

K-W Stamp News



**Kitchener-
Waterloo
Philatelic
Society**

President's Message

On August 9th, 2011 I was installed as your new president. I would like to thank Jim Oliver for his eight years of serving as president, his dedication and contribution to our stamp club!

For new members, my name is Oscar Cormier and I have been a member of the stamp club since 2004. Fall is approaching and I am looking forward to our first meeting September 8th.

Fall Program:

- September: Called Auction & 50/50 Draw Start-up
- October: Guest Speaker—
Larry Cherns from St. Catharines will do a PowerPoint presentation on Covers and Postcards of 19th century Canada
- November: Guest Speaker—
Owen White talks about St. Pierre et Miquelon
- December: Gift Exchange

As your new president I am in the learning stage of this position. I will work diligently and with the help of our members, I will work diligently to generate public interest in stamp collecting and hopefully increase our membership.

For the Show & Tell portion of our meetings, more member participation would be greatly appreciated!

**- Oscar Cormier,
President**



Issue 6

Summer 2011

Stampfest 2012

When? April 21, 20112
from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Where? Community
Christian Reform Church,
1275 Bleams Road,
Kitchener

Inside this issue:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| President's Message | 1 |
| Featured Exhibit | 2 |
| Interesting Internet Sites | 2 |
| Sniping Online Internet Auctions | 3 |
| 2003 was a good year! | 4 |
| KWPS Archives | 5 |
| Life Membership | 6 |
| KWPS Postcard Club | 6 |
| Club Info | 6 |

Featured exhibit at 75th KWPS Anniversary Dinner

We had lots to share at our 75th anniversary dinner. Jane Wilson, exhibitor, Jim Oliver, president and Leigh Hogg past president pose for a Waterloo Record photo (that never was in "The Record").

One very important part of stamp collecting is exhibiting. This is the ultimate sharing of your wonderful philatelic elements.

Betty Martin supplied lovely covers and stamps from an old air exhibit, which Jane used to create an expanded exhibit titled "British Empire Flight Covers and the Aircraft that flew the Mail".

*- Jim Oliver,
Past President*



Interesting Internet Sites for Collectors

http://www.japhila.cz/hof/exponet_menu.htm

If you've been interested in stamp exhibits, this site is a must see. Featured on this site are virtual stamp exhibits from all over the world.



Please email your favourite links to Publicity@KWStampClub.org

Select your country or area of interest and find yourself viewing exhibits from the comfort of your office chair! Thank you to George Pepall for bringing this site to my attention.

*- Kerstin Kramer,
Publicity Director*

Sniping Online Internet Auctions

Many of you may already be using snipe bids as a strategy for winning those coveted lots from your favourite on-line auction firms. For those of you who are not familiar with this strategy then please read on.

A snipe bid, or sniping, is the art of placing a bid in the very last seconds before an on-line auction ends. In many cases you can place a bid on an item with less than 10 seconds to the closing.

So what are the benefits of sniping you might ask? Why not just do what eBay recommends and place your maximum bid early in the game and hope for the best? Well in the world of eBay and in particular the stamp section we all have competitors. By bidding early it lets everyone know that someone wants the lot. Psychologically people may be more interested in a lot that has bids against it than one that has fewer or no bids.

Sniping definitely has caused most of the bidding action to be delayed until the last few seconds but it is not unethical. It is no different than a third person entering a bidding war between two

parties in a live auction. Some firms have changed their rules regarding snipe bids. Weeda Stamps, an on-line auction firm in Victoria, now extends the auction closing by 3 minutes for the whole auction as soon as anyone enters a new bid within the last 3 minutes. In my opinion this just drives the prices up higher for the sellers and extends the closing of the sale in some cases



by a few hours. I hope eBay doesn't adopt this philosophy.

There are two ways that you can snipe. You can wait online until the lot is nearing the close and then submit a bid through normal channels and hope to be the winner. This does work but means you must be available 24-7 and be prepared to watch the bidding right up until the last few seconds. This can be stressful, time consuming, and often fails in the last few seconds be-

cause you become distracted or are just not quick enough on the keyboard. Trust me I have lost a few lots this way.

Alternatively you can sign up with one of the numerous firms that offer a snipe bidding service. These services allow you to tailor the timing of your bids right down to a few seconds before the closing. They will notify you earlier on if the bidding on your lot exceeds your snipe bid (which of course still remains secret until the end). There is a small fee of course for using these services. My favourite provider Auctionsniper.com charges 25 cents for any lots selling

for up to \$25 and then 1% for lots over \$25 to a maximum of \$9.95.

At the end of the day, whether you believe in sniping or not, you should only bid the maximum amount you are willing to pay for the lot. Whether you choose to wait and do this by sniping is your choice but give it a try. You might like it.

**- Scott Traquair,
Director, Table Auctions**

2003 was a good year!

In 2003, many notable things happened (see list at bottom). That is also the year I became president of the K-W Philatelic Society!

Our club has had a fine run over the past eight years. Some notable happenings include:

- our 75th anniversary in 2010 & our 70th anniversary in 2005.
- 8 very notable Stampfests
- an exhibiting resurgence, especially starting one pagers.
- initiating our Club web site.
- the start up of very successful table auctions & several called auctions
- very stable membership numbers (with lots of active members)
- my club mentors for E-Bay, especially Kerstin Kramer.

Recalling those early years I remember my personal learning curve and challenges and trust you will all support our new president Oscar Cormier as he embarks on this new challenge.

One personality, Ken Coe, stands out for my experiences on the board. Ken took me under his wing in helping spouses dispose of collections. That has been very rewarding, but also very



challenging, especially to connect with various dealers, collectors and auction houses. I recall the "8 shopping cart collection", (a lot of binders, and the lady still had a million trader stamps), the mouse collection, (the mice were very selective just chewing on the \$1.00 / \$2.00 stamps), the air line pilot collection (all mint), the Swiss collection, the Hawaii/Vegas collection, (it included numerous Hawaii stamps & luckily her son worked in Las Vegas where he could access USA dealers), plus a variety of many other collections.

Thanks to everyone for your support, especially our past presidents, the board members and volunteers that really run the show!

Happenings 2003

March 10 - Scarborough's Grace Hospital closes as a result of SARS, the first of many hospitals to do so

April 29 - Jean Charest becomes premier of Quebec, replacing Bernard Landry

July 2 - The International Olympic Committee awards the 21st Olympic Winter Games to Vancouver

September 5 - Gisele MacKenzie, singer (b.1927)

October 23 - Dalton McGuinty becomes premier of Ontario

November 13 - The Canadian dollar value closes at a 10 year high of \$0.7695 US

November 22 - The 2003 Heritage Classic, the first outdoor game in NHL history, is played in Edmonton.

***- Jim Oliver,
Past President***

Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society Archives

We are starting KWPS Archives!

Archives place the club in historical context, allowing us to see what has changed and what has been successful. The archival collection will help us to create articles for newsletters or displays for shows about the club and this, in turn, will build credibility when encouraging new members.

To start our archive collection, I'm asking that anyone who would like to donate material to archives please contact me:

Jane Wilson at
e.jane.wilson@sympatico.ca

or speak to me at a meeting.

What we are interested in having in the archives are:

- founding documents, constitution, bylaws, mission, mandate
- minutes
- files on events - when, how organized, why
- financial records
- photos of meetings, events and shows
- club publications
- publications by members
- existing club histories
- news clippings
- membership lists
- awards of club and members



**- Jane Wilson,
Member**

Life Membership for Howie Mason

Howie Mason is presented with a K-W Club badge by former president Jim Oliver, which goes with his life membership received at the 75th anniversary dinner in December 2010.

We would like to congratulate Howie and thank him for his continued support of the K-W Philatelic Society!

**- Jim Oliver,
Past President**



Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society

P O Box 904 Station "C",
Kitchener, ON N2G 4C5

Contact: Oscar Cormier (President)
Phone: 519-742-5892
E-mail: oscar_cormier@rogers.com

Visit us on the web at
www.KWStampClub.org

Let us help you complete
your collection!



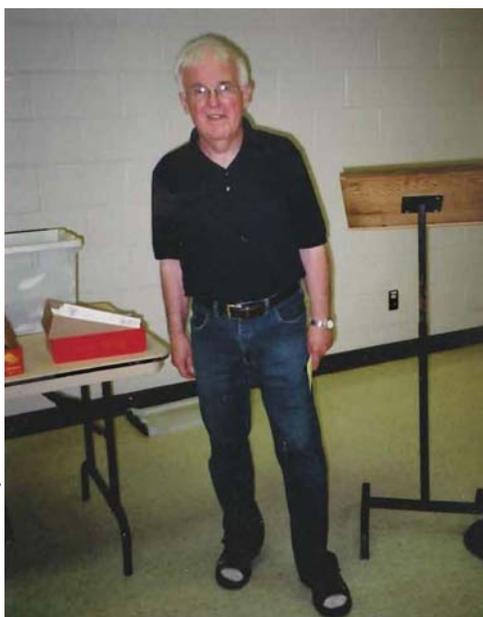
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada
Chapter 13

50/50 Draw Winner

Tom Siegfried from our K-W Club was the very first winner of the 50/50 draw held in May 2011. The draw was very well received and will be planned into the fall meetings.

Congratulations
Tom!

- Jim Oliver,
Past President



Our meetings are open to everyone.
Come on by!

Next meetings: September 8th, October 13th, November 10th, December 8th

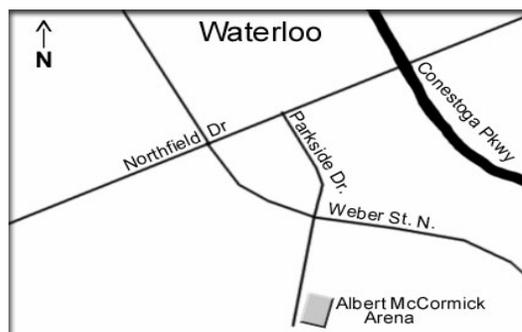
Time: 7:15 p.m.

Place: Albert McCormick Arena
(Community Room)

500 Parkside Drive, Waterloo

Annual membership 2012:

Adults: \$ 15 Family: \$ 20 Children are free!



K-W Postcard Club

The regular meeting of the K-W-C Post card club will be held in September:

Date & Time:
Wednesday, September 7th
at 7pm

Place: Waterloo Regional Museum

Topic is Norfolk County History & post cards. Come on by and join us!