

# COLLECTING CHRISTMAS SEALS

By AXEL OLSSON

December— 2006  
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If perhaps you're feeling a little jaded from amassing multi-coloured new issues that seem to have no end to them, or if studying flyspeck philately gives you a headache, then maybe it's time for a diversion.

I discovered the joys of collecting Christmas seals only recently while rummaging around for something else. A small accumulation sitting in a box on a top shelf for years suddenly revealed itself. It consisted of mainly US seals dating back to 1909, in singles and blocks as well as a few on cover.

The earliest ones incorporated the Red Cross logo in the designs while the rest had the anti-TB Association logo because their purpose was part of campaigns to raise funds to fight the scourge of tuberculosis and emphysema in children, diseases that were often fatal in those days. Costing only a penny each, they were popular for use on greeting cards and came in perforated panes of 25, like postage stamps.

Although Denmark was the first to come up with the idea in 1904, Christmas seals crossed the Atlantic in 1907 to the US where Emily Bissell was responsible for spearheading very successful campaigns selling these seals across the nation. After high profile support for the campaign came from Teddy

Roosevelt at the White House the US Post Office even allowed Christmas seals to be sold at stands in post offices.

Canada was quick to follow suit a year later in 1908 with equally good results from east to west and many lives were saved from the hospitals and sanatoria that were built as a result. Today the Canada Lung Association continues to sell Christmas seals by soliciting donations through the mail in its continuing battle against all respiratory illnesses, air pollution and cigarette smoking.

Christmas seals are not only attractive in design in capturing the essence of Yule, but because they are produced annually they don't gobble up space in your album and they are easy on your wallet because most people regard them as cinderellas with little value. And you can also find them for sale on the Internet as well. As what we collectors call "cinderellas" Christmas seals of the USA are listed by Scott in their Specialized Catalogue.

By a strange coincidence at the Nov 2nd WPS auction, there was one lot of mixed pristine mint Canada/US Xmas seals that saw some keen bidding on the floor, fetching \$30 in the end.



USA 1911



USA 1983



USA 1956



Canada 1956



USA 1969



Canada 1928 & 29 Bilingual



Canada 2006



Canada 1948

# The Buffalo

PUBLICATION OF THE  
WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
Western Canada's Oldest Stamp Club  
Website: [www.wps.mb.ca](http://www.wps.mb.ca)

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## Application filed July to April

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	Fee	Dues	Total
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Lapsed memberships or late renewals (paid after September 30th of each year) are charged a \$1.00 reinstatement fee.

All new applicants must undergo a 60-day orientation before receiving full membership privileges.

The *Buffalo* is published monthly except in July and August. Deadline for article submissions and advertising copy is the 15th of each month preceding the month of issue.

## WEBSITE:

WWW.WPS.MB.CA

## COMING EVENTS

Doors Open 6:00 p.m. - Business Mtg. 8:00 p.m.  
1st & 3rd Thursdays (except Jul. & Aug.).  
Visitors always welcome.  
Main Floor, Deaf Centre Manitoba, located  
at the corner of 285 Pembina Hwy. & Nassau St.

### 2006

Dec. 07 - Business Meeting  
- Annual Charity Auction

Dec. 21 - No Meeting

### 2007

Jan. 04 - Business Meeting  
- Auction

Jan. 18 - Business Meeting  
- Presentation

Feb. 01 - Business Meeting  
- Auction

Feb. 15 - Business Meeting  
- Presentation

Mar. 01 - Business Meeting  
- Auction

Mar. 15 - Business Meeting  
- Presentation

The first meetings of each month reserved for Auctions.  
The second meetings of each month reserved for formal programs.

Seasons Greetings to all the  
Members & Families  
from the  
WPS President & Committee

## MEMBERS' ADLETS

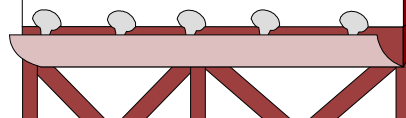
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Nassau Street N. at Stradbrook. The  
entrance is on the North side of the  
church. Parking is also available on the  
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topics for the fall are:

### December 2

- How to soak stamps off paper

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-up to 30 words [counting an average of 5  
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1 issue -	\$1.00
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-payable to Winnipeg Philatelic Society  
in one sum at time of agreement.

# WPS FALL AUCTION PRICES REALIZED

1	13.00	42	5.00	82	15.00	122	4.00	162	4.00	202	10.00	242	5.00
2	13.00	43	5.00	83	N/S	123	N/S	163	5.00	203	17.00	243	7.00
3	7.00	44	12.00	84	13.00	124	70.00	164	5.00	204	24.00	244	10.00
4	5.00	45	15.00	85	N/S	125	11.00	165	5.00	205	13.00	245	2.00
5	8.00	46	10.00	86	N/S	126	10.00	166	8.00	206	5.00	246	4.00
6	40.00	47	6.00	87	7.00	127	6.00	167	10.00	207	N/S	247	3.00
7	N/S	48	6.00	88	7.00	128	9.00	168	4.00	208	N/S	248	4.00
8	5.00	49	10.00	89	11.00	129	5.00	169	10.00	209	42.00	249	2.00
9	8.00	50	2.00	90	6.00	130	7.00	170	10.00	210	5.00	250	12.00
10	21.00	51	10.00	91	64.00	131	12.00	171	N/S	211	6.00	251	30.00
11	N/S	52	11.00	92	N/S	132	8.00	172	N/S	212	12.00	252	4.00
12	N/S	53	18.00	93	N/S	133	25.00	173	N/S	213	20.00	253	4.00
13	60.00	54	7.00	94	N/S	134	13.00	174	7.00	214	N/S	254	12.00
14	67.00	55	11.00	95	N/S	135	5.00	175	6.00	215	4.00	255	2.00
15	4.00	56	9.00	96	25.00	136	11.00	176	6.00	216	24.00	256	N/S
16	16.00	57	12.00	97	N/S	137	7.00	177	7.00	217	50.00	257	N/S
17	16.00	58	7.00	98	18.00	138	5.00	178	5.00	218	14.00	258	N/S
18	21.00	59	14.00	99	N/S	139	5.00	179	5.00	219	18.00	259	51.00
19	N/S	60	5.00	100	N/S	140	33.00	180	23.00	220	17.00	260	N/S
20	N/S	61	50.00	101	70.00	141	2.00	181	3.00	221	7.00	261	N/S
21	16.00	62	38.00	102	N/S	142	2.00	182	3.00	222	12.00	262	N/S
22	16.00	63	51.00	103	N/S	143	2.00	183	4.00	223	N/S	263	N/S
23	13.00	64	31.00	104	N/S	144	3.00	184	24.00	224	13.00	264	5.00
24	30.00	65	31.00	105	41.00	145	11.00	185	16.00	225	5.00	265	5.50
25	15.00	66	15.00	106	N/S	146	3.00	186	3.00	226	4.00	266	5.00
26	4.00	67	20.00	107	40.00	147	3.00	187	10.00	227	N/S	267	4.00
27	130.00	68	25.00	108	8.00	148	22.00	188	10.00	228	9.00	268	4.00
28	8.00	69	N/S	109	10.00	149	5.00	189	17.00	229	7.00	269	4.00
29	N/S	70	N/S	110	30.00	150	6.00	190	15.00	230	10.00	270	4.50
30	11.00	71	5.00	111	4.00	151	20.00	191	7.00	231	21.00	271	15.00
31	80.00	72	11.00	112	2.00	152	N/S	192	12.00	232	15.00	272	15.00
32	65.00	73	20.00	113	2.50	153	40.00	193	9.00	233	10.00	273	15.00
33	16.00	74	19.00	114	2.50	154	27.00	194	15.00	234	10.00	274	15.00
34	5.00	75	N/S	115	2.50	155	N/S	195	15.00	235	20.00	275	24.00
35	3.00	76	N/S	116	4.00	156	N/S	196	9.00	236	11.00	276	N/S
36	16.00	77	7.00	117	2.50	157	N/S	197	8.00	237	15.00	277	16.00
37	2.00	78	13.00	118	2.50	158	65.00	198	4.00	238	3.00	278	18.00
38	6.00	79	10.00	119	N/S	159	16.00	199	40.00	239	4.00	279	20.00
39	8.50	80	6.00	120	2.50	160	16.00	200	N/S	240	5.00	280	52.00
40	N/S	81	15.00	121	N/S	161	4.00	201	12.00	241	5.00	281	N/S
41	4.00											282	N/S



## StampShow '07

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## EDITOR NOTES

BY ALF BROOKS

MZ reports that, once again, WPS conducted a successful Saturday auction. Well, not exactly WPS, but those dedicated members who did the work: Sid K, Ken K, Rick P, Judy L, John S, Gerry B, Robert Z, Mike Z and all who helped set up.

There were 282 lots placed in the auction, 231 sold. Thirty-one members put in material and fifty-four people bid. All went smoothly, the auction finished in under two hours and realized \$3,374.50 in sales; WPS nets about \$325 after costs are deducted.

And in a few months there will be another auction; it is not too early to start preparing ten lots that bidders will like.

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### Believe it?

An absentee ballot in the USA's election last month was mailed using an "Inverted Jenny." An official in Florida, a former stamp collector, recognized the stamp on an envelope containing a ballot. The stamp is now being kept in storage, with voting laws stating that along with the vote itself, it must be archived for two years and then destroyed. If it is genuine it could be worth as much as \$200 000 US. Believe it?

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Thanks to Roger Fontaine of the Scandinavian Collectors' Club for the article on their circuits. If you are interested in any issues of this area you should talk to Roger or others of the club about joining.

••



Have you ever wondered why Great Britain is called "Great?" Rather than a value judgement, the "Great" in Great Britain refers to physical size.

The original name of the island of Great Britain was in its Latin form, *Brittania*. Subsequently a number of its inhabitants crossed the English Channel and settled in what is now the French province of Brittany, which



they named after their original homeland. It then became necessary to distinguish between the two. The distinction is clear in French: Brittany is *Bretagne*, Great Britain is *Grand-Bretagne*.

••

I am sure many of you reading this collect stamps of British colonies, so here is the ultimate reference: Edward Proud's *Postal History of the British Colonies* is now complete. Forty-three volumes, over 18 900 pages. Yours at the special price of £1800. Or ask RZ to buy it for our library.

••

## SPOT THE VARIETIES 29

Attention all you flyspeckers!! Get your magnifying glasses out and compare the two stamp images below. Find six (6) different changes on the right stamp compared to the left. Good Luck!!





# BUFFALO CHIPS

BY ALF BROOKS



## Canada: Unitrade #3

This stamp, the 12 pence black Queen Victoria of 1851, catalogues used VF at \$100,000. A copy sold at auction recently for \$225,000.



## St Gabriel Award

You may remember the protest last year when Royal Mail's Christmas issues picturing Madonna and Child as seen in various cultures received criticism from the East Indian community because one stamp pictured a "Hindu Madonna." The set of six stamps was awarded the St Gabriel International Award for Best Religious Stamps.



## The Beatles

Next year Royal Mail issues a set of stamps celebrating the famous rock band. The set of six stamps will be accompanied by a miniature sheet with four additional 1st class stamps.

Many of you can name "The Fab Four." How about Pete Best? He was the drummer before Ringo, was replaced in 1962 before they made it big. The miniature sheet pictures items from his Beatles' memorabilia

collection.

## Christmas Shopping?

For that grandchild whom you would like to introduce to stamp collecting, how about a postal van? Åland Post is selling the 15<sup>th</sup> model vehicle in its postal transport series, a 1950's Morris Z decorated with an Åland 2006 Christmas stamp.



## MINUTES OF THE WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOVEMBER 02, 2006

BY JUDY LIPSEY

- Bob Stanley called the meeting to order at 7.55.
- Rick Penko returned from Stampex in Toronto with the club exhibit. We placed third and got gold. Rick has the Unitrade 2007 catalogue for sale. There is a Coin and Stamp Show at the Marlborough Hotel. Sat. and Sun. Nov. 4, 10-6 and 5, 10-4, 2006.
- Sid Kroker announced that Sunday, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>, 9-4, the Red River Bourse will be at the Charter House/Best Western Hotel. There will be another Red River Bourse, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Michael Zacharias: Gloria Pappin had a brain aneurism Sept. 17 and is in St. Boniface Hospital. Since then she has had 4 minor heart attacks, and will undergo a double by-pass operation. We all wish her a speedy and complete recovery
- Robert Zacharias: We have a door prize tonight, a Canada Post bear for coil stamps, and the winner is Jeanette Roytenberg.

- Ken Krystjanson and Michael talked about the big auction Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>, in the Deaf Centre. We were down for a 9.00 a.m. viewing and start at 10.00 am. But the Centre may have bumped us. We are trying to arrange things so that we will still have the same arrangement. Stay tuned.
- Ken said that anyone can start bringing in items for the charity auctions, Robert will store them upstairs.
- Pick up your copy of the Buffalo.
- Meeting Adjourned at 8.20.

- Draw winners:** Ken Swan, Fred Ostapchuk, Letty Taylor, Bob Moore, Mark Bauhaud, Norm Gordon, Pat D'Avignon.



# MINUTES OF THE WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY NOVEMBER 16, 2006

BY JUDY LIPSEY

- Bob Stanley called the meeting to order at 7.55.
- Michael Zacharias reminded us that the WPS is a member of the Canadian Forces Philatelic Society and their bulletin is here. They are having an auction Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006.
- Robert Zacharias announced that the next big auction will be Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>, viewing begins at 9.00 a.m. and the auction starts at 10.00 a.m. We will have half the room we are in tonight, it will be tight, but it is doable. Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> is our charity auction.
- Robert also announced that the library has purchased 2005 Gibbon's world catalogue, colour in 4 volumes.
- Rick Penko told us that Guenther Sickert underwent exploratory surgery. Also, G. Lyons is having an auction in Halifax and Rick is going. He can take your bids if you wish.
- Bill Knutson passed away Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

**Meeting Adjourned:** at 8.15

**Draw:** Rick Penko, Norm Gordon, Bev Barr, Dick Johnson, Don Fraser.

- Tonight's presentation is Canadian Air Mail to the Caribbean and South and Central America by Dave Whitely.

## CANADIAN STAMP MART

The Canadian Stamp Mart was created in 1996. It was set up by the late Glenn Hanson and myself and with help and encouragement from the members of SCC Chpt. 24, Manitoba. At that time, the Canadian Government introduced a new taxation system called the "Goods and Services Tax." (GST) This tax system is based on the Transactional Value of various goods and services. Inadvertently, it killed most approval-based sales from out of country. Tax had to be paid at the border, on the full value of the shipment. A refund would then have to be applied for upon export minus the tax owed on the value of the stamps that were purchased. Needless to say... we had a problem. Hence, we created the Canadian version of the Stamp Mart.

Since it's inception ten years ago, the mart has handled some 350 different circuit books. I presently have about 65 books on hand. That's well over \$10,000.00 of stamps to pick from. Over the years, I've seen books with material from every area of Scandinavia and then some. I'd never heard of Karelia, until I had a circuit book of Finland with 3 of 4 pages of stamps from this area. I've handled an entire 16 page book with nothing but Mint and Used stamps from the Schleswig plebiscites. Mint and Used, from early classic to new releases, it's all here. The circuit system has grown to become, without a doubt, Canada's best Scandinavian Stamp Circuit System. SCC Canada boasts approx. 45 members of which many either submit books or receive books. Our sales average over \$2700.00 annually and I can only project more growth.

United States or Overseas members can have access to the books too, BUT ONLY if they are in Canada. So plan your trip accordingly. We can meet here in Winnipeg or I can mail the books out to your Canadian friend's home address or I can mail them to your accommodation. I cannot ship the books out of country for the very same reasons that we don't import the books, too much bureaucracy plus we are not here to compete with the US circuit system but rather to compliment a service provided to our members.

YES !!! The Canadian Stamp Mart is alive and doing well. A complete list of books on hand can be obtained from the mart manager, as well as any additional information, by contacting me by any one of the following formats...

Roger Fontaine  
177 Crestwood Cres.  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2J 1H9  
Home Ph. (204) 245-4900  
E-Mail: stampman@mts.net



Dear Phil,  
Is nothing sacred? Must we forget all traditions? Ever since it issued the first postage stamp, Great Britain has pictured the reigning monarch on all of the stamps it issues. Now this has changed, thanks

to computers and something called online postage. Stamps printed from a computer do not have the picture of Queen Elizabeth II on them. In my opinion this is outrageous! And Canada is no better, for Canada Post issues definitives with a picture of the Queen and without, catering to you-know-who.

The world is going to the dogs!  
Outraged

*Dear Outraged,  
I have not seen the computer stamps from the UK so I hesitate to comment on this, but, after all, times do change, royalty is not as established or popular as it was in our grandparents' day.*

*As for definitives in Canada, I suggest you overcome your prejudice and use whatever stamps you wish, and recognize that others have the same right.*

*Chacun à son goût.*

*Phil*



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