

Phila Journal

The Official Publication of the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance

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Directors meet monthly on the fourth
Wednesday at the
Vincent Graves Greene
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10 Summerhill Avenue, Toronto
Visitors are welcome.

***We work best when we work
together***

Good News!

Ajax Philatelic Society is back!

by Larry Friend

Here we grow again - together we grow stronger. While supporting each other we can and will continue to grow this great hobby.

The Ajax Philatelic Society, one of the original founding members, has rejoined the GTAPA. We are excited and happy that they have returned.

While attending the first few meetings of 2009/2010 season it is obvious that there is a renewed interest in the club by its members. Judging by the enthusiasm and fellowship around the room Ajax now has a prosperous future.

The club has been revitalized, spearheaded by **Roy Haina** and **Dave Williams**, with many new and exciting ideas. Roy and Dave spent the summer brainstorming, reviewing and changing the structure of the club. Roy looks after the books and Treasury while Dave assists where necessary and is the club's Auctioneer.

One of Roy's innovative ideas revolves around the 50/50 draw. Instead of receiving half the cash, the winner gets to pick one lot from the auction table with the proceeds of the draw going to person selling that lot. A vendor who might be willing to sell a lot for \$5.00 might actually get \$30.00 or more! There is a 40 lot auction at each meeting. Auctioneer Dave Williams, who combines his own brand of humor with his knowledge of world-wide stamps, runs an entertaining auction.

The auction material is supplied by the club's members with the number of lots per member being decided by the number of members submitting material each meeting. Roy and Dave respectfully ask that no lots be entered into the auction with an opening bid of more than \$20.00, since the number of tickets sold will determine the ultimate cash payout to the vendor of the 'chosen' lot.

The club is in the process of putting together a sales circuit with standardized circuit books. Also available are several 10 cent books.

Ajax will be represented at the GTAPA meetings by **Don Beaumont** who is active in all the Durham clubs.

The Club will be holding its Show and Sale "**Apex '10**" with seventeen fine stamp dealers in attendance, on February 27th, the last Saturday in February. The show will be held from 10 am to 4 pm in the HMS Ajax Room at the south end of the Ajax Community Centre. There is plenty of free parking. Admission is free and the facility is wheelchair accessible. Free hourly draws, lunch facilities and an unlimited supply of stamps, covers and collector's supplies will make the day an enjoyable one for new and advanced stamp collectors.

Unusual Postage Stamps

by Jerry Piotrowski

Stamps are sometimes talked about by referring to among other things their colour, such as “the green ten cent” or the “blue 5 pfennig”. Well, recently Finland issued a stamp that when still on paper could be described as being whatever colour the paper was. The First Class denominated peel and stick stamp issued on November 6 2008 was printed on a very thin transparent film. The design featured a winter’s night scene of a large snowflake, twinkling stars, and a flickering aurora borealis. When applied to an envelope the colour of the envelope shows through the areas of the stamp where there is no design.



Lenticular printing technology used by several postal agencies to produce moving images on stamps can also be used to create 3-dimensional images on stamps. Austria used the technique when on August 8 2008 it issued a stamp commemorating the centenary of the discovery of the “Venus from Willendorf” statue.



This prehistoric work of art estimated to be 25000 years old was unearthed in Willendorf in Lower Austria in August 1908.

If you have information about unusual stamps and would like me to add it to future articles on this subject please email me at jerry Piotrowski74@hotmail.com using unusual stamps in the subject line or send the information to me at 74 Glenmore Crescent, Brampton Ontario L6S 1H8


Errata

The vagaries of protocol and the proper nomenclature got the best of me in the article I wrote in *PhilaJournal* concerning the 50th Anniversary of our “Royal” prefix. The fact is that The RPSC did not receive “Royal Patronage” 50 years ago but rather the right to use the title “Royal” as a prefix to the name of our Society. What this basically means is that Her Majesty The Queen allowed us to use the title “Royal” but did not give her personal patronage to the Society. In fact, The RPSC has had Vice Regal Patronage since 1947 when Viscount Alexander of Tunis (later Field Marshal The Right Honourable The Earl Alexander of Tunis) extended it to the Canadian Philatelic Society. Vice-regal patronage continued to be extended over the years by all successive governors general.

I apologize to Her Majesty The Queen and to our Patron, Her Excellency The Governor General, for the error of interpretation that I made in my article in the *PhilaJournal*.

Charles J. G. Verge, FRPSC, FRPSL
Historian

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PhilaJournal

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The Mission:

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

Opinions expressed in articles in *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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Editorial Staff

Editor: Garfield Portch gportch@ca.inter.net
Assistant: Peter Butler pbutler@ilap.com
Assistant: Ernie Nyitrai enyitr618@rogers.com

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Ernie Nyitrai at 905-477-1511
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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

Does it really seem like ten years since we were worrying about Y2K? With all those prophecies of doom and gloom behind us, I can't help but reflect on the good things that have happened to me, my family, my friends and my hobby in the past decade. Thank you to everybody who pulled together to make good things happen!

At this time, we also reflect on seasonal festivities that are so varied in our mixed Toronto culture. While we must be politically correct, I think back to a story from my wife who taught kindergarten. Following a month-long discussion and celebration of all the cultural festivities, one child reported "Mrs. Portch – they all have candles."

What a charming and innocent observation!

On behalf of the editorial staff and the Board of Directors, I wish everybody the very best for your season of festive candles.

I am delighted to introduce a new column "The Machin Corner" by **Dave Moss**. Dave is in the process of forming a Machin Study Group in the GTA

Again, we remind readers to submit articles and stories for inclusion in *PhilaJournal*. Share your interests with the philatelic community.

gjp

DEADLINE

The Spring Issue of *PhilaJournal* will be distributed in the last week of February. Submissions must be in the editor's possession by the 6th of **November, 2010**.

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Tokens of Appreciation

The October meeting of the Board of Directors featured the presentation of awards of appreciation to **Peter Butler** and **Ernie Nyitrai** who served the GTAPA in an executive and administrative capacity from the beginning.



Ernie Nyitrai and Larry Friend



Larry Friend and Peter Butler



Ernie and Peter



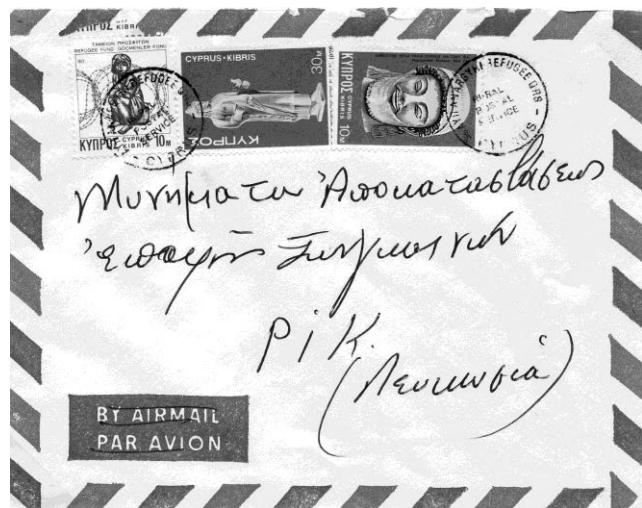
AYYI ANARGYRI REFUGEE ESTATE: A CYPRUS REFUGEE CAMP

By Robert Pinet

The island of Cyprus has been the scene of ethnic tension and bloodshed for generations. Greek Cypriots constituted between three quarters and three fifths of the population, Turkish Cypriots, the rest. The Greeks favoured *enosis* or union with Greece; the Turks, *taksim*, or partition.

Following a coup-d'état against the government of President Archbishop Makarios by Athens and pro-enosis Cypriot National Guard units in July, 1974 Turkey invaded Cyprus on July 20. In a two-stage offensive (July 20 and August 8), the Turkish army advanced south over 38 percent of the island, leading to a massive dislocation of civilians. 200,000 Greek Cypriots fled south while 60,000 Turkish Cypriots were relocated north.

This huge influx of refugees were first housed by relatives or friends or in a series of tent communities, which were later replaced by chipboard huts. Most of these tent or hut communities were officially recognised, though some were private. Those officially recognised received government assistance. Later, housing estates, consisting mostly of blocks of apartments, were built. These were either *ikismos*, (Government-owned), or *aftosgasis*, (run by refugee committees).



The Cyprus Post Office struggled to maintain lines of communication, often under chaotic conditions, in overcrowded post office buildings in Nicosia, Larnaca and Famagusta (among others), in temporary shelters in markets, and in tents. In time, many larger refugee camps were provided with their own postal agents (and cancellers), while travelling post office vans did the

rounds to collect the mail from smaller ones, which often had no cancellers.

The cover shown here is from the Ayyi Anargyri Refugee Estate in the Larnaca district. While the Rural Post Office Cancellor is undated, the fact that it was issued in 1977, and that the cover features a 1977 Refugee Tax stamp, (which has been required on all mail in Cyprus since the invasion), suggests a 1977 or early 1978 time period.

According to Brenda M. Goodwin, the recognized expert on Cyprus refugee mail, whose four volume study has been published by Cockrill, Ayyi Anargyri Refugee Estate was established in 1974. Following the Turkish invasion, there were some squatters in the area, but no refugee camp existed. The refugee housing estate was completed in April 1978. At that time, it offered 446 units and housed approximately 2,200 refugees.

Goodwin continues, "A Postal agency was established on 19 December 1977. The Postal Agency sells stamps and, before the completion of the housing estate, offered house-to-house delivery of the mail. Once the estate was completed, delivery was undertaken by a postman based at District Post Office Larnaca. He also delivered the Registered mail as, being a resident himself of the estate, he knew the inhabitants" (Cyprus: Booklet 3. Mail Services to the Refugee Camps Part II, Cockrill Series Booklet No. 37, 1982, p. 11)

The cover is addressed to the radio branch of the Cyprus Broadcasting Service (PIK). The station offered a variety of programs in which listeners could request everything from song titles to information about their loved ones. In this case, the request was to the *Minimata Apokatastaseos Epaphis Sinkenon* (Messages to resettled family members), which suggests that the sender's family had been split apart by the Turkish invasion.

ORAPEX 2010

ORAPEX will be held May 1 and 2, 2010 at the RA Sports Centre in Ottawa. The theme will be **One Hundred Years of the Royal Canadian Navy.**

For information contact Robert Pinet at pinet.robert@gmail.com

GTAPA MEMBER CLUBS' NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Ajax Philatelic Society

Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 7 pm to 9 pm. Upcoming meetings: Dec. 17th (meeting altered due to booking conflict) – **no meeting Dec. 24th**. Meetings resuming on regular schedule in January

We meet at the **Ajax Public Library** on Harwood Road South (just south of the 401).

There is a 40 lot member's auction at each meeting. Non members are welcomed and invited to bid but only members can put items into the auction.

For more information contact -

Roy Haina (during the day) at 905-259-7487

Email – hainastamps@rogers.com

David Williams – 905-666-9819

Email – stampbookdw@yahoo.com

Don Beaumont – 905-426-3612

Email – donaldbeaumont@yahoo.com

Please circle **February 27th, 2010** on your things to attend calendar. The Club will **be holding a Show and Sale "Apex '10"** – with 17 dealers.

Time - 10 am to 4 pm

Place - Ajax Community Centre – in the HMS Ajax Room at the south end of the complex.

There is plenty of free parking and wheelchair accessibility. Free admission with free hourly draws. A great facility with an unlimited supply of stamps, covers and collector's supplies. There will also lunch facilities in the room.



Bramalea Stamp Club

Meets the **1st Sunday** (from 2 to 4 pm), October to June and the **3rd 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

Check out our web site at
www.bramaleastampclub.com

On October 18 the club hosted The Grand River Valley Philatelic Association Grand Fair. With the approval of the GRVPA executive the event was also used to hold the GTAPA Challenge Trophy

Competition. The North Toronto Stamp Club, West Toronto Stamp Club, Insurance and Banking Philatelic Society and Bramalea Stamp Club each entered teams with the trophy going to the North Toronto Stamp Club.

The Bramalea team members were **Don Garlick, Bob Thorne** and **Jerry Piotrowski**.

Stuart Keely and **Vic Potter** of the GRVPA also entered single frame exhibits.

Thank you to the judges **George Pepall** and **George Speers** for taking time out of their busy schedules.

Thank you to all who helped make the Grand Fair the success that it was.

Upcoming Tuesday night themes are:

December 15	WWF (world Wildlife Federation)
January 19	Coins
February 16	Popes
March 16	Actors

Be sure to mark Saturday February 6 2010 in your calendars. That is the date of the Bramalea Stamp Club Annual Show and Bourse. Details elsewhere in this issue.

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

Insurance & Banking Philatelic Society

The Club usually meets on the third Thursday of every month at the premises of Hampton Securities, 141 Adelaide Street West, Toronto. Guests are

welcome, but should contact the president **Joe Janthur** (phone 416-364-4112), or secretary **Herb Kucera** (phone 416-494-1428) before attending meetings to avoid problems with the security systems at the premises.



North Toronto Stamp Club

The club welcomes guests to all its meetings, which are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month except July August and December. Members begin arriving between 6:30 and 7:00pm to visit dealer tables, peruse club circuit books, examine table auction lots, or simply chat and trade with fellow members and visitors. A short business meeting follows at 7:30pm (mainly announcements) followed by a pre-arranged presentation, workshop, or seminar. There is usually time after the programme to return to the dealer tables and club sales circuit.

Nov. 26: The Castles of Italy

Frank Alusio, FRPSC, president of the West Toronto Stamp Club, 1st Vice President of The RPSC, and an internationally-acclaimed thematic exhibitor and judge, has for many years been accumulating copies of the castle series of stamps issued by Italy from 1980 to 1995. How did this exhibit get started? What were Frank's steps to approach completion? When will it be finished and exhibited? Answers to these questions and many others will be shared during this special evening.

Nov. 28: Annual Winter Bourse

At the Church.

Dec. 10: Christmas Cheer Celebration

We'll be repeating last year's successful Pot Luck Dinner at the Church, along with a Christmas One-Pager. There will be prizes for the winners, as decided by those present.

Jan. 14: Annual General Meeting

The first meeting of the New Year has traditionally been a night to nominate and elect the new officers of the North Toronto Stamp Club, and to announce new initiatives and special events for the next 12 months. This year will be no exception. We invite all members to turn out and support the new executive in their effort to provide leadership, along with meetings that fulfill the three Es of a good stamp club—enjoyable, entertaining, and educational. We also hope to have an active program of circuit books and brisk business for our faithful dealers.

Jan. 14: Eclipse Philately

Dr. David K. Foot

This talk combines David's interests as an eclipse chaser with his interests as a philatelist. David uses relevant philatelic items to explain why total solar eclipses (TSE's) have held a fascination for both professional and amateur astronomers alike. He explores the characteristics of TSE's, the ways that TSE's have been observed (from land, sea, air, etc), expeditions to TSE's, philatelic firsts, eclipse stamps and cancels, and eclipse ephemera. His talk is illustrated with a wide variety of philatelic material (from pre-stamp to cinderellas) and laced with personal anecdotes.

Please Note: A special invitation is extended to all GTAPA clubs to attend this outstanding presentation. Yorkminster Baptist Church, 7:30 p.m. Refreshments.

Visit <http://NorthTorontoStampClub.TK> for up to date details as programmes may be subject to change.

Meetings are held at the Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1858 Yonge Street, just a short walk north of the St. Clair TTC subway station. For an emailed copy of the NTSC's most recent Newsletter, contact the editor at joel@joelruimy.com

For more information about the club, its meetings and programmes please contact president **Leon Matthys** (lmatthys@sympatico.ca) at 647-505-8461 or Peter Butler (pbutler@ilap.com) at 416-690-4666.



North York Philatelic Society

Meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from September to June (July and August 3rd Wednesday only) in the Skaters' Lounge at the Carnegie Centennial Arena, 580 Finch Avenue West, Toronto, (2 blocks west of Bathurst Street). Everyone is welcome at any of our meetings. Membership is \$5.00 per year. NYPS is a member of Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

NYPEX will take place on March 27, 2010 from 10am to 3pm at the Herb Carnegie Arena in the Silver Blade Room. The spring auction will take place on April 21, 2010 starting at 7.00pm.

For more information about the North York Philatelic Society contact Mike Turk at 905-731-8380 or via e-mail at turkm@accessv.com.



Oshawa/Whitby Stamp Groups

The Oshawa/Whitby stamp groups meet 3 times every week, twice in Oshawa, on Wednesday evenings from 6. pm to 8.30. pm, at Conant Seniors Centre on 115 Grassmere Ave. Oshawa and Friday mornings from 11 am to noon at Legends Community Centre 1661 Harmony Rd. N. Oshawa.

The Whitby Group meets every Monday morning, 10 am to noon at Whitby Seniors Building, 801 Brock Street Whitby – from Sept 14th, 2009 to May 17th 2010.

There are now more than 200 members with average attendance (weekly) of 75 to 85 at the three meetings each week. The Friday meeting is especially popular with members coming from as far away as Brighton, Trenton, Port Hope, Peterborough, Queensville, Pefferlaw, Barrie, Toronto and places in between. The Wednesday evening meeting is growing well.

At all venues there are a significant number of ladies attending.

The Group's function is to encourage seniors (and junior collectors) to start, restart and expand their collections or, if they desire the cash, assist them to dispose of their excess material or inherited collections through club auctions or public auction houses.

We are now encouraging and offering assistance to the Ajax Stamp Club who are restructuring their club and looking forward to a new season starting in Sept. 2009

There are two live voice auctions yearly with approximately 400 quality lots and two silent auctions each year of approximately 200 lots.

With our large membership you always find fresh material available at each meeting. Every meeting members offer surplus stamps and collections to each other starting at 5¢ per stamp.

We are always looking for new members with more stamps.

For more information – please contact –
Jim Stevenson, 905-576-4449 (Whitby or Oshawa)
Gordon Wick, 905-404-0796 (Oshawa)
Ron Christie, 905-432-7628 (Oshawa)
Don Beaumont, 905-426-3612 (Ajax. Whitby, or Oshawa)
Alan Hynes, 905-433-8084 (Oshawa)
Larry Friend, 905-723-8798 (Oshawa or Whitby)
or email – lfriend@sympatico.ca

Larry Friend



Polish-Canadian Coin and Stamp Club “Troyak”

Club *Troyak*, meets on the last Sunday of each month, except holidays, at 4:30 p.m. at John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre, 4300 Cawthra Rd. (just south of Hwy. 403), Mississauga, Ontario.

Club's NEW mailing address is: Polish-Canadian Coin & Stamp Club “Troyak” John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre, 4300 Cawthra Rd, Mississauga, ON L4Z 1V8 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 the club's director. For more information, contact: Ziggy at 416-454-2790 or bzygmunt@hotmail.com

“Troyak” Club next meetings are planned for December 13, 2009; January 31, 2010; February 14, 2010; February 28, 2010; March 14, 2010 (VII Polish – Canadian Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show 2010), March 28, 2010, April 25, 2010, May 30, 2010 and June 27, 2010.

Refreshments are always available. Club issues monthly info bulletin on its website.

MARCH 14, 2010

MISSISSAUGA, Ontario, Canada

VII Polish - Canadian Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show 2010, 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 stamps, coins, medals, paper money, militaria & antique papers. Polish stamps expert info table. Stamp Exhibit – John Paul II On World Stamps. Exhibit of Orders and Decorations of Poland. Polonica & historical souvenirs. Exhibit of Polish POW camps stamps of WWII. Exhibit of Upper Silesia's stamps, coins, paper money, sports pins, medals & collectibles. Polish Mint 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 14, 2010, 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 our websites at:

www.troyakclub.com or info@troyakclub.com
New members are always welcome.

Robert Owczarz



Scouts On Stamps Society International Maple Leaf Chapter, SOSSI

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. The Program for 2010 includes:

Jan 17 – Mississauga – Chinese Community Centre Annual General Meeting

Feb 21 – Toronto - “Let’s Make a Deal” day.

Mar 21 – Kitchener - Scout House – Speaker

Apr 18 – Hamilton - Scout House – Clothesline

May 16 – Niagara Falls - Scout House/Museum Speaker

If you would like to find out more about collecting Boy Scout and Girl Guide/Scout philatelic material, please contact

Tony Manson at (416) 447-4281 or
tony.manson@sympatico.ca.

Toronto Stamp Collectors’ Club

Meetings of the Toronto Stamp Collectors’ Club are held at the Royal Canadian Military Institute, 426 University Ave. at 8 p.m.

For more information contact

Owen White at 416-481-4731

or by email at owen.white@sympatico.ca



Scarborough Stamp Club

The club will continue to meet at the Cedarbrook Community Centre at least for the remainder of the current year.

We will still meet in rooms #1 and #2 the first and third Tuesdays of each month except the second week of December due to our Christmas party which will be held on the first Tuesday of the month.

The first meeting each month will be a trading night and our club's circuit books will be available.

At the meeting on the third Tuesday each month, there will be a short official meeting. A member's draw (you must be present to win), a draw for which members may purchase tickets to win philatelic prizes, and an auction.

There may be a speaker to discuss some aspect of stamp collecting, and of course the circuit books will be available.

Meetings begin at 8:00 p.m. Upcoming meetings will be held on November 3rd and 17th, December 8th, January 5th and 19th and February 2nd and 16th.

The club will be holding its annual Christmas party on December 1st at the Imperial Palace Buffet on Eglinton Avenue East.

Our third trip to Bellfonte, Pennsylvania was a great success at the APS Centre with a side trip to Gettysburg which was enhanced with an reenactment guide which brought a little more sense of what went on during the battle. Two highlights which came from the tour were a little dog that was killed in the battle which was behind the monument and would not be seen unless you stopped at the monument. on your tour of Gettysburg. The second was a tree that was blown down by a shell with a bird and nest on top and so a monument was erected and on top was a bird nest.

We thank **Peter and Susan Butler** for their many hours of work for a very successful trip.

The Scarborough Stamp Club would like to thank the Bramalea Stamp Club and The GRVPA for a very successful stamp fair. For information call Doug Cockburn at (416) 757-4072.

For Information call

Doug Cockburn at 416 - 757 -4072

Jim Carleton



Ukrainian Collectibles Society (Toronto)

The Ukrainian Collectibles Society (Toronto) meets on the first Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Ukrainian Canadian Social Services,

2445 Bloor Street West, Toronto. UCST is also a chapter of the Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society.

For over 20 years, our group of dedicated collectors from Toronto and surrounding municipalities has shared the common goal of preserving the cultural history of Ukraine and its people around the world. Our Society works to unite Ukraine collectors, whatever their collecting interests: stamps, postal history, banknotes, coins, postcards, badges, orders and other memorabilia. We aim to facilitate exchanges of knowledge, opinions and news with respect to each collector's area of interest. We also provide a forum for exchange of collectible materials where members can buy new items, trade or sell duplicate material.

For more information about the Ukrainian Collectibles Society (Toronto) contact Jerry Kalyn at 416-251-6898 or via email at ucst@upns.org.

Jerry Kalyn



West Toronto Stamp Club

Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from September to June at:

Eatonville Library
1430 Burnhamthorpe Road,
south-east corner of
Burnhamthorpe and The East Mall
east of Highway 427 in Etobicoke

We welcome members of GTAPA affiliated Clubs

The activities on the 2nd Tuesday take place in the afternoon from 1:30 to 4:30 pm (Work Shops) and in the evening from 6:30 to 8:30 pm (Silent and Vocal Auctions). The activities on the 4th Tuesday take place in the evening only from 6:30 to 8:30 pm (Silent and Vocal Auctions).



The theme of the year is "I'm celebrating our 75th Year." We began the new season providing members with new name tags and a lapel pin as shown above.

Picture Postage depicting our 75th Anniversary logo has been ordered from the Canadian Bank Note Company, Ltd. The stamps are produced in

sheets of 20 and come in two types: Ribbon (*type 1*) and Corner slit (*type 2*), and are available from fellow member **Peter Butler** (pbutler@ilap.com or 416-690-4666) at the cost of \$28.50 per sheet.



Type 1

Type 2

The club is planning to stage the 75th anniversary stamp exhibition in March 2010 which will be held in Cloverdale Mall. The theme will be a presentation of the range of philately demonstrated by members' exhibits. Exhibits will include a History of the Club, Introduction to Philately, Single-pages, Webbing pages (see below) and One-frames with a total of 20-30 standard frames. More on this in the next issues.

Webbing - West Toronto Stamp Club is always open to try new activities. Following a presentation by **Peter Butler** in September, members were asked to assemble a one-page autobiography using philatelic items to indicate his/her profession, hobbies, sport and other activities but not revealing the name. The name was to be guessed by the audience. We were astonished to see that nine members of the 23 present brought a page. It was great experience and everyone had fun.

We are pleased to report that **Frank Alusio** was awarded a Vermeil medal in Rome in October. Congratulations Frank!


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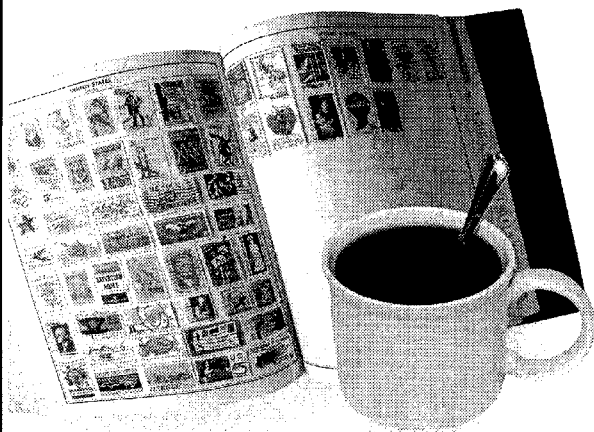
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BNAPS - The Society for Canadian Philately

East Toronto Stamp Club Wants to be “ROYAL”

by Charles J. G. Verge, FRPSC, FRPSL
Historian, Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

In researching information related to The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada’s 50th anniversary as a “Royal” society, I discovered that the East Toronto Stamp Club (ETSC) had approached the federal government in 1938 to obtain that designation.

On June 17 of that year, Mary E. Pettit, Secretary to the ETSC, wrote to the Secretary of State and Registrar General of Canada, the Honourable Fernand Rinfret, requesting the right to change the club’s name to “The Royal Canadian Philatelic Association” and the right “to use the name “Royal” “.

The leaders of the ETSC wanted “to carry on in Canada a similar organization to that of the Royal Philatelic Society of London, England.” To support their argument Mrs Pettit writes that Sir John Wilson, President of the Royal Philatelic Society, is an “Honorary Member of our Club.” She goes on to say, “that we desire no patronage or assistance from the government.”

Furthermore it was the intention of the ETSC, should they be granted the new title they requested, to try and organize “clubs across Canada which will be known by the same name, and thereby create a wider interest in philately in all of its branches.”

To the submission was attached a very impressive list of Honorary Members of the ETSC. In addition to Sir John, they included the following:

His Excellency John Buchan, Baron Tweedsmuir of Elsfeld, Governor General of Canada

The Honourable Mitchell Hepburn, Premier of Ontario

The Honourable A. L. MacDonald, Premier of Nova Scotia

Senator The Honourable, J. A. Calder, RDP

The Right Honourable Sir William Mulock, Postmaster General of Canada (1896–1905)

Sir Alfred Morine, former Newfoundland politician, at the time resident of Toronto

Sir Frederick Banting, Nobel Prize Winner in Medicine (1923)

The Honourable Anthony Eden, M.P., later Sir Anthony Eden, 1st Earl of Avon

H. E. Atwater, Financial Superintendent, Canada Post Office

The Honourable James A. Farley, Postmaster General of the United States

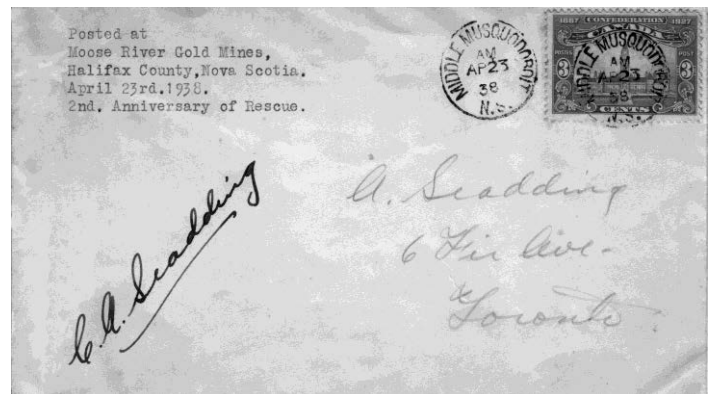
It did not take long for a decision to be made. Four days later, on June 21, 1938, Dr. E. H. Coleman, Under Secretary of State, wrote to Mrs Pettit turning down the request. He stated clearly that “an association with the objects you suggest, which has yet not been organized on a national scale” does not meet the criteria set by the government. He writes that some years back, the

government of Canada decided to follow the practice used in the United Kingdom. “The use of the word “Royal” can only be granted by His Majesty the King and is only granted to institutions of eminence, long standing and secured financial position, and devoted to national, charitable or scientific objects.”

In his urgency to reply, Dr. Coleman erred in telling Mrs. Pettit that, “so far as the Department can ascertain, there is no Dominion-wide [philatelic] organisation.” As we know now this wasn’t the case. The Canadian Philatelic Society (CPS) has been in existence since 1926. An unknown pen wrote in the margin of the government’s copy of Dr. Coleman’s letter: “Wrong: the Canadian Philatelic Society was inc[orporated] under the Cor[porations] Act on Dec. 13/26”. Although unsigned the note is dated 19/12/58.

The CPS became The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada in 1959 when it met all the criteria listed in Dr. Cameron’s 1938 letter.

It would be interesting to know why the President of the ETSC, C. Alfred Scadding of Moose River Gold Mines (Nova Scotia) disaster fame, and his executive sought out this name change. At the time, they had to be aware that a “Dominion-wide” organization existed. Was there an internecine fight between the ETSC and the CPS? If anyone has any information or material relevant to this question I would appreciate receiving it. I may be contacted at cjgverge@rogers.com.



Cover prepared by C.A. Scadding to commemorate the 2nd anniversary of his rescue from the Moon River Gold Mine disaster. It is addressed to A. Scadding at 6 Fir Avenue in Toronto. The letterhead of the ETSC lists him as living at 6½ Fir Avenue.

Cover illustration courtesy of Jeff Sparks, editor, Nova Scotia Stamp Club Newsletter.

Did you know that the PhilaJournal has a “Saddle-Stitched Binding”?

by Peter Butler, FRPSC

Furthermore, do you care? Well, I do! Being around a former print shop worker over the past several years, one gets to hear all kinds of printer’s jargon when it comes around to discussing the printing of our newsletter and stamp show programs. The number of pages in 8’s, and 16’s ... the types of paper, inks and photo reproductions... not to mention the various binding options, all coming from the enlightened to the uninformed... from Garfield Portch, our Editor, to yours truly!

If I have heard it once from the editor, I’ve heard it a dozen times, “The best way to put the sucker together is to use a saddle-stitch binding.” With a look of dismay on my face, he says, “You know, with the pages folded and stapled down the middle.” No, I don’t know, not being a printer, but I nod as if I do. I realize that the decision to go that route has just been approved. To this day, I have no idea why the process is called saddle-stitched, that is until our recent trip to APS. It’s one of those things you just don’t ask about, revealing your stupidity, because by now you surely would have asked for an explanation if you didn’t understand. Correct?

So here we are on a tour of a modern print shop in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, with the owner of the plant as our tour guide, taking us around to show us the several types of printing presses and ancillary machinery. We stop in front of a strange-looking machine. It looks quite old and well-oiled. It’s noisy and it’s gathering pages together that obviously have just been partially folded, moving along, straddling an upside-down “V” frame and heading for a large needle and wire (think thread) which stitches the folded section, three times. This is followed by a cutter which snips the wire in several places and squeezes the staple shut. The penny drops!



Did I say; partially folded pages, an upside-down “V” (like a saddle), needle and thread stitching, cutting the wire to make a staple? THAT’S IT.... a saddle-stitched binding. All this, before our guide announced, “And here is our saddle-stitch binding machine.” It’s like when you put two-and-two together and finally get four about something and someone says, “I didn’t know that, did

you?” And you respond with, “Of course I do,” with a smug look of all-knowing on your face. Exactly!



So that’s how I found out what saddle-stitched binding is all about. And do you think I told Garfield Portch what I learned on the APS trip this time? Of course I did... along with the photo as an illustration nearby that shows in graphic detail why the binding process is called saddle-stitched binding. And I’ve never worked in a print shop. I have a whole new lease on life. I might even be consulted now on the binding possibilities for stamp club newsletters! Now tell me *you* knew what saddle-stitching meant. Right!



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The MACHIN Corner

by Dave Moss

I recently demonstrated to Garfield Portch some of the current work being conducted in connection with the establishment of a North American Machin Study Group (NAMSG). Garfield stated, what I had suspected for some time, that although there are a great deal of collectors interested in this field of philately, many feel more than a little daunted by the prospect of addressing the myriad of Machin variations.

If one were to start by addressing the approximately 450 face different Machin Heads and then include the subtle variations associated with the various print types, printers, phosphorescence, perforations, inks, papers, regional symbols, electro-mechanically engraved (EME) images, colour shades, security features and now Stop & Go items it is of little wonder that some find the over 2000 varieties quite confusing.

As a typical example of the complexity involved, the 20P stamp has been manufactured in two sizes, printed in 5 colours, using 3 printing methods, on 6 types of paper, by 7 printing companies. This results in a total of 16 major varieties and these can be further broken down into 195 sub-variations.

With almost 200 billion Machins printed to-date, copies readily abound and inevitably creep into almost every stamp collection in existence hence getting started is certainly not a problem for most enthusiasts. No, it is more likely that having started, the decision as to direction one wishes to go in and where to draw the line as a cut-off becomes the problem. Perhaps that is where the NAMSG and this column may be of assistance.

There has for some time been a need for some form of basic guidance to help explain to the uninitiated the technical aspects of this Machin phenomenon.

In this column, over the next few issues, the aim will be to present in layman's terms what are felt to be, in the author's opinion, the simplest methods and techniques used in determining the varieties of Machins as described in the various catalogue listings. Many of the techniques I will describe have been developed by myself and/or collected from other sources, used and proven to be workable and user friendly with the minimum of elaborate equipment.

The attributes that are addressed in determining a specific stamp include:

1. Face Value of stamp
2. Colour
3. Size and Shape
4. Design: National, Regional, NVI, or Special
5. Method of Printing
6. Printer
7. Paper used
8. Gum used

9. Perforations: Gauge, Rotary or Comb, Elliptical, Straight Edges, Etc.
10. Direction of Printing
11. Source: Sheet, Booklet, Coil.
12. Phosphor Type
13. Phosphor Application: Whether Incorporated into the Paper or Overprinted; Number, Width & Location of Bars; Whether bars are Short, Inset or Notched
14. Fluorescent Inks
15. Head Type
16. Head Setting
17. Value Type
18. Value Setting
19. Security Features

Not all the aforementioned attributes are required to identify a specific stamp and although some of them are readily discernable to the naked eye, others require other equipment such as an Ultraviolet Light, a Magnifying Glass and a reasonably accurate Piece of Measuring Equipment. Each attribute will be addressed to enable even the most non-technical amongst us to be able with a little practice to sort and separate their Machins.

So until next time good luck and happy sorting.

Dave

It is hoped that the NAMSG will be kicked-off in the very near future and we are looking for all interested parties to join the group and further the quest.

*Forward any questions or comments please to:
davemoss@sympatico.ca*

Editor's note: Dave has agreed to write an extended series of articles on the Machin Issues for PhilaJournal. As he states above, he is looking for interested parties to join a Machin Study Group. If you are a fan of the Machin Issues, please contact him.

To our readers who have resisted joining a study group (for whatever reason), I want to assure you that there is nothing to fear – you do not need to be an expert to join. You only need to be interested in the subject! There will always be someone there who knows less than you about some aspect of the study!

GTAPA's Third Excursion to the American Philatelic Center (APC)

by Peter Butler, FRPSC

Several of the GTAPA delegates have attended all three visits to the home of the American Philatelic Society at Bellefonte, Pennsylvania and for some it was their first chance to experience it. Regardless, everyone on this latest excursion had a memorable and most enjoyable time.



This trip had an extra day over the previous ones. Some took advantage of the extra time and spent the entire first day at the Center, in the library, the circuit books room and the Stamp Shop. The rest took a day trip to Gettysburg, the site of one of the most decisive battles of the American Civil War.

Upon our arrival on the Wednesday afternoon, there was only time for a quick tour for those on their first visit and, for those repeat visitors, a chance to greet staff members again, before the dinner bell rang. Our after dinner speaker was **Ken Zaveckas**, a member of the Gettysburg Stamp Club, a re-enactor at many Civil War sites and a respected historian of the three-day battle at Gettysburg. The next morning we drove to Gettysburg to experience the presentations at the new Visitor Center. Ken met us there and boarded our bus to take us on a three hour guided tour of the battle field. We arrived back at the APC just in time for an excellent catered dinner.

Friday morning we were at the APC bright and early for a presentation on *Fakes and Forgeries* by Bill Dixon who is the Circuit Books Manager. Delegates then had an opportunity to meet with **Gini Horn**, librarian, **Barb Boal**, editor of the *American Philatelist* or **Richard Nakles**, manager of the Stamp Shop.

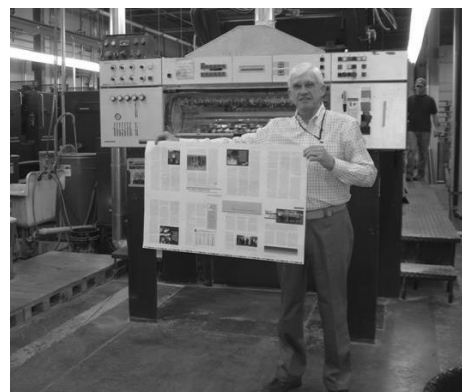


Gini Horn, APRL Librarian, talks about the APRL



Barb Boal, Editor of the American Philatelist, goes over some scanning tips

In the afternoon, there was an optional program to stay and work in the library, at the circuit books or in the Stamp Shop, while the rest of us went to a printing shop.



While all this activity was going on, the non-collectors were on a shopping spree at a local mall, arriving back loaded with bags full of great bargains. Following dinner, we visited *The Creamery* at Penn State University to sample the best ice-cream ever! "Peachy Paterno" is the most popular of over 30 flavours.

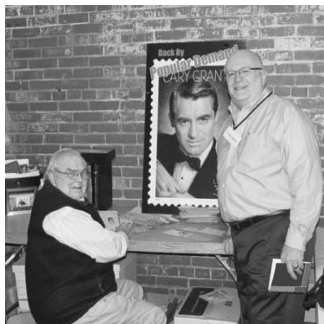


Members purchasing that "special" item from the APS Stamp and Cover Shop

On Saturday morning, there were more opportunities to do research, attack the circuit books or have a last chance at cartons of 10¢ covers. GTAPA members spent over \$1,000.00 while at the Stamp Store with proceeds going to the APS's program for youth philately.



Joe Janthur took advantage of purchasing items through Sales Division



Three distinguished gentlemen

The drive home was quiet except for a spirited dinner at an Ellicottville, NY pub, before crossing the border. It was quieter still during the last leg of the journey, home to the GTA.



*Fond farewell from Gretchen Moody, APS Education Officer
"Come back real soon!"*

An overview like that does not do justice to the wonderful four days away at the APC and Gettysburg... all for less than \$450.00 (CN) a person (transportation, meals and hotel included). Listed below are the club members who attended this year's excursion. If they belong to your club, ask them about their experiences and how they enjoyed it. Next time a tour to APS is announced in the *PhilaJournal*, ask for a presentation at your club. It really is a great opportunity to meet other collectors and members of other clubs, to visit the greatest philatelic library and activity centre in the world and meet the APC staff, the finest ambassadors of the hobby and the warmest and friendliest people you will ever meet in your philatelic travels.

Clubs and Members attending this year's excursion to the APC:

West Toronto Stamp Club: Doris Lowry, Jack and Marg Lyons, Ilga Manko and Milt Dorman.

North Toronto Stamp Club: Tony Hine, Hilya and Al Ekberg, Peter and Susan Butler.

Insurance & Banking Philatelic Society: Joe and Theresa Janthur.

Scarborough Stamp Club: Jim and Nancy Carleton, Frank and Mary Lock.

Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada: Michel Houde, Ted Nixon.

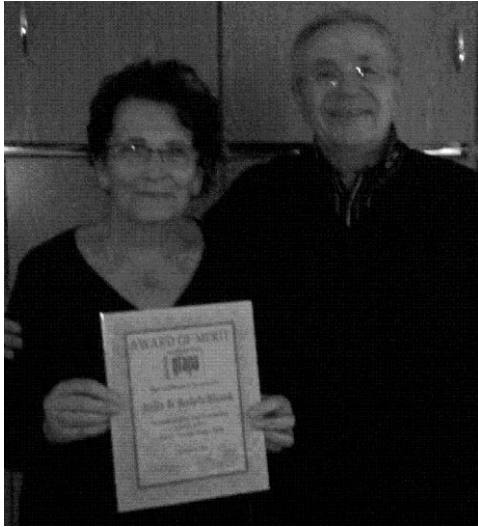
Toronto Stamp Collectors Club: Owen White.

Oshawa-Whitby Stamp Group: Don and Carol Beaumont, Jim and Yvonne Stevenson.

Kitchener-Waterloo Stamp Club: George Pepall.

Blue and Gray Stamp Club (Gettysburg): Dick Osman.
Collector: Mark Lerner.

Julia and Ralph Blunk
An Appreciation
by Léon Matthys



We have known **Julia and Ralph Blunk** at the North Toronto Stamp Club since 2000, and in those nearly ten years, Julia has run a tight ship at the club's canteen during the bourses. In fact, the canteen managed time after time again to outpace the club's stamp sales profits, even with Julia's very reasonable food prices.

Even with long hours standing, making sandwiches, serving coffee, and making change for people, Julia always managed with courtesy and a happy smile. She is a reliable and respected role model to volunteerism, not just to hungry philatelists! Her friendly and dedicated service has been of enormous and important value to the club. Julia will be missed at our Bourse this month as she'll be home recovering from hip surgery. Get well soon, Julia.

We all know Julia's husband Ralph, a respected and reliable member of the North Toronto club for those same 10 years. Ever since I joined, I can remember him being an exemplary active member. He does so much: from setting up the canteen, the gymnasium, and sales circuit, to working the tables, fetching books for visitors, conducting sales and making change. Ralph is a patient, intelligent, and helpful heavy lifter for the club. He has helped at club excursions to out-of-town shows as well as the CSDA shows in Toronto.

Rumor has it the Ralph and Julia may be moving away in the near future. The club will miss you greatly if you move. So, Julia and Ralph Blunk, before you go anywhere, we would like to honour your years of dedication and service with this Certificate of Merit presented by the North Toronto Stamp Club and all the stamp clubs within the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance.

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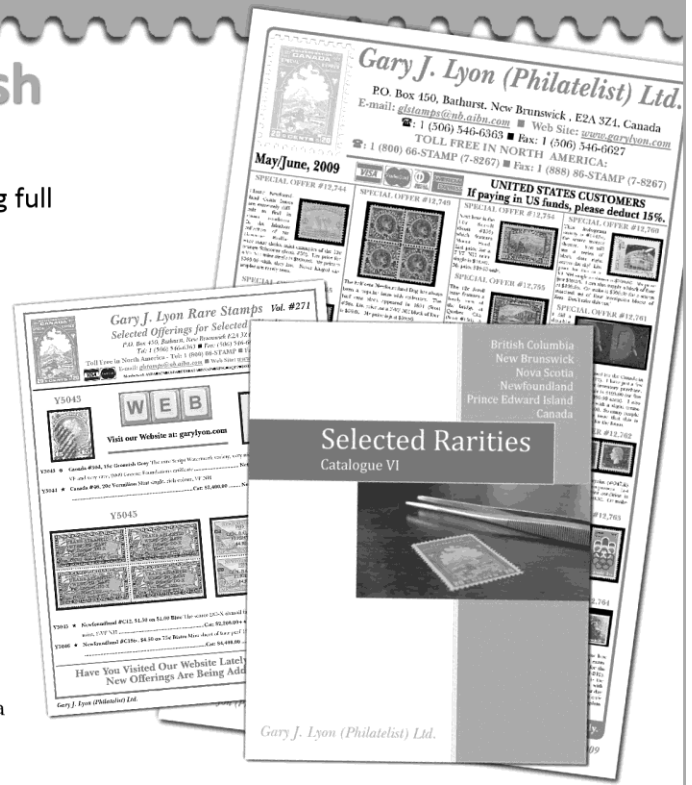
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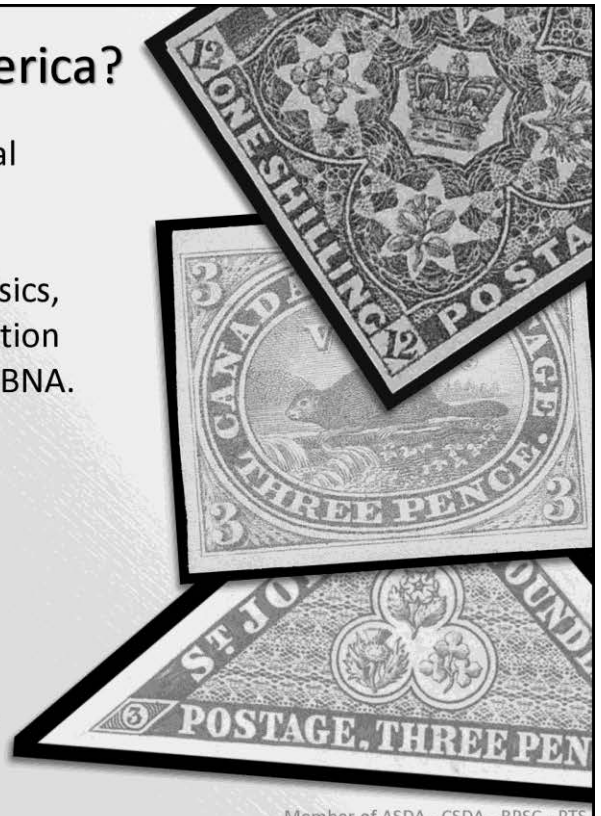
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