

CALGARY PHILATELIST

September 2024

Issue 218



The August issue of CALGARY PHILATELIST was mailed from the village of Carseland. Southward a few kilometres is Carseland Provincial Park, where the Bow River winds through a deep valley. In the park is a major irrigation weir that diverts water into the irrigation district. Access is by a gravel road down switchbacks.

After mailing the August bulletin, your Editor went down to the river and watched a flock of pelicans feeding at the weir. Fish accumulate on both sides of the weir. The pelicans were busily gobbling them up. I don't have anything in the way of pelican stamps but did have the above stamp which depicts pelicans in the lower left corner..

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Membership dues for the season are \$25, plus an administrative 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 Website is: www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com

Articles or advertisements should be sent to the Editor, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2E7. Small ads are free to paid-up CPS members. Display ads are \$15 per full page per issue for hardcopy, jpeg, or pdf only. Small ads and articles as hardcopy, plain text file, WordPerfect, or MS Word format only. No Apple formats such as .page can be used. Mail to Box 6830, Calgary, T2P 2E7, or hand to Dale Speirs at meetings, or email to opuntia57@yahoo.ca Please do not email other 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 can be downloaded as a free pdf from www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com

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COMMITTEES - see page 15 for list of committee chairpersons.

THE FIRST SHOW

by Dale Speirs

In 2027 the CPS will host a national convention under the aegis of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. The occasion will be the centennial of the first public stamp show in Calgary. That may seem a long way off but time flies and the event will be here soon enough.

I had written about this show in the history of the CPS, available as a free pdf from the CPS website. New information is constantly being added to databases online so a recent check revealed some new sources I hadn't seen before. This prompted me to write a revised and more detailed account of that first show.

The Calgary Philatelic Society was founded in April 1922 by Dr Edward George Mason. The club soon began to grow and add services. Members had informal displays at meetings or tied into non-philatelic events such as a hobby show by a boy's club in 1924.

Not until October 22, 1927, did the CPS host the first public stamp show in Calgary. This took the club out of its insular stage and publicized it to Calgary stamp collectors who hadn't known it existed. The significance of the 1927 show, therefore, is that not only was the event the first stamp show in Calgary, it was the public debut of the CPS.

A False Start.

In the CPS archives are the minutes of the monthly meeting on 1925-05-05 where the President of the club Dr Edward George Mason proposed a public stamp show be held on April 23, 1926, to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the first Canadian postage stamp.

The motion was carried and a four-man ad hoc committee was struck to explore the possibilities. They reported back at the September 8 meeting that discussions were ongoing with the Canadian Post Office about sponsorship. The members present agreed on a motion to prepare a preliminary budget for the show.

Alas, at the November 3 meeting, the minutes recorded that the Calgary postmaster Harold Hargraves gave them the bad news that CPO headquarters would not allow the post office premises to be used for a stamp show. A motion was made and carried that the CPS initiate a fund for the expenses of a show at some later date.

A Fresh Start.

At the May 3, 1927, meeting a show committee was set up, co-chaired by Harlow M. Hartney and William C. Black. More later about those two men. The minutes said the exhibition date would be in September.

At the September 6 meeting, Black reported that arrangements were in hand for the show on Saturday, October 22.

[continued next page]

The King George Freemasons hall on Kensington Avenue just west of 10 Street NW had been booked. Lumber to build the frames had been donated by A.E. Cushing Lumber. The Pilkington company donated glass sheets.

The frames were double-sided with two rows with sixteen ranks. This allowed for exhibits of 32 pages per frame, only horizontal instead of vertical. Nothing was mentioned about entry fees.

The Show.

Black tendered a financial report as follows:

Rental of King George Lodge	= \$10.00
Lumber	= \$18.12
Dominion Cartage Co.	= \$ 3.50
Grand Total	= \$31.62

No income was listed, from which I presume the show had free admission and no exhibit fees. Adjusted for inflation and depreciation of currency, the expenses would be about \$600 in today’s dollars.

Show Reports.

The CPS Archives contains a copy of a detailed three-page report about the show. The name of the show had varied in publicity materials but in this report the show was several times called “Exhibition Of Postage Stamps”. Nothing more and nothing less.

As was the custom of those days, reports and minutes were very formal. Members were generally mentioned by their initials, not their familiar names. Probably at meetings and the show, the CPS president was Ed to everyone but in reports he was always Dr E.G. Mason. The show co-chairmen were probably Bill and Harlow, not W.C. Black or Harlow M. Hartney.

The report said 15,000 stamps were on display. Rather than a list of exhibitors, each entry had a paragraph summarizing the exhibit. The show was non-competitive with no entry fees and there was no palmares. The exhibitors were as follow.

J. Selby Walker had a general exhibit explaining how to collect stamps. He included a representative sample of both good and bad stamps. The latter included forgeries, damaged stamps, and improperly mounted stamps. He also provided a separate display of philatelic literature, which even then was prolific.

G.A. Reid showed stamps of Russia, pre-Soviet and Communist, plus Latvian issues. Show co-chairman W.C. Black showed a variety of issues such as Brazil, Dutch Indies, and the German states. George A Morrison displayed Spanish colonies such as Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. He also showed commemorative stamps of the USA in sheets.

W.E. Hives showed stamps of the newly-formed Irish Republic and mint issues of Malta. Also exhibiting Malta was W.C. West, who specialized in surcharges. A.P. Harris exhibited stamps of Chile and the Union of South Africa. Show co-chairman Harlow M. Hartney exhibited provisional stamps of Canada, which would be worth an incredible fortune today.

H. Lewis exhibited Austrian stamps. J. Stanley Horne showed Belgium. Alan Sorby had a display of USA precancels. J. Moir had an exhibit of early Canada and USA stamps on cover. In those days, cover collecting was rare.

The president of the CPS and founder, Dr E.G. Mason, exhibited pre-Confederation Canadian stamps. He also had an extensive calendar collection of 3-cent Victoria stamps, arranged in chronological order.

The report said there was a steady stream of visitors throughout the day, although no head count was provided, suggesting the show was free admission. All told, the event was deemed successful.

The CALGARY HERALD did not publish on Sunday but on Monday, October 24, had a brief report about the show. Buried on page 5 were a few paragraphs which summarized some of the exhibits as mentioned above. The news report did mention in passing that the show went Saturday afternoon and evening, not the kind of hours stamp shows have today.

Show Co-Chairman: Harlow M. Hartney.

Harlow M. Hartney was not listed in HENDERSON'S DIRECTORY for Calgary in 1907. The Calgary Public Library does not have a complete run of these directories but does have 1916, where Hartney appeared for the first time. He was listed as a sales manager for the Albertan Job Press and held that job for decades.

Although not a founding member, Hartney joined the CPS in 1923 and held a wide variety of positions in the club. He served on the executive until 1963. In the late 1950s, exact date not recorded, he was made Honourary Life Member #7. He had a wife and daughters. In his old age he went into a nursing home and died in 1989 at the age of 98.

Show Co-Chairman: W.C. Black.

Here is where my research tangled me up, as there were two men named William C. Black in Calgary. Fortunately the CPS had documents listing street addresses and occupation of the philatelic Black. I was thus able to sort out who was who.

Strange to relate, although the other Black was not in the CPS, he was a Freemason and was in charge of the King George Lodge. Their building, which hosted the show, was newly completed a year before. Almost certainly W.C. Black the Freemason would have dealt with W.C. Black the philatelist. They probably would have enjoyed the connection in names, although as far as I can tell they were not related.

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The philatelic W.C. Black, whose middle name I was never able to determine, first appeared in the Calgary HENDERSON'S DIRECTORY in 1906. He was listed with his home address and his occupation was a City of Calgary Waterworks supervisor.

William Clifford Black first appeared in the 1916 directory as a druggist. For many decades he operated Black's Drug Store. Both his store and home address were listed but were not the same as the philatelic W.C. Black. This enabled me to distinguish who was who by comparing with CPS membership lists.

The philatelic W.C. Black retired in 1938 and died in 1946. The druggist W.C. Black died in 1943, although his drug store continued to operate for many decades under a successor who bought out the widow.

The drug store had Sub-Post Office #17 from 1913 until Black's death in 1943. The National Library and Archives of Canada Post Offices and Postmasters website shows that Black was the sub-postmaster during that time. The druggist was active in the Freemasons, while the Waterworks supervisor was not, but they must have met during their times.

The Aftermath.

The minutes of the November 1, 1927, CPS general meeting included a three-page appendix about the show. At the meeting the members voted to have an appreciation dinner to honour Black and Hartney. The dinner was so successful that it spawned a series of annual dinners thereafter.

A second public stamp show was held in 1934 with Alan Sorby as Show Chairman. Thereafter the CPS had a variety of annual dinners, joint shows in Red Deer with the Edmonton Stamp Club, and occasional displays at meetings.

The next public stamp show in Calgary was CALPEX 63 under the direction of Rudy Martin. CALPEX was then held annually until 1978. In 1966 and 1973, the CPS also hosted a national show BNAPEX in combination with the Calgary Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society.

A California stamp club had been hosting CALPEX shows long before the Calgary club. They objected to the Cowtowners using their name, so the annual Calgary show changed to CALTAPEX for 1979 and has been ever since. The CPS has hosted many national shows since then, either BNAPEX or ROYAL ROYALE.

CPS MEMBER ON PHSC ZOOM MEETING

The Postal History Society of Canada has a monthly Zoom meeting with experts from around the world discussing Canadian postal history. Ray Villeneuve will be speaking on September 17, 16h00 MDT, about Canadian Special Delivery covers. The meetings are free to everyone but you must register in advance with an email to: phscpresentation@gmail.com

CARSELAND, ALBERTA

by Dale Speirs

The August issue of **CALGARY PHILATELIST** was mailed on August 12 from Carseland, about an hour's drive east-southeast of Calgary. The Graphic Novelist stamps were used.

The village has a Canada Post office, not a retail postal outlet in a store. The view below shows the post office in a shopping plaza on Main Street.



The postmark hasn't changed in years, an example shown here. The 2024 canceller was the same one.

[continued next page]

Upon opening the front door, there is a long hallway of box numbers. At the far end is the post office counter, not visible in this photo but in the next room.



CALTAPEX 2024 IS COMING!

by Walter Herdzik

(403) 238-7845 or herdzikw@shaw.ca

CALTAPEX will be held in the Kerby Centre Gymnasium located at 1133 - 7 Avenue SW on Saturday and Sunday, October 19 and 20. This show will be held in a similar format and manner as prior shows. The details are as follow:

- 1) There will be no admission charge and the public is welcome to attend.
- 2) The show hours are on Saturday, October 19, from 10h00 to 17h00 and on Sunday, October 20, from 10h00 to 15h00 followed by the club auction starting at 16h00.
- 3) Volunteers are required as follows:
 - i) Dealer tables and frame set up Friday from 17h00 until completed. About six or seven able bodied persons are required for this function
 - ii) Club tables (reception and youth) requires volunteers as follows:
Saturday: 09h30 to 12h00, 12h00 to 14h30 and 14h30 to 17h00
Sunday: 10h00 to 12h30 and 12h30 to 15h00
 - iii) Auction Volunteers - set up from 14h00, called auction 16h00 to close
 - iv) All volunteers will receive a \$10 coupon for each shift redeemable at all dealer tables. The canteen will be run by the CPS on a cash basis at cost for sandwiches, chips and pop. Coupons will not be accepted here. Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own lunch if preferred.
 - v) Takedown of frames will require a few volunteers and no coupons will be issued for this function as most will be set up volunteers and exhibitors.
 - vi) A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the club meetings on September 4 and October 2. All volunteers who sign up will have lanyards and coupons presented to them on arrival at the show.
- 4) While not confirmed at present, about 8 to 10 dealers are expected.
- 5) About 50 exhibit frames are expected with competitive, non-competitive and single page exhibits. The single page exhibits will be based on a people's choice selection while the full frame exhibits will be judged by a qualified judge. The details of the judges critique of exhibits has yet to be finalized.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Murray Bialek

mbialek@shaw.ca or (403) 241-2006

As usual, the 2023-2024 membership year has been very, very busy for the Calgary Philatelic Society. It's usually not at all evident to our membership how much work and time a very small core of dedicated volunteers put in to make our club such a success! How true that old saying is that: "many hands make light work." If any member wishes to help, please let Murray know. Examples include:

Four meetings taking place each month for eight months of the year (General, BNAPS, Auction, CAPE); Christmas Social

Our Junior Club meetings on one Saturday per month

Two large shows (Spring Bourse and CALTAPEX); organizing exhibits and shows

Member bourses

Producing, labeling, stamping, and mailing our newsletter 12 times each year

Circuit books

Monthly emails

Library

Monthly presentations

Maintaining memberships;

Committee work

Regularly dealing with the Kerby Centre; looking after our finances and paying bills

Producing meeting minutes; website updates; getting doughnuts

AGM; five Board of Directors meetings; annual President's BBQ

As well we always have a handful of members regularly submitting articles to various stamp publications and entering exhibits all over the country. We had four CPS members enter exhibits at BNAPEX 2024 held in Kingston, Ontario only two weeks ago!

The really big news is that the RPSC (Royal Philatelic Society of Canada) and BNAPS (British North America Philatelic Society) have agreed for the first time ever, to combine their annual conventions, Royal 2027 Royale and BNAPEX into a really gigantic exhibit and show which will be hosted by the CPS in September or October 2027 which will commemorate 100 years of our society's first exhibit in 1927!

JUNIOR CLUB

by Jim Senecal

(403) 547-7681 or jsenecal@telusplanet.net

A Juniors' meeting will be at the Edgemont Community Centre on Saturday, September 24, 10h00 to 12h00. For details contact Mike McPhail at (403) 239-9730. The October meeting will not take place due to CALTAPEX. On November 9 it will be back at Edgemont Community Centre. Details for that meeting from Jim Senecal.

CALTAPEX AUCTION

by Jim Senecal

This will take place on Sunday, October 20. Lots will be accepted as of 13h30. Bidding numbers will be issued starting at 14h00. Viewing starts at 15h00 and the auction will be called at 16h00.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS 2024-2025

by Murray Bialek

Your membership for the 2024-2025 season is due. If you have not already paid, you may pay your dues of \$25 three different ways:

1. Preferably via e-transfer directly from your bank account to the CPS Membership Director, Murray Bialek, at mbialek@shaw.ca
2. By cheque made out to Calgary Philatelic Society and mailed to:
CPS, c/o Murray Bialek
Box 71126 RPO Silver Springs NW
Calgary, AB T3B 5K2
3. With cash at our next club meeting

TOPICS FOR THE STAMP LINE

by Dave Russum

russumd@telusplanet.net or (403) 284-4775

October 2 - Calgary

November 6 - Halloween, Thanksgiving, Remembrance Day

December 4 - Christmas

Use your imagination to convert these topics into mini-exhibits. They must have a philatelic connection but can also include ephemera. Please put your exhibits in transparent page protectors and add your name on the back so they can be safely returned at take-down.

ZOOM MEETINGS

Zoom software is free and can be viewed on laptops, smartphones, or tablets, regardless of operating system. It is best to view the meeting on Wifi. If you use your data allowance, a typical meeting consumes about 200 megabytes per half-hour. For technical assistance, please contact Dave Bartlet at dave.bartlet@shaw.ca

If you have not been taking part in Zoom meetings, email Dave so that he can put you on the mailing list. A day or two before the meeting, you will receive an email containing a link to the meeting. About five minutes before the meeting, click on the link and Zoom will automatically connect you.

SELECT STAMPS AND COVERS

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Newly renovated with lots of new material



Phil Wolf, proprietor, in his store

CALTAPEX 2024 EXHIBITS

by Dave Russum

russumd@telusplanet.net or (403) 284-4775

We want to have as many varied exhibits as possible for CALTAPEX 2024 on October 19 and 20. Please refer to the Entry Form and Prospectus on the CPS website. Exhibits can be:

Competitive, requiring advance registration. Deadline is September 15. These will be judged. Note that successful competitive exhibiting requires following formal rules.

Non-Competitive exhibits are free, frame availability permitting. They need not follow rules since they will not be formally judged. They can be on any topic that you feel might be of interest to people attending the show.

All exhibits are eligible for People's Choice recognition. They can be a single page to 8+ frames (128 regular pages) on any appropriate topic. Topics of special interest for this show are: the 100th Anniversary of the RCAF, Sports and Calgary

Exhibits must have a philatelic component but can include other material related to the subject, provided it can fit in our frames or be exhibited on a table. If you plan to exhibit, I would appreciate a note so we can get an idea of numbers, even if you are not yet ready to submit entry form. If you have questions or need advice, feel free to contact me.

COWTOWNERS OUT OF TOWN

BNAPEX 2024 was held August 23 to 25 in Kingston, Ontario. Successful CPS members at the convention were as follows.

Ray Villeneuve: "Usages of Canada's first Special Delivery stamp: 1898-1923" won Herbert L. McNaught One-Frame Award and One-Frame Gold.

Dave Bartlett: "Canadian Airmail Flights of 1918-1919 " won Canadian Aerophilatelic Society Award and One-Frame Vermeil.

Haifa Selo: "Canada's Queen throughout 70 years of her reign" won Multi-Frame Silver-Bronze.

Mark Oakley: "Post offices of NW coastal British Columbia" won One-Frame Silver-Bronze.

Dave Bartlett also received the Jack Levine Fellowship Award for service to BNAPS Regional Groups.



CALGARY'S LARGEST STAMP SHOPPE

R.D. MINER PHILATELICS

STAMPEDE CITY STAMPS

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rdminer@telus.net

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Parking at rear, off 16 Avenue.

Bus routes 2, 6, 7, 22, and 414 stop by the building.

Open Monday thru Saturday.

We carry a full selection of supplies.



CLUB NEWS

At the September 4 meeting, the President’s Pot was awarded to Eldon Godfrey in acknowledge of 63 years of membership.

Publications by CPS members:

Tony Doughty had Part 1 of an article in the 2024 August issue of EDMONTON STAMP CLUB BULLETIN on different methods of organizing a philatelic collection.

BNAPS (Alberta Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society) meets via Zoom on second Wednesdays. Contact Dave Bartlet at dave.bartlet@shaw.ca.

CAPE (Calgary Association Of Philatelic Exhibitors) meets via Zoom on fourth Wednesdays. For details, contact Dave Russum at russumd@telusplanet.net

Junior Club meetings information from Jim Senecal at 547-7681.

CIRCUIT BOOKS REPORT

by Larry Tweedale

September represents a changing of the weather and thus an opportunity to do more indoor pastimes including preparing new circuit books. Our inventory has grown with new additions featuring India, Great Britain, and vintage Canada. Switzerland and others will be coming soon! Also new is a fresh printing of blank books. They remain at the price of \$1 each. Please drop by the circuit book table to check them out and make your purchases. I am looking forward to seeing you again.

COMMITTEES

Archives	Dale Speirs	opuntia57@yahoo.ca
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- 3 rd Wednesday	Jim Senecal	547-7681
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Membership	Murray Bialek	241-2006
Programmes	Dave Russum	284-4775
Show Committee	Walter Herdzik	238-7845
Webmaster	Dave Bartlet	dave.bartlet@shaw.ca

CPS MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

2024

September	11	BNAPS Regional Group meeting - via Zoom
	15	Deadline for CALTAPEX entries
	18	Auction - Kerby Centre
	25	CAPE meeting - via Zoom
October	2	General meeting - Kerby Centre
	2	Deadline for October bulletin
	2	Stamp Line theme - Calgary
	9	BNAPS Regional Group meeting - via Zoom
	16	Auction - Kerby Centre
	18	CALTAPEX set-up - 17h00 to 19h00
	19 to 20	CALTAPEX - Kerby Centre gymnasium
	23	CAPE meeting - via Zoom
November	6	General meeting - Kerby Centre
	6	Deadline for November bulletin
	6	Stamp Line theme - Thanksgiving and Halloween
	13	BNAPS Regional Group meeting - via Zoom
	20	Auction - Kerby Centre
	27	CAPE meeting - via Zoom
December	4	Christmas Social
	4	Stamp Line theme - Christmas
	11	BNAPS Regional Group meeting - via Zoom

2025

Special note: Because the first Wednesday in January 2025 is New Year’s Day, all the events of the month have been shifted back one week.

January	8	General meeting - Kerby Centre
	8	Deadline for January bulletin
	15	BNAPS Regional Group meeting - via Zoom
	22	Auction - Kerby Centre
	29	CAPE meeting - via Zoom

Vehicles in both Kerby parking 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.

Meetings and Auctions are at the Kerby Centre, 1133 - 7 Avenue SW, Room 205 (Lecture Room), at 19h30. Auction lots should be in before 19h30 to allow viewing.