

HANCOCK JOHN PATRIOT PREFERRED DIVIDEND FUND  
Form SC 13G  
March 25, 2005

United States  
Securities and Exchange Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
(Amendment No. 4)

John Hancock Patriot Preferred Dividend Fund  
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock  
(Title of Class of Securities)

41013J-10-7  
(CUSIP Number)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)  
 Rule 13d-1(c)  
 Rule 13d-1(d)

December 31, 2004  
(Date of Event which Requires Filing of this Statement)

(1) The remainder of this cover page shall be filed out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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CUSIP No. 41013J-10-7

THE COMMERCE GROUP, Inc.  
SCHEDULE 13G  
AMENDMENT NO. 4  
MARCH 25, 2005

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. OR I.R.S. ID NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

The Commerce Group Inc.  
ID# 04-2599931

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP

Not Applicable

(a) [ ]  
(b) [ ]

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. CITIZENSHIP OF PLACE OR ORGANIZATION

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

NUMBER OF	5.	SOLE VOTING POWER
SHARES		1,310,300
BENEFICAIILLY	6.	SHARED VOTING POWER
OWNED BY		0
EACH	7.	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
REPORTING		1,310,300
PERSON	8.	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
WITH		0

9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIAALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON  
1,310,300

10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES  
CERTAIN SHARES. [ ]

Not Applicable

11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)  
18.1%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON  
HC

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ITEM 1(a). Name of Issuer

John Hancock Patriot Preferred Dividend Fund

ITEM 1(b). Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices

c/o John Hancock Funds, Inc.  
101 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, MA 02199-7603

ITEM 2(a). Name of Person Filing

The Commerce Group, Inc.

ITEM 2(b). Address of Principal Business Office, or if None, Residence

211 Main Street, Webster, MA 01570

ITEM 2(c). Citizenship

Organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ITEM 2(d). Title of Class of Securities

Common Stock

ITEM 2(e). Cusip Number

41013J-10-7

ITEM 3. If this statement is Filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1 (b), or 13d-2(b) or (c), Check whether the person filing is a:

- (a)  Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Act.
- (b)  Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Act.
- (c)  Insurance company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Act.
- (d)  Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940.
- (e)  An investment adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(ii)(E);

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- (f) [ ] An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
- (g) [X] A parent holding company or control person in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);
- (h) [ ] A savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act;
- (i) [ ] A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940;
- (j) [ ] Group, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

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ITEM 4. Ownership.

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number and percentage of class of securities of the issuer identified in Item 1.

- (a) Amount beneficially owned: 1,310,300
- (b) Percent of class: 18.1%
- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
  - (i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote 1,310,300
  - (ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote 0,
  - (iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 1,310,300
  - (iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 0

ITEM 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities check the following [ ].

Not Applicable

ITEM 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

Not Applicable

ITEM 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company or Control Person.

The Commerce Insurance Company - (IC)

ITEM 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

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Not Applicable

ITEM 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not Applicable

ITEM 10. Certifications.

(a) The following certification shall be included if the statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b):

"By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purpose or effect."

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SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

THE COMMERCE GROUP INC.

March 25, 2005

/s/ Gerald Fels  
Gerald Fels  
Executive Vice President &  
Chief Financial Officer

