

CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 89

April 2008

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Membership dues for the season are \$15, plus an initiation fee of \$10 for new members. Send to the CPS, Box 1478, Calgary, Alberta T2P 2L6. Notice of address changes or enquiries about missing copies should be sent to the Membership Chairman, not the Editor.

The CPS mailing address is Box 1478, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6. The Web site is: www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com All articles as hard copy only, mailed to Box 6830, Calgary, T2P 2E7, or handed to Dale Speirs at meetings.

The CPS was founded in April 1922 by Dr. Edward George Mason. It is Chapter 66 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, Chapter 1360 of the American Philatelic Society, and Chapter 91 of the American Topical Association.

A cumulative subject index from issue #1 to date for the CALGARY PHILATELIST exists but because of its length is too long to be published in this bulletin. A copy can be had for free from the editorial address at Box 6830.

2007/2008 EXECUTIVE

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- 2nd year	Julius Szekrenyes	282-7982
- 2nd year	Jon Johnson	253-8411

COMMITTEES - see page 15 for list of committee chairpersons

[Calgary's first post office opened on October 1, 1883, with William Bannerman as the postmaster. In the prelude to that event, Calgarians got their mail either via Fort Benton, Montana, or from Medicine Hat via Fort Macleod, in both cases mostly through the courtesy of the NWMP Calgary detachment who had acted as an unofficial postal courier. The following newspaper editorials are all from issues of the CALGARY HERALD in 1883, and relate to the impatience of the people to get the post office opened now that the CPR railroad had arrived.]

The P.O. Service. [September 14, page 4]

Mr. Wm. Bannerman our postmaster (if we ever get a P.O.) showed us a telegram received from Mr. McLeod, P.O. Inspector, stating that when the difficulty is arranged with the CPR, a daily mail will be put on.

This does not appear to us much news, for as we stated before, the CPR are ready now to place a car at the disposal of the postal authorities. Of course we don't know what charge, nor does it concern us to know when the contract was let for the building of the CPR. All these matters as to prices were settled, and it is not in the province of our P.O. Inspector to say whether it was too much or too little, but while he is disputing and quarreling over these matters, the people of Calgary, Morleyville, Edmonton, and the settlers in an area of country 120,000 square miles, are doomed to suffer from the inconvenience of an improper mail service.

Nor is this all. We have to use the United States postage stamps on account of our letters posted by McLeod, going by way of Fort Benton, and only the U.S. stamps will be recognized, but if we had the Canadian stamps we could, by paying about 10c per letter, have them taken over the CPR and posted or not as might suit the convenience of those taking charge. Again, large sums of money are constantly passing and re-passing, and we cannot as much as register a letter, and for letters coming in we cannot find that anyone is responsible in the matter. We must suffer all these inconveniences because a small matter is not arranged between the CPR and our authorities.

We certainly think that forbearance ceases to be a virtue, and that the people of this district must take some action in laying a plain statement of the case before the authorities at Ottawa, when we feel satisfied we shall not have to wait months for a small misunderstanding to be settled with the CPR.

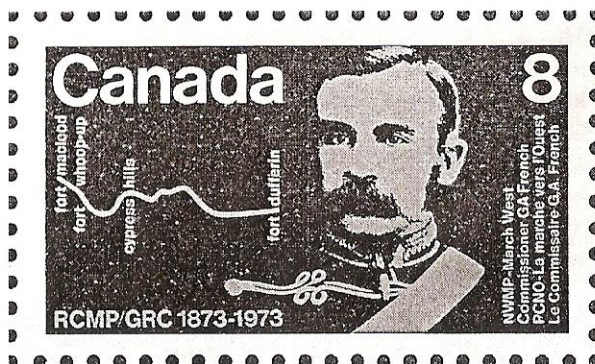
The Mails. [September 21, page 4]

The Calgary mail arrived by stage from MacLeod on the 17th instant, bringing us Toronto papers of August 24th, 25th, and 26th, and Winnipeg papers from 27th to 30th

of same month. This is certainly a long time to be deprived of our mail matter. The delay is explained by the stage leaving Medicine Hat on Wednesday, arriving at MacLeod on Saturday, and as the stage left MacLeod for Calgary on Friday, our mail matter would have lain over at MacLeod till the next trip, had not one of Superintendent McIlfree's teams been at MacLeod and again conferred a favour on this place by bringing forward two large bags of mail matter.

It will be seen therefore that our mail matter is liable to lie a week at Medicine Hat; three days is then occupied in transferring it to MacLeod. It may lie there nine days, and arrive at Calgary three days later, or twenty-two days is employed in conveying the mail from Medicine Hat to Calgary, a distance of 180 miles by rail with a daily train, and yet our Post Office authorities do not see fit to even give us a weekly mail by train.

Figure 1: Prior to the opening of the Calgary post office, the mail was handled by the Mounties under Spt. McIlfree as a courtesy.



Mail Service.

[September 28, page 4]

Since Monday we have been on the tiptoe of expectation and excitement, as Mr. Bannerman received a telegram from the P.O. Inspector instructing him to be ready to receive the mail on Thursday evening, and that in the future we were to have our mail every day. It is said that bad news travels very fast, but surely no news ever traveled faster in this country, or created more general satisfaction, but yesterday Mr. Bannerman received another telegram which ran as follows: *"Railway authorities have declined taking your mails in charge. Have arranged for the present mails to be sent to Medicine Hat, thence to Calgary by messenger per train twice a week. After this week mails will arrive Wednesdays and Saturdays, and will leave Calgary Mondays and Thursdays."*

Thus we are doomed to disappointment. On the principle that a half-loaf is better than no bread, we are grateful for even this change, and are satisfied when the difficulty referred to in the telegram is overcome a daily mail service will certainly follow.

The Post Service.

[October 5, page 2]

This much talked-of question is at last satisfactorily settled, and now we have a daily mail, a boon which can only be appreciated by a people who have had to wait for their mail matter thirty days, and sometimes considerably longer. The first mail arrived on Friday evening last and was taken charge of by Mr. Bannerman, our Postmaster. Awaiting the completion of the P.O. building, Superintendent McIlfree has kindly placed the orderly room then once used for the same purpose at the disposal of the Postmaster.

[The front cover shows a display ad by William Bannerman from the January 30, 1884, issue of the CALGARY HERALD.]

MEMBER PRESENTATIONS

by Penny Borrowman

A great big thank you!! to all who participated in our first multi-member presentation night. You all did a wonderful job, everyone was engrossed in each presentation, and it was rewarding to see the interest and conversation that followed. I'm sure this kind of programme will promote more communication and sharing amongst our members. Also, thanks to everyone who came forward in November to volunteer to do a single evening's talk. Much appreciated and I'll be calling you for final arrangements. Our next multi-presenter evening will probably be in May, with first names starting with G to L in the spotlight. If that's you, start looking out a page to share. We're all waiting to see what it holds. Thanks again to everyone,

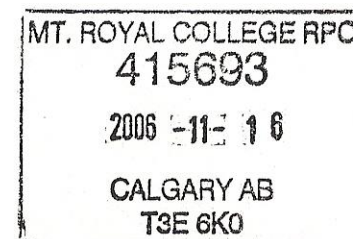
At The Heart Of Events (10.78 euros from An Post, Irish Philatelic Service, Box 1991, General Post Office, Dublin 1, Ireland, or via www.irishstamps.ie. Major credit cards accepted.) is a new coffee table book by Stephen Ferguson about the Dublin G.P.O. building (published 2007). Unlike any other post office building in the world, this one is iconic, for it was here that the Easter Uprising of 1916 began when rebels seized the building and proclaimed the Irish Republic. In the fighting over the next week, the building was fired by English troops, the rebels driven out and gunned down, and the rebellion crushed. While the Easter Uprising proved a failure, it started Ireland well and truly down the road to independence in 1922. The original building was burned out completely, leaving only the shell of the massive stone facade. Since rebuilt, and today the headquarters of An Post, it is a symbol of the Irish Republic.

Ferguson had previously published a book about how the posties dealt with the events of the Easter Uprising, being driven out by the rebels, forced to find temporary facilities elsewhere, and trying to deliver the mail while under fire from both sides. This book concentrates on the G.P.O. building as a physical artefact. It was the latest in a series of G.P.O. edifices, each one moving to a new location as the centre of commerce in Dublin shifted over the centuries. The final location produced a building with a magnificent stone facade and pedimented portico, one that became the heart of Dublin's commercial and social life. Construction was completed in 1818, and it underwent a major renovation of the interior in 1916, completed a couple of weeks before the Easter Uprising. It had three statues looking down from the roof: Hibernia, symbolic of Ireland, Fidelity, a cardinal virtue to be encouraged among posties, and Mercury, the winged messenger of the gods. After the Uprising was over, it stood as a vacant shell for years until the political situation stabilized. It wasn't until 1929 that rebuilding was completed.

In our times, it is the headquarters of the Irish postal system, An Post, and still functioning as a post office. The building was recently renovated, and as the head of An Post remarks in his foreword to the book, everyone who works in it is well aware of the weight of history it carries.

Southwest Calgary.

Lincoln Park - Mount Royal College, Unit Z. This is a tricky one to find. Unit Z is at the far end of the college in the southwest corner, reached by a pedestrian walkway. One then goes back down into the basement where the RePO is hidden in a copy shop at the bottom of some stairs. I spent about a half hour wandering around before I found it.



West Springs - 85 Street SW and 9 Avenue, Shoppers Drug Mart. Brand new, in a shopping centre still under construction, way out in the boondocks. The surrounding suburb is actually named Wentworth.

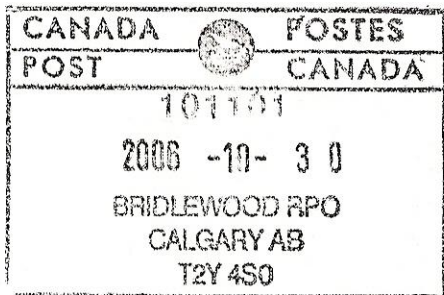
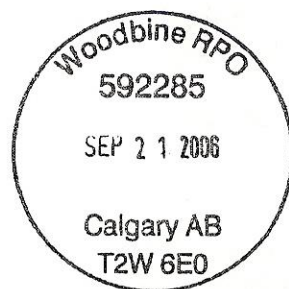


Mission - 4 Street SW and 17 Avenue, in the Mission General Store.



Mission - 4 Street SW and 24 Avenue, in a Shoppers Drug Mart. This RePO is only about a year old, and is just down the street from the above one. However, the population density of the Mission district is rapidly increasing due to new high rises, so it can probably support two RePOs.

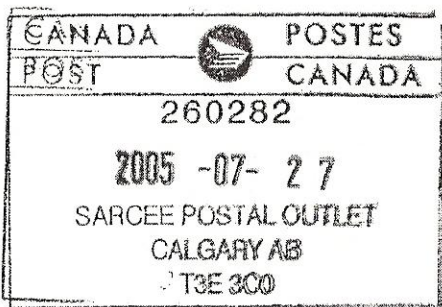
Woodlands - 24 Street SW and
Woodview Drive, IDA Pharmacy



Bridlewood - 162 Avenue SW
and 24 Street, 7-Eleven
This neighbourhood is just
across the highway from the
Spruce Meadows equestrian
facility.



Westbrook - 37 Street SW and
17 Avenue, Super Drug Mart

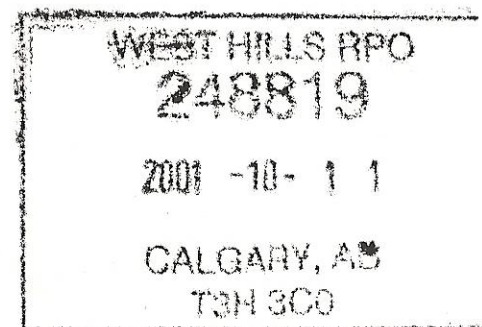


Sarcee - 37 Street SW and 46
Avenue, 7-Eleven. This is a few
blocks from the Tsuu T'ina
Reserve main entrance, hence the
name Sarcee (the anglo name for
this tribe).

West Hills - Stewart Green Shopping Plaza, Shoppers Drug Mart



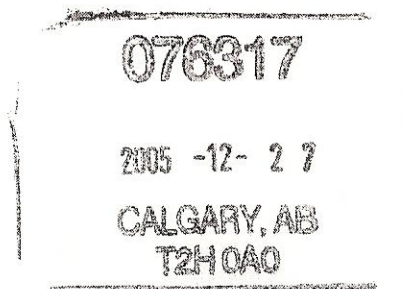
If you've seen one
Shoppers Drug Mart,
you've seen them all,
which is why I only
photographed one
example.



Lakeview - south end of Crowchild Trail SW, Super Drug Mart

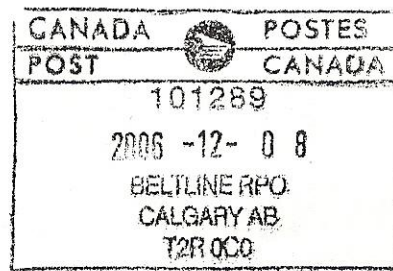


Canyon Meadows -
Elbow Drive SW and
Anderson Road,
Super Drug Mart.



Chinook Centre -
Macleod Trail SW and
Glenmore Trail,
Shoppers Drug Mart

Strathcona -
Strathcona Blvd SW,
Super Drug Mart



Beltline -
11 Avenue SW
and 5 Street,
Downtown Registry

Calgary philatelists always send a strong contingent to this show, and this year will be no exception. Admission is free and the public are welcome.

Details are as follow.

Show dates:	Friday	March 28	noon to 17h00
	Saturday	March 29	10h00 to 17h00
	Sunday	March 30	10h00 to 16h00

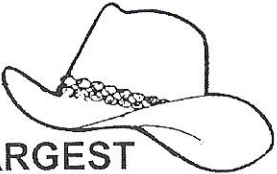
Location: Fantasyland Hotel Conference Centre
3rd level, Europa Boulevard
West Edmonton Mall

Events: competitive exhibits
over 20 dealers
Juniors' room
sales books and stamp packs
banquet
seminars

Pack Rat Collectibles Estate Auction #3
(Saturday, March 29, 13h00)

Contacts: For general information, call (780)466-9967
Dealers call (780)437-1787
Exhibitors call (780)437-2771

Full details, including complete auction listing, at:
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SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

These ads are free to paid-up CPS members, and will also appear on the CPS Website at no additional cost. Mail your ads to Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2E7, or hand them to me at meetings.

NOTE TO INTERNET VIEWERS: Unless stated otherwise, telephone numbers are area code 403. Alberta is on Mountain Time. Any advertiser can be reached through the CPS e-mail at calphilso@shaw.ca, but please allow time for forwarding to offline members.

FOR SALE: USA mint stamp collection 1973-1994 Face value \$432.57; virtually complete. \$400.00 or best offer. Call Doug at 547-3838.

FOR SALE: Used stamps of Australia and New Zealand. Also have Canada mint both singles and plate blocks. Call Craig Allison at 281-3852.

WANTED: Any covers, wrappers, or postcards from Great Britain sent after May 31, 1951, bearing 1d postage. Excellent prices paid for good items. Contact Dave at 284-4775.

FOR SALE: Canadian annual collections from 1980 to 2001. Call Al at 282-1031.

WANTED: Used Machin stamps with selvage attached. Cash or trade. Call Georg at 547-0409.

FOR SALE: Selling estate of Philatelics Etc. Bring your want list to Sunday bourse or phone Bill at 337-3260.

WANTED: Used Greece 2003 and 2004 Olympic related stamps and covers (other than FDCs), CTO and special cancels considered. Cash or Canadian coils in trade. Phone Gordon at 249-1094.

WANTED: USA stamps, MNH, VF. Singles, sets, and sheets between 1980 and 2004. Paying face value plus exchange rate and GST. Call Bob at 257-1942 or email bob.dahl@shaw.ca

WANTED: Collector of stamps, books, and history. Special interest in submarine material. Contact Wayne at 295-3275 or kingwi@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: Canadian plate blocks and mint stamps at face value. Call Henning at 271-2596.

WANTED: Canadian military covers and postcards with hospital ships (white with red crosses). Contact Jon Johnson at 253-8411 or jeiperfins@hotmail.com

WANTED: Tanna Tuva, especially covers. I used to have a few and now starting over. Phone Keith at (780)437-1787 (Edmonton)

WANTED: Stamp show catalogues, Canadian and international shows. The older the better. Please contact Ed at 274-0021 or harrise@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: Stamps of Australia, fine used. Up-to-date issues of the last couple of years, stamps and miniature sheets, good selection. Also have stamps and covers of Norfolk Island. Call Michael Teekens at 286-7927

WANTED: Owl stamps worldwide. Cash or trade. Call Pat at 238-3435.

TRADE: Need automotive work done on your car? Let's trade my labour for your stamps that I need. I am a licenced mechanic with 20+ years experience. Phone Doug Kollar at 547-3838.

WANTED: Advanced collector of World Wildlife Fund (anything with the panda logo) stamps, postally-used covers, FDCs, postcards, maximum cards, even cookie cans. Top dollar paid! Phone Jan at 251-1769.

WANTED: Private collector pays cash for larger stamp collections. Phone Willi at 239-2273.

FOR SALE: Ukrainian and Russian stamps new and used. Also Ukrainian FDCs and special cancels from 1991 to date. Call Andy at 236-2037.

WANTED: Stamps and covers from China to 1949, People's Republic of China, and Taiwan. Special interest in overprints and bulk lots. Prefer postally used. Call Penny at 686-2662 or pkborrowman@yahoo.ca.

WANTED: Calgary Stampede philatelic memorabilia. I collect all phases of this fascinating field. You may have just the cover or cancel I need. Cash or generous exchange. Call Ed at 274-0021 or harrise@shaw.ca

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Worldwide collections (mounted) by country. 30 to 50 countries still available. Also lots of individual stamps catalogued per Scott for trade. Call Joe at 277-7006

WANTED: Canadian stamps, mint or very fine used. Call Arnie at 279-5957.

COMMITTEES

Archives	Dale Speirs	701-0174
Auctions - regular	Doug Kollar	547-3838
- silent	Jim Senecal	547-7681
Bulletin - Editor	Dale Speirs	701-0174
Circuit books	Mike McPhail	239-9730
Library	Penny Borrowman	686-2662
Life Members	Keith Brown	248-0688
Membership	Isobel Attrell	294-0935
Private Treaty books	Gerry Vader	293-0158
Programmes	Penny Borrowman	686-2662
Sergeant-At-Arms	Dave Russum	284-4775
Webmaster	Jan van Staden	285-1874

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

2008

March	19	Auction
April	2	General meeting
	6	Sunday bourse
	16	Auction
	26 and 27	Spring Show
May	4	Sunday bourse
	7	General meeting
	7	Deadline for June bulletin
	21	Auction
June	1	Sunday bourse
	4	Election meeting
	18	Auction
August	1	Deadline for August bulletin
September	3	General meeting
	3	Deadline for October bulletin
	17	Auction
October	1	General meeting
	15	Auction
	17 to 19	CALTAPEX 2008

MEETINGS and AUCTIONS are at the Kerby Centre, 2nd floor, 1133 - 7 Avenue SW, at 19h30. Auction lots should be in before 19h30 to allow bidder viewing

SUNDAY BOURSE is at Palliser Community Centre, 2323 Palliser Drive SW, from 10h00 to 16h00. Details and table rentals from Bill Szaroz at 337-3260.

CALGARY REGIONAL GROUP OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY meets second Wednesdays. For details about meeting places and times, contact Ed Harris at 274-0021.

CALGARY ASSOCIATION OF PHILATELIC EXHIBITORS meets fourth Wednesdays. For details, contact Jim Taylor at 238-3698.