

CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 140

April 2016



Did you make any Leap Day covers? If not, you'll have a four year wait until the next opportunity. Mark your calendar now!

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The CPS mailing address is Box 1478, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6. The Web site is: www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com

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 hardcopy, jpeg, or pdf format only. Small ads and articles as hardcopy, plain text file, WordPerfect, or MS Word 1997 format only. Mail to Box 6830, Calgary, T2P 2E7, or hand to Dale Speirs at meetings, or email 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 pdf copy can be had for free at www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com.

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COMMITTEES - see page 15 for list of committee chairpersons.

JAPANESE RPO CANCELLATIONS

by Bill Cowling

Japan, like Canada, used distinctive cancellations for railway post offices. Here are three examples. Each has two city names instead of the one that would be found in standard postmarks. Added to the names is the Kanji character “ma”, meaning “between”. Processing times in the cancellations are replaced with a train designation, either Up or Down. The range of dates is from 1900 to 1960, but must certainly be longer.

The top postmark, reading from right to left:

Railroad mail between stations.

Tetsudo Yubin

Osaka Fukuchiyama Between

1900 June 6 33 Year 6 Month 3 Day

Up Train Kami (and train designation)



The middle postmark, reading from right to left;

Between stations.

Tokyo Osaka Between

1936 March 14 11 Year 3 Month 14 Day

Down Train Shimo (and train designation)



The bottom postmark, reading left to right:

Between stations.

Tokyo Naoetsu Between

1960 December 11 35 Year 12 Month 11 Day

Up Train Kami (and train designation)



The Japanese stamp is from 1971, Scott #1059, and shows the inside of a railway baggage car being used as an RPO.

HEAD-SMASHED-IN AGAIN FOR ALBERTA TOPICAL COLLECTORS

Someone in Toronto at Canada Post headquarters must like Head-Smashed-In, or at least the name, because a third stamp has now been issued for it on 2016-01-11. It was part of a definitive booklet of other Canadian views, paying the Permanent rate. The third stamp is the same image as the 2014 stamp, except for the rate and text, and is in the small size.



2016 booklet with two Head-Smashed-In stamps. At right is an enlargement.



2002 commemorative



2014 large size



POSTAL NEWS IN CALGARY

by Dale Speirs

Closures.

The retail postal outlets (RePOs) closed sometime in 2015 at Tuscany Rexall and the Hidden Valley Mac's Convenience.

New RePOs.

Panorama Hills: There had been a RePO on Panatella Blvd NW in a Mac's Convenience store, but they gave it up in early 2014 (the store is still there). In 2015, on the opposite side of the suburb at 1110 Panatella Blvd NW, a Rexall Drugs in a shopping plaza opened an outlet. The new RePO is shown below.



New Postmarks.

Whenever a RePO changes hands, a new number is issued for it by Canada Post and is reflected in the postmark.



Edgemont: The RePO in this suburb is located at the corner of Edgemont Blvd NW and Edgebrook Drive. It was in a Mac's Convenience store. The store closed and was replaced by Centex Gas in the same location. They kept the RePO running, so they were assigned a new number.

WHAT TO DO WITH TAPED-OVER STAMPS

by Danny Chow

I am sure many of you have come across taped-over stamps in the past and wonder if and what you can do with them. Well, here is my story. At the 2015 CPS Christmas Social, someone brought in a partial cover with tapes all over the stamps as an example of the “Ugliest, messiest, worst abused cover”. That cover was franked with Australia \$10, \$20, and two lower-value stamps. The combined catalogue value was over \$37, making it worthwhile to remove the tapes and salvage the stamps. I thought about tracking down the owner to acquire the piece but someone had beaten me to it. So instead, I experimented on other taped-over stamps.

I selected a few common types of tapes affixed to stamps to illustrate. Shown in Figure 1 is a stamp taped with the yellowish Scotch tape, the worst tape to deal with. As you can see, the tape stain has migrated through the back into the front. There is nothing that can be done about this stamp. The best you can hope for is to remove the tape and adhesive but not the oily stain. Back around the 1950s to 1970s, many kids used this type of tape to mount stamps to the album instead of proper hinges. I came across a few albums with such stamps.



Figure 1

Figures 2 and 3 are examples of some nice stamps that are desirable to save. The tapes on these stamps are Scotch transparent tape. Sometimes this tape can be easily peeled off. However, to be on the safe side, I decided to use the tape removal technique I will be discussing later on. This tape is nice to work with. I have a high success rate of removing the tape without damaging the stamps. Scotch translucent tape, not shown, is also a nice tape to deal with. Just like the transparent type, I had success in the past with this tape.

Tapes shown on Figure 4 are packaging tapes. They are usually not too bad to work with, but in this case I only had partial success with them. I was able to remove the tape and adhesive. Because the tape was affixed on for a long time (February 1990 postmark, not readable in scan), minor tape stain has set into the stamp and thus cannot be removed.



Figure 2 at left, Figure 3 above, Figure 4 below.



This is shown in the close-up in Figure 5 (next page). If the tape removal attempt was done much sooner, I believe these stamps can be saved, as I have done it before with this type of tape. It took me about a half-hour to remove the tape from the Figure 4 stamps and yet I have little to show for it. I could only manage to salvage the centre block of four stamps, if you ignore the minor tape stain.

The story doesn't end here. If you take a closer look at Figure 5, you will notice that some decolourization occurred on a few stamps in the upper row (compare with same stamps on bottom row). Since I never had any trouble with lighter fluid eroding the colour of the stamps before, I repeated the tape removal process on the Figure 4 stamps and this time rubbed a little harder on the stamps trying to duplicate the effect. No further decolourization occurred. Still not convinced, I decided to expand the testing. Again I rubbed harder on the stamps than before. Decolourization occurred only on a strip of four Japan stamps but not the others. Since I only tested on two of the four Japan stamps in the strip, I tested one more time by pouring lighter fluid on the other two stamps and let it dry off without rubbing.

Decolourization did not occur. The conclusion I drew is that decolourization only happens on certain stamps. It probably has something to do with the ink and printing process (ex. lithography). You can reduce the risk of decolourization by rubbing gently on the stamp.



Figure 5: Notice missing colours on top row stamps compared to bottom row.

When I discussed my findings with a stamp dealer, he inadvertently tipped me off about lighter fluid removing oil from skin upon contact. This gave me an idea to restore the colour of the affected stamps. I rubbed a little skin oil, ie, from my fingertip, on the decolourized area and the colour was restored on the Canada Performing Arts stamps. When I re-introduced lighter fluid to the stamps, decolourization re-appeared on the same spots. However, this was not the case with the Japan stamps. The colour was actually rubbed (erased) off and therefore cannot be restored.

The steps to remove this tape are similar to my last article on removing the adhesive from self-adhesive stamps. In this case, extra care is required because you are removing adhesive from the front of the stamp instead of the back. First, apply the lighter fluid on the stamp. Wait for a few seconds, then gently wiggle on the tape to see if it shows signs of coming off. If not, wait a little longer or add more lighter fluid.

Next, use the tip of an Exacto knife to gently lift the corner of the tape. If possible, always remove the tape from the centre of the stamp outward so that you don't tear off the perforations. You must do this while the lighter fluid is present. Once the lighter fluid dries up, the adhesive will be active again. After the tape comes off, gently rub off the adhesive with a Q-tip or a finger. Remember to pour lighter fluid on top of the adhesive to loosen it before rubbing it off. If the tape doesn't appear to be coming off after a minutes, chances are it won't come off at all. Do not try to rush the process, otherwise you will end up in frustration.

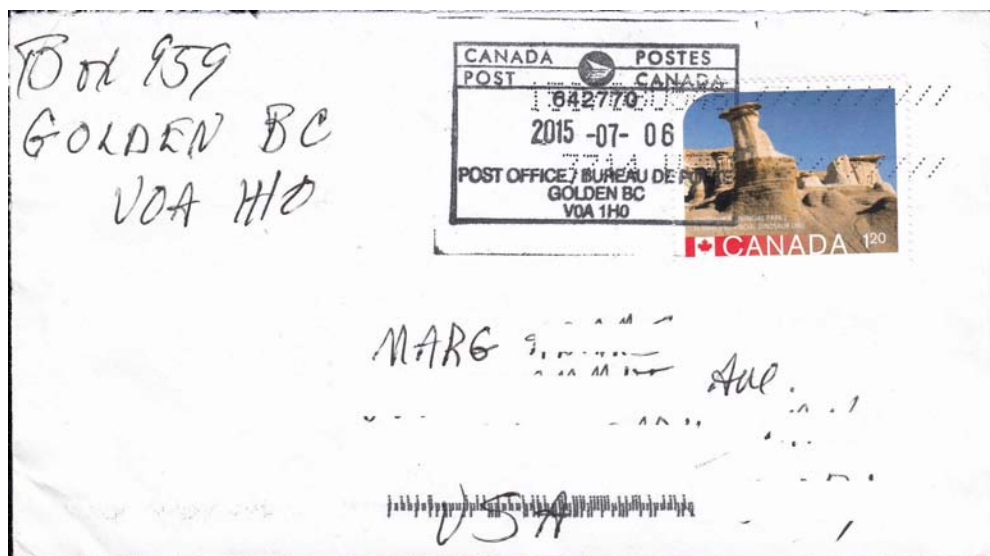
Adhesive labels such as registration, meter post, address change, and Customs forms may possibly be removed with the above technique. Tape stain migrates to other stamps, so watch out. Always store taped stamps separately from other stamps.

In summary, I want to point out that some taped-over stamps are possible to be saved. You have to decide whether these stamps are worth saving before spending the time and effort in trying to do so. Be selective, because it takes more than five minutes, and a whole lot of patience. Even at that, success is not guaranteed, In some cases, you might just as well leave the stamp alone.

HOODOOS ERROR COVER GENUINELY USED

by Ron Tabbert

Since my family is in the USA and we use the mails a lot, I just happened to send a cover to my sister with the recalled Hoodoos stamp, as shown below. It was mailed July 6, the day of the recall, as seen by the hand cancel, and has a faint Canada Post spray-on cancel dated July 8. Though I collect postal rate usage covers, this one I think I'll put in an auction. I'm curious what it will bring.



SEEN AT THIRD WEDNESDAY AUCTIONS

Auction Chairman Doug Kollar has been bringing in many estate lots with material not seen before by CPS members. If you haven't been out to the third Wednesday auctions in a while, you're missing out on some unusual items.

Below is a page from a jeweller's 1944 ledger book, replete with revenue stamps as required by law back then. A percentage of each sale had to be recorded with excise tax stamps. The books would have been audited from time to time by the friendly folks from National Revenue.

BIJOUTIERS KITNER JEWELLERS											
MONTH OF <u>April</u> 194 <u>4</u>											
NOS.	PARTICULARS	COLLEC-TION	CASH	REPAIRS	CREDIT	Cost EXCHANGE	Job DISCOUNT	RETURNED	EXPENSES	MAIL EXPRESS	BANK DEPOSITS
430	<i>Leisepiece Bulova</i>		39.75			.80	9.94				
431	<i>Diamond Solitaire & Jaws</i>	82.50			150.00	17.50	3.35	41.88			
432	<i>pendant & bracelet</i>		15.20			31	3.81				
433	<i>16 pairs for Groucher.</i>			4.00							
	<i>16 pairs for Groucher.</i>								.50		30.00
434	<i>1 Collar</i>		3.95			.06	.74				
	<i>Letter Air Mail</i>								.07		
435	<i>Ladies piquet ring</i>		39.75			1.00	1.00				
		20.00	59.50		167.50	4.60	5.71				
436	<i>used piquet watch</i>		6.70			.14	1.68				
	<i>Stamps for catalogues</i>									1.00	
437	<i>pendant & test quinquplains</i>		1.75			.04	.44				
	<i>Stamps for catalogues</i>									1.00	
	<i>Just cases</i>									.75	



Graphically cropped from a cover in the auction is a postmark from the start of the 1939 Royal Tour.

SPRING BOURSE

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the 2016 Spring Bourse, to be held on the weekend of April 30 and May 1 at the Kerby Centre gymnasium. Doors open at 10h00 each day. Free parking directly across the street. Details from Walter Herdzik at 238-7845.

There will be an auction on Sunday. Lots should be submitted at 10h00 and the auction will be called at 13h00. Details from Doug Kollar at 547-3838.

STUDY GROUP NEWS

The Calgary Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society, which specializes in Canada and pre-Confederation provinces, held its first monthly meeting of the year on January 13. The exciting news was that Calgary will be hosting BNAPEX 2017, its first national-level show in five years. Planning has just started and more details will be released towards the end of this year. The meeting then went to its show-and-tell segment, the topic this time being military ephemera and postal history.

At the February 10 meetings of the BNAPSers, Bill Wilson presented a talk on rate covers of Canada during the 1954-1962 Wilding definitive era, showing the different rates that covers were sent at.

The Calgary Association of Philatelic Exhibitors meets fourth Wednesdays to discuss stamp exhibiting. The group is for all levels of exhibiting. Information can be had from Jim Taylor at 238-3698.

CPS YAHOO DISCUSSION GROUP

If you are a paid-up member of the CPS, one of the benefits of joining is a private discussion group on Yahoo restricted to within the club. The group is used for breaking news that would miss the bulletin, and for any general philatelic discussion that you may have. It is not a heavy-traffic site, so your email inbox won't be swamped. The day's postings by group members are compiled into a daily digest and automatically transmitted to members by Yahoo the following morning. To join, see Dale Speirs in person at the meetings and give him a slip of paper with your name and email address. He will then send you an email invitation containing a link that you click on to join the group. Yahoo may require that you register but this is free and is not intrusive. No online or telephone registrations can be accepted, in order to reduce problems with spammers.

BNAPEX COMING TO COWTOWN

Calgary will be hosting BNAPEX 2017 next year on the Labour Day weekend. Initial planning is just getting underway but it will be a great way for us to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday!

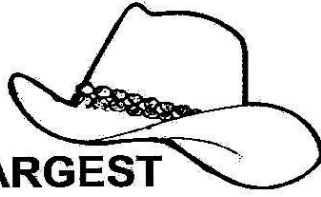
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Phil Wolf, proprietor, in the store



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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.

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: Queen Elizabeth Machins, stamps and strips of four VFNH, about \$100 face value. WANTED TO BUY: Early German and British Colonies stamps to George VI. Call Godfrey at 464-3252.

WANTED: Pilot-signed First Flight covers and also any signed material by Canadian notables. Contact Glenn at pgdaze@gmail.com

FOR SALE: Current Canadian stamps, very fine used. Contact Michael Teekens, 22 McAllister Road, Monbulk 3793, Australia, or michaeteekens@gmail.com

WANTED: We volunteer at the MCC thrift store in Calgary. They raise money for worldwide disaster relief and are looking for donations of old albums and pages, covers, and bulk stamps. Contact Greg Lang at 282-1644 or Gerry Vader at 293-0158.

WANTED AND FOR SALE: Wanted: stamps of India. For sale: Stamps of Egypt, Ceylon, and Burma (advanced collection). Contact jay_chahal@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: People's Republic of China from 1990 to 2014. MNH, asking 50% of Scott. Phone Willi at 239-2273.

FOR SALE: Extensive collection of Alberta postmarks uniquely filed in 28 binders. Supplemented with historical data items of postal relevance. Contact Al at 282-1030 or dorandal@shaw.ca

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

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

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

CLUB NEWS

The February bulletin was mailed from the Marlborough Mall Shoppers Drug Mart postal outlet, using the NHL goalie stamps.

CPS members continue to have articles published in philatelic journals. Front-page news for the January 12 issue of CANADIAN STAMP NEWS was a report by Peter Fleck on his discovery of a previously unknown untagged block of the 12-cent Famous Canadians. Jim Taylor had an article on St Pierre et Miquelon overprints of 1891 in the 2015 December issue of LONDON PHILATELIST. Dale Speirs had an article on Canadian pictorial bulk mail permits in the 2016 Jan/Feb issue of TOPICAL TIME. Part 2 of Speirs's postal history of East Coulee, Alberta, appeared in the 2016 Mar/Apr issue of CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

At the February 3 general meeting, Jim Taylor received the President's Pot award, and then reciprocated by presenting a talk on the artist Francisco Goya and the famous 1930 Spanish stamp that depicted one of his nudes. It was announced that Calgary will be hosting BNAPEX 2017, a national-level show. The theme will obviously be the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

The March 2 general meeting had a presentation by Ghazi Karim about the Iraq overland mails. The President's Pot was awarded to Hugh Delaney for his work on BNAPEX (he is the Chairman of BNAPEX 2017) and past work for the BNA study group.

As he has done for many years, Keith Brown presented the CPS Library with the latest Scott's catalogue. Penny Borrowman expressed thanks at the meeting on behalf of all those who use the catalogues.

The centennial of the women's vote stamp is scheduled to be issued on March 8, the day this issue of the bulletin will be mailed out. Your editor will endeavour to make it a first-day cover. Check the stamp and the date on the postmark and if correct, mark on the back that it is a FDC to alert future owners of your envelope.

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	Gerry Vader	293-0158
Membership	Julius Szekrenyes	282-7982
Programmes	Penny Borrowman	686-2662
Webmaster	Dave Bartlet	829-3580

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

2016

March	16	Auction
	23	CAPE meeting
April	6	General meeting
	13	BNAPS Regional Group meeting
	20	Auction
	27	CAPE meeting
April 30 to May 1		Spring Bourse
May	4	General meeting
	4	Deadline for June bulletin
	11	BNAPS Regional Group meeting
	18	Auction
	25	CAPE meeting
June	1	General meeting
	8	BNAPS Regional Group meeting
	15	Auction
	15	Deadline for July bulletin
August	10	Deadline for August bulletin
September	7	Annual general meeting
	7	Deadline for October bulletin
	14	BNAPS Regional Group meeting
	21	Auction
	28	CAPE meeting

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 viewing.

SPRING BOURSE will be held in the Kerby Centre gymnasium. Details from Walter Herdzyk at 238-7845.

BNAPS (Calgary Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society) meets second Wednesdays. For details, contact Dave Bartlet at 829-3580.

JUNIOR CLUB meets monthly on Saturdays. Information from Jim Senecal at 547-7681.

CAPE (Calgary Association Of Philatelic Exhibitors) meets fourth Wednesdays. For details, contact Jim Taylor at 238-3698.