



Since 1935

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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Volume 81
Issue **410**

Feb 2016

B. Timberg, Editor

President Sid's Message

The cold quieter winter months of January and February give most of us increased time to pursue our philatelic interests and to get deeper into the hobby. We find time to do more research and to write up and mount parts of our collection. These months also give us time to reduce disorder in our stamp rooms or corners. We can turn an accumulation or a pile of recent purchases into a readable useful article, collection or exhibit to share with others.

I am sure you would agree that learning is an integral part of this hobby. The following link is well worth checking out. In the section "*Canadian Stamps and Covers*" I found the 27 pages of entries entitled "*Canada Centennials Printing Varieties*" most interesting, renewing my interest in this definitive series. <http://www.stampcommunity.org/>

What new philatelic resources have you found useful and enjoyed this month. Consider sharing at our "Show and Tell / Learn and Share" sessions or let me or our editor Bob Timberg know so it can be included in our next newsletter.

If you are a subscriber to the Canadian Stamp News you will have appreciated the Editor's column (26 January issue) in which he highlighted the importance of volunteering to ensure the ongoing success of a club or organization. This coming May we will be holding our biennial election of officers and directors. It is not too early to consider if you might want to fill a vacancy on the board. We will soon be detailing the nominating procedures and vacancies for the 2016 / 2018 term. Your enthusiasm for the hobby and the success of our club will grow as you take on more responsibility.

I would also like to remind members of this month's Discussion Group presentation. Be sure to circle the date (February 16) on your calendar or enter it into your cell phone or tablet. If you had the good fortune to attend Part 1 last fall you will know that this presentation will be most worthwhile and informative. Seating will be at a premium so come early.

I appreciate any suggestions you might have to make our club even more successful and look forward to your attendance and participation this coming month.

February Activities

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

Feb 02 ~ The Machin Study Group

Feb 09 ~ Regular Meeting

Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

Feb 16 ~ Discussion Group

Guest Speaker: **Dr. Robert Galway** will speak on "**THE FORMATIVE YEARS OF AIR TRANSPORT IN CANADA AND EARLY DAYS IN THE HISTORY OF AIRMAIL - A Pictorial Essay of the Birth of Canadian Civil Aviation and the Development of Canadian Aero-Philatelic Services - Part 2 (1924-1928)**". This will be a continuation of Dr. Galway's presentation of October 2015.

Feb 23 ~ Regular Meeting

Exchange of information, Show & Tell and Auction

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)

Discussion Group Schedule (March – June)

March 15 ~ Peter Butler

PICTURE POSTAGE - A look at this relatively new branch of philately.

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.

Club Competition (May)

It is not too early to start thinking about preparing your exhibit for the Club's competition this May. A summary of the Guidelines and Awards follows.

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 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.

Membership

Membership Secretary Frank Alusio reports that we have currently a total active membership of 88.

From the Editor

We have repeated from the last issue details of the coming Club competition in May. Those of you who are members of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada have had the benefit of reading since late 2013 a regular column in the Royal's magazine, *The Canadian Philatelist*, on exhibiting by Dr. David Piercey. The columns are excellent. The Royal is in the process of loading all columns to its website for the benefit of all exhibitors and potential exhibitors, whether members of the Royal or not. If you are thinking of entering the Club competition, you will do yourself a favour by looking at the columns for guidance. Bonne chance! Ed.

