

The Bulletin

VOLUME 23, No. 4

APRIL 2020

More about the Coronavirus— Need to know Information

From an immunologist at Johns Hopkins University. Maybe this will make just one person stop saying “it’s been around forever, it’s just the flu.” It hasn’t and it’s not. Read why.

Feeling confused as to why Coronavirus is a bigger deal than Seasonal flu? Here it is in a nutshell.

It has to do with RNA sequencing.... I.e. genetics.

Seasonal flu is an “all human virus”. The DNA/RNA chains that make up the virus are recognized by the human immune system. This means that your body has some immunity to it before it comes around each year... you get immunity two ways...through exposure to a virus, or by getting a flu shot.

Novel viruses, come from animals.... the WHO tracks novel viruses in animals, (sometimes for years watching for mutations). Usually these viruses only transfer from animal to animal (pigs in the case of H1N1) (birds in the case of the Spanish flu). But once, one of these animal viruses mutates, and starts to transfer from animals to humans... then it’s a problem, Why? Because we have no natural or acquired immunity.. the RNA sequencing of the genes inside the virus isn’t human, and the human immune system doesn’t recognize it so, we can’t fight it off.

Now.... sometimes, the mutation only allows transfer from animal to human, for years it’s only transmission is from an infected animal to a human before it finally mutates so that it can now transfer human to human... once that happens..we have a new contagion phase. And depending on the fashion of this new mutation, thats what decides how contagious, or how deadly it’s gonna be. H1N1 was deadly....but it did not mutate in a way that was as deadly as the Spanish flu. It’s RNA was slower to mutate and it attacked its host differently, too.

Fast forward.

Now, here comes this Coronavirus... it existed in animals only, for nobody knows how long...but one day, at an animal market, in Wuhan China, in December 2019, it mutated and made the jump from animal to people. At first, only animals could give it to a person... But here is the scary part.... in just TWO WEEKS it mutated again and gained the ability to jump from human to human. Scientists call this quick ability, “slippery”

This Coronavirus, not being in any form a “human” virus (whereas we would all have some natural or acquired immunity). Took off like a rocket. And this was because, Humans have no known immunity...doctors have no known medicines for it. And it just so happens that this particular mutated animal virus, changed itself in such a way that it causes great damage to human lungs..

That’s why Coronavirus is different from seasonal flu, or H1N1 or any other type of influenza.... this one is slippery AF. And it’s a lung eater...And, it’s already mutated AGAIN, so that we now have two strains to deal with, strain s, and strain L....which makes it twice as hard to develop a vaccine.

We really have no tools in our shed with this. History has shown that fast and immediate closings of public places has helped in the past pandemics. Philadelphia and Baltimore were reluctant to close events in 1918 and they were the hardest hit in the US during the Spanish Flu.

(continued pg 4)

Upcoming Meetings

Saugeen Stamp Club
Tuesday April 7
Cancelled

Kincardine Stamp Club
Wed April 1

Owen Sound Stamp Club
Wed April 15

Guelph Stamp Club
Wed April 1
Wed April 15

KW Philatelic Society
Thursday April 9

PLEASE NOTE THAT
OTHER CLUBS MAY
HAVE CANCELLED
THEIR MEETINGS AS
WELL

ONE PAGE EXHIBITS

UPCOMING TOPICS

JUNE -

Design a stamp
(see details pg 2)

JULY -

Airmail

AUGUST-

Flowers

SEPTEMBER -

My Favourite Stamp

Message From the President

Our monthly meeting on Saturday March 7 2020, went off very well. Twenty-four persons were in attendance – including birthday lady Rita Measures. Husband Jim surprised her with a birthday cake after everyone had their fill of pizza (courtesy of the club). Happy Birthday Rita.

There was plenty of chatter during the day – indicating everyone was having a good time. Hopefully everyone was able to take a few new acquisitions home to add to their collection. The president was nursing a sore leg so he did not get around to see much of the material. He did get some information about a local business who may be able to assist with a remedy. (Thanks Ralph).

The meeting was an opportunity for attendees to buy / sell off some of their surplus material. Reports would indicate many were able find new material or sell off surplus goods. Members should remember that they are welcome to bring material to the monthly meetings – we do have a few members who have been doing this for sometime – with success.

Jim Measures single page exhibit won the challenge and he chose “your favourite stamp” for the June meeting. Which will now be put forward to September.

As a follow-up to the March bulletin & Jim’s interest in one liners, I add a few:

If you live in a small town, when you don’t know what you are doing, everyone else in town does.

....do we leave cars in the driveway and put our useless junk in the garage.

The only difference between the tax man and the taxidermist is that the taxidermist leaves the skin on.
“Mark Twain”

I don’t feel old. I don’t feel anything until noon and then it’s time for my nap. – “Bob Hope”

Design a Stamp

Since we will not be meeting for a while I thought we could have a little contest for the best design of a stamp commemorating the Coronavirus of 2020. I know, I know, no one wants to discuss it any further but maybe we could get it out of our system by designing a stamp. Hand drawn or computer generated. Who will come up with the best design. Hopefully we will see in June.

What’s Coming Up

See the Grand News for complete details of the following: NOTE: Some or all may be cancelled

April 18 Stampfest KW Stamp Club

April 24-25 Springpex Hamilton Stamp Club

April 26 Post Card Memories Bingemans Park

May 2 Saugeen Stamp Club Annual Show and Bourse CANCELLED

May 3 May Day Stamp Show

Another Measured Moment.....

What do you collect, and why? Why I collect NEW ZEALAND Stamps



I grew up in Toronto, and at age 7 joined Cubs (the youngest branch of Boy Scouts). I learned that there was a “Stamp Collectors Badge” and several of my friends were going for it so I decided to try also. A neighbour, father of a friend, showed me his collection so I started to accumulate and trade stamps with various friends.

It was well known in our family that my Mom had an Uncle Ben who lived on an island near Australia. When I showed her a map to ask what island was home to Uncle Ben, she truly didn't know, Mom pointed to an island and asked “what's this?” I told her that was New Zealand and she instantly replied that must be where Uncle Ben lived. I became a “nut about New Zealand”. In school when we drew pictures of birds, I drew a kiwi, when we did projects on natives, I did mine on Maori. As you would guess, my stamp collection focused on New Zealand. On Yonge St. within walking distance there were 2 stamp dealers. Empire Stamp Co. put out a free (mostly advertising) magazine, *PHILATOPIC MONTHLY*. One issue had a price list of New Zealand stamps. The other dealer, Mr. Alden Johnston, had a good stock of NZ stamps and would always beat Empire's prices, I was in Stamp Heaven.

This isn't the end of the story; in 1962, as an adult, I wrote to relatives in England to get Uncle Ben's address in New Zealand and was shocked to learn that it was in Launceston Tasmania. Yes, an island near Australia, but not New Zealand. I wrote to Uncle Ben and got a reply from his son Harold who told me that his Dad was in hospital. Two weeks later we received notice of his death. In 1972 I met some New Zealand visitors who encouraged me to write to their neighbour, Ran Dacre who was a stamp collector. I did and learned that Ran was not just a philatelist but President of RPSNZ. He sponsored me to be the first Canadian member of RPSNZ. With the new member's information I saw the name of George Measures, a life member of RPSNZ. I wrote to him and learned that he is a relative of my Dad that we didn't know about and he had the family Bible that records my Grandfather's birth.

Eventually I met Harold, Uncle Ben's son and his wife Joan, and all the family in Australia when I went to the Boy Scout World Jamboree in Australia, 1987/88. Since then, my wife Rita & I have exchanged visits with the family in both Australia & New Zealand.

At age 10 in 1947, we had a Scout Hobby Show. I entered my New Zealand Health Stamps and got First Prize for stamps. What impressed me most was that Second place went to my friend Allan Haggart's older brother Gord who I had always looked up to as the “Perfect Scout”. I had such a swelled head that I needed a new hat! I continue to exhibit my health stamps even though when Janet Klug judged them at an RPSC national show she said that I needed to get 2 stamps that list for \$33,000.00 in the C/P catalogue if I want to get a Gold. In KIWI jargon I took that as a “Cod's Wollop” and didn't throw a “Hissy Fit”. I just continue to try to improve within my limited budget (the price of a pack of cigarettes per day as I don't smoke).

Now, 75 years later, I have just about everything that I can afford among the older New Zealand and Australia, I am now focusing on modern used Australia & New Zealand as well as a few smaller islands.

Saugeen Stamp Club

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

Meeting: St. Matthew's
Evangelical Lutheran Church
356 9th Street,
Hanover, Ontario
Use 11th Avenue Entrance

Club Officers:

President: Walt Berry
519-887-6999
wsberry@sympatico.ca

Vice-President: Peter Kritz
519-364-4752
pkritz@coldwellbankerpbr.com

Secretary: Mike Wagner
519-881-1217
mikewagner@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Ralph Wyndham
519-529-3487
rw@hurontel.on.ca

Sales Circuit: Bill Findlay
519-369-5689
billfindlay74@gmail.com

Bulletin Editor: Diane Jarvis,
905-299-5854
226-995-0097
laurielady@gmail.com

From the Editor:

I have been asked to pass on to all our members that our meetings for April and May have been cancelled and also our Show in May, due to the COVID -19 Pandemic.

In the meantime if anyone has any news or items to share during our hiatus please forward them to me either by email or by snail mail I would love to get them for the Bulletin. I will publish the Bulletin as usual during the coming months.

I for one will miss the monthly camaraderie and the stiff competition for auction lots (Mike). I don't need any more stamps but I can't help myself when I see something I don't have or something I can add to my collection.

My mailing address is: PO Box 1571, Wingham, ON N0G 2W0

Everyone stay safe and healthy 'til we meet again

(cont. from page 1)

Factoid: Henry VIII stayed in his room and allowed no one near him, till the Black Plague passed...(honestly...I understand him so much better now). Just like us, he had no tools in his shed, except social isolation...



And let me end by saying....right now it's hitting older folks harder... but this genome is so slippery...if it mutates again (and it will). Who is to say, what it will do next. Be smart folks... acting like you're unafraid is so not sexy right now.
[#flattenthecurve](#). Stay home folks... and share this to those that just are not catching on.



ROYAL OAK STAMPS

*Stamps • Postcards • Postal History • FDC's
Canada and the World
Philatelic Supplies
Books*

JOHN CORTAN
Phone: 519-395-5817
Email: royaloak@hurontel.on.ca

Box 295
Ripley, Ontario
N0G 2R0

Shop phone: 519-395-5717

Let us know your wants and needs!!