

CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 156

July 2018



MISS STINSON READY FOR
FIRST AERIAL SERVICE MAIL
CALGARY JULY 9TH. 1918

No 3124

King photo

Calgary Philatelist is published by the Calgary Philatelic Society. It is copyright by the CPS, except signed articles, which are copyright by the authors. Written permission is required to reprint articles.

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

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 free pdf copy can be downloaded from www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com.

2017-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Past President	Larry Tweedale	282-9726
President	Murray Bialek	241-2006
Vice President	Jim Senecal	547-7681
Secretary	Donna Trathen	272-0804
Treasurer	Norma Nielson	547-6197
Directors - ex officio, Past President	Larry Tweedale	282-9726
- ex officio, Life Members	Gerry Vader	293-0158
-	Martha Dunsmore	282-0353
-	Janice Brookes	251-1769
-	Doug Kollar	547-3838
-	Erika Peter	257-7673

COMMITTEES - see page 15 for list of committee chairpersons.

KATHERINE STINSON AND CALGARY

by Dale Speirs

2018 is the centennial of the first airmail flown in Alberta, which was also the second airmail flight in Canada and the first airmail in Canada flown by a female pilot (she was also the first woman to fly American airmails). Katherine Stinson was a pioneer aviator from the USA who barnstormed around North America on behalf of the Red Cross.

In The Beginning.

Airmail is taken for granted these days, but prior to World War Two it was front-page news in any city that received it. Air transport began after World War One, but its greatest problem, and the thing that held back airmail routes, was reliability. The earliest reports of airmail routes are replete with crash or forced landings due to untrustworthy aircraft or unexpected bad weather.

Delays were frequent due to lack of weather forecasting. Navigation by pilots consisted of taking along a road map and following train tracks. Aircraft could not fly over mountains and had to zigzag through valleys. The pilots would pray they could get their planes over mountain passes without flying into something.

Calgary is the major city of southern Alberta, the petroleum capital of Canada, and thus a logical choice for airmail routes. Lethbridge, however, keeps popping up as the southern Alberta terminus in most of the early airmail flights. This was because the Crowsnest Pass through the Canadian Rockies was the preferred route for unpressurized aircraft because it is the lowest pass. The Crowsnest Pass opens onto the prairies in the Lethbridge vicinity. After World War Two, when pressurized aircraft were added to routes, the terminus was moved to Calgary.

Katherine Stinson.

Katherine Stinson had an easier time of it when she pioneered the airmails in Alberta by flying from Calgary to Edmonton on July 9, 1918. The route was over flat lands, and she only had to follow the railroad that ran in a straight line between the two cities. Even so, her plane made a forced landing moments after takeoff in the Beddington district. There was a delay while she sent back for parts, but she managed to finish the flight the same day she started it.

Stinson had made some exhibition flights around Calgary in 1916 and 1917. The 1918 flight carried about 250 pieces of mail. Most items were letterheads folded over and closed with red seals. A rectangular cachet was used to mark the mail. The cachet read "Aeroplane Mail Service/July 9, 1918/CALGARY, ALBERTA". An Edmonton backstamp was applied on arrival. The typical cover from this Stinson flight is shown in Figure 1 on the next page. These covers are the ones most likely to be encountered in philatelic auctions.



Figure 1

A unique piece was owned by the late Sam Nickle, shown in Figures 2 and 3 on the next page. Sam was a wealthy Calgary oilman prominent in local philately. He was active in the 1950s and 1960s on the executive of the CPS and served a term as President, as well as being Chairman of several stamp shows in the 1970s and 1980s. Back in the 1980s, I wrote a history of Calgary airmails and Sam was kind enough to give me a photocopy of his Stinson cover.

The document is a piece of the road map Stinson used as a guide. She tore it off and wrote a message to the Calgary Exhibition manager on one side, then folded it as a letter. This was sold off as part of Sam's philatelic estate. It is now owned by a Calgary collector.

The front page of this bulletin shows a real-photo postcard in my own collection, depicting Stinson as she prepared to depart the Calgary Exhibition grounds on the day.

Figures 4 and 5 (below) are from BNAPEX 2007, hosted in Calgary, and show the Stinson Special biplane she flew, which was customized from a Jenny biplane. Her flights were done as benefits for the Red Cross, which explains the cross on the tailfin.



*Figure 4 (left)
Figure 5 (right)*





Figure 2: Outside of letter. Richardson was manager of Calgary Industrial Exhibition.

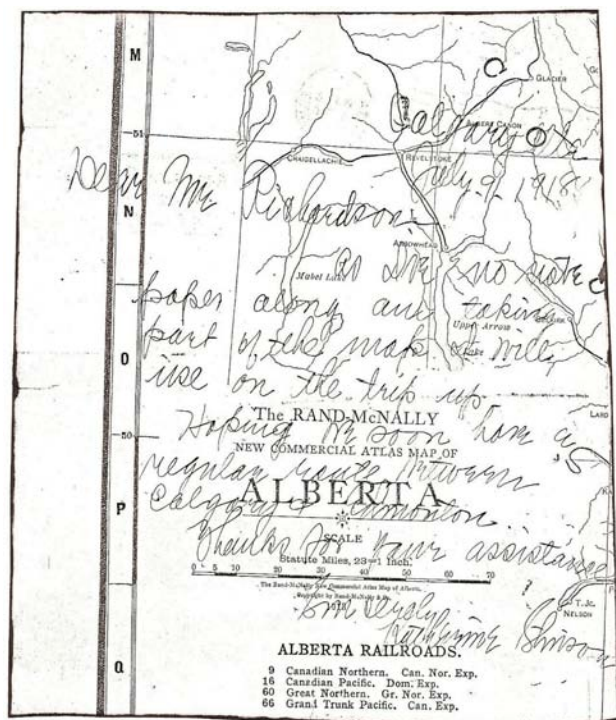


Figure 3: Message of letter.

M.C.COSTELLO, M.D.
MAYOR.



VIA AERIAL ROUTE.

July 8th 1918.

H.M.E. Evans, Esq.,
Mayor,
Edmonton,
Alta.

My dear Mr. Mayor:-

At this time, when your City and citizens are busily engaged with the opening and celebration of their Annual Exhibition and Summer Show, it is my pleasure, on behalf of the City of Calgary, to extend to you and your citizens, greetings.

May I also convey to you our very best wishes for the continued success of your undertaking and express the hope that this year's event will eclipse all previous efforts.

This message will be carried to you, not as ordinarily, but by a young lady who has of late years been putting to commercial uses the latest method of transportation, viz:- the aerial route. As you know, Mr. Mayor, under ordinary conditions of travel and delivery it requires from ten to fifteen hours to complete the journey of a message as between your City and the City of Calgary.

Due to man's genius and the capabilities and foresight of the hearer, Miss Katherine Stinson, the world's foremost aviatrix, a citizen of the great republic to the South, a new record for the whole of Western Canada will, we trust with favorable conditions, be established with the delivery of this letter.

Again wishing you every success in connection with your Annual Fair,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

Frank R. Freeze
Acting Mayor.

JMM/EM

THE CENTENARY OF KATHERINE STINSON'S AIRMAIL FLIGHT

An event marking the centenary of Katherine Stinson's July 9, 1918, inaugural flight from Calgary to Edmonton, the first airmail in western Canada, was organized by the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society in collaboration with national airline WestJet, headquartered in Calgary. The event will be held at the WestJet Domestic Departure Area at Calgary International Airport YYC.

Plan to be at the airport at 09h30, at WestJet Encore gates, Gate 1. A three-frame Centennial Flight display will be shown.

Members of the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society, Canadian Aviation Historical Society, and the Calgary Philatelic Society will be present.

259 commemorative envelopes have been prepared. These will be postmarked and placed into a vintage mailbag to be flown from Calgary to Edmonton aboard a WestJet Q400 NextGen turboprop. The cover shown below is one of those that will be provided to each passenger on the flight. Your own covers can be added to the mailbag.

Mailbag will be handed to Westjet pilot who will be in attendance, who will be a female pilot in honour of Stinson. There will be a photo opportunity for all of the above. Media have been invited.

Display and mailbag to move to departure lounge through security. WestJet Flight WS 3143 departs for Edmonton at 12h15.

Information can be had from Dave Bartlet (829-3580).

Commemorating
Western Canada's Inaugural
Air Mail Flight:
Katherine Stinson - July 9 1918
Calgary to Edmonton

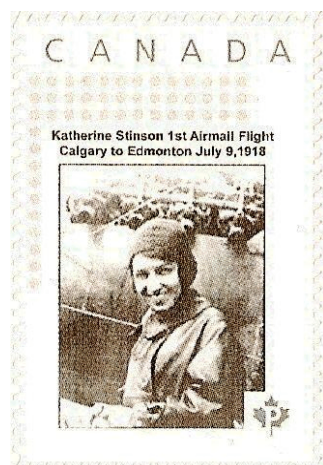
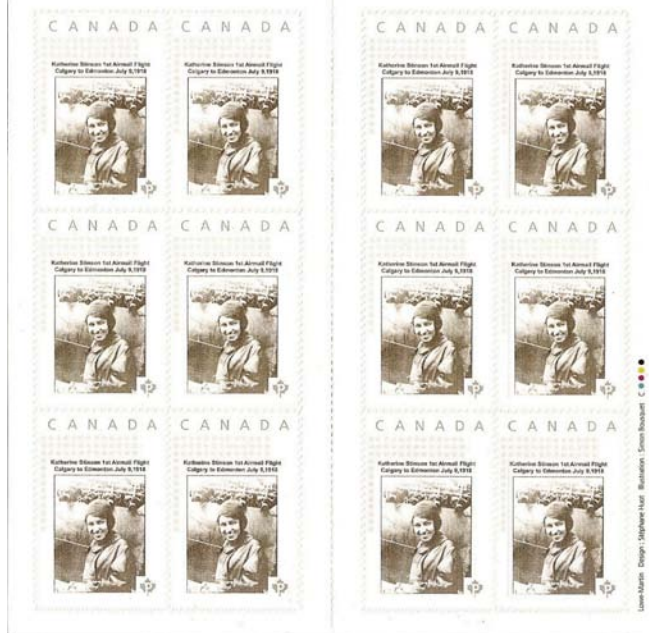


WestJet Airlines Guest
Centennial Intercity Flight
CYYC (Calgary) to CYEG (Edmonton)



No. 177 of 259

Dave Bartlett prepared Stinson stamps as Picture Postage booklets.



Your photos...
on cards and invitations too!
canadapost.ca/photos
Vos photos...
sur des cartes et invitations aussi!
postescanada.ca/photos

Katherine Stinson 1st Airmail
Flight Cal-Edm 9 July, 1918



Picture Postage Timbres-photos
Permanent stamps Timbres permanents
Canada Canada

12



ABOUT THE CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Calgary Philatelic Society was founded in April 1922 by Dr. Edward George Mason, and has been in continuous existence since. The CPS provides a meeting place for local stamp collectors to get together and share their interest in stamps and postal history. 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.

Some of the benefits to members:

- 1) enjoying social interaction with other stamp collectors
- 2) opportunity to buy, sell, trade, and exhibit philatelic material.
- 3) subscription to our award-winning bulletin, the Calgary Philatelist
- 4) access to our excellent library, with resources for all aspects of philately
- 5) participate in two philatelic shows per year: CALTAPEX in October, and a Spring Bourse in April.

General meetings, are held on the first Wednesday of the month except July, August, and December. They include a silent auction, a short business meeting, and a philatelic presentation by one of our members. Coffee and doughnuts are served after the presentation. Regular auctions are held on the third Wednesday of the month, except July, August, and December. Auction lots should be in before 19h00 to allow viewing.

Visitors and guests are always welcome. Meetings and Auctions are held beginning at 19h30, with the doors opening at 18h30. The location for the General Meeting and the monthly Auction is: Kerby Centre, Room 205 (Lecture Room), 1133 - 7 Avenue SW, Calgary. (If you park in the Kerby Centre lots, you must register your vehicle licence plate at the computer pad on entering building; otherwise your vehicle will be towed or clamped.)

The CALGARY PHILATELIST is published seven times per year. Every issue contains club news, original articles on philatelic subjects or postal history, members' advertisements, and a schedule of meetings and upcoming events.

The CPS Website is located at: www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com

Real-mail address is Box 1478, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6.



SPECIAL MEETING ON JUNE 28

Canada Post officials will be presenting a special programme to the CPS membership on Thursday, June 28, in the regular meeting room at the Kerby Centre, Room 205. They will discuss the forthcoming stamp issues, and what is new in the way of philatelic materials.

OUT-OF-TOWN SHOW RESULTS

Lakeshore Stamp Show (Montreal, March 23 to 25):

Dave Bartlet won a Large Gold for “Vended Postage Automation”.

ORAPEX 2018 (Ottawa, May 5 and 6):

Dave Bartlet won a Large Gold and Reserve Grand for “Vended Postage Automation”.

Jon Johnson won a Large Silver for “WW1 Canadian Army Nursing Sisters Serving Overseas”.

PIPEX 2018 (Portland, Oregon, May 11 to 13):

Janice Brookes won Large Vermeil and ATA 3rd Place for “The Evolution Of The World Wildlife Fund Logo”.

Amelia Kelbert (granddaughter of Janice) won Youth Large Gold, ATA Youth Award, and AAPE Youth Award for “The World Of The Monarch Butterfly”.

Donna Trathen won Large Vermeil and AAPE Award of Honour for “Christina Broom: Her Work As A Photographer”.

Donna also won a Large Vermeil and ATA 2nd Place for “Horses: Origins, Breeds, And Roles”.

Jim Taylor won Vermeil for “Antarctica: Conflicting Claims”

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB SUMMER AUCTION

by Richard Barnes

We are extending a welcome to all members of the Calgary Philatelic Society who are in Edmonton on July 30 to join us for our Annual Summer Meeting and stamp auction. Please enjoy a light meal of sandwiches, conversation, activities and auction. Viewing starts at 15h30 at the Central Lion's Recreation Centre, 113 Street and 111 Avenue (enter through the front door).

We are aiming to have the catalogue and pictures posted on the Edmonton Stamp Club Website by the end of May. The ESC auction activity at the Summer Meeting of 30 July for the first time will take mail bids. We will only accept bids from stamp club members in good standing. This is a first try for us so it will have to be payment by cash or cheque.

Bids can be placed on the ESC Website (www.edmontonstampclub.com) using the Contact Us button. You can also phone a real person at 780-489-7506 and ask for Rod. The complete bidding instructions will accompany the catalogue and pictures when they are posted on the ESC Web Site.



Chinese Stamp Buyer

Pay top \$ for Asian Stamps

Jonathan Fenn

President, JSF Holdings, Inc.

jon@chinesestampbuyer.com

www.chinesestampbuyer.com

307/690-0925

PO Box 1328, 3455 Trapper Lane

Wilson, WY 83014 USA

email images for a cash offer

**Finders fee paid to keep
your eyes open**

SELECT STAMPS AND COVERS

#901 Westview Heights,
825 - 8 Avenue SW
(403)264-1551 or selstamp@telus.net

Canada and Worldwide
Stamps and Covers
20% discount on foreign stamps and collections for
CPS members

Recently purchased
many better Canadian stamps



Phil Wolf, proprietor, in the store

SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

These ads are free to paid-up CPS members. 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: 2,000 plus covers at a reasonable price. 1902-1930s from Rapid Cancelling Machine study. Email: cec.coutts@telus.net

WANTED: Chinese stamps buyer pays top dollar for Asian stamps. Send email scans or pictures. jon@chinesestampbuyer.com or www.chinesestampbuyer.com

FOR SALE: Zillions of Stamps is a Website organized by country and catalogue number using Scott, Michel, Stanley Gibbons, or Yvert, as well as by topics such as birds, trains, Scouts, or famous people. I am one of the contributors and have listed over 35,000 worldwide items under I. Rudyk. Contact Ihor Rudyk at ivrudyk@shaw.ca or visit www.zillionsofstamps.com

FOR SALE: Stamp collector's storage cabinet; white, six drawers and six mail boxes. Drawers are divided for storing various sized covers and loose items. \$100 May be viewed on Kijiji under Hobbies. Contact Al at 282-1030 or dorandal@telus.net

FOR SALE: Seven Unity Canada stamp albums in a case. Annual pages to end of 2016. About 65% of stamp slots filled. Initial years mostly used. Recent years almost 100% mint. Price to be negotiated. Contact Al at 282-1030 or dorandal@telus.net

WANTED: Canadian perfin covers and Canadian military covers and postcards. Contact Jon Johnson at 253-8411 or jcjperfins@hotmail.com

BUY, SELL, OR TRADE: Great Britain and colonies, Canada and provinces, many other countries. Let me know interest. Robin Mitchell at (250)346-3275, mitchellcb39@gmail.com, or Box 56, Brisco, British Columbia V0A 1B0.

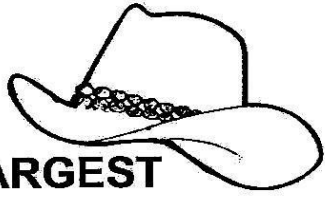
FOR SALE: Queen Elizabeth Machins, stamps and strips of four VFNH, about \$100 face value.
WANTED TO BUY: Early German and British Colonies stamps to George VI. Call Godfrey at 464-3252.

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, 83 Headingley Road #1, Mount Waverley, Victoria 3149, Australia, or michteekens@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



CALGARY'S LARGEST STAMP SHOPPE

R.D. MINER PHILATELICS

STAMPEDE CITY STAMPS

(403) 233-7541

rdminer@telus.net

1613 - 14 Street SW, ground floor

Parking at rear, off 16 Avenue.

Bus routes 2, 6, and 7 stop by the building.

Open Monday thru Saturday.

WANTED TO BUY!

**Looking for good
quality material.**

**Bring it into our shop
and we'll make an offer.**



CLUB NEWS

The CALGARY PHILATELIST was awarded a Gold in the 2017 American Philatelic Society Chapter Newsletter Competition.

The June issue of this bulletin was mailed from Chestermere Lake (Shoppers Drug Mart, Marina Drive) using the Bees stamps.

Publications by CPS members:

BNAPS has published Eldon Godfrey’s book FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONTROL IN CANADA. It is available from: www.sparks-auctions.com/bnapsbooks

Dale Speirs had a letter to the editor about first-day ceremonies published in the May 15 issue of CANADIAN STAMP NEWS.

At the June 6 general meeting, the President’s Pot was awarded to Norma Nielson on the occasion of her retirement as Treasurer after six years of service.

STUDY GROUP REPORTS

The Calgary Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society meets second Wednesdays except July and August. For details, contact Dave Bartlet at 829-3580. The May 9 meeting was led by Hugh Delaney on the subject of Canadian airmails. The June 13 meeting had a presentation by Earle Covert on salesmen “Will Call” postcards.

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
Juniors	Jim Senecal (north side of city)	547-7681
	Pat Prevey (south side of city)	238-3435
Library	Penny Borrowman	686-2662
Life Members	Gerry Vader	293-0158
Membership	Murray Bialek	241-2006
Programmes	Penny Borrowman	686-2662
Webmaster	Dave Bartlet	829-3580

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

WARNING! WARNING! WARNING! WARNING!
Vehicles in both Kerby lots must have licence plate numbers registered inside the building at the computer terminals. This is a 24/7 policy and the CPS is not exempt. Otherwise your vehicle will be clamped or towed.

2018

June	28	Special meeting: Canada Post presentation at Kerby Centre in meeting room #205 at 19h00
July	13	Free Stampede breakfast, 08h00 at Kerby Centre
August	15	Deadline for September bulletin
September	5	Annual general meeting and elections
	5	Deadline for October bulletin
	12	BNAPS Regional Group
	19	Auction
	26	CAPE meeting
October	3	General meeting
	10	BNAPS Regional Group
	13 and 14	CALTAPEX 2018
	17	Auction
	24	CAPE meeting
November	7	General meeting
	7	Deadline for December bulletin
	14	BNAPS Regional Group
	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. If you park in either of the two Kerby lots, don't forget to register your vehicle's licence plate at the computer terminals in the building.

CALTAPEX stamp show will be in the Kerby Centre gymnasium on the main floor.

JUNIOR CLUB meets monthly September to November and January to May on second Saturdays (north side of city) and third Saturdays (south side of city). Information from Jim Senecal at 547-7681 (north side) or Pat Prevey at 238-3435 (south side).

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