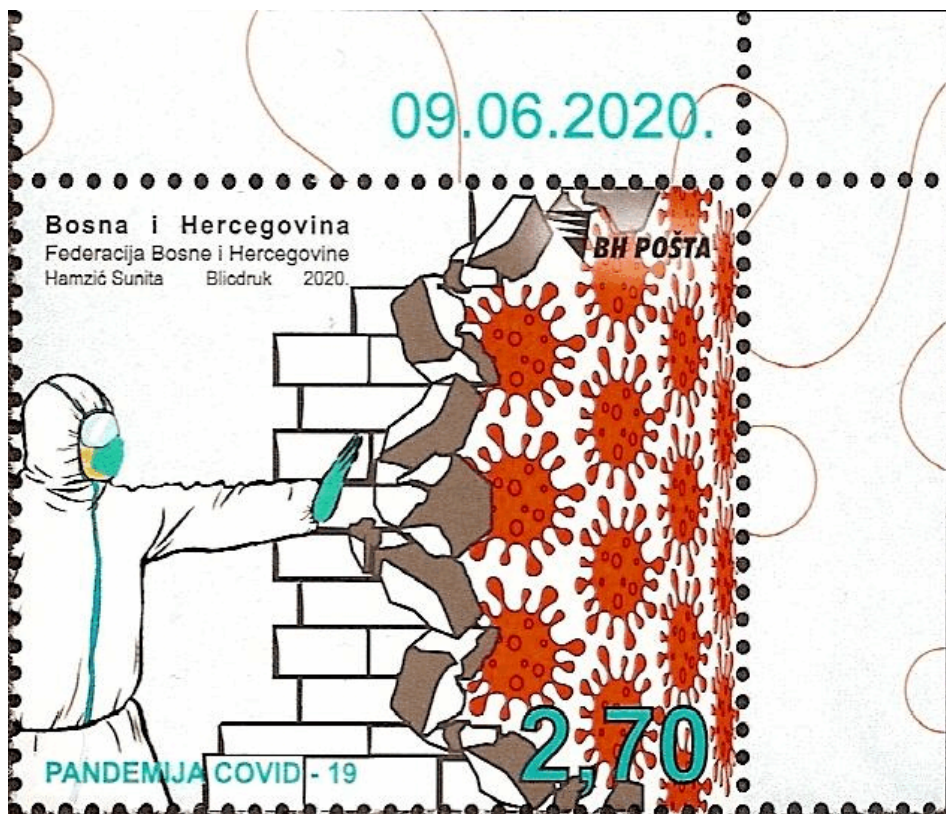


CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 177

April 2021



This Bosnian stamp is one of the better designs amongst the flood of COVID-19 stamps being issued throughout the world. See page 10 for further comments.

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The CPS mailing address is Box 1478, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2L6. The Web site is: www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com

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 hardcopy, jpeg, or pdf format only. Small ads and articles as hardcopy, plain text file, WordPerfect, or MS Word 1997 format only. Mail to Box 6830, Calgary, T2P 2E7, or hand to Dale Speirs at meetings, or email to opuntia57@yahoo.ca Please do not email other club business to this address.

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 can be downloaded as a free pdf from www.calgaryphilatelicsociety.com

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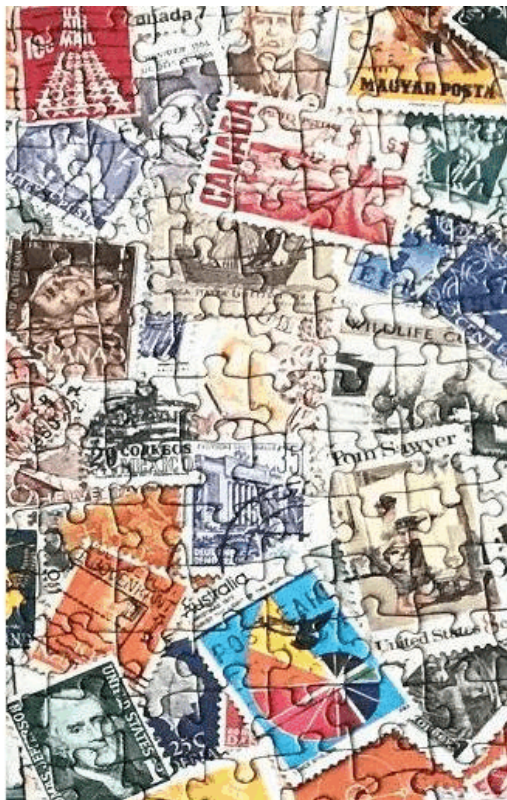
COMMITTEES - see page 15 for list of committee chairpersons.

STAMP PUZZLE

by Gordon Demke

I recently completed this 1,000-piece stamp puzzle. It is helpful to be a collector as many of the stamps are recognizable. The manufacturer is in Italy.

The puzzle is available from Amazon.ca for \$23.99 plus shipping. Search for “clementoni puzzle 1000 pieces”



1944 CALGARY STAMPEDE COVER: AN UGLY COVER COMPLIMENTS OF A GERMAN CENSOR

by Dave Freeman

Last October I was advised of a special Stampede cover that was in the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain auction and although I was not a member I was permitted to bid on the cover. After many days of anxiously waiting I was advised that I had won the cover. I had only seen the front of the cover, which had won me over, but when I actually saw the cover I realized that this was something special. The cover looks pretty rough but it has a lot of things going on with the front of the cover as well as the back.

First let's compare a Swiss cover (Figure 1) to the same cover mailed domestically to Calgary (Figure 2). Both covers are the same #8 Exhibition Board supplied cover from the 1944 Calgary Exhibition and Stampede. Both covers have the Exhibition Post Office CDS cancel and the Stampede Post Office cachet but the cover to Switzerland has the following additional components:



Fig. 1

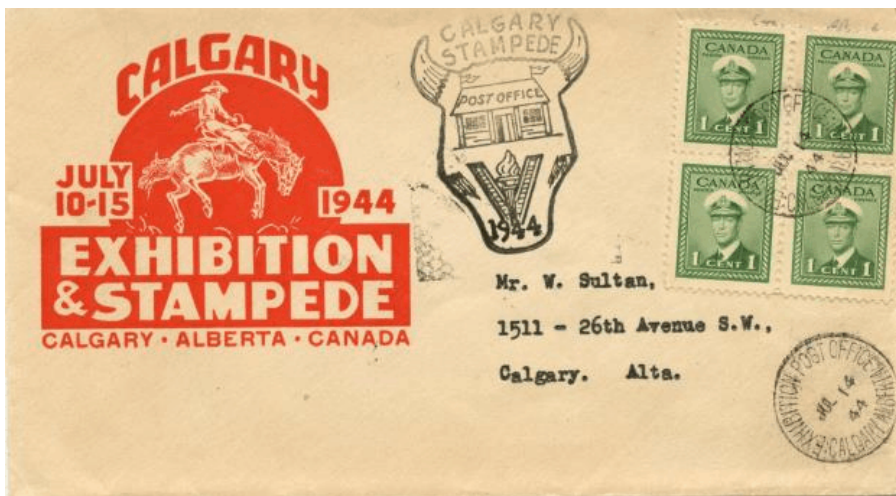


Fig 2

The most obvious is the blackout which just happens to be covering the Stampede Post Office cachet. Take a good look at the cachet on the domestic cover to see the problem. The cachet has a V for victory with the eternal flame on the nose of the bull.

There are two censor tapes where the cover was examined by the Canadian censor, on the left on the front of the cover, and on the back of the cover is the censor tape from the German censor, on the left, with the eagle and swastika. During the war mail to Switzerland was routed through Germany, thus the German censor.

The red 180 stamp on the front of the cover with the eagle and swastika is from the German censor and the DBc24 marking is from the Canadian censor. On the back of the cover the censor tapes are more prominent with markings on the German censor tape that indicate the location of this censor.

The cover to Switzerland was mailed July 13th and likely made it to the German censor within the next 10 to 14 days. That would put the cover in front of the censor approximately six weeks after the Allies landed at Normandy. The censor was probably not happy to see the patriotic symbol on the nose of the bull which very likely caused the blackout of the Stampede Post Office cachet. On the back of the Swiss cover you can see more detail on the two censor tapes (Figure 3)



Fig. 3

The following are the details on the censors and air mail routing information for this cover: The Canadian censor DBc.24 was located in Ottawa and the German censor 180 was located in Berlin (note the small b on the censor tape and also on the red eagle swastika strikes which identifies the censor location as Berlin).

Air mail routing for mail to Switzerland from Calgary during the war:

Calgary to Ottawa TCA (CDN censor) then Ottawa to MTL TCA.

MTL to NYC CDN Colonial Airways, then NYC to Lisbon Pan American

Lisbon to Berlin Lufthansa (German censor) then Berlin to Zurich Swiss Air or Lufthansa

[continued on next page]

I may not be able to say that the 1944 blackout Exhibition cover to Switzerland is unique but maybe quite rare. Not many 1944 Stampede covers have two censor tapes (CDN and German), the blackout section from the Stampede Post Office cachet covering the V for victory symbol, and the German censor cancels, that were mailed to Switzerland from July 10 to 15, 1944, and treated in this manner. Also, the cover arrived approximately five weeks after the D-Day Normandy invasion when tensions were rising in Europe.

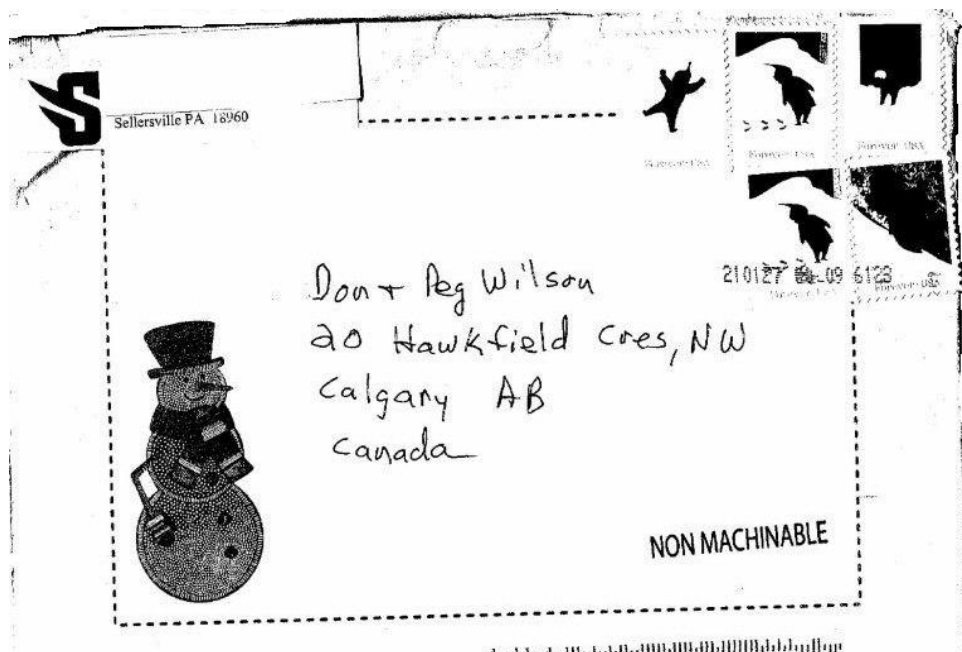
Acknowledgements: Thank you to Jon Johnson for his assistance with the information on the routing data, which was provided by the Air Mail Study Group and the censor data.

COVID-19 CHRISTMAS SNAIL MAIL

by Don Wilson

On January 17, I received a Christmas card mailed about December 19. It was an oversize Christmas card with 2 large photos and protective cardboard weighing 50 grams or about 2 ounces. It was mailed from suburban Philadelphia, Pennsylvania with five Forever stamps worth \$2.75.

The letter was marked Non Machinable and received a linear cancel on the lower part of the envelope. It was held up in the Christmas rush of mail at Philadelphia, and apparently when it reached the Toronto airport, was delayed by the large number of postal employees at the Mississauga postal plant quarantined by the pandemic. The letter also lacked a postal code. When it arrived in Calgary, there was a spray-on postmark over some of the postage stamps.



ZOOM MEETINGS

Zoom meetings can be viewed on smartphones and tablets as well as laptops. All Zoom meetings are free to paid-up CPS members. You will receive an email which contains a link to the meeting. About 15 minutes before the meeting, click on the link and Zoom will automatically connect you to the meeting. You can get help from dave.bartlet@shaw.ca

CAPE: Jim Taylor, the moderator of the Calgary Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, suffered a stroke in February during heart valve surgery and is undergoing a long convalescence. Our thoughts are with him and his family. Dave Russum stepped in to handle the February 24 meeting, which had 13 participants.

The meeting began with a confirmation that this October there will be some type of stamp show in Calgary, either a real CALTAPEX or another virtual show. Which it will be can't be known until later this year depending on how the pandemic goes. Dale Speirs then discussed the problem of breaking apart souvenir sheets when they contain different stamps for different topicals. Walter Herdzik spoke on errors in research he has seen on album pages. There followed a general discussion on exhibiting display material.

CPS: The monthly meeting was held on March 3 with 21 participants. Vice-President Wayne Dwyer was in the chair and conducted the regular business session. The President's Pot was presented to Dwayne Eadie for his behind-the-scenes work. There followed a discussion about Canada Post's announcement that it was sending every Canadian a free prepaid postal card. Don Wilson then presented a slide show on early Australian mail to Britain up to 1855.

BNAPS: The Calgary Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society held its regular monthly meeting on March 10 with 15 participant. Details about the national society are at www.bnaps.org and the Calgary chapter from Dave Bartlet at dave.bartlet@shaw.ca. The presentation was by Ray Villeneuve on the postcards and postal history of his alma mater Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario.

CIRCUIT BOOKS

by Larry Tweedale

The circuit book exchanges continue. Unfortunately, due to pandemic rules I cannot have visitors inside my house yet. However, circuit books can still be lent out. Please contact me at 403-282-9726 and let me know what your collecting interests are. We can then arrange a pickup time using my mailbox. When you are ready to return the books, we will follow the same procedure. If the vaccination rollout goes as planned, it is hoped members can visit inside my house by June, where they can choose their circuit books.

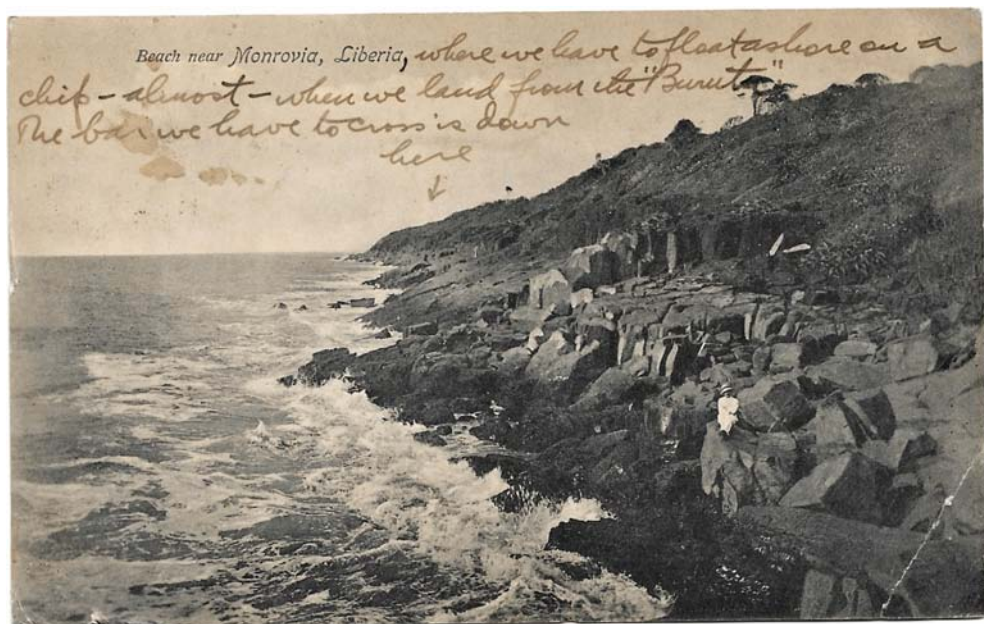
We are still in need of new books. Recent Canada is most in demand, but also Great Britain, British Commonwealth, and Germany. As always, all countries are welcomed. Recently a nice selection of France, from earliest to recent, has been added. Blank books are still only \$1 each. I look forward to hearing from you. Remember to stay safe!

A LIBERIAN POSTCARD

by Greg Sereda

Shown in this article is a picture postcard (Figure 1) sent from Monrovia, Liberia's capital city, to Dayton, Ohio. It is postmarked December 8, 1913, and franked with two 1-cent stamps of the 1909 official issue (Figure 2).

The front of the card has a message that reads: *Beach near Monrovia, Liberia, where we have to float ashore on a chip – almost – when we land from the "Burutu". The bar we have to cross is down here* [arrow on view side]



Above: Figure 1

At left: Figure 2

The card was sent from Emery Ross to his friend Dr S.S. Hough in the USA. Emery Ross (1887-1973) was a Methodist missionary who, along with his wife Myrta, became friends with Albert Schweitzer while serving as missionaries in equatorial Africa. He travelled the area extensively for years, publishing several photos and documents. His 1917 work *THE CLIMATE OF LIBERIA AND ITS EFFECT ON MAN* was the first definitive work on the climate of the area.

As interesting as the life and travels of Emery Ross may be, just as fascinating would be the full story behind the message he wrote to Hough on the back of the card (Figure 3):

December 5, 1913

Almost a year finished since you floated ashore at Freetown & left me all alone. But in spite of your base desertion my sincerest & happiest Christmas wishes are yours & hopes for a big full new year. I hope you're in the very best health & spirits possible. Our work is quite all right. Another man joined me in July & a doctor comes next month. We have friends for a hospital. My sincerest love & affection are yours.

Emery Ross

Monrovia,
Liberia, W. Africa



Figure 3

SOCIAL DISTANCING

by Dale Speirs

If ever there was an oxymoron (self-contradicting phrase), then “social distancing” was it. When the pandemic was first declared, the recommended separation was 1 metre, soon increased to 2 metres.

Numerous countries have issued postage stamps about the COVID-19 pandemic, and among philatelists it is undoubtedly the hottest topical collecting area. Enough stamps have now appeared such that sub-topics of the pandemic can be collected. Masks are by far and away the majority of stamps, but social distancing has been depicted on many of them.



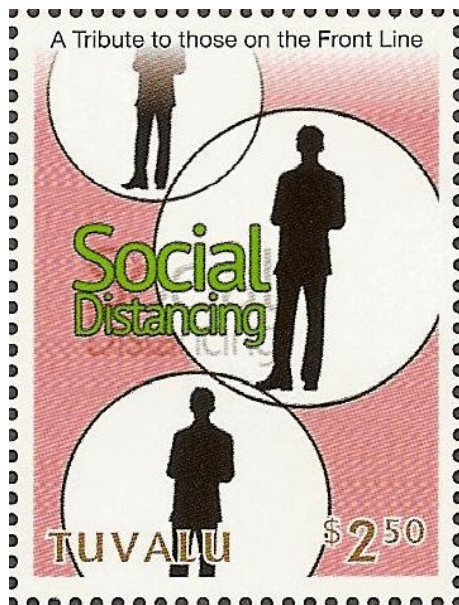
The nicest of these stamps is the French Polynesia design. The colours are beautiful.

Notice the six coconuts lined up between the women. I'm guessing they were to indicate the correct distance.

The Thailand stamp showed another method of social distancing, every other chair.

Neither this nor six coconuts measure out 2 metres but these stamps were issued in middle 2020 when guidelines were still in flux.





Insofar as exhibiting or writing definitive articles about pandemic stamps, it will probably be at least a couple of years before the flood of stamps slows to a trickle and one can catalogue them. In the meantime, if you are serious about collecting them, keep an eye out because most were not issued in large quantities. Once soaked up into collections, they will be difficult to find.

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SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

These ads are free to paid-up CPS members. Mail your ads to Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2E7, or hand them to me at meetings.

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: Contact Penny Borrowman at 403-667-1543 or email stampbuddy.pb@gmail.com Price reduced for multiple item purchase.

1) Set of CHINA PHILATELY magazines. Complete run of 1983 to 1998. 96 items, 6 issues per year. All in English, all in excellent condition. \$100 if you can pick up, postage added if they must be mailed.

2) ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE OF THE LOCAL POSTAL SURCHARGE LABELS AND RECEIPTS OF HUBEI PROVINCE, PRC \$10.

3) PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA OFFICIALLY SEALED LABELS, first supplement \$10.

4) NOTES ON THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF CHINA, 1878-97 \$7.

5) MONOGRAPHIE DES GRANDS DRAGONS DE CHANGHAI 2nd ed. Updated and expanded \$20.

WANTED: Calgary Stampede covers, letterhead and collections. Please contact Dave Freeman at 403-281-0500 or email at dfreeman@latitude.ca

WANTED: Italian or French colonies pre-independence, Western Europe pre-1940, British colonies pre-QE2, Australian States. Call Jim Senecal at 547-7681.

WANTED: Canadian perfin covers and Canadian military covers and postcards. Contact Jon Johnson at 253-8411 or jcjperfins@hotmail.com

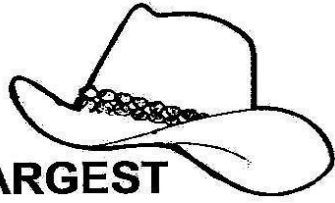
BUY, SELL, OR TRADE: Great Britain and colonies, Canada and provinces, many other countries. Let me know interest. Robin Mitchell at (250)346-3275, mitchellcb39@gmail.com, or Box 56, Brisco, British Columbia V0A 1B0.

FOR SALE: Queen Elizabeth Machins, stamps and strips of four VFNH, about \$100 face value. **WANTED TO BUY:** Early German and British Colonies stamps to George VI. Call Godfrey at 464-3252.

WANTED: Pilot-signed First Flight covers and also any signed material by Canadian notables. Contact Glenn at pgdaze@gmail.com

FOR SALE: Current Canadian stamps, very fine used. Contact Michael Teekens, 912 Olympia Crescent SE, Calgary, T2C 1G7, or michateekens@gmail.com

WANTED: We volunteer at the MCC thrift store in Calgary. They raise money for worldwide disaster relief and are looking for donations of old albums and pages, covers, and bulk stamps. Contact Greg Lang at 282-1644 or Gerry Vader at 293-0158.



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COVER SALE!



CLUB NEWS

The March issue of this bulletin was mailed from the Aspen Woods RePO (Shoppers Drug Mart) on 17 Avenue SW and 83 Street, using the snow mammals stamps.

Publications by CPS members:

Dale Speirs had a letter to the editor in the February 16 issue of CANADIAN STAMP NEWS about getting regular mail postmarked at retail postal outlets.

In the 2021 Mar/Apr CANADIAN PHILATELIST, he had an article about the 1967 Centennial flag stamp, as well as a news report about CalVirt 2021.

Jim Taylor had an article in the 2021 Mar/Apr CANADIAN PHILATELIST titled “Albert Calmette And Venomous Snake Antivenom”

STAYING IN TOUCH

With no face-to-face meetings possible, the CPS has been using this bulletin, the Website, Zoom meetings, and e-letters as substitute forms of communication. If you haven't been getting email notifications and are a paid-up member, please contact Murray Bialek to ensure that your correct email address is on file. You can reach him at mbialek@shaw.ca

If you do not have Internet access, please talk to a friend who does and would be willing to forward communications to you. Over the past year, there have been many fast-breaking news items which could only be communicated online, so a smartphone or laptop are essential to keep up with events.

COMMITTEES

Archives	Dale Speirs	opuntia57@yahoo.ca
Auctions - regular	Doug Kollar	547-3838
- silent	Mike McPhail	239-9730
Bulletin - Editor	Dale Speirs	opuntia57@yahoo.ca
Circuit books	Larry Tweedale	282-9726
Communications	Peter Fleck	pcf1@telus.net
Juniors	Jim Senecal (north side of city)	547-7681
	Pat Prevey (south side of city)	238-3435
Library	Linda Connolly	547-0014
Life Members	Janice Brookes	251-1769
Membership	Murray Bialek	241-2006
Programmes	vacant	
Show Committee	Walter Herdzik	herdzikw@shaw.ca
Webmaster	Dave Bartlet	dave.bartlet@shaw.ca

MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

All events are conditional due to the pandemic. If you are unfamiliar with Zoom software, advice can be had from Dave Bartlet at dave.bartlet@shaw.ca

2021

March	24	CAPE meeting - via Zoom
April	7	General meeting - via Zoom
	14	BNAPS Regional Group meeting - via Zoom
	21	Deadline for May bulletin
	28	CAPE meeting - via Zoom
May	5	General meeting - via Zoom
	12	BNAPS Regional Group meeting - via Zoom
	19	Deadline for June bulletin
	26	CAPE meeting - via Zoom
June	2	General meeting - via Zoom
	9	BNAPS Regional Group meeting - via Zoom
	16	Deadline for July bulletin
July	21	Deadline for August bulletin
August 18	18	Deadline for September bulletin

September and subsequent: It is hoped that by September there will be sufficient mass vaccinations that public gatherings will be allowed again . However, as this issue of the bulletin was prepared it was impossible to make any predictions. Keep an eye on the CPS Website for fast-breaking announcements (www.calgaryphilatelicociety.com).

GENERAL MEETINGS are by Zoom until further notice. Paid-up CPS members will receive emails with meeting links.

BNAPS (Calgary Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society) meets second Wednesdays via Zoom. For details, contact Dave Bartlet at dave.bartlet@shaw.ca.

JUNIOR CLUB meetings cancelled until further notice. Information from Jim Senecal at 547-7681 (north side) or Pat Prevey at 238-3435 (south side).

CAPE (Calgary Association Of Philatelic Exhibitors) meets fourth Wednesdays via Zoom. For details, contact Dave Russum at russumd@telusplanet.net