

CALGARY PHILATELIST

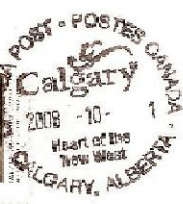
Issue 93

December 2008

Opened October 1, 1883

125th anniversary

Calgary
Post Office



Dale Speirs celebrated the 125th anniversary of the Calgary post office by taking the LRT train down the line and getting cancels from (top to bottom) the University RePO, the Central post office downtown, and the South post office, across Macleod Trail SE from Chinook Mall.

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Articles or advertisements for Calgary Philatelist should be sent to the Editor, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. Small ads are free to paid-up CPS members. Display ads are \$10 per full page per issue for camera-ready copy (photographs extra). No partial-page ads accepted.

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.

2008/2009 EXECUTIVE

Past President	Walter Herdzik	238-7845
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- 1st year	Norma Nielson	547-6197
- 2nd year	Penny Borrowman	686-2662
- 2nd year	Ray Schoepfer	230-9119

COMMITTEES - see page 15 for list of committee chairpersons

CALGARY POST OFFICE REACHES 125 YEARS.

by Dale Speirs

October 1, 2008, was the 125th anniversary of the Calgary post office, it having first opened for business on October 1, 1883, when the CPR transcontinental railroad reached Calgary. Prior to that date, the locals had their mail picked up by the Mounties at either Fort Benton, Montana, or Medicine Hat, Alberta, who then distributed it at their orderly room in Fort Calgary.

Calgary's first postmaster was William Bannerman, a Scot who had previously been a Member of Parliament in Ontario. He came out west not so much to make his fortune but to avoid difficulties back east, being an inveterate sharp-practice man. Bannerman only lasted two years as Calgary's postmaster, and had to depart hurriedly for California after the postal inspector audited the books. His replacement was George C. King, an ex-Mountie. On September 9, 1875, when "F" Troop of the North West Mounted Police forded the Bow River and built their fort at the junction of the Elbow River, it was to become today's metropolis of Calgary. Sgt. King was the first man across the river, and is considered to be Calgary's first citizen. The fort was briefly known as Bow Valley Post, then renamed Fort Brisebois by the officer commanding "F" Troop, Lt. Ephrem Brisebois. That order was quickly countermanded by his superior Col. James Macleod, who sent a letter saying that officers should not be naming forts after themselves. Macleod directed that the new name be after his ancestral home at Calgary, Scotland, on the Isle of Mull. The letter was carried up Macleod Trail, southern Alberta's main highway then and now, from Fort Macleod in southern Alberta. Rank has its privileges.

I prepared ten #10 envelopes with stamps arrayed in vertical format, so that it would be easier to mount the covers on an album page. I wanted to have several stamps cancelled by different Calgary post offices on October 1, 2008. Three was my limit; Calgary has three post offices and 79 retail postal outlets but obviously there was no way I could cover all of them in one day. Stamps were previously issued in 2008 for the centennial of the Alberta Law Society, and for the 50th anniversary of the Trans-Canada oil pipeline which carries some of Alberta's oil to export markets, so I used these as relevant to Calgary. Canada Post also has permanent non-denominated postage stamps called Celebrate!, depicting fireworks and sold to the public for anniversaries and birthdays, and that gave me my third stamp. I started off at the University of Calgary postal outlet, in northwest Calgary, then worked my way south on the LRT line. My second stop was the downtown post office, a direct lineal descendent of that first post office back in 1883. From there I continued south on the train to the South Post Office, on Macleod Trail SE. None of the posties were aware that October 1 was the 125th anniversary of their business. I returned home with a nice set of cancelled covers.

PHILATELIC OUTREACH AT GLENBOW

On October 5 several members of CPS offered a "drop in" activity in the Youth Classroom of the Glenbow Museum. Youth in attendance designed and assembled a "Philatelic Passport" with damaged stamps and with rubber stamps to simulate cancels. Then, with their passports in hand, the participants visited several stations set up around the room where they could find stamps from each continent to fill pages for various countries in their passports. Each participant received a collector starter kit provided by Mystic Stamp company and a coupon to select additional stamps at the CPS junior table at the upcoming CALTAPEX show. As a backdrop to the youth activities, several frames were set up to display a variety of philatelic material, including Donna Trathen's 4-frame exhibit on horse breeds, examples of the exhibits some members of our junior club are developing, and examples of topical stamps issued in various countries.

The focus turned to adults for the October 7 stamp collecting event that kicked off the Glenbow's "Terrific Tuesday Talks!" CPS members made a one-hour presentation on stamp collecting and answered a range of questions about different types of collecting. Attendees at both events were provided information about both the upcoming CALTAPEX show and the Junior Club. Norma Nielson organized the October 5 activities for the youth of our city, with Donna Trathen taking the lead on the October 7 presentation.

CALTAPEX 2008 VOLUNTEERS

CALTAPEX is not something thrown together with a few phone calls and an hour or two of work. Many thanks to the people below who worked long hours behind the scenes, taking care of a multitude of details, running about town on errands, sitting patiently at the club tables, and working up a sweat doing the physical labour needed to set up and tear down the show.

Show Committee.

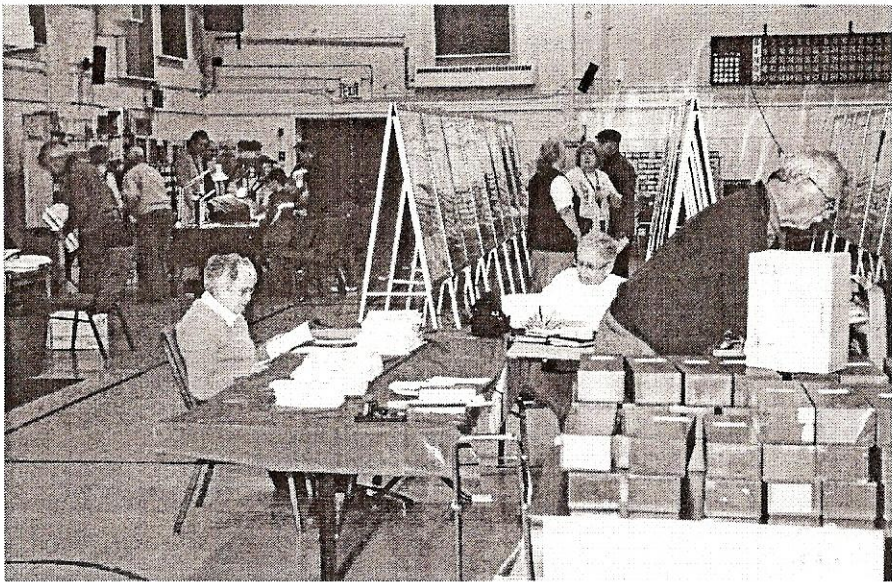
Show chairwoman	Janice Brookes
Bourse	Dwayne Miner
Seminars	Jon Johnson
Auction	Doug Kollar
Banquet and volunteers	Penny Borrowman
Exhibits	Walter Herdzik
Judging	Rob McGuiness
Awards	Norma Nielson and Donna Trathen
Show catalogue	Dale Speirs

General volunteers (set up, club tables, tear down, etcetera).

Isobel Attrell	Ray Schoepfer
Brian Cooper	Jim Senecal
Sandy Freeman	Jim Short
Les Gordon	Ed Schultz
Robbert Hoffmann	Julius Szekreynes
Linda Kot	Michael Teekens
Mike McPhail	Larry Tweedale
Pat Prevey	Gerry Vader
Al Ratsoy	Weldon Vickers
Dave Russum	Don Wilson

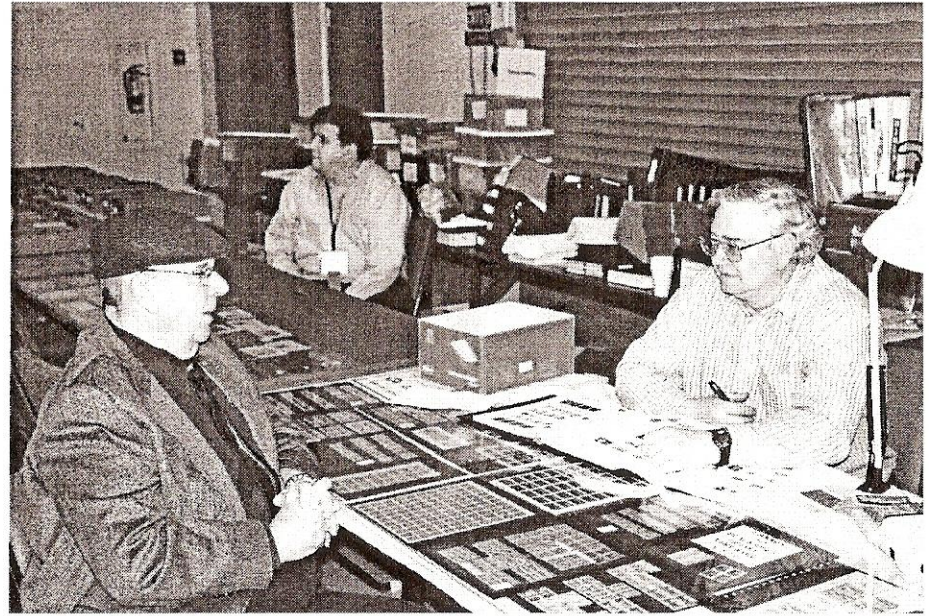
Seminars.

Sunday afternoon there were four seminars which did very nicely. Everyone gathered in the round, rather than formal classroom style, and as one seminar reached its time limit, participants for the next seminar joined in to create what was essentially a continuous conversation. In order, the seminars were on cancel collecting (moderated by Hugh Delaney, Dale Speirs, and Bruce Longley), modern collecting (Earle Covert, Gordon Hill, Hugh Delaney), thematic and topical collecting (Donna Trathen, Norma Nielson, Janice Brookes), and stamps as an investment (Bill Pawluk, Jim Taylor, Jon Johnson).





Chief judge Rob McGuinness discusses an exhibit with apprentice judge Janice Brookes (middle) and exhibitor Donna Trathen.

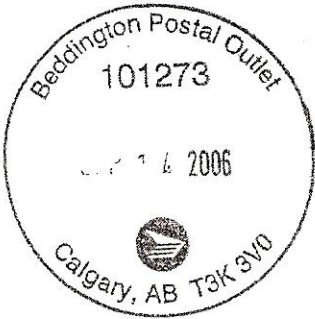


Earle Covert (left) chats with bourse dealer Dwayne Miner (right). Another dealer, Ihor Rudyk, can be seen in the background.

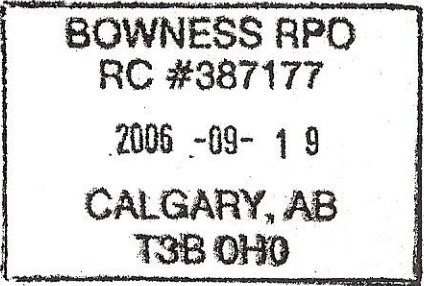
CURRENT POSTMARKS OF CALGARY: PART 7
by Dale Speirs

Northwest Calgary.

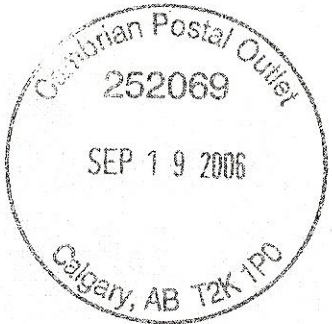
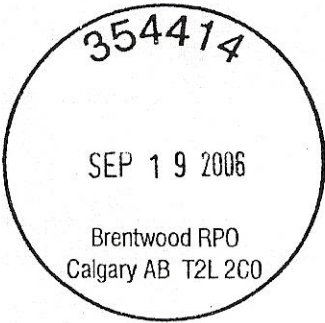
Beddington: Beddington Blvd NW
and Centre Street, Hallmark Cards
An interesting one because it is
rare for a RePO to have the Canada
Post logo in a round postmark.



Bowness: Bowness Road and
63 Street NW
Bowness Drugs



Brentwood: Charleswood Drive
and Crowchild Trail NW
Hallmark Cards



Cambrian Heights: Cambrian Drive and
10 Street NW
Cambrian Drug Mart



Hawkwood: Hawkwood Blvd NW and
Hawksbrow Drive
7-Eleven

Crowfoot: Crowfoot Terrace NW
Super Drug Mart



North Hill Mall: 16 Avenue NW
and 19 Street
Shoppers Drug Mart



Sherwood: Beacon Shopping Centre
112 Avenue NW and Sarcee Trail
Shoppers Drug Mart



Northland Mall: Northland Drive NW
and Northmount Drive
Shoppers Drug Mart

Silver Springs: Silver Springs Blvd
and Nose Hill Drive NW
Shoppers Drug Mart



Marketmall (Varsity):
32 Avenue NW and
Shaganappi Trail
Shoppers Drug Mart



Thorncliffe: 4 Street NW and 54 Avenue
7-Eleven



Tuscany: Tuscany Blvd NW and Tuscany Way
Rexall Drugs

University: University of Calgary campus, basement, MacEwan Hall



Valley Ridge: Valley Ridge Blvd NW and Valley Ridge Drive
Smart Mart

This concludes all the 79 RePOs in Calgary. However, some of them have changed their postmarks since I published them, so the next part will have updates.

[to be continued]

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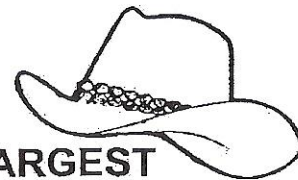
EMAIL: selstamp@telus.net

Postal Dogs by Salvador Bofarull (2008, hardcover, from Pogo Press, Four Cardinal Lane, St. Paul, Minnesota 55127) is a look at the history of dogs in the service of the post office, mostly the larger draft breeds such as huskies or St. Bernards. A major part of the book is devoted to sleigh dogs of the North American and Siberian Arctic, well known to philatelists and non-philatelists alike as mail carriers. Bofarull refers to them as sledges, rather than the American term 'sled' or the Canadian 'sleigh', which can be a bit jarring because 'sledge' in North America has an entirely different meaning. However, he does a good job covering their history, particularly on the Siberian side, about which little has been published in Canada.

Some of the hazards of carrying dog team mail included the dogs taking off after a deer or rabbit if one should happen to cross the trail, upsetting the sleigh and delaying the mail. There is more to dog mail carriers than just the Arctic though. They were widely used by armies around the world as individual messengers in the same manner as pigeons, except that they could carry more. In Europe they were often used to pull small carts for mail carriers, often with the carrier riding on them. This book is well illustrated throughout with archival photos of the dog messengers and their handlers. Today their use is obsolete, and only done for staged events such as dog sleigh races. Altogether a nice look at an interesting sidelight of postal history.

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

The December general meeting will be replaced by a Christmas social, to be held in the regular meeting room. Besides the usual food and festivities, this year's event will feature a wine-tasting competition. There will also be a clothesline exhibit competition, so bring along a one-page exhibit.



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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: Major collections of Australia, BNA, New Zealand, Britain, Scandinavia, Commonwealth, USA, and 5 or 6 other countries, at liquidation prices while they last. Call Joe at 277-7006.

FOR SALE: British colonies KGV to QEII, New Zealand and Australia, very reasonable. All mint, LH or NH. Phone Felix at 464-3252.

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

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

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

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

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

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	vacant	
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

November	19	Auction
December	3	Christmas social
	7	Sunday bourse

2009

January	7	General meeting
	7	deadline for February bulletin
	21	Auction
February	4	General meeting
	18	Auction
March	4	General meeting
	4	deadline for April bulletin
	18	Auction
April	1	General meeting
	15	Auction
	25 to 26	Spring Bourse
May	6	General meeting
	6	deadline for June bulletin
	20	Auction

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.