



Stamper

March 2023

Newsletter from the Lethbridge Philatelic Society

NEW / OLD PRESIDENT ELECTED

The Lethbridge Philatelic Society has had a recent election of officers that will run the club for the next year. Kel Hansen has been president of the club since before the Covid pandemic and stepped down in January, leaving the position vacant. There was no member willing to jump at the chance, so, in February, Darcy Lutz from Claresholm stepped in to fill the position. Darcy had been president before Kel Hansen took over, Since the time of the pandemic and no meetings, an election of officers was not possible. The position of secretary and treasurer remain unchanged.

A new stamp for April

The stamp by Canada Post features the festival of Eid. Eid al-Fitr, or the Festival of Breaking the Fast, marks the end of Ramadan, the month of fasting. Fasting, which is observed from sunrise to sunset, is one of the most distinctive practices in the Islamic religion.

The image depicts a hand-painted ceramic bowl on this year's Eid stamp was likely used to serve dates, soups and other foods each night, to break the fast. Part of a collection held by the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), it is inscribed on the inside with a

Persian poem. The bowl has a special connection to the festival of Eid al-Fitr, which is also known as the Festival of Breaking the Fast. Written in calligraphy above the bowl are the words Eid Mubarak, a traditional Arabic greeting that means "have a blessed Eid."



The Lethbridge Philatelic Society

The Lethbridge Philatelic Society meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 P.M. (except July and August). Meetings at **Insight**

Insight

#1 1718-3 Avenue south,
Lethbridge, Alberta



LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA

Next Meeting: **March 9, 2023**, in the downstairs conference room.

Website:

<https://www.lps57.ca>

Contacts:

President **Darcy Lutz** 403-625-1571

Past President **Kel Hansen** 403-345-6405

Secretary **Tony Pargeter** 403-315-2247

Treasurer **Robert Budd** 403-381-8640

Raffle Secretary **Bob Hlatky** 403-942-2023

Edmonton Books **Walter Kerber** 403-388-9174

Club Books **Andre Vandebeek** 403-308-2692

Mailing Address: 196 Heritage Circle West, Lethbridge, AB, T1K 7H8

2022 Christmas Stamps from the Netherlands



IN MY OPINION

BY WALTER KERBER

Years ago in the era of LP records, I put one on the turntable of E. Powers Biggs playing one of Bach's famous pieces on a Pipe organ in an old church in Germany. As he played the notes and the sound emerged from the speakers, there were ear piercing high notes and then the low base that vibrated the china cabinet. A church service with pipe organ music, (non electronic), is a compliment. I had a chance to tour the Pipes at the back behind the console and the metal pipes at Southminster Church at one time. The 12 foot tall wooden box pipes with their low rumbling tones are impressive.



Germany issued a stamp this spring to the construction of Pipe Organs, as a cultural heritage of UNESCO. Most churches in Europe have some kind of pipe organ manufactured from a multitude of makers. Each of these instruments is unique, since each has its own voice. The Deutsche Post calls the Pipe Organ "Die Koenigin" of musical instruments, because it can simulate most instruments in an orchestra. Although there are references to the organ in Egyptian times of 3,000BC, the multitoned organ, with keyboards and foot pedals did not materialize until the Middle Ages.

Most concerts today have no pipe organ, but go to a hockey game and you will hear the sounds blaring to excite the crowd. Electronic versions also played a great part in bands in the seventies.

It is a sweet sound to hear the range of tones that exceeds the ears capabilities and those notes that you don't need ears to feel as your body vibrates.



2023 stamp of Norway

Semi -Postal Stamps

Welfare stamps, Relief stamps, HELP stamps, whatever a country calls them are to collect extra funds for a cause. Canada Post issues one stamp a year, to support their Community Fund. These stamps, Like Christmas stamps have an interesting history, starting in Far off places, not where expected. The First official Christmas Stamp came about in Canada in 1895 because a stamp with the world map was issued and Christmas was on it. Likewise, the first semi- postal came out in 1897 in New South Wales.



The New South Wales Stamp was designed to assist building hospitals in the colony. The first European welfare stamp wasn't issued until 1912, when in Switzerland the first of yearly "Pro-Juventute" stamps came out to assist youth. Although these stamps had no postal value, but were cancelled at post offices for collections. In 1913 however they issued the first "Pro-Juventute" postage stamp. Consequently in Austria in 1914 and 1915 Stamps came out supporting war widows. Germany





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brought out Stamps in 1919 for War injured.

Up to 1920, these stamps were only allowed on mail within the country, but then it was decided



to let them be used beyond. That is why the postage price of semi-postal stamps is larger than the charity price. This set off a new market.



In Germany, because of inflation and the reparations from the First World War, Semi-postal stamps were issued, but the greatest lot came during the



“Hitler Era”, when stamps were issued for Winter relief, but most stamps had surcharges and most of the fund was intended to fill the coffers for the war effort. Since that time many stamps supporting various efforts have come out, especially in



the decade after in all parts of the country. Each year since, there has been one set four youth and a set for sport.

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In the 1920's Austria issued several overprinted sets for "Hochwasser" relief or flooding. That has been a problem even until today, with recent overprints. Most countries in Europe have issued Semi-



Postal stamps. Belgium, France, Spain, have all had them, along with Ukraine and Russia. There is probably no country that doesn't have an issue.

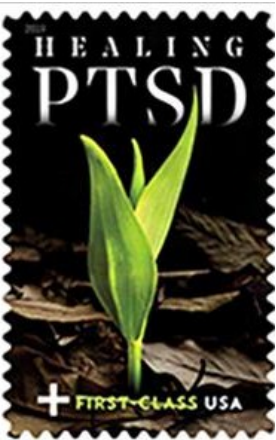
Although these stamps were issued along with other stamps in the years, Scott's catalogue places them in the back of the book. Other





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world catalogues place them along other issued stamps where they belong. This way all stamps from years are together in one area and not scattered in different areas. Usually the Semi-postal stamp has interesting art and themes.



Recent USPS Semi-Postal Postage Stamps

These are some stamps from south of the border that support various causes. Nothe the earnings for the Brest Cancer Stamp at right and Bottom



Breast Cancer Research stamp sales information through December 2022:

Total stamps sold:
1.1 billion
Total raised: \$95.6 million

Announcements

- **Next Meeting :**
- March 9, 2023
- April13, 2023
- And every month to June

Classifieds:

Classifieds are free, one per month per member E-mail yours to :kerber1227@gmail.com by month end.



A set of stamp issued this year from the English Post Office, depicting Egyptian artifacts on display at the British Museum

Nations Stamp Websites

Canada: Latest stamps | New in store | Canada Post

England: <http://www.collectgbstamps.co.uk/default.asp>

Germany: Neuerscheinungen | Shop Deutsche Post

Austrian: [Philately news 2021 - PostAG](#)

Denmark: Frimærker

Poland: Poczta Polska Philatelic Shop - Welcome

USA: <https://store.usps.com/store> - go to "postal store"

Edmonton: <http://www.edmontonstampclub.com/Newsletter.html>

Calgary Philatelic Society – The Calgary Philatelic Society

Stamp Collecting World: <https://www.stamp-collecting-world.com/>