

Für die Jugend, Pro Juventute, For Youth

By Alf Brooks

Pro Juventute was founded in 1912 at Olten, Switzerland by the Société Suisse d'utilité publique. "Its principal objective was to awaken and strengthen in parents, educators, authorities, and the general population a feeling of responsibility toward young people." More specifically, Pro Juventute worked to unite the efforts of organizations that aimed to help youth; in 1912 there were more than 3000 of these in Switzerland. The organizations were inspired to work together with PJ to coordinate their activities and to generate new ideas. At its beginning SSUP endowed PJ with five million francs, enabling PJ to organize, divided into geographical districts. However, PJ soon decided that its principal source of revenue would be from the sale of tangible objects rather than from solicitations. Over the years it has sold a number of items:

- Telegrams for Special Occasions. One bought an artistically decorated message sheet and a special envelope, with a surtax going to PJ.
- Special postcards illustrated by Swiss artists.
- Miniature official New Year's letters with decorated envelopes, "Briefli."
- Books and magazines with content that would interest children.

However, PJ soon approached the Swiss Post Office, PTT, with the idea of selling special postage stamps.

The first stamps were distributed in post offices in 1912. They had no postal

validity, but the public was encouraged to buy them and affix them to their letters that had valid postage. They are listed in the Zumstein catalogue and are known as forerunners.



The first PJ stamps with franking value were sold in 1913. None were issued in 1914, but since 1915 a series of two to five stamps has been issued each year. The date of issue has been the end of November or the beginning of December, with a postal validity of a few months. Since 1964 the stamps have had unlimited validity. However, they could be used only on mail within Switzerland because of a clause in the Universal Postal Union treaty of 1909: "It is not permitted to use in international service stamps created for a special and particular purpose by the country of origin, such as those called commemoratives with only a transitory value." However, the stamps are now valid for use on international mail.

For many years the stamps pictured costumes, coats of arms or scenery, and sometimes images of Swiss personages.



More recently the stamps have pictured insects, flowers, toys, children's art and other youth-related themes..

In 1937 a miniature sheet celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of Pro Juventute; with the 100th anniversary approaching we

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June—2009
Volume XLIII, No. 11



The Buffalo



PUBLICATION OF THE
WINNIPEG PHILATELIC
SOCIETY

Western Canada's
Oldest Stamp Club
Mailto: Box 1425
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Website: www.wps.mb.ca

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**WINNIPEG
PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

Box 1425,
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 2Z1
R.P.S.C. Chapter 86 A.P.S. Chapter 813

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Annual Dues Payable

July 1st Each Year:

Regular-	\$35.00	Senior-	\$25.00
Spouse†-	\$20.00	Junior-	\$15.00

† A spouse of a member may become a member with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities of membership, but does not receive *The Buffalo*.

Application filed July to April

Admission Fee	Dues	Total	
Regular	\$2.00	\$35.00	\$37.00
Senior	\$2.00	\$25.00	\$27.00
Others	\$2.00	\$20.00	\$22.00

Application filed April, May, June

Regular	\$2.00	\$40.00	\$42.00*
Senior	\$2.00	\$30.00	\$32.00
Others	\$2.00	\$25.00	\$27.00*

* includes dues for following year

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS \$350.00

RENEWALS

Lapsed memberships or late renewals (paid after November 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.

FOR SALE:

by Winnipeg Art Gallery Stamp Committee
COMPREHENSIVE USED BERMUDA
COLLECTION ABOUT 95% COMPLETE
BETWEEN #1 (1865) and #477 (1985)
includes Overprints #12 (\$975.00) and #12a
(\$1100.00) PLUS: Ludington's "Postal History
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SERIOUS COLLECTORS ONLY
TO VIEW CONTACT
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Calendar of Events	
Sept 3	Meeting and Auction
Sept 17	Presentation TBA
Oct 1	Meeting & Auction
Oct 15	Presentation TBA
Nov 5	Meeting & Auction
Nov 19	Presentation TBA

NB: The first meetings of each month are normally reserved for auctions. The second meetings of each month are reserved for formal programs. Meetings start at 7:45pm
Check out our WPS WEBSITE:
WWW.WPS.MB.CA
DOWNLOAD WPS AUCTION
LOT DESCRIPTION SHEETS
TALLY SHEETS
Meetings are held at
Scandinavian Cultural Center
764 Erin Street
Winnipeg, MB.



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**Scandinavian Collectors Club
Of Manitoba
Meets 2nd & 4th Wednesdays
7pm-10pm
Slide Shows, Show & Tell,
Circuits, Speakers, etc.
Visitors Welcome.**
Info:
Roger Fontaine @ 254-4900

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Buffalo Advertising Rates

-1/10 page
(Approximately 2 1/4" x 2 3/4") @ \$30 pa

Members' Adlets

- up to 30 words
- Average of 5 characters per word
- 1 issue—\$1.00
- 5 issues—\$2.00
- 10 issues—\$3.00

Members may place two adlets a year at no charge

Terms of Payment

- payable to Winnipeg Philatelic Society in a single payment at the time of the agreement.

**NOTICE
YOUTH CLUB MEETING**

The WPS Youth Club will be meeting on Saturdays at the usual place
St Luke's Anglican Church,
130 Nassau St N at Stradbrook
Winnipeg, MB

free parking available on the north side.

Enter via North Side Entrance
Meeting from 1pm to 2:30pm
Meeting May 9

For more information contact
Gerry Babij @ 736-4276 or
John Salmi @ 895-2781

WANTED

One perfin from each of the following:
Korea, Macao, Oceania, Oman, Philip-
pines, Qatar, Vatican, Vanuatu, Yemen,
Zanzibar.

Contact: G. Green.

Minutes of the Winnipeg Philatelic Society May 7, 2009

Russ Thompson called the meeting to order at 7.50.

Russ thanked everyone for a good show.

There was one piece of correspondence, a thank you card from Bev Barr.

Al Wingate thanked all the volunteers who helped out with the show. Next year the show will be at the West St. Paul Community Centre, it will all be in one room. We can use some of the money we save on room rental on better advertising. Thank you especially to Robert and Michael Zacharias for all their hard work. Thanks to Bill Pooley for doing the scheduling, to Gerry with handling the juniors table, Bob Stanley for arranging the post office.

Ken Kristjanson then thanked Al for all his hard work.

Michael Zacharias made an announcement about the printed Buffalo here. The hotel cost us \$2500 for the weekend and the dealers brought in \$1700.

Bob Stanley said the post office sold \$550 worth of merchandise, and he thanked the volunteers who manned the table.

Bill Pooley thanked the volunteers as well, and announced that next meeting we will have a presentation by George Elias on overprints for Canadian stamps.

Adj. 8.07.

Draw: Russ Thompson, Judy Lipsey, Pieter Farenhorst, Diane Malinowsky.

Minutes of the Winnipeg Philatelic Society May 21, 2009

Russ Thompson called the meeting to order at 7.47.

Bob Stanley announced that the post office at the show netted the club \$25.00 from sales. About 30% of the goods offered sold. Bob thanks all the postmasters.

Bob also reminded everyone that if they are interested in being members of any other associations, such as the Royal or BNAPS, you can get the application forms from him.

Russ thanked for that coffee and desserts.

Michael Zacharias announced that there was a \$1200 loss for the show, and that this came from increased rent and lower dealers fees.

Adj. 7.52

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can look forward to another celebratory issue.



(Much of the information concerning Pro Juventute is taken from an article originally published in Schweizerische Briefmarken Zeitung, by Bernard Vaney; a translation by Charles Scanio was printed in *Tell*, the journal of the American Helvetia Philatelic Society.)



The Editor's Final Notes

In March I wrote of the Willendorf Venus, the primitive sculpture found near the Danube in Austria, and of the stamp that Austria Post issued to celebrate this depiction of the female form. Recently in southern Germany, also near the Danube, archaeologists report finding a similar figure, "the Venus of the Fels cave. Carved from mammoth ivory, it is estimated to be at least 35 000 years old, thus predating the Willendorf Venus by 10 000 years.



Closing the book on the Buffalo

You have read these words from me before, that I am finished as editor of *The Buffalo*. Dragged back kicking and screaming, I will not do it again.



The next chapter in Buffalo Editing

Your new editor for September and beyond is Don Bahaud. When I spoke to him last month he said he was looking forward to the challenge and opportunity. It appears that this publication will be in good hands. But it needs more than his hands. I am certain that I will continue to see interesting topics to write about and will submit them to Don for his consideration. And I urge others to do the same. If you have an idea but are unsure of what to do to follow through with some writing, discuss it with Don. It is not his *Buffalo*, it is yours.



In 1927 a flight was proposed from London, Ontario to London, England. On September 1 the *Sir John Carling* left London and made it to Portland, Maine on September 3 and Harbour Grace, Newfoundland on September 5. On September 7 the airplane, with pilot Captain Terrence Tully and navigator Lieutenant James Medcalf, headed east across the Atlantic Ocean; it was never seen again.



The flight carried mail with specially-sanctioned stamps. A few mint copies have been found over the years. A black and white proof recently sold at auction for US\$35,000.00 plus 18% buyer's premium at Firby Auctions.

Vestfold was north-east of St. Laurent, Manitoba. The Post Office was opened in 1895 on 36-18-3W and closed in 1957. The name is an Icelandic word meaning "western ground," applicable here since the Post Office was located on the west side of Shoal Lake.



Rolf Scharming born in Vestfold county, Norway, is looking for a cover with this postmark. Contact him through Secretary Brian Hague of Scandinavian Philatelic Society secretary@scandps.org.uk

You can almost hear the screams when you look at Sweden's new roller coaster stamp. The stamp shows riders descending a hill on Balder, a wooden roller coaster at Liseberg amusement park in Gothenburg. The coaster opened in 2003 and has twice been voted as the world's best wooden roller coaster, according to information on the Liseberg web site. The Balder stamp was issued May 14. I wonder how the long-gone roller coaster at Winnipeg Beach would compare? Other than me,



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Michel Reviews: Some Recent Catalogues Released

MICHEL Germany Specialized Catalogue 2009 Vol. 1 (1849-April 1945). 1088 pages, over 90,000 value quotations, many colour illustrations. €69.80

Highlights for this annual update:

- German Empire stamp booklets completely revised
- Significant price increases for Sudetenland and German Occupation issues, 1939-45.
- New information on the military administration of Romania and Gdansk

MICHEL Germany Specialized Catalogue 2009 Vol. 2 May 1945-January 2009). 1296 pages, over 110 000 value quotations, more than 8000 illustrations (5800 in colour), €69.80.

- Soviet Occupation Zone thoroughly revised
- German Democratic Republic (DDR) thoroughly revised
- Numerous large price increases, in particular for some items of Soviet Occupation Zone, GDR, French Zone, FRG

Each of these catalogues has a large list of addresses of experts and study groups.

MICHEL Austria Specialized Catalogue 2009. 608 pages, over 37 000 value quotations, 5500 colour illustrations, €48.00

- Complete price revisions with many increases for stamps of the 19th century
- Stamp packages and year books listed in greater detail.
- Vending machine stamps revised with more information

MICHEL Switzerland/Liechtenstein Specialized Catalogue 2009. 608 pages, over 37 00 price quotations, 4200 colour illustrations, €48.00

- Postal stationery for Switzerland and Liechtenstein greatly revised and expanded
- Significant price increases for Swiss issues up to 1945
- Significant price increases for League of Nations and International Labour Organization issues
- Detailed information on prephilately and postal history

MICHEL North and East Africa Catalogue 2009. 1586 pages, 100 000 price quotations, 20 000 illustrations, €79.00.

- Complete price revisions
- Renewed illustrations
- New sections on pre-cancels, booklets and sheetlets

MICHEL
DEUTSCHLAND-SPEZIAL 2009

Band 2: Ab Mai 1945 (Alliierte Besetzung bis BRD)

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who else reading this rode it?

Le Havre...Belgium?

The first reaction on examining this stamp and cancel is to think that someone has made a mistake, has mistakenly used a stamp from Belgium while in France, and that likely the wrong postage was not noticed. Not so.

In 1914, as the German Army overran Belgium, the many fleeing refugees included departments of the Belgian Government. Until 1918, when Belgium was freed, official functions, including regulating the post, were carried on in France. The result was this illustrated item, a Belgian stamp (Scott #95) cancelled in Le Havre in France, quite legally, in 1915. Examine the cancel and you see, in parentheses, "Special," to accommodate the use of foreign postage in France during World War I. It is not a rare item, but does point to the situation of the time.



Dear Phil:

Will the Buffalo be as good now that we are going to have a new editor?

A Concerned Member

Dear Concerned:

The editor is the final say on what goes into the Buffalo and certainly contributes the most articles into its makeup, but ultimately it boils down to cooperation from the membership at large to not only suggest items they would like to read about in the Buffalo, but to rough draft articles of their own for the editor to "fill out" in their style and put into the Buffalo.

So to answer your question, some people will say the Buffalo will be as good as previously and some will say it will not be as good, but in the end the membership's cooperation and feedback will make the Buffalo what it is.

Thanks for asking, now how about submitting an article for next years Buffalo?

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
IN THE
WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Box 1425, Winnipeg, MB, R3C 2Z1

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(ADD A ONE-TIME \$2.00 ADMISSION FEE)
IF YOU HAVE A FRIEND, ACQUAINTANCE OR FAMILY MEMBER WHO WOULD LIKE TO JOIN OUR CLUB, PLEASE PASS THIS APPLICATION FORM ON TO THEM. WE WILL SUPPLY YOU WITH A REPLACEMENT BUFFALO.

THANK YOU!
WELLCOME!!

Some things never change.

I don't understand these complaints about the high cost of the postal service. Time was you could put a four-cent stamp on a letter and mail it, and it would arrive at its destination in two days. Now you put a fifty-eight cent stamp on a letter and it can take four to five weeks to arrive.

Its still only pennies a day!

