

The Bulletin

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The Lindworm of Klagenfurt

Second in a series by Ralph Wyndham

The second stamp issued in the series "Tales and Legends of Austria" was the 6.5 schilling denomination, the Lindworm of Klagenfurt, released July 11, 1997. It is number 1731 in the Scott Catalogue.



The lindworm is a beast of mythology in a number of European cultures. In Swedish mythology, it is depicted as snake-like with skin to match and a pair of upper body appendages that were not quite legs. A lindworm is also part of the legend of the founding of Klagenfurt, the capital of the Austrian province of Carinthia.

In southern Austria during the 13th century, there was flooding along the river and people and livestock were disappearing. For all of this mayhem a lindworm was blamed. To watch for it, Duke Karast von Karnburg built a tower by the swampy wilderness where the monster was believed to be living and offered a reward to anyone who could capture and kill it. Some brave young men devised a plan to end the animal's reign of terror. They tied a bull to a chain with a hook attached and went 'fishing' for a lindworm. The beast took the bait and swallowed the bull, the hook was set, and after a long struggle, the exhausted animal was finally killed. Where the beast was finally subdued, a settlement sprang up that eventually became Klagenfurt.

In 1335, a large skull was found in a nearby quarry that was believed to have belonged to a lindworm. Some 500 years later, zoologists discovered that the skull actually belonged to a woolly rhinoceros, an animal that went extinct at the end of the last ice age. In the 1500's, however, belief in the lindworm's existence remained strong.

Believed to be the first attempt to imagine an animal's body from its bones, the sculptors Ulrich von Vogelsang and his brother Andreas were commissioned to do so. In 1582, they went to work on a big block of slate, and by 1594, completed their monster: a winged dragon with a long curly tail and fierce head, mouth wide open in a mighty roar, set on four legs as if ready to pounce upon yet another unlucky traveller. Originally intended to be a fountain, this feature was not completed until 30 years later.



Dragon of Klagenfurt Fountain.

Upcoming Meetings

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Saugeen Stamp Club

Kincardine Stamp Club

Owen Sound Stamp Club
Zoom Auction
First Wed

Zoom Meeting
Third Wed

Guelph Stamp Club

KW Philatelic Society

Check with the club
before going to its meet-
ing. It may be cancelled.

ONE PAGE EXHIBITS

UPCOMING TOPICS

NEXT MEETING -
Design a Covid Stamp

NEXT MEETING +1 -
Airmail

NEXT MEETING +2 -
Flowers

NEXT MEETING +3 -
My Favourite Stamp

Thoughts of an Old Curmudgeon #8

Well, its been too long since my last epistle I think after Christmas 2020.

A lot of stuff, mostly stamps have crossed my work bench since that time, Want lists, Zoom auctions, and visits to a few dealers, have been engaging to say the least to my pocket book.

But before I mention the collections, let's go on a few junkets since mid-July. Since Barb and I acquired a new vehicle in April, we travelled to Amherstburg to visit our daughter's family. At this visit we gave the 2013 Escape to our grandson in Amherstburg, helped rebuild a large front flowerbed and had a few glasses of wobbly pops with a good book on the back deck.

Late September Barb and I, and my sister joined a Hanover Tours junket to spend 11 days busing it around Newfoundland and Labrador. What a fantastic tour with excellent bus, driver, tour guide, accommodation, food (wow), places of interest and the group. A good time was had by all. Great weather also, and there are stories, one with something about "Darling".

Mid October we drove to Ottawa to visit with our son and family for 10 days. Visiting friends on the way there, Penetanguishene and Oro for dinner and wine and also on the return trip via Kingston and Toronto. While there Barb and I had a really nice visit with fellow members Neil and Karen Elson in Ottawa, only a 10 minute drive from our sons.

Also got to visit Chris Greens Stamps shop in Ottawa by appointment in which Neil joined me for the 1 ½ hour visit. I might note that we had wonderful weather.

So let's talk stamps. I have been working on a half a dozen collections of which I will mention three for this epistle.

I have had three collections from the days when we lived in Thunder Bay for 30 years, all of which I had not touched since our move here to the shores of Lake Huron 20 years ago. I will briefly mention three of them, as there is longer stories for each.

Canada 1968 – 1970 Straight Edged Commemoratives, 13 individual Issues. I had used copies for each of the 13 issues and quite a few of the field stock corner blocks. So I have now acquired the remainder of the field stock corners, almost all of the Plate block corners plus single Mint copies for all of the straight edges stamps. This has ended up as 41 album pages. And you say "What the &&&&". I will provide an article describing the nuances for this commemorative collection in another epistle.

Monaco – a collection of hit and miss stamps from the 60's mostly of which some of you also have had in your past.

Well, what could possibly go wrong with adding to the meager assortment? "Covid Money can do wonders". Not counting the stamps that I have garnered prior to 1950, I now have almost a complete collection up to 1985 in mint and used (sometimes C.T.O.) condition with hit and miss after that. It is an amazing collection to just pull off the shelf and browse. I might mention that in the process, I was dealing with want lists to our home show dealers, store front dealers, sale lists and auctions. I might add that I also gained duplicates in the process. Attention to this collection has slowed due to lack of material available.

Canal Zone – another sorry looking hit and miss accumulation of stamps which I have had for eons. Well, I am currently working on this collection with want lists out to dealers as I progress. This collection is interesting because Barb and I did a three week Holland America Cruise Vancouver to Ft. Lauderdale through the Canal in 2019. Wonderful trip with a few disappointments due to remnants of hurricane swells in the Pacific. We were unable to go ashore due to these very heavy sea swells being unable to board tenders to visit one port in Mexico and one in Costa Rica.

So you have a Question – what is "Covid Money" – Answer – that's the money you are not spending during Covid that you would have under normal circumstances, think about it.

Time to close, Phone a member, shop local, cater to the local eateries, we do at least once a week

Be Kind, Stay Safe, Take Care until will meet again..... Dave Pugh

Another Measured Moment.....

Why do I drink Coffee instead of Tea

Simply put, because when I had stomach ulcers, my doctor told me to avoid black tea. He said that if I have tea, "drink green tea as it doesn't have the tannic acid found in black tea, and tannic acid is the worst thing for stomach ulcers, better still drink coffee". I was not upset as I don't care for black tea anyway; green tea I can enjoy on occasion, but don't offer me any of the popular black teas. So I have a good excuse to choose coffee.

I was interested to read in the Toronto Star of 31 July 2010, an article about coffee in which they quote Edward Giovannucci of the Harvard School of Public Health as reporting that "in a major review of studies, coffee has been associated with a probable decreased risk of some cancers and Type 2 diabetes". Reason enough to choose coffee whenever it is offered.

One of the things that I have considered, but never gotten around to is to organize a topical collection, or exhibit on the topic of "Coffee". There are a number of issues that deal with coffee, from the growing of the beans,

to the cup we drink it out of.



In fact "Coffee Culture" or "Café Culture" is popular can witness it any morning at most coffee shops here da or around the world.



around the world. You in Clifford, across Cana-

Saturday May 7, 2022

Saugeen Stamp Club Annual Show

Royal Canadian Legion

505 Scott St Walkerton

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

Door Prizes / Exhibits / Dealers / Circuit Books / Lunch Counter

Free admission / Free Parking

**NEW
LOCATION**

Saugeen Stamp Club

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

Website: <https://www.rpsc.org/chapters/saugeenstampclub/>

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

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Owen Sound Zoom Auctions

The links to see items and read the terms and conditions follow below:

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The Stamps that Stick Without a Lick

Getting stamps to stick hasn't always been a simple task. Most stamps made after 1840 came with an adhesive gum on the back. But the gum—made from various plant products such as cornstarch, sweet potatoes, gum Arabic, and sugar—wasn't always of the highest quality, meaning stamps often fell off letters. The U.S. Postal Service tried various gum formulas to remedy the situation, including special "summer gum" that was resistant to humidity, and "winter gum" that resisted cracking in cold, dry winter air. Finally, in the 1960s, the South Pacific island kingdom of Tonga broke the mold when it printed a series of self-adhesive stamps. Not only did they not require licking, they came in odd shapes—the most famous of which was this 1969 stamp (below) shaped like a banana. These unusual stamps were a big hit and, for a time, became a significant source of revenue for the country. Collectors went crazy for them. In fact, they became so popular that one dealer ordered more copies of a particular stamp than had been printed. Most countries followed Tonga's lead, and today, the die-cut, peel-and-stick stamps are the most common type of stamps in the United States.



From an article by David A. Norris



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