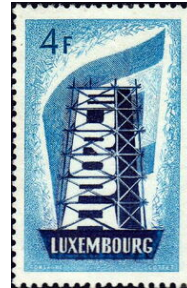


# The Bulletin

VOLUME 27, NO. 2  
FEBRUARY 2024

A Dialogue on Europa Stamps by Ralph Wyndham

Europa stamps are a popular theme for collectors. The concept of the annual joint issue of Europa-themed postage stamps was first brought to life in 1956 by the six member countries of the European Coal and Steel Community (France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg). A common design, the word EUROPA surrounded by construction scaffolding, was used to symbolize rebuilding.



In 1959, the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (acronym CEPT) was formed and the organization assumed management of the Europa issue. Starting with the CEPT's first stamp in 1960, the CEPT acronym and/or the Conference's logo -- four post horns and the letters CEPT -- appeared along with the word 'Europa' on the annual issue.

Wanting to focus more on telecommunications matters, the CEPT, in 1993, handed management of Europa-themed stamps to PostEurop, the European association of public postal operators.

PostEurop adopted the word 'Europa' in right-leaning letters as its logo and this was used on all issues. A stylized post box, also leaning to the right, was added to the logo in 2011.

In its earliest years, a common design was created for use by participating postal authorities but some still preferred to create their own designs. As a result, since 1974, only a theme is agreed upon and it is up to each participating country to decide how to present it. Common designs were used, however, in 2000, 2016, and, 2023. The 2023 common design "Peace, the highest value of humanity" was chosen at the suggestion of Ukraine after Russia's invasion. The original theme for 2023 was postponed to 2024.

Currently, there are around 60 countries taking part in the annual Europa issue. For 2024 'underwater flora and fauna' is the theme; 2025 will be 'national archaeological discoveries'.



A very good private collector's blog on Europa stamps can be found at the website <https://europa-stamps.blogspot.com/>

## Upcoming<sup>u</sup> Meetings

Saugeen Stamp Club  
**Sat Mar 2 2024**

Kincardine Stamp Club  
Wed March 6

Owen Sound Stamp Club  
Thurs Mar 14 Zoom  
Wed March 20

Guelph Stamp Club  
Wed March 6  
Wed March 20

KW Philatelic Society  
Thurs March 21

Oxford Zoom Auction  
Wed March 6  
Fri March 15

Check with the club  
before going to its  
meeting.

## ONE PAGE

### EXHIBITS

### UPCOMING

### TOPICS

#### March

Club Logo for  
Canada Post

#### April

Royalty

#### May

San Marino

## ***Message from the President***

Greetings and welcome to spring (almost)!!

Our monthly meeting in January was cancelled due to the weather, but the February meeting went ahead as planned with friends coming together. The Secretary/Treasurer reported the club is in good shape financially and all obligations have been met – the rental agreement was dropped off in the Church mailbox (but we are waiting on the insurance certificates which were received February 6th and forwarded).

Founding member Jim Measures spoke about downsizing his philatelic holdings siting the annual show on May 4th would be a good opportunity to hold an auction – with 10% going to the club. The dealers scheduled to be at the show should be notified as they may be interested in purchases.

Members who collect mint Canadian should be aware there is a flood of fake stamps on the market. The bogus stamps were first reported in a brief story in the March-April 2022 issue of the Corgi Times, the official newsletter of the Elizabethan II Study Group. The fakes are believed to have been printed in China, according to the Corgi Times

The upcoming annual show was discussed and we need volunteers to step forward to ensure a success. Two members stepped forward to manage the lunch counter but we need more to cover other duties:

Door (door prize tickets)

Frames (pick up / erect frames / deliver back to storage)

Door Prizes (donation suitable for prizes)

Assist dealers unload and load their holdings and other duties as required.

Please come to the March meeting and be prepared to volunteer to cover the show. Also consider relieving Ralph as the show coordinator for upcoming years. As everyone knows, Ralph moved to New Brunswick and it would be difficult for him to continue.

Finally, our three members (David, Ken and Peter) managed the member auction to move many items to new homes. Thank you for a job well done.

See you in March – keep well and safe

Cheers

Please take note of the following:

1. We need a new Coordinator for our Club Show in May 2025. This is Ralph's last year but I am sure he will have a list of dealers that he can pass on.
2. Our March meeting will be **Saturday, Mar 2 from 1 – 3 pm.**
3. We are looking for a club logo to submit to Canada Post for our May Show.

## Another Measured Moment

### *I'm a "temporary" Local Celebrity*

If you are not familiar with **Rural Route** magazine, you may have missed the November/December 2023 issue. **Rural Route** is a free magazine delivered to 18,000 homes by Canada Post and offered *free* at stores in various towns in this part of SW Ontario.

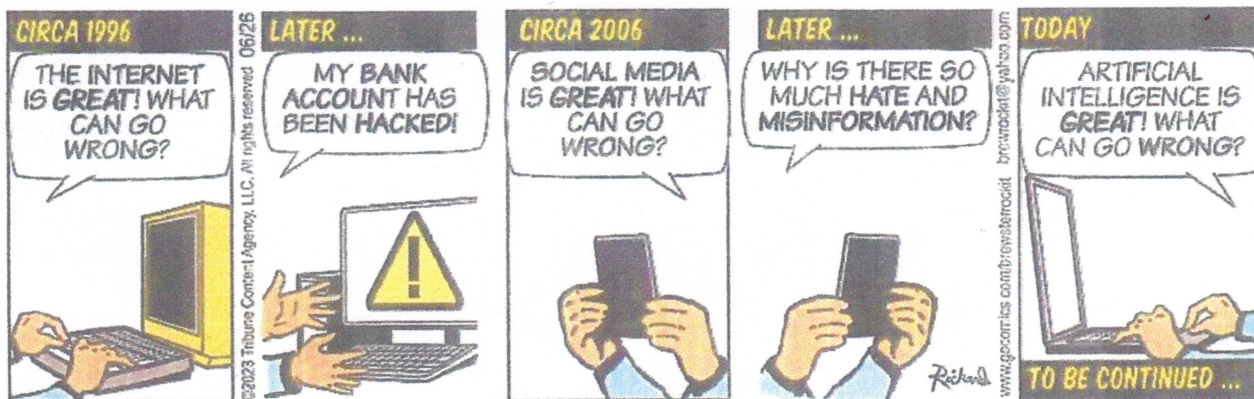
Last fall, Jennifer Bowman, the editor, telephoned me to say that she was planning an issue focused on, "letter writing", and "Did I, as a philatelist, have anything that may be suitable for such an issue?" I responded that if she wanted to come over I would show her some of my "*Measured Moments*", and she might wish to use one or more of them.

She did come and we spent about an hour talking stamps and letter writing, while she looked over some of my old columns. She took my picture before she left.

The next thing I heard about that was in Church on a Sunday in November, when several people were congratulating me on being featured in **Rural Route**. I didn't see it until I picked up my mail on Monday morning. The story, has a full page photo of me and features a previous, "*Measured Moment*", with a few editorial adjustments.

I am rather flattered by all the fuss, particularly when I realize that just about all of the members of our Stamp Club could tell a similar story. Likely more interesting than my story. How about taking that up as a project in 2024; - to write your stamp story! I'm sure that Dianne would be happy to print it in our *Bulletin*; and perhaps Jennifer Bowman will be interested in featuring it in **Rural Route**.

## A Very Topical Cartoon Strip



## Saugeen Stamp Club

Chapter 220, Royal Philatelic  
Society of Canada

Chapter 21, Grand River Valley  
Philatelic Association

Website: [https://www.rpsc.org/  
chapters/saugeenstampclub/](https://www.rpsc.org/chapters/saugeenstampclub/)

Club Website:  
[saugeenstampclub.org](http://saugeenstampclub.org)

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

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**Vice-President:**  
Peter Kritz  
519-364-4752

[pkritz@coldwellbankerpbr.com](mailto:pkritz@coldwellbankerpbr.com)

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Owen Sound Zoom Auctions

The links to see items and read the terms and conditions follow below:  
[https://stampsmarter.org/AuctionSQL/Auction\\_Owen\\_Entry.php?  
operation=insert](https://stampsmarter.org/AuctionSQL/Auction_Owen_Entry.php?operation=insert) – Please use this form to enter your individual lots for  
auction

[https://stampsmarter.org/AuctionFiles/Cat\\_OwenSC.aspx](https://stampsmarter.org/AuctionFiles/Cat_OwenSC.aspx) – You may  
view listed items in the current auction on this page. These will be the  
same scans used during the auction

<https://stampsmarter.org/AuctionFiles/OwenTCs.html> – Terms and  
Conditions - please read if you are listing or bidding in the auction

Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> 2024

# Saugeen Stamp Club

## Annual Show

Clifford Community Hall

2 William St Clifford ON

Hours 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Door Prizes / exhibits

Dealers / Circuit Books / lunch counter

Free admission/ Free Parking

No Stairs

Plus Silent Auction

Further Information contact: President Walt Berry [wsberry@sympatico.ca](mailto:wsberry@sympatico.ca)

*Visit our new and improved Webpage for all  
information and past Bulletins  
[saugeenstampclub.org](http://saugeenstampclub.org)*

## Royal Oak Stamps

Now dealing only in Philatelic Supplies  
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