

# The Bulletin

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## TWO USEFUL RESOURCES

A recent email from Peter Kritz led me to explore a new BNAPS handbook (access is via the weblink <http://www.bnaps.org/PerfinHandbook/PerfinHandbook.htm>).

Yes it is about PERFINs, as mentioned in a recent column by Jim Measures. As Peter noted, probably everyone has some perfin in their collection, and this handbook is extensive, very detailed, and FREE!

A while back, Peta Vanderwal sent me a link to an amazing web page—[www.colnect.com](http://www.colnect.com). This is a website for collectors of all manner of “things” - there are twenty-nine categories, including beer coasters; tea bags; paper clips; hotel key cards; and more!

Our interest of course is stamps—there are over 543,000 stamps listed in great detail—and searchable by many different categories, for example, colour, perf, printer, subject, paper, etc. Thirty-two different stamp catalogues are referenced, and the site is linked to

Ebay if you wish to acquire an item listed. And there are swap lists with other collectors, and the ability to create your own wish list. Explore the site—you will be amazed.



*Is there a secret message here, Gerd? We will have to ask Dave Pugh what two stamps sideways is trying to tell us, especially as they face opposite directions.!*

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## UPCOMING

### MEETINGS:

- SAUGEEN STAMP CLUB,  
Tuesday March 1
- KINCARDINE STAMP CLUB,  
Wednesday March 2
- KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY Thursday  
March 10
- GUELPH STAMP CLUB  
Tuesday March 15
- OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB  
Wednesday March 16
- STRATFORD STAMP CLUB  
Thursday March 24

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT..... WALT BERRY**

We have been extremely fortunate this year insomuch as we have not had to cancel a meeting due to bad weather – hopefully this will continue for the next couple of months. Despite the distance some of our stamper friends travel, the club continues to have an excellent turnout for our meetings.

Thank you to all for the ongoing support.

With the weather blowing a very cold breeze over the area, it should give everyone a chance to work on their collections – and possibly an exhibit for the April 30<sup>th</sup> annual show at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Speaking of our show, volunteers will be required to help set up and take down the frames, assist dealers move their goods in and out of the show, staff the welcome table, assist with the circuit books – and staff the lunch counter. Treasurer Ralph is hard at work getting the dealers lined up.

Give some thought on your exhibit – how many pages will you have – people's choice – judged.

Our meeting in April will have a guest speaker (Chris McFetridge) – who will address the members on a topic regarding Canadian Philately, Chris has recently left the corporate working world to engage in his lifelong passion of stamps as a dealer and blogger. Please mark your calendar for our April meeting.

Keep Well – and drive safely.



*Ah, Spring!!*

*Can it be coming soon?*

**What's coming up...**

*See the Grand News for complete information on the following shows:*

March 12—OAKPEX Oakville Annual Show

March 19 —OXPEX/OTEX Oxford Stamp Exhibition

March 20—Postcard Memories show & sale, Bingemans, Kitchener

**April 30 2016—SAUGEEN STAMP CLUB Annual Show**

**August 19-21, 2016—Royal\*2016\*Royale, Waterloo**

**October 15-16—CANPEX2016 London ON**



***ANOTHER “MEASURED MOMENT”.....D.J. “JIM” MEASURES***

**MISSING FERN ON NEW ZEALAND’S 2003 CHRISTMAS STAMP**

Because of the proliferation of private postal services that each issued their own stamps, NZPost started, in 2003, to show a small “Fern Logo” on each stamp issued by the government’s “official” post office to identify their stamps.

When the 2003 Christmas stamps were issued the set included a 40c coil stamp that showed the Baby Jesus. These coils were printed 16 rolls at a time in rolls of 100 stamps. On one stamp in each run of 1600, the Fern Logo was missing. This occurred on the 6th stamp in a roll of 100. Since the variety was not discovered by the philatelic community until February 2004, when the unsold stamps had been recalled and destroyed, few of them were saved by serious collectors. Adding to the rarity factor is the fact that the stamp was not found on the first or last four stamps on the roll, stamps often chosen by collectors who want to have end strips.

When the variety was discovered, major dealers launched a search for them and came to the conclusion that less than 200 of the still exist; allowing for the number of rolls that were sold and the likelihood that at least some of them were used and discarded. The result is that various catalogues list this variety at prices ranging from \$500 to \$3750. I have found a single used copy in a dealer’s sale and purchased it for 20 cents!!! It just goes to show that knowledge is worth money!



***One Page Exhibits—***

***upcoming topics:***

*March:* National Parks

*April:* Art

*May:* Around the North

*June:* Interesting Covers

*July:* Churches & Cathedrals

# Saugeen Stamp Club

Chapter 220, Royal Philatelic Society of Canada  
Chapter 1538, American Philatelic Society  
Chapter 21, Grand River Valley Philatelic Association

Meeting at St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
356—9th Street  
Hanover, Ontario  
Use 11th Avenue entrance

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We are on the web!  
[http://  
saugeenstampclub.webplus.net/  
index.html](http://saugeenstampclub.webplus.net/index.html)



## Club Officers:

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## GRVPA NEWS...

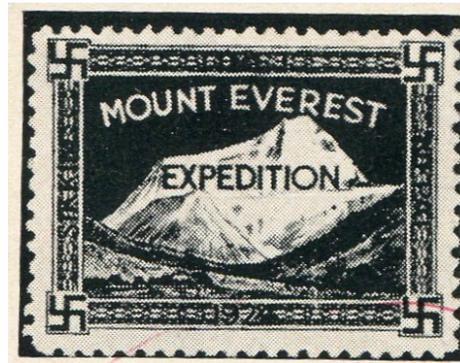
Check out the latest *GRAND NEWS* for information about our fellow clubs, and their meetings and shows.

*The next GRVPA Directors meeting is in April 2016.*

## THOSE DASTARDLY POSTMASTERS!!!

Some interesting philatelic stories have come out of the many expeditions launched to “conquer” Mount Everest.

The 1924 Bruce Expedition to Mount Everest was one of many in the years between the wars. This expedition is noteworthy for the stamp it produced (for propaganda purposes, not for postage).



The 1936 Rutledge Expedition was notable for the non-delivery of its mail, sent from base camp to Gantok, Nepal, with a special cancel. The mystery of the “lost” mail was solved when the postmaster at Gantok was arrested and 494 Expedition covers were found in his possession. The few of these covers that exist today are very rare, and have a typed note stuck on the back of them, explaining that the postmaster was in jail for failing in his duty!



*Write a letter to someone today, and put some good postage on it!!*