



Bulletin

The Newsletter of the West Toronto Stamp Club
www.westtorontostampclub.org

The Club meets at
Fairfield Seniors' Centre
80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke, ON
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B. Timberg, Editor

President Sid's Message

This past week members of the the WTSC Board met to review our progress and to plan for the balance of the 2015/2016 philatelic year. I am pleased to report that the Club continues to thrive; all of our meetings are well attended, show and tells and discussion group presentations have been most informative, 11 new members have joined, and our finances are in very good order. My personal thanks to all you, as you participate in your own way to support the Club and your fellow collectors. Doing so builds friendships and a strong community of stamp enthusiasts.

WTSC is fortunate to have knowledgeable philatelists as members who take on the extra effort to put what they know into print, adding to the knowledge base of the hobby. Congratulations and thank you to five members for their most interesting articles in the most recent issue of GTAPA's PhilaJournal

- Frank Alusio - "Philatelic elements"
- Peter Butler - "Variations in the value of Canadian mint stamps"
- Mattia Guida - "Pen pal memories"
- Fraser McKee - "The happenstance aspect of creating a collection"
- Mark Stelmacovich - "Maple leaf definitive coils"

As well a special congratulation to Frank Alusio, FRPSC for his superb, informative five page article entitled "The Evolution of Postal History" found in the March/April 2016 Canadian Philatelist, the journal of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

Another way to build the knowledge base of the hobby is to take that extra step of sharing your expertise and interests by exhibiting. You will have that opportunity in May by participating in our Annual Club Exhibition. I would encourage you to challenge yourself to assemble and to submit a Single Page, Multi-Page and/or One Frame exhibit. If it's your first time, find a mentor and get your feet wet by doing a one pager! Exhibiting is fun and will give you a lot of

personal satisfaction and increase your appreciation of your own personal collection and study.

As you prepare for this year's Club Exhibition you are also encouraged to submit your exhibit to be part of the exhibition planned for the National Postage Stamp and Coin Show, May 13-15, sponsored by the Canadian Stamp News, a publication working hard to promote the hobby.

The internet continues to be an amazing philatelic tool. Checking out these two amazing links dealing with exhibiting will provide you with superb exhibiting tools and facts and access to hundreds of outstanding exhibits.

<https://www.rpsc.org/exhibiting.htm>

<http://www.exponet.info/index.php?lng=EN>

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

Sid

April Activities

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

April 05 ~ The Machin Study Group

April 12 ~ Regular Meeting

Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

April 19 ~ Discussion Group

Guest Speaker: **Dr. David Foot** is returning to our Club to share more of his wonderful stories of unusual postal history from 'down under', as he speaks about **Australian Rocket Mail**.

April 26 ~ Regular Meeting

Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

Discussion Group Schedule (May – June)

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 once again for your information. **Please note that every participant will receive a philatelic gift.**

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 March 31 we have a total active membership of 92.

Arie Yarvi (# 1081) has joined. Arie, welcome!

Attention: Club Members

Early in December Chris Edwards took two stockbooks of stamps to a West Toronto meeting in an effort to sell them on behalf of an outside person. It is believed that Chris passed these books on to a member for examination but we don't know who that member may be. Could the recipient of these two stockbooks please contact Garfield Portch immediately as the outside person would like to either have them back or negotiate a sale. Thank you.

A collector from 'down under' is interested in exchanging stamps from his Australian collections for Canadian stamps. If interested, please contact Mark Triplett to discuss at mark.triplett@telus.net

Board Election 2016-2018

The election will take place at the May 10 meeting. If you are interested in serving on the board, contact President Sid or Frank Alusio as soon as possible.

