

# EDMONTON STAMP CLUB BULLETIN

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Mailing address: P.O. Box 399, Edmonton AB T5J 2J6

Web site: <http://www.edmontonstampclub.com>



Ex Lot 22



Lot 290

**Summer Meeting & Auction, 29 July 2013**  
**Chateau Louis Hotel Conference Centre**

Regular meetings: Sep 9, Oct 7 & 21, Nov 4 & 18, Dec 2 & 16  
St. Joseph High School Cafeteria, 10830 - 109 Street, 6:30 pm

Editor: Alan Meech

## The Edmonton Stamp Club

The Edmonton Stamp Club dates back to 1912. The Club is Life Chapter #6 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and Chapter #680 of the American Philatelic Society.

The editor welcomes communications of all kinds—letters, comment and articles. These may be forwarded to Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2J6 or [ameech@telusplanet.net](mailto:ameech@telusplanet.net). □



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## Greetings, Philatelists

Today is the last day of Spring and the weather gods have decided to give southern Alberta a severe soaking. Summer starts tomorrow and there are tens of thousands of people who will be hoping to move back into their homes to salvage what they can from the ravages of floodwaters that turned benign creek beds into raging torrents. No one enjoys having to file a claim with an insurance company but sometimes we are forced to do just that to protect the time, expense and effort that have gone into building our collections. Maybe the lesson from tonight's news is that we should be taking care of these little bits of paper and our own peace of mind. Perhaps summer is a good time to revisit the home insurance policy and check to see if the coverage of your pastime is adequate should, Heaven forbid, it be taken in a moment's notice by some malevolent act of Nature. May all go well for our southern neighbours in the next few days. I certainly hope so.

We ended the regular Edmonton Stamp Club meeting schedule a few weeks ago with the annual election of officers and Board directors. It wasn't much of an election although there were a lot of hands in the air accepting the names of the incumbents. While your confidence in our abilities is appreciated, I am obligated to explain that we are still in need of fresh ideas and extra hands to help steer this noble ship on through troubled waters. Your regular club meetings will start again on September 9, 2013 but there will be only one meeting in September. I had requested only the one Monday night in September because we were to hold our Fall Stamp Market on the third weekend that month, but in the interim, the Board had voted to cancel our reservation for the space at West Edmonton Mall.

Of the two annual gatherings at the Mall, we decided that the Spring Show was the more important of the two and we plan to concentrate our efforts on that one, rather than expend a considerable amount of time and energy on a bourse that fewer and fewer attendees are finding. (I have given Alan the rest of the schedule for our 2013-2014 meetings so you should be able to mark your calendar for the meetings you so love to attend. I imagine it is on another page somewhere in the *Bulletin*).

As one who has sat in the hallway waiting for the droves of eager collectors to come streaming in, I have to admit it is disheartening to watch dealers who have paid handsomely for their table space to



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display their wares, sitting and talking with other dealers because their customer chairs are empty. It will be odd not having a Fall Market at the Mall this year, but the Edmonton Stamp Club will be holding a Spring Show in March, 2014, and changes are planned for that event as well. We'll keep you posted.

This summer we look forward to our annual Summer Meeting at the Chateau Louis on July 29. Once again, I am sure that Alan has more details for you elsewhere in this *Bulletin*, but I would like to invite you out for an afternoon of refreshments and an evening auction that features over 300 fine lots submitted by club members to be bought by club members, without a whiff of GST in the air. I do love our club auctions, for the variety of selection and for the fact that I can at any point decide that the price has become too dear for me and I can then bow out and allow another collector to scoop what I had hoped to take home. Or you could not spend a nickel and just come to enjoy the company of others who also find pleasure in this time-honoured hobby that we share. Please come out on that July afternoon so we won't have to wait until September to reconnect with each other.

Well, the time has come for me to draw an end to this epistle. If you have comments, concerns or questions, I will be at the Chateau Louis on July 29 and I would love to listen and see how we can work to make this wonderful club of ours work as well as possible. Until then, keep your stamps safe and yourself and your families safer.

Yours in philatelic harmony, ☐

*President Pete*

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## Summer Meeting & Auction

On 29 July the Edmonton Stamp Club will hold its summer meeting and stamp auction. The location for the meeting is the Chateau Louis Conference Centre (11727 Kingsway Avenue, behind the Chateau Louis Hotel).

Viewing begins at 4:30 p.m. A luncheon will be available from 4:45 to 7:00 pm, with complimentary sandwiches and vegetable platters with soft drinks, coffee and tea. Beer will be available on a cash basis.

The auction will begin promptly at 7:00 pm. There are 308 lots. There is a strong offering of Canadian and province lots with a fine selection of Classic Canada. This summer there is a broad selection of world stamps particularly western Europe and British Commonwealth countries. Overlapping and the geographic regions of the world is an exceptionally eclectic variety of topical stamps. There should be something for all stamp collectors' interests. Carol Warren will have the circuit books at the meeting as well as payout cheques for the previous year and retired books to return to their owners.

A printed auction list will be available at the meeting. An electronic version (no illustrations) will be available on request starting July 1<sup>st</sup>. It will be in pdf format (only) which requires that you have Adobe Reader installed on your computer (it's a free download). Just e-mail me at [rtbarnes@shaw.ca](mailto:rtbarnes@shaw.ca). You will receive the list as a pdf attachment via return e-mail.

I look forward to seeing you at our social meeting and auction at the Chateau Louis Conference Centre on July 29. Bidding is limited to club members. ☐

*Richard T. Barnes*

## Dues Notice

Annual dues for the Edmonton Stamp Club for the 2013-2014 club year are payable on June 30, 2013. The costs remain unchanged: \$25 for individual membership and \$35 for family membership. Please make your payment to Rob Schutte, Membership Secretary, at the first opportunity, or, send a cheque made out to the Edmonton Stamp Club to the mailing address shown on the front cover of this *Bulletin*.

It helps greatly if Rob doesn't have to come looking for you! ☐

# Some Lots from the July 29th Auction



Ex Lot 62



Lot 98



Lot 271



Lot 293



Lot 120



Lot 145



Lot 299



Lot 303



Ex Lot 233



Lot 254

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Listing of selected lots illustrated from the Auction of 29 July 2012.  
(Preface "Ex" indicates an example taken from a larger lot.)

Lot #	Description	Catalogue value
22	Cdn selection of revenues, M & U, 13 different + pane of 6	\$ 155.00
62	Brunei M, selection of all different 1907-1921, to 25 cents	100.00
98	Zululand, M, 12¢, small thin	62.50
120	Bavaria U, 229	70.00
145	Italy U, 376	275.00
233	Ascension M, 10~16, missing 15	67.75
254	France M, B11	125.00
271	Cdn M, 36	40.00
290	Cdn M, CLP 3	125.00
293	Barbados U, short perf lower left, fresh colour	62.50
299	Cdn MNH, 174	100.00
303	Prince Edward Island M, 10	40.00

*Richard T. Barnes*



### **CALTAPEX**

Annual show and exhibition of the Calgary Philatelic Society  
October 18 - 10, 2013  
[www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.ca](http://www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.ca)

## Philatelic Holdings at the U of A Library

Philatelic research material is now available in the University of Alberta Library Collection. Some of the material will be available through the inter-library loan accessible for those who have library or TAL cards. To do a search of what is available on the inter-library loan system, you can make a search at a local library, or, if you have your own computer access, go to the site: [www.library.ualberta.ca](http://www.library.ualberta.ca). Certain material will *not* be sent out. In that case, the researcher will have to come to the university or have a representative do research on his/her behalf. Library contact information is available at the University of Alberta web-site: [www.ualberta.ca](http://www.ualberta.ca) or by telephoning the information desk at the Cameron Library; (780-492-8440).

Entering key words such as "philatelic" on a search engine will bring up a menu that has a fairly extensive listing. Other key words may be helpful such as "airmail," "balloon post," "post marks," "postage stamps," "post cards", etc. will help navigate through the system.

That this collection has come to fruition is a compliment to the many local and national enthusiasts who have donated materials to the University of Alberta Libraries. □

*Nino Chiovelli*

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## A Note of Thanks

We are indebted to Dr. Merrill Distad and the Staff of the University of Alberta Libraries for setting up the philatelic library collection. Due to recent budget cutbacks at the university, donations to the Philatelic Library Collection would be greatly appreciated.

All donations are tax deductible and should be addressed to: Mr. Josh Bilyk, Director of Development (Learning Services), 5-07 Cameron Library, University of Alberta, Edmonton AB T6G 2J8. Please specify that the donations are for the Philatelic Library Collection.

(Ed. Note: We would like to thank Nino Chiovelli for his untiring work in helping to make this project come to fruition.)

*Dues for 2013-14 are now payable!*

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## Closely Noted Definitives

These two stamps are from the 2013 release of definitives. Yet if you check the right side of the stamps there is a variation in the perforation. It is almost as if the cutter (or perforator) was reversed).

When I wrote this in Tim Horton's I noticed that the colours were slightly different. One has brighter green with a deeper brown on the deer. The other is darker green with a dull brown on the deer. Also the blades of grass over the deer is different between the two stamps. Has anyone else noticed this?



(The quality of reproduction used in our *Bulletin* probably will not permit differentiation between the colour shades described above, but the perforation variants are quite distinct. – Ed.)

*Lloyd Loewen*

## Seen Around Town

Interested in German stamps? Ray at National Pride has a very nice “Borek” album containing a collection of Berlin stamps, including booklets, that runs through to 1993. It was the property of long-time Club member, Gunter Brink. Stop by and have a look!

*KRS*

Mr. Sergey Golovanov writes to tell us he is a novice collector of stamps who would like to obtain some stamps of Canada to replenish his collection. Postal Address: Russia, Nizhny Novgorod region 607220 Arzamas prospect Lenina 154/2 kv 48, Sergey Golovanov. (Any arrangements made at your own risk, of course.)

## Demon Definitives

©Peter F R Kirchmeir (December 26, 2012)

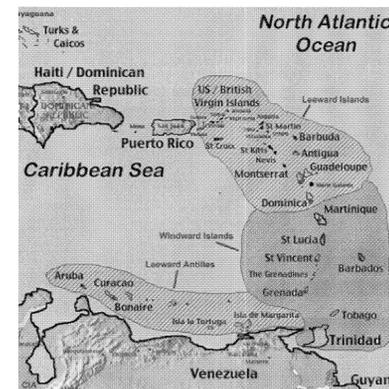
The British Empire, Dominions and Commonwealth included so many quadrants of the globe that one can get dizzy trying to place all the territories, seas, isles, contents, mountains and plains in their correct political and stamp issuing entities on any given map. One of the most enigmatic areas is the Caribbean with its huge number of islands, islets, cays and reefs. Over the past century or so, the peoples have combined into larger governments, each issuing common stamps as well as promoting single island issues, not to mention Grenadines. (That name always makes me think of sweet summer fruit juice.) For example, there are the British Virgin Islands, the US Virgin Islands and the Danish Virgin Islands. I defy my readers to place them on a world map of the correct date and then give a chronology of their subsequent stamp issues.

Then there are the Leeward and the Windward Islands. The Leeward Islands issued common designs (1890-1956)<sup>1</sup> for its constituent parts. The Windward Islands did not, but are referred to in any history of the Empire, in particular as a generic counterpart to the former. One would be mistaken if one thought postal administrations were geographically logically inclined. By my count there are at least twenty stamp-issuing entities from that part of the world, including new names, many changes driven by government re-organization.

But notwithstanding the rightly famous explorers of your and any modern satellite images, there is one territory omitted from all the stamp catalogues and historical tomes available to researchers. This territory is only mentioned in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*.<sup>2</sup> No articles on this territory are found anywhere, not even on that omni-know-it-all 'Google'.

The stamps are described by Michael T. Akers, R.U.P.<sup>3</sup> He references a Mr. H. A. Milton as having first noticed these elusive stamps. The latter places the isles in the Western Atlantic. Since the geological description notes that the islands are volcanic, they may be to the east of the Windward Islands and west of the Canaries, probably closer to the Caribbean, given the name is so similar to other entities.<sup>2</sup>

There are seven or eight islands in the group. There is inter-island trade and less often, trade with the outside world. This latter necessitates stamps for communication with Multi-national Headquarters, especially for the luxury hotels and casinos that were planned but not altogether fulfilled.



Now, to the nub. Pre-adhesive letters had skulls and portcullises as way station indicia. Later letters had circular date stamps; "C.P.O. Swy", or "Fiddle" above the date and "F.W.I." below the numbers. Occasionally, there was a Royal Naval Anchor, surmounted by crown. Since the c.d.s. used English, it is supposed that these islands were part of one of the many British colonies scattered throughout the area.

The one stamp ever coming from the Wayward islands is described as [paraphrased] "red frame, oval centre having a man in medieval costume, one leg raised." The frame held the words "Wayward Islands" above the oval and "One Quid" below the oval.<sup>2</sup> Unfortunately, the colour of the vignette is not stated. However, since the description fits the famous "Heads" series of the British Empire, we can assume that the vignette would have but one colour, differing from the frame.

An appeal for authenticating the stamp to the expertizing committee in London came back with the note [paraphrased] "That this is a unique stamp and therefore no reference point being available, there could be no opinion as to its authenticity."<sup>2</sup> There was to be a concluding article on these stamps, but I have not found any more reference to them. Perhaps Mr. Akers met an untimely end, or the huge amount of time needed to finish research on this topic proved too much for him.

Perhaps some-one with skills in underwater radar or ground penetrating radar or satellite lidar can give time and effort to searching the area of the seas where the territory was reported to be. This is also one area where Atlantis was supposed to exist. It could be that the volcanic islands were the last remnant of the fabled continent. Volcanic islands are famous for their quick erosion. It may be that this is why no evidence exists now. Their re-discovery would bring renown to the discoverer.

The wayward islands have re-appeared in this day of the Internet. There is an interactive game by that name. There is no mention in the introduction of any previous territory in the game notes.<sup>4</sup> Has any one of us played the game?

I appeal to our club members to be on the look-out for stamps from this elusive territory. Should any stamps from the wayward islands be found in an obscure nook of your collection, please contact me. □

*Peter F R Kirchmeir*

Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalog*, 1A, 1997.
- <sup>2</sup> Akers, M. T. *Philately of the Wayward Islands*, *PJGB* Nos. 820-822, Vol. LXIX April-June 1959, Nos 23-825, Vol LXIX June-September 1959
- <sup>3</sup> Royal Undistinguished Philatelists
- <sup>4</sup> Nation States: <http://forum.nationstates.net/viewtopic.php?f=19&t=13971> game

## Odessa Famine Issue

I purchased an Imperial Russian/Civil War collection for the Levant stamps at the back of the collection. Now I am finished looking at the Levant stamps I took a quick look at the remainder of the collection. To my surprise it included a mint set of the Odessa Famine Issue. I went to my clippings file for more information. I was shocked to find nothing in my clipping file.

I did find this seven-stamp set in *Les Timbres de Fantaisie* by Chapier. These stamps were manufactured in 1922 and sold as quasi-semi-postal stamps to help famine victims in the city of Odessa.

The face value on these labels runs from 250r to 10,000r. This was a philatelic scam by an Italian printer. I have not read anything that connects these stamps to a charity or to a delivery of money to famine victims.



Keith Spencer provided me with a note from an old *Linn's*. The *Linn's* description of the paper of the Odessa Famine stamps on hand stated that the paper had light blue quadrille lines. The paper of the stamps I have is a coarse grey paper. Chapier gave the perfs as 13. Mine are perfed 14 x 11. Were there a number of printings or were there forgeries of the Odessa Famine stamps to fill orders by packet makers? Has anyone any further information on paper types, perfs, etc.? Everyone agrees that the designs on the labels were influenced by the Art Nouveau movement and there are imperf sets of the Odessa Famine stamps. □

*Richard T. Barnes*

## Biography of a Stamp Collection,

by Siegfried Osterwold

(Continued from Vol. 102, No. 4, p. 13)

After my father had passed away, a new stamp trading partner, Tassilo Link in Quedlinburg, supplied me with many new issues of the DDR in exchange for Canadian stamps. I even met Tassilo personally in Magdeburg during our visit in 1967. But by 1971 I got tired of the prevalent political tendencies shown on the DDR stamps. With sincere regret on Tassilo's part, I ended my stamp connection with the DDR. And at the end of 1976 I also cancelled my subscription in West-Berlin, because the DM had gone up, the loonie had gone down, and the number of new issues had skyrocketed.

Something else had happened. In the summer of 1967 I returned to work in a Provincial Government office and I had re-established connections to the mailing room. Once a week I could take the envelopes from the incoming mail. But I did not wash all the stamps off any more. I had heard about collectors collecting "town cancels" and that's what I started now also. I even got a new trading partner for that kind of material. That was Kim Dodwell, still living in India at that time, later back in his native England (Shrewsbury). Of all the things philately has to offer, he was after "Alberta Town Cancels". Of these I had plenty. A very pleasant stamp relationship developed. In 1982, we visited him and we had a really good time; it became a friendship I cherished.

The 60s were also the time when I got hooked to collect "plate corner blocks" and "first day covers." It was the trend at the time.

Since I had joined the Edmonton Stamp Club, I faithfully attended their meetings, where I actually learned quite a bit about stamps. I bought quite a few stamps from the Club's circuit books. I also took care of these

books during the 1970/71 season, a quite time-consuming job. Jan Roebroek, Walter Francl or Tom Mercer became partners in buying kiloware from a wholesaler in Sweden, which turned out a lot of fun...or disappointment. But the 60s and the 70s brought along a slow but steady turning point, away from “mint never hinged” to “postally run covers”. Nevertheless, I appreciated the nicely made-up covers, with special cancellations, mailed for some ten years by our friend Sasha Kral from West Berlin.

As the years went by, I realized, being the only eternal stamp-collecting member of the family, that I should also think about what would happen, if, ...So...

All subscriptions were cancelled, even the one for Canada, now in Antigonish. Less buying, more selling of duplicates. Over the years I have made up about 275 circuit books. That is a lot of work, but that way I have also sold a lot of my duplicates.

For another two years, I think it was 1984-86, I once again managed the club circuit books. It was a rewarding, but also time-consuming job. It was also a way to meet and to talk to more of my fellow members of the club. Now I am one of the oldest members of the ESC, still enjoying the camaraderie, being well known by many of the members—

My access to the mailing room at the government office where I worked was lost when my office moved to another building. That was already around 18760. But then I met Neil Hughes at the ESC, the club’s expert for Alberta town cancels and Alberta’s post offices. He worked in the mailing room of another government department. Connections!

Still, it must be said that any intense activity in any of the many fields of philately I had tried to participate in has now slowed down considerably. Collecting of first day covers and plate corner blocks had been stopped long ago. The plate corner album is being dismantled; I am trying to get at least my investment back.

Some commentaries about the various albums I set up over the many years appear with the detailed information about said albums further down, particularly the various albums containing Canadian philatelic material of various kinds.

During my whole “career” as a stamp collector, I tried always to build some kind of a collection from what was easily available to me, with a minimum of expenses. My “Alberta Town Cancel” collection is the best example to prove that. And still, that collection comprises some 3,900 items, mostly cutouts, from some 680 places in Alberta, with no expenses at all. Whenever I bought stamps, I considered whether I could

most likely get my investment back when trying to sell those items. That, of course, cut out buying from dealers, as well as selling my stamps to dealers, since, as I well understand, those guys want to make a living from buying and selling stamps.

Of course, what I have been accumulating over so many years, I wouldn’t want it to go for a “handful of peanuts” when the time comes. I will need another collector, not a dealer, a fellow with appropriate understanding, a friend, who would be willing to protect the family interests and help with the disposition of most of my collections in a reasonable manner. I feel I found the right person: Keith Spencer, who, a couple of years ago, spent some six hours in our house to look at my various albums. There were no shoe boxes filled with stamps! That’s what Keith has been teasing me about since.

Well, it must have been a fair combination of stubbornness and dedication that kept me pursuing the hobby of stamp collecting for more than seven decades. Just as one “cannot teach an old dog new tricks,” I still try to keep all my albums in good order, sorting any small addition which comes my direction into its proper place. It has become almost a way of life. Now I take the time to grab one of my albums, just enjoying to look at it page by page, thinking of the many hours I once spent to put it together, not even primarily concerned with its catalogue value, for I realize I could have sold the whole stuff some twenty years ago at a better price than I would get now. But then I would not be able to enjoy looking at it now.

Some of the names I referred to above have no meaning to anybody but myself. I mentioned them partly out of gratitude because they guided me to pick up and then stick to the hobby, which provided me with thousands of hours during which I could switch off the world around me. And that meant an important part to my way of recreation and relaxation. And isn’t that what we all need from time to time? □

*Siegfried Osterwoldt*

Thanks to Jack McCuaig for once again providing a cash donation to the club. —KRS

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## 2013-14 Meeting Dates

The Edmonton Stamp Club meets Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of St. Joseph High School, 10830 - 109 Street. Park to the north of the school and use the main entrance at the south-east corner of the school. For information about the regular club call 451-0420 or 437-1787; for the junior clubs, phone Linda at 474-4084.

2013: Sept 9, Oct 7 & 21, Nov 4 & 18, Dec 2 & 16

2014: Jan 13 & 27, Feb 10 & 24, Mar 10 & 17, Apr 7 & 28,  
May 12 & 26, June 9.

Edmonton Spring National Stamp Show, Mar 20-23, 2014

*Edmonton BNAPS* (British North America Philatelic Society) meets from time to time. All BNAPSers welcome. For information contact David Piercey at 437-2771 or Steven Friedenthal at 458-1233.

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