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The Calgary Philatelic Society was founded in 1922. It is Chapter 66 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, and Chapter 1360 of the American Philatelic Society. The C.P.S. may be contacted at Box 1478, Stn M, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6.

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HISTORY OF THE CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY: PART 7. THE SIXTIES, EARLY SEVENTIES
by Dale Speirs

After several months of planning, an Open Meeting was held on May 5, 1962. This meeting was jointly sponsored by the Calgary Junior Stamp Club, the CPS, and the City of Calgary Parks & Recreation Department. A CPS member, Jim McComb, was the sparkplug of the event. CPS members donated about \$300 to \$400 catalogue value in stamps, which were distributed as gifts, prizes, or inexpensive auction lots for the children. The auction realized \$46.75, which was split four ways between the Calgary Junior Stamp Club S.W., the Calgary Junior Stamp Club N.W., the Boy Scouts Stamp Club, and the Y.M.C.A. Stamp Club. 63 non-competitive frames were entered in the exhibition by CPS members, and 22 competitive frames by juniors. Sam Nickle acted as chief judge, with two juniors as his apprentices. Canada Post Office supplied a film on how stamp issues and first-day covers were produced, and there were various quizzes and competitions. Altogether the event was declared a success.

The 1962 elections on May 1 returned Rudy Martin to the President's chair. Also elected were Eldon Godfrey (Vice-President), Mrs. Kathleen Lane (Secretary), H.N. Bennett (Treasurer), Jack Cotton (Auction), Bob Monilaws (Circuits), and Bob Traquair (Newsletter Editor). For the Executive Committee were Bob Perry, Bob Galli, Brien Horne, Jim McComb, H. Hartney, and Sam Nickle. Kathleen Lane was the first woman to become a CPS Officer.

There were 90 paid members, of which 11 lived in Edmonton. The sudden upsurge in out-of-town members was attributed to the Newsletter, which now provided tangible benefit for those unable to participate in the club's other activities.

The usual spring meeting in Red Deer was cancelled owing to proximity with an Edmonton show, ESCPEX. A letter from the Edmonton Stamp Club in September 1962 suggested that there were a number of members who felt the meetings were not worth having anymore. The consensus in both cities was that each now had its own exhibition to look after; there would, of course, be inter-club competition at those shows, and a Red Deer meeting was a thing of the past.

The Canadian Post Office had traditionally provided covers and postmarks for the Calgary Stampede, the world's largest rodeo. The Post Office discontinued this service for 1962, but the club stepped in to fill the breach.

The Annual Dinner for 1963 was transmuted into a full-scale exhibition, called CALPEX 63. Formerly the stamp exhibits were a minor component of the Dinner, but now it was the other way around. The event was held on April 6, and was given publicity by both the print and broadcast media. Rudy Martin was Show Chairman. The event was considered a well-done show.

The May 7, 1963, election meeting brought into office E.C. Godfrey (President), Ed Harris (Vice-President), M. Devlin (Secretary), H.N. Bennett (Treasurer), Jack Cotton (Auctions), Bob Monilaws (Circuits). On the Executive Committee were Messrs. Nickle, Benningen, Horne, Brackman, and Martin.

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Several times in past years the CPS had received letters from the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs inviting the Society to join them, but nothing was ever done. In July 1963, the CPS was sent a lengthy letter from them once more inviting them into the fold. This time the Society was more receptive, and became a member in September.

The exhibition held on April 11, 1964, at the Palliser Hotel was erroneously called the 43rd Annual Exhibition and Banquet. Attendance tripled over 1963 and the highlight of the show was a Post Office exhibit of Seaway Inverts. Besides the Court of Honour, one Gold, three Silvers, and two Honourable Mentions were awarded to the exhibits; nearly 500 pages were shown.

The slate elected at the May 5, 1964, meeting consisted of Eldon Godfrey (President), Kathleen Lane (Vice-President), John Snuggs (Treasurer), John Gareau (Secretary), Jack Cotton (Auction), and Bob Monilaws (Circuits). The Executive Committee was Alex Stewart, Ken Rose, Ken Ford, Ed Harris, and Gordon Hill. Membership was up 22 from the previous year.

The monthly meetings continued the routine of business items and programs. The January 5, 1965, meeting was unable to attract a quorum and was not held, but most of the other meetings had a reasonable attendance of around twenty members. The annual exhibition, dinner, and auction was held May 1. Three days later, the election meeting produced a new slate of Officers, comprising John Gareau (President), John Snuggs (Vice-President), Gordon Hill (Treasurer), Bob Traquair (Secretary), Jack Cotton (Auctions), and Bob Monilaws (Circuits). On the Executive Committee were Eldon Godfrey, Ken Ford, John Payne, Alex Stewart, and Sam Nickle. Membership increased by two.

On September 29, 1964, the Red Deer Stamp Club had been founded. They set up a joint meeting of the Edmonton, Calgary, and Red Deer clubs for November 6, 1965. A number of Calgary members went up to Red Deer for the event, and the proverbial good time was had by all.

In 1966 the CPS had its annual show on April 30, but the big event of that year was BNAPEX 66. This was staged September 15 to 17 at the Calgary Inn. Although the Calgary chapter of the British North America Philatelic Society is a separate organization, the membership overlaps substantially with the CPS. BNAPEX 66 was reported on at length in the November 1966 issue of BNA Topics.

The 1966-67 Officers, elected on May 3, were unchanged except for the new Secretary (John Payne), and the new position of Program Chairman (Ken Ford). Sam Nickle, Alex Stewart, Ken Ford, Norm Pocock, and Jim Karr were on the Executive Committee. Membership went up by three.

For Canada's Centennial year, the CPS had a committee helping out with balloon races at the Calgary Stampede, not too terribly philatelic but a contribution to the celebrations. A few years earlier, the Society had been approached to stage a Centennial stamp show, but because its members had been involved with BNAPEX 66, nothing was able to be done. The CPS did, however, stage its annual show on May 13, 1967, at the Calgary Inn.

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The election meeting of May 2, 1967, saw elected as Officers Ken Ford (President), John Snuggs (Vice-President), Bill Charles (Treasurer), Eldon Godfrey (Secretary), Tom Nicholson (Circuits), Jack Cotton (Auctions). Executive Committee members were Sam Nickle, Jack Benningen, Alex Stewart, and Sid Richardson. Membership was up 13 to a total of 63. In the President's Report for the season just concluded, mention was made about the idea of gathering together all the club records scattered about, and forming an Archives.

The idea of an Archives was mentioned again at the September 5 meeting, and was left over for the Secretary to look into. The matter was not mentioned again in the minutes of the next few years, but since this history is being written from a page-by-page review of the Archives, it is obvious that they were set up. The Archives presently contain all the CPS records, mostly minutes of the meetings, from the first meeting on April 12, 1922 to the present date.

During 1967, there was considerable discussion about making the 1968 annual show a two-day event. This would be the first time that a Society show or event had gone more than one day. The whole debate was made moot however, by a general lack of interest in actually staging a show. At the March 5, 1968, general meeting, it was voted that no show would be held that year.

The May 7, 1968, election installed Eldon Godfrey as President. He resigned a few months later due to the press of work. For the next few months, there was a bit on confusion but eventually John Snuggs was installed as President. Snuggs was originally elected as Vice-President; when he stepped up, his place was taken by John Payne. Elected and holding their positions were R. Mills (Secretary), John Payne (Treasurer), Jack Cotton (Auctions), and Tom Nicholson (Circuits). For the Executive Committee were Ken Ford (ex officio as Past President), Sam Nickle, Jack Benningen, John Gareau, and Sid Richardson. Membership stood at 74.

A Junior Stamp Club exhibition was held on November 30. CPS members became a little more enthusiastic about staging their own show. The show was staged on May 24, 1969.

The May 6, 1969, annual meeting elected Ralph Mills (President), John Payne (Vice-President), Tom Lemon (Secretary), John Jarabek (Treasurer), Jack Cotton (Auctions), Sid Morrison (Circuits); Directors were John Snuggs, Ken Ford, and Sam Nickle.

The CPS had been meeting in the Public Library for some time now. Due to problems in booking rooms, the meeting dates were changed to first and third Mondays.

Sid Morrison was absent such that in September he was replaced by Tom Nicholson as Circuit Books Chairman. Nicholson in turn moved to Sydney, Australia, at the end of the year, so he was replaced by John Payne.

Once again the annual show was cancelled. A start had been made in early 1970, but the planning eventually fell through.

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Since the show had been cancelled, Tom Lemon proposed to replace it with an auction which he would be willing to organize. The matter was considered at the March 2, 1970, meeting, but rejected. At this same meeting though, the first table auction was held. The CPS had been running auctions for many years at separate meetings, but this was the first silent auction to be held in conjunction with the general meeting. At a silent auction, a sheet of paper is attached to each lot, all the lots being spread out on tables. Bidders write their bids down on the sheets, and when time is called, the highest bid on each sheet gets the lot.

The election meeting was held on June 1, 1970. Elected were Ralph Mills (President), Bill Pawluk (Vice-President), Jim Sadler (Secretary), John Payne (Circuits), John Jarabek (Treasurer), and Tom Lemon (Auctions).

The 1971 season started off with an annual show on March 27, with John Payne and Tom Lemon doing the major part of the organizing. The May 4 election meeting installed Jim Sadler as President, D.J. Glass (Vice-President), Bill Charles (Secretary), John Jarabek (Treasurer), John Payne (Circuits), and Tom Lemon (Auctions). Directors were Fred Kramer, Jim Taylor, Ken Ford, and Walter Jackson. At the June 1 meeting, Ken Ford was made Programs head.

Since the CPS was formed in 1922, the minimum age for membership was 21, i.e. the legal age of consent. At the June meeting, the constitution was amended to reduce that age to 18, in keeping with recent legal changes in the outside world.

At the September 13, 1971, meeting, Ken Ford introduced a motion, seconded by Tom Lemon, that a resolution be passed in favour of a commemorative stamp for Calgary's centennial in 1975. The motion was carried. The first four paragraphs of the resolution read as follows.

"WHEREAS the City of Calgary, Alberta, will soon mark the 100th anniversary of its founding as a pioneer fort in 1875,

AND WHEREAS several other Canadian cities such as Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Charlottetown, and Halifax have been honoured on commemorative stamps in the past years,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Calgary Philatelic Society make presentations as soon as possible to the Canadian Postal Department and the Citizen's Design Committee urging that a suitable commemorative stamp be issued in 1975 in honour of Calgary's founding as a fort in 1875.

FURTHER, that copies of this resolution be sent to Prime Minister Trudeau, the Postmaster General, Jean-Pierre Cote, and the Calgary Members of Parliament, and to Mr. S.C. Nickle Jr., a member of the Citizen's Design Committee."

D.J. Glass resigned as Vice-President on November 19, 1971, owing to inability to attend meetings.

(to be continued)

MODERN CANADA REVIEW by Myrko Zatka

This is the first of what will hopefully be a regular feature, discussing a wide variety of subjects but with a focus on recent Canadian stamp issues from about 1970 to date. I will review some of the unusual things found amongst these and suggest some investment tips (well, my beliefs anyway). My aim is to raise the general awareness of recent issues and renew collector's interest. Feedback in the form of letters, phone calls, and knocks on the head at stamp meetings is welcome and requested.

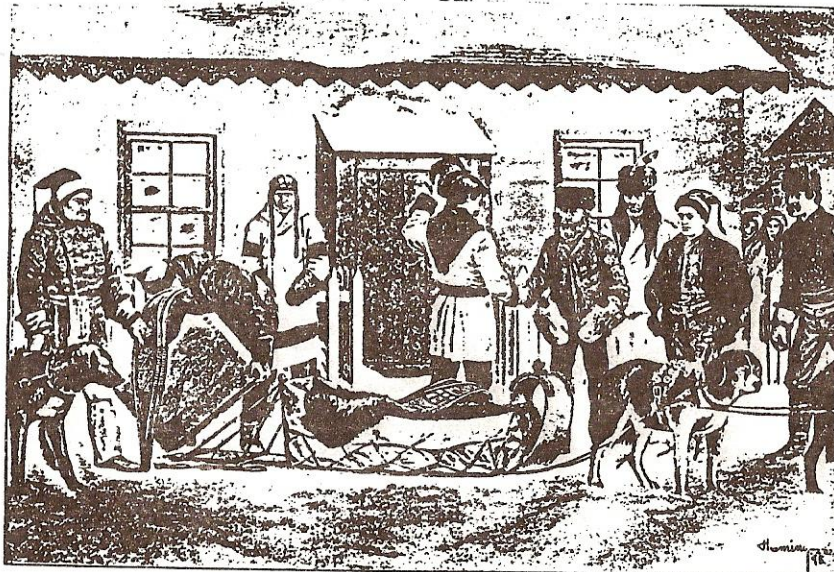
Recent Canadian stamps seldom get detailed coverage in stamp literature, even years after they were issued. Catalogues, especially those referred to as 'specialized', offer no additional help as they list little more than the basic stamp. So where does that leave the Canadian stamp collector? Over the years I have found that there is a great lack of knowledge of what actually exists in recent Canadian stamps. For most collectors, this results in 'one-of' collections where only the basic stamp is found, usually from sheets. Compare this to earlier issues where perforation varieties, shades, stamp types, plate varieties, etc. are all sought after by collectors. This is due to catalogues, auctions, and articles where they are identified and priced, with some even included on stamp album pages. There is an active market for these varieties. What is unfortunate is that while newer issues present an equally challenging collecting area and yield some truly scarce stamps, they are sadly overlooked. The fact that they offer the same fun in searching for that elusive stamp, but at a fraction of the cost, is forgotten.

Here are some statistics. Up to 1979 (picked arbitrarily), Canada issued approximately 883 stamps, of which 258 were definitives. Many of these stayed on sale until sold out, often a number of years. From 1980 to 1989, Canada issued about 380 stamps (30% of total), of which 68 were definitives (21% of total). During this period of frequent postal rate changes, stamps stayed on sale for as little as one year. Commemoratives are now withdrawn after six months. This includes definitives, which in the past were available for considerably longer periods than commemoratives.

Printing quantities have also changed over the years. In the 1950s, it was common to see quantities of up to fifty million of a commemorative stamp, and up to twenty million of a high value definitive. These numbers, listed in catalogues, presumably reflect quantities sold, as all are different and very few are rounded off. Recent commemorative printings have not exceeded fifteen million, of which probably many remain unsold when withdrawn from sale. Although printing quantities are not available for recent definitives, it can be assumed that the top values probably do not see printings greater than a few million, with actual sales less than that. This declining trend in printing volumes may be due to the general shift towards electronic and courier mail, greater use of postage meters on parcels, and the increasing cost of printing stamps. It gives one food for thought; if recent stamps typically see shorter periods of usage and are around in lower quantities, then how will this affect their value and scarcity? There are already some now that are very tough to find nicely used, even though they were issued only a few years ago.

Next time I will focus on my favourite area, booklet stamps from recent issues and the challenges they offer.

EDMONTON, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES by Perry Holinshead



The first official opening is listed by Robinson as Edmonton, August 1, 1876, in Section 32, Township 54, Range 22, West of 4th. This and subsequent post offices are listed as follows.

Edmonton (NWT) 1876-08-01 to 1878-03-01 at 32-54-22-W4.
Changed to Fort Saskatchewan, open 1878-03-01.

Fort Edmonton (NWT) 1877-02-01 to 1878-03-01 at 32-52-24-W4.
Changed to Edmonton, open 1878-03-01.

This information is, of course, based on Post Office records, but it can only be partially correct. The original Fort Edmonton of the Hudson's Bay Company and Fort Augustus of the North West Company were built on the north bank of the river approximately opposite the site of Fort Saskatchewan, in 1775. Both were subsequently abandoned. In 1802, a new Fort Edmonton was located at the site we know today. It was abandoned in 1810 and re-established in 1813.

The North West Mounted Police arrived in Edmonton on November 1, 1874, and spent the winter. In 1875 they decided on a location for a post further downstream where a better ford was available. This site was Fort Saskatchewan, on the south bank of the river.

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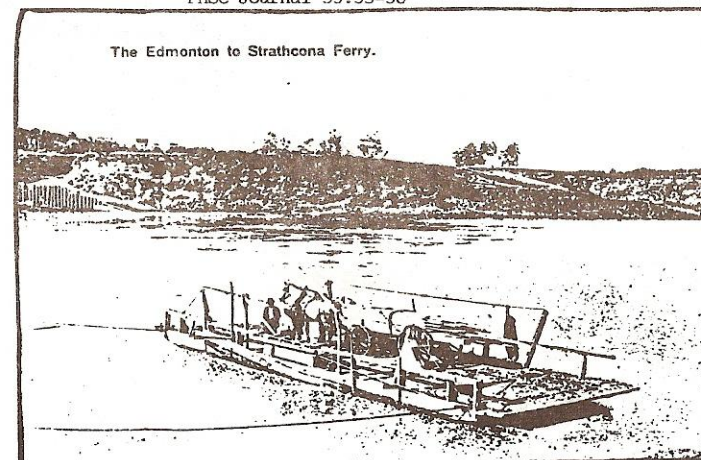
The Mounted Police provided a semi-official post office at Fort Edmonton from July 1876. The person designated for this responsibility was transferred to Fort Saskatchewan in 1877 and took the post office with him. The people of Edmonton were incensed, and as a result, Richard Hardisty was sworn in as postmaster on March 6, 1878, at a salary of ten dollars per year. By 1882 the population of Edmonton was 280. Since many of those people were illiterate, the postmaster would not be very busy.

In December 1880, the newspaper Edmonton Bulletin announced that "Messrs Sinclair and McLane have the mail contract from Winnipeg to here, 925 miles, for one year." The same issue states that "The weekly mail service has been extended to Bird Tail Creek Settlement." This is rather odd since the service to Edmonton was every three weeks at this time and only every two weeks in 1883. I am not sure where Bird Tail Creek Settlement was. I can only assume that it was also known as Tail Creek, located where that creek enters the Red Deer River about fifty kilometres east of Red Deer. [EDITOR'S NOTE: Approximately at where Content Bridge is today.]

The C.P.R. reached Calgary in 1883, and the post office opened October 1 of that year. The mail then came through Calgary and was carried by stage to Edmonton. The stage ran weekly and left Calgary on Thursday. The Calgary and Edmonton branch of the C.P.R. was completed to South Edmonton on the south bank of the river in 1891. The South Edmonton post office opened in 1892 and became Strathcona in 1899. The mail went across the river by ferry until the first bridge was built.

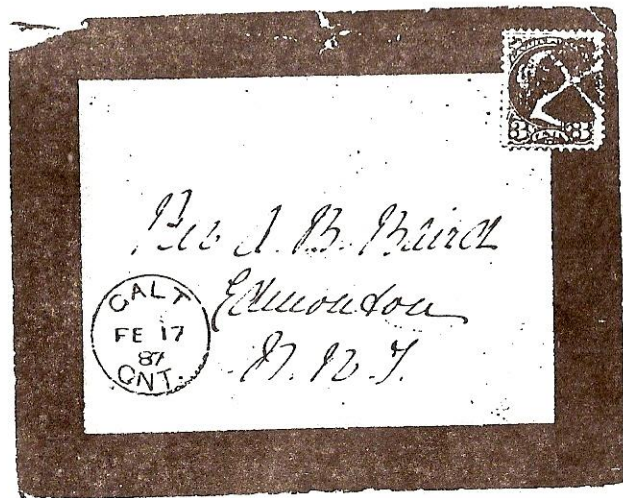
References.

- JG MacGregor "Senator Hardisty's Alberta"
- Grant MacEwan "A short history of western Canada"
- Grant MacEwan "West to the sea"
- WG Robinson "Post offices of Alberta"
- Gray Scrimgeour (1986) Western mail stages - 1886. PHSC Journal 47:20-21
- (1988) Unusual mail routes - 4: Battleford to Edmonton, 1883. PHSC Journal 53:35-38



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The mourning cover shown below was mailed from Galt, Ontario, to Edmonton, NWT. Backstamps are Calgary FE 22 87 and Edmonton FE 28 87? (unclear). February 22, 1887, was a Tuesday, so the cover would have left Calgary by stage on Thursday, February 24. Therefore the Edmonton backstamp is believed to be February 28.



Backstamps

SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

These ads are free to paidup CPS members. Mail your ads to the Editor, Box 6830, Stn D, Calgary, T2P 2E7, or hand them to Dale Speirs at meetings. Deadline for the June issue is May 2.

FOR SALE: Imprint plate block sets #562 to 743, some single corners before and after. Also sets of postage dues, third and fourth issues J28i to J40. Call Ned Burnyeat at 279-5205 or see me at meetings.

WANTED: France, NFL, USA, UNO, and a few other countries. Call Jean at 245-5928.

FOR TRADE: Stamps and collections of Canada, USA, UK and colonies, and more than fifty countries. Call Jean at 245-5928.

FOR TRADE OR SALE: Several hundred Canadian blocks of four and plate blocks of four, mint, most never hinged. Call Andy Puczko at 241-2593.

WANTED: Town-dated singles, blocks, and plate blocks of Canada, especially pre-WW2. Call Ed Harris at 274-0021.

FOR SALE: Ireland mint singles and sets, British colonies Omnibus mint sets, Canadian mint Admirals. Call Bob Perry at 282-4520.

FOR SALE: OLYMPEX 88 show catalogue, illustrated with articles on Olympic philately, winter sports philately, and Calgary postal history. Price is \$6 each, postpaid anywhere in the world from the CPS, Box 1478, Stn M, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6.

WANTED: Clean unmarked copies of the following philatelic periodicals. No cutouts, scribbling, or stains in them. Call Dale Speirs anytime and leave message on answering machine or see him at the meetings.

American Philatelist - 1963 Aug, 1956 Feb, 1955 Sep to Dec, 1953 Jan to Mar
Philatelic Literature Review - whole numbers 1 to 9, 11 to 25, 27 to 51

Maple Leaves - 1958 Dec, 1957 Jan to Oct, 1956 Dec, 1955 Dec, 1954 all except Jul

Canadian Philatelist - 1959 Jan, Feb, 1958 Jan, Feb, Jul, Aug, 1957 Jan to Aug

Popular Stamps - 1955 Jul to Sep, 1954 May, Jul, Aug, 1953 Jan, Jul, Aug

SPA Journal - 1982 Mar, 1981 Jan to Mar, 1980 Mar to May, Aug, Nov, Dec, 1979 Mar

Topical Time - 1988 Jan/Feb, 1987 Jul to Dec, 1986 Jan/Feb, 1985 all issues needed

Gibbons - 1989 Jan, Feb, Dec, 1988 Mar, Aug, Sep, 1984 Oct, 1981 Jan to Apr, Jun

CALGARY STUDY GROUPS

Australasian Study Group meets third Wednesdays. Info from Leanna Johnson 282-9775.

BNAPS Calgary Regional Group meets second Wednesdays. Infor from Jim Karr 287-0897.

Ireland and British Europe Study Group meets every second month. Info from Steve Davis (237-5806) or David Warren (253-7342).

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS IN 1990

Apr	4		General meeting
	12 to 14		Collectibles show
	18		Auction
	21		BNAPS Regional meeting
	22		STAMP DAY
	25		Auction
May	2		General meeting
	2		Deadline for June STAMPede
	16		Auction
	23		Auction
Jun	6		Election meeting
	20		Auction
	27		Auction
Sep	5		General meeting
	5		Deadline for October STAMPede
	7 to 9		Collectibles show
	19		Auction
	26		Auction
Oct	3		General meeting
	17		Auction
	24		Auction
	26 to 28		CALTAPEX 90
Nov	7		General meeting
	7		Deadline for December STAMPede
	21		Auction
	28		Auction
Dec	5		Wine-and-cheese party

MEETINGS and AUCTIONS are at the Kerby Centre, second floor, 1133 - 7 Avenue SW, at 730 pm. Auction lots should be in before 730 pm to allow bidder viewing.

BNAPS REGIONAL MEETING and STAMP DAY are at the Marlborough Inn.

CALTAPEX is at the Glenmore Inn. For information, contact Phil Wolf at 251-4109.

COLLECTIBLES SHOW is a commercial bourse at the Roundup Centre, Stampede Grounds. For information, call 233-7742