



# 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  
Cancelled due to Covid-19

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2021

B. Timberg, Editor

## President Sid's Message

What keeps you interested in and continues to attract you to stamp collecting, our collective passion?

Personally, for me it has recently been:

- Leisurely sorting through thousands of commonly used Canadian stamps hunting for CDS cancels.
- Hunting through eBay, dealer websites and weekly listings for that special item to enhance one of my many ongoing philatelic projects. The hunt and knowing what to hunt for is what continues to be the hook for many of us as collectors.
- Studying the 2015 Sparks Auction Catalogue detailing the sale of the *Daniel Cantor Collection of Small Queens*. Doing so deepens my knowledge of postal rates and various special frankings during the Small Queen period. The outstanding destination covers in this sale not only broadened my Small Queen collecting interests but also encourages me to collect uncommon rate and destination covers for more recent Canadian definitive issues.
- Enjoying and learning during the recent superb Discussion Group presentation *Military Toronto* by WTSC member Charles Livermore.
- Attending the outstanding Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) seminars presented by WTSC members Garfield Portch, Michel Houde and Darin Cherniwchan. These seminars will soon be posted on the RPSC website for your listening pleasure and new learning.
- Preparing a philatelic item to share with fellow collectors at a Zoom session. This activity has and continues to provide many hours of pleasure and continues to draw me deeper into this fascinating hobby. I am convinced that most philatelic learning takes place as one grapples with what content and images to include when preparing presentations and writing up our collections.
- Connecting with fellow collectors via email or chatting over the phone. Conversations spur on fresh ideas and build valued comradery.

What stamp collecting activities have you engaged in

this past month that you can share and will keep you busy into the future?

The West Toronto Stamp Club website continues to be updated on a regular basis. Thank You Denizil for your expertise and commitment to this task. (Check out our website <http://www.westtorontostampclub.org/> to watch past Zoom Learning Workshop and Discussion Group sessions).

Your leadership team will be meeting in November for a Board meeting to review our ongoing success, consider possible new initiatives and plan for a future when we can again meet face to face. If there are specific items you wish us to address, contact any board member, or email Ian [ianscottyrobo@gmail.com](mailto:ianscottyrobo@gmail.com) or me [sidmensinga@gmail.com](mailto:sidmensinga@gmail.com).

### November - Philatelic opportunities for WTSC members

1. **Learning Workshop, 7 PM, Tuesday, November 2 - Original Research.** Looking forward to another most interesting evening of learning and sharing. The Learning Workshop session planned for December 7 is detailed on page 2.
2. **Discussion Group, 7 PM, Tuesday, November 16.** Guest speaker **Patrick Durban** is returning to present *the second part of the story of the perforated OHMS stamps of Canada*. See the next page for details of December's meeting.
3. Again, consider attending this month's **(RPSC) Stamp Talk and Stamp Panel sessions**. Registration in advance required. For details see <https://www.rpsc.org/>
  - **Monday, November 8 - Chris Hargreaves - Paying for air mail: Canadian Air Mail stamps and protocols, 1928-1939.**
  - **Monday, November 15 - Introduction into Exhibiting. What is it? How does it work? How to get started? It is easier than you think.** Charles Verge (panelist), Jane Sodero (panelist).

Sid Mensinga

## November, the Third 'ber' Month

"November comes  
And November goes,  
With the last red berries  
And the first white snows."

« Novembre arrive  
Et novembre s'en va,  
Avec les dernières baies rouges  
Et les premières neiges blanches. »

Clyde Watson

## December Discussion Group

The Discussion Group meeting on December 21 will not have an invited speaker. For a change we will have a club participation meeting in which members and guests will be asked to provide a brief 'holiday theme' presentation. The presentation can be serious or frivolous using stamps, postal history or other ephemera. Let's see how creative we can be for this festive season meeting.

Members and guests planning to participate are asked to forward PowerPoint slides to me where they will be combined into the evening's presentation. You will be asked to narrate your own presentation.

Those not having access to PowerPoint can contact me for assistance (please, no later than December 17).

Garfield Portch ([garfield.portch@gmail.com](mailto:garfield.portch@gmail.com))

## NTSC Upcoming Presentations

**November 11, 2021, 7 PM**

**Jean Wang**

**Hospital for Sick Children Christmas Campaigns**

**December 9, 2021, 7 PM**

**Michel Houde**

**Useful Research Websites**

Email [NTSC.Membership@gmail.com](mailto:NTSC.Membership@gmail.com) to receive a link to the meeting.

## Quote of the Month

It is fitting that November's quote (right at top) is about research. Our November Learning Workshop invites presentations on original research while December's workshop, on covers with stories, involves research. North Toronto's December presentation is on research websites and December's RPSC Stamp Panel will discuss the ins and outs of research.

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*Research is formalized curiosity.* Zora Neale Hurston (1891-1960)

The quote reminds us that research involves a well-defined process. Research is organized; it is not something to be done willy-nilly.

## Board of Directors

President: Sid Mensinga

Vice-President: Ian Robertson

Past President: Frank Alusio

Secretary: Open

Treasurer: Lawrence Pinkney

Membership: Patricia Blanchard

Directors: Simon Cloughton, Fred Colbourn, Denzil

Fernandes, Don Hedger, Jose Restrepo, Bob Timberg

## December Learning Workshop

Beginning at **7 PM, Tuesday, December 7, 2021** via Zoom, our third virtual **Learning Workshop** of the 2021-2022 season is entitled **A Cover With a Story**.

Sometimes a cover is just a cover, attractive and worthwhile regardless of whether it bears just a single stamp, a lone postmark, the sender's name and address, plus the recipient's name and address.

Depending on circumstances at their time of mailing, others can yield a great cover story.

Multiple cancels mark a path well-taken, with stops along the way (Fig. 1).



*Fig. 1. Reverse of 1933 Registered cover from Dundas, Ont., rerouted extensively, with corresponding postal marks revealing numerous stops at Canadian and U.S. post offices while being forwarded.*

If something went awry, postmarks reveal the forwarding route, sometimes with handwritten or special notation marks such as 'Address Unknown', 'Dead Letter Office', 'Forwarded To', 'Not Called For', 'Returned for War Tax', 'Return to Sender', 'Damaged in Transit' ... (Fig. 2, 3, 4, 5).

You get the idea.



Fig. 2. 1915 Toronto postcard to Michigan, marked three ways - Seeking postage, 'Returned For War Tax', then part of the Toronto Dead Letter Office purple oval cancel.

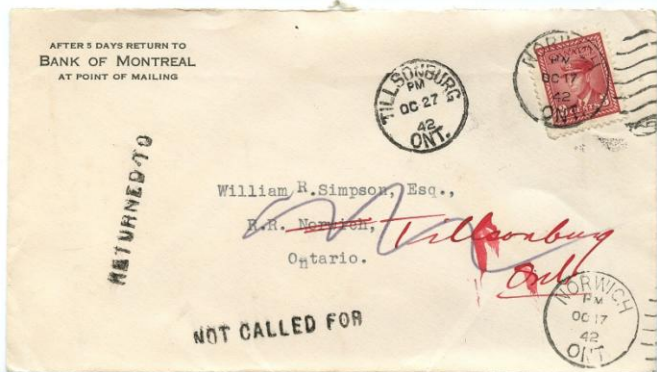


Fig. 3. 'NOT CALLED FOR' single line mark applied to 1942 cover sent to Norwich, Ont., then 'RETURNED TO' was applied for it to be sent back to the sender, the Bank of Montreal in Tillsonburg, Ont.



Fig. 4. 1943 cover from Delhi, Ont. to RR 3, Tillsonburg, but marked 'MISSENT TO' Delhi.

The name of a sender or recipient may also be recognized as someone of social and/or historical importance — worthy of a good story for the cover's owner to share, especially if research yielded some unexpected information (Fig. 6).

Depending on the era in which a cover was posted, identifying names of both people on the front, even a business at the start or end of the trail, could also

provide a tell-worthy tale.



Fig. 5. 1854 cover posted in hamlet of Bennies Corners UC cancel by Electric Telegraph Company to Ross Grove, De Kalb County, Illinois. Carried by American Pkt Collins Line Atlantic, arrived New York with 24¢ collect due.

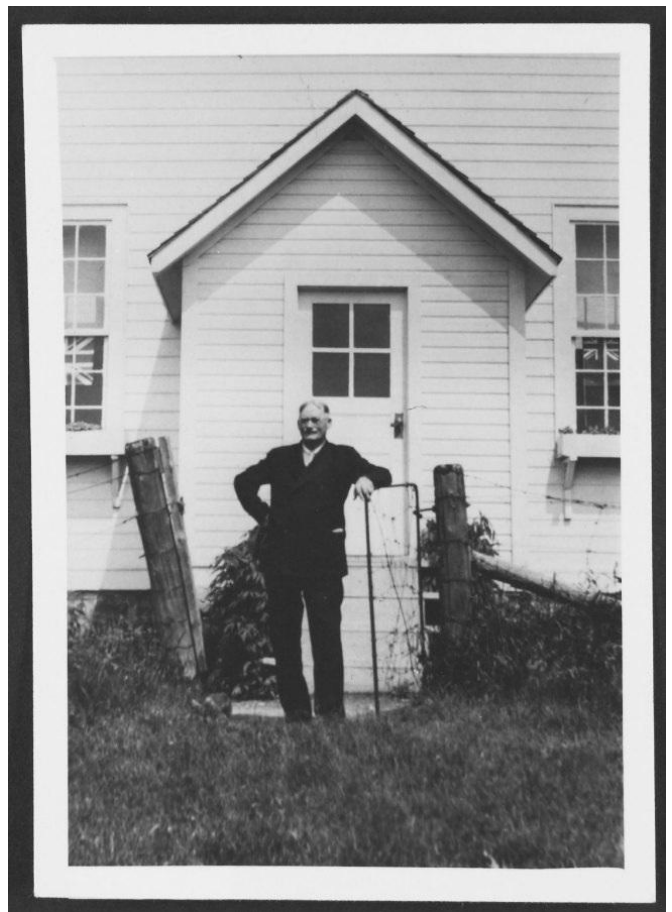


Fig. 6. Basketball inventor James Naismith in late 1930s at Bennie's Corners school (he was student in 1870s), which Ian Robertson attended across from crumbling business centre, including brick post office.

Places can also be interesting, especially if they are little-known, possibly even long-gone, as in — wait for it — a ghost town.

If the cover still retains contents, such an 'entire' find could provide even more useful information, regardless of its age. The same holds true for notes on the backs of postal stationery cards and postcards (Fig. 7a, 7b).

## Reminder – Aerophilately Zoom Meeting

Organizers: The Canadian Aerophilatic Society and the Air Mail Study Group of BNAPS

Topic: **British Airship Post: The Dream to Connect the Empire**

Speaker: **Cheryl Ganz** (Cheryl was the Chief Curator of Philately at the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum in Washington, DC; is a distinguished exhibitor who has won many awards including the 2018 Single-Frame Champion of Champions Award at the American Philatelic Society's Ameristamp Expo in 2018; and a highly regarded speaker.)

Time: **November 7, 2021, 11:30 AM EST**

For more information: Contact Chris Hargreaves at [hargreavescp@sympatico.ca](mailto:hargreavescp@sympatico.ca)

Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84155715409>

## Free/For Sale/Wanted

We wish to remind members that this service is available free to members.

Our bulletin is widely distributed. It is not sent only to club members. Many people will see your wants, and items to be sold or given away.

WANTED – Covers, postcards, Delux proofs, or ephemera relating to the Vimy Pilgrimage 1936. Contact Don at [don.hedger@gmail.com](mailto:don.hedger@gmail.com).

WANTED – Covers and postcards connected to the Algoma Central Railway, also known as the Algoma Central and Hudson Bay Railway between 1901 and 1965. Contact Bob at [timberg@bell.net](mailto:timberg@bell.net).

WANTED – Covers and postcards connected to the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway. Contact Bob at [timberg@bell.net](mailto:timberg@bell.net).

## 2021 CSN Cover Contest

Voting for the 2021 *Canadian Stamp News* cover contest closes Sunday, October 31 at 9 PM Eastern. If you haven't already voted, please do so. The covers are well done. A lot of time and effort went into their preparation.

CSN received 12 entries, three in the National Stamp Collecting Month category, another three in the Club category and six in the Collector category.

To vote, see <https://canadianstampnews.com/2021covercontest/>



Fig 7a. Circular 'WAY LETTER' marking on postal stationery card posted from Toronto to Uxbridge in 1881 (Front).

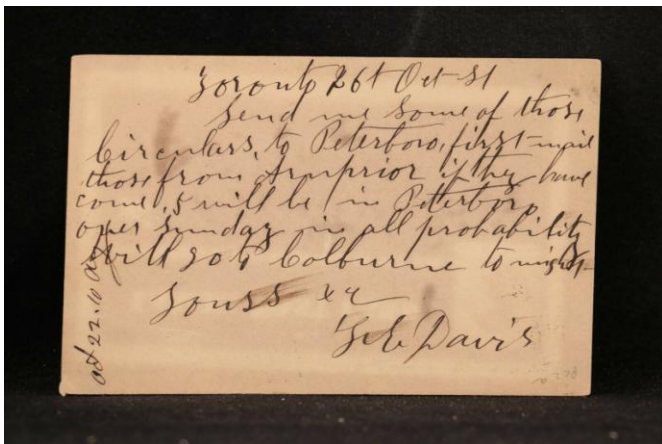


Fig 7b. Note seeking circulations on postal stationery card with 'WAY LETTER' marking on front, mailed from Toronto to Uxbridge in 1881 (Back)

The aforementioned provides yet another attraction for those interested in postal history, and are willing to spend time gathering information beyond the obvious.

All of the above also relates to the topic at hand for our next Zoom-together.

As always, there are members willing and able to share their experiences, with others keen to consider tips or simply appreciate another pleasant get-together.

So tune in, enjoy and perhaps prepare for another new door to open in our great hobby.

Luckily there is no cover charge!

Ian Robertson

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