

## VERNON MEET ENJOYED BY THOSE PRESENT TOP NOTCH PRESENTATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

While only 15 intrepid souls enjoyed good weather in the Okanagan the group activities kept everyone into the weekend.

We opened with a successful hospitality room Friday evening - after many enjoyed a group supper in the hotel dining room. We were well treated by the Hotel and various staff members.

**Gary Dickinson** opened the presentations with an interesting ramble about the odd first day of issue surrounding one of the Queen issues - (interesting in spite of our technology going down the spout and him having to ad-lib a bit more than he wanted- much appreciated Gary) - after reprinting all gazillion of the issue - stopping issue a day or so before they were due to be released because they did not have "postes" on them - the Post office managed to have first day covers in various places and various times when the replacements eventually came out. Our technology department came up empty when trying to get the power point set up to work - but undaunted Gary soldiered on - the scans he would have shown us are available - Shirley - Ann Frick has them now for distribution to members.



Then **Trelle Morrow** showed us some old texts and how it applies to our hobby. Very interesting. Members were handed the printout Trelle supplied - which is carried in this missive.



New member, **Mark Oakley**, then intrigued the group with a presentation of collecting places with his family name - again very interesting and full of delightful anecdotes. We hope to hear more from Mark in the future.



**Peter Jacobi** gave us a detailed and informative presentation on origins of Trail, Rossland and CM&S and postal details of the times. He had a mountain of information which was well arranged.



The final presentation of the meeting was from **Peter Fralick** - peripheral collecting - he showed examples from Revenues of various types - postcards - Christmas and other seals - strike and other labels and a number of other of this ilk along with some catalogues and other books which went along with them.



In all of the discussions those present asked questions which spurred additional information being brought out. We started the business meeting, after all it is the Annual Meeting, Saturday and finished it Sunday. Much discussion centred around “where do we go from here?” It was decided to carry on and members voted to have a meeting next year - to be somewhere in the

lower Mainland. They also wanted the meeting after that to be back in the Interior.

The group activities Saturday afternoon went to a display of the bell from the old Post Office in downtown Vernon - they rang it for our benefit - if the building had just managed to hang on for a few more years it would probably still be there. Historical buildings are rarely destroyed these days. A bit of nostalgia for the chairman - in his day climbing the bell tower was illegal but sort of popular among certain high school types.



The next stop was the Okanagan Landing Station House Museum. They display a scale model of what Okanagan Landing looked like when it was really a landing for the railroad cars being towed down the lake. Well worth the steep climb up the stairs to see.



Then off to the new military museum at the army camp. It was set up to show what it was like to have been one of the thousands of



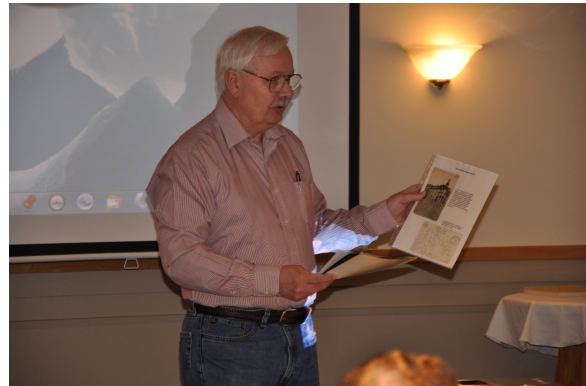
soldiers passing through the camp for training. Also displays for the summer cadet camp. Again a bit of nostalgia for the Chairman - who had written some of the articles displayed - from the Vernon News. Also some of the pictures displayed he had taken.



The banquet was opened with one of the best meals ever for one of these events - even if one of the dishes had to be eaten to be appreciated and not decided upon by its appearance. **Ken Mather** - well known author and historian in the Vernon area kept us interested as he led us through the history of the cowboy in the Okanagan - and elsewhere. His pictures and commentary kept prompting comments like "I didn't know that."



**Clothes line** was again a welcome and enjoyable part of the meeting as members shared with the group. All in all a successful and enjoyable weekend - was the unanimous opinion heard.



## ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE IN OFFICE

Members wanted the Advisory committee to continue to help the executive with decisions needed for the running of the Group.

Members nominated and accepted were: Bill Ver Bruggen, Jon Johnson, Peter Jacobi along with the Secretary-Treasurer and Chairman. The Chairman expressed thanks for the outgoing members assistance.

## Donation welcomed by the Group

A collection donated by the family of a deceased BNAPS member for auction to help with expenses of the group was put on display in the hospitality room.

It was decided that there were not enough people present to do justice to the material offered and we should ask Frank Van Hausen to auction it for us. He has since agreed and the Chairman will drop it off there when out in June.

A priest goes to the post office to buy stamps for her Christmas cards. He says to the clerk, "May I have 50 Christmas stamps?"

The clerk says, "What denomination?"

The priest says, "God help us, Has it come to this? Give me 6 Catholic, 12 Presbyterian, 10 Lutheran and 22 Baptists

## **INSURANCE**

The subject of insuring our philatelic holdings arose. Member knowledge of such ranged from little to a fairly comprehensive grasp. There seemed to be no common ground. Some had theirs with Hugh Wood Canada - who used to service Canadian collectors from his APS affiliations. He now has an office in Canada and you no longer have to belong to the APS to access this vital service. Joe Smith mentioned Wardrop & Co Ltd. Others had vague references to even vaguer company ideas. Also vague were

references to needing safes or safety deposit boxes and coverage for travel - for those exhibiting as well as others. .

I use Hugh Wood - as when I started insuring things this was the only company offering same without an appraisal. I have never had to make a claim so cannot comment on this aspect of the service. So we will research this and report back to a future newsletter - feel free to send whatever information you may have to the editor.

## **Minutes of the Pacific Northwest Regional Group – BNAPS, April 25, 2015**

Meeting opened by Chairman, Peter Fralick. The meeting took place over Saturday, and Sunday mornings.

We welcomed new member Mark Oakley.

The group received a donation of an old stamp collection and miscellaneous items with the intent that it be auctioned as a fund raiser for our group. There is value to the items received. These items were on view to the group Friday evening and again Saturday morning. As there were not enough members present to make a sale possible the other option was to choose a dealer for auction. Moved and seconded to use F.V.H. Stamps (Frank van Hausen) auction house to break down the collection and auction it for us. It was moved by Peter Jacobi, sec by Gary Dickinson to table this motion till Sunday morning in order let the members further view the collection and what it consists of and make a final decision.

Jack and Bev Wallace sent their regrets at not being able to attend the weekend, due to health restrictions.

Discussion was had concerning the position of carrying on with our annual meetings and

social get togethers for the group. Moved by Peter Jacobi, seconded by Gary Dickinson we have a meeting in 2016. Mark Oakley moved, and Gary Dickinson seconded, that we have the meeting in the lower mainland. Carried. To be held the end of April.

A brief treasurers report was presented. It will be printed in the next newsletter for all members to view. Moved by Gary Fisher, Seconded by Joe Smith to accepted the treasurer's report. Carried.

It was moved by Peter Jacobi, seconded by Gary Dickinson, that Peter Fralick continue as Chairman and Shirley-Ann Frick continue as secretary/treasurer. Carried.

Peter Fralick will continue with sending out the newsletter, with the able willing help of his wife Paula, who formats it for him. Newsletters generally come out 4 times a year: June wrap up of AGM; in the fall; January/February giving agenda for AGM, and again in February with registration.

The group then revisited the donated items on Sunday morning. It was decided to auction it. First choice was Frank van Hausen of F.V.H. Stamps, 2: All nations and 3: Ocean Park

Auctions.

Talk ensued pertaining to our meeting locations. It was decided we would alternate location between the lower mainland and the Okanagan. This being two central locations rather than out of the way. Eg. Traveling time.

Advisory committee. We thank those that have participated in this function in the past being Firmin Wyndels, Tim Woodland and Tom Watkins. It was then decided to ask for a new volunteers: Bill Ver Bruggen, Jon Johnson and Peter Jacobi. All contact is done by email, whenever Peter Fralick needs input for certain questions/functions regarding the group.

Peter Jacobi has volunteered to continue as our liaison with the Federation of Stamp Clubs.

The question arose of having an Auxiliary membership for spouses/partners who like to

attend the presentation and meetings.

Moved by Gary Fisher, seconded by Bill Ver Bruggen, to have an annual fee of \$10.00 for any Associate Member. Carried.

It was mentioned that dues for each year begin January to December of \$10.00

In conversation between the Chairman and Treasurer direction was given that the treasurer send out second overdue dues notices, being for 2015, giving 1 month to reply and thereafter any unpaid membership for 2014/2015 being dropped from membership.

- Current membership 46
- Members in arrears up to and including 2015, 16

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by  
Shirley-Ann Frick  
Secretary/Treasurer

### **Breakdown of the Income and Expenses for Vernon Meeting**

#### **Income:**

800.00
95.00
135.00
Total 1030.00

#### **Expenses**

bus rental	135.00
guest speaker	100.00
Vernon museum donation	75.00
Village Green Hotel	837.64
Peter's expenses	149.92
Total	1297.56

## Bank Account Statement

2014 1-Jun 0.08		3057.53	
2014 20-Jun	145.00	3202.53	dues
2014 1-Jul 0.07		3202.60	
2014 24-Jul	40.00	3242.60	dues
2014 1-Aug	0.07	3242.67	
2014 1-Sep	0.07	3242.74	
2014 1-Oct	0.07	3242.81	
2014 1-Nov	0.07	3242.88	
2014 1-Dec	0.07	3242.95	
2014 16-Dec	31.41	3274.36	
2014 30-Dec	50.00	3324.36	
2015 1-Jan	0.06	3324.42	
2015 15-Jan	20.00	3344.42	dues
2015 1-Feb	0.07	3344.49	
2015 11-Feb	22.60		2 PNWRG membership
2015 14-Feb	20.00		
2015 1-Mar	0.06	3341.95	
2015 1-Mar	0.07	3342.02	
2015 13-Apr	800.00	4142.02	Vernon Registration
2015 23-Apr	95.00	4217.02	Vernon Registration
2015 28-Apr	145.00	4362.02	Vernon Registration & dues
2015 21-Apr	135.00	4227.02	3 Bus Rental
2015 30-Apr	0.08	4227.10	
	100.00	4127.10	1 Ken Mather, Guest Speaker Vernon
	75.00	4052.10	4 Vernon Museum, Donation Tour
	837.64	3214.46	5 Village Green Hotel, Vernon Mtg.
	149.92	3064.54	6 Peter's expenses, hospitality, mail, etc

Larry's stamp collection was stolen, and Susan, his wife, called the insurance company:

"We had that collection insured for fifty thousand and I want my money." Agent: "Whoa there just a minute, Susan. It doesn't work quite like that. We will ascertain the value of the collection and provide you with a similar one of comparable worth". Susan, after a pause: "I'd like to cancel the policy on my husband..."

## PHILATELY in CONTEXT

Perspectives on collecting habits have been advanced by psychoanalyst Werner Muensterberger (1994) in which he emphasizes collection processes to be the selective gathering and keeping of objects of subjective value. In that volume, an emphasis is placed on subjective value, since the ardor attached to collecting is not necessarily commensurate with the commercial value or usefulness of the objects (Muensterberger 1994:4). Each collector will therefore tend to work within specific parameters in selecting philatelic artifacts, not the least of which is literature.

First, the aesthetics of a philatelic artifact provides incentive to collect with respect to appearance. Therefore, apart from the need of an artifact to be serviceable, there have been subjective spin-offs through design, production processes, and the social contexts. These spin-offs reinforces our understanding of specific philatelic artifacts with respect to cultural processes.

Second, the desire to connect with the past by ownership of certain artifacts is a prominent motive with many collectors. Ownership of the exquisite not only gives a personal connection with the past, it can also increase one's status among other collectors and the appreciating public. Allied with ownership, and the drive for completion within an artifact type, is the thrill of hunting down additions to a collection, an activity which gives personal satisfaction and opportunities for socializing in the collecting world.

Finally, social affiliation with specific artifact types may spur the interest in developing a collection. The collector may possess any one of a multitude of vocations in which case an affiliation with a particular field can prompt research into both material and social contexts of the artifact. The collector fully engrossed in a particular field will often become an expert in the history, technology and social implications of the artifact usage.

Artifact collections are formed under collector biases, and with external circumstances affecting the collecting process. Collecting is usually a process of decontextualizing the artifact. The initial or primary use of an artifact can be changed into a social or ideological function when placed into a collection. Ultimately, artifacts can have both a material and social existence. It is the social context of philately that is key to appreciating literature.

An analogy in the world of philatelic contexts is found in the Bourbince Valley of the Saone-et-Loire region of France. Carl Knappett (2005) relates the transition of stoneware containers manufactured for beer and spirits in the mid-19th and early 20th centuries, from utilitarian value to that of art-object status by the 1980s. By the 1950s, stoneware bottles were being replaced by industrial glass, fibre cartons and aluminum cans. Remnants of stoneware containers were discarded or found their way to attics and cellars, but resurrection was soon to take place in the same area of manufacture.

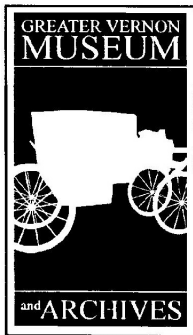
Thierry Bonnett, French anthropologist and museum curator, has been credited with analyzing the stoneware vessels of the Bourbince Valley, not only in terms of production, exchange and consumption, but also in terms of the materiality of objects (Knappett 2005:118). Emerging second-hand markets in the 1980s provided new life for stoneware bottles, not for their original function but as pieces valued for aesthetic appeal. A further statement of enlightenment from Bonnett about artifact significance suggests, "the real beauty comes more from knowledge of the antiquity of the artifact and its local heritage" (Knappett 2005:119). I suggest therefore, that philatelic literature can serve as a catalyst for enhancing heritage recognition in the memory storehouse of each individual.

Let it be so with our prized literature acquisitions.

## REFERENCES

- Knappett, Carl  
2005 *Thinking Through Material Culture: An Interpretive Perspective*.  
University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia.
- Muensterberger, Werner  
1994 *Collecting: An Unruly Passion, Psychological Perspectives*.  
Harcourt Brace and Company, New York.

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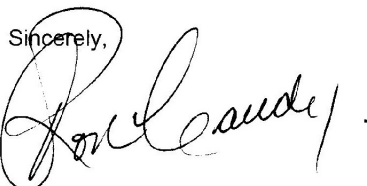
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Dear Members:

On behalf of the staff, volunteers, and board members of the Greater Vernon Museum and Archives I would like to thank you very much for the generous donation of \$75.00 toward the museum and two of its satellite sites.

As you may know, the staff and many volunteers at the Vernon Museum work hard to maintain our institution as one of the most respected museums and archives in the province. Although we receive operational funding from regional and municipal governments, many of our expenses and program costs are covered through grant applications, volunteer fundraising efforts, and the regular financial support of donors. Indeed, were it not for the efforts of our volunteers and the generosity of our patrons we would be challenged to both preserve and present the rich and varied history of the North Okanagan and give visitors, especially children, unique and enjoyable learning experiences.

As requested, your donation has been split evenly between the Vernon Army Cadet Camp Museum, the Okanagan Landing Station House Museum, and the Vernon Museum itself. I have enclosed a \$75.00 tax receipt for the total amount donated. Thank you once again for your generosity, support, and interest in our organizations.

Sincerely,  


Ron Candy  
Director/Curator  
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"A boy of 12 was a dedicated stamp collector; until the lad next door also bought an album. 'He buys every stamp I do,' the boy complained to his father, 'and he's taken all the fun of it away.' 'Don't be a fool, my boy,' said his wise dad. 'Remember, imitation is the sincerest form of philately.'"

A young collector asked an old advanced philatelist how he made his collection so advanced and valuable. The old guy had a look at the young nuisance and said, "Well, young man, it was in 1940 when I got a bunch of old letters from an uncle, I soaked off the stamps, dried them and put them in a presentation folder. I spent four days on this, after which I sold the stamps at my school for a cool 4 dollars. "The next morning, I invested those four dollars in some more stamps on paper. I spent the next four days on them and sold them afterwards for 6 dollars. I continued this system for a month, by the end of which I'd accumulated a fortune of 200 dollars. "Then my uncle died and left me his collection worth two million dollars..."

Two wives gossip: "You know, my husband is a heavy drinker – I think he might be an alcoholic!" The other wife replies: "Alcoholic? I have worse: my husband is a filibuster, oh no, no, he is a syphilist or something like that..."

Voice from adjacent room: "how many times I have to tell you that I am a philatelist!"