock at a local bourse this little unusual item came to light, and it was purchased purely for its curiosity value.

Just imagine the trouble of taking a postcard to the post office, going through the registration procedure, paying the rate demanded by the clerk (otherwise they would not accept it), only for the recipient to be charged for postage due. This implies that both the accepting post office clerk and the staff in the delivery office were not doing their job and were unaware of the postal regulations that were current at the time.

## Orms town

Orms town is located across the St Lawrence River and southwest of Montreal in Quebec. It is obvious from the address that, even in 1960, Orms town was not a highly populated area; otherwise the address would have included much more detail such as a house number and street name.

According to the 2001 census, Orms town had a total population of 3,647. The Orms town post office was opened in 1839 and situated in Durham village, later to be renamed Orms town village. Orms town also had a railway post office that operated between 1899 and 1961.

## Postcard

This address side of the postcard reads: Mr. Earl E. Sault, Orms town, Quebec

Even though the message has been erased, some words are still readable and these are:

*Dear Earl,*

*Carl Wanger  
Guelph Patolio*

As can be construed both the sender and addressee (Carl and Earl) knew each other very well, otherwise the salutation would have been 'Dear Mr. Sault' instead of

'Dear Earl'. Apart from the salutation and the valediction, the main part of the message has been erased, but the word 'within' is just decipherable at the beginning of the second line. The word 'within' normally signifies that the addressee owed the sender money, and the sender would like the matter to be resolved as quickly as possible before legal action is used to recover the debt. In this case the registration service was used to act as proof of delivery.

## Postage

The postal rates for 1960 state that the regular postage for a postcard was 4¢, while the registration fee was an additional 20¢ (24¢ total).

When this card was produced and sold by the post office the postage rate was correct for the year 1890, but the post office clerk made no attempt to update the postage to the correct current rate for 1960. This postal stationery card had the imprint of a 1¢ stamp from the Jubilee set. Although this stamp was 70 years old, it was (and still is) valid for part payment of postage. The additional stamp used to pay the cost of the registration was a 20¢ 'Pulp and Paper Industry' stamp that was issued in 1956.

Both of the stamps used on this postcard have been cancelled by a Guelph barrel cancel dated 10<sup>th</sup> May 1960, with the added indication that it was accepted for entry into the postal system at 10:00am. This cancellation indicates that the clerk at the Guelph post office was happy that both the postage and registration fee had been paid in full.

At the lower left can be seen the purple registration etiquette handstamp that had been applied by the Guelph post office with a manuscript '107' inserted into the appropriate position. At the upper left is the purple registered transit mark of Montreal.

When this postcard reached the delivery office in Orms town a receiving mark was applied, which can be seen on the left portion of the 'Jubilee' stamp, and dated



11<sup>th</sup> May 1960. A clerk at the Ormstown office noticed that the postage rate had been underpaid by 3¢. This clerk affixed two postage due stamps that totalled 6¢ (double deficiency), and duly tied them to the post card by the Ormstown receiving mark. Unfortunately, the clerk had applied postage due stamps that equalled double deficiency (6¢) instead of the single deficiency rate (3¢) that was to be applied on items that were registered. These postage dues were a 5¢ and a 1¢. As can be appreciated both the post office clerk and the delivery office clerk were both wrong in their decisions.

**Conclusion**

It is unusual for confidential information such as contained in this message to be written on a postcard for all and sundry to read en route to the addressee. It would have been more courteous if the sender had enclosed the message within a sealed envelope, thus enabling the contents to be kept both private and confidential from everyone except the recipient, and then sent via registered post.

If this postcard had been posted, with the same stamps affixed, in a post box then it would have been treated as a simple overpayment of postage and not undergo the registration operation. Should this situation had arisen it would have been very unlikely that the post office would have made any attempt to reimburse the excess postage to the sender.

This example is proof that registered postcards do exist, even though they are very elusive items, to find one complete with Postage Due stamps is extremely rare and virtually unknown.



**A Letter of Appreciation**

*This e-mail was received by Peter Butler Saturday, October 20, 2007 following a great day with kids at ROYAL \* 2007 \* ROYALE*

TO: Peter Butler  
SUBJECT: Kids at the Royal

Hi Peter:

Thanks for all your hard work to make our trip to the Royal a very successful one. All 28 students and 13 parents thoroughly enjoyed the entire experience. From the workshop, the Hockey Hall of Fame, the free stamps, the exhibits, the youth booth, the special cancellation at Canada Post ... even the cookies...We all had a wonderful time. The gentleman who acted as our host (**Dave Stone**, Scarborough Stamp Club) did a fabulous job in making our entire day a positive experience. The icing on the cake was the Hockey Cover given by the last presenter (**Gord Payne**, West Toronto Stamp Club) to each and every kid.

Thanks once again for everything.

Cheers  
Wuchow

**WANTED**

Refugee covers of the Twentieth Century, especially covers from Displaced Persons' (DP) Camps in Germany, Austria, Italy and the USSR from 1945-52.

CONTACT: Robert Pinet  
[robertpinet@canada.com](mailto:robertpinet@canada.com)

**POSTAGE STAMP SHOWS**

*St. Bonaventure Church Parish Centre*  
200 Yards south of Edwards Gardens  
1300 Leslie Street, Toronto

2008 SHOW DATES

|      |        |       |        |
|------|--------|-------|--------|
| Jan. | 12, 19 | July. | 5, 19  |
| Feb. | 2, 16, | Aug.  | 9, 23  |
| Mar. | 8, 29, | Sept  | 13     |
| Apr. | 12, 19 | Oct.  | 11, 25 |
| May. | 3, 17  | Nov.  | 8, 22  |
| Jun. | 7, 21  | Dec.  | 6, 20  |



Canada 35

**FREE ADMISSION**

REGULARLY 18 DEALERS

Show Hours 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Lots of Free Parking**

Information (705) 799-2008

*Oshawa-Whitby Stamp Groups*

**Floor Auction #3**

*500 Quality Lots*  
**NO TAXES - NO FEES - CASH ONLY**

**Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Viewing of lots 10 am. to 12.30 pm

**Auction Starts at 1 pm.**  
Auctioneer Larry Friend

**Legends Community Centre**  
*1661 Harmony Rd. North, Oshawa*  
*(Just north of Taunton Rd.)*

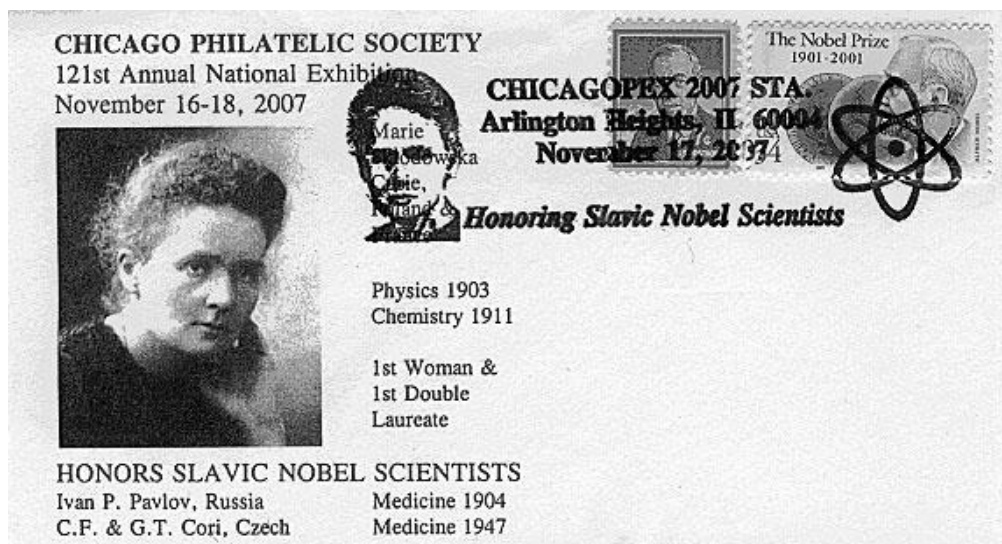
Full Lunch Available \$6

For info or map Email – [lfriend@sympatico.ca](mailto:lfriend@sympatico.ca)



# Chicagopex 2007 – The Pan-Slavic Show

by Mark Stelmacovich  
Ukrainian Collectibles Society (Toronto)



This year's Chicagopex, the 121<sup>st</sup> edition, took place from 16-18 November in Arlington Heights, a suburb just north and west of Chicago. It was hosted in the beautiful Sheraton Hotel by a veteran crew led by Larry Kobelt of the Chicago Philatelic Society and Chair Alfred Kugel, former Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society (UPNS) member.

You will note from the commemorative cover above, the show theme that 'Honors Slavic Nobel Scientists'. Though not strictly limited as such, the show emphasized pan-Slavic cultural themes. Ukrainian, Czechoslovak, Polish, and Russian presentations were joined by closely related fields including Austria and Hungary, as well as nebulously related areas, Bulgaria, Serbia, and the former Yugoslavia. There were 332 frames, including 92 Polish, 50 Russian, 34 Czechoslovakian, 28 Ukrainian, and 11 Hungarian.

As various UPNS members drifted in from the nether-regions of our planet and settled into our hotel rooms to join our local members, we began to realize what a wonderful time we were about to have, not only due to the wealth of exhibits, but also due to the camaraderie of friendship, new colleagues, and rekindled relationships that we were about to share. UPNS's most recent event, which occurred this past June during Ukrainpex-2007 in Toronto, seemed just like yesterday as we settled in with our fellow colleagues for a cup of tea or two! This was required medicine, as yours truly and co-pilot **Jerry Kalyn** spent a few more hours on the road than necessary, when we got lost just after crossing the border.

On Friday, we met at the Sheraton and set up our display table. The night prior, our UPNS exhibitors had done their thing setting up frames in the Great Lakes Ballroom. Perusing a few of the vendors in the Arlington Ballroom's bourse and in the hallways

eventually took us to the Czechoslovak table, where a new Carpatho-Ukraine book in English was being sold.

Titled *Carpatho-Ukraine Postal History and Stamps 1786-2000* and compiled by Ing. J. Verleg of Netherlands, this book had just recently been released! The 228-page volume synthesizes a tremendous amount of C-U research and is beautifully illustrated and in color, with excellent examples of stamps and covers, and a timeline of coverage that lends further knowledge to this field.

We next had a chance to check out the exhibits once the ballroom opened. In order, awards included Gold, Vermeil, Silver, Silver-Bronze, and Bronze. To suggest that I was in awe over those exhibits that related directly to Ukraine is, quite frankly, an understatement.

## Western Ukraine: Austrian Empire and ZUNR

Current UPNS President **Ingerit Kuzych** displayed two exhibits, "The Definitives of the Ukrainian National Republic, 1918-1920 (and Their Derivative Issues)" and "Lemberg: The Postal History of an Imperial Austrian Crownland Capital". While the latter 6-frame exhibit was part of the "Court of Honor" and thus not up for judging, the former 1-frame exhibit, which includes one of the rarest of all Ukrainian stamps, the Courier Field Post 40-hryven/20-hryven of which only one-on-cover and one mint are known (despite various source materials stating a total of 15), received a Vermeil. While we had recently seen this same exhibit of stamps and covers in Toronto in June, it is always a distinct privilege to view such rarities, in particular those that are maintained by UPNS members!

## Western Ukraine: Podilia

Former UPNS President **Bohdan Pauk**'s exhibit was titled "Ukraine 1918 - Podilia Province", and this 4-

framer which featured select covers, was awarded a Bronze. Like a few others, Pauk was unable to attend



the Toronto Ukrainepex-2007, and so it was nice to have this opportunity to meet him.

### Carpatho-Ukraine



Two exhibits, one by **Jay Carrigan** and the other by **Tønnes Ore**, both UPNS members, included outstanding displays of high-end and, by and large, very rare stamps and covers.

Because of the several articles he has written, many UPNS members are well aware of Carrigan's expertise in this field, which without any question whatsoever was matched by his 9-frame exhibit! Titled "*Carpatho-Ukraine 1944 to 1945*", the simplicity of the exhibit's layout lent ease of comprehension to a field that is otherwise quite complex due to the many available varieties. With its outstanding content, which included stamps and covers, it was awarded a Gold.



Ore's exhibit included a chronological display of stampless and stamped covers, which ranged from very rare to extremely rare. It was wonderful that our

member and colleague from Norway was able to personally participate at Chicagopex. Ore's 8-frame exhibit received a Vermeil.



### Other Ukraine-Related Exhibits

Two other exhibits of prominence showed material that can directly be attributed to Ukraine, even though they were thematically titled otherwise.

A 10-frame exhibit titled "Ostarbeiter Mail in World War Two", compiled by **George Werbizky**, featured covers and ephemera of war prisoners and victims, which included many such items from Ukrainian slave laborers, many of whom were just teenagers. The resolve, desperation and plight of these WW2 victims, was certainly noticeable in any photography that accompanied the various material.

Additionally, another 10-frame exhibit by former UPNS member and Chicagopex chair **Art Kugel** was included in the Court of Honor. Titled "The Philatelic Effects of the Breakup of the Romanov Empire 1918-1923", it incorporated various selections of Ukrainian stamps and covers amongst its displayed items.

Part of the fun at the show included the shared learning experience. Each exhibit fulfilled this role by including detailed information describing the inherent significance and meaning of each item to the given topic. Of the 332 total frames, the following award totals were completed: 21 Gold (plus 5 honorary Golds to the five invited Court of Honor exhibitors), 10 Vermeil, 6 Silver, 2 Silver-Bronze, and 3 Bronze. Thus, it can most accurately be stated that if an exhibit received any level of the 47 total awards, the exhibit must have been outstanding to begin with!

### Darned, That Traffic!

As it turned out, many UPNSers were booked into a hotel located just across the street from a breakfast chain restaurant. This venue turned out to be ideal for our daily planning.

After Saturday's show finished at 6pm, several of us went back to our hotels, in order to meet up and head off for a traditional Ukrainian dinner, and a cup of tea or two, in Chicago's "Ukrainian Village".

Alas, however, Hwy 90, which runs through Chicago, was a nightmare. We traveled seven miles in two hours, and so two of our three cars decided to peel off

and go back to a Greek restaurant just across the street from our hotel. The return trip for the same distance took only 10 minutes by foot!

Unfortunately, we had to hope the lead car did this as well, but we didn't know for sure as they were out of sight. As it turned out, our Detroit contingent managed to get to the Village as they had a toll-gate pass, making matters faster for them.

### Sunday

On the last day, some of us found our minds drifting off into thoughts about the trip home. For the Toronto contingent, what should have been an 8½ hour drive into Chicago, turned to be over 10 hours due both to getting lost and to getting caught up in Chicago's evening rush hour.



After saying our good-byes to all, **Jerry Kalyn** and I headed off into the sunset for our journey back to Toronto. We ran into some heavy traffic at Hwy 69, which held us up a bit. However we managed to get home just before midnight, bringing an end to our festive philatelic weekend.



#### Did you know.....

In 1879, postal officials in Liege, Belgium, apparently tried using cats to carry bundles of letters to villages within a 30 kilometer radius of the city. The trials were short lived however as the cats proved, as almost all cat owners know, to be totally undisciplined.

*Jerry Piotrowski*



**PhilaJournal** is constantly looking for articles, stories and photos that are of general interest to collectors.

Please support your journal by submitting articles.

If you need assistance assembling a submission, please contact the editor who will be happy to provide guidance.

## Web Site Worth Visiting

The next time you are surfing the web in search of philatelic goodies, I recommend a visit to [www.adminware.ca](http://www.adminware.ca)

The site is owned and maintained by Robin Harris, FRPSC, who is, among other things, the editor of the *Unitrade Canada Specialized Stamp Catalogue*.

Among the significant features of the site, you will find:

- updates and corrections to both the 2007 and 2008 *Unitrade Stamp Catalogues*
- checklists for Canadian definitive stamps
- a detailed listing of the Great Britain Machin Issues
- Canadian Elizabethan specialized study tips
- Elizabethan stamp glossary
- table of Canadian postal rates since 1943

Robin Harris, by maintaining the data in this site is providing an outstanding service to collectors of Canadian stamps.

In my opinion, this site is worth posting as a "favourite" and is also worth a regular visit.

*gjp*

## The Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation

By now, I expect that most of our readers know that the GTATA Directors meet monthly at the Greene Foundation. I also suspect that most of our readers are aware of the Foundation and the research library maintained within the premises. My third assumption is that many are unaware of the background of the Foundation.

The Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation was established in 1975. The initial funding of the Foundation was made available by a series of gifts by Vincent Graves Greene.

Vincent Greene was considered to be the Dean of Canadian philatelists. He was a signatory of the Role of Distinguished Philatelists; a recipient of the Lichtenstein Award, and a Fellow of both the Royal Philatelic Society, London and the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. He served on many international juries and made significant contributions to all areas of philately.

The GTAPA is grateful to the Foundation for its continuing hospitality and support.

I recommend that you visit the Foundation web site to learn more about the Foundation.

[www.greenefoundation.ca](http://www.greenefoundation.ca)

*gjp*

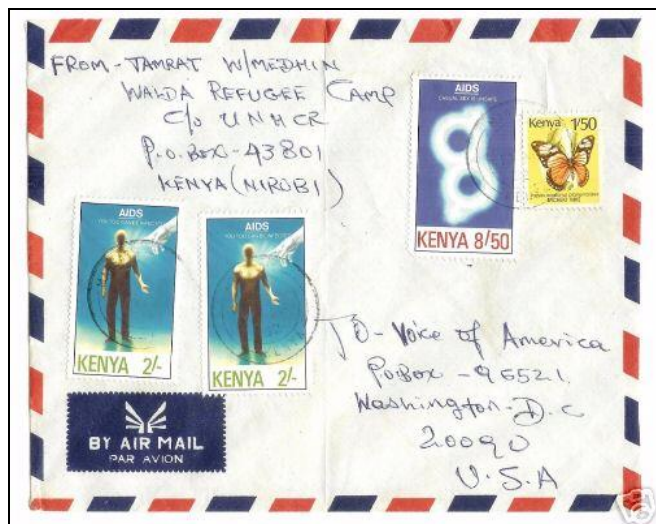


# ETHIOPIAN REFUGEES AND THE WALDA REFUGEE CAMP

by Robert Pinet

Kenya has been in the news recently because of the tribal violence that has claimed more than 1,000 lives since a disputed election in December. Fighting erupted between the majority Kikuyu supporters of Mr. Kibaki and the mainly Luo and Luhya supporters of Mr. Odinga. Thankfully, a power-sharing agreement is in the offing, through the mediation efforts of former UN secretary-general Kofi Annan.

Given its geographical location and the political stability it had established until the current troubles, the Kenyan government and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) have established refugee camps in the country for the past thirty years. Unfortunately, these are located "in some of the most inhospitable desert areas [...]. The camps are notorious for their extreme heat, lack of vegetation, scorpion infestation, and proximity to Kenya's borders with Somalia and Sudan."<sup>1</sup>



Above is a 1991 air-mail cover from the Walda refugee camp by Tamrat W. Mehdin, sent in care of the UNHCR in Nairobi, Kenya. It was sent to the Voice of America radio station in Washington. The UNHCR sets up postal services by field staff in the camps it operates.<sup>2</sup> The Voice of America's show "Africa Journal," besides offering current affairs programming, also broadcasts information about and to refugees in Africa.<sup>3</sup> The cover, with very weak Nairobi cancels,

bears a 1.50 shilling butterfly stamp from 1988-90, one 8.50 shilling and two 2 shilling AIDS awareness stamps issued October 31, 1991, which suggests that it was mailed sometime in late 1991 or early 1992.

Approximately 80,000 Ethiopian refugees were living in Kenya by December, 1992; 140,000 had sought refuge in Sudan and about 4,000 in Djibouti. They had fled a bloody and protracted civil war between the Eritrean and Oromo provinces and the government in Addis Ababa.<sup>4</sup> In 1991, Walda was one of four refugee camps - besides Ifo, Dagahaley, and Hagadera - located in Kenya's remote eastern zone near the Somali border. Over 80,000 refugees from different parts of Africa were crowded within Walda alone.

Yilma Tafere Tasew described life in the camp as a nightmare. For the first six months after his arrival there in 1991, there was no water in the camp for the refugees; later, a water tank was organized by the Kenyan government for the local nomads and cattle, but camp members were "only allowed to take the water left after the cattle had gone first."<sup>5</sup> Besides typhoid, malaria and malnutrition, which had killed about 3,700 people (mostly women and children), camp refugees also had to face raids by armed bands. It was closed in March 1993 and the refugees were then moved to Kakuma.<sup>6</sup>

By December 1992, the BBC reported that approximately 50,000 of the refugees living in Kenya had registered for eventual repatriation to Ethiopia.<sup>7</sup>

## Editor's Note:

This is the 6<sup>th</sup> in this series of articles written by Robert Pinet. Robert, a member of the North Toronto Stamp Club, has been working on an exhibit of International Refugee covers. He would welcome the opportunity to view any such covers held by our readers.

gjp

<sup>1</sup> Human Rights Watch. (2006). "Why refugees leave Kenya's refugee camps." Retrieved February 18, 2008 from <http://www.hrw.org/reports/2002/kenyugan/kenyugan1002%20ap%20alter-17.htm>.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (1996). *Handbook. Voluntary repatriation: International protection*. Geneva: UNHCR.

<sup>3</sup> Radiotime. (2008). Radio Show: Africa Journal. Retrieved February 18, 2008 from [http://radiotime.com/program/p\\_1938/Africa\\_Journal.aspx](http://radiotime.com/program/p_1938/Africa_Journal.aspx).

<sup>4</sup> Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada. Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada. (1993) *Chronology of Events: January 1990 - January 1993*. Retrieved February 15, 2008, from UNHCR Refworld, available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/refworld/rwmain?docid=3ae6a8104>.


<sup>5</sup> Yilma Tafere Tasew. (2002). *Before and after arrival: The plight of African refugees. A discussion paper*. Wellington, New Zealand.

<sup>6</sup> Andrea Useem. (1998), Interview with Yilma Tafere Tasew, a refugee from Ethiopia. *Wajibu: A Journal of Social & Religious Concern* 13 (1). Retrieved February 15, 2008 from [web.peacelink.it/wajibu/2\\_issue/p2.html](http://web.peacelink.it/wajibu/2_issue/p2.html)

<sup>7</sup> British Broadcasting Corporation. (1992). BBC summary of world broadcasts. 21 December 1992. "The Middle East, Africa and Latin America." Cited in Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1993, *op cit*.



**CANADA**  
3



Postal Administration:  
Title:  
Denomination:  
Date of Issue:  
Printer:  
Quantity:  
Perforation:  
Creator(s):  
  
Original Artwork:

**Your  
Stamp  
Here**

Canada:  
Queen Victoria:  
12c:  
14 June 1851  
Hawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson  
UNKNOWN  
Imperfector:  
Based on a painting by Alfred  
Edward Chalon.  
Portrait engraved by Alfred Jones.  
Alfred Edward Chalon, "Queen  
Victoria", 1837.

**Historical Notice:**

The first postage stamp issue of the Province of Canada featured the beaver on the 3-pence, H.R.H. Albert, the Prince Consort on the 5-pence denomination, and Her Majesty Queen Victoria on the 12-pence. These stamps were produced on laid paper without perforations. Hawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson, the New York security printers, accepted the contract to print Canadian postage stamps, producing all the requirements until 1st May, 1851. On that day the company name changed, following arrangements, to the American Book Note Company with headquarters remaining in New York City. The new firm continued the former printing contract until Canadian Confederation in 1857. Portrait of Her Majesty Queen Victoria reproduced from a contemporary engraving of a full-length painting by Alfred Edward Chalon, R.A. Although this work of art portrays the young Queen in her robes of state, merely the head appears in various British colonial postage stamp designs, including the 12-pence for the Province of Canada. On the occasion of Queen Victoria's first visit to the House of Lords, she commissioned Mr. Chalon to paint this portrait as a gift to her mother, the Duchess of Kent. The memorable event was the prorogation of Parliament on 17th July, 1837, the year of the Queen's accession to the throne.

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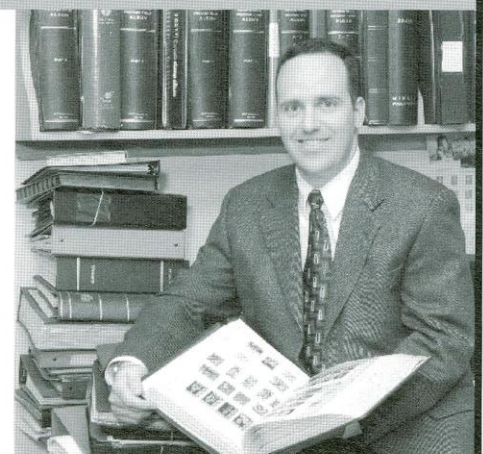
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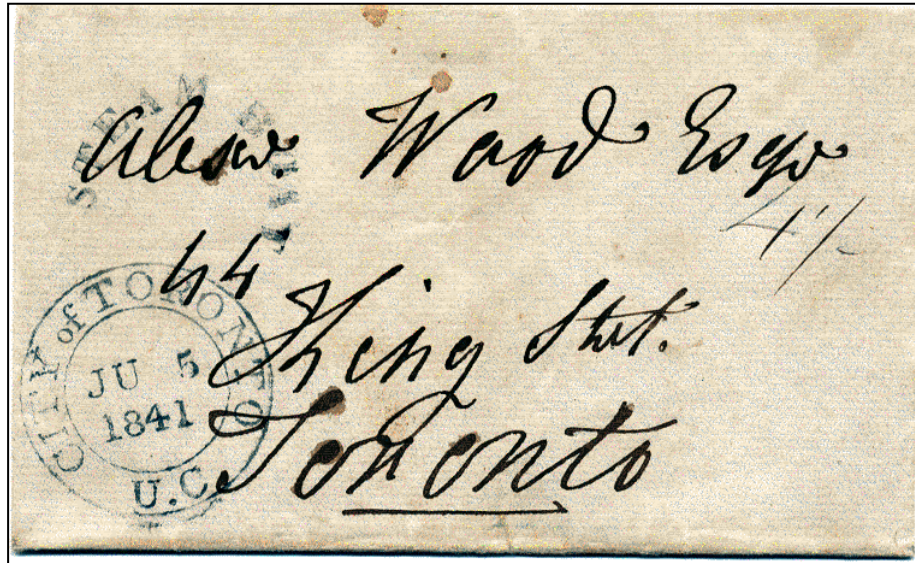
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## An Interesting Toronto Cover

Garfield Portch




A Toronto handstruck "STEAM BOAT" cover

This letter originated at Niagara on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1841 and was delivered on board a cross-lake steam boat, likely the *TRANSIT*. Arriving at Toronto the same day, it was struck in black with the arched STEAM BOAT hand stamp and rated 4½ pence postage due.

The cross-lake postage charge was 4½ pence which was the regular charge for a letter traveling 60 miles or less. The lake crossing from Niagara to Toronto is about 30 miles. If the letter had traveled the longer land route, it would have been about 60 miles and would have been rated 7 pence collect.

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## A Philatelic Experience

*Garfield Portch*

It's funny how things work out with life in general and philately in particular.

Last summer, while arranging the awards for ROYAL \* 2007 \* ROYALE, I was put in contact with **Phil Stager** who represents the American Air Mail Society. I had previously met Phil when he was in Toronto in 2006 as a judge at Ameristamp Expo.

During the course of our conversations, we discovered that my winter vacation destination of Fort Myers (Florida) is within reasonable driving distance to his home and his home stamp club – The St. Pete's Stamp Club. Since the St. Pete's club meets weekly, there was no doubt that I would be able to accept his invitation to attend a club meeting as a guest speaker.

On the appointed Wednesday I left the beach early in the afternoon to drive the 125 miles to meet Phil for dinner. It was recommended that we dine at a small family restaurant in Gulfport (a quaint town that time has passed by) where the seafood menu is "out of this world". Philately aside, the clam chowder and crab cakes were worth the entire trip to the south!



Following dinner, we moved on to the club meeting. The St. Pete's club has, for some 50 years, enjoyed the private use of a room in a local church. As can be seen on the photos, they have been able to set up their library and tables to suit their own convenience.



Before beginning my presentation, I delivered greetings from the GTAPA and provided a set of back-issues of PhilaJournal for the library. I was also pleased to present a GTAPA medallion. All were received with thanks from the club.

I must admit that I was concerned that a presentation of The Small Queens might be of little or no interest to an American audience. In retrospect, I am pleased to report that the presentation was well accepted and I even noticed one member taking notes! That was a great relief and I must express my gratitude to a delightful audience. Thank you Ray, Phil, and a most hospitable club.



The only down-side to the evening was the drive back to my hotel in Fort Myers. As I was departing St. Petersburg, a fog began to roll in. By the time I traveled 3 miles, visibility was down to about one car-length. Fortunately, that only lasted for about 30 miles but it extended my driving time to a bit more than 3 hours! I was pleased to note that other drivers also respected the conditions allowing the drive to be made safely.

I suggest that if you are ever traveling on the gulf coast of Florida that you take the opportunity to visit the St. Petersburg Stamp Club. You will be warmly greeted.

# Coates & Coates

Philatelist

Specialists in Canada & BNA Stamps & Postal History

Here is a cover of great interest to all of the York & Halton County collectors. Mailed from Colchester England on July 24 1846 and addressed to: Mr. William James Dickson, care of Mr. George Burnett of the City Council, Toronto Upper Canada.

Care of the 4-time Mayor of Toronto- 1837,1848-50  
and the Founder of the York "Courier of Upper Canada".

Paid "KJ 25 JY 25 1846" applied at London and "L JY 25 H" applied at Liverpool. Received at "Toronto AU 24 1846 UC". This was sent per Cunard Steamer "Caledonia" on her 29<sup>th</sup> voyage leaving Liverpool on August 4 arriving in Boston on August 18 1846. This was sent via closed bag mail from Liverpool to Montreal via Boston so no US receivers would be on the back.



Rated 1/2 sterling-1/4 currency and prepaid 1/0 British internal, packet and US transit and marked "MORE TO PAY 2" the colonial portion at Liverpool.

At Montreal the "2½ Currency" handstamp (Arnell type B-6) was applied, that being the conversion of the "more to pay 2" to Canadian currency.

At Toronto this was redirected to Trafalgar and charged an additional 2½ pence redirection fee for a total of 5 pence currency.

Mr. George Burnett (1792-1861) was the founder of the *York Courier of Upper Canada* newspaper 1829-1837, Mayor of Toronto 1837,1848-50 and Police Magistrate of Toronto in 1851.

Ex Allan Steinhart exhibit and page 117 in his book of Transatlantic mail.

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# Stamp Group Brings Childhood Friends Back Together

By Karl Wysotski

Not only are the Oshawa-Whitby Stamp Enthusiasts providing collectors with a great new source of stamps and fellowship, they are also providing opportunity to reunite childhood friends who grew up in Oshawa back in the good old days. Let me explain.

My name is **Karl Wysotski** and I grew up in the south end of Oshawa in the 40's and 50's. Friendships were made with the kids that lived around the block. We played together, walked to school and were even allowed to stay out after dark.

Many of us collected stamps – it was the thing to do. We lived in an ethnic neighbourhood and most of the neighbours got mail from various parts of Europe – stamps were free for the asking. Back then, two of my closest friends were **Steve Rigo** and **David Bayus**. We were together for all of our childhood and adolescent years.

In 1961, I left Oshawa to attend the University of Western Ontario and never returned. Our lives went in different directions.

Now fast forward to the fall of 2007. Word got out in the local stamp world that Oshawa was the place to be Friday mornings. The OSCC Stamp Enthusiasts group was growing in leaps and bounds with lots and lots of stamps and a huge membership. In a short time, a Friday morning carpool was set up with collectors from The Kawartha Stamp Club in Peterborough. For me the rest is history.



Steve Rigo and David Bayus

You can imagine my surprise when I met both my childhood friends at the OSCC Legends Branch meeting. Forty-Seven years had passed! Old memories and new faces on old friends. Now we have plenty of opportunities to chat and reunite. Who would have known that our paths would cross again at a stamp club meeting?

At the rate that the OSCC Stamp Group is growing, I wouldn't be surprised if more old acquaintances be come reunited.

## Karl's Saga Continues

Not only has Karl met two of his boyhood friends - but it seems some of our members worked for Karl's uncle at General Motors.

As you may suspect we have a number of collectors who worked for General Motors. One such member, **Jim Stevenson**, recalls fondly working for **Peter Wysotski** at The Motors. Peter was the chief draftsman at the time.

Jim, as a student, working in the drafting department, would need to get his drawings approved by the head man, Peter - once approved the workers would call the drawings "Peterized". Obviously, Peter was well liked and respected. Wonder if he collected stamps?

It seems by the number of stamp collectors we have in both Legend's and Northview's Stamp Groups - General Motors must have been a hot bed for stamp collectors - one wonders if there was much trading of stamps around the lunchroom or after hours.

We are glad to have Karl, as well as all the retired GM employees, in the Senior's Stamp Group.

*Just as we are preparing to go to press, there is an extension to this story from Larry Friend .....*

## The Wysotski story has legs –

In conversation with David Bayus, I find that he also worked at General Motors.

Just to prove how small a world it is... David's boss was Jim Stevenson, who was supervisor of the North Plant. Jim, who worked his way up through the Motors as a student, used to get his work "Peterized" by Karl's uncle. Quite a circle of friendship!

The Motors must have been a great company to work for back in those days, as David gave Jim a vote of confidence as a Supervisor, saying Jim was a very fair and warm boss. Funny how they all speak kindly of each other – must be the common interest of Stamp Collecting.

### Did you know.....

The cleaning and re-use of stamps was prevented by the United States (1868-71) by embossing a gridded pattern of tiny squares. This broke the fibres on the surface of the paper allowing the canceling ink to penetrate more thoroughly and making cleaning more difficult.



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