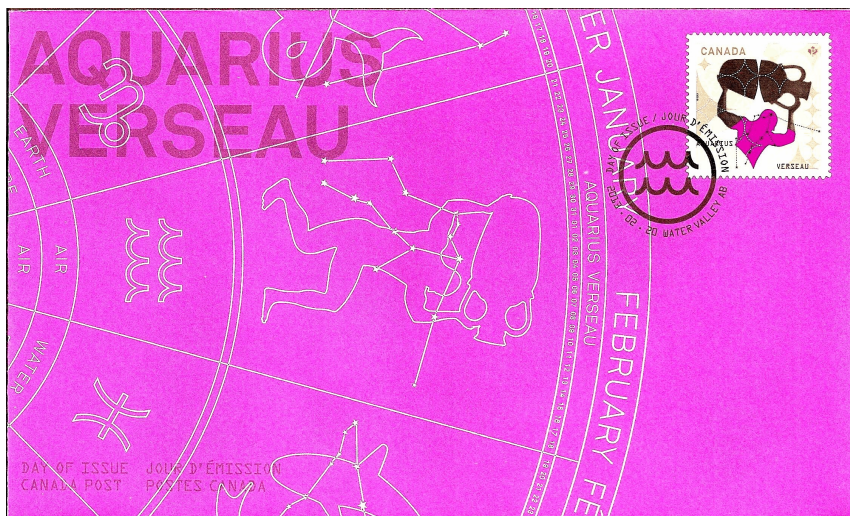


CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 121

July 2013



What's wrong with these postal stationery items? Dale Speirs explains on page 8.

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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 bulletin ads or articles as hardcopy, plain text file, WordPerfect, or MS Word format only, mailed to Box 6830, Calgary, T2P 2E7, handed to Dale Speirs at meetings, or emailed to opuntia57@yahoo.ca Please do not email club business to this address.

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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PENNY PINCHING FOR STAMPS

by Peter Fleck

Although the penny officially went out of circulation on February 4, 2013, the coin still has buying power. It's just that you'd be hard pressed to find anything that still retails for a single cent. The one-cent stamp may very well be the last item available for a solitary penny.

Penny in hand, I went to the West Park Post Office in Red Deer on April 23. And sure enough, I emerged with a one-cent beneficial insect stamp (Scott #2234). Since the transaction was under 10 cents, no GST was charged. I even have the receipt to prove it. The question is, "How much longer will this be possible?"



Canada Post / Postes Canada
WEST PARK
3722 57 Ave
RED DEER T4N4R0
GST/TPS#: 1C3906587

2013/04/23 06:53:24 dev
CC/CC89559 W/G1 TR411242

G/S 5% 1@0.01 \$0.01
\$0.01 BEN. INSECTS/0,01 \$ INSECTES

SUBTL/SOUS-TOTAL \$0.01
GST/TPS \$0.00
PST/TVP \$0.00
HST/TVH \$0.00
TOTAL/TOTAL \$0.01

CDN Cash / Espèces CAN \$0.01
CHG. DUE / MONNAIE \$0.00

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WWW.CANADAPOST.CA / WWW.POSTESCANADA.CA

The *National Post* reported on February 4 that "pennies themselves will remain legal tender indefinitely." Yet the paper added, "It's at the discretion of individual businesses if they'll accept the coins."

So far, I've never had a single business refuse to take a penny from me. The Calgary Co-op recently even offered to take my pennies rather than have my bill rounded up. But I have the feeling that the time is short. Even at the West Park Post Office, the clerk had been given strict instructions that no pennies were to be put into the cash register. Rather the hapless coin was thrown into the penny jar next to the till.

The federal government issued guidelines that businesses round transactions “*in a fair and transparent manner.*” Using their suggested method, a transaction for \$4.42 would get rounded down to \$4.40, while a transaction for \$4.43 would get rounded up to \$4.45. Based on this standard practice, a penny stamp purchase should get rounded down to zero. But the government regulations are just guidelines and the Post Office is under no obligation to give stamps away for free.

By the way, based on the policy of rounding transactions, the best deal is to buy seven cents in stamps. That way your transaction gets rounded down to five cents and you also avoid the GST. Doing this will enable you to get enough stamps for a 63-cent letter by just spending 45 cents. The only catch is that it will take nine different trips to the post office to mail a single letter. And if you’re using your car to get there, just think of the gas costs.

CURRENT POSTMARKS OF CALGARY: PART 27

by Dale Speirs

New RePOs.

McKenzie Towne: 52 Street SE and McKenzie Towne Drive, Shoppers Drug Mart. New retail postal outlet opened in early 2013. Despite the name on the postmark, the RePO is actually located in McKenzie Towne on the west side of 52 Street SE, not the Copperfield subdivision on the east side of 52 Street SE.



Postmark Name Changes.



Willow Park: Southcentre Mall, Shoppers Drug Mart. The postmarks from this RePO were originally nameless, with only the outlet POCN (computer number) to identify it. Then in 2010, a new postmark came in with the name South Central.

Canada Post runs directly three post offices in Calgary, two of which are called Central and South. The RePO name was rather too close to them, and also made no sense given that Southcentre Mall is one of the largest malls in

Calgary and is the obvious name. The current postmark is now Southcenter, close but not quite. The mall name is specifically spelled in the British way, with an “re”, not the American “er”, so the postmark is an error.

ANNEXED POST OFFICES OF CALGARY: SHEPARD

by Dale Speirs

Shepard is on the extreme southeast corner of Calgary at 84 Street SE and 114 Avenue. It was so far from Calgary that even until recently it was a rural hamlet, not a commuter suburb of the city. The CPR ran a track angled northeast in the area in 1884 and in 1910 opened a railroad station at the siding. (The station building is now in Heritage Park.) They named it after one of their contractors, Shepard & Langdon, the latter of whom also got a town named after him in the area [1]. Historically the hamlet of Shepard was always a poor cousin. In the early days it was sometimes called Poverty Flats. Shepard was an unincorporated hamlet within Rocky View County until it was annexed by the city in 2007. As of 2013, Shepard was semi-rural residential, but the highway system is undergoing major rebuilding in the area, which will affect the place.

The post office opened on 1903-05-01, with S.A. Grimmond as the first postmaster. He didn't stick and it closed after four months. P. Rochon re-opened the post office on 1905-01-01 in a store. W.H.E. Whiting was the next postmaster, from 1907-06-15 until 1909-07-26.

James O'Connor Mooney homesteaded in the area in 1895, where the Riverbend and Douglasdale suburbs now are. He bought the store/post office from Whiting and became postmaster on 1909-09-01. When the railway station was opened in 1910, it became the distributing point for the local mail. Mooney also had the telephone agency. In those days, farmers didn't have their own telephones; they came into the village and paid to use the store telephone. After Mooney's death on 1937-03-08, his spinster daughter Mary Veronica Mooney took over the store. She was postmaster until 1963-03-07 when she retired [2].



Howard Ivan Cates then became postmaster from 1963-10-01 until 1965-07-14. He was succeeded by Mrs. Ellenyea Henderson, the last postmaster. The economy of the area was terminal, and after she gave up the post office it was permanently closed on 1966-03-08 because no one could be found to take it over.

References.

[1] Read, Tracey (1983) ACRES AND EMPIRES Published by Tall-Taylor Publishing, Irricana, Alberta. Pages 89 to 90.

[2] various authors (1975) OGDEN WHISTLE. Published by Ogden Area History Committee, Calgary, Alberta. Pages 93, 122 to 123

CANADIAN STAMPS OF REMEMBRANCE: PART 11

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.



6 May 2005 (Sc 2108). Canadian War Museum, Lest We Forget. *"Remembrance is the reason Canada's War Museum exists. It is a living memorial to those who served in the nation's armed forces, preserving their history and educating the public about their sacrifices."* The stamp was issued to commemorate the museum's reopening on May 8 in a new building in Ottawa. *"The structure expresses architecturally the idea of regeneration, showing how the terrible wounds of war slowly heal over in time, in nature, societies and individuals. We experience war as a society, but we remember it in profoundly individual ways."*

Lest We Forget 121121 00:33
N'oublions pas KIA DC1 3782





19 Oct. 2009 (Sc 2342). Lest We Forget. *“Every year on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, we share a moment of silence to honour the memory of the men and women of Canada’s Armed Forces who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our country. This tradition provides an opportunity to express our collective sense of sorrow for the loss that war produces, as well as a chance to rejoice in the legacy of peace and freedom that our soldiers have defended and preserved.”*

References:

- 1] Dale Speirs, “Quick Finder for Topicals on Canadian Stamps to 2005”, CALGARY PHILATELIST, Issue 77 (April 2006) to Issue 88 (February 2008).
- 2] Tony Brown, “Stamps and Remembrance”, www.rpsc.org/Library/remembrance/remember.htm
- 3] “Remembrance Day”, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Remembrance_Day.
- 4] “Remembrance Poppy”, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Remembrance_poppy.
- 5] The Royal Canadian Legion, http://legion.ca/About/remembrance_e.cfm
- 6] Canadian Postal Archives Database, <http://data4.collectionscanada.ca>.
- 7] The Canadian War Museum, www.warmuseum.ca.
- 8] The Military Museums, www.themilitarymuseums.ca.
- 9] Veterans Affairs Canada, A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE, Canada: 2005.

[To be continued]



RECENT ERRORS ON CANADA POST STATIONERY

by Dale Speirs

I don't normally collect the Canada Post first-day covers unless they match a topical interest of mine, but one cover in the recent astrology series caught my eye. The Aquarius stamp is all very well by itself, but the FDC lept out at me because it was postmarked from Water Valley, Alberta. This hamlet is about a 45-minute drive northwest of Calgary, straight west of Carstairs right on the edge of the foothills.

I am currently writing the postal history of Alberta and publishing it in installments in on a district by district basis in various postal history publications. One manuscript awaiting publication is about the Carstairs-Didsbury district all the way out to the foothills. Water Valley once had a post office and then later a retail outlet. However, the RePO closed in 2006 and today there is only supermailbox service. I test-mailed a letter from Water Valley and it was postmarked Cremona. The Aquarius FDC therefore has a completely fake postmark of a non-existent post office. The FDC is shown on the front cover of this bulletin, and an enlargement of the postmark is below.



Canada Post also issued in 2013 a set of booklet flag stamps, one of which depicts a straw bale with a flag on its side. The stamp by itself is okay, but both the booklet cover and the postal card declare the bale to be a hay bale.



When I saw this on the booklet cover I was suspicious because the bale looked more like a straw bale, not hay. I grew up on a cattle ranch just north of Red Deer in the days before round bales, when we had to stack rectangular bales by hand. During my teenage years, I probably stacked tens of thousands of straw and hay bales. (Part of the reason why I became a city slicker in adulthood!)

There is a considerable difference between straw and hay. Straw is the leftover stems of grain crops after the seed has been threshed. It is bright yellow, has no seed heads, and when dry is quite light. Hay is dried grasses and alfalfa, is green, and usually has

some seed heads in it. It is heavier than straw. Straw is used as livestock bedding in corrals and barns, while hay is food for them.

I couldn't tell from looking at the stamp if it was straw or hay for certain, because the image was too small. However, the enlarged image on the postal card leaves no doubt, and the bales are obviously straw. The postal card has a caption on it that says "Prairie Hay Bales". Not so. Clearly a case of the stamp being designed and approved by city slickers in Ottawa. The cover of this bulletin shows the whole postal card, and an enlargement of the lower right corner is below.



PHILATELIC LITERATURE REVIEWS

by Leanteri Polvikoski

Not particularly philatelic but of interest at least to perfin collectors is a 1910 humorous novel titled *PSMITH IN THE CITY*, written by P.G. Wodehouse. This author is best remembered for his Jeeves novels, set in the Edwardian era. Those novels, and the earlier Psmith (the P is silent) stories were about foppish young men in the era just before World War One. They considered themselves a superior sort of being but had to live off an allowance from their fathers and were totally useless to society. Psmith is one of those dandies who unfortunately had a run-in with Papa and was forced to get a job in the New Asiatic Bank. The title of this novel refers to “The City”, the financial district of London, in the same way we refer to Wall Street or Bay Street.

Before becoming a full-time author, Wodehouse had worked in the Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank. Like any good author, he put his experiences into his writings, including having worked in the mailroom. In the novel there is description of how Mike, a friend of Psmith, also joins the bank, starting out in the Postage Department. This is what we refer to today as the mailroom. The duties are rather simple, and as we find out later in the novel, about all Mike can handle. Letters arrive in batches at the Postage Department, and are duly recorded in a ledger before stamps are applied. Mike then ambled down the street to the local post office and dropped them in the outgoing mail. He did this several times a day, the Edwardian era being a time when the mail was delivered not just once a day but several times. People could and did commonly get a letter in the morning mail, reply to it, and get an answer the same day. You tell that to kids these days and they don’t believe you. Or perhaps they express amazement that the Edwardians had texting.

Not a hard job, but Mike did have the problem that other staff would wait until the end of the day to hand him outgoing letters. He had to go on the prowl to collect letters from others and make certain they got out before the end of the day, so the bank could get an answer in the next morning’s mail. There is a reference to Mike buying stamps and then taking them down into the basement of the bank where he fed them through a punching machine. This was, of course, a perfin machine, which the bank used to control theft or home use of its stamps. One can deduce that the stamps were perfined “NAB” in some style or arrangement of letters. Since Wodehouse would have done this job with the Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank, one can presume in the real world there must be a perfin of theirs on both British and Hong Kong stamps.

WILD ROSES

by Elizabeth Saunaranta

First Day of Issue



WILD ROSE
(ROSA ACICULARIS)

PROVINCIAL

Floral
Emblem
SERIES

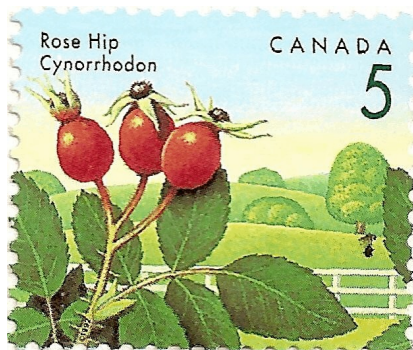


ROSE CRAFT

ALBERTA



Miss Carol Green,
Calgary.



A nice little topical for Cowtown philatelists is the wild rose, *Rosa acicularis*, which will be in full bloom about the time you receive this issue. It is, of course, the floral emblem of our province. The first specific reference to it in Canadian philately was the Centennial series of floral emblem stamps, with Alberta's stamp appearing 1966-01-19, as shown on the FDC above. The bright red fruits appeared on the 5-cent definitive shown at left. They are used for jams and jellies, but because of their small size you have to do a lot of picking to get enough for the breakfast table.



If you include postmarks, the collection will expand geometrically, as lots of Alberta post offices were named by settlers who noticed the wild roses in flower.

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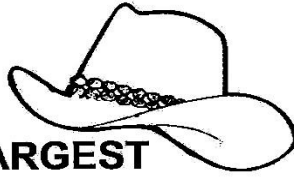
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These ads are free to paid-up CPS members, and will also appear on the CPS Website at no additional cost. Mail your ads to Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2E7, or hand them to me at meetings.

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.

WANTED: Used GB Machin Queen stamps with any selvage attached. Cash or trade (many countries). Call Georg at 547-0409.

WANTED: I volunteer at the Mennonite Community Centre store in Calgary. They raise money for worldwide disasters, and are looking for donations of old albums and pages, covers, and bulk stamps. To donate, please contact me, Greg Lang, at 282-1644.

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

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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.

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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 jcperfins@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.

BULLETIN POSTMARKS

The June bulletin was mailed on May 8 as a first-day cover of the QEII Coronation stamp. For the benefit of future collectors, please mark on the back that it was an FDC.

AUSTRALIA 2013 WORLD STAMP EXHIBITION

Congratulations to Janice Brookes, who had a one-frame exhibit at the Australian international on the first WWF stamp, the Mediterranean mouflon, for which she received a medallion. Besides her, three other CPS members flew the long haul to Down Under. They were Donna Trathen, Norma Nielson, and Jim Taylor.

CIRCUIT BOOKS REPORT

by Larry Tweedale

Another year has passed and I am busy closing out many of the older circuit books. Cheques should be ready on June 19. As a result, there is a need for new circuit books. So what sells the most? All countries sell as we have many world collectors. We are especially in need of Canada, USA, Great Britain, China, Japan, and British Commonwealth. Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland, and Italy are always in demand. As well, new issues are popular as they are becoming harder to get. The most common stamps are difficult to sell. Pricing usually is one-third to one-half catalogue value in order to get good returns. Blank sales books only cost \$1 and the club commission will be just 10% next season.

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MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

2013

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
	20	Auction
December	4	Christmas social

2014

January	8	Deadline for February bulletin
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CALTAPEX 2013 will be held at the Kerby Centre, ground floor gymnasium.

MEETINGS and AUCTIONS are at the Kerby Centre, Room 205 (Lecture Room), 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. For details about meeting places and times, contact Dave Bartlet at 829-3580.

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