

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

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Summer 2013 Issue

1932-2012 Our 80th Anniversary Year

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Upcoming Meeting Listing

April 8	Meeting Night
April 22	Auction Night
May 13	Meeting Night
May 27	Auction Night
September 9	Meeting Night
September 23	Auction Night
October 26	Kingston Stamp Festival
October 28	Auction Night

1) President's Message

Once again, we are looking at summer and a chance to work outside, travel and put the tongs down for a short season. On behalf of the Executive Committee, we wish all of you a wonderful, safe summer and see you in September.

Richard Weigand
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✉

2) Editor's Comments

Current Issue

We are pleased to present a four part series on "Block of Four Issues". This is the final installment of this stamp issue

Future Articles of Interest

We hope you enjoy this summer issue and if you have any suggestions for articles, please let me know. I am working on another four part series of stamps and first day covers that relate to medicine or medical discoveries for the 2013-2014 club years.

Changes in Distribution in 2013

As the cost of ink, paper and postage continues to climb, I want to consider sending emailed copies to all those who want this format. The benefits are: faster service, longer issues and you can print them off or keep them on your computer. Launch date will be the fall 2013 Issue!

Editor – *Richard Weigand*
✉

3) Spring & Summer Recreation and Leisure Showcase

When: March 23, 2013 - 9 am – 3pm
Where: Portsmouth Olympic Harbour

We want to thank all those who participated in organizing and being there for this day's event. We find this is a good way for our club to be seen by our Kingstonians neighbors!

☒

4) Kingston Stamp Club 101

Limestone District Community Education Centre
Jane Etherington

Jane has approached the club with the idea to promote the hobby of Stamp-Collecting to challenged individuals - to foster their interest, and stimulate them - in a constructive fashion.

We are being asked to supply them with some basic knowledge of Philately: in other words give them a "101" on starting them in a new endeavour to have a hobby. They are 'Special' people and, although their ages run from about 19 to 29, I am told they think like 12-year olds. So, you can see it would be somewhat of a challenge to us, as a Club, and to any of our Members motivated to help in the Program. We'd be expected to contribute a small, but necessary amount of supplies and materials.

Here's the basic information I've been given, and may answer your questions:-

WHEN? - One-hour Sessions in July and August, one per week

e.g.: one each in the weeks of 08, 15, and 22 July, and one each in the weeks of 12, and 19 August.

(We can pick our hour anytime between 10.00am and 2.00pm)

WHERE? - A Central rented location,- St Luke's Anglican Church, just N of Princess.

As a club we have agreed to take on this worthwhile outreach project and I feel confident we can get sufficient volunteers from our Members.

☒

5) Cobourg Club Visit May 27th, 2013

Cobourg club is coming for our last meeting of the season before we break for summer. This club always brings along unique material and we look forward to another great evening of conversation and adding treasurers to your collection.

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6) Canada Post First Block of Six All Different Letter Carrier Service

Scott No 634 – 639
Issue Date June 11, 1974



a) Post Master



b) Mail Service Courier



c) Mail Handler



d) Postal Clerk



e) Letter Carrier



f) Rural Mail Courier

Printer/Quantity: Ashton-Potter Limited, 5 263 200,
 Perforation: 13.5 x 13
 Designed by Stephen Mennie

Historical Notice:

Canada's first "postmen" - unofficial of course - were the Indian runners who carried messages between neighbouring tribes using wampum beads. The official runner of the Iroquois tribe, for example, carried a string of white wampum beads if the message was of peace, prosperity or goodwill, and blue beads for war, disaster or death. During the

days of the fur trade, voyageurs, coureurs de bois and Indian couriers carried mails and messages to the few fur factors, government officials and missionaries in outlying areas. Jean de Brébeuf, a Jesuit missionary at Huronia on Georgian Bay, wrote his journals (1625-39) of an Indian courier who memorized twenty business transactions in detail. The courier arrived in Montréal, transmitted them, and, at the end of the eight hundred mile round trip, gave Brébeuf the answers he received on each transaction.

The first official letter carrier in Canada, appointed in 1705, was a Portuguese Canadian, Pedro da Silva, Jacques Raudot, and the Intendant of New France, commissioned da Silva to carry the Governor's dispatches between Québec, Trois-Rivières and Montréal. Da Silva bolstered his salary by carrying private letters at a fee which he based on the distance travelled; he charged ten cents to convey a letter from Québec to Montréal. Before a postal system was available, anyone in New France who wished to send mail to Europe arranged with friends in Québec to take their letters to the captain of an outgoing ship. Friends would also pick up incoming letters and arrange for their delivery by da Silva or some other hired person.

In 1851, the provinces took over from the United Kingdom full responsibility for administering the postal service. In that same year, the first Canadian stamps for prepayment of postage were issued. These included the famous red "three penny beaver" designed by Sir Sandford Fleming. With Confederation in 1867 the Canada Post Office was formed and took over the responsibilities of the provinces in postal matters. Uniform postal rates were established and the practice of prepayment of mail was enforced with fines being charged for mail that was not prepaid. At that time, letter carrier delivery service was available in certain large cities. For this service, however, in addition to the postage paid by the sender, the recipient had to pay to the letter carrier upon delivery a charge of two cents on each letter and one cent on each newspaper. The only exception was Halifax where free letter carrier service had been established by the Nova Scotia Post Office Department in 1851.

On October 1, 1874, free letter carrier delivery service was introduced by the Canada Post Office in Montréal. The following year, Toronto, Québec, Ottawa and Hamilton also received this service. The system of free delivery facilitated the interchange of local and business correspondence, provided

prompt delivery of letters and papers thereby reducing the number of letters which would have previously remained at the Post Office until claimed, and saved a great amount of travel to and from the Post Office. Today in Canada there are over eleven thousand letter carriers serving over five million points of call. On a given day, a letter carrier on a residential route covers from seven to ten miles with approximately four hundred points of call. During one year, a letter carrier on a residential route will walk over twenty-thousand hundred miles.

The year, 1974, marks the centenary of the introduction of letter carrier delivery service. On this occasion, six stamps, designed by Stephen Mennie, will be issued honouring all postal workers of the Canada Post Office today.

Bibliography
 Canada Post Archiva Net Web Site

7) Signs of the Zodiac



Canada Post Information
 This pane of 12 domestic-rate stamps includes all of the stamps in the Signs of the Zodiac series.

- Pane contains 12 PERMANENT™ self-adhesive stamps, which are always valued at the current domestic rate.

- All stamps in the Signs of the Zodiac series were designed by Paprika in Montréal.

- Issue date: February 20, 2013.

About the full pane

- Each stamp in this pane was created with highly layered graphics that incorporate symbolic imagery, astrological mapping and the colours traditionally associated with each sign.

- The constellation from which each sign originates is featured in the background, and each stamp bears the most fitting colour for its sign.

History

In Western astrology, astrological signs are the twelve 30° sectors of the ecliptic, starting at the vernal equinox (one of the intersections of the ecliptic with the celestial equator), also known as the First Point of Aries. The order of the astrological signs is Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius and Pisces.

The concept of the zodiac originated in Babylonian astrology, and was later influenced by Hellenistic culture. According to astrology, celestial phenomena relate to human activity on the principle of "as above, so below", so that the signs are held to represent characteristic modes of expression, or primary energy patterns indicating specific qualities of experience, through which planets manifest their dimension of experience.

The twelve sector division of the ecliptic constitutes astrology's primary frame of reference when considering the positions of celestial bodies, from a geocentric point of view, so that we may find, for instance, the Sun in 23° Aries (23° longitude), the Moon in 7° Scorpio (217° longitude), or Jupiter in 29° Pisces (359° longitude).

Various approaches to measuring and dividing the sky are currently used by differing systems of astrology, although the tradition of the Zodiac's names and symbols remain consistent. Western astrology measures from Equinox and Solstice points.

Planetary Rulership

Rulership is the connection between planet and correlated sign and house. In traditional Western astrology, each sign is ruled by one and only one of the seven visible planets (note that in astrology, the Sun and Moon are termed The Lights, while the other bodies are called planets, which literally means wanderers, i.e. wandering stars as opposed to the fixed stars). The traditional rulerships are as follows: Aries (Mars), Taurus (Venus), Gemini (Mercury), Cancer (Moon), Leo (Sun), Virgo (Mercury), Libra (Venus), Scorpio (Mars), Sagittarius (Jupiter), Capricorn (Saturn), Aquarius (Saturn), Pisces (Jupiter).

Psychologically-oriented astrologers often believe that Uranus is the ruler or co-ruler of Aquarius instead of Saturn; Neptune is the ruler or co-ruler of Pisces instead of Jupiter, and that Pluto is the ruler or co-ruler of Scorpio instead of Mars. Some astrologers believe that the planetoid Chiron may be the ruler of Virgo, while other group of modern astrologers claim that Ceres is the ruler of Taurus instead.

If you start from Leo and Cancer, the traditional planetary rulers are arrayed outward in the same order from the sun as they occur in the natural solar system. The Lights ruling Leo and Cancer, Mercury ruling Virgo and Gemini, Venus ruling Libra and Taurus, Mars ruling Scorpio and Aries, Jupiter ruling Sagittarius and Pisces, Saturn ruling Capricorn and Aquarius. The result is symmetry of traditional rulerships across the 0° Leo/Aquarius axis. Note that modern rulerships, which attribute Pluto as ruler of Scorpio, break this symmetry.

Bibliography
Canada Post.ca
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8) International Reply Coupons

Introduction

An international reply coupon (IRC) is a coupon that can be exchanged for one or more postage stamps representing the minimum postage for an unregistered priority airmail letter of up to twenty grams sent to another Universal Postal Union (UPU) member country. IRCs are accepted by all UPU member countries.

UPU member postal services are obliged to exchange an IRC for postage, but are not obliged to sell them.

The purpose of the IRC is to allow a person to send someone in another country a letter, along with the cost of postage for a reply. If the addressee is within the same country, there is no need for an IRC because a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) or return postcard will suffice; but if the addressee is in another country an IRC removes the necessity of acquiring foreign postage or sending appropriate currency.

History

The IRC was introduced in 1906 at a Universal Postal Union congress in Rome. At the time an IRC could be exchanged for a single-rate, ordinary postage stamp for surface delivery to a foreign country, as this was before the introduction of airmail services. An IRC is exchangeable in a UPU member country for the minimum postage of a priority or unregistered airmail letter to a foreign country.



Canadian IRC

This IRC was issued in 1955 during the Wilding period.

Pricing of an IRC

Prices for IRCs vary by country. In the United States in November 2012, the purchase price was \$2.20USD. IRCs purchased in foreign countries may be used in the United States toward the purchase of postage stamps and embossed stamped envelopes at the current one-ounce First Class International rate (\$1.05 USD as of April 2012) per coupon.

IRCs are often used by amateur radio operators sending QSL cards to each other; it has traditionally been considered good practice and common courtesy to include an IRC when writing to a foreign operator and expecting a reply by mail.

Current IRC

The current IRC, available since 1 July 2009, is called the "Nairobi" model, and is available from post offices in 116 countries as at December 2012. IRCs are ordered from the UPU headquarters in Bern, Switzerland, by postal authorities. They are generally available at large post offices; in the U.S., they are requisitioned along with regular domestic stamps by any post office that has sufficient demand for them.

How International Reply Coupons works

You send business correspondence from Canada to a recipient in France. Your letter contains an International Reply Coupon that you purchased at your local Post Office. Your recipient takes the coupon to a postal outlet in France and exchanges it for postage. The postage is applied to a return envelope, allowing your recipient to reply to you at no cost.

Restrictions on exchanging coupons from other countries

- If you receive International Reply Coupons from a colleague in another country and want to exchange them here in Canada, keep the following restrictions in mind:
- Coupons can only be exchanged for postage.
- Coupons cannot be used for remittance.
- No more than 100 international reply coupons can be exchanged per day at the same location.
- No credit shall be given for forged or counterfeit coupons.

Printed Expiry Dates

Previous editions of the IRC, the "Beijing" model and all subsequent versions, bear an expiration date. Consequently, a new IRC will be issued every three years. The current IRC will become obsolete on 31 December 2013. Current stockpiles in the hands of users should be expended by then, or exchanged for the new issue to be introduced at that time. The current issue IRC may be exchanged until 31 December 2013 (date printed on coupon). A new design, by the Czech artist Michal Sindelar, will go

on sale from 1 July 2013 and will be valid until 31 December 2017.

Discontinuation of Service

The US Postal Service discontinued sales of IRCs on 27 January 2013 due to declining demand. Britain's Royal Mail ceased to sell IRCs from 18 February 2012, citing minimal sales and claiming that the average post office sold less than one IRC per year.

Collectability

International Reply Coupons have two uses for collectors of stamps and postal history. They can be saved as interesting collectible items, and they can be useful when conducting mail correspondence or transactions with people in other countries.



IRCs can document aspects of postal history, as shown by this 1910 example from Germany offices in Turkey.

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