



ALONG SECOND BEACH STANLEY PARK

VANCOUVER, B.C.

POSTVIEW

The Newsletter of the
Vancouver Postcard Club

www.vancouverpostcardclub.ca

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What's New?

The Vancouver Postcard Club is now on Twitter as

@vanpostcard

If you are on Twitter, please follow us (and we will follow you).

We hope to attract new members to the Club and to postcard collecting by promoting our activities on social media.

VANCOUVER POSTCARD CLUB SHOW, May 29, 2016

ANNUAL PAPER COLLECTIBLES SHOW & SALE

MAY 29, 2016 - LAST SUNDAY IN MAY

HASTINGS COMMUNITY CENTRE, 3096 EAST HASTINGS STREET, VANCOUVER, B.C., CANADA

CLUB WEB SITE : www.vancouverpostcardclub.ca

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**Contact Ron Souch about table rentals:
phone 604 731 1481**

CLUB MEETINGS AND NEWS

January 10, 2016—At our first meeting of 2016, we welcomed **Bill McNulty** as our speaker. He's the author of *Steveston - A Community History* (Richmond, 2011) and *Richmond's Postal History* (Richmond, 2007) and is now working on a third book. Bill's energetic talk on Lulu Island and the surrounding areas including Steveston with its sometimes rowdy history sparked discussion. And one member, Neil Whaley, had a mysterious Lulu Island jam tin to show us.



Vancouver project documenting 1000 pieces of Vancouver art is on-line at: <http://illustratedvancouver.ca/>

One of the favourites from his collection was this postcard showing the Exposition's 1000 pound cake.



If you know something about this tin, Jasper jam or the Lulu Island Preserving Company, please contact us.

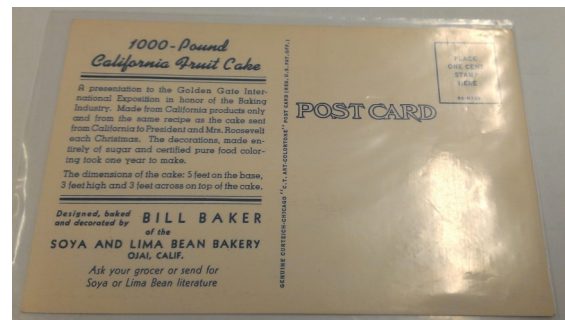
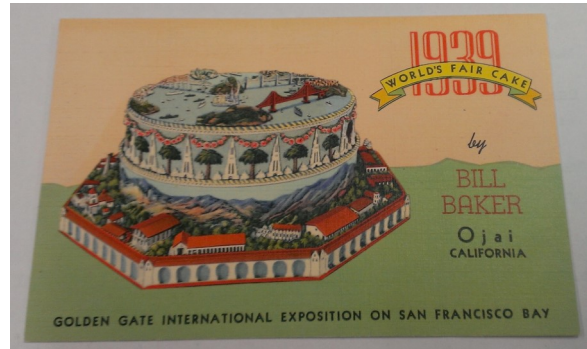
February 14th, 2016—On Valentine's Day, **Jason Vanderhill** literally handed us the key to the Golden Gate International Exposition held on Treasure Island in San Francisco Bay in 1939 and 1940. Jason has been collecting memorabilia from this Exposition for



years and brought much of his collection to show us, including the Royal brochure handed out during the Exposition at the British Columbia exhibit..

As you can see, he dressed for the Exhibition too.

Jason was recently published in *Vancouver Confidential* (Anvil Press, 2014), he contributes Vancouver history articles to the Vancouver is Awesome website: <http://vancouverisawesome.com> and he is very active on social media. His *Illustrated*



Photos courtesy of M. Diane Rogers

Thank you to our speakers and to Margaret Waddington, our Speaker Co-ordinator.

Biographies of B.C. Photographers and Publishers

HARRY ELDER BULLEN, 1880-1963

Vancouver photographer Harry Elder Bullen was born May 21, 1880 to George William Bullen, born Islington, London and Eliza Jane Elder born Calcutta, India.

Educated at Dulwich College near London, England, he trained for civil engineering, but took up photography. At twenty-one he was commissioned to make a collection of photographs of English cathedrals for publication.

He arrived at Halifax, Nova Scotia March 24, 1906 in the "Parisian" from Liverpool, destination Winnipeg.

On November 27, 1907 he crossed the border at Buffalo,

New York stating that his last permanent address was Edmonton, Alberta and that he was returning to England.

However he didn't stay long, returning to New York February 1, 1908 on the "S.S. Lusitania" from Liverpool again bound for Alberta.

He first appears in Vancouver directories in 1909 as a partner with Vancouver photographer Richard Broadbridge in Broadbridge-Bullen Photo Co.

On June 19, of the same year he married Frances Mary Louise Nunes, born St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica, daughter of William George Nunes of the British West Indies Civil Service and Jane Godfree, in Christ Church, Vancouver and they had three children, Claude, Geoffrey and Phyllis. [The marriage was dissolved September 15, 1936 in Vancouver.]

In 1910 he formed his own company (Bullen Photo Co.) in association

with Francis Egerton. From 1910 to 1912 he was in partnership with photographer Robin William Lamb as Bullen & Lamb. He worked as a photographer for B.C. Electric Railway in 1914 during its construction of dams and power stations, then may have operated on his own as a photographer in 1915. From 1916 to 1920 he was employed as a photographer for the supply firm Bishop & Christie, including a stint as their printer in 1917. From 1921 to 1924 he was a photographer for the Canadian Photo Co.

Subsequently he appears as "of Bullen Photo" (1925, 1927), "proprietor Bullen Photo" (1926, 1928, 1929), a "commercial and portrait photographer" (1930 to 1935, and, finally as a "photographer" (1933, 1936 to 1948).

He retired in 1949 but later served as a technician at Meyers



Vancouver, Indian Family, #557, Photo Bullen, Courtesy of Ron Souch.

Studios, with Frank J Hamilton, provincial manager, from 1953 to 1955.

He died December 22, 1963, age 83 at Vancouver General Hospital (last permanent residence 1747 W 5th), and was cremated at Garden Chapel, Ocean View, Burnaby, B.C.

He was survived by his second wife Lucy Deacon, Vancouver, two sons, Claude, North Vancouver, and Geoffrey, Vancouver, a daughter Mrs. C. (Phyllis) Bloome, White Rock, 11 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

His second wife Lucy Deacon was also a photographer. Born February 15, 1907 in Cornwall, England to Charles Henry Deacon and Maude Parker, she first appears in Vancouver directories in 1924. She worked for Harry as a photographer (1926-1927), assistant (1931-1934) and finisher

(1925, 1928-1930, 1935-1941). She died May 4, 1984, age 77 in St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver and was cremated at Vancouver Crematorium.

Harry served as president of the Vancouver and New Westminster Photographers' Association and vice-president of the Pacific Coast Photographers' Association.

Harry issued real photo cards of Vancouver and the Sunshine Coast under the label of Bullen Photo Co. and H.E. Bullen. Many cards are numbered with numbers up to 530 recorded.

Broadbridge-Bullen Photo Co. and Bullen & Lamb also published real photo cards of Vancouver and vicinity.

POSTCARD VIEWS - Vancouver Exhibit

Club member Robert Sandilands' new exhibit, *Postcard Views: Classic Vancouver Postcards in Drawings and Paintings*, is at the City of Vancouver Archives, 1150 Chestnut St., till May 31, 2016, a perfect setting as his art reflects the area around the Archives.



Sunset, English Bay, circa 1908. The original postcards which inspired this art are displayed alongside. Vancouver Archives website: <http://www.vancouverarchives.ca/2016/03/10/>

MEXICAN FOLK ART RIDDLE SOLVED! by Jason Vanderhill

At our November meeting, Ivan Sayers presented a Mexican skirt made with hand-painted fabric featuring three picture-postcard scenes from British Columbia and Alberta, and he left us with a challenge. Find the original postcards that inspired the design printed on the fabric! (<http://vancouverpostcardclub.ca/?p=1011>)

Well, after some rigorous perusing of the web, I believe we have located the three postcard views that 'may' have been used to inspire this remarkable piece of folk art.

The view of the Vancouver skyline was most familiar to me; I was sure I'd seen it before as a postcard. It was the first card I located, and the skyline created by the buildings was a near perfect match! It is from the Coast Publishing Kodachrome series. The trees, however, were a bit more interpretive, and the painter perhaps didn't realize the significance of Vancouver's three marine gas barges - they are practically painted out of the picture!



The view of Victoria's parliament buildings was next on my list, and though it is a very common viewpoint, I located a card from the same vintage that shows a circular garden in the centre of the lawn, as seen in the painted view. The building hasn't changed much over the years, and you could return to the site today and take nearly the same photograph!



The third and final image was a bit more difficult to locate. It is a less common seen view showing the Banff Springs Hotel as seen from the golf course, with a smaller structure placed midway overlooking the fairway. It appears that structure has now been replaced, and I think it is known as the golf course clubhouse. The physical postcard I located with



this scene is an earlier vintage Gowen Sutton SceneOchrom card, being a colourized black and white photograph. Like the view of the Provincial Parliament Buildings, there are multiple cards that show this view, as postcards were updated over the years. The scene is fairly faithfully reproduced in the painted design, although the golf course has now become something of a bubbling brook!

With the challenge solved, it's clearly seen how postcards are an inspiration to travel aficionados, historical buffs, and artists alike!

Special thanks to all the folks on ebay and Delcampe.net who have provided a wealth of cards to search from.

Photographs for this article showing views on both the skirt and the postcards were taken by Jason Vanderhill. For the original story, see the article in *Postview*, December 2015

“LIFTED ON TO THE WORLD STAGE” by Fred Hume

The image on this card may appear familiar to you . . . one of the greatest moments in Canadian sport history. It is the one and only Percy Williams captured moments following his victory in the 200 meter final at the 1928 Olympics in Amsterdam. Hoisted by his teammates, the relatively unknown and unranked Williams is at this moment being literally lifted on to the world stage with his second gold of the Games, earlier winning the 100 meter final. Not only did this Vancouverite and King Edward high school grad become an instant celebrity, he became the first Canadian to win two gold medals in the Olympic main event, track & field. According to sports writer Jim Kearney, *“Williams made news around the world. And the name Vancouver appeared in every story.”*



The magical moment caught on this postcard spawned an enormous homecoming parade for Williams, starting at the CPR station, up Granville, then west along Georgia to Stanley Park where awaiting him was a new car, \$500 in gold and a \$1600 trust fund.

Percy would two years later set a world record in the 100 meters followed shortly with a gold medal victory in the 100 yards at the first-ever British Empire Games.

But returning to the Olympics in 1932, an unattended thigh injury prevented him from dominating as he once did. He knew it was over and in a way he was glad. He never liked the spotlight and later claimed he hated running. “He never again attended a track meet, even as a spectator, from the day he retired until the day he died” says Kearney. And on that particular day, a grey day in November 1982, he took his shotgun from its case and in his West End apartment, #1 at “The Chatelaine,” 905 Chilco, took his own life. It was noticed that despite the fact he had a collection of guns it was the gun he received as a prize for winning the gold medals in 1928 that he used to end his life.

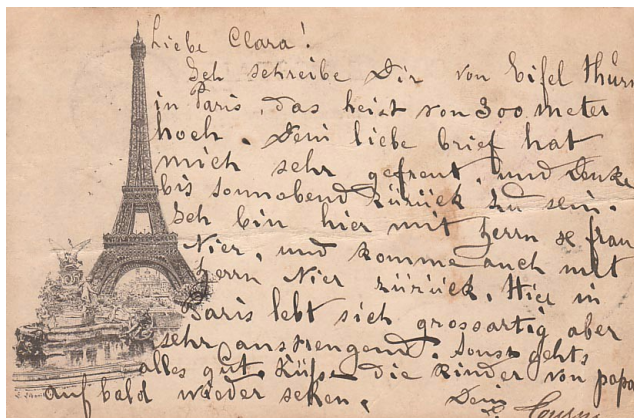
This card was produced as part of a series by Weenenk and Snel, in The Hague, Netherlands, commemorating the 1928 Olympics presumably shortly after the Games’ conclusion. The cool aspect of this card is that this precise card was owned by a member of that 1928 Canadian Olympic track team. Harry Warren, another Vancouverite and training partner to Williams, kept this card in his personal collection from its date of issue until he passed away. In fact Harry and Percy were boyhood friends

while growing up in the West End – in Harry’s case on Nicola between Barclay and Haro. Dr. Warren, who I had the pleasure of meeting, was a star in his own right; Olympic team member, UBC athlete, Rhodes Scholar, UBC Geology professor and inductee in four Halls of Fame. Interestingly, if you look carefully on the front of the card you will notice where Harry has lightly pencilled in the names of his and Williams’ teammates seen doing the lifting of the skinny 126 pound champion; Peckard, Glover and Little. This card was passed on to me by Dr. Warren’s daughter, Charlotte.

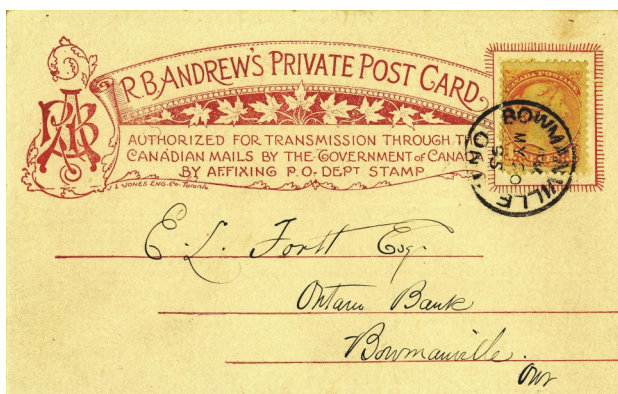
“De Canadees Williams Winnaar” headlines a postcard featuring a reluctant Canadian hero who in 1976 was named Canada’s greatest-ever Olympic athlete. I feel privileged to possess this card which is perhaps rare, perhaps not, but certainly unique in its provenance.

ONTARIO'S EARLIEST POSTCARD? by Mike Smith

In the February 2015 issue of *Postview* there was a request for members of the Toronto Postcard Club to identify "the earliest postcard that you've seen from Ontario." Before I submit my nomination I'd like to credit the *Vancouver Postcard Club Newsletter* of June 2004, specifically an article by Buzz Kinnimont, for introducing me to what most postcard pundits agree is the world's first official picture postcard. This would be the Eiffel Tower postcard printed for the 1889 Paris Exhibition. The card was sold at the base of the tower and meant to be posted at a special post office installed at the summit. Understandably, decent copies of this card with the 1889 summit postmark are scarce.



This postcard of the Eiffel Tower was printed for the 1889 Paris Exhibition.

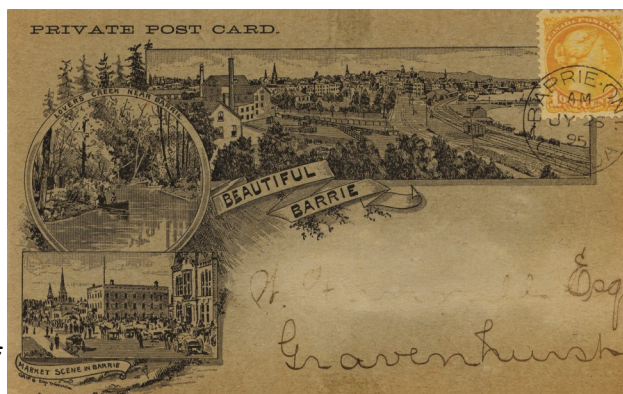


This R. B. Andrew card has the earliest-known postmark on a Canadian patriotic postcard.

In Canada, the Post Office maintained a monopoly on postcard production and sales from the release of the first official postcard on 1 June 1871 until New Year's Day 1895. On that great day in Canadian postal history, regulations finally allowed privately-produced cards to be mailed at what was then a 1-cent domestic postcard rate. It goes without saying that private postcards sent through the mail in their first official year of use would be quite scarce. Imagine how delighted I was when Andrew Cunningham, the new editor of the Toronto Postcard Club newsletter, recently showed me an Ontario private postcard mailed in Bowmanville on 20 May 1895! The icing on the cake is that this little gem is undoubtedly Canada's new "earliest-known" patriotic postcard.

For those collectors who'd rather see an early Ontario postcard with more imagery than symbols, allow me to present another candidate. The Barrie postcard shown was postmarked on 26 July 1895. This little beauty is from the Steve Hilditch collection and was printed in Toronto by Grip Co. After a little *Internet* sleuthing I learned that Grip Co. was founded in 1873 by famous Canadian cartoonist J. W. Bengough so he could publish his satirical *Grip* magazine. The company eventually took on commercial printing contracts and obviously got into the postcard business in 1895. For the record, C. W. Jefferys, Tom Thomson and 5 of the *Group of Seven* artists (MacDonald, Varley, Lismer, Johnston, Carmichael) all worked at Grip Co. at one time or another.

Is this a great hobby or what?



Grip Co. of Toronto printed this very early postcard of Barrie, Ontario. The card was mailed on 26 July 1895.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2-3: Edmonton Stamp Club 2016 Spring National Stamp Show, Saturday 10-5pm, Sunday 10-4pm, Central Lion's Recreational Centre, 13 St & 111 Ave, Edmonton. www.edmontonstampclub.com

Apr. 9-10: Kerrisdale Antiques Fair, Kerrisdale Arena, 5670 East Boulevard at 41st Ave, 10-5

Apr. 10: VANCOUVER POSTCARD CLUB: JOHN DAVIES – THEY WEREN'T ALWAYS RAILWAYS' HOTELS: The Hotels, Resorts, Lodges of Canadian Unaffiliated Railways.

May 8: VANCOUVER POSTCARD CLUB: ANDREW MARTIN– B. C. STEREO VIEWS

May 15: 21st Century Flea Market, Croatian Cultural Centre, 3250 Commercial Drive at 16th, 10-3

MAY 29: VANCOUVER POSTCARD CLUB ANNUAL SHOW, Hastings Community Centre.

June 12: VANCOUVER POSTCARD CLUB: MARK TRUELOVE: DIGITAL COLOURIZATION

June 12: Retro Design & Antiques Fair, Croatian Cultural Centre, 10-3

July 17: 21st Century Flea Market, Croatian Cultural Centre, 10-3

All Vancouver Postcard Club meetings are at Hastings Community Centre, 3096 East Hastings, Vancouver, BC.

OLD POSTCARD NEWS...1907

"Our postman" says a Philadelphia business man, "always rings our doorbell good and hard when he leaves any mail.

He comes along regularly as clockwork at 8 a. m. but does not always leave mail for me, and, consequently, the doorbell does not always ring.

When I want to get up early I just buy a postcard in the afternoon and mail it to myself."

The Leader [Moyie City Leader]. Moyie, British Columbia, 9 March, 1907, page 3. Accessed at British Columbia Historical Newspapers Collection, University of British Columbia: <https://open.library.ubc.ca/collections/bcnewspapers>

POSTCARDS ON THE WEB

St. Paul, Minnesota postcard collector Steve Sundberg's website, **Old Tokyo - Vintage Japanese Postcard Museum, 1900-1960**, displays his collection of beautiful and intriguing images of Tokyo's old landmarks, districts and people, with history and maps. One section of interest right now - Cherry Blossoms. Old Tokyo: <http://www.oldtokyo.com>

Steve did spend some time in Tokyo, but knew little of the city's history. In a 2007 interview¹, he said he'd thought originally of collecting cards from Singapore but "*fell in love with Japanese postcards instead*". And I noticed he had a good tip for collectors - "*Be patient but persistent!*" Good advice when the bidding gets hot.

¹ Ephemera's interview with Steve, Dec. 2007: <http://ephemera.typepad.com/ephemera/2007/12/1-whenwhy-did-1.html>

There's been a lot of interest in the **Gerald Wellburn collection of historic Vancouver 1851/1899** being sold at All Nations Stamp and Coin's weekly auctions. An 1875 'Gassy Jack Deighton letter just recently sold for \$44,000. All Nations is Club member Brian Grant Duff's business and postcards are often featured. Items from the collection can be seen on-line at http://allnationsstampandcoin.com/newsletters/GeraldWellburn_HistoricVancouver.html

Postview

Postview is the newsletter of the Vancouver Postcard Club. Published four times a year in February, May, September and December, it is mailed free of charge to members who wish to receive a printed copy. Past copies are posted to the Club Website at www.vancouverpostcardclub.ca

Please address comments or questions to the Editor, M. Diane Rogers at diane_rogers@shaw.ca

Views expressed by the Editor and contributors do not necessarily reflect the views of the Vancouver Postcard Club.