

CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 163

July 2019



Alberta-Wide Stamp Gathering
May 25, 2019
Red Deer, Alberta



The Alberta-Wide Stamp Gathering on May 25 was a success. The photo shows the venue at the Red Deer Liberty Church, with the Highland Green Shoppers Drug postal outlet at right. The cover at top was prepared by Dale Speirs at the outlet.

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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 can be downloaded as a free pdf from www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com

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COMMITTEES - see page 15 for list of committee chairpersons.

CHECK THAT UNDERPRINTING

by Tony Doughty

Have you been studying the “Canada” underprinting on some of the definitive stamps issued by Canada Post since 2013? If not you are in for a few surprises!

The underprinting on the majority of underprinted stamps is often very indistinct when viewed under natural light, but can be more clearly seen viewed on the gum side of the stamp under UV light. On intact mint booklets, the underprinting can best be viewed by shining a bright LED flashlight through the booklet from the face side of the stamp and viewing the highlighted image on the gum side of the booklet. This can best be achieved by directing the light through the red band at the top of the booklet rather than through the printed stamp area.

The Canada underprinting was first introduced on the Baby Wildlife Definitive stamps, and the Permanent™ Canadian Pride stamps. Starting in 2013 with the Woodchuck issue, the smaller coils of 100 subjects (Unitrade 2604) or less, and all booklet stamps in the underprinted series, appear to show the underprinting stepping up from bottom left to top right, (as shown in Figure 1) when viewed on the gum side of the stamp.

The larger coils of 5000 (Unitrade 2603) subjects display the “Canada” underprinting stepping up from bottom right to top left as shown in figure 2. A very simple method of identifying stamps from the coils of 5000.



Figure 1



Figure 2

One other anomaly appears on the Woodchucks 63¢ reprint of the original “P” issue. On the 63¢ reprint coils of 100 (Unitrade 2692), a few stamps were issued without the “Canada” underprinting. I have not yet identified this EFO on coils of 5000 (Unitrade 2692A) with the underprinting stepping bottom right to top left. Nor have I identified this anomaly on any other underprinted stamps.

[Editor's note: Mr Doughty has prepared a more detailed article about the Woodchuck stamps which will appear in the next issue of this bulletin.]

My research has indicated that these “Canada” underprinting variations have been continued by Canada Post on “Canada Pride”, and “Queen Elizabeth II” into the “UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Canada” series of stamps and all subsequent annual definitive issues of the coils and booklets, plus some of the intermediate commemorative and Christmas stamps.

However, another anomaly has surfaced on the 2016 “UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Canada” series. This series was issued in booklets of 10 stamps (Bk 638) and booklets of 30 stamps (Bk 639). The series was not issued in coil format. However, all five different stamps from these 2016 booklets (Unitrade 2890 to 2894) can be identified with the “Canada” underprinting stepping in either of the directions indicated in Figures 1 and 2.

Discussions with Mirko Zatka (of Zatka Philately Ltd.) has revealed “...*the booklets of 10 have the right angle in the text moving to the upper left, (i.e. my Figure 2) whereas on the books of 30 it moves to the upper right. (i.e. my Figure 1). The blank sheet of stamp paper must have been turned 90 degrees for producing the larger booklets, relative to the small ones ...*” (quoted from Mr. Zatka's letter to me of May 8th 2018). I have confirmed this stepping feature using the bright light process described above, but cannot support the hypothesis that the booklets of 30 were simply turned 90 degrees during production.

My observations are that the booklets of 30 stamps printed by CBNC (Canadian Bank Note) will have the underprinting stepping in the same direction as the booklets of 10 stamps (Figure 1). The booklets of 30 stamps printed by LM (Lowe-Martin) have the underprinting stepping in the opposite direction to the stepping direction of the booklets of 10 stamps. Booklets of 10 stamps step bottom right to top left (Figure 2) while booklets of 30 stamps step bottom left to top right (Figure 1). The different stepping directions are therefore a feature of the style in which the different printers design their original printing plates.

My research into the “Canada” underprinting on all Canadian stamps is ongoing, and I welcome any revelations you may observe on this new dimension in serious philatelic research.

DESIGN A STAMP FOR CALTAPEX 2019

by Dave Bartlet

The theme of this year's CALTAPEX show is Pandas. Each year the CPS has a show cover and stamp for the theme. We want you to take a picture of Calgary's pandas at the Calgary Zoo and submit your photo to the Webmaster. We will select from the submitted photos five of the best to be voted on by the membership at the September 4 meeting.

Photos can be horizontal or vertical and must be at least 300 KB in size. This contest is open to CPS members only. Submissions due by August 25, 2019. Email your submissions to: webmaster@calgaryphilatelicsociety.com

ALBERTA-WIDE STAMP GATHERING 2019

On May 25, philatelists from across Alberta converged at Red Deer, almost exactly halfway between Calgary and Edmonton, for the 2019 Alberta-Wide Stamp Gathering conference. This was the first such gathering since 1976. The earliest was in 1953, although they were not always held every year. The meeting rooms were in the Liberty Assembly Church in a shopping plaza, with a postal outlet handily located next door in the Shoppers Drug Mart.

The day's events began with a session introducing speakers from various clubs who discussed how their organizations operated, what problems they had, and what worked well. It was interesting how the similarities and differences compared. Jim Senecal spoke on behalf of the CPS, Richard Barnes for the Edmonton Stamp Club, and Kel Hansen for the Lethbridge Philatelic Society.



Kel Hansen (Lethbridge)



Richard Barnes (Edmonton)



Jim Senecal (Calgary)

There were some common themes. The biggest problem was recruiting new and hopefully younger members. Senecal mentioned that youth club efforts are generally wasted unless there is a philatelic father or grandfather to mentor the youth and keep them interested.

Barnes mentioned that clubs must have a Web page because that is how the younger generation communicates. It is no longer an option.

All were worried about escalating operating costs such as rising rents. One common financial danger was to sell life memberships because that dropped membership income but maintained expenses. The main income of clubs nowadays was from auctions. Circuit books are stagnant.

Barnes mentioned the strength of an organization is not how many members it has but how many step forward to volunteer. All the clubs have tried reach out to non-philatelic community organizations, which have failed to bring in new members. Those activities were a waste of time and effort.

Each representative explained how their club meetings and services worked. Different clubs have different problems. For example, one club has only two or three members interested in exhibiting, while another has a sub-group for an enthusiastic group of exhibitors.



Peter Fleck (Red Deer)

City size makes a difference. Calgary and Edmonton each have a population of about 1.2 million people, and their stamp clubs are about 150 active members. Lethbridge and Red Deer are each about 100,000 people. Lethbridge, with 30 members, tried a public show but it was too expensive for the returns.

Peter Fleck is working to revive the Red Deer Stamp Club, which died in 1999 for lack of volunteers. Fleck managed to get together about 25 Red Deer stamp collectors for this conference. Prospects to revive the club look promising.

Following on, the Calgary and Edmonton regional groups of the British North America Philatelic Society staged four seminars. Jim Taylor spoke on “United States Mail For St Pierre et Miquelon Via The Gull Fast Train Through Maritime Canada”. David Piercey presented “From Edmonton To Calgary Via Jasper And Banff: Postal History Along The Way”. Eldon Godfrey spoke about “Foreign Exchange Control In Canada; The Role Of Canada Post 1939 to 1951”. The fourth presentation was by Barend Wissink about “Alberta Bridges On Postcards”.

Concurrently there was a mini-bourse of members’ tables and several dealers, as well as an auction run under Calgary rules. Both the Calgary and Edmonton clubs brought their circuit books.

The conference wrapped up about 15h00 to allow everyone time to drive home. It was a successful start to a new era in intra-provincial relations between philatelic clubs.



Above: Edmonton Stamp Club circuit books table. Below: A view of the mini-bourse.



At least 60 people attended the gathering. Jim Senecal did a lot of work in organizing the event and co-ordinating with his counterparts in other cities. Peter Fleck arranged the logistics, and managed to get major publicity from the RED DEER ADVOCATE.

SHIPLEY PARCEL TAGS: PART 7

by Dale Speirs

[Parts 1 to 6 appeared in issues #152 to 155, 158, and 161.]

In going through these tags and looking at all the different types of postmarks, it was obvious which postal clerks had pride in their jobs and who were just putting in pensionable time. Claresholm, in this era, had dirty worn postmarks, while other post offices such as Brooks, Rocky Mountain House, and Drumheller had clear readable cancels.

Stamps: QE2 Definitives (continued).



The blue 5-cent Wilding, also a commonly used value, is shown in Figure 47 (at left). It was mailed from Didsbury with 39 cents in postage, indicating a fair number of film rolls.

The orange 6-cent Wilding was the least commonly used stamp of that series. Figure 48 (below) shows it with the Canmore barred cancel, its point of origin verified by the return address on the other side. I'm surprised the 6-cent Wilding wasn't used more often for larger packages.



In 1962, the Cameo issue began, the second ugliest depiction of the Queen ever done by Canada Post. (The 1953 Coronation stamp still remains as one of the worst stamp designs in Canadian history.) These stamps had dark solid backgrounds which made postmarks illegible. The Shipley tags had some but not many of these. I found no large multiples, but did spot a 4-cents coil pair from Eston, Saskatchewan. This is shown in Figure 49 (next page) as a graphically cropped image.



Figure 49

Coil stamps are not normally sold by post offices in ones or a few at a time. The customer had to buy the entire roll.

This pair was mailed from the Eston Co-op, so presumably they used enough stamps to buy them in coils.

Stamps: QE2 Commemoratives.

There were a fair number of stamps commemorating the Queen during the 1950s, with and without Prince Phillip, mainly because they made several Royal Visits during that decade. The earliest I found on the tags was actually a hangover from 1948, a Princess Elizabeth wedding stamp used in 1956 with a Karsh QE2 stamp from Bassano (Figure 50, graphically cropped).



Figure 50

COWTOWNERS GO OUT OF TOWN

Donna Trathen visited Oregon and on May 8 gave a presentation to the Greater Eugene Stamp Club (photo by Norma Nielson.).



CPS members won awards as follow at ORAPEX 2019: Ottawa, May 4 and 5:

Dave Bartlet "Voluntary Fundraising For WW1" won Gold, PHSC Best Military Postal History, AAPE Creativity Award

Raymond Villeneuve "Special Delivery Service in Canada" won Vermeil and BNAPS Best 2 to 4 Frame

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. 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. Yahoo has changed its rules so that moderators can no longer sign up members. Instead, the new member must send a request to Dale, who will then approve it. That is why he needs to know your name and email address in advance.

IN MEMORIAM: EDMUND HARRIS (1926-2019)



Ed Harris died on April 26 at the age of 93 after a long illness. He was predeceased by his wife Kay, and is survived by four children and six grandchildren.

Ed was the doyen of Calgary philatelists for decades and a natural-born leader of the CPS. He was made an Honorary Life Member in 1981. Ed won numerous awards as an exhibitor at stamp shows in Calgary, nationally, and internationally. He was CPS Author of the Year in 1995.

Ed joined the CPS in 1961. He served as Vice-President 1963-64, President 1978-79, and Bulletin Editor 1979-81. He was a Director too many times to list between 1965 and 1999. In like manner he served multiple times as Programme Chairman between 1986 and 1998. He was Show Chairman for long runs, beginning with the first annual show, CALPEX 64. He chaired CALPEX 77 and Royal 80 Royale.

He helped organize the first BNAPEX in Alberta in 1960 at Banff, and served as Chairman for BNAPEX 85 and OLYMPEX 88 (a function of the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics). Those were just his official positions. Ed served behind the scenes in countless capacities in every show and bourse during his time with the club.

Ed was an active member of the Calgary Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society. At the national level, he served BNAPS as Treasurer from 1975 to 1982, Director from 1983 to 1985, Vice-President in 1986, and President for 1987-88. In 1987, BNAPS awarded him the Order of the Beaver, their highest honour.

Ed was active in the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada in many capacities. They made him a Fellow of the RPSC in 1997.

At the CPS June 5 general meeting, Dale Speirs spoke a eulogy. The audience then observed a minute of silence in his honour. Gone but not forgotten.

CALL FOR APPRENTICE JUDGES

If you have exhibited successfully and would like to train as a judge for eventual certification by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, the CALTAPEX Show Committee would like to hear from you. Apprentice positions are open for serious candidates. For further information, contact Janice Brookes at 251-1769 or see her at the general meetings.

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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: Very large collection of postage stamps of South and Central America. Mostly 19th and 20th century material. Mostly used. Some in binders, stock sheets, albums, and bags purchased as much as 30 years ago and never opened. Only mainland South and Central America, no Mexico, no Jamaica, no Cuba. Contact Penny at stampbuddy.pb@gmail.com

WANTED: Italian or French colonies pre-independence, Western Europe pre-1940, British colonies pre-QE2, Australian States. Call Jim Senecal at 547-7681.

HELP WANTED: Someone to list stamps on eBay. Pay negotiable. Contact Phil Wolf at 264-1551.

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

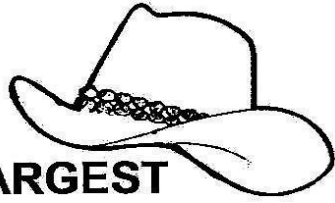
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FOR SALE: Queen Elizabeth Machins, stamps and strips of four VFNH, about \$100 face value.
WANTED TO BUY: Early German and British Colonies stamps to George VI. Call Godfrey at 464-3252.

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, 912 Olympia Crescent SE, Calgary, T2C 1G7, or michateekens@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.



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COVER SALE!



CLUB NEWS

The June issue of this bulletin was mailed from the Airways postal outlet at 32 Avenue NE and 19 Street in Airways Foods store, using the Canadians In Flight aviation history stamps.

At the June 5 general meeting, the President's Pot was awarded to Peter Fleck for his part in arranging the logistics of the Alberta-Wide Stamp Gathering. Penny Borrowman then presented the programme with her discussion of puffin stamps.

Publications by CPS members:

The British North America Philatelic Society (www.bnaps.org) has published Jon Johnson's book WW1 CANADIAN ARMY NURSING SISTERS SERVING OVERSEAS

Dale Speirs published the 19th issue of JOURNAL OF ALBERTA POSTAL HISTORY, which covers the Innisfail-Penhold-Markerville area. JAPH is available as a free pdf from the Postal History Society of Canada Website. Go to: www.postalhistorycanada.net, click on the Study Groups tab, then click on Alberta. All the back issues are there as well.

STUDY GROUPS

The Calgary Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society held its regular monthly meeting on May 8, when Jon Johnson spoke on the postal history of the Canadian Merchant Marine during World War Two. At the June 12 meeting, Eldon Godfrey presented on the Mufti stamp issue of King George VI. The BNAPS Group adjourned for the summer but will resume its regular second Wednesday meetings in September. For more information, contact Dave Bartlet at dave.bartlet@shaw.ca

COMMITTEES

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Webmaster	Dave Bartlet	829-3580

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

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.

WARNING!

WARNING!

WARNING!

2019

July	12	Free Stampede breakfast (Kerby Centre, 08h00)
August	14	Deadline for August bulletin
September	4	Election meeting
	4	Deadline for October bulletin
	11	BNAPS Regional Group meeting
	18	Auction
	25	CAPE meeting
October	2	General meeting
	9	BNAPS Regional Group meeting
	16	Auction
	19 to 20	CALTAPEX (Kerby Centre gymnasium)
	23	CAPE meeting
November	6	General meeting
	6	Deadline for December bulletin
	13	BNAPS Regional Group meeting
	20	Auction
	27	CAPE meeting
December	4	Christmas Social
	11	BNAPS Regional Group meeting

MEETINGS and AUCTIONS are at the Kerby Centre, Room 205, 1133 - 7 Avenue SW, at 19h30. Auction lots should be in before 19h30 to allow viewing. If you park in the Kerby lots, please register your vehicle's licence at the computer terminals in the building.

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 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 to August and December. For details, contact Jim Taylor at 238-3698.