

WEST COAST *Express*

British North American Philatelic Society - Pacific Northwest Regional Group

Philately • Fellowship • Fun

April 2021

Number 41

HAPPY Easter

As part of the first set in a three-year stamp series showcasing Canada's famous roadside attractions. Issued in July 2009 as one of a set of 4, Vegreville, AB, where a massive Easter egg—the largest in the world is on at the entrance to Elk Island National Park. Its name, Pysanka, is Ukrainian for “Easter egg,” and it symbolizes Vegreville's vibrant folk culture.



In keeping with Canada Posts revenue maximization model, this set was issued as a booklet of 8, souvenir sheet of 4, and the official first day cover.



A Letter from the Chair

Happy Easter 2021, members of BNAPS Pacific Northwest Regional Group.

The front page illustrates Canada's largest Easter Egg as part of the roadside attractions series issued by Canada Post.

I thought this was a fitting stamp for the occasion as not only are we celebrating Easter but with the increasing distribution of COVID-19 vaccinations, we too can start thinking of road trips!

Why not put a trip to Vegreville, AB on your destination list. Prince George, Watson Lake and Hay River were also part of the initial release in 2009.

Remember it's the trip not the destination.

We see that most of the stamp shows are still cancelled for most of the year. Organizers are faced with difficult decisions of laying out substantial money now in hopes that the pandemic situation will be resolved by September and "normal" will return. It's a big gamble and not an affordable risk that they organizers can take. As much as we would like to see "in person" events, we fully understand their dilemma.

See you all in 2022

Not to get all mushy—but I personally do miss seeing and meeting with you in person!

I've set aside the entire year to attend our events.

That doesn't mean the end of Zoom. The Zoom tool has proven to be remarkable tool. It has opened opportunities for all of us to attend meetings that otherwise were out of reach due to geography.

If you look at the Zoom meetings I have published later in the newsletter, these meetings represent the opportunities over the next 60 days. I think we have embarked on a milestone opportunity in embracing this technology. This is not a passing fad. If you are waiting for things to return to normal—don't wait any longer. Download Zoom for free and get involved. The biggest tip I can offer is for each attendee to "mute" their speakers so we don't have to listen to your family yelling at each other in the background.



THANK YOU

Its been a few months since our last newsletter. Over that time period we have had several presentations from members on a wide variety of subjects. Thanks to *Ed Kroft, Darin Cherniwchan, Gray Scrimgeour, Ken Pugh, Brian Copeland and Morris Beatie.*

Thank you from all the members of BNAPS PNWRG for sharing you time and expertise.



BNAPS PNWRG Past Chair

Bill Bailey 86-87

Ken Ellison 88-89

John White 90-91

John Keenlyside 92-97

Gray Scrimgeour 1998-2001

Barry Brown 2002-03,05

Jon Johnson 2004

Jim Davidson 2005-6

Pete Jacobi 2007-8

Gary Dickenson 2009

Peter Fralick 2010-2017



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Westcoast Express is the official publication of the BNAPS Pacific Northwest Regional Group

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The British North America Philatelic Society Ltd. - BNAPS - is an international organization (founded 1943) devoted to the collecting and study of the stamps, markings, and postal history of Canada and the pre-confederation colonies of British North America (British Columbia, Canada, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island).
<http://www.bnaps.org/>

The objective of the BNAPS Regional Group is to promote philatelic study, sharing of knowledge and friendship with members and associates in a fun atmosphere.

Chair - Mark Oakley

Secretary - Carol Oakley

Treasurer - Bill Verbruggen

Annual Meeting Coordinators - Gary and Wanda Fisher

NWFSC Representative - Mark Oakley

Newsletter Editor - Mark Oakley (Acting)

BNAPS VP Regional Groups Dave Bartlet

BNAPS - Pacific Northwest Regional Group

7388 L & A Road

Vernon, BC V1B 3S6

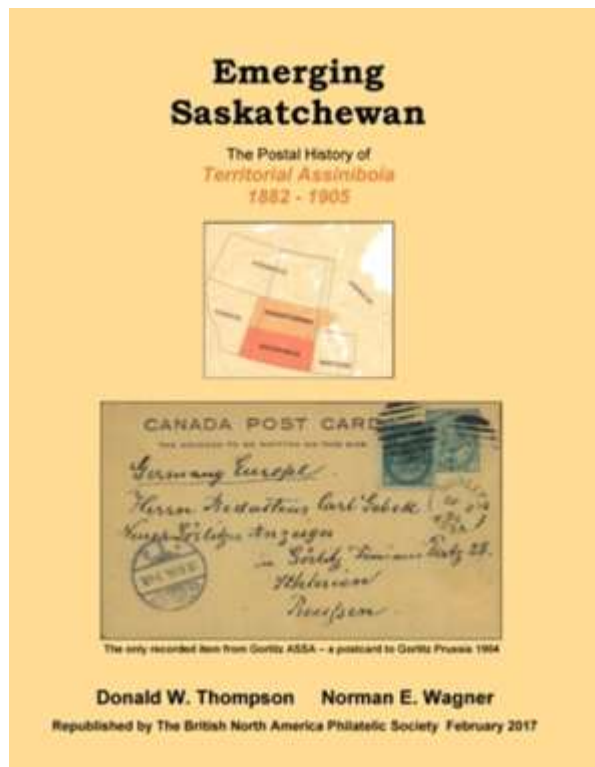
p. 250 878 2700

<http://www.bnaps.org/regional.php>

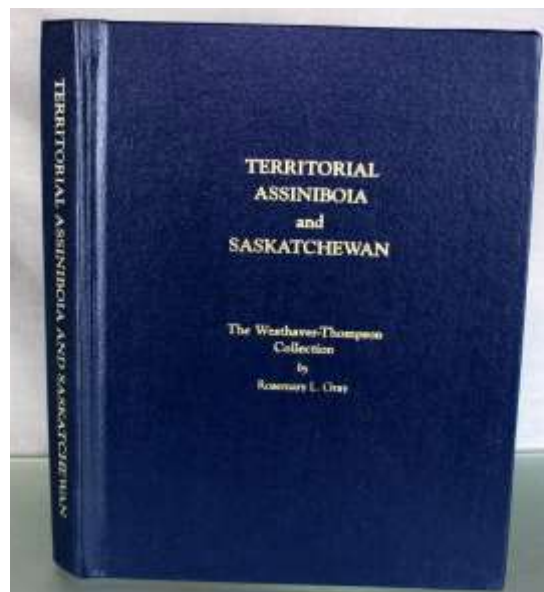
<https://www.facebook.com/>

WANT LIST

Searching for a used copy of these two publications in furtherance of my Oakley, Assa research. If any member has a used copy they would like to part with, I would be pleased to purchase. In the alternative, if you were able to look up a citation and copy it—that would also be most appreciated. BNAPS-PNW@shaw.ca



BNAPS Publication 2017– Emerging Saskatchewan



WESTERN CANADA POSTAL HISTORY - Territorial Assiniboia and Saskatchewan - The Westhaver-Thompson Collection, by Rosemary L. Gray, published in 1990, navy blue hardcover edition, 422 pages

One of the highlights of All Nations' milestone 1300th Auction on 27 February is a December 1941 C Force cover and card Detained in Hong Kong by Japanese. The cover was mailed by Winnipeg Grenadiers' paymaster Captain Edward Terry to Toronto but not delivered until after the war. An original find and ideal for research. PR \$1100

For more information on All Nations' weekly auctions, please contact Brian Grant Duff <https://www.allnationsstampandcoin.com>

(604)684 4613 collect@direct.ca



VANCOUVER DEAD LETTER OFFICE—Mark Oakley

This post card was purchased off eBay in furtherance of my interest in Northern BC and specifically Prince Rupert and surrounds. I purchased it because of the wonderful picture of the GTP SS Prince Rupert entering Vancouver Harbour. No Lions Gate Bridge and just a few cottages on the North Shore—a moment of a bygone era. The real story however was on the flip side and my first foray into dead letter office mail.



Two one cent Admirals, one private perfin "GTP" - Grand Truck Pacific.

Reverse enlarged image with contrasting of the image to show the various markings.

Note the oval stamp which is the raised image from the front.

I showed this piece at a VIPS Zoom meeting as I was confused not only by the various overlaid cancels markings but the workings of the DLO. Gray Scrimgeour suggested a potential series of events but directed me to BNAPS Member Dr. Brian Plain who has some expertise in the area. Brain is the BNAPS Chair for the Dead Letter Office Study Group and author of *"The Dead Letter Office in Canada 1830-2002: An Illustrated Postal History, Second Edition"* which is available at the BNAPS Publications operated by Longley Auction <https://longleyauctions.com/product>



VANCOUVER DEAD LETTER OFFICE—Continued



"Vancouver BC

January 8 1917

My Dear Mother

Arrived in Vancouver safely. Have had a nice trip so far.

Trust you are all well and happy

David"



An International DLO originating in Vancouver for delivery in the USA. The "Returned for Postage" for the correct international rate. Appears to have been sent to its destination and the additional 1 cent US postage collected.

Brian explained as follows:

- Mailed at Vancouver January 8, 1917. Addressed to Victoria
- Vancouver postal clerk notices failure to pay WAR TAX and appends the appropriate handstamp which is a 'gateway' marking to tell the Dead Letter Office in Vancouver
- The single rim Vancouver DLO oval*, dated January 9, 1917 which underlies the second stamp, signifies that the DLO had completed its review and was sending the item onward to the DLO in Victoria.
- The large double rim Vancouver oval, also dated January 9 is the date on which the item was forwarded in a DLO pouch for mail to be processed at the Dead Letter Office in Victoria
- The DLO in Victoria received the item, likely later that same day via the evening ferry
- Here, the story becomes a bit uncertain. On the January 10, a 1 cent Admiral stamp was added to pay the required postage to allow the card to be delivered and it was canceled with the rectangular Victoria DLO handstamp**
- The card was then sent out into the regular mail stream for delivery after being canceled with the Victoria International machine January 11.

Usually, a printed notice would have been sent to the addressee indicating that in order to get his mail, we would have to attach the additional postage and return it with the form. That clearly didn't happen in this case as the turn-around time is too short. I believe the postal clerk may have added the stamp as a courtesy and the postman would pick-up the penny on delivery.

* VAN-2a-c1: Used 1917-1918

**VIC 4a-a1: Used 1917-1919

THANK YOU, Brian for your assistance.



My Favourite Postcard – Hope Station, BC

Jon Johnson OTB

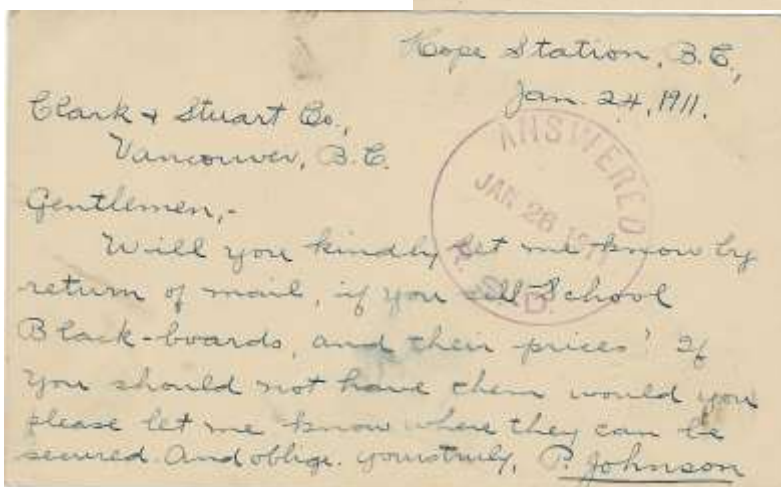
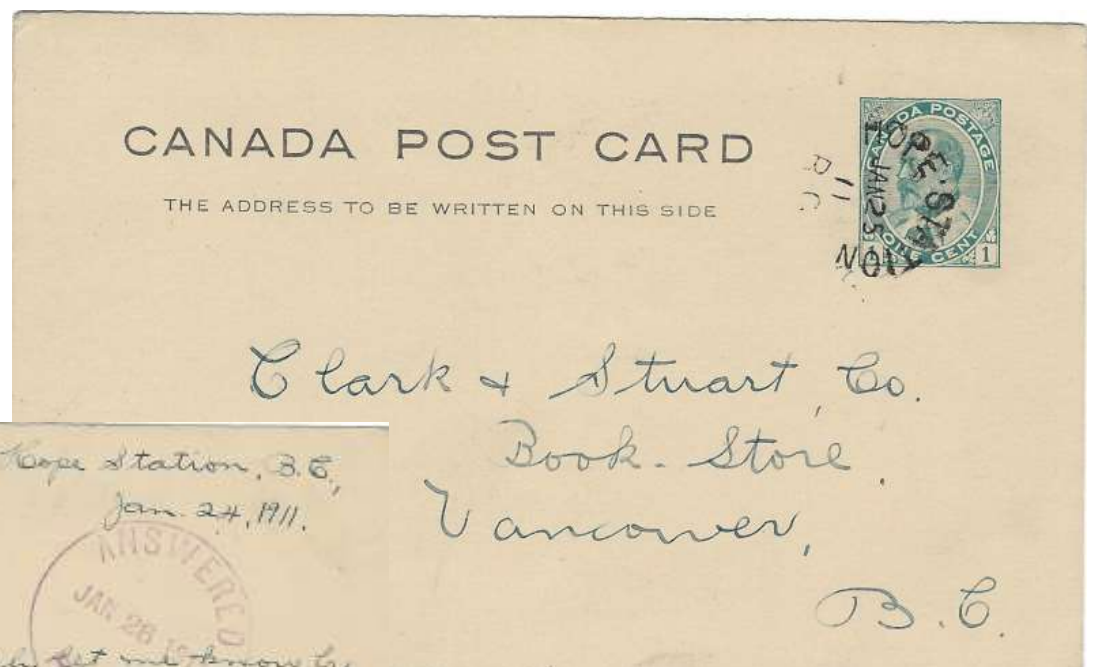
My paternal great-grandfather Peter Johnson homesteaded at Hope Station, BC, (on the Canadian Pacific Railway mainline, across the Fraser River from Hope, BC) in 1891. He wrote this postcard 25 Jan 1911 to Clarke & Stuart Co, stationers and printers, Vancouver, BC.

Gentlemen, will you kindly let me know by return of mail, if you sell School Black-boards, and their prices! If you should not have them would you please let me know where they can be secured. And oblige. Yours truly. P. Johnson.

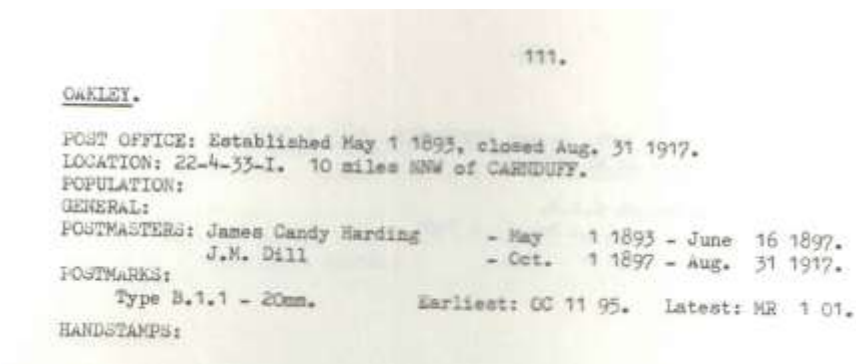
(At this time my maternal grandmother, Lily Carnegie, was a sales clerk at Clarke & Stuart Co.)

The Hope Station single room log cabin school opened in 1898 with five homemade desks, two students seated at each desk. The single teacher covered Grade 1 to Grade 8 at which point the students' education was complete. Interestingly, in 1909 the school trustees hired a teacher who upon arriving at Hope Station viewed the small community and caught the next train going west. The Dept. Of Education was unable to find a replacement teacher so great-aunt Christine Johnson, age 18 and Grade 8 education, was appointed teacher by the school trustees. With the assistance of a former Hope Station teacher and the teacher at Hope at the end of the year Christine received a very good report from the Inspector of Schools. She credited the good discipline to all students being her siblings, nieces and nephews or neighbour's children.

Note: postcard found by Firmin Wyndels.



OAKLEY, ASSA - Mark Oakley



Our young family moved to the Okanagan in April 2000 settling in Winfield, a small town just North of Kelowna. One of the great aspects of our move from the Lower Mainland was our proximity to Kelowna and Robert Lee's Auctions. That Summer I attended my first live Lee Auction, having previously been a mail bidder. As Bob moved through the catalogue to the postal history section I lost interest. Until that time I had been a stamp collector with no interest in old envelopes. As I daydreamed, Bob called my name. As I listened he was auctioning a registered cover with an Oakley ASSA cancel. At that time I didn't know of Assiniboia nor a town in Canada named Oakley.

I was intrigued and started to bid. The bids increased as there was another in the crowd that was also keen on this lot. Somewhere around \$120.00, I dropped out as I had no idea of the value of this postmark or postal history generally. After the auction concluded Bob took me aside and said "I knew you weren't going to win that lot the first time you raised your hand" He asked me "do you know who you were



bidding against—Dr Thompson—he wrote the book on Assiniboia Postal History". So I ambled over to Dr. Thompson and introduced myself and explained my interest in the Oakley envelope. We chatted and he offered to sell me another Oakley cancel if I would write him later in the Summer.

Dr. Thompson's reply is shown overleaf and the postcard he sent me is still in my collection. And as they say "the rest is history" and my interest in postal history began.

OAKLEY, ASSA - continued

Mark Oakley
15924 Carro Landing Rd.
Winfield, BC
V4V-1C4

3114 Leduc Cres S.W.
CALGARY, AB. T3E-5W9
Oct 31, 00

Thank you for your letter. Enclosed is my duplicate cover showing the OAKLEY, ASSA. post. dated JUL 1/07 - also with the neighboring Canaduff ASSA post. Though the sender of the card was using OAKLEY, SASK as the address, the post office was still using the ASSA cancel, as many towns did after the ^{8th} 1905 transfer of ASSA into the new province of Saskatchewan. The Brandon street scene of that period is very fine also.

I am enclosing a photo copy of the first page of a recent exhibit from my Assiniboia collection that I started in 1960.

It was a pleasure to meet you and I wish you all the best in your collecting endeavors.

Sincerely,
Don Thompson.



Oakley, Saskatchewan

July 2005



OAKLEY S. D. No. 218

JUNE 17, 1892 - DECEMBER 1959.

LOCATED NW 24 - 4 - 33 W 1ST

LOCATION HOMESTEDED IN 1882 BY JOHN KING.

FIRST BOARD MEMBERS: JAMES M. DILL, WILLIAM KING AND ALFRED H. FARR.

OTHER DISTRICT RESIDENTS: MESSRS. JOHN KING, JOHN FARR, HOPKINS, FAIRBAIRN, FRAMTON, HARDING AND BODDY. SOME OF THEIR DESCENDENTS STILL INHABIT THE AREA.

BUILDING MOVED TO ALIDA IN 1965 TO BE USED AS A FIRE HALL.

In 2005 we took the kids on a cross Canada road trip and after some searching located the townsite of Oakley evidenced by a cairn on the road side with the inscription noted above.

ZOOM ZOOM

BNAPS R.P.O. Study Group

Apr 10 (Sat) 2:00pm (Eastern Time) 11:00AM PST

[https://zoom.us/j/99847224205?](https://zoom.us/j/99847224205?pwd=UWhtLzRzZDNQSmF2ZDh2UUUVkRWpQUT09)

[pwd=UWhtLzRzZDNQSmF2ZDh2UUUVkRWpQUT09](https://zoom.us/j/99847224205?pwd=UWhtLzRzZDNQSmF2ZDh2UUUVkRWpQUT09)

Brian Copeland - The Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway; 1886 - 1952.

RPSC Stamp Talks Zoom webinar.

When: Apr 12, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: BNA Cross Border Mail during the US Civil War

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_M6XtZh0ZQ4Ko0BSbYbeITA

BNAPS Calgary Regional Group

14 Apr 2021

Details updated: 20 Mar 2021

Calgary ([group details](#))

Time : 7PM MDT

Presentation by: Jon Johnson and Gary Tomasson

Topic: Perfins and The Holes Matter

VIPS (Vancouver Island Philatelic Society) Monthly meeting

April 16

RPSC Stamp Talks Monday April 19 – Thematic collecting

7pm Eastern Time, 4 pm PST

Moderator - Chris Hargreaves

Panelists - Jean Wang,

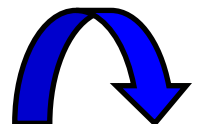
Derwin Mak, Rob Lunn

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BPB5lxPxTy2aJPQR6G5b0w



CONTINUED



ZOOM ZOOM (Continued)

BC Philatelic Society Monthly Meeting

April 21 7:30 PM PST

Topic: 'Banknote themes on stamps' and stamp auction

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8231666056?pwd=T01uZm1USnlyQzE5RHNYM29UT003Zz09>

Meeting ID: 823 166 6056

BNAPS Study Group Digital Philately

April 24, (Sat) 3:00pm (Eastern Time)

<https://zoom.us/j/98630082160?pwd=K1pXOGJhUC9iQS9BZ0l0ZWcvSlJFUT09>

BNAPS Pacific Northwest Regional Group Meeting

April 27 7 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99614229435>

Meeting ID: 996 1422 9435

BNAPS RPO Study Group

May 2 (Sun) 3:00pm (Eastern Time) 12 noon PST

<https://zoom.us/j/93929232083?pwd=QUJJY0pSOVlCeXozcHhJNXRDS2w5Zz09>

Morris Beattie - The Crowsnest Route of Southern BC.

RPSC May 10 – Gerard McCulloch (Punk Philatelist) “Online Philately”

Monday May 17 – The back of the book. What does it comprise? Should I collect it? Is it affordable? Chris Hargreaves(p), Ingo Nessel(p), John Wilson(p)

BNAPS Pacific Northwest Regional Group Meeting

May 25 7:00 PM PST

<https://zoom.us/j/92187611955>

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Its Official - CAPEX 22 International One Frame Stamp Championship Exhibition will be held in Toronto, June 9-12, 2022.

CAPEX 22 will be the **world's first** fully international One Frame exhibition. It is anticipated to be the largest showing of one frame exhibits at one exhibition with 400 frames, providing an opportunity for up to 400 exhibitors to participate. In addition, CAPEX 22 will host exhibits in the literature class competition in both print and electronic media.

A full bourse of Canadian and international dealers is expected, as are seminars, society presentations, receptions, club tables, as well as an evening auction by a major auction house.

CAPEX 22 will be held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre (MTCC) in the heart of Toronto's downtown entertainment district. The Constitution Hall in the 100 level of the MTCC's North Building (255 Front Street West) will be the site of the exhibition and bourse.

Interested in Attending?

Plan to spend a full day or more at the exhibition.

Staying overnight? - Special rates at nearby hotels are being negotiated.

Registration? – Information about a full exhibition registration package will be released closer to the exhibition date. Save time and money by pre-registering for the exhibition.

Other Family Activities? – Combine your exhibition visit with other attractions. The Ripley's Aquarium, CN Tower, Hockey Hall of Fame, Rogers Centre and ScotiaBank Arena are all less than three blocks away.

Interested in Exhibiting?

One-Frame exhibits from exhibitors that have previously been awarded at least a vermeil medal in any Canadian national or American WSP show are eligible for application. Frame fees will be announced shortly. The literature competition has no pre-qualification requirements, and further details on literature categories are to be announced shortly.

Further updates, including registration forms and exhibit application forms will be posted on our website, www.capex22.org. Follow us on Twitter and Facebook for more updates.

Join us

June 9-12, 2022 in Toronto. Plan to exhibit at CAPEX 22 in Toronto.