

CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 119

April 2013



TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF CAPE

The Calgary Association of Philatelic Exhibitors is a study group of CPS members who are devoted to exhibiting. The group celebrated their tenth anniversary this year. They have members at all levels, from local shows only to those who have won International Gold. If you are seriously interesting in learning how to exhibit from scratch or want to upgrade from a local Bronze to International Gold, these are the people who can help. The group meets monthly on fourth Wednesdays. Just talk to any of the people listed below at the general meetings and they will be pleased to give you the details.

The photo above was taken at the January 23 CAPE meeting. Left to right in the front row are: Donna Trathen, Janice Brookes, Sandy Freeman. Back row: Walter Herdzik, Liz Roett, Fitz Roett, Peter West, Norma Nielson, Dave Bartlet, and Jim Taylor.

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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.

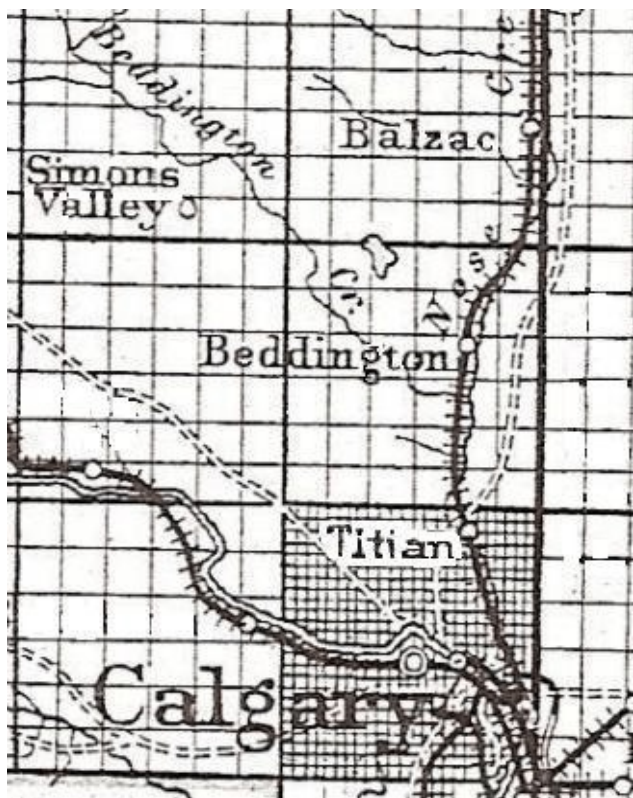
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- 2nd year	Janice Brookes	251-1769

COMMITTEES - see page 15 for list of committee chairpersons

ANNEXED POST OFFICES OF CALGARY: BALZAC AND BEDDINGTON

by Dale Speirs



When the Calgary and Edmonton Railway opened in 1891, the first three railroad sidings north of Calgary were Titian, Beddington, and Balzac. Figure 1 is a 1922 map of the area, when Calgary was still a compact town, not the sprawling mess it is today.

Titian is approximately Edmonton Trail at 32 Avenue NE in what is

now the Greenview district. There has never been a post office there. The Beddington siding still exists and is southeast of the Harvest Hills suburb where West Nose Creek (formerly Beddington Creek) flows into Nose Creek. Balzac is a hamlet just outside the new suburbs sprawling northward and will be destroyed by developers in the next couple of decades. Balzac didn't begin as a settlement until a decade after the siding was built. By 1916, a coal warehouse and train station were built, then later a loading ramp for grain, and by 1925 a grain elevator [1].

The history of the Beddington and Balzac post office (singular; there were never two of them at the same time) is complicated. It moved between the two railroad sidings and occasionally away from them completely. Before the post office opened, homesteaders got their mail from Airdrie or Calgary. Balzac was named by William C. Van Horne, president of the CPR, after his favourite author, the French novelist Honore de Balzac. Beddington was named after a town in Croyden, England [2].

The first post office was opened near Beddington siding on 1912-04-01 with Wesley T. Rogers as postmaster [3]. It used the name Beddington. The proof strike of its first postmark is shown in Figure 2. Rogers only stayed as postmaster a few months and resigned on 1912-09-07. His place was taken by Mrs. A Johnston, who served until 1913-12-09. She in turn was succeeded by R.R. Tindall who served until 1916-12-04. These were all farm house post offices.



At that point, the new postmaster was George Washington, who served until 1921-06-10. He didn't like hauling the mail needlessly back and forth from Airdrie or Calgary, and since settlement was concentrating at the north end of the district, he moved the post office to a farm a couple of kilometres north of Balzac. This meant that the Beddington post office was nowhere near the Beddington district but was in fact halfway between Balzac and Airdrie. Washington cut a deal with the Balzac Trading Co. for a general store at the siding, and in 1920 the Beddington post office was moved to the Balzac siding but kept its original name. The mail was now delivered by train, which would slow down at the siding so the mail clerk could snatch the bag from a catch post and kick out the bag of incoming mail for Balzac and district. If he missed picking up the outgoing bag, the engineer would have to stop the train and wait for him to run back down the track and get the bag. Children on the way to school would gather on their ponies to see what would happen and were gleeful when the postie missed.

The next postmaster was O.A. Halford, serving until 1924-03-20. He kept the Beddington name. He didn't like being a storekeeper and postmaster, so he traded the business for a farm owned by E.D. Evans, who became the new postmaster [4]. It was during Evans' tenure that the name of the post office was altered on 1925-07-01 to Balzac to match its location. Figure 3 shows the proof strike of the first postmark to bear the Balzac name. Evans also had the rural mail route and used his buggy as a rolling store, carrying not only the mail but tobacco, candy, and whatever else might sell. In 1928 he changed over to an automobile for the mails, although if the roads were muddy or snowy then he would switch back to horses. After his wife died, he employed Miss Gladys Margaret Barker to look after the store and post office at the siding while he was out delivering the mail [5].



Evans died in harness and Barker became the new store owner and postmaster on 1935-06-01. She married in 1936 and as Mrs. Gladys Campbell stayed on as postmaster until 1948-04-26. Her siblings Russel and Ida delivered the rural mail routes. In 1948 she and her husband sold out to Jim and Jennie Kirby, both of whom

had served in the RCAF, and Jennie became the postmaster until 1951-08-14. They sold the store to C.J. Davy, whose wife Viola took over as postmaster until 1962-12-27. It was during her tenure that mail by rail was abandoned in 1954 and was thereafter delivered by highway truck.



Bill and Stella Murphy bought the store and Stella served until 1966-11-01 as the postmaster. Winston Lea McElroy then had the store and job until 1978-07-21, followed by Karen Roberts. The post office ceased on 1989-10-17 and became a retail outlet (RePO) thereafter [6]. Figure 4 shows a postmark from the early RePO days. It went through at least two more store owners before the postal outlet closed sometime during the first decade of the 2000s.

Figure 5 shows the final stage of the RePO building. On 2011-10-17, Canada Post changed the name of the rural routes in the area from Balzac to Rocky View County, so all postal traces of Balzac have now vanished [7].



References.

- 1] Read, Tracey (1983) ACRES AND EMPIRES. Published by Tall-Taylor Publishing, Irricana, Alberta. Pages 57 to 58.
- 2] Karamitsanis, Aphrodite (1992) PLACE NAMES OF ALBERTA. VOL. 2 SOUTHERN ALBERTA. Published by University of Calgary Press. Pages 5 and 8.
- 3] Library and Archives Canada (downloaded 2011-11-26) Post offices and postmasters. <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/post-offices>
- 4] Wilk, Stephen (1997) 100 YEARS OF NOSE CREEK VALLEY HISTORY. Published by Nose Creek Historical Society. Pages 85 to 86.
- 5] various authors (1961) THE NOSE CREEK STORY FROM 1792. Published by Beddington Farm Womens' Union, Alberta. Pages 153 to 155.
- 6] Hughes, Neil (1998) ALBERTA POST OFFICES 1876-1998. Privately published by the author, Edmonton, Alberta.
- 7] Smith, Dawn (2011-10-17) Changes to mail service coming for Balzac. ROCKY VIEW WEEKLY

CANADIAN STAMPS OF REMEMBRANCE: PART 9

by Gordon Demke

Tribute is paid to Canada's war dead, veterans and Armed Forces personnel through postage stamps. "Stamps of Remembrance" are another reminder of the sacrifice by fellow-Canadians so that we may enjoy freedom and peace. The following are Canadian stamps which I have identified as having "Remembrance" as their theme. All of the italicized quotes are from the Canadian Postal Archives Database (historical notices) for the particular stamp or stamp series.



11 Nov. 2001 (Sc 1926). Royal Canadian Legion, 1926-2001. This stamp honours the 75th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion. "*The Royal Canadian Legion's work to perpetuate*

remembrance and to service the community has earned them the respect of everyone who enjoys freedom today."

25 July 2003 (Sc 1993). *“On June 25, 1950, war broke out when North Korea invaded South Korea. The war was brought to an end on July 27, 1953 with the signing of the Korea Armistice in Panmunjom, North Korea. . . . In total, 21,940 Canadian soldiers and approximately 3,600 sailors saw service in Korea. Of this number, approximately 500 gave their lives.”*



6 June 2004
(Sc 2043). D-Day, 06.06.44, Juno Beach, Normandy. *“Lest we forget, it has been sixty years since Allied forces stormed the beaches of Normandy. Canadian forces were there on D-Day to begin the*

liberation of western

Europe. Our intention is to honour the survivors and their fallen colleagues while the events of June 6, 1944 remain within living memory. ... The stamp’s design is intended to “balance a sense of the victory achieved with an acknowledgment of the human price”.

[to be continued]

CURRENT POSTMARKS OF CALGARY: PART 25

by Dale Speirs

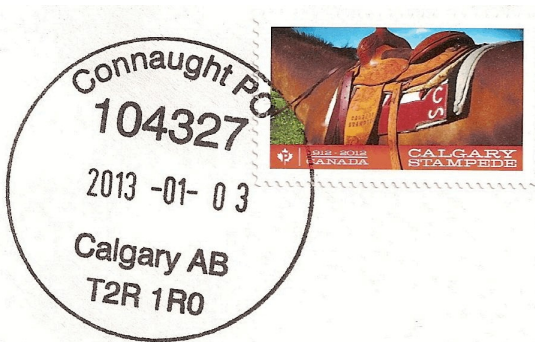
Heart Of The New West.

Just a reminder to Calgary philatelists that the Central Post Office at 6 Street SW and 5 Avenue in the downtown has a year-round pictorial postmark. This shows the Calgary Chamber of Commerce slogan “Heart Of The New West” and a cowboy hat logo. It is kept on the back counter, so if you want your mail cancelled with it, then you have to specifically ask for it. If you just drop your letters in the mail box at the station, they will only get a spray-on cancel at the sorting plant. There are several philatelists, myself included, who regularly ask for it, so the counter staff are familiar with it. Don’t be shy!



New RePO.

Beltline: 8 Street SW and 16 Avenue, London Drugs. The store has been there for many years but they didn’t open a retail postal outlet until 2012-12-20. It is only one block from an existing outlet at Shoppers, but given how many condo towers there are in this central neighbourhood, the business to support both of them is probably there.



New Postmark.

The February 2013 bulletin was mailed January 14 as a first-day cover with the QEII Coronation Diamond Jubilee stamp. For the benefit of future collectors, be sure to mark on the back of the envelope (not the front!) that it was an FDC. It was mailed from the Britannia Pharmacy RePO on 49 Avenue SW just west of Elbow Drive. I haven’t previously illustrated this postmark; the last one I showed was the old rectangular one.



MAJOR CHANGES FOR SPRING BOURSE THIS APRIL

by Janice Brookes

Due to circumstances at the Kerby Centre (rooms upstairs not available on Sundays anymore), we have had to make some changes to the Spring Bourse on the weekend of April 20 and 21. The Friday night setup is as usual from 17h30 to 20h00.

NEW! NEW! NEW! NEW! NEW! NEW! NEW! NEW! NEW!

The Saturday bourse will be in two parts: 10h00 to 16h00 and 18h00 to 20h00.

The auction will be different this year. It will be on Saturday evening. You can drop off lots upstairs (in the same room we meet in) beginning 10h00. No viewing at that time, as the room will be secured. Viewing goes from 14h00 to 17h00. The auction will be called in the late afternoon from 17h00 to 18h00. Unsold lots can be picked up immediately thereafter. Payout will be from 19h00 to 19h30.

This whole arrangement is an experiment. Different arrangements will have to be made in the autumn for CALTAPEX due to the banquet on Saturday night.

Sunday will be the regular schedule from 10h00 to 16h00, with teardown immediately thereafter.

This year, volunteers will receive a full lunch including soup, sandwich, and a drink. They will also get a \$10 coupon to use at bourse dealers of their choice.

OBSOLETE ENTERTAINMENTS

by Leanteri Polvikoski

While browsing through an old copy of the Australian magazine STAMP NEWS from September 1988, I came across a report of the Australian show SYDPEX 88. It mentioned that among the festivities of the show was a record-setting attempt for stamp licking. The contest was sanctioned by the Guinness Book of World Records people, with two Justices of the Peace and a news reporter on hand to attest to the results. 16-year-old Richard Leeworthy of Beenleigh, Queensland, claimed the world record with 154 stamps licked and stuck onto envelopes in four minutes.

What got me to thinking was how that event has been made obsolete by the march of time. Today we have peel-and-stick stamps, much preferred by the general public. I suppose we could have stamp peeling contests instead. How fast could a human peel off stamps and slap them down on an envelope?

TELUS SPARK OPEN NIGHT

On the evening of January 10, members of the CPS were among several hobby groups with displays and meet-and-greet personnel at the Telus Spark Science Centre. This was an adults-only event and brought in the 18 to 35 year old public. Since there was a \$19.⁹⁵ admission and \$5 for parking, the 450 people who showed up were serious. The attendance would probably have been in the 700 range except that just as the event began, a white-out blizzard arrived in Calgary which gave us twenty centimetres of snow over the next day.

Peter Fleck organized CPS's participation in the event and several other members manned the displays. Some of the things included giveaway packets of stamps, FDCs, four frames of topical exhibits, two frames of traditional exhibits, demonstrations on how to handle stamps, and a continuous slide show on a large screen. There was an entirely different type of audience than what we usually reach. Well done to those who helped out!



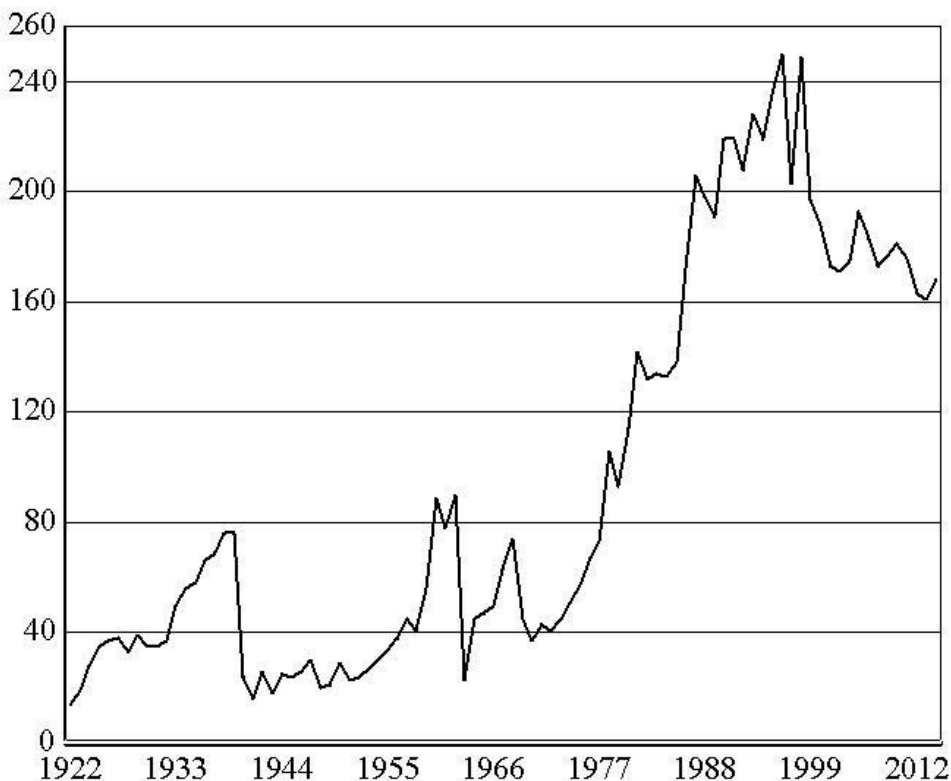
Standing on the righthand side of the table are Peter Fleck and Kathie Booth, talking to the public. Jim Taylor took a batch of photos including this one.

Others who were at the event besides the three mentioned above were: Doris Fleck, Sandy Freeman, Norma Nielson, Dave and Susan Russum, Larry Tweedale, and Gerry Vader. Assisting to prepare for the event but unable to attend in person were Janice Brookes, Donna Trathen, and Walter Herdzik.

90 YEARS OF CPS MEMBERSHIP

The chart below shows the membership totals of the CPS since its founding in April 1922. The first big spike in the club was during the Great Depression because stamp collecting was a popular and inexpensive hobby, with the possibility of making a little extra cash. World War Two almost destroyed the CPS as able-bodied men were called up in 1939, but there was a recovery in the early 1960s when the club began publishing its first bulletin from 1961 to 1963. After it shut down, the club lost quite a few members, especially out-of-towners who seldom came into the meetings. In 1975, the bulletin was revived and the club began growing again.

The all-time high membership was 250 in 1996 as the Boomers reached their peak years. For the past few years, membership has been staying in the mid-160 range. Each year we lose a few to death or incapacity, and gain a few from our Website or the shows. The best method of recruiting is to ask friends face-to-face. Show them a copy of this bulletin, tell them about the auctions and circuit books, and personally invite them to the shows and bourses. Let them know there are always lots of stamps at the meetings. The club executive can't do it all; we need you to help recruit.



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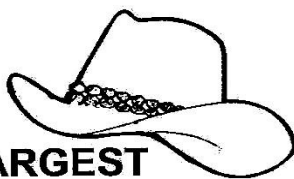
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SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

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: Lightly used Lighthouse album binders with protective slipcases. \$20 for one, \$36 for two, five or more for \$15 each. Contact Peter Fleck at 590-1574 or peterfleck@telus.net

FOR SALE: Four-volume collection of Canadian stamps in Unity albums. Price negotiable. Phone Al at 282-1030 or e-mail dorandal@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: USA mint sheets from 1967 to 1995 (Scott #1331 to 2979). Asking face value plus exchange rate and GST. Contact Peter at peterhay@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: various QE2 Canada plate block sets between Scott #727 and #1070, various QV to KGV Canada VFNH singles and pairs between Scott #51 and #300. Contact Les at 278-3511.

FOR SALE: Large accumulation used off-paper, mostly pre-1990s commemoratives. Canada, USA, GB, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and kiloware. Phone Roland 243-1637 or decaenr@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: Major collections of many countries at liquidation prices. Call John at 474-1212.

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

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

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

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

ONLINE CPS DISCUSSION GROUP

The CPS has a free online discussion group used for philatelic announcements and fast-breaking news that would miss the bulletin deadlines. It is only open to CPS members; no outsiders. To register, you must give Dale Speirs your email address and real name on a slip of paper at the meetings. This is to ensure we are dealing with a real CPS member and not a hacker, so therefore no email or telephone registrations are allowed.

CPS IN THE NEWS

When the Royal Canadian Mint withdrew the penny from circulation throughout Canada on February 4, there was considerable comment in the mass media. On the Friday before, February 1, the CALGARY HERALD had a page-one story about how Canada Post would continue to offer 1-cent stamps. One of those asked to comment was the CPS itself, in the person of our president Peter Fleck, which was publicity that money can't buy. Peter was asked about the collectibles value of 1-cent stamps since Confederation, and he also mentioned the Penny Black. The story wrapped up with his remark that 1-cent stamps are the only thing left you can buy for one cent (plus GST).

NEW WEBMASTER

After serving as Webmaster since 2005, Jan Van Staden has retired from the position. His successor is Dave Bartlet. The Website address remains the same. Thank you Jan for all the work you did over the years!

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	Larry Tweedale	282-9726
Library	Penny Borrowman	686-2662
Life Members	Jim Taylor	238-3698
Membership	Julius Szekrenyes	282-7982
Private Treaty books	Gerry Vader	293-0158
Programmes	Penny Borrowman	686-2662
Sergeant-At-Arms	Dave Russum	284-4775
Webmaster	Dave Bartlet	829-3580

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

2013

March	20	Auction
April	3	General meeting
	17	Auction
	20 and 21	Spring Bourse
May	1	General meeting
	1	Deadline for June bulletin
	15	Auction
June	5	Election meeting
	19	Auction
August	1	Deadline for September bulletin
September	4	General meeting
	4	Deadline for October bulletin
	18	Auction
October	2	General meeting
	16	Auction
	18 to 20	CALTAPEX 2013
November	6	General meeting
	6	Deadline for December bulletin
December	4	Christmas social

SPRING BOURSE and CALTAPEX will be at the Kerby Centre. Details from Janice Brookes at 251-1769.

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.

CALGARY REGIONAL GROUP of the BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY meets second Wednesdays. Contact Dave Bartlet at 829-3580.

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