

# Kingston Stamp Club Chapter 49 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Volume #6, Issue #1 Whole Number 21  
Fall 2011 Issue



## Table of Contents

1. President's Message
2. Editor's Comments
3. Miss Supertest
4. "Athabasca- Inland Vessel" Part 1 of 4
5. Gdansk - Danzig
6. Honourary Life Membership Award
7. First stamp chosen by public issued

## Upcoming Meeting Listing

September 12	Meeting Night
September 26	Auction Night
October 3	Meeting Night
October 15	Kingston Stamp Festival
October 24	Auction Night
November 14	Meeting /AGM Night
November 28	Auction Night

### 1) President's Message

Once again we start another year, putting the lawn equipment away and pulling out our albums, tongs and dreams for another season.

We should consider a junior auction before our main auction each auction night, children required. Please let the executive know your thoughts.

Your executive met in early August to discuss the upcoming Stamp Festival October 15 th and other club business. We are pleased to advise all is going well, we are financially sound and looking forward to another good year. Stay tuned for upcoming events as they unfold this club year.

Please consider putting together a frame or two for our upcoming Festival and our Christmas exhibition.

If you have any suggestions or ideas, we look forward to hearing from you.

*Richard Weigand*  
Richard Weigand, President  
218 Richmond Street, Sandhurst, ON K0H 1G0  
Tel 613-352-8775, Email rweigand@kos.net  
☒

### 2) Editor's Comments

We are pleased to present a four part series on ships which will run the entire season 2011 – 2012. Some of these ships have a connection to Kingston and the surrounding coastal towns in our area.

We are also pleased to present a four part series on German Territories/Colonies for the upcoming year!

If you have any suggestions for articles, please let me know.

Editor – *Richard Weigand*  
☒

### 3) Miss Supertest



On

August 6, 7 & 8th, Canada Post and the city of Picton, celebrated the 50th anniversary of "Miss Supertest Here is a brief history of this famous boat and its driver:

Miss Supertest III was a Canadian-designed and built hydroplane. A hydroplane (or hydro, or thunder boat) is a fast motorboat, where the hull shape is such that at higher speeds, the weight of the boat is supported by planing forces, rather than simple buoyancy. A key aspect of hydroplanes is that they use the water they're on for lift rather than buoyancy, as well as for propulsion and steering: when travelling at high speed, water is forced downwards by the bottom of the boat's hull. The water therefore exerts an equal and opposite force upwards, lifting the vast majority of the hull out of the water. This process, happening at the surface of the water, is known as 'planing'.

Miss Supertest III won the 1959 Detroit Memorial Regatta and the 1959, 1960 and 1961 Harmsworth Cup races -- the only four races it ever entered. It was the only three-time Harmsworth Cup winner and the first non-U.S. winner in 39 years.

Racing out of Sarnia, Ontario, Miss Supertest III was owned by J. Gordon Thompson, owner of Supertest Petroleum (later acquired by BP). The team was managed by his son, Jim Thompson, and the boat piloted by Bob Hayward. Miss Supertest III was inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame.

Its predecessor, Miss Supertest II was briefly the fastest propeller-driven motorboat in the world, setting a water speed record of 296.96 km/h (184.494 mph) on November 1, 1957, at Picton, Ontario with Art Asbury at the wheel. It broke a record that had stood for five years, but a new record was set only a few weeks later.

The first Miss Supertest was originally known as Miss Canada IV and competed in hydroplane races from 1949 to the mid-1950s.

The Miss Supertest boats were retired following the death of Bob Hayward. He was killed while racing Miss Supertest II about a month after winning the 1961 Harmsworth Cup with Miss Supertest III.

Canada Post

Canada Post issued on August 8<sup>th</sup> a Permanent Rate Stamp in a booklet of 10, valued at \$5.90 domestic rate, to honour this anniversary.

Design/Illustration: Ivan Novotny (Taylor|Sprules Corporation)

Dimensions: 48 mm x 24 mm (horizontal)

Gum Type: Pressure sensitive

Paper Type: Tullis Russell

Perforations: Simulated perforation

Printer: Lowe-Martin

Printing Process: Lithography in 6 colours plus spot varnish

Tagging: General, 4 sides

Quantity: 2,800,000



#### Bibliography

<http://www.missupertest.ca>

Canada Post Web Site

Wikipedia



#### 4) "Athabasca – Inland Vessel" Part 1 of 4

By Richard Weigand

The Inland Vessels stamps feature Canadian passenger steamers and a riverboat. The Canadian Pacific Railway entered the Upper Great Lakes shipping business with three steel sister ships, the Alberta, Algoma and Athabasca.

Built in Scotland, they steamed to Montreal in 1883 and were sliced in half to fit the lock system. Reassembled at Buffalo, they arrived at Owen Sound in May 1884 ready for the Lake head run.

They were the first Lakers to be equipped with electric lights, and were so well constructed that people believed "twenty feet could have been ripped off the bow of the boats without endangering their seaworthiness."

Besides normal passenger traffic, they transported troops returning from the 1885 Riel Rebellion and carried grain. In November of that same year, Algoma ran into Isle Royale and

broke up, but the other two served for many years. Athabasca, for example, was lengthened from 270 to 299 feet in 1910 and was only scrapped after World War II. Tom Bjornson's designs for this stamp have captured the elegance and gracefulness of these 19th century passenger vessels. They have a sense of aliveness and presence while preserving a visual continuity with the 1975 set of Coastal Ships stamps.

The stamp were printed by a combination of one-colour steel



Gdansk

engraving and nine-colour lithography, a method which renders faithfully the delicate line work and bright colour characteristics of Mr. Bjornson's drawings, as well as showing the interesting detail of the ships' hulls and rigging.



Denomination: 10¢  
 Date of Issue: 19 November 1976  
 Series: Ships of Canada, Inland Vessels  
 Series Year (inclusive dates): 1975-1978  
 Printer/Quantity: Canadian Bank Note Company, Limited, 6 072 000  
 Perforation: 12 x 12.5  
 Creator(s): Designed by Tom Bjornson and Engraved by Yves Baril

Bibliography:  
 Canada Post – Library and Archives Website.



5) Gdansk - Danzig

This article is a brief history and images from this very historic area. Stamps from Danzig show the areas crest and the crane tower on many stamps.

**Climate**

The zones are: the coastal zone (11 kilometers of shoreline), the zone of hills, and the plain delta of The Vistula and the Kasubain valley. The climate conditions of Gdansk are changeable due to the landscape, different air masses



meeting here (usually the polar, maritime and continental weather patterns) and the temperature influences of the Baltic Sea.

**Geology**

The municipality of Gdansk covers an area of 262 sq. It lies in Northern Poland on the Bay of Gdansk. The natural conditions are characterized by varied scenery created by the Pomeranian phase of the Baltic glacial period. The city, as well as its neighbors Gdynia and Sopot, owes its picturesque location in a zonal arrangement to the post-glacial formations. Gdansk is situated in the middle of the southern Baltic shore on the Bay of Danzig which shelters it from the open sea. It has always been situated at a junction of European trade routes, both land and maritime travel patterns. The north-south trade route connects Scandinavia with the Near East, the west-east route links Germany Latvia Lithuania and Estonia. The shortest road from Oslo and Stockholm to the Balkan countries and between Moscow, Minsk and Western Europe runs through Gdansk.

**Hanseatic**

**League**

This mercantile league of medieval North German towns came into existence gradually as the Hansas-companies of merchants dealing with foreign lands-and the cities from which they operated drew closer together as a way of protecting themselves from foreign competition and piracy. In the 13th century more than 70 German cities joined in treaties of mutual protection. The Hanseatic League was formally organized in 1358, and in 1370 it won a trade monopoly in all of Scandinavia. The league prospered in the following centuries but went out of existence in the 17th century with the increase in rail, road and ocean traffic with central Europe. The cities of Bremen, Hamburg and Lubeck

are still still known as hanseatic cities.

**Pomerania**

This stretch of land is largely lowland region in Poland and Germany, bordering the Baltic Sea. This area was a part of Eastern Prussia until 1877 when Prussia became part of Germany. West Pomerania became in 1181 a duchy of the Holy Roman Empire while Eastern Pomerania, or Pomerania, came in 1466 under Polish rule and passed to Prussia in 1772 becoming known as West Prussia. Sweden ruled parts of Western Pomerania during 1648 to 1814 and from 1815 to 1919 Prussia held all of Pomerania. From 1919 to 1939 Pomerania was divided among Germany, Poland, and the free city of Danzig. During World War II Germany held all of Pomerania. In 1945 Poland was awarded most of the region; the rest was part of East Germany until German reunification.

**Faberge Gdansk Amber Egg**

On the occasion of the Millennium of the city of Gdansk, the FABERGÉ work-master Victor Mayer, of Pforzheim, presented the *Faberge Gdansk Amber Egg* on behalf of the FABERGÉ Company, of Paris and New York, to the Lord Mayor of the City of Gdansk during the AMBERIF '97 exhibition.

According to an official document submitted by the donor, this object is intended to promote and encourage German-Polish relations and a spirit of friendship between the two countries.

With this gift, FABERGÉ hopes to document the significance of its art as a link between peoples and as the cultural basis for promoting east-west economic relationships.

The Gdansk Egg has been crafted in 18-carat gold with amber, enamel, diamonds,



rubies, and sapphires. As an objet d'art it represents on the one hand part of the history of the FABERGÉ Company and on the other hand a cosmopolitan product in its materials and workmanship. A golden fishing net encloses an egg-shaped amber stone symbolizing the gold of the Baltic. The egg bears the coat-of-arms of the City of Gdansk in red stove-enamel. The object stands on an amber foot supported by golden lions.



**Gdansk Waterfront and the famous Lift Tower in the right background.**

This is one of the classic views of the Gdansk waterfront. The tall building in the distance is a replica of a human powered crane that was used to load and unload ships. In fact everything you see here is a replica. The old city of Gdansk was about 85% destroyed in WW II.





Waterfront Dock Yard Scene

This is a view the other direction down the pier. On the right of the picture you can see one of several gates into the city. Apparently Gdansk had 2 or 3 walls around it at one time. This is the gold gate, since it faced the water and was where merchants would bring gold and other valuables into the city markets. The gate at the other end of the city, facing the farms, was known as the green gate.

This is one of the main squares in the city. The city hall (at the far end) is being refurbished. I am told that the city was rebuilt after the war by using photographs of the old buildings - so that this should be about the scene that was present before the destruction.

☒



Handing the certificate to Colin Batsford is our Secretary Peter Mac Donald.

☒

6) Honourary Life Membership Award

We are pleased as a club which includes all of the members and the executive committee to award a Honourary Life Membership to Colin Batsford.

Colin has provided the club with many behind the scenes activities that has allowed us to meet at our Ongwanada Centre.

In addition, Colin has worked tirelessly supporting our annual festival working with Edith Rankin Church and their staff.

Let's not forget his main responsibility; he is the treasurer of our club.

As an executive member of our club Colin has provided insight into our function and activities for many years.

7) First stamp in Canada Post history to be chosen by public vote unveiled - 2011 Mental health stamp to help raise funds for community-based mental health initiatives  
Sept. 6, 2011

Canada Post today unveiled the 2011 Mental Health stamp to help kick off the company's annual fundraising campaign for community-based mental health initiatives across Canada. In November 2010, a competition was launched to help find a design, in which the five finalists were subjected to a popular vote, a first in Canada Post's 160 years.

THE PUZZLE, a design by Terrebonne resident Miriane Majeau received the most points and today will adorn over 3.5 million stamps available at post offices across Canada. A dollar from the sale of every booklet of 10 stamps is donated to the Canada Post Foundation for Mental Health.

"Dealing with mental health issues is like putting a puzzle together," says designer Miriane Majeau. "As you connect the pieces, something beautiful and whole is revealed." Majeau notes

that during the competition strangers approached her to share their experiences with mental illness and how they related to a puzzle. “The rallying effect this has created makes me very happy, my drawing was telling their stories—and encouraging others to tell theirs.”

“The response by Canadians has been tremendous,” says The Honourable Steven Fletcher, Minister of State (Transport). “More than 300 designs were submitted and almost 300,000 votes were cast. And now, Canadians can buy these stamps and help us contribute to an important cause.”

Since 2008, when mental health became Canada Post’s cause of choice, customers, employees, suppliers and the public have raised more than \$4.8 million for the Foundation. Nearly \$1 million of that was from sales of mental health stamps.

The Foundation is a registered not-for-profit charity, operated at arm’s length from Canada Post with an independent board of trustees. Donations from the 2010 campaign funded grants to 47 community-based groups in 2011, all of which provide front-line programs and services to people directly affected by mental illness or their families. To learn more about the Foundation, visit [www.canadapost.ca/hope](http://www.canadapost.ca/hope).

