



# Bulletin

The Newsletter of the West Toronto Stamp Club  
[www.westtorontostampclub.org](http://www.westtorontostampclub.org)

The Club meets at  
**Fairfield Seniors' Centre**  
80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke, ON  
416-394-8687

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**Mar 2016**

B. Timberg, Editor

## President Sid's Message

This past month I have had the pleasure of studying the 1898 Numeral Issue and searching through hundreds of used copies looking for significant re-entries. I especially appreciated a fellow member who, when he learned of my mad pursuit, was quick to loan me a very useful study resource, *The Canadian Queen Victoria 1898 Numeral Issue* by Hans Reiche & Mike Sendbuehler.

Helping each other by sharing resources, trading duplicates, or searching through your stamp materials for a cancellation, stamp or needed item for a fellow member are terrific acts of friendship that make this a great Club. These acts of kindness and interest build the hobby and our stamp club community. Being able to help others is definitely one of the pleasures we share.

As many know, we are able to use the library before every Club meeting. If you need assistance on anything, let me know and I will arrange for help to be available.

As mentioned in the February newsletter, the election of WTSC officers and directors for the 2016 - 18 term will be held in May. Details regarding the nominating procedures and vacancies will be shared with you following our Board meeting later this month on Tuesday the 29th. I am sure you are aware that there will be a number of vacancies. If you are considering putting your name forward, thank you for volunteering! If you have questions about the various roles, speak to any director or officer. Your Club needs you!! The vigour and continued success of our Club is dependent on sharing the leadership load and various meeting responsibilities.

As mentioned above this month's 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday will be a Board meeting **not** a Club night. As part of the agenda we will discuss suggestions members have submitted to make us even more successful. Your suggestions and how you will provide leadership or participate to make them happen can be e-mailed to me [sidmensinga@gmail.com](mailto:sidmensinga@gmail.com) anytime up to the Board meeting.

I look forward to your attendance and participation this coming month.

## March Activities

Meetings are held on Tuesday evening unless otherwise specified. Doors open at 6:30, meetings start at 7.

### Mar 01 ~ The Machin Study Group

### Mar 08 ~ Regular Meeting

Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

### Mar 15 ~ Discussion Group

Guest Speaker: Club member **Peter Butler** will speak on "**Picture Postage**" and provide an overview of this relatively new branch of philately.

### Mar 22 ~ Regular Meeting

Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

### Mar 29 ~ Board of Directors Meeting

## Board of Directors 2014-2016

These are the sparkplugs who make things happen within the club and keep it functioning.

President: Sid Mensinga  
Vice-President: Garfield Portch (interim)  
Past President: Frank Alusio  
Secretary: Rhonda Kavanagh  
Treasurer: Frank Alusio  
Membership: Frank Alusio

Directors: Fred Colbourn, Art Leduc, Rob Taylor, Vijay Vijayakumar

Appointees: Reay Cairns (Auctions); Garfield Portch (Program); Denzel Fernandes (Webmaster); Bob Timberg (Bulletin Editor)

## Auctions

Reminder: Material with high reserves is not selling well (if at all) and thus becomes a waste of time for both the auctioneer and Club. Good quality material with realistic reserves generally does well for all.

## Discussion Group Schedule (April – June)

### April 19 ~ Dr. David Foot

**AUSTRALIAN AIRMAIL** – Dr. Foot is returning to the West Toronto Stamp Club with another of his wonderful stories of unusual postal history from 'down under' presented as only a master story teller can do. His accompanying single frame exhibit displays flown covers from each of the rocket experiments.

### May 17

**SHOW & TELL and DISCUSSION GROUP FORUM** - This two part meeting will provide an opportunity for members to share and briefly discuss their own material. In the second part, general discussions will provide some direction and guidance for future meetings.

### June 21 ~ Charles Verge / Garfield Portch

**POSTAL HISTORY WORKSHOP** - This meeting will provide a forum for the discussion of the collection of postal history. Included will be the reading and interpretation of markings on covers and the analysis of rates.

## Annual Exhibition (May 10)

The Club's Annual Exhibition will be held May 10. A summary of the Guidelines and Awards is repeated again for your information.

### GUIDELINES

Exhibits will be entered in one of three classes:

**Single Frame:** to be judged using relaxed National standards by a judge retained for this competition.

**Single Page:** to be judged by the members present using the GTAPA standard evaluation.

**Multi Page:** an entry of any shape and / or size (2 pages or more) in any format to be judged on popularity by balloting among members present.

### AWARDS

The winner of the Single Frame competition will have his / her name engraved on the DRAKE TROPHY. This trophy was donated by Everett Drake.

The winner of the Single Page competition will have his / her name engraved on the FRANK ALUSIO trophy. This trophy was donated by Gordon Payne and Garfield Portch to honour Frank Alusio.

The winner of the Multi Page competition will have his / her name engraved on the TED ALLEN TROPHY. This award was donated by the Etobicoke Philatelic Society when it merged with the West Toronto Stamp Club in 1996. It is named after Ted Allen, EPS President from 1985 to 1995.

Last month we mentioned that The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada was in the process of loading to its website for the benefit of exhibitors and potential exhibitors, whether members of the Royal or not, columns on exhibiting in the Royal's magazine, *The Canadian Philatelist*, by Dr. David Piercey. The columns have now been posted and can be found at <https://www.rpsc.org/exhibiting.htm>

As well, mentoring and guidance in preparing an exhibit is available from experienced exhibitors. If you need assistance, approach any board member.

## Membership

Membership Secretary Frank Alusio reports that as of February 23 we have a total active membership of 92.

We welcome John Lepone (# 1079) and Dom Di Martella (# 1080). John and Dom, we hope you enjoy the Club, and we look forward to getting to know you.

## From the Editor

For those of you, like me, who love jigsaw puzzles, I noted in a catalogue over the Christmas holidays a number of postage stamp puzzles available from a company in Quebec. If interested, see for example: <http://www.jigsawjungle.com/stamp-collector-1505.html>

CSN listed in its February 23 issue our remaining Discussion Group topics. I'm sure other clubs read the article and noted the wide range of interesting issues we cover. Garfield deserves our thanks for the great program he has once again put together.

For those of you, again like me, who love to read, I want to mention a book that I finally got around to reading. *A History of Britain in 36 Postage Stamps* by Chris West is available at the Brentwood branch of Toronto Public Library. The author has a similar book dealing with America, which I am currently reading.

