FIRST IMPRESSIONS NEWSLETTER OF THE BNAPS FIRST DAY COVER STUDY GROUP ISSUE 47, JULY-SEPTEMBER 2021

EARLY FIRST DAY COVERS ISSUED BY CANADIAN PHILATELIC ORGANIZATIONS:

FOUR STUDIES BY JAN PIETER (JOHN) VAN DER VEN

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Our frequent contributor Jan Pieter (John) van der Ven has been busy over the last few months overseeing the sale of his vast collection of first day covers, but he has also been hard at work preparing much of his collection as articles for publication in *First Impressions*. This special issue of our newsletter presents four of his articles reporting on the early FDCs issued by several leading philatelic organizations including the Hamilton Philatelic Society, Winnipeg Philatelic Society, and Ottawa Philatelic Society along with three such groups in Saskatchewan: Saskatoon Philatelic Society, The Beaver Philatelic Society, and Wascana Philatelic Society. All these organization began their series of FDCs between 1933 and 1935 primarily as a benefit for their members. These and other collections of John's, including Middlesex Stamp Club, will be offered at the Sparks September auction.

Chairperson Bob Vogel notes that the FDC Study Group will have a Zoom meeting at the virtual BNAPEX show on Sunday, September 5 from 10:00 a.m. until 12 noon. Please mark your calendar and plan to participate! The last page of this issue contains a message regarding contributions to CAPEX22 scheduled for June 9 to 12 of 2022. BNAPS is a partner-sponsor of this international event.

SUBMITTING ARTICLES

Articles may be submitted in MS Word and scans should be separate attachments in JPEG format at 300 dpi. E-mail submissions should be sent to the Editor, Gary Dickinson at <u>gandbdickinson@shaw.ca</u>.

OTTAWA PHILATELIC SOCIETY, 1934 – 1968

The Ottawa Philatelic Society (OPS) was started in 1891 by John Reginald Hooper who also was the founder of the Canadian Philatelic Society that later became the Royal Philatelic Society. The organization started with 41 members of which 20 were Francophone. The first meeting was held on November 25, 1892. At this meeting, the Secretary, W. J. Beaty who worked at the Ottawa post office was directed to advise the members of the Society of meetings every second week.

With the post office facilities at hand, Beaty crafted a rubber stamp cachet in the form of a maple leaf with a box under it that was placed on the envelope that contained the notice of each meeting. The box under the circular encased maple leaf would have in the top left-hand corner "DATE" then below it two dotted lines and in the bottom right-hand corner "Secretary." The box would then be signed by the Secretary which made the notice of meeting official.

The first documented OPS FDC was for Scott 208 (Jacques Cartier) issued on July 1, 1934. It was signed by the then Secretary R. A. Ince who stayed in this position during 1934 and 1935. (See Figure 1). No new stamps were issued in 1936 so there were no FDCs for that year. Based on the OPS membership numbers there could not be many extant covers from the 1934-1935.

The membership fee in the early thirties was around twenty dollars which paid for the notices, and from 1934 on for the postage and stationery. When any new stamp was issued, the Secretary would send a FDC to each member as a bonus for their Society membership. The FDCs were never sold to anyone so there must have been some out-of-town members as some covers carry distant addresses. A member who moved away from Ottawa but retained a membership would still receive a cover, and there are several foreign addresses in later years. Occasionally a member would send a FDC "with compliments" to a non-member. The practice of sending these special rubber-stamped FDCs stopped in 1962 when C. H. Bayley died.

At least four different colours (green, black, purple, and blue) were used for the rubberstamped impressions until 1961, depending on the ink pad that was made available to the Secretary. An example of each is shown in Figures 1 through 4.



Figure 1. First OPS FDC, for Scott 208, July 1, 1934, green ink pad.



Figure 2. OPS cachet for Scott 210, August 16, 1934 black ink pad.



Figure 3. OPS cachet for Scott 233, April 1, 1937, purple ink pad.

Colin H. Bayley

From 1942 until 1962 Colin Hahnemann Bayley was Secretary of OPS. It's difficult to imagine how many times he put his signature on all the FDCs he certified for the Society's members. I am thankful to Dr. Raj Ramphal from the North Toronto Stamp Club who put me in touch with a relative of Bayley 's living in Barbados to find out more information about this dedicated person. Here are the details from the email I received from Edmund A. Bayley, QC, SCM, FRPSL Attorney -at-Law.

Colin H. Bayley was the son of James Hahnemann Parker Bayley, a well-known optician of his day, and Gladys Marguerite Bayley. He was born in St. Michael's Row, Barbados on August 18, 1901. His mother died when he was only 12 years old. He attended Harrison College in Barbados and in 1920 won the Barbados Scholarship. He attended the University of Toronto to study science and on October 22, 1932 married Emma Butler. They had no children. As far as I am aware, he only ever came back to Barbados once and that was in 1948 when I was a kid of 12 years and first met him.

Bayley was an eminent philatelist of his day and had formed specialized collections of Canada and Barbados. As a specialist of Barbados, I had the pleasure of visiting with him on several occasions at his Ottawa residence where he gave me invaluable assistance in the publication of my first handbook on Barbados philately in 1989. His Barbados collection was sold by the Maresch firm in Toronto after his death.

I do not know much about his connection with the Ottawa Philatelic Society, but I do know he was a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London and the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. He was awarded the MBE by the Queen for his contribution to science, and he also held a master's degree in Applied Science. He also held five fellowships.



Figure 4. OPS cachet for Scott 354, June 1, 1955, blue ink pad.

Arthur May took over as Secretary in 1962 following the death of C. H. Bayley. The rubber stamp was not passed on to May, and the group decided to use a printed general-purpose cachet.

The new artwork incorporated an image of Parliament Hill within a double circle with "BYTOWN" (the original name of Ottawa prior to incorporation) at the top of the circle and "U.C." at the bottom. "Ottawa Philatelic Society" was printed at the bottom of the cachet. Three different versions exist and were used from 1961-1968 and several years after that. One version was printed all in black (Figure 5), a second in black and red (Figure 6), and the third was an overprinted version of the all-black cachet for the Wilding tagged issue of 1962 (Figure 7).



Figure 5. Black-only lithographed OPS cachet for Scott 393, April 19, 1961.



Figure 6. Black and red lithographed OPS cachet for Scott 398, June 13, 1962.



Figure 7. Overprinted OPS black-only cachet for Scott 337-341, June 10, 1954.

Over a period of 34 years, there were only two basic cachets with seven colour variations for the OPS FDCs. This is one of the longest-running philatelic society FDC programs in Canada.

Sadly, most of the archives of the OPS were lost in a flooded basement, so while a few minute books were spared, most of the historical records of the Society were lost. The then President of the OPS in 1963, the prominent collector Ralph Mitchener, was a contributor to an exhibit titled "Some Ottawa Philatelic Society Memorabilia" in 1991.

CODA

In 2016 the Ottawa Philatelic Society celebrated its 125-year anniversary as one of the oldest clubs in Canada. The Society made an outstanding contribution to the collecting of Canadian FDCs which are hard to find. You will not find many covers with the higher values for the simple reason that the annual membership fee would not have been sufficient to cover the cost, although a few members might have given the Secretary the higher value stamps to be used for his or her FDC.

Author's Notes

1. I would like to acknowledge assistance received for this article from two Ottawa Philatelic Society members, John Tooth and Richard (Dick) Logan and Edmund A. Bayley for the background on Colin H. Bayley.

2. A detailed checklist of the OPS FDCs from 1934 to 1968 in the author's collection is obtainable from the Editor upon request.

SASKATCHEWAN PHILATELIC SOCIETIES 1934-1938

Not much has been written about the Saskatoon and Regina philatelic societies. Over the years I did come across some FDCs but not many. With some clubs, unfortunately, the history disappeared when the secretary passed away and boxes of information ended up in a landfill. Three groups that have left a few traces through their FDCs are the Saskatoon Philatelic Society, The Beaver Philatelic Society, and the Wascana Philatelic Society.

SASKATOON PHILATELIC SOCIETY 1934 - 1935

I've seen very few covers from this group over the years. Below are scans of the only two covers that I have from 1934 and 1935 (Figures 1 and 2). It appears they used a rubber stamp to create the FDC cachet that allowed them to change the date in the middle to correspond with the issue date of the stamp. The cachet is known only in green.



Figure 1. Saskatoon cachet with Scott 208.



Figure 2. Saskatoon cachet on #10 envelope with Scott 216.

THE BEAVER PHILATELIC SOCIETY 1935 – 1937

Again, little is known about the history of this Regina group. The general-purpose cachet they used appears to be printed with a handpress. It has the appearance of a rubber stamp but the placement most of the time in the bottom lefthand corner indicates a handpress. The cachet includes a space to write the date of issue for the FDC. This cachet has been documented in several colours as illustrated in Figures 3 through 5. The first FDC issued by the Society was for the King George V Silver Jubilee Scott set (Scott 211-216) in 1935. They also issued FDCs for the King George VI Mufti Issue (Scott 231-236) in 1937.



Figure 3. Blue Beaver cachet with Scott 214.



Figure 4. Purple Beaver cachet with Scott 231, 232.



Figure 5. Black Beaver cachet with Scott 212.

WASCANA PHILATELC SOCIETY 1938

I have not seen any more covers of the Regina-based Beaver Philatelic Society after 1937, but there are FDCs issued by the Wascana Philatelic Society which may be a continuation of the Beaver Philatelic Society under a new name. Supporting this conclusion is that all of the covers shown here for both groups are postmarked in Regina. I believe that Stan C. Koepka was also a member of this club, and his name is on many early 1930s FDC covers. He usually used a rubber stamp to create his own cachets.

In *First Impressions* Issue 16 I wrote a short article about a Canadian general-purpose cachet produced by Ludwig Staehle that he had sent to Stan C. Koepka in Regina in 1938. When we compare the general-purpose cachet that Staehle produced in 1938 with the cachet used by the Wascana Philatelic Society in 1938, there are several elements in common. I suspect that Ludwig Staehle assisted with the design or produced this cachet for Wascana as a favour to Stan C. Koepka.

The only issue that I have seen this printed multi coloured cachet for is the Pictorial Issue in 1938 for Scott 241-245 and C6. Three examples are shown below (Figures 6-8).



Figure 6. Wascana cachet with Scott C6 and additional typed text at bottom.



Figure 7. Wascana cachet with Scott 242 and additional typed text at top.



Figure 8. Wascana cachet with 241, C6 and hand-written text at bottom.

CODA

FDCs issued by the three Saskatchewan philatelic societies are generally hard to find. Please send to our editor any historical information about these clubs as well as scans of other FDCs from your collection that might extend our knowledge about them.

WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

1935 - 1946

Winnipeg, located in the centre of North America, has had many famous people and events associated with it including the Red River floods, the Hudson's Bay Company, painter William Kurelek, the Winnipeg Blue Bombers and Winnipeg Jets, and Kasimir Bileski, known across Canada and beyond as an outstanding stamp dealer and collector and the person who discovered and promoted the Inverted Seaway stamps of 1959.

Winnipeg was founded when the first settlement appeared in 1738. It was incorporated as the City of Winnipeg, derived from the Cree name for Lake Winnipeg ("win-nipi" meaning "murky waters"), in 1873 and the first post office opened shortly after that in 1876.

The following chronology for the Winnipeg Philatelic Society was compiled by the club historians Debbie Birch and the late Des Connor and with input from Michael Zachrias who is their treasurer and webmaster.

1891 A group came together to form the Manitoba Philatelic Association.

1897 In October the Winnipeg Philatelic Club was founded but lasted for less than 3 years.

1900-1903 On October 5th, 1900 the Winnipeg Philatelic Society (WPS) was formed. The founding meeting took place at the Camera Club room, McIntyre Building on Main Street. It had a loose affiliation with other local philatelic groups but no formal structure.

1903-1907 The WPS met infrequently at the homes of members.

1908 The WPS was formally regrouped as "Winnipeg Philatelic Association" (WPA). Club meetings were held weekly at the office of the O.K. Press on William Street, often jointly with the Winnipeg Stamp Club and Winnipeg Philatelic Society.

1909 The first philatelic exposition was held in the Arts Building of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition. A hobby club was formed which was run commercially by O.K. Kendall. It had three sections--Stamps, Postcards, and ExchangeCircuit and developed into an international organization with circuit books.

1911 F.H. Alexander, the owner of the largest collection in the province, joined the club.

1912 O. Kendall became the President of Canadian Philatelic Association.

1913 The philatelic periodical *The Hobbyist* ceased operation.

1919 During the Spanish Flu Pandemic all meetings and gatherings were prohibited by public health order. The WPS opened its doors to collectors from across Canada. Meetings may have taken place at the Board of Trade Building at Main and Water Street.

1922 A review was undertaken of the composition of the membership according to area of residence in Canada. Findings were that one-third of the members were in the Winnipeg catchment area and two-thirds were outside. The criterion used to determine the catchment area was service by local transportation to and from Winnipeg. At this time, Circuit Books were established.

1923 The Canadian Philatelic Association with Fred Jarret of Toronto as President moved its offices from Winnipeg to Toronto along with control of the financial holdings and the lucrative circuit book distribution valued at over \$5,000 per year. The name was changed to Canadian Philatelic Society in 1923, and later to Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

1928-1930 Well-known depression years in North America which also impacted Winnipeg and the WPA virtually died. At the end of 1930, the club was reorganized to become the Winnipeg Philatelic Society.

1935 The second annual Canadian Stamp Exhibition was held at the Marlborough Hotel on Smith Street and it was a great success. The membership card for the WPS shows a vignette that would become the cachet for their FDC's. A membership card for 1935 signed by R.W. Papineau, who was on the Executive Committee is shown in Figure 1, and a 1936 card signed by the Secretary, H.S. Smith is depicted in Figure 2. **1940-1944** During World War II the WPS held irregular meetings at the Winnipeg Free Press Building Board Room. This was also the place where the meetings were held until 1961.

This certifies that I.N. Me Is a member for the year 193.5 No. 131 [1]

Figure 1. 1935 membership card for G.N. McBride.



Figure 2. 1936 membership card for G.N. McBride.

The WPS launched its own series of FDCs in 1935. They are easily recognized because the same cachet was used for many years. The cachet design includes a triangle with the Manitoba Bison (representing the Aboriginal people of Manitoba who used the Bison for food and clothing) inside it and the name of the Winnipeg Philatelic Society in the three triangle bars. Below the triangle was a scroll within it printed "First Day Cover" and a dotted line with "Secrt'y" at the end. Whoever was the Secretary at the time of the stamp issue would sign the FDCs. This dark blue cachet format is the only one they used until 1946. The only variation of the original cachet was in the size of the cachet, with both a large and small version as shown in Figures 3 and 4.



Figure 3. Larger version of WPS cachet with Scott 227.



Figure 4. Smaller version of WPS cachet with Scott 219 and 223.

A selection of covers from the various definitive stamp issues beginning in 1935 is shown in the following scans.



Figure 5. KG V Silver Jubilee, Scott 213.



Figure 6. KG V Pictorial Issue, Scott 217-221.



Figure 7. KG VI Mufti Issue, Scott 231-236.



Figure 8. 1938 Pictorial Issue, Scott 241.



Figure 9. KG VI War Issue, Scott 250.

The WPS devised a new cachet specifically for the 1946 Peace Issue. Shown in Figure 10, the design emphasized Winnipeg's geographic position at the centre of North America. The lower box of text includes the slogan "The Hub of the Continent" while the top box included the issue's date, the WPS name, and "Reconstruction Issue."



Figure 10. KG VI Peace Issue, Scott 273.

The Peace Issue appears to have marked the end of the club's formal FDC program, however there may have been random later uses when a WPS member used one for his or her own convenience, such as with the example shown in Figure 7 for the Bell commemorative on March 3, 1947.



Figure 11. A.G. Bell commemorative of 1947 with Scott 274.

CODA

The Winnipeg Philatelic Society celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in 1958 and is still going strong today. Its early FDCs were a significant contribution to the development of a body of Canadian covers in their early years.

HAMILTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY 1933-1950

The Hamilton Philatelic Society has existed in one form or another since 1930. In its early years it began to produce a series of FDCs for its members, some of which were on general purpose cachets while others had special purpose cachets designed specifically for one stamp or set of stamps.

BACKGROUND

The City of Hamilton was incorporated in 1846 although the first post office was established in 1825 with H. B. Sheldon as its first postmaster. He was also the local barber and dyer at the same time.

From 1847 onward there existed sporadically in Hamilton some type of a stamp club. The Hamilton Philatelic Society (HPS) was founded on September 16, 1930 by a group of twelve collectors meeting at the house of Lloyd W. Sharpe who was the first President of the Society. Over the years the group stayed relatively small since they met at members' homes.

In addition to Lloyd Sharpe, who was a lawyer, other notable members of the HPS included A. E. Rankin who was employed by Canada Steamship Lines, Carl J. Jennings, who had an insurance business, and the Rev. E. J. Etherington. Sharpe and Etherington also had a stamp store in Hamilton during the 1930s. Various correspondence involving the abovementioned notable members is shown in Figures 1 through 6.

In 1932 a second organization, "The Stamp Club of Hamilton" (SCH) was started due to the constant and lengthy waiting list of people wanting to join the HPS. A notice for the September 1935 meeting is depicted in Figure 7.

The two clubs amalgamated in 1953 and since then the organization has been called the Hamilton Stamp Club (HSC). It is still active

Lloyd W. Sharpe

Lloyd Sharpe was born in Hamilton on Sept 23, 1895. He enlisted for WWI, and on his return he attended Osgood Hall Law School in Toronto. He set up a practice in Hamilton upon completing his law degree and formed the firm Sharpe and Niblett. He served in the WWII and was one of the fist Canadian soldiers to enter Germany during the Allied drive towards Berlin. He attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel by the end of the war. He subsequently served in the legal department of the Allied Military Government and was involved in the Nuremberg trials. Throughout life he was actively involved in the Boy Scout movement and attended the World Scouting Jamboree in 1929. Sharpe played an important role in the development of philately in the Hamilton area and wrote several articles on Canadian stamps. Lloyd Sharpe died on April 9, 1969.



Figure 1. Cover to L. W. Sharpe in 1927 with pair of Scott 141.



Figure 2. FDC from L. W. Sharpe to C. F. Sharpe on December 1, 1932 with Scott 196.



Figure 3. Post Card to L. W. Sharpe in 1931 with notice of organization's Executive Committee meeting.



Figure 4. Cover from Carl J. Jennings to Bruce Seed Company in 1930 with Scott 163.



Figure 5. FDC to Carl J. Jennings on August 16, 1934 with pair of Scott 210.



Figure 6. FDC by unknown make to Rev. Etherington, with Scott 213.



Figure 7. Post Card with SCH notice of meeting for September 9, 1935.

today with monthly meetings and spring and fall shows. When I moved to Hamilton from Edmonton in 1975 to start to work for Stelco in the management training program I also joined the HSC. Edmonton had a strong club at that time, but I found the Hamilton club to be a vibrant and busy club that also held meetings with the Buffalo Stamp Club once a year. There must have been at least 30 to 40 members at each regular meeting, and what still stands out in my mind was the heavy cigar and cigarette smoke in the room by the end of the meeting. I was a non-smoker. The HSC was also one of the original members of the Grand River Valley Philatelic Association, and their membership number for the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada is #51.

The HPS issued its first cacheted cover on November 15, 1933 with an advertisement for an international stamp show tying in Hamilton, Buffalo, and Toronto. The example of that cover in Figure 8 is addressed to the distinguished philatelist Vincent Graves Greene.



Figure 8. First HPS cachet (not a FDC), to V.G. Greene in 1933.

GENERAL PURPOSE CACHETS

The Society's first general purpose FDC was a rubber-stamp cachet for Scott 202 issued on May 18, 1933. (Figure 9) The same cachet was struck in green for the next stamp issue, Scott 203, as illustrated in Figure 10 and it is also known in blue ink.

The July 1, 1934 stamps (Scott 208-209) received a new rubber-stamped cachet shown in Figure 11 which emphasizes a deep blue background for the Loyalist statue shown on both the cachet and the stamp.

Types 3 and 4, illustrated in Figures 12 and 13, are variants of Type 1A, but Type 3 lacks a frame and Type 4 has no signature line and no frame.



Figure 9. GP Type 1A, purple with frame and signature line.



Figure 10. GP Type 1B, green with frame and signature line.







Figure 12. GP Type 3, no frame but signature line.



Figure 13. GP Type 4, no frame or signature line.

The Type 5 cachet has the wording "First Day Cover-Hamilton (Ontario) Philatelic Society" forming a circle. It is rendered in three different colour variations—purple, black, and red as shown in Figures 14 through 16.



Figure 14. GP Type 5A, purple circle design.



Figure 15. GP Type 5B, black circle design.



Figure 16. GP Type 5C, red circle design.

The last of the HPS general purpose cachets is based on a general purpose cachet by an unknown maker overprinted with the Society name at the bottom. Its use for the War Issue FDC is illustrated in Figure 17.



Figure 17. GP Type 6, coat of arms cachet by unknown maker with HPS overprint.

SPECIAL PURPOSE CACHETS

Unlike most other philatelic organizations, the Hamilton group made occasional use of special purpose cachets to mark significant events.

The first of these (Figure 18) commemorated the World Grain Conference held in Regina. The cachet features a grain stook within a circle made by the wording and format of the circular design of Type 5 shown in Figures 14 through 16. The HPS also used the general purpose cachet shown in Figure 10 for this stamp issue.



Figure 18. SP cachet for Scott 203.

A special purpose cachet was created for the 1935 Silver Jubilee issue (Scott 211-216) marking the reign of King George V. Shown in Figure 19, it features a crown inside a maple leaf and the text includes the wording "1910 Silver Jubilee 1935" on a banner across the leaf.



Figure 19. SP cachet for Scott 211-216.

The first half of the Mufti Issue (Scott 231-233) appeared on April 1, 1937 and received a special purpose cachet (Figure 20) by the Society. It features a crown encircled by a banner reading "Pre-Coronation Issue of King George VI" as well as the Society name and "First Day Cover."



Figure 20.

The cachet for the Mufti and Coronation issue stamps of May 10, 1937 features a crown in front of a blue background surrounded by six circles. (Figure 21) The text includes the Society name and the words "Commemorating the Coronation of King George VI."

The same cachet used for the Canada Coronation issue was also used by HPS for the Newfoundland Omnibus stamps as illustrated in Figure 22.



Figure 21. SP cachet for King George VI Mufti and Coronation issues (Scott 234-237).



Figure 22. SP cachet with Newfoundland stamps.

The Society via Carl Jennings prepared FDCs for the Newfoundland Royal Visit issue of June 17, 1939 (Figure 23). The cachet had the same artwork as observed in Figures 21 and 22, however the text beneath it reads "Posted at St. John's Newfoundland on the occasion of their majesties visit June 17, 1939."



Figure 23. SP cachet for Newfoundland Royal Visit issue with Scott 249.

Carl Jennings apparently had a role in both Newfoundland FDCs and later sent out some Canadian covers marked "With compliments from Carl Jennings." It's likely that all the HPS rubber stamps wound up in his possession.

CODA

For some seventeen years the Hamilton Philatelic Society made significant contributions to the emergence of the hobby of collecting first day covers through the provision of an ongoing service to their members. Over the period that they were being produced there were nine distinctly different types of general purpose cachets and six special purpose ones that marked specific events. Only the first of the special purpose cachets was made with a rubber stamp whereas only the last of the general purpose cachets was printed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Background information for the Hamilton philatelic organizations was obtained from two articles by Barry Millman, "A History of Hamilton and Its Stamp Clubs" and "Lloyd Sharpe." I would also like to thank Andrew Chung and Stephane Cloutier for their helpful suggestions.



Want to Give CAPEX22 a Helping Hand?

BNAPS has introduced a matching funds program to allow members to make a monetary donation to CAPEX22 and the Society will match your donation 1:1, in effect doubling your contribution. The program will run until February 2022. As you know, CAPEX22 (June 9-12, 2022) is the first single-frame international exhibition and is the first major international show in Canada since 1996. If you have never been to an international show, you will be in for a treat. Because of this program, BNAPS will become a Partner Sponsor and will have a premium position with a booth On on the exhibition/bourse interface, a relaxation room for guests and members to meet or just get off of their feet, a seminar room named BNAPS Room for the entire convention, sponsorship of the Awards program and a few other perks—all high visibility activities.

You can donate directly on the BNAPS website, click on "Donate". Canadians can donate directly on the CAPEX22.org website. Don't forget to identify yourself as a BNAPS member in order for CAPEX to get the matching funds. For U.S. and Canadian donors, for donations over \$25, you will receive a tax statement that will permit you to take a tax deduction. Thanks in advance for your help for Canadian philately!