

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB BULLETIN

Volume 101, Number 4-5 April- May 2012 ISSN: 0046-1318

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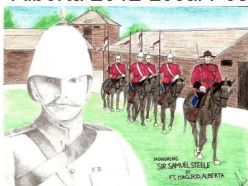
Web site: <http://www.edmontonstampclub.com>

Alberta 2012 Local Post



Beyata Hackborn,
Camrose, Alberta 50

Alberta 2012 Local Post



Amanda Wang,
Edmonton, Alberta 50

Alberta 2012 Local Post



Hannah Chetney,
Holden, Alberta 50

Alberta 2012 Local Post



Emily Wang,
Edmonton, Alberta 50

Winning designs in the Alberta Youth Stamp 2012 Design Contest. For more details on the winners and the stamps, see John Attrell's article on page 5 inside.

Regular meetings: Apr 30, May 16 & 30, Jun 11
St. Joseph High School Cafeteria, 10830 - 109 Street, 6:30 pm
see page 17 for program details

Editor: Alan Meech

The Edmonton Stamp Club

The Edmonton Stamp Club dates back to 1912. The Club is Life Chapter #6 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and Chapter #680 of the American Philatelic Society.



The editor welcomes communications of all kinds—letters, comment and articles. These may be forwarded to Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2J6 or ameech@telusplanet.net. □

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Greetings, Philatelists!

Please allow me to put forward a few requests.

As April winds down and May approaches, there are only a few scant weeks to go before the Royal*2012*Royale show makes its debut at West Edmonton Mall on June 1 for three days of stamps, covers, exhibits, seminars and philatelic fun. I have been blowing the trumpet for this event for quite a few months now and have watched as a dedicated team of volunteers led by David Piercey has brought together a project that will combine a Canada Post stamp launch, a visit by Alberta's Lieutenant-Governor Donald Ethell, artifacts from the University of Alberta's Sam Steele collection and presentations from its curator, as well as a bourse that is full to bursting with dealers, many of whom have not made it to Edmonton before. You will be able to examine the submissions of the Youth Stamp Design contest and purchase a show cover with winners. The quality is definitely there and the only chance you will have to witness it up close is to be there. This is my last opportunity to convince you to attend so I am going to make the most of it. If you are at all interested in collecting stamps, you owe it to yourself to see how others have approached the hobby and how they built their collection to suit themselves. Even if you choose not to attend the bourse, the exhibits will provide all sorts of ideas for years of fun at your kitchen table. I ask you to visit early in the weekend so that you will be able to make return visits. It may be necessary to do justice to all that will be on display for us to see.

John Attrell, our skilful, creative Webmaster, has revamped our web site. You can preview the winners of the Youth Stamp Design contest at www.edmontonstampclub.com. Spend some time with the site, if you have a computer, and explore its links for more information. Last month Alan Meech reprinted Ernie Wlock's fine article, "Philatelic Web Sites" and our site is one of many that you could explore if you could tear yourself away from the stamps themselves. Information is vital to our hobby and the way we gather, store and disseminate that information is definitely changing. My sincere thanks to all the gentlemen mentioned for making it easier for a Luddite like myself to keep in touch with the world of philately.

My final request for this deliberately abbreviated letter is a call to those who can offer a little of their time and assistance to our Board of Directors. As mentioned in previous messages, our club thrives on

(Continued on page 13)



REGULAR PUBLIC AUCTIONS

WANTED IMMEDIATELY:

- Single items • CANADA, USA, Worldwide and foreign mint or used better single sets, errors, etc.
- Covers • CANADA and Worldwide individual covers, collections and accumulations including Postal History, unusual items including pre-1925 picture postcards.
- Collections • CANADA, USA, Foreign country collections and general Worldwide topical, etc.
- Accumulations • Collection remainders, odds and ends, sheets, Wholesale
Cinderellas, etc.

Above items required immediately for outright purchase or inquire about our attractive consignment details. Illustrated catalogues upon request. Want lists filled.

NEXT AUCTION: 12 MAY 2012

Commercial Room (Downstairs) Chateau Louis Hotel
Conference Centre, 11727 Kingsway Avenue
Viewing: May 11 (Friday) 12:00 noon - 9:00 pm
May 12 (Saturday) 8:00 am - 11:30 am

Auction at 12:00 noon sharp, Saturday, May 12

Stamp Design Contest Update

The Edmonton Stamp Club is pleased to announce the winners of the Alberta Youth Stamp 2012 Design Contest as follows:

- Category 1 (Grades 1 - 3): Hannah Chetney, Holden, AB
- Category 2 (Grades 4 - 6): Emily Wang, Edmonton, AB
- Category 3 (Grades 7 - 9): Beyata Hackbourn, Camrose, AB
- Category 4 (Grades 10 - 12): Amanda Wang, Edmonton AB

If you would like to view the actual designs in full colour, just go to www.albertastamps.com and click on each name. The winners will each receive a scholarship of \$500, their artwork will be franked with the matching stamp and cancelled first day and then framed. As well, each will receive a package of stamps and a first day cover signed by the Premier of Alberta and by the Alberta Lieutenant-Governor.

To our members, thank you for judging the thousands of entries completed in February. The quality of the entries was remarkable and the judging was not an easy task. The stamps have been designed and will be printed in the following weeks, along with postal stationery and first day covers.

The stamps and covers will be available for sale at the Royal 2012 stamp convention at West Edmonton Mall, June 1-3.

Congratulations to the winner and thanks again for everyone's efforts. ☐

John Attrell

Circuit Material Return Deadline

Caroline Warren asks that everyone who has circuits material please return it to her—without fail—by June 1 so that she can close the books on the current year, and make payment to those who have submitted material. This sounds like a very polite announcement, but please treat this as an imperative! ☐

Caroline Warren

Sunshine & Roses

Kennedy's Stage

by R. Parama

The locality of Athabasca Landing dates back to the fur trade days. It began to gain prominence in 1875 when steamboats began to ply the North Saskatchewan, as far west as Edmonton, providing a more convenient means of shipping goods to the north. In 1883 the Hudson Bay Co. (HBC) cut a trail between Edmonton and Athabasca Landing, in part to facilitate the building of steamboats intended for the lower reaches of the Athabasca River. This was known as the Athabasca Landing Trail. Another impetus for building the line was the arrival of the CPR into Calgary, and the establishment of a direct trail between Calgary and Edmonton. It had become the main trade route to the north.

The trail was classified as an all weather route, despite some major mud holes and difficulties in crossing some of the rivers during spring flood. From about the halfway point north there was only one main trail. Between Edmonton and the halfway point (Eggie's stopping house) there evolved several sub-routes joining the original route before reaching Eggie's, and all were called the Landing Trail. The one trail of interest to the postal historian is of course the route upon which the first official Post Office Department (POD) regular mail route was established, and which more or less followed the original HBCo trail. The regular mail route began on January 22nd, 1901 when the Athabaska Landing posts office became operational.

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The route was as follows: from Edmonton following the Fort (Saskatchewan) Trail, and the Victoria Trails to the Sturgeon River, then followed the west bank of the Sturgeon to present-day Gibbons, where there was a stopping house on the bend of the Sturgeon River. The trail crossed the river there, then ran more or less northwest passing along the east side of Lily Lake, through Waugh and on to Eggie's. From Eggie's, it ran more or less due north to the Tawatinaw River then followed it to Athabaska Landing, Parts of the trail may still be seen near Lily Lake. As I boy, I used to help my parents pick washtubs of Saskatoon berries along the trail at Lily Lake. During those times I would see glimpses of the trail and wondered why it was there and where it led.

The choice for this mail route was for very practical purposes. The route was to be of about one hundred miles, and for such a journey horse and wagons had to be used. This called for stopping houses, to provide feed for the horses and travellers, stables to hold and change horses and a place for the travellers to stay overnight. At the time the mail route was contemplated, these stopping places already existed because of the established freighting route.

ATHABASCA MAIL STAGE

Leaves Edmonton every Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. Passengers and baggage carried at moderate rates.

Leave orders at Imperial Hotel.

JOHN H. KENNEDY.

Fig. 1. Advertisement for Kenney's Stage as it appeared in June 15th edition of the Edmonton Daily Bulletin.

western movies. In the summer, a four-seat democrat wagon was used; in the winter, sleighs with runners were used. There were not passenger compartments on either type of vehicle, and passengers were open to the weather. The trip normally took two days but at least one three-day trip is recorded during one spring flood. An ad for the mail stage is shown in Figure 1.

The winner of the mail contract and holder of the contract for many years was J. H. Kennedy. Kennedy also ran the stage line along the route and Kennedy's stage figures in many local histories. As well as mail, the stage also carried passengers and baggage. It was necessary to have more than one team, and pictures of the stage will attest to this. The "stage" was not like those Concord coaches seen in

A post card carried along the trail is shown in Figure 2. It is postmarked ATHABASKA LANDING / ALTA; DE 8 / 04 (December 8th, 1904), prior to Alberta reaching provincial status.

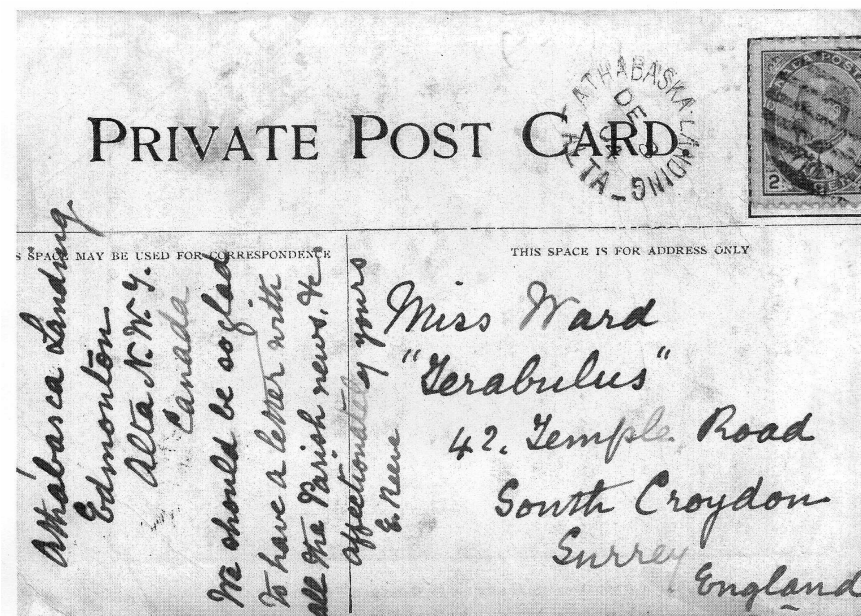
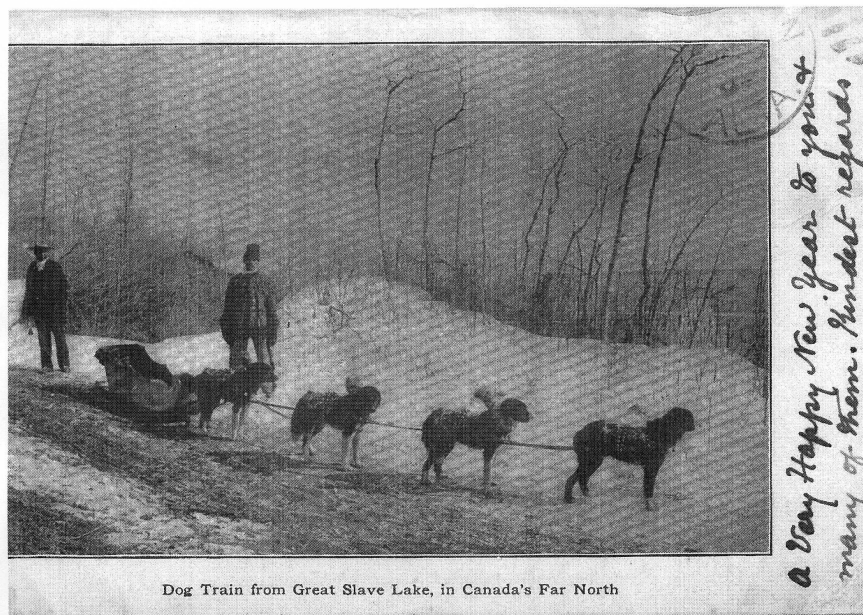


Fig. 2. Post card postmarked Athabaska Landing in 1904.

The post card has many interesting facets. The view side is of a dog team from Great Slave Lake, taken by C. W. Mathers at the turn of the century during his trip to the far north (see Figure 3).

The sender of the post card was a person of note, Anglican Bishop William Day Reeve, who for many years resided at Fort Simpson, NWT. When the card was mailed, Reeve was the Bishop of Mackenzie River, a position he held from 1891 to 1907. He had since moved to Athabaska Landing, as suggested by the message on the card.

The coming of the railroad in 1912 spelled a death knell to Kennedy's stage line; however, the end must have been foreseen by Kennedy. From 1907 the Canadian Northern Railway (CNoR) was operating their branch line from Edmonton to Morinville. By this time a trail existed from Morinville to Eggie's. In 1909 the CNoR began survey work for an extension of the Morinville branch into Athabaska Landing;



Dog Train from Great Slave Lake, in Canada's Far North

Fig. 3. Post card from Athabasca Landing in 1904, View side.

but did not start construction until 1911. The first passenger train arrived in Athabasca (the CNoR station name) in August of 1912. Kennedy's stage service was terminated shortly afterward. From this time and for a period of several years, mail to and from the Athabasca Landing post office was carried by baggage car service on CNoR (from 1919 Canadian National) trains.

Some readers may have noticed the spelling ATHABASKA in the postmark in Figure 2. The official POD spelling was with a "K". However, virtually all local correspondence and the press used the spelling Athabasca when referring to the community. The POD officially changed the name of the post office from *Athabaska Landing* to *Athabaska* in 1914, but retained the "K" in the spelling. Finally in 1950, the POD officially changed the spelling to Athabasca.

[P.S. I have much more data on the mails along the Landing Trail, but there is much more to learn, particularly regarding the other stopping houses, some of which became post offices, and the specific details of the mail contracts. I would be pleased to exchange e-mails on this subject for those interested. Readers may also refer to an article I previously wrote on the post office along the Athabasca Landing Trail, which appeared a number of years ago in *Post West*.] □

Closed Albums: Dr. Sydney Gomes

Our long-time stamp club member, Dr. Sydney Gomes, resident of Westlock, passed away April 12 after a lengthy illness. He was a faithful attendee at our meetings despite having to drive in from Westlock for the occasion. Some of you may remember his incredible exhibit of the stamps overprinted locally in the immediate aftermath of the secession of Bangladesh from Pakistan. What tolerance for detail!

He was also a keen Rotarian, as president of which he organized a "Save Our Stamps" campaign collecting many thousands of used stamps from Rotary members, which produced funds for Rotary projects.

He was born and raised in Mumbai (Bombay) India, where he graduated from medical school, then went on to specialize in Obstetrics and Gynecology in England. He and his family moved to Westlock in 1970 where he practiced until retiring in 1996.

Our sympathies go to his wife and family. □

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UNTO THE LORD

Our “Royal” Dealers

The following dealers have confirmed their participation in Royal 2012 Royal at the Fantasyland Conference Centre, West Edmonton Mall, June 1-2-3. Make sure you have your want lists organized so that you can take full advantage of their presence here.

Bill Barrell Ltd. (Spalding, Lincolnshire, UK)
 Canada Post Corporation
 Canadian Stamp News (St. Catharines, ON)
 Coates & Coates (Thorold, ON)
 D. & L. Kaye Enterprises (Lake Country, BC)
 Deveney Collectibles (Penticton, BC)
 E.S.J. van Dam (Bridgenorth, ON)
 Gary J. Lyon (Philatelist) Ltd. (Bathurst, NB)
 Ian Kimmerly Stamps (Ottawa, ON)
 J. Garvey & Sons, Philatelists (Edmonton, AB)
 Light House Publications (Canada) Ltd. (Montreal)
 Longley Auctions (Waterdown, ON)
 Luciano Bassetto (Vancouver, BC)
 Mackey Philatelics (Oshawa, ON)
 Medallion Stamps (Burlington, ON)
 MJR Postcards & Covers (Edmonton, AB)
 R. D. Miner Philatelics (Calgary, AB)
 Royal William Stamps Ltd. (Edmonton, AB)
 Roy's Stamps (St. Catharines, ON)
 Saskatoon Stamp Centre (Saskatoon, SK)
 Stamp Gallery (Calgary, AB)
 Stanley Stamp Co. Ltd. (Vancouver, BC)
 Steve Trask (Battleford, SK)
 The Stamp Collection Connection (Sherwood Park, AB)
 Zatka Philately Ltd. (Calgary, AB) □

New Member

We extend a warm welcome to a new member, Ayantika Mukherjee, who has joined as part of a family membership (#2420). □

Tips for Making the Most of Your Royal Show Weekend

Update. Update your want lists. Review what you want to look for before you go to the show.

Prioritize. If you think you will be buying, then with a budget in mind decide which dealers you wish to see first, and what items are most important to you. Will you wish to visit out-of-town dealers that you seldom see? Or will you visit your local favourites first who bring material especially for you? Prioritize your wants and time within your budget.

References. Find your reference materials beforehand. Organise your books, catalogues and want- lists together to bring to the show in your briefcase or a heavy-duty handled-shopping bag.

Materials. A few old glassines, 102's, thin or small stock books, or collector sheets can be useful to bring along. Magnifiers with lights, tongs and pencils are also helpful.

Show Bulletin. Preview the show's *The Bulletin* before going, and bring it along, or pick one up at the club table. It's a great, informative guide to get you around.

Club table. Enter your name for a door prize. Use the club table volunteers to direct you to show events or dealers that you may wish to see. Consider purchasing a show cover and cancels as a memento.

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Practically anyone associated with the show, dealers and judges included, would be happy to try to help you with your questions and collecting needs.

Come early. The best selection is early-on. Dealers do sell out of some of the more recent or popular issues in particular.

Browsing time. Busy dealers, busy tables and seeing friends make for the need for you to allot extra time devoted to the show. Allow sufficient browsing time so that you can pursue your interests at a relaxed pace, which results in a more rewarding show experience and can save you money. Consider planning for a family meal at the mall to make efficient use of the time that you are there.

Belongings. Keep an eye out for your tools and references as you move from dealer to dealer so that you do not lose them.

Breaks. Take a break once in a while if you have been there for some time. Perhaps get up and go see the exhibits, which offer a plethora of information about a variety of topics and issues.

A whole-show awareness. Be aware that there are seminars going on, exhibits to see and learn from, a juniors' room, circuits and club table to visit in addition to the bourse of dealers. The banquet on Saturday night is an evening of entertainment and is meant for you, as a club member. There are no long words and it is not simply for exhibitors and judges and those whose aura seems prominent in circles of philately! If a few "experts" happen to be among us, well, they just like salad and fruit and roast beef and desert, too. It's fun!

Weekend. Consider taking a mini-vacation by booking a couple of nights at the hotel during the show. It keeps you on-site and close to the action. The club gets rooms at a discount rate. All you have to do is call Fantasyland Hotel for a reservation and mention that you are attending the stamp club's show to get the discount rate. But book early in order to be eligible for the special rate. □

Christopher Miller

Greetings, Philatelists (continued from page 3)

help it receives from its member and yours would definitely be welcomed. Alan has included in this issue a short paragraph on how you might apply. Please consider it.

Those would be my three requests. Wouldn't it be wonderful if you could fulfill all three? Have fun with your stamps and treat your friends and loved ones as if they were rarities, because they truly are gems.

President Pete

Iraqi Oddity

I have received the cover and stamp illustrated here, for identification. I am informed that it was mailed from Iraq but the postage stamp was mostly torn off by the recipient. I have never seen this stamp before.

Can any member confirm or deny that this is an Iraq cover? What was the purpose of this stamp? Date of issue? Who issued it, etc.?

A typed note came along with this cover. It would be interesting to know how much of this family history is correct.

□



PS. In a more positive vein, I got a letter from Frank 'More Balls than Brains' Bernoske with a couple of strange stamps on it (enclosed is one of them). It seems he was back working in Baghdad (under a Lithuanian passport of all things) during 1-2/91 when we nailed them. He says the postal system immediately went to hell and that he didn't know if the letter would get thru...When I looked up the stamps in Scott's Catalog, it read that this particular issue came out immediately following a hit by one of our 'bunker busters' loaded with anthrax, on the Baghdad Postal District's Operations bunker so wash your hands after handling ...also... make sure you hang on to it as it's already rare and worth (if canceled and relatively uncirculated) US\$300⁰⁰. If I hear more, I'll let you know...

Richard Barnes

Demon Definitives

Peter F R Kirchmeir

Last month I obtained copies of *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, published monthly by Sefi*, Pemberton and Company, Ltd., acquired through our own Keith Spencer, he who comes up with all sorts of odds and ends. The collection starts in February 1930. The *P.J. of G.B.*, as it is fondly referred to by correspondents, authors and staff, is printed on very good paper and has very sharp enlarged photos.

An editorial begins the magazine, and society reports end the publication. In between are very detailed articles on plating, printings, printing methods, some few letters, new varieties and new stamp listings, with many enlarged photos of the topics being analyzed.

The first article presented each month is an editorial. Reading them is almost like listening to our members today. Discussion ranges from countries producing too many stamps, there being too many exhibitions,

that the judging at exhibitions needs amended, new collecting categories and so forth. Occasionally a compliment is handed out to organizers of exhibitions or visitors who provide a new perspective. However, the editor is firmly of the opinion that any stamp-related accumulation and collection is a philatelically valid part of the hobby.

“Stamp Market Gossip” provides predictions on soon-to-be rare and scarce stamps. Following predictions over the months confirms the acumen of the writer in his prescient prognostications. Here, the writer also fulminates against unnecessary series, especially air mail special commemoratives, this era being the golden age of first flights. Comparing the suggested prices with those that are around today shows that most stamps have not improved their investment values.

Articles on printing methods and their penchant for certain types of flaws cause much discussion. These articles are of particular interest if one is trying to plate a particular stamp. Electros, in particular, come in for intense analysis. One can almost feel the inchoate antagonism between certain authors, even though politeness and tact are to the front. They give themselves away by contradicting each other on every possible point.

Each month there is a new issues listing. Once again there is much annoyance expressed if the author thinks there are too many issues or overprint. The Canadian examples do not get much publicity. It is a good thing, in my opinion, that these gentlemen writers did not foresee the huge number of stamps prepared around the world so far. The editor complained about the fact that there are now almost 200,000 stamps available.

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An overview of the article shows that the authors covered many countries, especially early printings. One correspondent accuses the Editor of favouring the “old” stamps over the “new” stamps. This elicits a reasonable response in that no-one seems to study “new stamps” with the same discernment that they apply to the “old” stamps. Today, of course, many of us are very interested in the “new” stamps, because they are now the “old” stamps.

Various philatelic societies and associations provide their minutes to the Editor. Once again, the similarities to today are phenomenal. Members bring their stamps to be inspected. Visitors are introduced. New members are welcomed. Local exhibitions are encouraged. Members are encouraged to become exhibition judges and to visit expositions. And one aspect is quite different from our own club today; there seem to be approximately 25 to 35 members that attend the former meetings, not at all like the 45 to 65 who attend our meetings. Also, there is no mention of any auction that I could find so far.

One rather unusual feature is that there was a cup presented to the boy and girl with the best-written essay on a philatelic subject in the past year. Sadly, no picture is shown. All in all, it is a comprehensive and mostly upbeat commentary on the moods and views of the times. So much of former activity and interest is the same as today. □

Junior Stamp Club, Spring 2012

Where: Londonderry Library, 110 Londonderry Mall
137 Ave & 66 Street, Edmonton, tel. 780-496-1817

When: 10 am - 10:30 am, trading time; 10:30 - 11:00 am,
Program; 11:00 am - 11:30 am, questions and trading

Programs: May 12 Hideous Stamps
June 1-2 Royal 2012 Royale show at West Edmonton
Mall, Europa Conference Centre

For further information on the Junior Club and the Edmonton Stamp Club, phone Linda at 780-913-1244 or visit the Edmonton Stamp Club web site at www.edmontonstampclub.com

AIR CANADA 

**OFFICIAL AIRLINE of
ROYAL*2012*ROYALE**

Distinguished Service Award

Each year, our club honours one of its members with the presentation of the Distinguished Service Award. This award is made in recognition of outstanding service to the club. The selection committee is composed of the three most recent recipients, thus, the members this year are Richard Barnes, Bob Hyodo and Joe Liusz. If you think there is a member you'd like to nominate, please bring forward her or his name to any of these three gentlemen. ☐

Nominations to the Board

We elect our board and executive members each year at the last meeting of the year, which this year will be on June 11. Since all elections are for a one year term, we must replace or re-elect the executive members and directors, as listed on the inside front cover of this issue of the *Bulletin*. If there's someone you think would make a contribution, or if you would like to have a chance yourself to know more about the inner workings of our club, bring that name forward to any member of the Board, please. If you would like to know more about what is involved, talk to any current member. ☐

Program Roster, Spring 2012

- April 30 *Be A Dealer Night* (organized by Caroline Warren)
- May 14 *Canadian Naval Ships* (Bill VanderStelt)
- May 28 *Autobiography of an Album Page* (Cliff Soper)
- June 11 Elections

If you have a hankering to tell your fellow collectors something about what you collect and why, please get in touch with Keith Spencer, programs chair, at 780-437-1787. ☐

Summer Auction

Richard Barnes informs us that there is no room to accept any more lots for the summer auction, which will be held on July 30, 2012. ☐

ROYAL* 2012* ROYALE



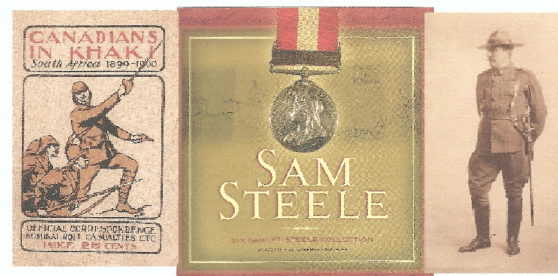
Friday, June 1 – Sunday, June 3, 2012

at West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton Alberta
For Further Information: www.royal2012royale.com

Registration: Nino Chiovelli nchiovel@telusplanet.net

Exhibits: Kelly Liusz Moser liuszmoser@gmail.com

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Spring 2012 Meeting Dates

The Edmonton Stamp Club meets Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of St. Joseph High School, 10830 - 109 Street. Park to the north of the school and use the western entrance on the north facade. For information about the regular club call 451-0420 or 437-1787; for the junior clubs, phone Linda at 913-1244.

May 14 & 28, Jun 11

Summer Meeting: July 30, 2012

Edmonton Stamp Club hosts

*Royal*2012*Royale, June 1, 2, 3*

at Fantasyland Hotel Conference Centre, West Edmonton Mall

Edmonton BNAPS (British North America Philatelic Society) meets monthly. All BNAPSers welcome. For information contact David Piercey at 437-2771 or Steven Friedenthal at 458-1233.

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