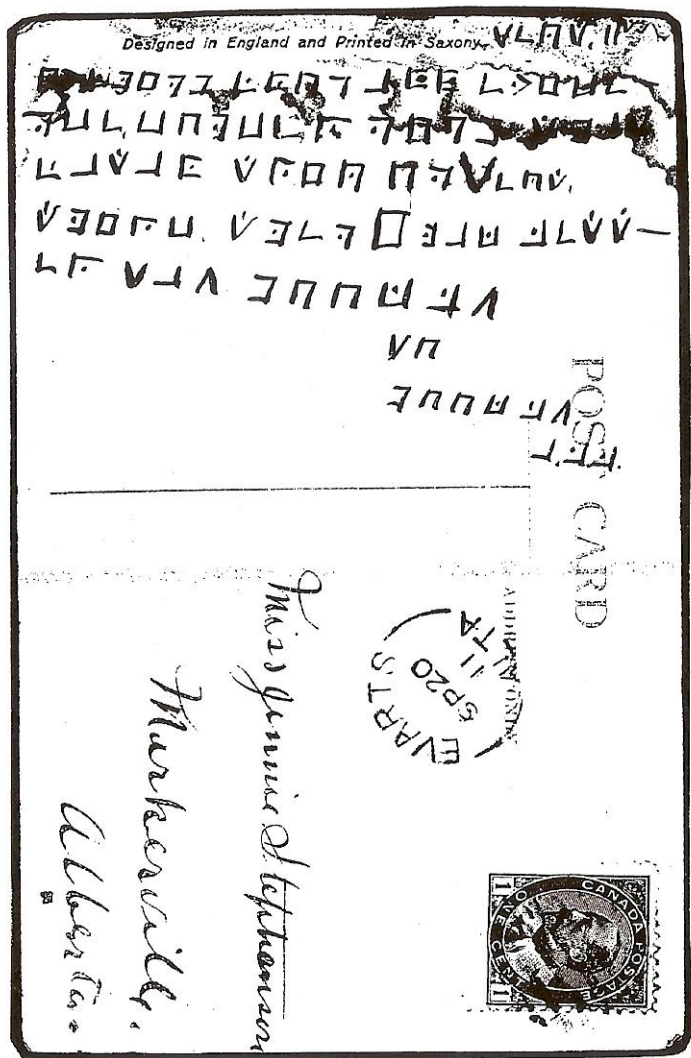


# CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 64

February 2004



In this issue: Can you read the code on this postcard? More details inside.

Calgary Philatelist is published by the Calgary Philatelic Society. It is copyright by the CPS, except signed articles, which are copyright by the authors. Written permission is required to reprint articles.

Articles or advertisements for Calgary Philatelist should be sent to the Editor, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. Small ads are free to paid-up CPS members. Display ads are \$10 per full page per issue for camera-ready copy (photographs extra). No partial-page ads accepted.

Membership dues for the season are \$15, plus an initiation 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 Web site is: <http://members.shaw.ca/calphilso> All articles as hard copy only, mailed to Box 6830, Calgary, T2P 2E7, or handed to Dale Speirs at meetings.

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 exists but because of its length is too long to be published in this bulletin. A copy can be had for free from the editorial address at Box 6830.

2003/2004 EXECUTIVE

|                        |                 |          |
|------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Past President         | Andy Puczko     | 241-2593 |
| President              | Penny Borrowman | 686-2662 |
| Vice President         | Walter Herdzik  | 238-3171 |
| Secretary              | Donna Trathen   | 272-0804 |
| Treasurer              | Hans Jensen     | 252-7909 |
| Directors - ex officio | Andy Puczko     | 241-2593 |
| - 1st year             | Marge Hunt      | 274-2259 |
| - 1st year             | Ron Robertson   | 229-4207 |
| - 2nd year             | Jim Senecal     | 547-7681 |
| - 2nd year             | Jan Brookes     | 251-1769 |

COMMITTEES - see page 13 for list of committee chairpersons

by Dale Speirs

Introduction.

As anyone knows who collects postal history, often the greatest interest is not the stamp or postmark, but the letter inside or the message on the postcard. Letters are usually more informative than postcards because of greater privacy, but I have come across some postcard messages that leave one thoughtful.

Write If You Get Work.

Recently I came across a rather poignant real-photo postcard of Red Deer, Alberta (my hometown) dating from the early Great Depression. It was postmarked in Red Deer on October 9, 1931. The photo showed Red Deer's main drag, Gaetz Avenue, with a fine view of the Gaetz-Cornett Drug Store. Not surprising, since the photo credit indicates they published the postcard. The store was still there when I was a young lad in the 1960s, although the cars were considerably newer in my time!

But what really caught my attention was the message on the card, which was addressed to Mrs. E.U. Veale, Merritt, B.C., and sent by her son Arthur. The text reads: *"Dear Mother, I am sending this card to let you know where I am. I am out of work just now. Don't write because I don't know where I will be. It is getting cold out this way. Have been in Calgary several times but there is nothing there. Love from Arthur."*

The harvest season would be over, so if Arthur had work as a labourer, it would be done with. 1931 was not a good year for young men drifting around the country trying to find work. I wonder how he made out for the next eight years, before the next war created jobs for everyone.

A British Walkerton.

Amongst my mother's stamp collection that I inherited from her was a postcard from a British correspondent of hers, dated 1997-04-27, and signed 'John'. The message was certainly a bit more than the usual "Having a wonderful time". He wrote: *"The E. coli outbreak is over but the court case against the butcher should be in July and I'll be one of the prosecution witnesses. Not something I'm looking forward to. Even worse when the court case is finished there will be a Fatal Accident Enquiry (will probably last 3 weeks in Sept.)"*

Postcards have been valued from the beginning for their cheapness and convenience, but do have the disadvantage that any passing eye can read the message. Not a problem if all one is writing is “Having a wonderful time. Wish you were here.”, but annoying if you desire a modicum of privacy for a missive of greater importance.

Codes are the obvious answer. If the code is too simplistic, anyone can read it. Too complicated and the recipient may give up or transcribe errors, and for that matter, the same for the sender. Mirror writing is known on postcards, for example [1], but a reasonably intelligent postmaster or family member can spot it and hold it up to a mirror. Assorted coded postcards are known in the philatelic hobby, and postal historians have fun trying to decipher them [2, 3].

Miss Jennie.

One of my more interesting research projects has been a postcard sent from Evarts to Markerville, both in rural central Alberta. (As an aside, my great-grandfather August Koski was the first person to carry the mails to Evarts.) The postcard has a nice Evarts postmark dated September 20, 1911, but is badly waterstained along one side. What makes it worth saving is that it has a message written in code, and I have been working at deciphering the code. The front cover of this bulletin shows the postcard. For clarity, I have transcribed the coded message as shown in Figure 1.

Why was it sent in code in the first place? It seems fairly obvious that the sender and recipient desired privacy. Then as now, Evarts and Markerville are small villages, the type of place where everybody knows everybody else. The postcard is addressed to Miss Jennie Stephenson. When I first examined it, it seemed probable that someone was courting her or the sender was a close friend. By coding it, the postmasters at either end, and the paterfamilias at the receiving end, would not be able to pry into Jennie’s business.

The Pigpen Code.

I instantly recognized the type of coding used, one which was familiar to our grandparents’ generation as the pigpen code, or as less commonly known, the Freemasons code [4]. The basic structure of the pigpen code is shown in Figure 2. This type of code dates back centuries. Instead of substituting letters, it substitutes symbols for the letters of the words. Even today it is difficult to type these symbols, so the code is always handwritten.

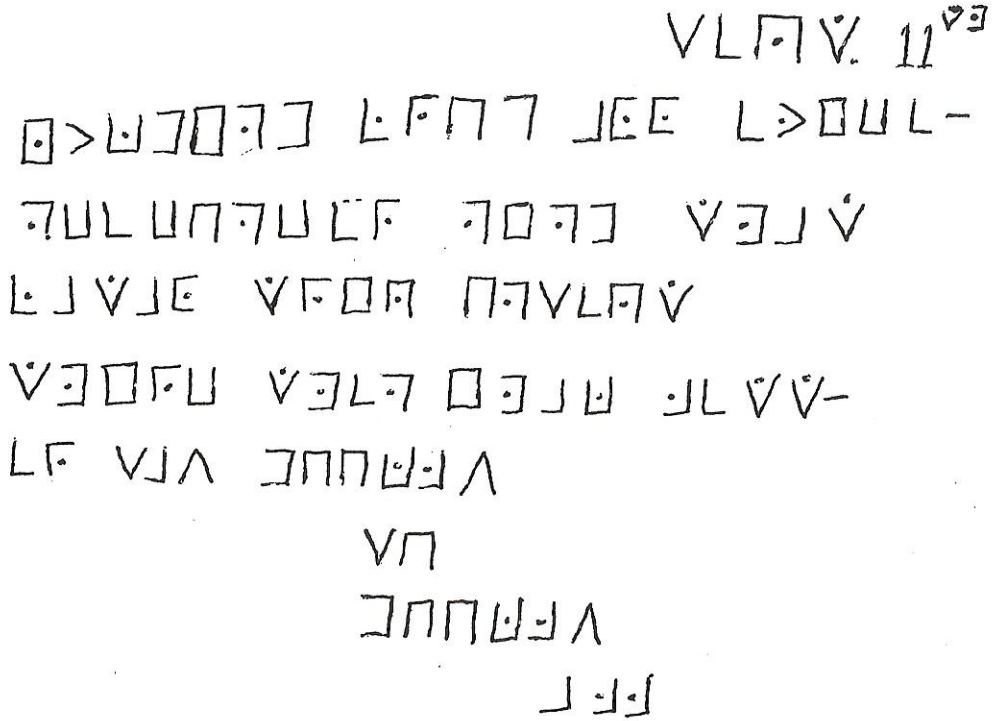
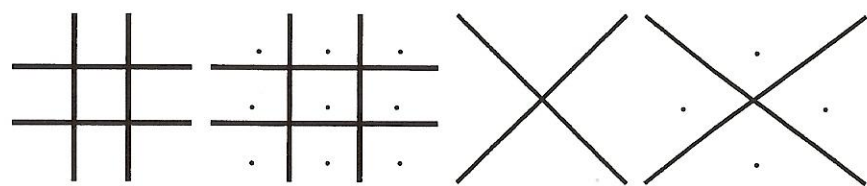


Figure 1: Transcription of message on postcard.



Individual letters are of the type below.



Figure 2: The basic form of the pigpen code.

|   |   |   |     |     |    |                                                                  |  |                                                                     |  |
|---|---|---|-----|-----|----|------------------------------------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| A | B | C | J . | K . | .L | <div> <div>S</div> <div>T</div> <div>U</div> <div>V</div> </div> |  | <div> <div>W.</div> <div>X.</div> <div>Y</div> <div>Z.</div> </div> |  |
| D | E | F | M.  | N.  | .O |                                                                  |  |                                                                     |  |
| G | H | I | P.  | Q.  | .R |                                                                  |  |                                                                     |  |

A =  K =  etcetera

Figure 3: Pigpen code with straightforward substitution.

Using the Figure 3 code, a straightforward substitution on the postcard yielded gibberish. The first line of text would read: NTKDEPD LRHG AOO CXEBC. Obviously then, the pigpen code used had the letters scrambled. There was one other possibility. Markerville was an Icelandic settlement, and that was the primary language there. Miss Jennie had a very common Icelandic surname. However, one doesn't have to be fluent in Icelandic to guess that NTKDEPD is not a word in that or any other language.

So how to break the code? A common principle of code-breaking is that in every language there are certain letters that occur more often than others. In English, the most common letters used in a large piece of text are e, t, a, o, i, n, s, h, and r. This method can only be used for large pieces of text because frequencies may fluctuate in short texts [5]. For Miss Jennie's postcard, too many symbols have similar frequencies in the short text, so the method cannot be used here.

The most favoured method of code breaking is cribbing. In every language, certain letters appear in combinations frequently. English, for example, has letter combinations such as '-ing', '-ed', or 'the' that occur often even in a short text. No matter how well the message has been encrypted, these combinations shine through, and a professional cryptographer can guess the letter combinations. Also, many messages begin with stereotyped phrases such as the date, the location from or to, or stock phrases such as "Dear Sir" [6].

### Decoding Miss Jennie.

It was cribbing that gave me a beginning in cracking the code. The sender had dated the letter and the obvious translation was 'Sept 11th'. This gave me the letters s, e, p, t, and h, arranged as shown in Figure 4 on the pigpen code matrix.

|  |  |   |    |    |   |                                                     |  |                                                      |  |
|--|--|---|----|----|---|-----------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------|--|
|  |  | E | .  | .  | . | <div> <div>S</div> <div>U</div> <div>Y</div> </div> |  | <div> <div>T.</div> <div>?</div> <div>.</div> </div> |  |
|  |  |   | H. | .  | . |                                                     |  |                                                      |  |
|  |  | * | .  | P. | . |                                                     |  |                                                      |  |

\* = not used in message

Figure 4: Initial crib of pigpen code.

After that, it got more troublesome, so I set up a spreadsheet to help me run through the permutations faster. Along the top, I set up a blank pigpen cipher. Below it, I typed the message with each cell representing one symbol, but instead of putting the symbol in, I tied the cell to that symbol on the blank pigpen. Then all I had to do was insert letters into the blank pigpens and the spreadsheet would automatically fill in the appropriate cells in the message. If it wasn't the correct letter, then I backspaced out the letter and tried another. No more scribbling on endless sheets of paper trying to make it fit. If only Miss Jennie and the postcard sender could have seen me trying to crack their message on a laptop computer! I wasn't able to get a complete translation of the code, but I got enough to get a general idea of the message. My best effort is shown in Figure 5 (the code used by the postcard sender) and Figure 6 (the decrypted message).

|   |   |   |    |    |    |                                                     |  |                                                      |  |
|---|---|---|----|----|----|-----------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------|--|
| A | W | E | B. | D. | F. | <div> <div>S</div> <div>U</div> <div>Y</div> </div> |  | <div> <div>T.</div> <div>?</div> <div>.</div> </div> |  |
| G | I | ? | H. | J. | L. |                                                     |  |                                                      |  |
| M | O | * | N. | P. | R. |                                                     |  |                                                      |  |

\* = not used in message

Figure 5: Decrypted code.

S E P . T . 11 T . H .  
 J . U D . G I N . G F . R . O M A L L . E ? I W E -  
 N . W E W O N . W ? R . N . I N . G T . H . A T .  
 F . A T . A L . T . R . I P . O N . S E P . T .  
 T . H . I R . W T . H . E N . I H . A D . B . E T . T . -  
 E R . S A Y G O O D . B . Y  
 S O  
 G O O D . B . Y  
 A B . B .

*Sept. 11th*

*Judging from all evidence concerning that fatal trip on Sept. third. Then I had better say goodbye.*

*So*  
*goodby*  
*Abe*

Figure 6: The decrypted message. At top is the literal decrypt, with a polished translation below it.

The sender made some typos, conflated letters with different words, and hyphenated words due to lack of space at the edge of the postcard. I corrected them the best I could. For example, the raw decrypt had “e?i when”, which appeared to better read as “evidence”. It seems that the sender mixed up D and W, which are the same symbol except that D had a dot in the symbol. Like most codebreakers, I had to do some guessing and ignore some parts of the mechanical translation where it was obvious the sender couldn’t read his own code. The abrupt discontinuity between the two sentences suggests to me that the sender may have intended to write more but was interrupted in the middle of his message and forgot his place when he went back to finish it. I’m also making a hunch that the sender’s name was Abe, not Abb.

Rereading the decrypted message, I am left wondering if this was a breakup, a final goodbye between lovers or friends. But they are all dead now, and only this small piece of postal history remains to record their fleeting shadow.

## References.

- 1] Hibbard, Ted (1999-06-25) 1888: Reflections on a mirror message. MEKEEL’S 184(26):23
- 2] Robillard, L. (1998-06-26) [untitled letter to the editor] MEKEEL’S 182(26):10, 13
- 3] Hibbard, Ted (1998-07-10) Puzzle solution. MEKEEL’S 183(2):10
- 4] Kahn, David (1967) THE CODEBREAKERS. Published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson, London, England. Page 772.
- 5] Singh, Simon (1999) THE CODE BOOK. Published by Anchor Books, New York. Page 19.
- 6] Budiansky, Stephen (2002) BATTLE OF WITS. Published by Touchstone Books, New York. Pages 64 to 67.

## PHILATELIC LITERATURE REVIEWS

by Leanteri Polvikoski

**Trident #121 and Ukrainian Philatelist #89** (Both as part as annual dues of Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society, Box 3, Springfield, Virginia 22150, to whom apply for current details) Membership in the UPNS gets two anglophone periodicals. TRIDENT is the bimonthly newsletter with breaking news, club reports, and new issue listings. UKRAINIAN PHILATELIST is a squarebound journal of record which carries monographic articles on various aspects of Ukrainian postal history and stamps.

**American Philatelist (2003 December)** (Available from the CPS Librarian at general meetings) Full-colour monthly. Since December 2003 is the centennial of the first sustained, heavier-than-air controlled flight by the Wright brothers, the theme for this issue pretty much wrote itself. Articles discuss philatelic souvenirs of Kitty Hawk, Robert Goddard (first to fly liquid-fuel rockets), and hubba hubba airmail. 2003 was also the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the structure of DNA, for which an article discusses philatelic appearances of the double helix.

### The Posties' Side Of The Story.

To be fair to postal workers, illegible postmarks may be the result of rushing or lack of proper training. The scribbles with crayons which particularly raise the ire of philatelists are usually the result of a faint original cancel. In the blur of mail being sorted, a postie will quickly do as he has been trained, and cancel the stamps. That many stamps go through uncanceled is of no import, for postal workers are indoctrinated that stamps should be cancelled. With millions of letters processed per day at main sorting plants, it is not surprising that some go through uncanceled, leaving it to the lettercarrier at the final destination to do the scribbling. It is stated policy of the U.S. Postal Service and other countries that if a postie sees an uncanceled stamp on a letter, it must be cancelled by a pen or marker [32].

It is also the case that many handstamps are made of soft rubber and wear out quickly to smeary lines. Perhaps more commonly, repeated impacts on a rubber stamp will distort the shape, such as circular cancels becoming egg-shaped [33]. Ornate handstamps are not common now in daily use, but those that feature closely spaced lines or letters tend to pick up fluff that sticks in between the raised lines and adds to the blobiness [31]. Postal clerks should, of course, keep their handstamps clean, but this is a regulation honoured more in the breach by too many posties.

One British Postmaster General, defending his postal workers in 1904 before the House of Commons, said: *"At the same time it should be borne in mind that postmarking is generally done under conditions of great pressure, and the public would not, I am sure, willing submit to any curtailment of facilities in order that additional time might be given to making clearer impressions. In many cases, too, the bulky and uneven nature of the contents of letters and parcels makes a clear impression difficult."* [41].

For philatelists seeking good cancels, advice from postal clerks is to present the items at the counter for handstamping [38]. The stamps should be placed low to just catch the machine cancel but not enough so that they are missed and attract the attention of crayon-wielding posties. Handcancels should be placed on the lower edge or bottom left corner so that machine cancels will not run over them. One example of justifiable heavy-handed cancelling was reported for a Nyasaland cover mailed 1963 February 12 with the Tobacco Congress commemorative. This commemorative was not to have been issued until February 18, and was mistakenly sold early. So as not to delay the mail, even though the stamps were

nicely dated by a machine cancel, another postal clerk who caught the mistake used heavy dabs of ink to obliterate the stamps and render them unusable for philatelic purposes [23]. While ruining them as soakable stamps for an album page, the cover did make an interesting item of postal history.

### Classifying Illegible Postmarks.

I feel safe in saying that I am a pioneer in collecting illegible postmarks and am probably the only philatelist who is not upset at getting a new example, albeit I still prefer a nice date cancel on a stamp if given a choice. After accumulating enough examples to justify sorting them out into categories, I was faced with the problem of how to do so. Unlike regular postmarks, in most cases one cannot determine the origin or date of a blob or scribble, so they can't be grouped by town. It could have been applied at the post office of sending or of receiving or any point between. This is why it is often useless to complain to a postal clerk for letters received from out of town, as he will just say that it must have been the originating post office that did it. The originating post office, of course, will say that it must have been the receiving office at fault.

I also determined that it was not practicable to classify illegible postmarks on the basis of ink or writing instrument type, such as crayon, felt pen, or ballpoint pen. The same clerk may use different writing instruments depending on what is lying about handy for that scribble. I finally concluded the best method was by the shape of the scribble, since there are only a few distinct types of hand movements that are used in scribbling. I therefore group illegible postmarks into the following categories:

- 1a) Blobs: Over-inking of handstamp or machine.
- 1b) Blobs: Worn-out canceller, where the lines of the cancel have worn flat or spread out, occasionally merging with adjacent lines or letters.
- 1c) Blobs: Dirty or plugged cancels, mostly commonly seen from rural post offices where the handstamp hasn't been cleaned since it was received.
- 2) These are pen marks where the scribble is drawn without lifting the pen from the paper.
  - 2a) Sinusoidal, smooth: Wavy line with smooth curves.
  - 2b) Sinusoidal, jagged: Wavy lines but with sharp peaks and troughs.
  - 2c) Check marks
  - 2d) Dabs or slashes: single line only.
- 3) These are pen marks where the pen is lifted from the paper once or more.
  - 3a) Dabs or slashes: Multiple lines, usually in a chevron.
  - 3b) X marks

4) Under-inked or very faint. Often still readable due to embossing effect, and can be made out if held to the light at an angle.

5) Blurs or stutters: Not to be confused with blobs. These are postmarks where the hammer bounced or slid across the envelope as it hit the paper, causing closely-spaced multiple images.

## References.

23] Mewett, N.C. (1989 December) Mutilation increases collectability. SA PHILATELIST 65:309

31] Ehrmann, E.C. (1973-09-20) Parcel post: philately's step-child. STAMP COLLECTING 121:195,197,199

32] Schraer, P. (2001 March) More about USPS canceling policies. SCOTT STAMP MONTHLY 19(3):12

33] Lake, Ken (2001 March) That egg-shaped postmark. GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY 31(10):45

38] Lockhart, G.R. (1990-11-20) Take some time to save your mail from killer cancels. CANADIAN STAMP NEWS 15(13):5

41] Stanley, Lord (1904-08-08) Illegible postmarks. PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES HOUSE OF COMMONS (GREAT BRITAIN) 4th series 139:1354

## FOUNDERS' AWARD

At the Christmas party, Marge Hunt was named to the 2002/03 Founders' Award. This is granted to a member deemed contributing greatly to the CPS during the previous season. Marge has been Programme Chairwoman, and active in the Juniors' Club, as well as helping out behind the scenes. Congratulations, Marge!

## AUTHOR OF THE YEAR

This award was presented at the January meeting and goes to a contributor to the CALGARY PHILATELIST during the previous calendar year. For the 2003 volume, Jim Taylor was selected for his St. Pierre & Miquelon article. Well done, Jim!

## IN MEMORIAM: CHARLES DRYDEN (1945-2003)

Charles Dryden passed away November 9 from cancer. He joined the CPS in 1986, and first became involved on the Executive when he was elected Director for 1989/91. He was Secretary the next season, Vice-President for 1991/92, and President in 1992/93. He also served in various capacities behind the scenes. In later years he was a full-time stamp dealer and was active in it until just before his death. The CPS sends its condolences to his wife Dianna and their three daughters.

## HONOURARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

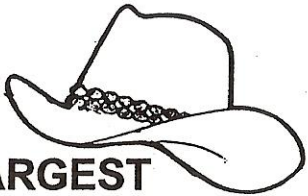
At the Christmas party on December 3, an Honourary Life Membership was granted to long-time member Keith C.V. Brown for service to the CPS over many years. This is a rare honour; he is only the 33rd person to receive it in the 81 years this club has existed.

Keith joined in 1977, became Vice-President in 1978/79, Secretary for 1979/80, and President for 1980/81. He was bulletin editor from 1981 to 1983, and served as a Director from 1989 to 1990, and 2001 to 2003. Keith received the Founders' Award for 1981/82. In addition, he was active behind the scenes in various capacities. For the past several years, he has been donating the current-year Scott catalogue set to the CPS library.

Well done, Keith!

## COMMITTEES

|                      |                    |          |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Archives             | Dale Speirs        | 701-0174 |
| Auctions - regular   | Doug Kollar        | 547-3838 |
| - silent             | Jim Senecal        | 547-7681 |
| Bulletin - Editor    | Dale Speirs        | 701-0174 |
| Circuit books        | Mike McPhail       | 239-9730 |
| Library              | Penny Borrowman    | 686-2662 |
| Life Members         | John Van Staden Jr | 285-1874 |
| Membership           | Isobel Attrell     | 294-0935 |
| Private Treaty books | Gerry Vader        | 293-0158 |
| Programmes           | Marge Hunt         | 274-2259 |
| Publicity            | Ron Robertson      | 229-4207 |
| Sergeant-At-Arms     | Walter Herdzik     | 238-3171 |



## CALGARY'S LARGEST STAMP SHOPPE

### STAMPEDE CITY STAMPS

211 - 9th Avenue S.W.  
(Located in the Main Post Office Building)

Open MONDAY thru SATURDAY

← R.D. MINER PHILATELICS  
and  
← THE STAMP GALLERY

OLD and NEW  
• Worldwide Stamps •  
• Postal History • Post Cards •

Full Range of Philatelic  
Supplies - Accessories - Supplements

BUY - SELL - TRADE

Ph. (403) 233-7541

### SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

These ads are free to paid-up CPS members, and will also appear on the CPS Website at no additional cost. Mail your ads to Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2E7, or hand them to me at meetings.

NOTE TO INTERNET VIEWERS: Unless stated otherwise, telephone numbers are area code 403. Alberta is on Mountain Time. Any advertiser can be reached through the CPS e-mail at calphilso@shaw.ca, but please allow time for forwarding to offline members.

WANTED: Australia album for my 10-year-old granddaughter, preferably with fairly modern pages or room to expand. Call Penny at 686-2662.

FOR SALE: Scott catalogues: 1997 Vol. 3 (D-I) \$4, Vol. 5 (R-Z) \$4, 1999 Vol. 2 (C-F) \$5, 2000 Vol. 1(A-B) \$5, 2001 Vol. 3 (G-I) \$6 or all for \$20. Call Julius at 282-7982.

FREE: 3-ring binders of various sizes. Call Julius at 282-7982.

WANTED: Tanna Tuva, especially covers. I used to have a few and now starting over. Phone Keith at (780)437-1787 (Edmonton)

COLLECT Christmas or owls? I have just completed updated checklists for both topics. Willing to share for just the cost of photocopying and postage. Contact Pat at 238-3435.

WANTED: Owl stamps worldwide. Cash or trade. Call Pat at 238-3435.

WANTED: Stamp show catalogues, Canadian and international shows. The older the better. Please contact Ed at 274-0021 or harrise@shaw.ca

WANTED: Advanced collector of World Wildlife Fund (anything with the panda logo) stamps, postally-used covers, FDCs, postcards, maximum cards, even cookie cans. Top dollar paid! Phone Jan at 251-1769.

WANTED: Private collector pays cash for larger stamp collections. Phone Willi at 239-2273.

TRADE: Need automotive work done on your car? Let's trade my labour for your stamps that I need. I am a licenced mechanic with 20+ years experience. Phone Doug Kollar at 547-3838.

FOR SALE: Ukrainian and Russian stamps new and used. Also Ukrainian FDCs and special cancels from 1991 to date. Call Andy at 236-2037.

WANTED: Stamps and covers from China to 1949. Special interest in overprints. Prefer bulk lots. Call Penny at 686-2662.

WANTED: Calgary Stampede philatelic memorabilia. I collect all phases of this fascinating field. You may have just the cover or cancel I need. Cash or generous exchange. Call Ed at 274-0021 or harrise@shaw.ca

## MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

### 2004

|          |           |                               |
|----------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| January  | 21        | Auction                       |
| February | 1         | Sunday bourse                 |
|          | 4         | General meeting               |
|          | 18        | Auction                       |
| March    | 3         | General meeting               |
|          | 3         | Deadline for April bulletin   |
|          | 7         | Sunday bourse                 |
|          | 17        | Auction                       |
| April    | 4         | Sunday bourse                 |
|          | 7         | General meeting               |
|          | 21        | Auction                       |
|          | 24 and 25 | Spring Stamp Show             |
| May      | 2         | Sunday bourse                 |
|          | 5         | General meeting               |
|          | 5         | Deadline for June bulletin    |
|          | 19        | Auction                       |
| June     | 2         | General meeting and elections |
|          | 6         | Sunday bourse                 |
|          | 16        | Auction                       |

MEETINGS and AUCTIONS are at the Kerby Centre, 2nd floor, 1133 - 7 Avenue SW, at 19h30. Auction lots should be in before 19h30 to allow bidder viewing

SPRING STAMP SHOW will be held at the Kerby Centre, main floor, 1133 - 7 Avenue SW. Details from Janice Brookes at 251-1769.

SUNDAY BOURSE is at Palliser Community Centre, 2323 Palliser Drive SW, from 10h00 to 16h00. Details and table rentals from Bill Szaroz at 337-3260.

CALGARY REGIONAL GROUP OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY meets on the second Wednesday of the month except July and August. For details about meeting places and times, contact Ed Harris at 274-0021.