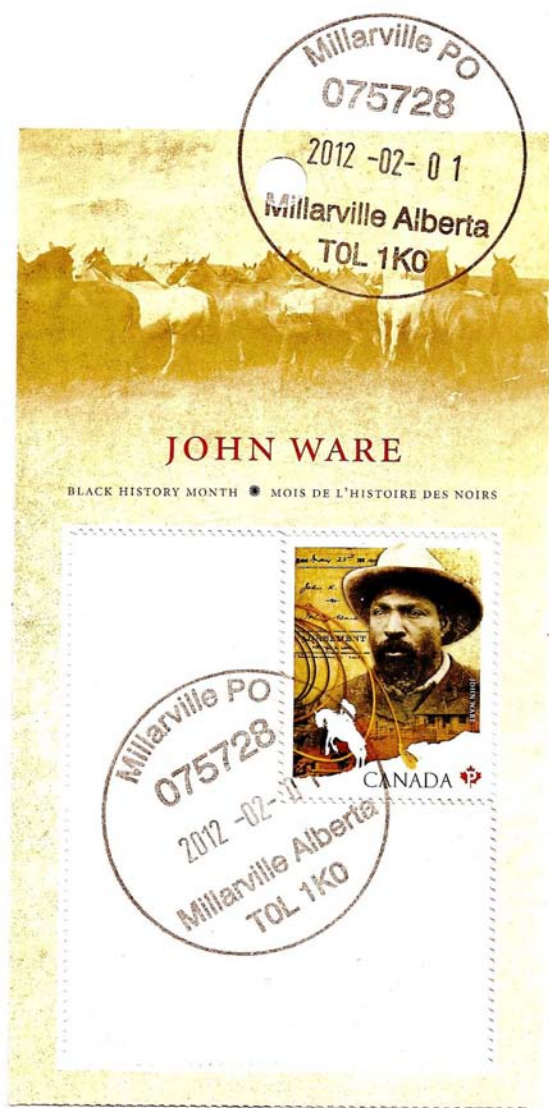


CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 113

April 2012



This is an unofficial first-day cover for the John Ware stamp, issued February 1. He was a pioneer rancher who lived just west of Millarville in the Kew area.

Although Canada Post issued the stamp as part of Black History Month, the real significance of John Ware was his part in settling the foothills, and as a well-known rodeo competitor who helped introduce the sport into Alberta.

The official FDC was postmarked Calgary because he had competed in rodeos there. (But not the Stampede, which didn't exist until 1912; Ware died in 1905.)

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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: www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com 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 15 for list of committee chairpersons

RANCH HOUSE POST OFFICES OF CALGARY: SIMONS VALLEY

by Dale Speirs

Simons Valley, north-northwest of Calgary, is today overrun by new suburbs such as Kincora, Evanston, and Sage Hill. Not only is its ranchland character being lost by typical urban sprawl that makes it look like any suburb in Mississauga or Edmonton, but the city bureaucrats changed the spelling of the main road through the area to Symons Valley Road. Figure 1 show the relationship of Simons Valley to Calgary in 1914; today the city fills the entire map.

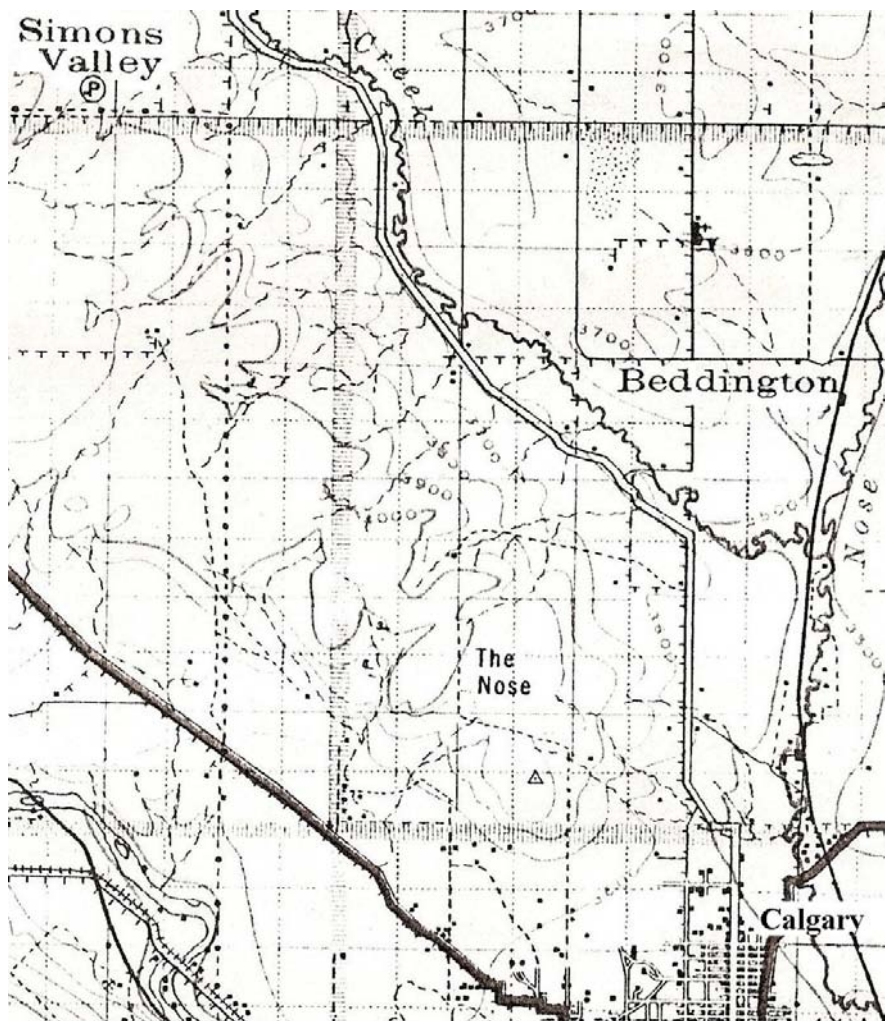


Figure 1: Calgary and area in 1914



W.E. Simons was the first postmaster when the Simons Valley post office opened on 1907-04-01. Figure 2 shows his ranch house wherein the post office was located. The Simons ranch was located along what was then called Beddington Creek but which is today mapped as West Nose Creek.

Figure 2

Figure 3 is a postcard mailed during Simons' tenure as postmaster. Note the simple address on the card. There was no mail delivery to individual ranchers in those days, and they had to come by Simons' house to pick up their mail.

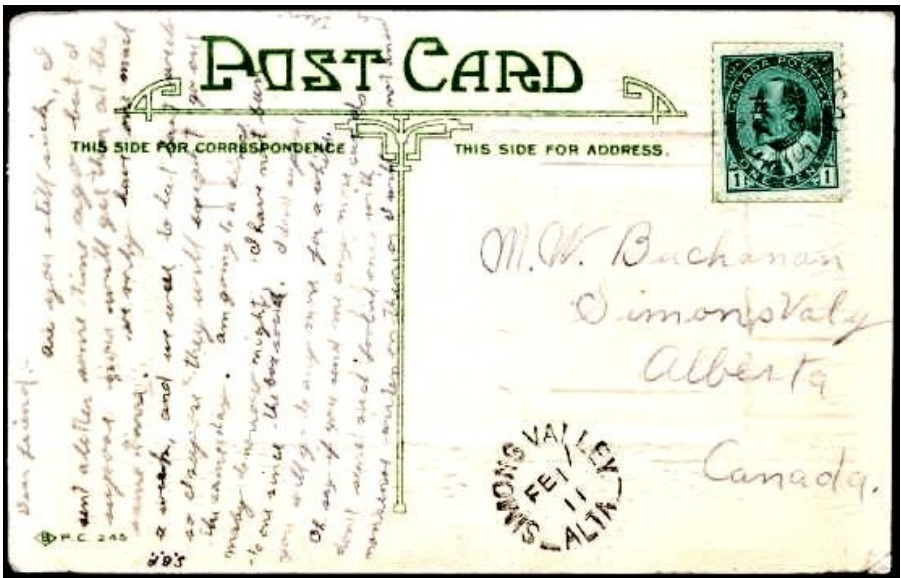


Figure 3

In the era of ranch house post offices, the average gross revenue for them was about \$50 to \$100 per year, not much even for those days of un-inflated gold-backed dollars. The postmasters also picked up extra money hauling the mail in from the nearest distributing point. However, the case of W.E. Simons is interesting.

In 1907 when the post office opened, gross revenue was \$7.00, admittedly low because it was just starting up. Frustratingly, the 1908 figure is omitted from the Postmaster-General's annual reports, but in 1909 the Simons Valley post office reported \$644.35 in gross revenue. This was incredibly high for a remote ranch house servicing perhaps thirty ranches, and was what small towns were reporting. In 1910, Simons claimed \$757.00 and in 1911 it was \$721.00. Early that year Simons resigned and the post office moved to the ranch of George Gray. The gross revenues then dropped down to more realistic levels and for the remainder of the post office's life the annual report fluctuated between \$40 and \$75 per year [1].

That year, 1911, Malcolm Miller, the first postmaster of Millarville, was prosecuted in court for the same sort of thing [2]. I haven't been able to find any court cases involving Simons, so he may not have been prosecuted. As an aside, Calgary's first postmaster William Bannerman had to skip town to California a few years after the post office opened when postal inspectors found a discrepancy of a couple thousand dollars in his books. It seems that creative accounting was a time-honoured tradition among pioneer southern Alberta postmasters.

The question arises: did Simons jump or was he pushed? How did Simons' scam work? Postmasters received their stamp supplies at a discount. In those days, many businesses accepted payment as sheets of stamps because they had so much mail, so a smart storekeeper or rancher who had a post office could see the benefit instantly. As long as they weren't too greedy, postal inspectors might let it go. I suspect what Simons was doing was not only paying his bills with discounted stamps accepted at face value, but he was re-selling them to Calgary businesses at a slightly less discount and pocketing the difference.



Figure 4

George Gray became postmaster on 1911-08-01 and stayed until 1924-10-28. He was succeeded by James Fairweather, who was the final postmaster. Simons Valley post office closed on 1926-02-27 and the area was henceforth served by Calgary Rural Route #4. As of 2012, the closest postal outlet to Simons Valley is the Shoppers Drug Mart in the buffer zone between the Kincora and Evanston suburbs. It uses the name Creekside, after the shopping plaza it is located in. The outlet is shown on the next page.



References.

- 1] Canadian Post Office (1907 to 1923) Annual report of the Postmaster General. SESSIONAL PAPERS OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA, Appendices C and D
- 2] Speirs, Dale (2006) Sharp practice in Millarville, Alberta. PHSC JOURNAL 127:42-44

BNAPEX 2012 CALTAPEX

Calgary will be hosting BNAPEX 2012 CALTAPEX on the Labour Day weekend at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Cowtown. This is a national level show and will have more than 160 frames of exhibits. The bourse and exhibits will be open to the public, and registered delegates can buy tickets to various events and private functions. Contact Jim Taylor for further information or just run a Google search to find the Web site.

CANADIAN STAMPS OF REMEMBRANCE: PART 4

by Gordon Demke

Tribute is paid to Canada's war dead, veterans and Armed Forces personnel through postage stamps. "Stamps of Remembrance" are another reminder of the sacrifice by fellow-Canadians so that we may enjoy freedom and peace. The following are Canadian stamps which I have identified as having "Remembrance" as their theme. All of the quotes are from the Canadian Postal Archives Database (historical notices) for the particular stamp or stamp series.



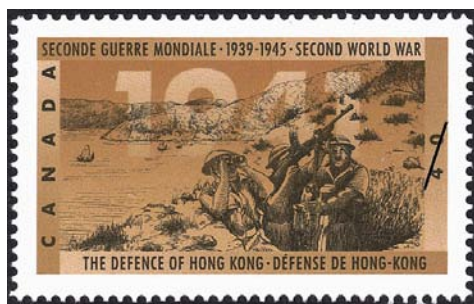
8 Nov. 1991. Women's Armed Forces (Sc 1345), War Industry (Sc 1346), Cadets and Veterans (Sc 1347) and The Defense of Hong Kong (Sc 1348), from the series The Second World War, 1941, Total War.

"In the Second World War, 4,439 women were enlisted as Nursing Sisters." More than 50,000

women also served in the services as clerks, typists, radio operators, armourers, draftsmen, mechanics and welders.

Canadian industry was mobilized to produce military armaments to support the war effort of the Allied forces. Women increasingly participated in the workforce as the men went to war. *"Many veterans of the Great War sought to re-enlist, but were ineligible for various reasons. Thus was formed the Veteran's Guard of Canada with more than 10,000 men providing vital services for home and country. In Cadet Corps across Canada young men received training that was to benefit both them and their country for the rest of their lives."*





“The Canadian army’s first real battle of the war ended in disaster at the British colony of Hong Kong.” Two battalions numbering 1,975 individuals, the Royal Rifles of Canada and Winnipeg Grenadiers were deployed to Hong Kong in November 1941 prior to completion of their training for combat. When the Japanese

Army attacked on December 8, 290 died in battle, and another 267 died in brutal and degrading captivity before the survivors returned to Canada in 1945.

[to be continued]

SPRING BOURSE 2012

The Kerby Centre gymnasium will once again host the annual Spring Bourse, albeit on a different weekend than before. Traditionally the bourse was the last weekend of April but the Kerby Centre have advised us that they will be using that weekend from now on for their Seniors Expo. Therefore the Spring Bourse will be the previous weekend, April 21 and 22.

11 Street SW is closed due to LRT construction, so drive in via 10 Street. Parking is still available across the avenue in the gravel lot but the catch is that due to the construction of the LRT station directly in front of the building you will have to walk a block east to 10 Street SW to cross over and then walk back again on the other side through a winding network of scaffolding. (But we could all use the exercise, right?)

Volunteers are need to man the tables and help out with club activities. A sign-up sheet will be circulated at the April general meeting. The more people who sign up, then the less the workload on each individual, so please help out.

The dealer list is not yet finalized as we go to press but you can expect the regulars and a few new faces. Dave Freeman is the chairman of the bourse and can be reached at 815-7085 if you need more information.

CURRENT POSTMARKS OF CALGARY: PART 23

by Dale Speirs

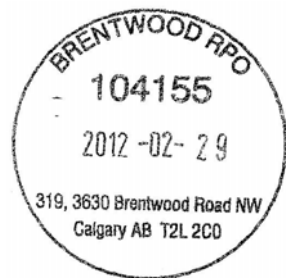
New Postmarks.

Wentworth: 85 Street SW and
9 Avenue, Shoppers Drug Mart.
New postmark which was stamped
in turquoise ink.



Saddleridge: 80 Avenue NE and Saddletowne
Circle, Shoppers Drug Mart

Downtown: 7 Avenue SW and
8 Street, Dominion Drugs



Brentwood Mall: 32 Avenue NW and Crowchild
Trail, Hallmark Cards. Change in store
ownership resulted in new outlet number;
previous number was 103769. Note the leap year
date.

Closed Post Offices.

Mackenzie: 126 Avenue SE and 50 Street. This was the South Trail post office, run directly by Canada Post, not as a retail outlet. It opened on 2010-07-05 and closed on 2011-11-10, a short-lived post office whose postmark will be scarce. I was surprised that it was ever opened in the location that it was, being in an out-of-the-way strip plaza in a half-developed neighbourhood with little business traffic. Even today the area is mostly vacant lots. I used the South Trail postmark to mail out the August 2010 issue of this bulletin, so if you kept the envelope, please write the details on the back side for the benefit of future collectors.

ROYAL* 2012* ROYALE



Friday, June 1 – Sunday, June 3, 2012

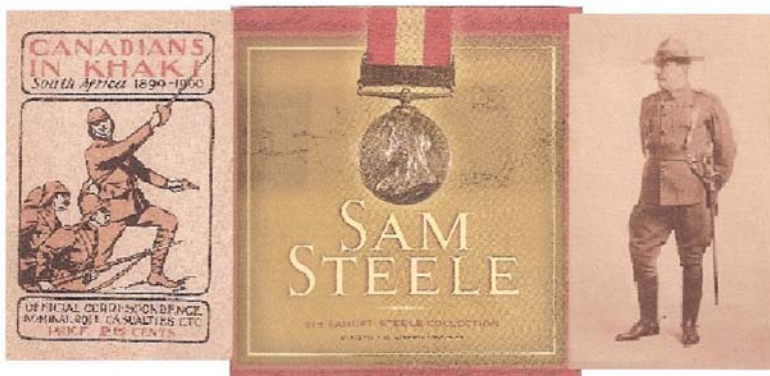
at West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton Alberta

For Further Information: www.royal2012royale.com

Registration: Nino Chiovelli nchiovel@telusplanet.net

Exhibits: Kelly Liusz Moser liuszmoser@gmail.com

Special Exhibit: Sam Steele - A Western Canadian Icon



Please visit this special display of Sam Steele correspondence and other historical artefacts, from a recent archival purchase from the family.

Sponsored by Bruce Peel Special Collection - University of Alberta Libraries.

BACK ISSUES OF CPS PUBLICATIONS HAVE BEEN SCANNED

by Dale Speirs

Over the past year I scanned 113 back issues of CPS club publications from 1961 to 1992. These have been put on a CD-R disk. I deposited a copy in the CPS Library. Members can borrow it and copy the files to their computer. Each issue is a separate pdf file, which any computer can read. CALGARY PHILATELIST began publishing in 1993 but it will be some time before it is on disk.

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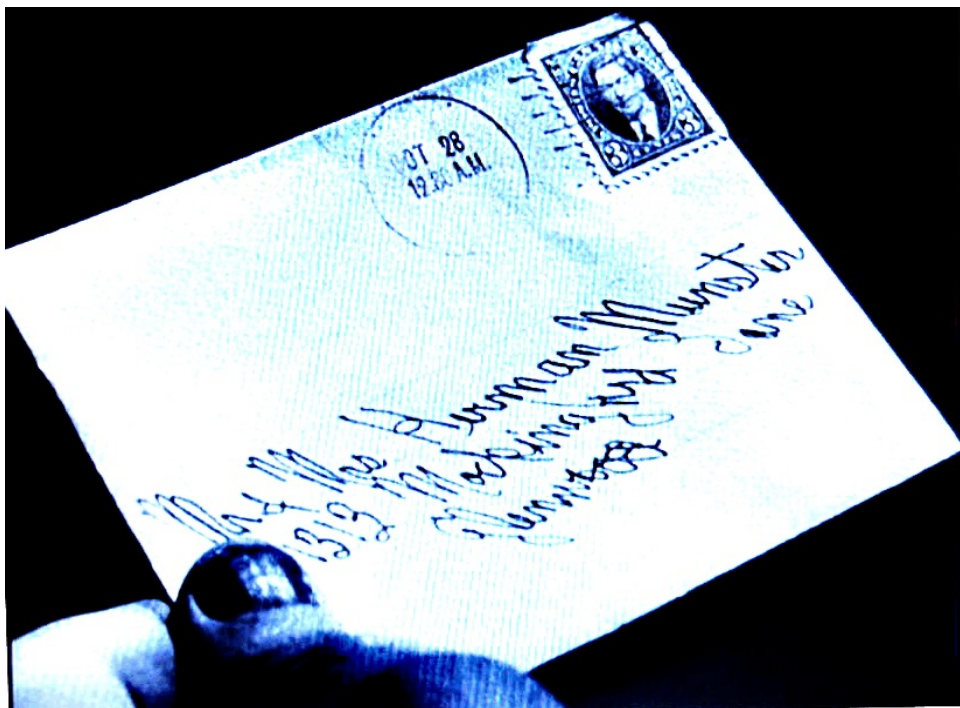
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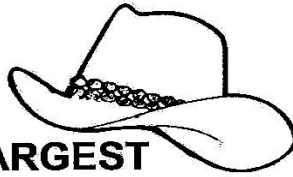
FAKE COVERS IN HOLLYWOOD: THE MUNSTERS

by Leanteri Polvikoski

Recently I was watching a DVD of the 1964 television show THE MUNSTERS. This is a comedy about Herman Munster, a Frankenstein who is trying to lead a normal life in California with his family. In the first episode of the series, "Munster Masquerade", Herman receives an invitation to a party, and the camera shows a close-up of the cover in his hand. Naturally I freeze-framed it (at the 4:00 mark) and was delighted to see that the letter, ostensibly mailed in California, used a 3-cent King George VI stamp from Canada. As the stamp had been obsolete for decades, this was doubly funny. The postmark was obviously a hand-drawn fake that had the date and time-stamp but omitted the town name and year.

The letter is addressed to Mr and Mrs Herman Munster, 1313 Mockingbird Lane, Glenwood. The camera close-up was long enough for viewers to see that the letters of the handwritten address leaned backward, a point that Herman specifically mentioned in the plot a moment later. I wonder how many viewers caught the stamp's significance as well, back in those days of no home video recorders or freeze-framing.





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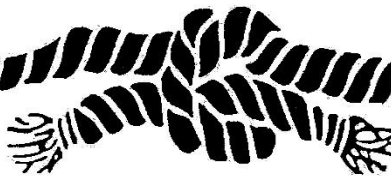
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SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

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.

FOR SALE: Canada annual yearbooks 1987-89, 1992-2000 for cost of postage. Also, about 40-60% of catalog: Great Britain sets (mostly MNH) 1948-1998, worldwide UN topicals, US Bicentennial/ Americana worldwide MNH sets; packs: Switzerland off-paper \$3-5, DDR CTO hinged \$5-10. Canada #1856, Queen Mother's 100th birthday imperforate pane of 9. Noted in Unitrade. Will consider best offer over \$1200. Add \$2 s&h or arrange to meet when I'm in Calgary. Ron Tabbert, relich@uniserve.com, (250)344-5939, Box 959, Golden, BC V0A 1H0

FOR SALE: Fund-raiser (50%) for youth club. Have quantity of Millenium keepsake (1812-1814 s/s) metal box in Police Officers wrapper: \$7.50. Add \$2 s&h or arrange to meet when I'm in Calgary. Ron Tabbert, relich@uniserve.com, (250)344-5939, Box 959, Golden, BC V0A 1H0

FOR SALE: Recent Canadian stamps and miniature sheets, all very fine postally used. Stamps and miniature sheets from around 2003. Fine used stamps are very hard to come by these days. I use the Unitrade Canada specialist catalogue of 2010 numbers. I can send scans of material for clarity and postmarks. Please contact Michael Teekens by email at: michateekens@gmail.com or in writing at #1, 83 Headingly Road, Mt. Waverley, Victoria 3149, Australia.

FOR SALE: Lightly used Lighthouse album binders with protective slipcases. \$20 for one, \$36 for two, five or more for \$15 each. Contact Peter Fleck at 590-1574 or peterfleck@telus.net

FOR SALE: Four-volume collection of Canadian stamps in Unity albums. Price negotiable. Phone Al at 282-1030 or e-mail dorandal@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: USA mint sheets from 1967 to 1995 (Scott #1331 to 2979). Asking face value plus exchange rate and GST. Contact Peter at peterhay@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: various QE2 Canada plate block sets between Scott #727 and #1070, various QV to KGV Canada VFNH singles and pairs between Scott #51 and #300. Contact Les at 278-3511.

FOR SALE: Large accumulation used off-paper, mostly pre-1990s commemoratives. Canada, USA, GB, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and kiloware. Phone Roland 243-1637 or decaenr@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: Used Australian stamps. I have tens of thousands of them. 100 different only \$2, 200 different \$4, and I will pay the postage. Contact Jim at 485-6622 or jheath01@telus.net

FOR SALE: Major collections of many countries at liquidation prices while they last. Call John at 474-1212.

FOR SALE: British colonies KGV to QEII, New Zealand and Australia, very reasonable. All mint, LH or NH. Phone Felix at 464-3252.

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

FOR SALE: Used stamps of Australia and New Zealand. Also have Canada mint both singles and plate blocks. Call Craig Allison at 281-3852.

WANTED: Any covers, wrappers, or postcards from Great Britain sent after May 31, 1951, bearing 1d postage. Excellent prices paid for good items. Contact Dave at 284-4775.

WANTED: Newfoundland VF used singles, preferably dated. Need #107, 123, 140, 142, 266. Cash or Canadian coils in trade. Phone Gordon at 249-1094.

WANTED: Used Machin stamps with selvage attached. Cash or trade. Call Georg at 547-0409.

WANTED: USA stamps, MNH, VF. Singles, sets, and sheets between 1980 and 2004. Paying face value plus exchange rate and GST. Call Bob at 257-1942 or email bob.dahl@shaw.ca

WANTED: Collector of stamps, books, and history. Special interest in submarine material. Contact Wayne at 295-3275 or kingwi@shaw.ca

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

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

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

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.

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

WANTED: Stamps and covers from China to 1949, People's Republic of China, and Taiwan. Special interest in overprints and bulk lots. Prefer postally used. Call Penny at 686-2662 or pkborrowman@yahoo.ca.

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MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

2012

March	21	Auction
April	4	General meeting
	18	Auction
	21 to 22	Spring Bourse
	22	90 th anniversary of the CPS
May	2	General meeting
	2	Deadline for June bulletin
	16	Auction
June	6	Election meeting
	20	Auction
July	27	Deadline for August bulletin
August 31 to September 2		BNAPEX 2012 CALTAPEX
September	5	Deadline for October bulletin (regardless of when September meeting is)
	TBA	General meeting (date subject to change)
	19	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.

CALGARY REGIONAL GROUP OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY meets second Wednesdays. For details about meeting places and times, contact Dave Bartlet at 829-3580.

CALGARY ASSOCIATION OF PHILATELIC EXHIBITORS meets fourth Wednesdays. For details, contact Jim Taylor at 238-3698.

BNAPEX 2012 CALTAPEX will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Centre Street and 7 Avenue SW. For details, contact Jim Taylor at 238-3698.

SPRING BOURSE is at the Kerby Centre. Details from Dave Freeman at 815-7085.