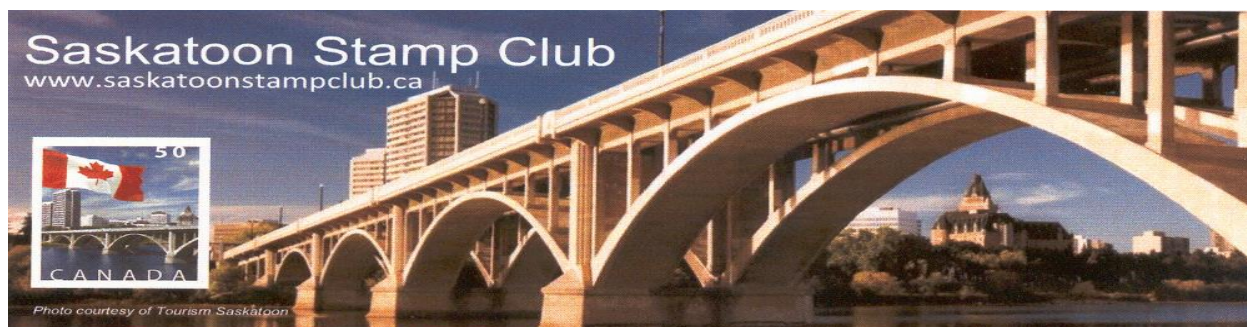


SASKATOON STAMP CLUB NEWSLETTER
Volume 16, No. 2 March 2016



EXECUTIVE:

President - Ernie Wlock; Past-President - Martin Schofield; Vice President - Mark Reineke; Secretary - Douglas Smith; Treasurer - Janice Newman; Librarian - Peter Sakkit; Circuit Book Coordinator - Donald Waters; Webmaster - Jim Wood; Newsletter Editor- Martin Schofield; e-mail: mschofield@sasktel.net ; Telephone: 306-652-8137

MEETING PLACE:

Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday's of each month except July and August when we meet at mid-month. Meetings are held at St. John's Anglican Cathedral Hall , 816 Spadina Crescent East and are open to the general public. Doors open at 6:00 pm for bourse, circuit books, trading and fellowship. Short business meeting at 8:00 pm followed by a program including Stamp Auctions, Slides, Presentations by members or guests. Contacts - Secretary - Doug Smith, 139 Cowley Road, Saskatoon, Sask. S7N 3Z6. 306-249-3092 or President - Ernie Wlock, 306-280-1244. Membership fees are \$15.00 per year.

PHILATELIC JAVA GROUP MEETINGS:

These meetings are temporarily suspended. Check our web site: www.saskatoonstampclub.ca for updates.

CONTENTS:

Page 1 - Executive
 SSC Meeting Place
 Philatelic Java Group
Page 2 - President's Philatelic Page
Page 3 and 4 - Heritage Festival Report
Page 5 - A Postcard from Argentina
Page 6 - Upcoming Meetings
Page 7 -Excise Tax on Stamps
Page 8 - Geography Stamp



President's Philatelic Page

In between the ladies curling, Tournament of Hearts we will get this newsletter out, if it takes all night.

The annual day at the Western Development Museum was another success. The morning started off with the presentation to Peter and me of the 2015 People's Choice Award. The award is presented the following year, i.e. 2016 winner will be known February 2017.

Again we feel our chance is good, as the line up to view stamps under ultra violet light in the Black Box was amazing. The museum staff also commented at the end of the day how busy we were.

Our attendance for January meetings was a bit lower than usual, but weather played a factor as well. Attendance was back to normal last week, and this was great, as guest speaker from the Riverside Optimist Club gave us the details of the 15 year Post Card Programme they have promoted with grade 4 students. Elmer Hilgers [see photo on page 5] did a great talk on the program for 19 schools, 500 students. Since his presentation Elmer advised me this year is a new record, 25 classes with 636 students registered, which passes previous record 10 years ago of 599 students. Now we have more postage to assist them with, bring your extra stamps to the next meeting, and while looking for the mint stamps, we also are need of door prizes. Help out if you can.

International Ladies Day falls on our meeting day, March 8, while we have our annual ladies day October 11, we will have a few extra dainties for the ladies, and the men get some to.

We are in need of members to give us 5-10 minute talks. You must have a few favourite items in your collection that you can speak on - see Janice or myself to arrange a date, and while at it, write up a page for the next bulletin. Janice and Dave have March dates looked after, but April is blank so far.

Happy Stamping,

President Ernie



The Heritage Festival of Saskatoon in February 2016 was another success for the Saskatoon Stamp Club. They learned that they won the People's Choice Award for 2015, that is for a second year in a row. This award is for best table and presentation.

This festival is a well-organized set-up at the Western Development Museum, and attracts over 2,500 people.

I would like to thank Ernie Wlock, Don Waters, and Janice Newman, who helped with all the questions our visitors had. As well, I would like to thank Janice for packing 500 bags of stamps for the children. It was a great day!

Peter Sakkit



Elmer Hilgers and Ernie Wlock. On February 23, Mr. Hilgers gave a presentation about the Post Card Programme that is run by the Riverside Optimists.

A Postcard from Argentina / Mark Reineke

In November 2015 I was fortunate enough to travel to Argentina. I had already decided to not bother sending postcards this trip; sending postcards can be time-consuming and expensive. As well, most of my family and friends seemed to be rather indifferent about getting them (unlike me – I love to get a post card from an exotic location). The day before I left, a niece phoned to wish me *buen viaje* and to remind me to send her a post card. How could I refuse?

Finding postcards in Argentina was not difficult; they were readily available in many places. Finding stamps to mail the postcards was another matter. It turns out that one can't buy postage stamps just anywhere. My holiday was nearly over, and I still had no stamps for the postcards that I had purchased days earlier.

While we were in Buenos Aires, we were staying at the "A" Hotel. The staff at the front desk insisted that the only place to get stamps was from the Post Office. With only two days of vacation left, I set out on my quest to get stamps. Fortunately for me, there was a branch post office only five blocks away. It was in a building that was very non-descript – it would have been easy to walk past without noticing. I went inside, took a number, and waited for my turn. There were about six people working at the front.

I only had to wait a few minutes. The woman that I went to first spoke English very fluently. (My Spanish-language skills are almost non-existent.) I explained that I wanted to buy stamps to mail postcards to Canada. Oh my! Something that complex required a supervisor. She offered to find a supervisor that was free to help me. It didn't take long before I was directed to another desk where a supervisor would be able to help me.

Like the first worker, the supervisor also spoke English very well. The Post Office strongly discouraged sending postcards through the mail; they prefer that a postcard be placed in an envelope first – less likely to get caught in a sorting machine. The good news is that they could sell me envelopes with postage already on. For only 10 pesos, I could purchase an envelope with 10 pesos of postage printed on. "Ok – I'll take three." The supervisor then explained that the 10 peso envelope is only good within Argentina, and would require extra postage, another 26 pesos, to travel internationally. "Fine – let's do it."

The supervisor disappeared into the back for a few minutes, and then returned with my 10-peso envelopes. She also had paperwork, in duplicate, that I needed to sign.

The supervisor disappeared, with the paperwork, into the back a second time. She returned with the stamps, and more paperwork, again in duplicate, that I needed to sign.

At this point, I give her cash to pay for the envelopes and stamps. She disappeared a third time and then returned with my change. It cost a total of 36 pesos (about \$5.00 Cdn) for each card.

Happy with my stamps and envelopes, I headed back to the hotel. There I wrote a message on the cards, addressed the envelopes, and attached the stamps. Feeling that I had finally accomplished my quest, I took the cards down to the hotel's front desk, thinking I would be able to drop them into the mail from there. Out of the question! They don't have any sort of outgoing mail service from the hotel. There are no mail boxes anywhere near the hotel -- the only place to mail anything is from the post office.

Unwilling to give up at this point, I schlepped back to the Post Office (it was over 30 degrees and very humid). It was after 5:00 PM. The post office was closed. There was no slot to drop off mail after hours.

That evening, back at the hotel, I told my story to the tour guide. She had quite an extended conversation with the front desk staff, *en español*, so I didn't get everything that was said. She did return to me, quite amazed that there was, indeed, no out-going mail from the hotel.

The next day I was able to return to the post office and mail my cards. They all arrived, in good condition, in Canada about nine days later.



You should be able to read "Pueyrredon" on the cancellation above – this was the name of the branch post office from which it was mailed.

Upcoming Meetings:

April 12 and 26
May 10 and 24
June 14 and 28

Excise Tax On Cheques

The use of postage stamps other than using excise tax stamps were Allowed by the Federal Government from 1915 - 1953.

Over the years there were many rate changes, the rates in 193 were:
2 cents up to \$50.00 - \$50 - \$100 rate was 3 cents and the rate on Amounts over \$ 100.00 were 6 cents per cheque.



Canada

Issued August 2, 1972 to commemorate the four International Congresses of:
Geology, Geography, Cartography, Photogrammetry



*The Geography stamp is an abstract of bird's eye view of a village.
The Cartography stamp shows mountains drawn in schematic shape, by using
"Siegfried" lines, used in 3-dimensional maps.
The Photogrammetry stamp shows a white space representing the area of ground
Within range of a camera lens of high altitude. The two prisms represent mountains, the
meeting
Point of the black lines represents the approximate altitude of the camera.
The Geology stamp illustrates cross section of the crust of the earth.*