

WEST COAST



British North American Philatelic Society - Pacific Northwest Regional Group

Philately • Fellowship • Fun

November 2019

Number 36



Chair Message

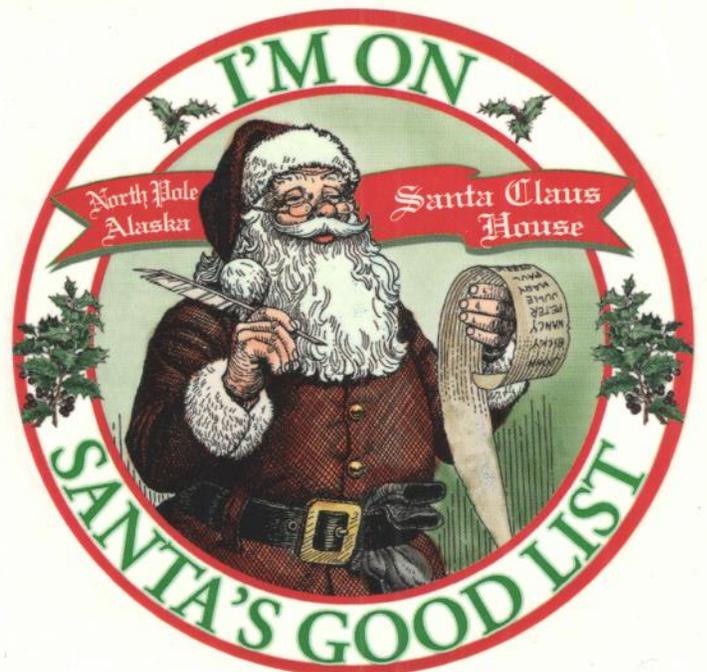
Good day, members of BNAPS Pacific Northwest Regional Group.

And I say good day intentionally. As I am sitting to write this to you, the sun is shining, the leaves on the orchard across the street are turning orange and the Okanagan has all that a beautiful Fall day has to offer. Life is grand.

Our annual meeting in Langley is now complete and it was a real pleasure to see familiar faces. The presentations were very interesting - more on that later.

Our survey to the membership has been completed and sent and I will report to you more fully in our next newsletter. To those early responders - thank you. To those still thinking about it - please share your thoughts. Thus far 26 out of a group of 154 have responded. It would be nice to have another 25 or so members let us know their thoughts. Yes its long—but we are trying hard to give you what you want, but won't know if you don't tell us. And if these kinds of meetings aren't your thing—just tells us that. No harm.

We recently updated our newsletter distribution list and in the process had some issues which I think we have resolved. To those that I needlessly bothered - apologies. We now have a system to add new members as they join our region! Thanks to our BNAPS Secretary, **Charles Livermore** for his assistance.



Decal from the "Own a piece of the North Pole" set.

Since our last communication we have learned of the passing of two our members who have made significant contributions to our hobby—Robert Lee of Kelowna and Jack Wallace of Victoria. Full details inside. Personally, I did business with Bob over many years as a mail bidder and looked forward to attending his auctions in person, when I moved to the Okanagan. All tucked into that second story room on Sutherland!

I had the honour of meeting Jack at our annual meeting in Victoria 2018. At that time, it was obvious that he was thrilled to attend with both Bev and his daughter assisting.

Both Bob and Jack will be missed and we extend to their families our heartfelt condolences.

WELCOME TO VERNON 2020

LOCATION:

Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott

5300 Anderson Way, Vernon, BC

250-260-7829

DATE:

Friday / Saturday

September 25, 26 2020



Room rates: Double queen \$135.00 per night. When booking, quote “Pacific Northwest Regional Group”. We have blocked 10 rooms for out of town members. The special rate expires September 4. Don’t be late on your booking!

The agenda hasn’t been finalized at this date, but we are planning a wine tour for spouses or significant others on Saturday while the educational sessions are in progress. On arrival day (Friday) we are arranging for a “meet and greet” opportunity at a nearby restaurant/bar/grill. The details to be advised. The hotel is located in an area with many restaurants immediately nearby, so we have a lot of options for dinner, etc. **We will be finalizing the details once the members have submitted their surveys**

Stay tuned for more information in our next newsletter.



Gary and Wanda invite you to join them in Vernon 2020



Our BNAPS educational presentations are open to all philatelists, friends and collectors. Invite your friends and associates to join you.

2019 BNAPS PNW Presentations Synopsis

Michel Anderson	NWFSC - united we stand
Harold Krische	World War II Canadian POW camp mail
Tim Woodland	Stories From The BC Coast
Dave Bartlet	Alcock and Brown 100 th Anniversary flight
Bill Pekonen	unusual post office forms
Peter Newroth	Charles Connell: His New Brunswick Stamps, 1860

Each of the presenters at our annual meeting in Langley shared a plethora of philatelic information with us. And in a few paragraphs, I would like to summarize their work. If your own area of interest intersects with theirs, I would encourage you to contact them directly to exchange notes. Just drop me an email and I will forward it along to our presenter.

Michel Anderson who is a Canadian Director with the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs and he had encouraging words on the sharing of information within the philatelic community. He looks to BNAPS members as having expert knowledge in their fields of interest. He asked that if we could share our expertise for the general benefit of all the members of the Federation and in particular by submitting articles of interest to the NW Fed newsletter, of which we all receive a copy by virtue of our groups own membership in the NW Fed.

Harold Krische presented on the mailings of the American Aid to German Prisoners of War from an address located in Buffalo New York. His presentation was incredibly interesting and richly illustrated with many artifacts showing the transfer of aid packages from camps in Canada, Bermuda and Bahamas. One card advised that the some German POWs had been transferred from Ontario to Alberta and it was colder than expected—please send gloves! There were POW camps in the Caribbean for women and that many of the German POW's were from North Africa. Overall a very educational presentation on an little known area of WWII.

Tim Woodland gave us a very interesting tour of the BC Coast richly illustrated with BC Town cancels, most of which I has never seen before. If you have in interest in BC Coastal history or BC Town cancels, this was the one to see. Perhaps next year we can continue the tour!

Dave Bartlet's presentation took philatelic research to a whole new level, Not only did he have special covers on the Alcock Brown First Transatlantic Flight, June 1919, but he created them, got on a plane, flew to Ireland from NL retracing the route and recreated the entire journey. What a trip. If you would like some of these specialty covers for your collection, you can contact Dave directly through the BNAPS website.

Bill Pekonen gave a rundown of the multitude of forms used by the post office. Part of his discussion included the book of forms. This handbook listed all the forms used by the PO. The book was printed in a landscape format, double sided and some 200 pages. That's not the forms—just an index of the forms. Each PO had a copy to use as a reference. It contains hundreds if not thousands of forms.

Peter Newroth continued his discussion from 2018 on the new Brunswick decimal issue and his continued research in this area. Peter recounted his trip to the New Brunswick archives and the discussion of the political and socio-economic events of the day brought it all into context.

Defn: PHILATELIST v. COLLECTOR. A collector collects one of every stamp, whilst a philatelist collects everything about one stamp. *Bill Topping BNAPS Vernon 2013*

EDITORIAL

This column has been faithfully penned by our past newsletter editor. Peter Fralick with the capable assistance of Paula. For many years the Fralick team has crafted the newsletter and we would be remiss if we didn't express our sincere thanks for their dedication, perseverance and skills in bringing the West Coast Express to our members.

THANK YOU

PETER AND PAULA

Both Peter and Paula made the drive from Hagensborg to Langley, a trip one way of some 902 km's and travel time of 11 hours 10 minutes according to Google. Tip of the Biltmore for their dedication to our group.

Most certainly, these are big shoes to fill. I will be continuing as newsletter editor until such time as a new member steps forward to pick up the torch.

Mark

HAVE YOU SENT YOUR SURVEY?



VANPEX 2019

September 27-29, 2019

VANPEX 2019 sponsored by the British Columbia Philatelic Society commemorating the 100th

anniversary of the founding of the British

Columbia Philatelic Society. Did you go? Kudo's to the BCPS show committee and volunteers. Simply put, awesome. The philatelic displays were ... in a word ...

In actuality there is no simple way to describe the quality and variety in the subjects presented. It's a lot like all those pictures of the Rockies a picture just can't capture their majesty. Similarly, the exhibits at VanPex are difficult to describe to capture the dedication, research, literary and presentation skills. You just had to see it. Thank you to all those philatelic scholars for your work. Top notch, first class.

The VanPex website is below. Drop by to see the exhibit awards.

VanPex also brought a group of dealers for the benefit of the attendees. I came home with a grouping of post cards from Don Kayne and some postal history items on Metlakatla from Firmin Wyndels and Tom Watkins. Thanks guys. Carol dragged me away after the last cheque in the cheque book had been used.



<https://www.vanpex2019.com/>

Sponsors 2019

All Nations - Brian Grant Duff

Deveney Stamps - Kayle Deveney

Ocean Park - David Marasco

Weeda Stamps - Beverly Fox



Merry Christmas

Happy Holidays

Joyeux Noel

All the Best for 2020

Report on Annual Meeting 2019



The full minutes of our event will be distributed prior to our next annual meeting for the purposes of voting on them. Following are the highlights from that meeting. If you just can't wait and want to see the full text - just send an email.

The meeting convened at 4 PM .

Financial

We changed our year end reporting to December 31 to make it comparable from year to year and will publish the financial statements in the newsletter early in 2020.

Elections

The following were elected by acclamation to their volunteer positions:

Chair - Mark Oakley

Secretary - Carol Oakley

Treasurer - Bill Verbruggen

Annual Meeting Coordinators - Gary and Wanda Fisher

NWFSC Representative - Mark Oakley

Newsletter Editor - Mark Oakley (Acting)

Next Meeting Vernon BC

We had some discussion and fixed our meeting dates to be a 3 region cycle, Okanagan, Vancouver Island, Lower Mainland. Our survey will determine the best time in the year.

Continued.....

YOUR OPINION MATTERS

Planning for 2020 is already in process.

We will be sending a survey to assist with planning our next event in 2020.

We will be looking for suggestions to make our event more appealing, best time of year, location, content and potential barriers to attendance.

The goal is to simply deliver what you, the members want in their annual event.

Thank you now, in advance for your feedback and participation.

General Discussion

We discussed at length on how to build membership. Although the youth vote would naturally seem to be the way to go, reports from those that had recruited in this area had mixed results. It was suggested, and something RPSC identified that perhaps the next group of collectors is the recently retired who now have time to indulge in their hobbies of the past. Certainly more discussion needed.

Meeting adjourned at 5 PM

That's about it - nothing really shocking, and of course if you want all the details, just let me know.

Carol

Secretary



Robert A. Lee, OTB (1938-2019)

Robert Allen Lee was born 22 February 1938 in Saskatoon, SK, to Gordon and Elda Lee. After spending his early years in Saskatchewan, the family moved to Vancouver where they became one of the top men's clothiers in the lower mainland, Margetson Lee.

Bob married Sandra Davies in 1960. They had three children; Mark, Laura, and Craig, with whom they shared many wonderful family vacations and memories, some of the fondest being those at the Bar Q Guest Ranch and Disneyland. As the years passed, the family grew with the children marrying and having kids of their own, adding eight grandchildren into the clan that Bob and Sandra enjoyed visiting. When not with their grandkids, they often traveled throughout the world enjoying cruises domestically and abroad, preferring to spend winters in the warmer climates of California and Arizona.

After his start in the family business, Bob was extended an opportunity with a brokerage firm and soon became one of the youngest stock brokers on the Vancouver Stock Exchange. He then moved his family to Vernon, BC, in 1978 to pursue his passion in stamps. He rapidly became one of the leading British North America philatelic authorities, hosting successful auctions until outgrowing his space and moving operations to Kelowna.

His auctions were noted for the offerings of specialty BNA material meticulously broken down into individual lots and for the many name collections featured over the years. He held 113 auctions between 1978 and his retirement in 2005. Bob also published several major philatelic books, including the 38-volume *Proof Strikes of Canada* by J. Paul Hughes, *A Canadian Military Postal History Anthology* assembled by the BNAPS Canadian Military Mail Study Group, the first two editions of the *Catalogue of Canadian Duplex Cancellations*, which he compiled, and the *Canadian Precancel Album*.

In Vernon, he also made a major contribution to youth philately, initiating contacts with schools and created an introductory stamp program to capture the interest of children. Stamp clubs were formed as a result, and Bob ran weekly meetings for seven years, until his move to Kelowna.

Bob was very involved in the activities of **BNAPS**. He was a Director from 1998 to 2000, First Vice President from 2000 to 2002, President from 2002 to 2004, and Treasurer from 2005 to 2010. He was inducted into the **Order of the Beaver** in 1997, and co-hosted the 1999 BNAPLEX convention in Vernon, BC. He also established two BNAPS Study Groups, Duplex Cancellations and Roller Cancels, and edited their newsletters.



Bob was always an active member of any community he was a part of, generously giving of his time and expertise, earning a number of awards and accolades for his efforts. Over the years, he has been fondly remembered by many clubs and organizations including: Jaycees, Rotary, Vernon District Riding Club, British North America Philatelic Society, train clubs, HOAs and many others.

He was both an avid traveller and a train enthusiast, earned his pilot's license, and through his children's participation, was an active member of the Vernon equestrian community. Throughout his life, Bob enjoyed making a variety of wines that he happily shared with friends and family.

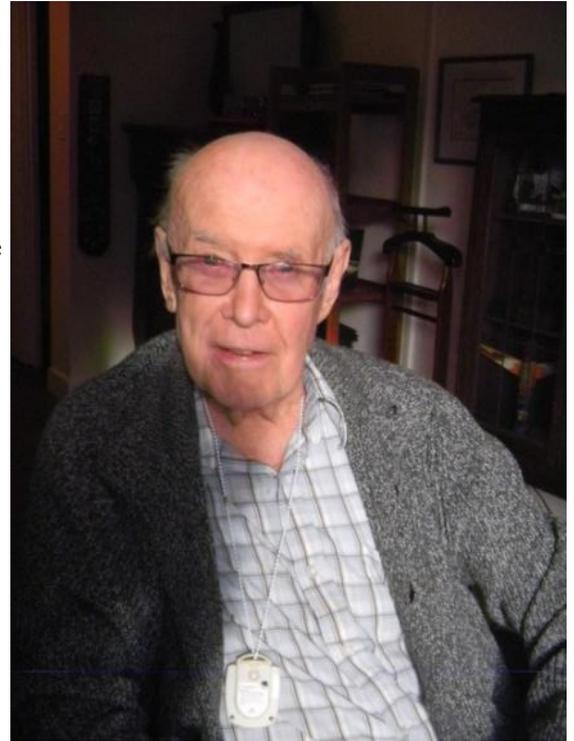
Bob passed away peacefully, surrounded by family and friends at Kelowna General Hospital on 7 June 2019. He is survived by his loving wife, Sandra Lee (nee Davis); eldest son Mark (Kirsty) and their children Jesse, Nicolas, Hayley, Adrianna; daughter Laura (Renso) and their children Alexandra and Tyler; youngest son Craig (Kelly) and their children Lyndon and Madison. The family also wishes to thank Joanie for her kindness and friendship.

As per his wishes, no services was held, and in lieu of flowers the family asks that a donation be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

<https://alzheimer.ca/en/bc/Get-involved/Ways-to-donate>



Jack Wallace, Philatelist



Sadly, John M. Wallace passed away on November 4, 2019 at the age of 98. Survived by his wife of 64 years, 2 children and 3 grandchildren. He had visits from his grandchildren very recently and they brought him great joy.

Jack's long life was enhanced by his love of philately - especially stamps and postal history of his native British Columbia and Vancouver Island.

And Jack generously gave back to our hobby by joining and supporting many philatelic organizations. His contributions were recognized by awards of Fellowships in Royal Philatelic Society London and Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, and Order of the Beaver from British North America Philatelic Society. The 21 Club in Vancouver monthly meetings were seldom missed over more than 60 years. Jack joined the Vancouver Island Philatelic Society in 1975, before moving from Vancouver to Victoria in 1981.

An avid collector of stamps from the British Empire in his youth, Jack shared his interests with others, winning a novice Silver Medal at the BNAPS show in Vancouver in 1969. Strong supporters of BNAPS, which he joined in 1952, Jack and Bev Wallace attended over 25 Annual Conventions and nearly all Pacific Northwest Regional meetings. This philatelic couple hosted the 1991 BNAPS meeting in Vancouver, and over 35 medals were awarded over the years. Jack's Gold Medal Exhibit of British Columbia and Vancouver Island features in the BNAPS Exhibit Series (#52) published in 2008, and a Supplement on Numeral Cancellations in 2011.

Many friends benefited from Jack's interest, enthusiasm and knowledge about BC philately and early postcards. Perhaps his greatest philatelic legacy was organizing production of "The Stamps & Postal History of Vancouver Island and British Columbia", published in 1987. This book showcases collections of G. E. Wellburn, Jack's close friend. This valuable record probably would not have been published without Jack's support. Other publications include his articles in The Canadian Philatelist (2001) on the BC and Vancouver Island postage stamp, and Postal History Society Journal (1997, 2002 and 2012).

Jack's many philatelic projects and extensive worldwide travels were supported by his wife Bev and their children. His last exhibits at VicPex 2019 showed early Airmail usages to and from Vancouver and Vancouver Island, 1937 Coronation issues and CP Employees Postcards.

A celebration of Jack's life will be held in January and BNAPS' members will be advised by email.

Submitted by Peter Newroth, a friend

(November 2019)

Cross Border Post Office Business Mail

By Bill Pekonen

No postage was payable or required on correspondence between post offices on post office matters under Universal Postal Union regulations....unless special services were requested.

This brief article illustrates several different covers from Canada Post to the USA using different wordings.

Fig. 1. September 25, 1925 Form 30 – 300,000 – 9-3-25. USING O.H.M.S. to qualify for free from the duty of postage. This cover contains wording similar to the Penalty Covers used by USA. The words CANADA POST OFFICE appears in the LL corner along with the slogan “Correct addressing speeds delivery” Addressed to Detroit, Michigan USA



OFFICIAL BUSINESS ONLY

Heavy penalty for private use to avoid payment of postage.

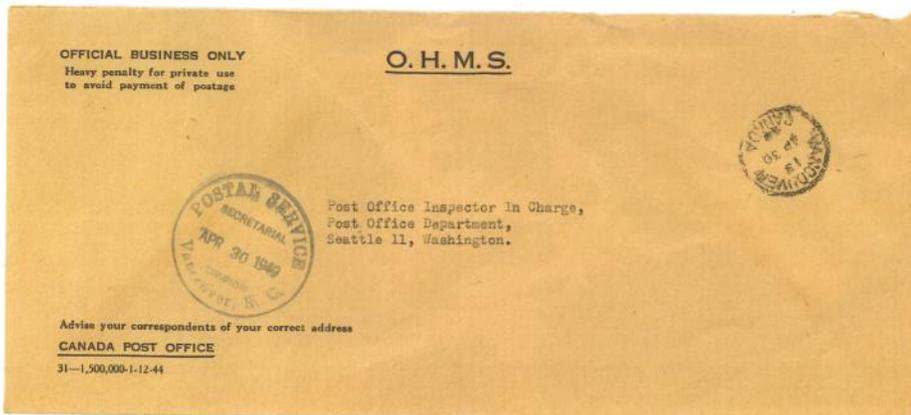


Fig. 2. April 30, 1949 Form 31-1,500,000 – 1-12-44 USING O.H.M.S. to qualify for free from the duty of postage. This cover contains wording similar to the Penalty Covers used by USA. The words CANADA POST OFFICE appears in the LL corner along with the slogan “Advise your correspondents of your correct address” Addressed to Post Office Inspector in Charge at Seattle 11,

Washington. Note 37mm rubber stamped POSTAL SERVICE / SECRETARIAL wording.

Fig. 3. APR 3 / 1935 Post Office Department Washington D.C. penalty cover addressed to Sanca British Columbia redirected to Vancouver, B. C. Note wording “Official Business”

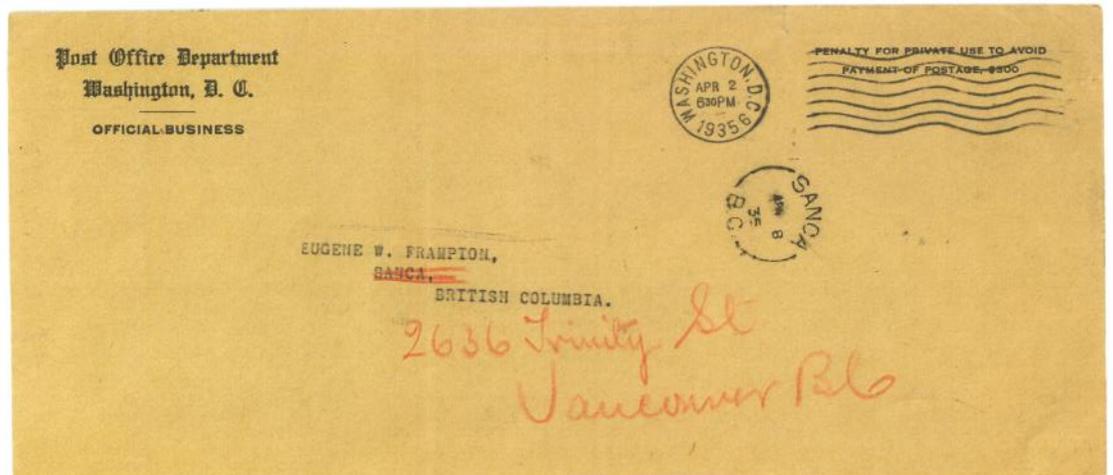


Fig. 4 JUN 10 / 46 Form 25 – 550,000 - 10-1-45 Free Franked by ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE. Tilbury, Ont. Addressed to The Postmaster Snoqualmie Falls, Wash. USA A one ounce registered O.H.M.S. cover .

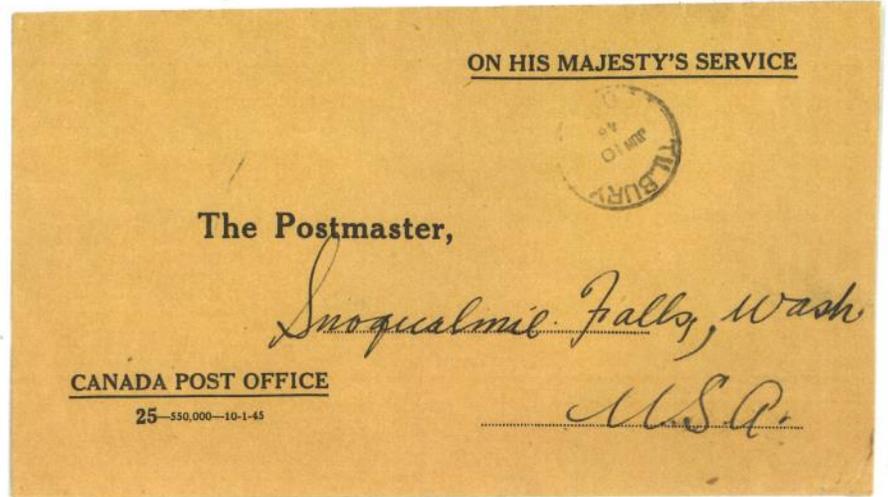


Fig. 5. Form M.F. B. 234 H.Q, 1772-30-08 2 million 3-18 Dated November 20, 1919. This registered envelope was from the Canadian Militia. Contents are unknown. A one ounce rate plus 1 cent war tax registered letter was addressed to Vancouver, B. C. but redirected to Seattle, Washington.



Fig. 6. Blank brown envelope with a typewritten O.H.M.S. mailed from Niagara Fall, Ont. Registered mail to Niagara Falls, N. Y. AP 8 / 35. This envelope was rated at 17 cents for 3 ounces plus 1 cent war tax plus ten cents registration fee. Interestingly, it is addressed to the United States Immigration Inspector in Charge. Makes one wonder what the contents were about. This envelope is not identified as being on Post Office Business, but was included as a cross border item.



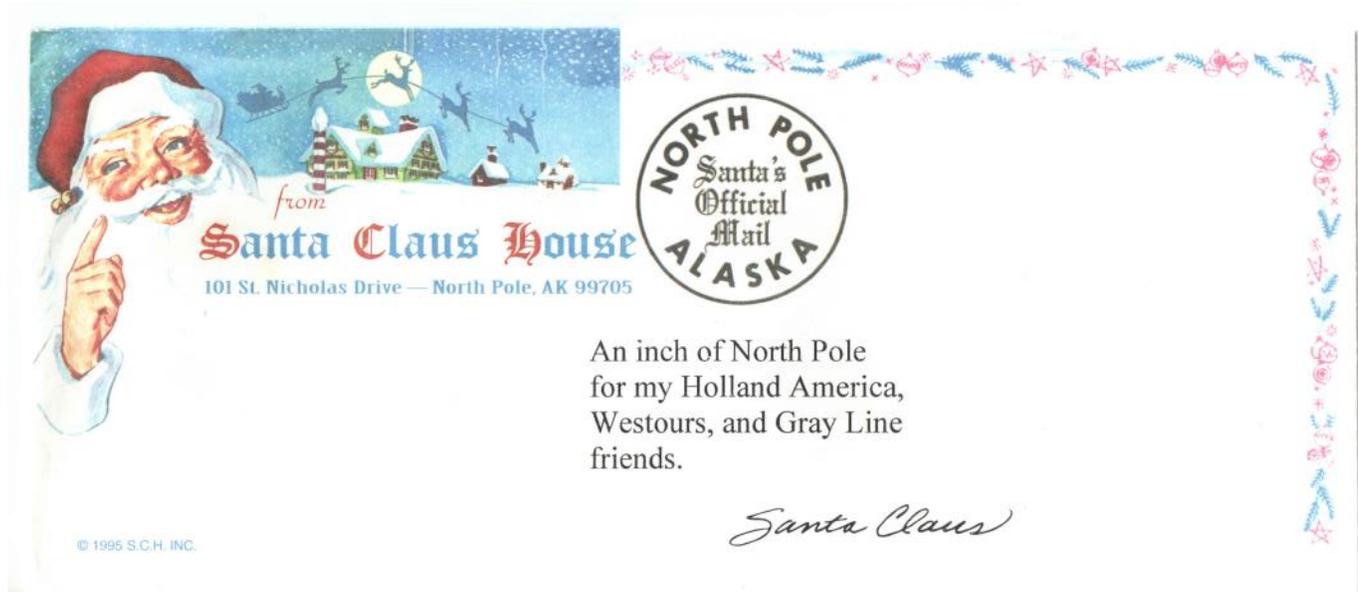
Santa Claus House

Submitted by Mark Oakley

Established in 1952, North Pole, Alaska by Con and Nellie Miller. In the early 1950's donning a Santa suit, Con earned celebrity status as Santa Claus in the eyes of the village children. In 1952 the Miller's built a trading post in the new settlement of the North Pole located 13 miles from Fairbanks. Passers by would shout out "Are you building a house" and thus was born Santa Claus' House. For almost 70 years Santa Claus house has been putting smiles of children young and old, and even some philatelists.

Successive generations of the Millers have continued the tradition over the years and you can still obtain your own letter from Santa and a piece of the North Pole. If you are sowing the seeds of interest in philately with younger family members—this might be an interesting addition.

The examples shown here are an older version of the deed, decal and postmark. The envelope has a 1995 date, so this material must be from that particular era. Would be interesting to see how its changed over the years. The decal (shown on page 1 of the newsletter) is an older style than what is currently available. Any other landowners out there? Perhaps we can pool our holdings and create a development?



Business envelope contains the deed, order form, postcard, decal and Santa letter. Note the North Pole Official Mail postmark

Deed

to One Square Inch of NORTH POLE, ALASKA "a toehold in the Far North"

THIS INDENTURE, made the 1st day of May in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-two, between Santa Claus House, a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Alaska, the party of the first part, and _____, the party of the second part. ★

WITNESSETH: That the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the agreed upon sum, to him in hand paid by the party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, does hereby grant, bargain, sell, and convey unto the party of the second part, and his heirs and assigns, the following described land, situate, lying and being in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, and bounded and described as follows: Lot 61, Block 2565, of Santa Claus North Pole Subdivision, North Pole, Alaska, or better described as a portion of land and being a part of the Davis Subdivision, as shown on the revised plat of said subdivision and recorded as instrument No. 151,388 on the 21st day of September, 1954, in the Recording Office of the Fourth Judicial Division, State of Alaska; Portion of land being one (1) square inch. ★

Reserving to the grantor the right to use and possession of the property for the purposes of establishing and maintaining a public park. ★

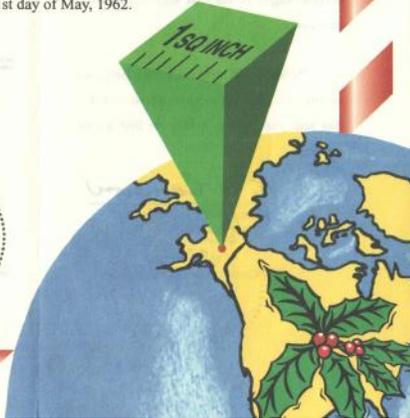
TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, all and singular, the premises, unto the party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, forever. ★

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the corporation has caused this Deed to be signed by its President and Secretary and its corporate seal to be affixed thereto, this 1st day of May, 1962.

Santa Claus House, Inc.

By C. Pomilla
Its President

ATTEST Nellie W. Miller
Its Secretary



*you are now
a landowner
at
North Pole,
Alaska*

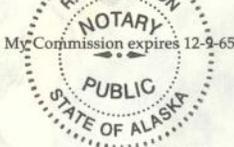
STATE OF ALASKA
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

On this 1st day of May, 1962, before me, N.W. Cameron, a notary public in and for the State of Alaska, residing therein, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared C. B. Miller, known to me to be the president, and Nellie W. Miller, known to me to be the secretary of the corporation that executed the within instrument, known to me to be the persons who executed the within instrument on behalf of the corporation therein named, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed it.

IN WITNESS whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, the day and year in this certificate first above written.

N.W. Cameron

Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska



DEED

From _____

To _____

Dated _____ 20 _____

A TOE HOLD IN THE FAR NORTH

ONE SQUARE INCH
OF

NORTH POLE,
ALASKA

Reverse of the land deed with notarization

My deed to a piece of the North Pole. What else would you get for the kid with everything?



It all started with a Santa suit...

Postcard - note the license plate

BNAPS PNWRG Past Chair

Bill Bailey 86-87
Ken Ellison 88-89
John White 90-91
John Keenlyside 92-97
Gray Scrimgeour 1998-2001
Barry Brown 2002-03,05
Jon Johnson 2004
Jim Davidson 2005-6
Pete Jacobi 2007-8
Gary Dickenson 2009
Peter Fralick 2010-2017



Newsletter Editor

With the recent retirement of Peter and Paula, we are looking for a new editor of the Westcoast Express. You are responsible for creative content and assembling a newsletter for electronic distribution to the members. The membership will provide articles of interest to the members. Your job will be to format them into the newsletter. Distribution is managed by the Chair. If you are interested in joining the team, please call or drop me a note.

Mark

Westcoast Express is the official publication of the BNAPS Pacific Northwest Regional Group

Opinions expressed herein are opinions only.

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The British North America Philatelic Society Ltd. - BNAPS - is an international organization (founded 1943) devoted to the collecting and study of the stamps, markings, and postal history of Canada and the pre-confederation colonies of British North America (British Columbia, Canada, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island). <http://www.bnaps.org/>

The objective of the BNAPS Regional Group is to promote philatelic study, sharing of knowledge and friendship with members and associates in a fun atmosphere.

Chair - Mark Oakley

Secretary - Carol Oakley

Treasurer - Bill Verbruggen

Annual Meeting Coordinators - Gary and Wanda Fisher

NWFSC Representative - Mark Oakley

Newsletter Editor - Mark Oakley (Acting)

BNAPS VP Regional Groups Dave Bartlet

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<http://www.bnaps.org/regional.php>

<https://www.facebook.com/bnapsphilatelypnwrg/>