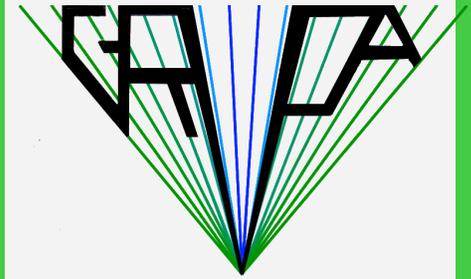


# Grand News

The Journal of the Grand River Valley Philatelic Association



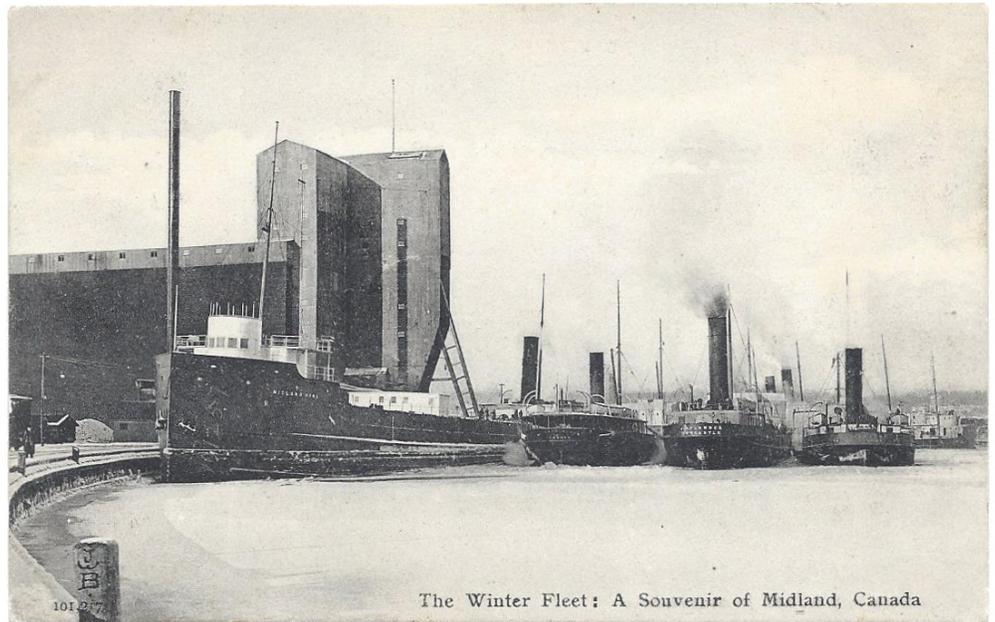
Volume 51, Issue 5

June, July and August, 2020

## Cover Story - From Barrie through Utterson to Bent River

By George Sachs

Why in the world would this particular postcard hold some special interest for me? Well, for one thing Midland, Ontario was my home during my late elementary school years, and all through high school. I have a strong bond to it. I especially remember the cold winters, the frozen harbour, the ski hill, snow shoeing, hockey, ice fishing, the natural space in which, the town,



*Continued on page 4*

### Inside This Issue:

Cover Story	1
Introduction to...	1
From the GRVPA	2
Grand Extras	3
Me and My Stamps by David Pitcher	3
What's Up In...	6
Who, When, Where	9
Upcoming Events	10
Lady Boats by Ken Lemke	11
Cnd. Comm. Use - Historic Vehicles by Ingo Nessel	14
Legal Stuff	17

## Introduction to...Collecting Large Queen Stamps

By Lawrence Pinkney

There are basically two ways of collecting the Large Queen stamps of 1868 - 1896:

The first is to collect one example of each of the Large Queen stamp issue, being #21 to #30 – (per the Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps), without regard to any type of mint or used, variety or reentry or other consideration. This is by far the most popular way (and certainly the least expensive way) to achieve the Large Queen stamp issue in its entirety.

This method is usually attainable through various stamp auctions, stamp clubs, or such websites as EBay.ca.

The other option is to collect one example of each type of mint or used, variety, reentry or other consideration of the Large Queen stamp, being #21 to #30 – (per the Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps). This is for the serious Large Queen collector only as many of these stamp varieties and reentries are

*Continued on page 5*

## From the Grand River Valley Philatelic Association:

### President's Message:

I regret that, due to a very serious family issue, I must tender my resignation as President of the GRVPA, effective immediately.

I will assist whoever wishes to assume the role to the extent that my personal situation permits.

I wish you all well in these difficult times.

President Joe

### From the Editor:

First, a quick "Thank you" to all my contributors!

In addition to George Sachs' Cover Story *From Barrie through Utterson to Bent River*, and Lawrence Pinkney's *Introduction to Collecting Large Queen Stamps*, which are featured on the cover page, we also have the three following articles for your perusal in this issue:

- ◆ *Me and My Stamps* by David Pitcher (page 3);
- ◆ *Lady Boats*, by Ken Lemke (page 11)
- ◆ *Canadian Commercial Usage - Historical Vehicles 1993-1996* by Ingo Nessel (page 14).

Please keep them coming!

The list of cancellations just keeps growing, and not just in philately. Concerts and trade shows have been cancelled into the fall, but even so, I've been noticing that some doors are opening, too.

If you find yourself in need of a non-stamp-related distraction, take a look at some of the following material:

- ◆ Disney has shared recipes from the parks, and – apparently – virtual ride videos. Check it out here <https://disney Parks.disney.go.com/blog/videos/> and here: <https://disney Parks.disney.go.com/blog/latest-stories/>;

- ◆ Dr. Who, the long-running British TV series, has apparently released a series of items including a folded paper TARDIS, videos and stories. Here is the site: <https://www.doctorwho.tv/>. Also look for "Dr. Who Lockdown" on YouTube;
- ◆ CITY TV and the Budweiser Stage at Ontario Place have announced a series of concerts on Saturday nights over the summer. Initial details here: <https://www.citytv.com/show/budweiser-stage-at-home/>;
- ◆ Many museums are apparently posting online tours – check out the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/smithsonian-national-air-and-space-museum> or NASA's Langley Research Center: <https://oh.larc.nasa.gov/oh/>. What other ones can you find? (With thanks to Joe Trauzzi for the Forbes article that lead me to the links!)
- ◆ It's not a virtual tour, but the Canadian Stamp Collection at the Canadian Museum of History <https://www.historymuseum.ca/event/the-canadian-stamp-collection/> has some videos and online exhibitions. (Formerly the Canadian Museum of Civilization.)

I've also heard that West Toronto has move their weekday 'coffee hour' meetings online using Zoom.



**There are no calendars included in this issue - as far as I know, all events and meetings are cancelled until further notice.**

Just a quick reminder: The Grand News is now accepting Classified ads! For \$5, I will include up to 250 characters for 5 issues, or until you tell me to pull the ad, whichever comes first. (Let's keep these stamp / philately-related, please?)

Please remember to send any updates for the Grand River Valley Philatelic Association website to Joe Trauzzi at [jtrauzzi@yahoo.ca](mailto:jtrauzzi@yahoo.ca).

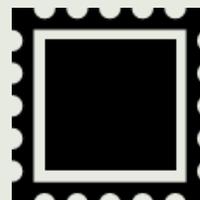
**The deadline for the September / October issue is August 15th.**

In Service,  
Wendi Trauzzi,  
Editor, Grand News

## Grand Extras

By George Pepall

It seems that the Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue (2018 version) is a popular reference book at regional libraries. It's high on the list of books borrowed frequently at the Waterloo P.L, and #4 on the non-fiction list at the Ideas Exchange in Cambridge. Presumably people can only borrow one volume at a time!



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## Me and My Stamps

By David Pitcher

I have been collecting stamps since i was a child, starting sometime in the 1950`s. I was introduced and supported in the hobby by a Salvation Army pastor uncle, who had served with the Army in south-west Africa, and Bermuda. His home was Newfoundland, where I and my parents also were born. My father, who was also a Salvation Army pastor, came from four generations of members in The Salvation Army. My wife and I have served as Salvation Army pastors in Canada since the 1960`s. Naturally, I have a topical collection of Salvation Army postage stamps from countries all over the world.

I started collecting stamps of Canada (including Newfoundland, of course), Bermuda and countries of the British commonwealth in those days. I had several stamp collector friends in Vancouver, B.C. - where I lived at the time - and used to trade regularly with them as a young person.

As a pastor in the Salvation Army, I didn`t always have a lot of time for my collection, even though I always had it stored somewhere and would get it out on occasion, and work away on the same.

When my wife and I retired to St Catharines a few years ago, I was given a large collection of somewhat unsorted postage stamps by an elderly friend in Toronto. Then I found that I had time to give to it and decided that the best way to make real progress was to join the local Stamp Club.

I have learned so many things from the exercise of stamp collecting, about people, history, my country, the world, faith and religion, science and technology, morals and ethics, even about myself. I personally have found it to be a very rewarding experience. I can fully understand why it has been such a compelling hobby for so many prominent and well-known people throughout history.

Now, in the days of home confinement due to COVID-19, I have found it to be a natural release, escape and opportunity for me. I have been able to catch up on my most recent interest in and acquisition of postage stamps of the United States of America, where both my parents and my grandparents lived for a number of years.



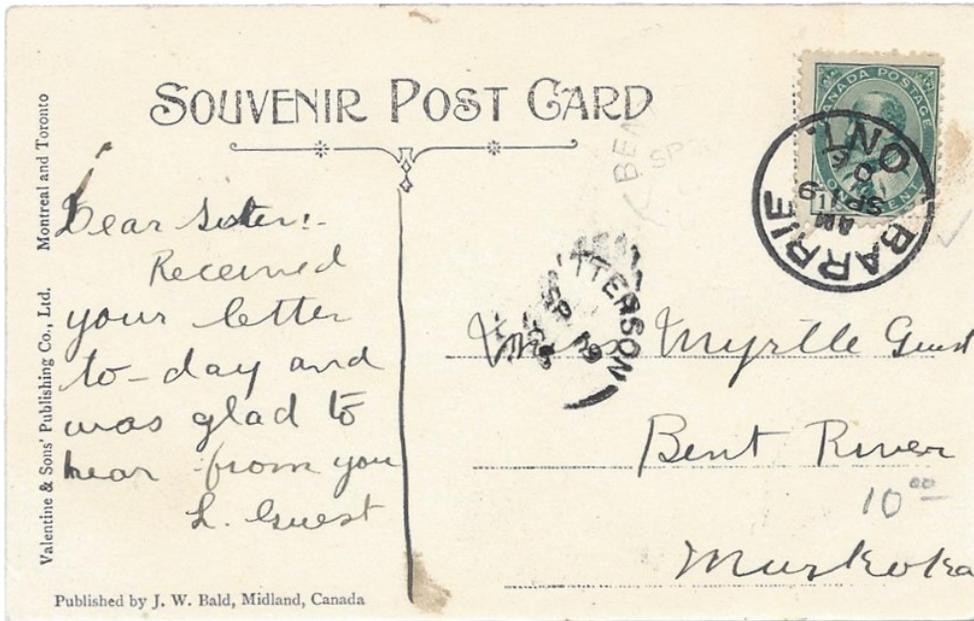
# Cover Story - From Barrie through Utterson to Bent River

*Continued from page 1*

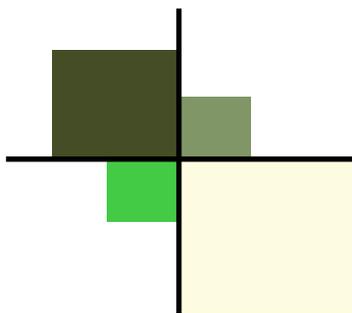
once called Mundy's Bay, was set in. Its history, with the proximity of Ste. Marie Among the Hurons (1642 – 1648), the Martyr's Shrine, and Champlain's Harbour in Penetanguishene, goes way back. Since I collect postcards of central and northern Ontario, but especially those from around the southern end of Georgian Bay, with Midland being a main focus and the harbour and shipping being within that focus, this card appeals to me on many levels. The picture side of the postcard included in this photo shows the dock beside the grain elevator which later became part of the Pillsbury company. The picture was probably taken, by the preeminent photographer, James W. Bald, between 1901 and 1905. Bald took many photos of midland and the Georgian Bay area over 50 years. His studio was in Midland until the 1950s. The ship at the dock is the Midland King.

James Plairfair, a lumber magnate, who built a magnificent home overlooking Midland Harbour, together with D.L. White started a company, called the Midland Navigation Company, in 1901. It was this company that became the owner of the Midland King in the picture on the postcard. Playfair and White's company eventually became the Midland Ship Building Company. After a number of iterations, the company was acquired by Canada Steam Ship Lines together with the Collingwood shipyard and two others. It is the money of these lumber barons and the deep-water harbours that made this development possible.

The address side of the postcard shows the card being posted at Barrie (Sept. 19, 06), with a transit mark at Utterson (Sept. 19, 06) and then a final faint receiving mark at Bent River (Sept 20, 06). The card was published by J.W. Bald and Valentine & Sons' Publishing Co., Ltd. It is a nice example of an early postcard showing the address



area and the message area with an implied division. The stamp is damaged, but the Barrie cancel is nicely struck. Mind you, most postcard collectors have little interest in the address side of the card except for the message thereon (for postal history) or the date for the time period, the publishing information and information about the photographer.





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# Introduction to Collecting Large Queen Stamps

(continued from page 1)

very rare and may not even be available for acquisition.

For example, there are only three known copies of the 2 Cent Green, Laid Paper, Large Queen stamp. The last time that this Large Queen stamp variety was auctioned; (some four years ago) the price was well over \$200,000 for this one Large Queen stamp.

Nonetheless, it is a very pleasant challenge to any serious Large Queen stamp collector to get as many varieties and reentries. (No mention, whatsoever, in this article, is made of the collecting of Large Queen stamp covers – as they are mostly very rare and some are extremely expensive and **MUST BE CERTIFIED AS GENUINE** as Large Queen covers).

To begin, the serious Large Queen stamp collector will need background or research material. I would suggest the following:

The Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps, D. Robin Harris, Editor;

The Large Queen Stamps of Canada and Their Use, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, H.E and H.W. Duckworth, authors;

Canada 15 Cents, L. Gerald Firth author;

The Different Papers used for the Production of the Large Queen Victoria stamps from 1868 – 1876, Richard Gratton, author (in French only);

A Large Queen's Report, Hans Reiche, author.

Many of these books or guides are long out of print – but available at the Vincent Graves Greene (VGG) for viewing or borrowing or by auction.

The Large Queen stamp collector is advised to possess a recognized watermark fluid as there are two very well known watermarks in the Large Queen stamps. Also a paper thickness gauge is helpful to measure the thickness of certain of the Large Queen papers, as it is impossible to tell some papers apart simply by the naked eye. As well, it is also advisable to possess a very bright light to determine a Large Queen stamp's mesh. (These bright lights, called Ott lights, are usually available at Canadian Tire for a very reasonable price.) Many of these items are available at the VGG (Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation, in Toronto) for viewing purposes.

There are atleast 12 known papers used in the Large Queen

stamp production. No Large Queen stamp has all 12 known papers. Duckworth does a very good job at telling when a particular Large Queen stamp was used by each month and when each known paper was used as well as the shade. (Some of the rarer papers may be referred to but are left out because no dated copies were observed.) Duckworth, however, stops mostly at 1872, but the 15 cent Large Queen went on until at least 1900 in various shades and meshes. Firth and Gratton must then be followed for Large Queen stamps after 1872. The 5 cent Large Queen was, as well, an 1875 – 1876 issue in various shades and meshes.

There are three distinct production periods for the Large Queen stamps: February 22, 1868 to late 1874 being the first Ottawa printings; late 1874 to late 1887 being the Montreal printings; 1888 to

The Large Queen stamp issue, being #21 to #30 – (per the Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps).



Continued on page 8

## What's Up In...

Reports included from the following clubs:

X	Bramalea Stamp Club	X	Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society
X	Brantford Stamp Club		Owen Sound Stamp Club
	Burlington Stamp Club		Oxford Philatelic Society
	Cambridge Stamp Club		St. Catharines Stamp Club
X	Guelph Stamp Club	X	Saugeen Stamp Club
X	Hamilton Stamp Club		Stratford Stamp Club
	Kincardine Stamp Club	X	Waterloo Region Stamp Club
	Kitchener Waterloo Cambridge Reg. Post Card Club		

### Bramalea Stamp Club

Information: Bob Thorne 905-792-3526 or Email [bobthorne70@gmail.com](mailto:bobthorne70@gmail.com)

Website: [bramaleastampclub.org](http://bramaleastampclub.org) or check our Facebook page under Bramalea Stamp Club.

**Bramalea meetings continue to be cancelled due to COVID-19 until further notice. ...But that doesn't mean that nothing is going on!**

In fact, we stamp collectors are some of the lucky ones who can face self-isolation with much pent-up activity for our collections. For instance, Member Mike Lalonde will be part of a virtual meeting of the Scouts where he will use our "What are Stamps? And Why Do We Collect Them?" PowerPoint presentation to introduce the hobby to children. If any reader wishes to use this presentation either at their club or for educational purposes, please email [b62hkg@yahoo.ca](mailto:b62hkg@yahoo.ca) and Ingo will send you a copy by email.

This writer has received some nice philatelic surprises in the mail. In cleaning up some of my accumulation, I came across several items that I knew just belonged in other colleagues' collections. So they were mailed *unannounced* and the recipients were happily surprised! Days later a similar surprise came to my P.O. Box. If we all mail some stamps or covers to one or two friends, we can share a lot of happiness!

Another thing that is a comfort in this time of staying at home is the Internet. One example of the usefulness of the Internet is Zoom (virtual) meetings. Along with participants from all over the world I have attended several Zoom meetings on a variety of subjects. A charmingly colourful one featured a British collector's in-depth collection of the Sudan Camel Postman postage stamps and revenues as pictured below. This design, in various iterations, has been in use for over 100 years by the Sudan post office.



If you have a smartphone or an UpToDate laptop with camera, you can join Zoom meetings. They can be found all over the various stamp society websites and social media. Try it!

*Continued on next page*

## What's Up In...

(continued from prev. page)

### Brantford Stamp Club

Brantford club has suspended all meetings until at least September. Accordingly we have no news to report.

Ed Kimberly

### Guelph Stamp Club

As you are aware, our current circumstances dictate isolation for self protection. Consequently, our regular meetings will continue to be cancelled until further notice. This will no doubt take several weeks so enjoy your stamps! Remember when most stamps were lick 'em and stick 'em? ...Now we have peel 'em and press 'em. Enjoy!! Can anyone identify two club members who remember using the dry stamps where you glued 'em down?

Gary Repta

### Hamilton Stamp Club

With the virus shutdowns we have not had any shows or meetings. We won't be meeting until the school opens. Hopefully in September.

Clarence Maitland

### Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society

This issue of the Grand News finds us in the midst of the Covid-19 crisis and the mass of event-cancellations that it has engendered. Our local KW philatelic society has equally experienced its share of the dislocation that has affected the community at large. Having had to cancel the remaining season of monthly gatherings and having had to "postpone" until next year, the high-point of our annual programming (Stampfest), changes have had to be considered. The latest issue of the American Philatelist relates that organized stamp communities could respond to current events by considering the potentialities of on-line services. Suggested projects could include invitations to Stamp Chats through means such as Zoom. They could include online Stamp Shows and live Show-and-Tell events. They could involve a greater effort to stimulate interest in a Digital Library. Future discussion within our group might broaden this list so that it meets Canadian interests more specifically. Be that as it may, our focus within the KW Philatelic community now lies with the fall programming. At present, the plan is relaunch our regular schedule of meetings in September 2020. Depending upon provincial guidelines, the KW Philatelic Executive plans to meet this summer, either digitally or in person, in order to map out the activities for each meeting. At this point one gathering has been considered in detail. This involves the celebration of the 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of our association. A luncheon has been scheduled for Saturday, December 12, 2020. Specific details will follow when they become available. At this juncture, we thus encourage everyone to follow Her Majesty's exhortation to "Keep Calm and Carry On." To this, we might add, "Now is the time to catch up with philatelic hobby work!"

Olaf Poulsen

### Saugeen Stamp Club

The Saugeen Stamp Club continues to be in a holding mode – pending the resolve of the COVID-19 pandemic. The current direction of staying home & going out only for necessities, not visiting friends and relatives & social distancing appears to be a benefit.

As responsible citizens, we are supporting our meeting venue (St Matthews Church) by continuing to pay our monthly room rental – while we are not meeting. They have expenses to cover during this time and every little bit helps. We are in this together and should support businesses and others as much as possible. During this period, we continue to issue our monthly bulletin to keep members connected.

*Continued on next page*

## What's Up In...

*(Continued from previous page)*

The Club will hold another mini club fair on October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020 to bring all members together in a social atmosphere once this mess has run its course.

Stay safe & stay well  
Walt Berry

## Waterloo Region Stamp Club

Please visit our website, [www.waterlooregionstampclub.weebly.com](http://www.waterlooregionstampclub.weebly.com) to view our new Blog. This "Blog" features covers, stamp images, postmarks, and descriptions submitted by club members for your enjoyment. You are invited to click on Comment to share your thoughts or possibly to answer a request for more information related to the stamp images.

We still hope to host a successful stamp show on Saturday, November 21, 2020 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. STAMP-FUN this year has moved to a larger venue at the Armenian Community Centre, 35 International Village Drive, in Cambridge, ON. Plans include 10 dealers, circuit books, door prizes, lunch counter, silent auction, Free parking and Free admission. Visit our website (listed above) for further updates about STAMPFUN 2020 as we get closer to this show date.

Are you trying to identify stamps with perforations? Enjoy a FREE database shared by a bnaps study group at this link. [bnaps.org/PerfinHandbook/PerfinHandbook.htm](http://bnaps.org/PerfinHandbook/PerfinHandbook.htm)

reporter, Robert Hadley

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## Introduction to Collecting Large Queen Stamps

*(continued from page 5)*

1893 being the second Ottawa printings; with a small shipment of 400 15 Cent Large Queens in 1896. Each production period has some unique characteristics, meshes, perforations and shades.

There are two main perforations for Large Queen stamps: 12 x 12 (actually 11.9 x 11.9) and 11.5 x 12, being most of the Montreal printings (including 11.75 x 12 being a late Montreal perforation).

There are three meshes in Large Queen stamps, being horizontal mesh, vertical mesh, and no mesh (only identified in Paper 8). Many of the meshes are identified with particular papers.

There are various thicknesses of Large Queens, usually identified with a particular paper. (The Gratton article does an excellent analysis of Large Queen stamp thicknesses).

It is also advisable that a Large Queen stamp collector have any Large Queen stamps certified that are valued at over \$200, especially MINT Large Queen stamps that are so very rare. This can be done by experts such as the VGG Expert Committee.

There are plenty of Reperforated and Regummed Large Queen stamps waiting for the serious Large Queen stamp collector who does not bother to get a rare Large Queen stamp certified as genuine. (Caveat Emptor)



## Who, When & Where

**(Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, please check before travel.)**

### Bramalea Stamp Club

Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> **Sunday** (from 2 to 4 pm), October to June and the 3<sup>rd</sup> **Tuesday** (from 7 to 9 pm) year round at Terry Miller Recreation Complex, Williams Parkway (between Dixie Rd and Bramalea Rd.) Brampton. Visitors cordially welcome. Information: Bob Thorne 905-792-3526 or Email [bobthorne70@gmail.com](mailto:bobthorne70@gmail.com)

Website: [bramaleastampclub.org](http://bramaleastampclub.org) or check our Facebook page under Bramalea Stamp Club.

### Brantford Stamp Club

Sept. to Nov. and January to May: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month / June & December - 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday only  
Branlyn Community Centre (phone (519) 758-1444), 238 Brantwood Park Road, Brantford. Access to the facility is via the east (on the left when facing the facility) end around the back. (doors open at 7:00 pm, meeting begins at 8:00) Web: <http://brantfordstampclub.com/> / Contact: Paul James (519-751-3513) [pamjames1027@execulink.com](mailto:pamjames1027@execulink.com)

### Burlington Stamp Club

September to June: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month (7:00 pm). Burlington Seniors Centre, 2285 New St. (off Teen Tour Way), Burlington ON. Contact: Norm Macneall (905-336-8685) [macneall@cogeco.ca](mailto:macneall@cogeco.ca)

### Cambridge Stamp Club

November to June: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month, 7:00 to 9:00 / No meetings in July & August  
St. Luke's United Church, 1620 Franklin Boulevard

Currently experimenting with a second meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, at another location.

<https://cambridgestampclub.weebly.com/> / Contact: Steve Klages [klagesss@gmail.com](mailto:klagesss@gmail.com)

### Guelph Stamp Club

September to May: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, 6:30 / June to July: 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month only  
Dublin Street United Church, 68 Suffolk St. W. (at Dublin St.) / Contact: Joe Servos (519-823-2578) [jservos@bserv.com](mailto:jservos@bserv.com) / [guelphstampclub@gmail.com](mailto:guelphstampclub@gmail.com)

### Hamilton Stamp Club

September to June: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday (6:30 to about 8:30 pm)

Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School, 1824 Rymal Road East, Hamilton

<https://hamiltonstampclub.ca/> Contact: Charles Morreale - [cmorreale@teksavvy.com](mailto:cmorreale@teksavvy.com) - 905-664-2066

### Kincardine Stamp Club

Jan. - Dec., 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. (7:00 pm),

Davidson Center (Billiards room), 601 Durham St., Kincardine

### Kitchener Waterloo Cambridge Regional Post Card Club

Victoria Park Pavilion, 80 Schneider Street, Kitchener, ON

See website for meeting info: [www.kwcrpcc.com](http://www.kwcrpcc.com) Contact: [rychmills@golden.net](mailto:rychmills@golden.net) / 519 742-4990

### Kitchener Waterloo Philatelic Society

The Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society meetings are *usually* the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month in the evening from 7 until 9 p.m. in the Community Room at Albert McCormick Arena in Waterloo. **To make attendance easier in the winter we are experimenting with afternoon meetings.** Therefore, the January meeting is now 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Sunday January 12 and the February meeting is Sunday February 16 also from 2 until 4:00 p.m.. Thanks. <https://www.kwstampclub.org/>

7:00 pm at St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School, 255 Morden Road, Oakville ON

*Continued on next page*

## Who, When & Where

(Continued)

### Owen Sound Stamp Club

September to June: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month (7:00pm to 9:00 pm). St. Mary's High School, Hillyer hall (student lunchroom), 555 15<sup>th</sup> Street East, Owen Sound, ON <http://www.owensoundstampclub.org/>

### Oxford Philatelic Society

September to May: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. South Gate Centre, 191 Old Wellington Street South, Woodstock ON <http://www.oxfordphilsoc.com/>

### Saugeen Stamp Club

January to December: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month (7:30 pm)

St. Matthews Evangelical Lutheran Church, 356 9th Street, Hanover ON. Entrance to the meeting located in the northeast corner of the church complex on 11th Avenue. The club's welcome sign will be at the sidewalk.

<http://saugestampclub.webplus.net/>

### St. Catharines Stamp Club

September to June: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month (6:45 pm to 8:45 pm). Grantham Lion's Club, 732 Niagara Street, St. Catharines ON / [http://](http://stcatharinesstampclub.ca/)

[stcatharinesstampclub.ca/](http://stcatharinesstampclub.ca/)

### Stratford Stamp Club

September to June: 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month (except December) 7:00 pm. at Avondale United Church, 194 Avondale Ave., Stratford N5A 6N4

### Waterloo Region Stamp Club

September to June: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month (6:30 pm to 8:30 pm) at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Elizabeth Room (usually – check the TV monitor near the door to be sure), 54 Queen Street North, Kitchener ON

<https://waterlooregionstampclub.weebly.com/>



## Classifieds

For Sale - Space here! \$5 for 250 words. Will run for 5 issues (a year) unless you tell me to discontinue.



Wanted! Advertisements! Send email to editor, Grand News: editorgrandnews@gmail.com

## Upcoming Events

**As many upcoming events are being impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, you are urged to check with organizers before travelling to any shows in the next couple of months.**

### Cambridge Club Show

September 19, 2020 – tentative

### Oxford Philatelic Society's 2021 Exhibition & Bourse

March 20, 2021 – see ad, below, for details

**Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye!**

**ANNOUNCING NEW VENUE**  
for Oxford Philatelic Society's 2021  
Exhibition & Bourse

The Oxford Philatelic Society  
invites you to  
71<sup>st</sup> OXPEX & 41<sup>st</sup> OTEX  
on  
March 20, 2021

St. Mary's Catholic High School  
431 Juliana Drive  
between Norwich Ave. (#59 S.)  
and  
Sweaburg Road (Mill Street)

- ◆ Double the space
- ◆ Bright and cheery
- ◆ More tables for dealers
- ◆ Great kitchen area
- ◆ Speaker: Brenda Hoyles
  - ◆ Silent Auctions
  - ◆ Competitive Exhibits

# Lady Boats

by Ken Lemke, OTB

The Lady Boats were Canadian flagged paquebots operated by Canadian National Steamships. The ships were named in honour of the wives of British Naval heroes: Lady Nelsons (Lord Nelson) Lady Rodney (Admiral Sir George Rodney), Lady Drake (Sir Francis Drake), Lady Hawkins (Sir John Hawkins), and Lady Somers (Admiral Sir George Somers).

Paquebots were medium sized ships designed for the transportation of mail, passengers, and freight. The Lady Boats serviced the Caribbean carrying mail, up to 130 first class passengers in absolute luxury for the day and up to 200 passengers in other classes.

Freight consisted of lumber, livestock, hay, building materials, and certain food items. Returning freight was heavily weighted to bananas. The Lady Boats had specially refrigerated holds that prevented the bananas from ripening during transportation. Raw sugar was another cargo.

Ladies Nelson, Hawkins, and Drake sailed fortnightly from Halifax and Boston to Bermuda, St. Kitts, Nevis, Antigua, Dominica, St Lucia, Barbados, St Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad, and Guyana. The ships returned the same route to Saint John, NB.

Lady Somers provided monthly service between Montreal in the summer to Bermuda, Nassau, and Kingston, Jamaica and in the winter months she would sail out of Halifax.

By convention, mail carried by Paquebots could use stamps of the country in which the ships were flagged; in the case of the Lady Boats, this meant Canada. The postal rates used for mail were the same as domestic rates. An example can be seen in Figure 1 (*below*), which shows a cover mailed on the Lady Somers' maiden voyage. It was mailed at sea and entered the mail stream at Kingston, Jamaica, then was airmailed to Montreal. The cover is franked with a Canadian airmail stamp paying the UPU rate of five cents.



A great number of the covers are philatelic in nature, but as with other areas of collecting (such as Nascopie and Semi-official airmail covers), this means that we have more covers than we might otherwise have had. For me, the interests are the wide variety of cachets, “paquebot” markings, points of origin, etc.

Figure 2 (*next page*) illustrates a cover mailed at the GPO in Barbados (back stamp) in 1932 and carried by the Lady Drake. On the cover is one of the earlier styles of cachets in crimson, and a large “Paquebot” marking. It is franked with a one cent (printed matter rate) Canadian stamp. The added interest to this cover is that it was first sent to St Vincent, BWI.

*Continued on page 12*

# Lady Boats

(continued from page 11)

Figure 3 (right) illustrates a 1936 cover mailed in Hamilton, Bermuda and carried by the Lady Somers. Here we have a purple cachet of a different design and "Paquebot" marking. The cover is franked with a three cent Canadian stamp paying the surface rate for mail from Canada to the USA.



Figure 4 (left) illustrates a cover carried by the Lady Rodney showing a black cachet of another design and a third type of "Paquebot" marking. The cover was mailed at St. Johns, Antigua, and is franked with a half pence St Lucia stamp paying the Canadian one cent rate for Printed matter. This is an example where a postage stamp other than Canada's was used. The important point is that it paid the Canadian rate of one cent.

The Lady boats were commissioned in 1929. Ladies Somers, Hawkins, and Drake were torpedoed and sank during WWII. Lady Nelson was torpedoed at dock in St Lucia but was refloated and taken to Alabama and repaired. She was out fitted as a Hospital ship and was used to transport wounded military personnel back to Canada.

The Lady Rodney was used to transport troops back and forth between Halifax and Newfoundland, for the defence of Newfoundland.

Continued on next page

## Lady Boats

(continued from previous page)

Ladies Nelson and Rodney returned to civilian service after the war and in 1952 were sold to an Egyptian company and eventually scrapped.

I trust you have enjoyed this brief overview of five relatively unknown Canadian ships with an interesting story and philatelic history.



If any club is interested, I am willing to provide a more detailed presentation. I can be reached at [kwlemke@sympatico.ca](mailto:kwlemke@sympatico.ca)

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## Canadian Commercial Usage - Historical Vehicles 1993 - 1996

By Ingo Nessel

We all like commemorative stamps for our collections but finding them used commercially on cover is a challenge these days. This article will illustrate some covers with the Historic Vehicles issue from 1993 - 96. In anticipation of the CAPEX '96 world stamp exhibition in Toronto, Canada Post issued 5 sets of stamps in the form of souvenir sheets, beginning in 1993. As these stamps were not issued in regular sheet format, commercial usage is elusive.

On August 23, 1993 the first issue consisted of 2 each of the 3 most common rates in effect at the time, 43¢ domestic lettermail, 49¢ USA rate, and 86¢ overseas rate. The stamps depicted classic motor cars, called "Land Vehicles." These included a 1867 Taylor Steam Buggy and a 1950 Studebaker.

The second issue was released on August 19, 1994 and denominations reflected the 43¢ domestic lettermail rate, as well as the increased USA rate of 50¢, and overseas 88¢. This set depicted Public Service Vehicles including a streetcar, fire engine and police wagon.

May 26, 1995 was the third issue date, this time showing Farm and Frontier Vehicles. Rates were unchanged from 1994, and vehicles depicted included a farm tractor, snowmobile and farm combine. The margin of this souvenir sheet contained the CAPEX '96 logo.

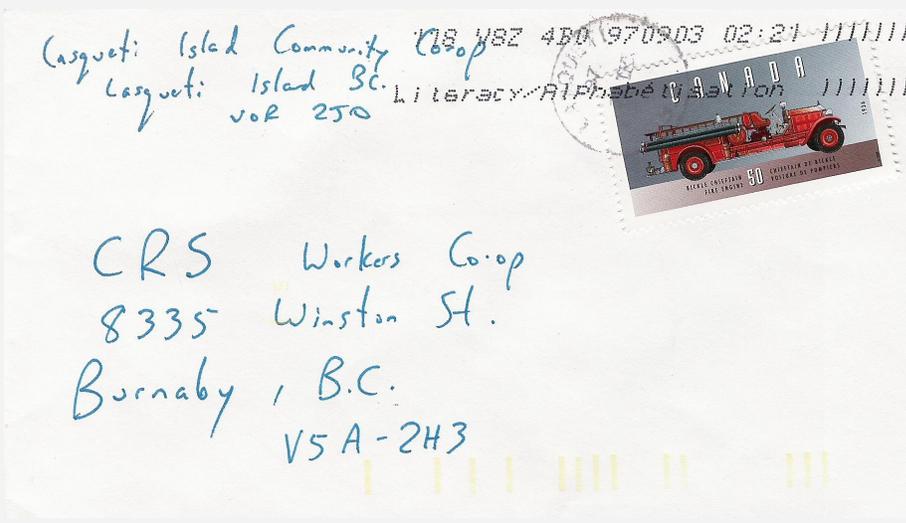
Finally, on June 8, 1996, in time for the opening of CAPAEX '96, the fourth and fifth souvenir sheets were issued simultaneously. Number 4 had the same format as 1 - 3, now with 2 each of the 45¢ domestic lettermail rate, 52¢ USA and 90¢ overseas rates. The subtitle of this set was Industrial & Commercial Vehicles, and they ranged from a logging truck to a Labatt's Beer tractor trailer.

The fifth souvenir sheet was issued as a pane of 25 stamps with 24 lower value denominations of 5¢, 10¢ and 20¢ using all the previously issued designs, plus one new domestic lettermail 45¢ stamp showing the famous Bricklin sports car.

Because of the unusual rates, as well as the pane configuration not allowing for se-tenant multiples, this last series of stamps was not much used on *any* mail, never mind commercial.

Figure 1 (right) shows usage of the 50¢ fire engine from the 1994 issue. It is a domestic letter overpaying the 45¢ rate. Mailed from one of the Gulf Islands in British Columbia to Burnaby, the addressor is Lasqueti Island Community Co-op and addressee is CRS Workers Co-op. This is most certainly commercial usage, although out of period, and the overpayment is probably for convenience.

Figure 2 (left) is a registered cover



Continued on next page

Canadian Commercial Usage - Historical Vehicles 1993 - 1996

(continued from previous page)



mailed from Ottawa on September 27, 1996 to a company in Scarborough, ON. The rate of \$3.60 is a total of 45¢ lettermail and \$3.15 registration, and postage is composed of the 1993-issued 86¢ Buick, 1994-issued 88¢ Ottawa Car Company streetcar, a pair of 88¢ MCI Motor Coach, and a 1996 10¢ low

value re-issue of the Labatt's White tractor trailer. Mixed usage from different issues is a mystery, though it seems likely that the sender was a stamp collector. Still, commercial usage is indisputable.

Figure 3 (right) is a Black & Decker owner registration card of which many abound with wonderful modern postal history. This sender in Gwynne, AB (approximately half way between Edmonton and Red Deer) used two of the 1996 20¢ denominations - a Gray Dort luxury sedan and a Massey Harris combine - plus a 5¢ Russell touring car to make up the domestic lettermail rate of 45¢. Dated September 14, 1996, this can be construed as "in period" usage and is definitely commercial.

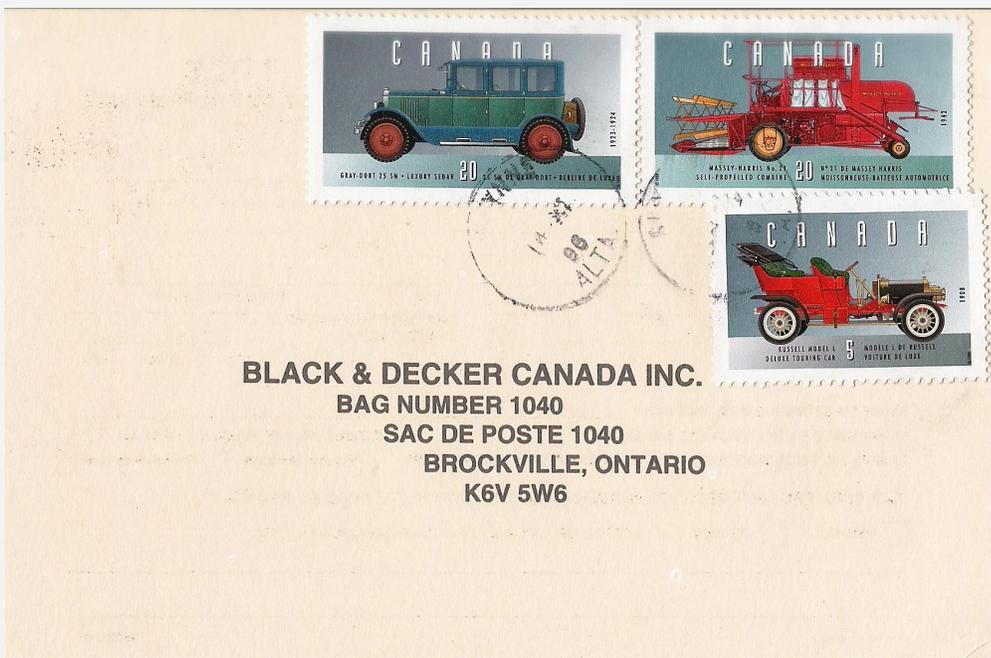


Figure 4 (next page) shows another 45¢ domestic rate, this time constructed by 9 x 5¢ stamps from the 1996 fifth issue. It is a Nova Scotia Power bill payment from a customer in Malagash, NS, POCAN cancelled at the nearby town of Wallace, dated March 3, 1998. Malagash is located on the Northumberland Strait, directly across from PEI, and just a short distance from the New Brunswick border. The sender must have acquired a cache of the last panes as there is multiple use of 3 issues - 2 each of the Champion road grader, International delivery truck and Ford military ambulance. To round out the rate, one each of the Bombardier Ski-Doo, Still Motor electric van and Taylor steam buggy are used. This is a nice way to commercially use stamps that were obviously meant by Canada Post to rest in stamp collections.

Continued on next page

## Canadian Commercial Usage - Historical Vehicles 1993 - 1996

*(continued from previous page)*

Finding Elizabethan era commemoratives used on cover within their period of use is a worthy pursuit.



The above covers are the result of searching for many years since CAPEX '96, truly a challenge.



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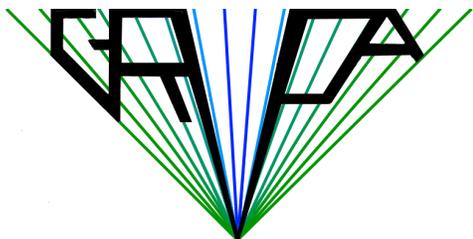
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The Journal of the Grand River Valley  
Philatelic Association



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