



BC Philatelic Society NEWSLETTER

VANPEX 2011 Committee Starts Work -----The B.C. Philatelic Show



VANPEX is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, Sept. 23/24, 2011 at West Burnaby United Church, 6050 Sussex Avenue, in Burnaby, BC.

Despite a scheduling conflict that resulted in having to re-schedule the show, Vanpex 2010 earned praise from exhibitors, bourse dealers, and visitors, and set the stage for an even better Vanpex 2011, on a weekend next September without any known conflicts with other shows. (See P.2)



The above feature two attractive commemorative covers designed by Derren Carman. They will be available at stamp club meetings prior to Vanpex 2011. You may like to share some sentiments about his design.

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The B.C. Philatelic Society Newsletter is printed three times a year and is free to all members of the Society.

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NEWSLETTER

(to continue from the cover page)

Editor's Note: In this philately text, continued from the cover page, Bob Ingraham, member of BC Phil Society, reminds us in detail a significant event that will be held in the late 2011. You may like to share some sentiments from his version.



Vanpex 2011 Committee Starts Work for September 23/24, 2011 ----- By Bob Ingraham

The Vanpex committee (Trevor Larden, Chair; Bob Ingraham, Exhibits Chair, and Derren Carman, Bourse Chair and Treasurer) have selected as the Vanpex 2011 theme the centenary of the founding of the Royal Canadian Postal Corps. The Postal Corps was authorized 3 May 1911. One Postal Corps unit was provided for the First Canadian Army, the two Canadian Corps and the five Canadian Divisions. In addition it provided a base post office and detachments and units for formations in both England and Canada.

The web site of the Juno Beach Centre includes this information about the Canadian Postal Corps: "Away from home, sometimes for years at a stretch, men and women of the Canadian Army rely on the Postal Corps to keep in touch with their families. Maintaining that precious link with loved ones boosts morale and helps soldiers remain confident that one day, they will make it back home. It is the Postal Corps' mission that every single letter or parcel reach its destination, whether in Canada, in Great Britain, or 'somewhere in Europe'."

Each year's Vanpex theme is intended only as a guide for exhibitors: if they collect material related in any way to the theme, they are encouraged to mount an exhibit that reflects the theme in some way. The 2011 Canadian Postal Corps theme opens the door wide for almost any Canadian military stamp or postal history exhibit. But other exhibits are encouraged as well: philately leads collectors down many diverse and interesting paths, and the exhibits committee encourages submissions from any interested collector whether they have had previous exhibiting experience or not.

Vanpex 2011 will once again feature attractive commemorative covers designed by Derren Carman. They will be available at stamp club meetings prior to Vanpex, and at the show. Here are the proposed designs:

Early in the new year, the Vanpex prospectus and exhibit application forms will be available at club meetings and on-line at the BC Phil web site, www.bcphilatelic.org. The exhibits committee is planning for at least 50 frames, and is encouraging small exhibits to allow more exhibitors to participate. especially desired are first-time exhibitors. The cost per frame will remain \$10 for single-frame exhibits, \$7.50 for multi-frame exhibits. As usual, donations will be gratefully accepted. Contact Exhibits Chair Bob Ingraham at b.ingraham@shaw.ca for more information.

Please note: Vanpex 2011 will be a regional-level show. As such, it will accept only exhibits that are delivered by hand by exhibitors or their agents and picked up after the show by authorized persons.

The Vanpex 2011 bourse is expected to be larger than it was in 2010, simply because there are no competing shows. Interested dealers should contact Derren Carman at his email, verdraco@uniserve.com.



Three Collections

-----By Trevor N. Larden

I have three 'named' collections – referring to an actual person. All three have been exhibited – with pride, and with favourable comments. The nature of these exhibits, however, precludes me from receiving anything more than perhaps a silver medal – I do not care; these collections mean a great deal to me, and they are 'visual and fun.' Am I beating the drum? Yes, I am!

Two of these collections will continue to grow; they really cannot be considered complete. So, what are these collections? In alphabetical order:

Derren Carman, David Gentleman, Fritz Graf, I thought you would never ask!



Editor's Note: The following article appeared in the Burnaby NewsLeader on October 8, 2010. It is reprinted with permission. In this article, Mario Bartel writes on Roger Packer, member of our BC Philatelic Society, and thus brings us to a very interesting issue related to stamp collecting and I hope you may read it with smiles.



Stamp Stories ----- Stamp Collecting may be taking a licking from the internet, but hobby endures

-----Photo and Story by Mario Bartel

Roger Packer isn't about to let the internet kill his beloved hobby — stamp collecting. Oh sure, email has pretty much usurped hand-written letters. And companies and organizations favour postal meters and pre-paid mailers over stamps. But, says Packer, stamps offer so much more than just facilitating the cost of moving the mail. They tell stories. "It gives a person a knowledge of politics, geography and history."



His interest in stamps was first piqued as a boy in England, when his father passed on his own extensive collection of Nazi stamps to him as a Christmas present. He set it aside for a number of years with the demands of school, establishing a career and immigrating to Canada. But with little to occupy his time as he worked the

night shift in the CBC props department in Toronto, awaiting sets to be returned after live productions, he renewed his hobby by pulling stamps from discarded envelopes.

At first, he says he collected "everything," but he quickly realized he couldn't keep that up. So he specialized, focusing his collection on stamps issued by Rhodesia during its formative years, Manchoukuo during the Henry Pu Yi years, and various Southeast Asian countries while they were occupied by the Japanese. He also has a collection of post cards from Hawaii because he just happens to like the place. Packer keeps his collection in more than 60 books, mint and used versions of stamps side-by-side, interspersed with typewritten captions, postcards, envelopes and even paper currency to give a collection historical context. When a collection is complete, he shows it off at competitions, where judges award gold, silver, and bronze medallions based on a collection's thoroughness and quality.



Helpful Hints

-----by Roger Packer, Past BC Phil President

1. We all buy too many articles of clothing and many pieces are seldom worn. A solution to this is to place everything hanging in your closet backwards on the hanger. When you wear an item, replace it hanging the opposite way. After six or eight months, donate any items that are still hanging backwards to a charity.
2. Ever bothered by wasps at a picnic? Solution: Get a brown paper bag, blow air into it so it puffs up, close the top with string, and hang it in a tree close to your picnic area. Wasps will stay away as they think it is another wasp family's territory!



Editor's Note: In this philatelic news report, the BC Philatelic Society offers its congratulations to the following exhibitors at VANPEX 2010 held in West Burnaby United Church, Burnaby, BC in October 15/16, 2010. Hope you may read it with smiles.



PALMARES ---- Medal Winners at Vanpex 2010

Grand Award & Gold Medal:

Bill Topping — Yukon Airways (Five frames). Traces the history of Yukon Airways from the design of the semi-official stamp in October, 1927, and its many flights up to the demise of the company on November 29, 1929.

Reserve Grand Award & Gold Medal:

Arlene Sullivan — From the Fire to Canada Post: The New Westminster Post Office 1898-1981 (Five frames). The story of the New Westminster Post Office and the region that it served, as told by philatelic items, ephemera, original maps and archival photographs.

Gold Medals:

Ralph Blunk --- Mail on Rails (Four frames). Railway post offices in Schleswig-Holstein (Northern Germany) covering railway lines from west to east of this province.

Derren Carman — Ta Manchoukuo 1932-1945 (Five frames). A study of the stamps of the Manchurian region during the period of the Japanese puppet state of Manchoukuo.

Bill Topping — Vancouver Post Office (Five frames). The postal history of the Vancouver Main Post Office from colonial times until the opening of the present Vancouver Post Office in 1958, using covers, photographs, and documents.

Vermeil Medals:

Bryan Dunne — Postal Forgeries (Three frames). An exhibit of world wide postal forgeries from 1855 to an example in current circulation.

Alex Hadden — Canadian Scout and Guide Cancellations (Five frames). This exhibit shows the various Boy Scout and Girl Guide Machine and Hand Cancellations used by Canada Post.

Bob Ingraham — The Battle of the Atlantic 1939-1945 (Two frames). Contemporaneous postcards, covers, stamps, and collateral items illustrate the salient episodes of the dramatic Allied effort to prevent Germany from blockading Great

Britain with its Untersee-bootwaffe U-boats and their doomed crews.

Eric Ranger — Tools of the apothecary (One frame). A philatelic exhibit showing some of the tools used by the apothecary, nowadays known as a pharmacist.

Silver Medals:

Tom Balabanov — Canadian Minor Variety Types (One frame). Many people know about the famous major stamp varieties like the Inverted Jenny or the 1958 Seaway Invert, but there are many more types of varieties, all of them collectible.

David Foreman --- The King George V Silver Jubilee Issue (Two frames). The World's First Omnibus Issue was for the 1935 Silver Jubilee of King George V.

Trevor Larden — David Gentleman: "Life is Art" (Four frames). This exhibit shows the life of Britain's most illustrious stamp designer through a chronological timeline showing illustrations, significant projects, and his complete portfolio of British Stamps.

Gideon Singer — Posts in the Levant (Two frames). A very brief look at the postal history of the Levant prior to the First World War when the various foreign post offices were used.

"Viking" — Seals of the Swedish Canadian Rest Home — 1946-1979 (Three frames). An exhibit of seals published by the Swedish-Canadian Rest Home for use as advertisements and fund raisers for the home.

Bronze Medals:

Trevor Larden — Provincial Coats of Arms and Regional Costumes of Spain (One frame). An exhibit showing the wide range of Spanish Coats of Arms and regional costumes.

Mike Strachan — Autographed Canadian FDCs (One frame). Canada Post occasionally holds stamp unveilings for new issues. The First Day Covers in this exhibit are each signed by Canada Post executives, stamp designers, and other dignitaries who attended the events.



Editor's Note: In this philatelic text, Brian, members of the BC Philatelic Society, tells us his experience in a gathering with the U.B.C. Coin and Stamp Club, and you may enjoy sharing his sentiments with smiles.



A Story of U.B.C. Coin and Stamp Club

-----By Brian Grant Duff

The U.B.C. Coin and Stamp Club, under the auspices of President Emeritus Shawn Wade, jointly held its 15th annual Christmas in the City dinner, with the Chinese Stamp and Numismatic Society of Canada, on Tuesday 28 December, at the Dynasty Seafood Restaurant, on West Broadway in Vancouver. 33 attendees enjoyed a 12 course banquet, winning raffle and door prizes, and good fellowship.



President Duff Malkin represented the B.C. Philatelic Society at the festive gathering, and was recognized by Chinese club President Chen Bo-Yang. Shawn Wade's opening remarks were someone drowned out by the noise of the crowded restaurant, but the popularity of the venue also meant that the food would be good.

Philatelic judge Norman Sung gave the closing remarks, and took the time to explain to 11 year old Sheila Grant Duff, who admired his lapel pin, that it was in fact a silver medal from stamp exhibiting, and it was never too soon to start working on her exhibits. She won enough raffle prizes to start at least one collection.

Long-time supporters of the U.B.C. Club, Professors Ken Hall and Peter Moogk, were also in attendance, as were other founding members of the U.B.C group.

Shawn Wade should be commended for keeping this annual event going, and bringing together members of the coin and stamp collecting community. The crowded tables forced everyone

to get to know their neighbours, and a good time was had by all.

For more information on the U.B.C. Coin and Stamp club, email coinstampclub@hotmail.com or visit their website at <http://ubccoinstamp.yserv.net/>.



A Story of Steveston Stamps

-----By Brian Grant Duff

2011 marks the 20th anniversary of Steveston Stamps, which changed hands in 2009 and 2010, as the original operators retired. Barry Freeman, Barbara Hill, John Maunsell, Ray Ruttan, Ray Saintonge, and Neil Worley started Steveston as a non-profit cooperative in August 1991. Their first 50 lot bidboard was Saturday September 14, 1991, at 1130am. Lot #1 was a Penny Black. The group's first Public Auction, 215 lots, was 15 June 1995. Now profitable, Steveston incorporated as a limited company.

Over the next 14 years, Steveston held 46 Public Auctions, of up to 700 lots each, and conducted 17 Express Large Lot Auctions of 121 lots. The Large Lot auctions were modeled successfully after Eaton & Sons' earlier Floor Sale Auctions, also called Express Auctions, which several members of the Steveston group remembered fondly. Gary De Jager, Russ Kidd, and Sam Vandermeulen had been Steveston partners also, but only Maunsell and Worley remained when the firm was sold to John Connolly, who conducted one auction, and then resold the name and mailing list to Brian Grant Duff, of All Nations Stamp and Coin. For Grant Duff, buying Steveston was a way to formally welcome the Steveston principals and clients back into his established retail and auction business, which, like Steveston, now had a non-downtown location.

Steveston itself took over from Barry Freeman who had had a stamp shop in the Richmond fishing village. When Grant Duff moved his store to 41st and Dunbar, not far from Eaton & Sons' former Kerrisdale location, he hoped to create a Steveston-like destination for collectors. With the help of David Allen and Ian Codling, Grant Duff has done that. He plans to roll the Steveston name into the All Nations banner and carry on his weekly Noon auctions, with some special event auctions planned from time to time. For more information on Steveston or All Nations, contact Brian at (604)684 4613 or email him at collect@direct.ca. The All Nations' website is:

<http://www.allnationsstampandcoin.com>



Editor's Note: In this article, Mulberry Sang, member of BC Phil Society, recalls an untold story showing the image of Dalai Lama around the world stamps. Hope you enjoy and share some sentiments from reading it.



The Dalai Lama in World Stamps

----- By Mulberry Sang

Dalai means ocean in Mongolian and *Lama* is the Tibetan equivalent of the Sanskrit word *Guru* and is commonly translated to mean spiritual teacher. The 14th and current Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso was born 1935 in Tibet, China.

The following set of stamps was issued in the early 1974, which has so far not yet been included in any stamp catalogue due to untold political reasons from China's mainland.



At present, the set intact is becoming rare because of its least quantity and asks for a higher price in the international auctions.

The set was to celebrate the centenary of the Universal Postal Union, and also the 40th birthday of Dalai Lama. It was jointly issued by the Indian Post and the Tibet Government-in-Exile at Dharamsala in India, and were permitted to be used for local and international mail at that time. Unfortunately, the set was censored soon after it was issued.

All stamps show His Holiness, the Dalai Lama XIV, spiritual and temporal Head of Tibet. The flag of Tibet is shown on the 6 trangka, and a map of Tibet on the 4 trangka. The 8 trangka shows the Potala Palace in Lhasa, formerly the seat of the Tibet civil service, but now converted to a museum. The 2 trangka shows the Thokchen Choling Temple, in Dharamsala.

These stamps were designed by a noted Australian philatelist Mr. Nelson Eustis, and printed by Format International Security Printing Ltd in

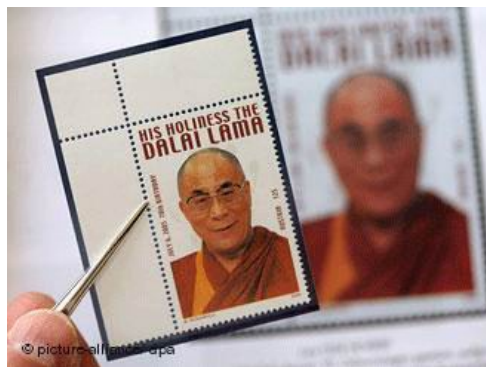
England, and were approved by His Holiness the Dalai Lama XIV.

Two more Dalai Lama stamps, one issued by the Tuva Post and one by the Guyana Post, which was once in circulation but in a very small number.



In 1994, the Tuva government officially decided to go ahead and issue their own postage stamps. A number of sets were prepared for the years of 1994 and 1995 but were never issued. The left above is just a case.

Another extremely rare Austrian postage stamp showing the face of His Holiness the Dalai Lama was auctioned in the German city of Dusseldorf. It was said to be one of only 30 of its kind:



The Austrian post office designed the stamp to mark the 70th birthday of the Tibetan leader in 2005, but the stamp did not go into large-scale production.

"There were only a few test prints made by hand, because a new color was being tested," a spokesman for the Austrian post office told German news agency DPA at that time.

The Austrian post office denied reports that political pressure from China had prevented the stamps from going into production. "Many designs are tested and not pursued," the spokesman said.

Auctioneers Felzmann maintain there are only 30 of the stamps in existence. The stamp had never before been offered at auction, they said. The starting price for this stamp in auction was put at 4,000 euros (\$6,200). ----quoted from DPA News Agency.



Editor's Note: In the following text, **Martine Mercier**, member of **BC Phil Society**, tells us about her story of becoming a novice stamp collector not long ago. Hope you enjoy and share some sentiments from reading it.



Background of A New Collector: Martine Mercier



Unlike many Background stories you've read, I did not start stamp collecting at a young age nor did I have much interest in stamp collecting until approximately 2010.

I was born and raised in Lachine, Quebec where the main summer hobby was street hockey and the winter hobby was...yup, ice hockey!

I was part of an all-female hockey team in 1978 and did not see much interest in stamps or any other hobbies at that time. Hockey and swimming lessons took all my spare time and I wanted to succeed at being either a great female hockey player or lifeguard, I didn't succeed at either.

The closest I've ever been at being interested in stamps; was as a teenager; looking at my Dad's World stamp collection which resided in a beautiful ivory leather looking album. I would turn each page with great respect as it seemed that each stamp was a fragile, ancient document that told a story. I was saddened when my dad decided to give away his collections; he took out only a few stamps, placed them in a brown envelope and in a dark drawer to be forgotten.

Many years after, I went to my parents during a "spring cleaning" visit, my dad was cleaning some drawers and was going to dismiss the brown envelope in the trash. I guess my curiosity for stamps kicked in, as I saved the brown envelope and its contents, it was now all mine! The picture at the right shows what was in the envelope.

Over the years I would take the envelope out and look at them, place them back in the brown envelope and put it back in my drawer of things I could not part with it for sentimental reasons, thinking maybe some day they could be worth millions!

Let's fast forward to the beginning of 2010, my partner Robert Casey has been a stamp collector for many years and is a member of the BC Philatelic Society. He would show me his collection of stamps from time to time. I would look at some stamps with little interest and others with great interest, there

was a story for each stamp, sometimes a great story! I finally asked him what he collected and he state, "I collect 5 things, US Military, Canadian Military, US Presidents, Canadian Prime Ministers and everything else." He then challenged me in picking a subject and start my own collection, as I'm always up to challenge, I thought about many subjects and decided to narrow it down to the subject I have a passion for — Art! Canadian and US art to be exact. I decided to go to a few meetings and then fun began, all those stamps to collect so many of them, how do you keep your focus on just Canadian and US Art with all these stamps out there? I could say what a great challenge OR what did I get myself into!!!



Our stamp club members are a good resource of information and they do help me keep everything in perspective and in focus. I found that I love collecting various souvenir sheets and first day covers. My current prize possessions are my Canadian Art souvenir sheets

and first day covers, I also love a recent acquisition of a Frank Lloyd Wright US first day cover that includes one stamp of Frank and a 25K gold replica of the same stamp.

I love going through old first day covers, doing research and love finding the stories behind them. In a nutshell, I won't get rich out of my stamp collection but I do love going through my beautiful burgundy leather looking albums, look at my personal prize possessions...for sentimental reasons!

Thank you to all members for helping me throughout 2010, thank you for your help and incentive. See you in 2011 and also see you at Vanpex 2011 for my first exhibition.



Editor's Note: In the following text, Mulberry Sang, member of BC Phil Society, tells us a story of Macau postal history and hope you may share reading it with smiles.



Macau Postal History and Her Stamps

----- By Mulberry Sang

The first stamps issued for Macau, appearing in 1884, used the common "Portuguese crown" design for nine values ranging from 5 to 300 reis. Later in 1884, an 80-reis value was produced as a surcharge on the 100-reis value; in 1885 an 80-reis value of the crown design went on sale. Also in 1885, five values were re-issued in new colors. Shortages of values continued through 1887, resulting in a variety of surcharges on both postage stamps and revenue stamps.



New stamps in 1888 depicted Luis I with an embossed profile. Luis died soon after, and in 1894 a new series of 12 values featured a portrait of Carlos I. Also in 1894 the currency was changed to avos and rupees, 78 avos to the rupee (this would change to 100 avos to the pataca in 1913). In response leftover Luis stamps were surcharged in various avos values, in both Latin and Chinese characters, along with the word "PROVISORIO".



In 1898 both the Vasco da Gama issue of commemoratives, and a new series of Carlos designs, were all denominated in avos. Shortages of particular values were a regular occurrence from 1900 through 1910, resulting in nearly 40 types of surcharges, as well as postage due stamps pressed into regular service by overprinting obliterating bars on the "PORTEADO" and "RECEBER" text of those stamps.

In the wake of the revolution of 1910, the government overprinted stocks of the Carlos stamps with "REPÚBLICA" and shipped those out to Macau. The turbulent situation required some creativity on

the part of local officials, and in 1911, they produced 2a and 5a values by overprinting the new value diagonally in upper right and lower left corners of 4a and 10a stamps, then bisecting them on the diagonal. In 1913, they also applied a Republica overprint to a variety of older stamps going back to 1898.



The Ceres series of 1913 was a fresh start for all the Portuguese territories, ultimately adding up to 29 value/color combinations (up to 5 patacas) through 1924. Even so, in 1915 additional Republica overprints were needed on the surcharges of 1902 (themselves overprinted on 1888 and 1894 issues. Between 1931 and 1933, nine lesser-used values of the Ceres stamps were surcharged.

On 1 February 1934, a new definitive series used a design with an allegorical figure representing "Portugal" and Vasco da Gama's flagship São Gabriel. They were surcharged in 1941, and eight values were reprinted in 1942. The reprints were lithographed (instead of typographed as were the 1934 printings) on a thin paper, roughly perforated. Macau participated in the Empire issue of 1938, with 17 values.

In 1948, a new definitive series consisted of 12 values with different pictorial designs depicting local scenery. Subsequent issues included many of the common design types issued for all the Portuguese territories, with some commemoratives for anniversaries in Macau. Macau's 1976 acquisition of "special territory" status gave it more autonomy in its handling of the post, and starting in 1981 it issued a variety of more-appealing designs relating to local geography and culture, generally in sets of 4-6 related designs.

The main effect of the 1999 transition to Special Administrative Region status was to change the inscription on the stamps, from "MACAU" along with "REPÚBLICA PORTUGUESA" in smaller print somewhere on the stamp, to "MACAU, CHINA".



BC Philatelic Society Program Schedule Jan 2011 -- May 2011

Meetings of the British Columbia Philatelic Society

January 2011 — Happy New Year!

- **Monday, January 3**, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. Be sure to tell us what Santa brought you, unless it was a piece of coal!
- **Wednesday, January 12**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **New Year Cabinet Clean-up**: Our storage cabinets are a bit of a mess with odds and sods of this, that, and the other. There are unsold auction donations, boxes and bags of stamps which have been picked over many times, miscellaneous "collectibles". We'll end the evening with an auction of unwanted items that will go into the garbage if no one wants them.
- **Wednesday, January 19**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Monthly Auction**: Members and guests are invited to bring up to six lots for auction as well as an unlimited number of donation lots, the proceeds of which go into the Society's general operating fund. Sellers must pay a fee of 10% of the hammer price for each lot sold.
- **Wednesday, January 26**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.
- **Monday, January 31**, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

February

- **Wednesday February 9**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Letters X, Y, & Z Letter of the Alphabet Night**: The letters X, Y, & Z might flummox people who don't collect stamps, but we do collect stamps, so be prepared to show and tell about your X-rayed mail, your Yacht keytypes, your Zululand stamps,. Any philatelic collectible (or collateral item) that somehow represents these letters is fare game. Can anyone bring items representing all three letters?
- **Wednesday, February 16**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Monthly Auction**: Members and guests are invited to bring up to six lots for auction as well as an unlimited number of donation lots, the proceeds of which go into the Society's general operating fund. Sellers must pay a fee of 10% of the hammer price for each lot sold.
- **Wednesday, February 23**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.
- **Monday, February 28**, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

March

- **Wednesday, March 9**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **AGM**
- **Wednesday, March 16**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Monthly Auction**: Members and guests are invited to bring up to six lots for auction as well as an unlimited number of donation lots, the proceeds of which go into the Society's general operating fund. Sellers must pay a fee of 10% of the hammer price of each lot sold.
- **Wednesday, March 23**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Speaker Night**: Prof. Peter Moogk will present a talk about the delivery of mail between France and its colonies in Canada, before there was an official postal service. Letter writers relied on friendly intermediaries sailing across the Atlantic to deliver their letters and sought God's protection for their missives in curious ways. Prof. Moogk's principal sources of information are intercepted letters, in the High Court of Admiralty 30 Series, at the Public Record Office, London, England. These were letters taken off French merchant vessels captured by British warships and privateers in the 1700s.
- **Wednesday, March 30**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.



BC Philatelic Society Program Schedule Jan 2011 -- May 2011

BC PHIL SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS January 2011 – May 2011

April

- **Monday, April 4**, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.
- **Wednesday, April 13**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Speaker Night**: Vancouver Artist Keith Martin, who designed Canada Post's beneficial-insects series of definitive stamps (issued in 2007 and 2009) as well as its 2009 International Year of Astronomy stamps, will present a slide presentation about his work.
- **Wednesday, April 20**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Monthly Auction**: Members and guests are invited to bring up to six lots for auction as well as an unlimited number of donation lots, the proceeds of which go into the Society's general operating fund. Sellers must pay a fee of 10% of the hammer price of each lot sold.
- **Wednesday, April 27**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

May

- **Monday, May 2**, 10:30 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.



Obituary BCPS Past President & Honorary Life member Bill Robinson (Feb. 19, 1926 — Dec. 4, 2010)

The BC Philatelic Society has lost one of its best-known members. Bill Robinson, a Past President and Honorary Life Member, died December 4, 2010 at age 84. Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba on February 19, 1926, Bill was the son of William Andrew Robinson and Edith Robinson Northrup. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Megan, his daughters Gwyneth Sestito (Vincenzo) of Toronto, and Heather Robinson of Ladner, and five grandchildren.

Bill grew up in Vancouver and was graduated from UBC in 1947 with Honours in Civil Engineering. He worked for Parks Canada and the Department of Indian Affairs in BC, Alberta, and Ottawa, and as a consultant in Vancouver until he retired in 1978. He also spent 30 years in the Militia and attained the rank of Colonel.

Bill began his philatelic life at age nine, and became a noted military postal historian. He served as president of the BC Phil from 1981 to 1986, and was chief judge for Vanpex 2004.

Bill also served as president of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, the British North America Philatelic Society, the Postal History Society of Canada, and the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs. He wrote extensively on Western Canadian postal history and exhibited widely both nationally and internationally. In 1975, he became a nationally accredited judge in postal history, and served as chief judge of numerous national-level exhibitions. He was Canadian Commissioner to numerous international exhibitions, was a Fellow of the both the RPSC and Royal Philatelic Society, London, a member of the BNAPS Order of the Beaver.

