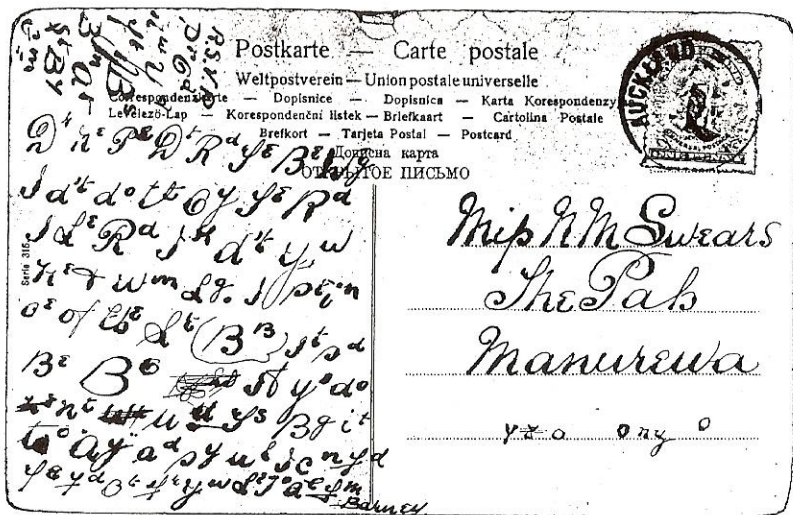


CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 69

December 2004



In this issue: Can you break the secret code of this postcard message? See inside for more details.

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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.

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COMMITTEES - see page 13 for list of committee chairpersons

FOR YOUR EYES ONLY (AND THE POSTIES)

by Dale Speirs

I've recently started up yet another postal history collection, that of postcards with messages on them written in secret code. In CALGARY PHILATELIST #64 I discussed a postcard with a message written in the pigpen code, a simple substitution code where each letter of the alphabet has a symbol assigned to it. The one shown on the front cover of this issue was mailed in New Zealand in 1901, and its coded message stymied me. It doesn't help that the writer had sloppy handwriting and did not lift the pen from paper when forming letters.

It didn't seem to be a straightforward substitution code. Each letter has another letter superscripted to it. It might have been a keyphrase code but I wondered if it could be some form of speedwriting. I checked the usual references, both on cryptography and shorthand/speedwriting, but nothing similar was evident.

One of my correspondents, Sue Jones, of Shrewsbury, England, solved it for me. She wrote:

"I can't say I have fully solved it, because I think it is inherently unsolvable. You were stumped because you expected consistency and a single solution. I got a few bits, decided it was the work of a boy amusing his cousin, or some such, and continued from there. Barney [the sender of the postcard] simply used the first and last letters of each word. It is not a true cipher or code; it can only be guessed from context. He's not entirely consistent either, even allowing for his bad handwriting. I read this:

*Dear N-e (Nellie at a guess) Please don't read the blue writing
I didn't do that only the red
I love red ink don't you
Nice and warm looking. I put in
one of (?the(se) ?Secret? B-b) It said
(Blue? B-g(scribble)) If you do
not understand this bring it
to Auntie and say (well I can find
the find?) out for you. Love to all from Barney"*

This impressed me because Sue had only seen a black-and-white photocopy. I hadn't thought to mention that the message was written entirely in red ink because I didn't think it was important. There is no blue ink on the postcard.

I'm still looking for more postcards with secret messages to add to those I have!

UKRAINIAN POSTAL CARDS: PART 4
by Alexander Malucky

Postal Cards Of Foreign Occupiers Thematically Linked To Ukraine But Not Visually Discernable.

These are postal cards whose thematic link with Ukraine consists only in the fact that their place of appearance was in Ukraine. They were issued by the following foreign occupiers of Ukraine.

Local Polish Postal Administration in Peremyshl:

This local postal administration issued in November 1918 two postal cards, which were surcharges on Austrian cards. They were in postal use from November 1918 to January 1919.

Czechoslovak Postal Administration in Khust:

This postal administration issued on December 4, 1944, four postal cards, surcharged with the text "CSP / 1944" on the Hungarian cards. Three of them were in postal use in Khust, Rakhiv, Sevlyush (now Vynohradiv), Tyachiv, and Volove (now Mizhhirya). They were in postal use until April 1945 (Figure 23).

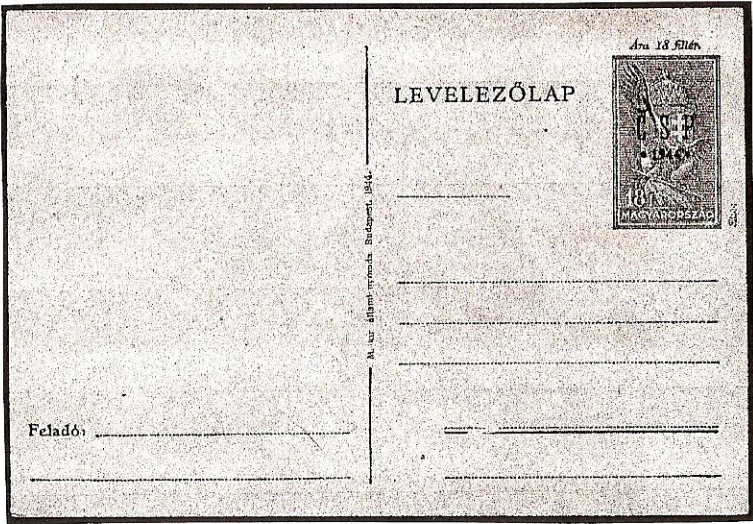


Figure 23: Hungarian postal card surcharged by Czechoslovakia for Ukraine.

Local Czechoslovak Postal Administration in Mukachiv:

This local postal administration issued in December 1944, seven postal cards surcharged with the text "CSR" on the Hungarian ones. MICHEL's catalogue of postal stationery of eastern Europe lists only two cards, but two specialized catalogues list more (Georg von Steiden's catalogue of Carpatho-Ukraine, and Wilfried Osthues' and Ctibor Sobotka's catalogue of Carpatho-Ukraine's postal stationery).

The Czech Republic (1993 to date):

This postal administration issued, in 1999, one postal card commemorating the 80th anniversary of the annexation of Carpatho-Ukraine to Czechoslovakia.

Postal Cards Of Entities Which Were Not Occupying Ukraine And Thematically Linked And Visually Discernable To Ukraine.

These postal cards featured on their stamps a locality in Ukraine, a Ukrainian motif, or had Ukrainian texts. They were issued by postal administrations that functioned in the following countries or administratively-political entities which were not occupying Ukraine.

Polish Postal Administration in Gdansk:

This postal administration issued in 1937 one postal card of this kind, a surcharge on the Polish one. It showed on its stamp L'viv, a locality in Ukraine (Figure 24).

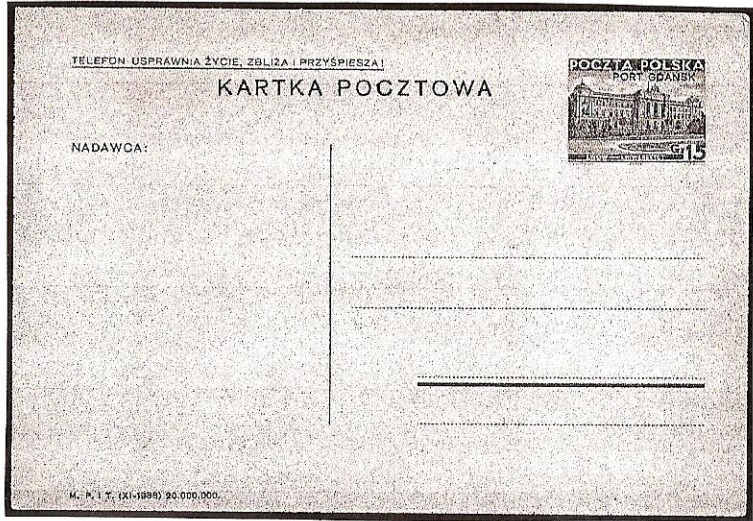


Figure 24: Polish postal card showing Ukrainian city of L'viv.

German Occupation of the Sudetenland:
These local postal administrations issued in 1938 five postal cards, which were surcharges on the Czechoslovakian cards of 1937 showing the coat of arms of Transcarpathia on their stamp. In particular, the cards were in Karlovy Vary / Karlsbad (two cards), Liberec-Vratislavice nad Nisou / Reichenberg-Maffersdorf (one card), and Rumburk / Rumburg (two cards). They were in postal use between October 1 and 19, 1938 (Figure 25).

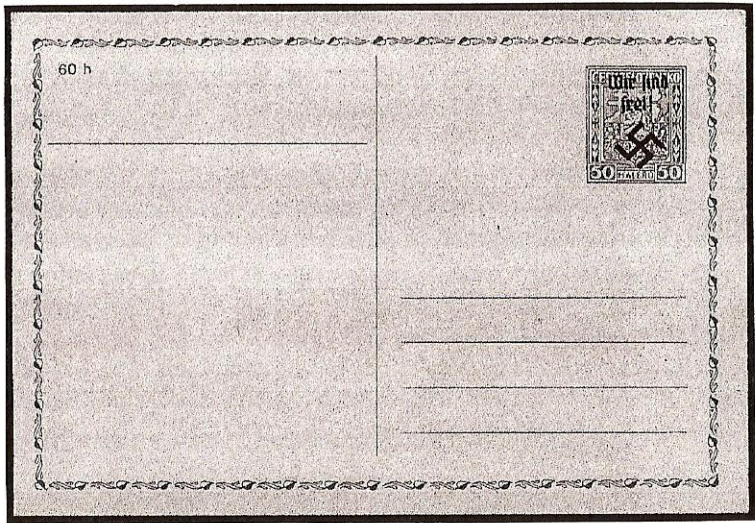


Figure 25: Czechoslovakian postal card surcharged by Germany for Ukraine.

American, British, French, and Soviet Occupations of Germany:
37 of these postal cards were issued in 1945 by postal administrations in the following occupations of Germany. The cards were surcharges or with the cut-off stamp part. They were on the 1942 German reply postal card with the Ukrainian text. The message and reply portions were separated and sold as single postal cards.

- American: Six postal cards, four of which were issued in the postal district of Wurzburg, and two in that of Karlsruhe.
- British: Ten postal cards issued in the postal districts of Hamburg and Kiel.
- French: Twelve postal cards, eight of which were issued in the postal district of Freiburg, two in Tubingen, and two in Neustadt (Figure 26).
- Soviet: Six local postal cards, two of which were issued in Schwerin, two in Dresden, and two in Chemnitz.

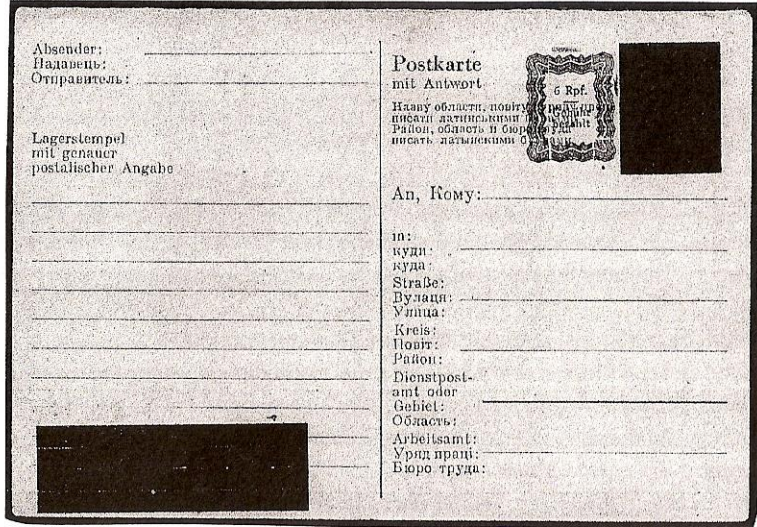


Figure 26: German postal card for Ukraine recycled by French for occupied Germany.

Soviet Occupation of Austria in Graz:
This postal administration issued in 1945 a Graz surcharge on a 1942 trilingual reply postal card of Germany which, besides its German text, had also the Ukrainian and Russian texts.

[to be continued in next issue]

DUES ARE DUE!

Please ensure you have paid your 2004/2005 dues. Mail your \$15 to Isobel Attrell, Membership Chairwoman, CPS, Box 1478, Calgary, T2P 2L6. Thanks.

New Issues.

The list of proposed 2005 issues has been released by the USPS. The postal rates in the USA are frozen until 2006, so most of these are 37-cent issues. Details are at times sketchy but here are some of the issues included on the list.

- Lunar New Year stamps: souvenir sheet of 12 stamps, one for each year
- Jim Henson and the Muppets: Miss Piggy and Kermit should be big with the kids
- Legends of Hollywood: Henry Fonda will be honoured
- Distinguished Marines
- Civil rights
- 1950 sports cars: Nash Healy, Studebaker Starliner, Chevrolet Corvette, Kaiser Darrin, Ford Thunderbird
- constellations: something for the stargazers
- Art of Disney Celebrations: something else for the kids in all of us
- Arthur Ashe: the tennis player is honoured
- American advances in aviation: 10 stamps of significant planes
- Nature of America, Northeast deciduous forest: the 8th sheet in this series
- Spring flowers: a set of 4 stamps for the gardeners

The ones that I think will be big sellers are the airplanes and classic cars. These sets might do a lot to attract non-collectors to the hobby. Kids should be enthralled with the Disney and Muppet sets. As usual, there are probably too many issues, but because I collect them used it just means more hunting to find them all.

US Specialized Study Group Notes.

This study group was formed in April 2004 and has now grown to about 40 members from seven different countries and sixteen states in the USA. Postings on the message board were a little slow over the summer but have picked up now. We tend to average about 100 to 150 postings per month, with a myriad of topics being discussed. This group can be accessed at: groups.yahoo.com/group/us_specialized

Should you have questions concerning USA philately, I would be happy to try to answer them. Feel free to e-mail me at: sbdavis@shaw.ca
Please put "US Philately" in the subject line so I know what it concerns.

Winks, Quintin (2004-08-10) **Post office yanks recycling bins for unwanted ad mail.** (BANFF CRAG AND CANYON (weekly newspaper of Banff, Alberta), page 16) Canada Post removed recycle bins from the Banff box lobby because people were mixing paper and garbage, or not using bins at all. The postmaster advised box holders that they were expected to carry home their junk mail. The subsequent result was huge drifts of junk mail on the lobby counters and floor.

The Hungarian Hyperinflation of 1945-1946 by Robert B. Morgan (US\$55 from Collectors Club of Chicago, 1029 North Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois 60610) This will be the definitive reference for many years to come of the postal history of the world's worst inflation. This hardcover volume covers the hyperinflation period in a series of chapters that are sorted by chronology and by rate type (letters, parcels, registered, etcetera). There are numerous tables and charts that summarize the 27 rate periods so that a collector can sort out his covers. Also included are identifications of forgeries.

Between May 1, 1945, when the Hungarian postal system gradually re-started after Soviet occupation, and July 31, 1946, when the stable forint replaced the pengo as the country's currency, there were 27 changes in the basic postage rates. At the beginning of this hyperinflation period a local letter under 20 grammes cost 0.50 pengo to mail. At the end, it cost 200,000 adopengo, where one adopengo on the last day of hyperinflation was equal to 2,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 pengo pre-hyperinflation. To give an idea of how fast the hyperinflation accelerated, price increases were 10% per hour, if you could find anyone who would take cash; barter was the order of the day. It was all the post office could do to keep up. They not only had to rebuild the postal system destroyed during the war, but print and overprint stamps to keep up with rate changes.

Going Postal by Terry Pratchett (\$38.95 hardcover from Indigo/Chapters or other bookstores) Pratchett is the best selling fantasy author in the world and this is the 33rd novel set in his Discworld series. It is not necessary to have read any of the previous novels; this story stands alone. A condemned criminal is given a choice between the gallows or becoming Postmaster General of a decrepit postal system obviously modelled on the British Royal Mail (Pratchett is an Englishman). Against the post office is arrayed the Grand Trunk Semaphore Company (read: Microsoft), which operates a network of clack towers (optical telegraphs). Add golems as posties, a tyrant who is actually the good guy, and a satire on pin collectors (read: philatelists). Well recommended.

PMCC Bulletin (2004 Oct) (US\$32 per year from Post Mark Collectors Club, 7014 Woodland Oaks Drive, Magnolia, Texas 77354-4898) Monthly bulletin dedicated to postmark collecting by an organization that has its own museum building with 1.3 million plus postmarks and covers. News and notes about postmark collecting, as well as services such as listings of current USA and Canada post offices.

Postal History Journal #129 (US\$35 per year from Postal History Society, 8207 Daren Court, Pikesville, Maryland 21208-2211) A professional slick-paper journal with photos throughout, dealing with worldwide postal history. This issue has articles on French mail contracts (they spent twice as much as other countries!), the postal history of the Middle East back when foreign nations were invading Arab countries (sound familiar?), the difficulties of early Cleveland to Detroit mail carrying (such as mail couriers trying to ride across quicksand), and mail between Hawaii and Samoa. Also book reviews and bibliographies of postal history articles in other journals.

Canadian Philatelist (2004 Sep/Oct) (Available from the CPS Librarian at general meetings) This colour bimonthly has articles on a wide variety of topics such as early mail from Scotland to Montréal, Good King Wencelaus, and a Canadian post office that sells beer. Also news and notes on the philatelic scene.

Topical Time (2004 Sep/Oct) (Available from the CPS Librarian at general meetings) Stamp topicals discussed in this issue include wine, drug containers, pipe organs, eagles, space shuttles, and Ice Age paintings. Also numerous book and periodical reviews and checklists.

BNAPS MEET AT CALTAPEX

by Dale Speirs

During CALTAPEX 2004, the Calgary Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) hosted a regional meeting. On the Friday evening of October 15, there was an evening reception at the Danish Canadian Club downtown on 12 Avenue SW. On Saturday a full house of BNAPSers re-assembled at the club and spent the day on their programme. The morning started off with a continental breakfast, and cover albums of items for sale were passed around.

The first speaker of the day was Bob Lane from Edmonton on RPO cancels of the CPR mainline from Lake Superior to Calgary. The original RPO postmarks were

"WEST OF WINNIPEG", but as the prairies were settled the railway cancels were named after towns, and by the end of the first decade of the 1900s the old-style postmarks were gone. Lane showed an interesting stamp with a CNR perfin cancelled by a CPR RPO. There was also the mysterious "WEST OF WINNIPEG C", about which no one today understands why that letter C was added; it was definitely not part of any A, B, C, etcetera numbering system. Perhaps the funniest part of the talk was about the infamous Wandering Apostrophes on Winnipeg postmarks. Postmarks variously had W'PEG, W'P'G, W'PG, WP'G, and WPG', then reverted back to the full town name.

Bradley Harris, visiting from Tennessee, was next up with a talk about the Bill stamps of Canada, used as revenues on financial documents in the late 1800s. His talk was not a boring recitation of perfs and plates, but rather he emphasized the fun he had in researching the story behind a document stamped with a revenue. As one example, he showed what appeared to be a common, bland promissory note which turned out to have been issued by a man mixed up in the First Riel Rebellion. He was a newspaper correspondent in Winnipeg who published a derogatory article in a Toronto newspaper about Metis women, forgetting that there were many Winnipegers who read the out-of-town newspapers and resented their women being insulted. Run out of town by angry mobs, he was later taken prisoner by Riel himself. But he survived to an older age, at which time he issued promissory notes at 12% interest to illiterate farmers. All this from checking the names signed on the note! This proves the point that the difference between a \$2 item and a \$200 item is often just the knowledge of what lies behind it.

The BNAPSers then adjourned for lunch, most of us staying at the Danish Canadian Club for a wonderful buffet. This included a chef preparing omelettes for us on the spot; we pointed out what ingredients we wanted and he cooked the omelettes over a flame, flipping them like pancakes and giving us a humorous spiel.

In the afternoon, the seminars resumed with Jon Johnson discussing Canadian hospital ships of the two World Wars. He illustrated the many rare cachets and postmarks on correspondence from these ships. Postcards can be found illustrating the ships, including one that ran aground and is still lying in the waters off Halifax. The day finished with a show-and-tell session by members on the theme of Alberta's first hundred years.

The cost of the BNAPS meeting was substantially defrayed by generous contributions from Keith Brown (Clyde Vincett Ltd), Hans Steinbock (Calgary's Stamp Shop), and Hugh Delaney, to whom many thanks. Bill Pawluk, Ed Harris, Isobel Attrell, Bradley Harris, and Jim Taylor all worked on the committee to stage the event.

Non-competitive: Juniors

Jenny Louise Hutton	Penguins and birds of prey
Jess Weatherhead	The development of trains
Leah Weatherhead	All you want to know about elephants

Non-competitive: Adults

CPS Archivist	History of the Calgary Philatelic Society
Andre Chaplain	Canada history on stamps

One Frame Challenge

Steve Davis	Canadian airmail slogan cancels	Silv-Br
Jon Johnson	Canadian military hospitals at sea	Gold
Mike McPhail	Australia: George V commemoratives	Silver
Ursac Mircea	Olympic Games: Athens 2004	Bronze
Patricia Prevey	Who gives a hoot?	Silver
Ed Shultz	Pre-Columbian North American natives	Bronze
Dale Speirs	Separated at birth	Bronze
Dale Speirs	Go to Hell!	Bronze
James Taylor	St. Pierre and Miquelon: 1947 series	Vermeil
Gary Tomasson	Royal Cypher labels 1727 to 1840	Gold

Topical Or Thematic Exhibits

Lynda Rive	The Nativity	Silver
J.E. Donald Blais	Bridges: Pathways of connection	Silv-Br
Donna Trathen	Horse breeds of the continents	Vermeil
Virgil Baintan	Fishing: From necessity to passion	Silv-Br

Revenues

Earle Covert	1897 tobacco stamps of Canada	Gold
Bradley Harris	Canada's Bill stamps	Gold

Postal History

Earle Covert	C.O.D. in Canada	Gold
Steve Davis	USA pointing hand markings	Silver
Dave Russum	Great Britain: One-Penny postage	Gold

Special Awards

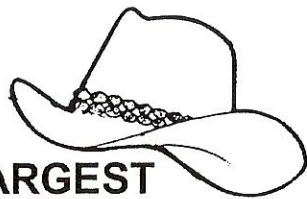
Earle Covert	1897 tobacco stamps of Canada	Grand Award
Earle Covert	1897 tobacco stamps of Canada	Best APS
Jon Johnson	Canadian military hospitals at sea	Best One Frame
Jon Johnson	Canadian military hospitals at sea	Best BNA
Patricia Prevey	Who gives a hoot?	Best Novice
Bradley Harris	Canada's Bill stamps	Monilaws Award
Donna Trathen	Horse breeds	People's Choice

BACK ISSUES OF CALGARY PHILATELIST AVAILABLE

If you are a paid-up member of the CPS, whether an existing member or a new recruit, you can fill in missing issues of the CALGARY PHILATELIST for free. Simply send a note via real mail (not eek-mail; I need your Papernet address to mail them) to Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, T2P 2E7. State what back issue numbers you need, and you'll be sent as many as are in stock. First come, first served.

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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: Canadian military covers and postcards with hospital ships (white with red crosses). Contact Jon Johnson at 253-8411 or jcjperfin@hotmail.com

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

TRADE: Asia: Japan, Singapore ... British: GB, Ascension to New Zealand, and South Africa ... Europe: Scandinavia, Germany, France, Switzerland ... to trade based on Scott catalogue. Call Joe at 277-7006

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

2004

November	17	Auction
December	1	Christmas social
	5	Sunday bourse

2005

January	5	General meeting
	5	Deadline for February bulletin
	19	Auction
February	2	General meeting
	16	Auction
March	2	General meeting
	2	Deadline for April bulletin
	16	Auction
April	6	General meeting
	20	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 BOURSE and CALTAPEX are 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.

CALGARY ASSOCIATION OF PHILATELIC EXHIBITORS meets fourth Wednesdays. For details, contact Jim Taylor at 292-8049.