

SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB □ COLORADO CHAPTER 27
NOTIFICATION OF THE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2018 MEETING AT 10:00 AM
AT THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN PHILATELIC LIBRARY (RMPL)

The November 3, 2018 meeting will be our popular **semi-annual members' auction**. Members are encouraged to participate by consigning material (10% commission on sold lots) and bidding and buying. Our auctions are "money makers" for the Chapter Treasury and provide members the opportunity to purchase new material and to sell unwanted and excess items. Your Newsletter Editor did not have time to prepare a list of the three auction lots that Gregg Frantz submitted nor a list of my own lots, but I hope to have these printed for pass outs at Saturday's meeting. Red dealer's boxes containing worldwide stamps in 4¼" x 2¾" stock cards arranged alphabetically by countries were donated to the Chapter by Rosemary Rodgers and these will be for sale – how they will be offered (net price or by auction) can be decided at Saturday's meeting. These boxes constitute the stamp stock Gary Rodgers had listed for sale on the on-line Stamps2Go sell site. Roger Cichorz will bring unsold lots from the SCC Library Auction #52 for sale at their respective opening bids on a first-come, first-served basis. Also, Sergio Lugo will have on hand some of the Howard Benson Estate Scandinavian countries material (offered as intact contents in banker's boxes) for net price sale. There will be **no** feature presentation, "Show-and-Tell" session, or SCC Mart Books this meeting. As customary, coffee, Danish, and other sweets will be provided.

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Summary of the Saturday, October 6, 2018 Meeting

President Eric Carlson was absent because of this involvement with the Cherpex show and VP Steve Nadler was out of town, so Roger called the meeting to order with only seven members present. **Old Business:** Roger wrote in the published minutes of the September 1 meeting, "SCC officers and board members positions for 2019 are uncontested and will be approved by SCC by acclaim." Jerry Eggleston stated this is incorrect and in accordance with the SCC By-Laws the SCC Secretary casts a single affirmative vote to elect the entire slate. **New Business:** Seven old editions of *Scott Catalogues* were donated to the Chapter by Rosemary Rodgers and these were offered individually in a mini-auction that netted \$11 for the Treasury. Jerry indicated he wants to give up coordinating the SCC Mart Books for the Chapter meetings and is seeking another member to volunteer to take on this responsibility sometime during 2019. **Program:** In lieu of the proposed program of a CD presentation from the SCC Library holdings, Harry Pedersen volunteered to give his RMPL program on "Fakes and Forgeries" – which we all agreed was more interesting and informative than an SCCL "canned presentation"! Harry is the volunteer program director for the RMPL's fakes and forgeries reference collection, and indicated that he will gladly accept any bogus material you have to donate to the RMPL's reference collection. There was no Show-and-Tell session this meeting, and SCC Mart Books were available after the meeting adjourned.

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Chapter 27 Members' Classified Advertisements

As a no-cost service to all Chapter 27 members, your "buy, sell, or trade" classified ads can appear in future Meeting Notifications. Submit your copy to or contact Roger at 303-494-8361 or rcichorz@comcast.net.

Wanted: Socked-on-the-nose Ålborg (Aalborg) and Denmark numeral "4" cancellations on stamps and stamps on piece, incoming and outgoing Ålborg covers/postal history, and other Ålborg-related items. Eugene Brink, 390 Quail Road, Branson, MO 65616, 417-336-1296, or geno4huskers@suddenlink.net.

Wanted: Iceland stamps with "Tollur" (revenue) cancellations: *Scott* #99, 115, 118, 130, 131, 134, 139, Parliament issues (#156-159 and #161-166), C1-2, C16, C17a, O44, O47, O48, and O52. Also, multiples and on documents. I will pay premium prices over *Scott* and *Facit* valuations. Let me know what you have and your asking prices. Roger Cichorz, 303-494-8361, or rcichorz@comcast.net.

For Sale: Auction catalogs in runs @ \$1 per issue: Northland (21 1990-2004, much Scandinavian), Lambrect & Bahr (1992-96, #1-10, worldwide stamps and postal history), John Barefoot (ten 1997-2003, WW stamps and postal history), Rodney A. Perry (12 1997-1999, Australian stamps and postal history), Bruun Rasmussen (7 #843-867, Scandinavian), John Barefoot (10 1997-2003, stamps, postal history, and cinderellas), Postal History International (1976-79), Robert Kaufmann (37 1970-91 #3-72, classic U.S., Confederate States, locals, and Western postal history, some of the best offerings of the time, net \$100). Also available (inquire for details): John Kaufmann, Matthew Bennet, Roger Koerber, Daniel

Kelleher (extensive holdings, valuable for U.S. postal history), holdings of specialized Confederate States catalogs, and *TreSkillig Yellow* book. Greg Frantz, 303-805-5512, or gfcaptain2@gmail.com.

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Chapter 27 Members' Collecting Interests

List your stamp-collecting interests (all, not just Scandinavian) here for other members to be aware of what you collect and possibly help with or bring attention to items of interest! Contact Roger to amend your listing.

- Paul Albright:** Greenland, and runs of worldwide correspondence to use as historical research material
- Peter Bergh:** Denmark (in particular the bi-colors and 1882-1905 coat-of-arms series), Malmö and Lund locals, Ireland, and Great Britain QE2 predecimals and KGV Silver Jubilee
- Geno Brink:** worldwide postally used up to 1970, Denmark used errors and varieties, and Aalborg (cancels on stamps, covers, by post, Christmas seals, and other items related to Aalborg)
- Eric Carlson:** United States, certain Great Britain (Wildings, Machins, and earlier sets of British Royalty), Sweden, Finland mint Wasa/Vasa issue (Scott #111-18), various sets of Denmark, Finland, and Norway, and lighthouses, golf, and baseball as topical/thematics
- Roger Cichorz:** Åland and Faroes postal history, Iceland stamps (including revenues), Lundy and Herm Island (stamps, postal history, and postcards), Abbott Pentothal "Dear Doctor" ad postcards, HMS Montagu postcards, and bonsai and puffin items as topical/thematics
- Jerry Eggleston:** primary interests = used Denmark, Danish West Indies, Greenland, Iceland, and Norway; secondary interests = Sweden, Finland, Greece, Hong Kong, Japan, Canada, and Great Britain; and postal history interests = Jo Daviess County, Illinois, and Summit County, Colorado
- Greg Frantz:** QSL postcards, Spitzbergen postal history, Scandinavian/Nordic locals and steamship mail, United States banknotes postal history, worldwide classic stamp issues, and cinderellas
- Jim Fredlund:** early Finland used stamps and 1980 to present, 1985 to present used Scandinavian stamps, and worldwide stamps
- Bill Gunderson:** Scandinavia
- Jim Kilbane:** Iowa and Colorado postal history, registered package envelopes, United States Post Office Department envelopes, revenues, cinderellas, and other miscellaneous
- Severt Kvamme:** post-2002 used stamps of Åland, Faroes, Greenland, Iceland, and Norway
- Clark Lyda:** Norway and Europa
- Steve McGill:** Great Britain Machins and GB postal mechanization (specialist level) and Canada, Antarctic, Iceland, Faroes, and United States (fun-to-collect level)
- Jeff Modesitt:** Denmark (general, postal stationery, and booklets, primary), Åland, Danish West Indies, Faroes, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden (secondary), Great Britain (general, postal stationery), New Zealand (general, penny universals, QEII, 1960 and 1980 definitives), and United States postal stationery
- Steve Nadler:** all Scandinavian postal history (covers and postmarks), Colorado postal history, United States (streetcar postmarks and covers, flag machine cancels, and advertising covers), worldwide (airmails, perfins on and off cover, pneumatic mail, and military mail), Afghanistan, France, Monaco, Israel, and Palestine
- Randy Nilson:** WWII German SS and police mail, Finnish military mail, Colorado POW/internment camps, and WWII censored airmail/suspended service covers
- Harry Pedersen:** United States (including revenues), U.S. Possessions, and 1840-1940 worldwide (including Scandinavia)
- David Petersen:** Danish West Indies and Hawaii
- Gary Shaver:** worldwide with specialties in United States, Canada, Germany, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Netherlands, Norway, and Sweden
- Tonny van Loij:** Colorado postal history, Kansas Territory and Colorado Territory postal history, classical music (Bach, Beethoven, Mozart), opera buildings (stamps and postcards), European Union, NATO, European Security Council (KSZE), Thurn and Taxis European postal service from 1499 to 1864 (specializing in foreign destinations), and Scandinavian destinations handled by Thurn and Taxis during 1854-1867

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Upcoming SCC Chapter 27 Meeting Schedule

December: no meeting this month ☐ annual holiday potluck dinner instead (December 3 at RMPL)

2019 meetings: We will need presentations for next year's meetings and will be soliciting speakers during our November 3 meeting as "new business" so please have a topic on hand and volunteer to give a presentation sometime next year! Contact Steve Nadler (**303-322-3624** or **schlomoX@msn.com**) or Eric Carlson (**303-694-4252** or **margeric@comcast.net**). Presentations can be talks on any subjects that interest you ☐ for example, why you chose a particular Scandinavian country's stamps to collect, details on a particular stamp issue or aspect of postal history, narration for one of the SCC Library's Audio-Visual programs, or just about any subject you want to share with your fellow members! We need to begin to fill up Chapter 27's 2019 meeting topics calendar.

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S.C.C. Chapter 27 Treasurer's Report

\$834.46 Previous Treasury Balance (9/4/18)*

- +\$11.00 sale of seven Scott catalogues donated by Rosemary Rodgers
- \$16.74 bagels for 10/6/18 meeting
- \$2.18 2 packages (100) mailing envelopes
- 4.00 printing costs for 10/6/18 meeting announcement/newsletter

\$822.54 Current Treasury Balance (10/7/18)*

\$206.78 Cash on Hand (10/7/18)

* **\$615.76** was renewed in a 24-month Certificate of Deposit at the Elevations Credit Union, Boulder, CO (CD = 0.60% per annum interest of ~\$8.13 due 2/9/19)

Prepared by Roger Cichorz, 10/7/18

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FREE RANGE by Bill Whitehead



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Wanted: Contributions to publish in future Chapter 27 Newsletters. Anything: brief articles, collection and exhibit pages, color scans or photocopies of your favorite covers (preferably with brief explanatory captions), your queries for a "Questions and Answers" feature, Scandinavian humor, etc. Mail to Roger Cichorz, 3925 Longwood Ave., Boulder, CO 80305-7233, or e-mail to **rcichorz@comcast.net**. Two hopefully interesting contributed articles are given on Pages 4-6.

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Behind the Scenes

ARE WE ABOUT TO SEE A NEW WAVE OF SWEDISH MILITARY POSTAL HISTORY?

Source: Reprinted from the *Jay Smith & Associates May 24, 2018 Scandinavian Philatelic E-News* e-mail newsletter by kind permission of the author, Jay Smith. To receive the E-News, please send your name, email address, and full postal address to js@JaySmith.com. Additional information from Jay Smith & Associates is available on its website, www.JaySmith.com.

Headline: "Sweden Prepares its Citizens for the Possibility of War"

This is 2018. What a stunning headline!

Here we are again. 1913-1914 when treaties bound countries to jump into war to defend their partners. The early 1930s when politicians in Europe destroyed civil society by destroying civility one little shred at a time, morphing themselves into dictators. The late 1930s when militaries were feverishly building capability and populations were on the move to get out of harm's way. Today there are politicians transitioning into, or have already become, strongmen in Russia, Turkey, Philippines, Egypt, and other places that seemed headed toward democracy just a decade ago. [Ironically, in sub-Saharan Africa, the opposite seems to be occurring in the last few years!] Here in the U.S., many people are alarmed by changes and abandonment of traditional norms and behaviors that alarm many people, with phrases such as "looming constitutional crisis" heard almost every day on the news.

Is Sweden a "canary in the mine" that is warning us of developing risk?

While a significant percentage of the American population seems to think that Russia's actions of the last few years have been benign (or even completely made up), the government of Sweden has apparently concluded that the risks being presented by Russia, as well as the increased tensions surrounding Iran and North Korea, are putting the country of Sweden at risk and the world as a whole at greater risk of nuclear conflict. Just today, the upcoming U.S.-North Korea summit meeting was canceled (perhaps until it is not). As widely reported, but seemingly little heard in the U.S., Sweden has recently reinstated the draft, is preparing to send war preparations information to its 4.8 million households and is expanding their nuclear shelters.

An article in the *Washington Post* (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/world/wp/2018/05/22/new-government-leaflets-tell-swedes-to-be-prepared-for-war/>) stated:

Amid concerns over Russian military exercises, the Swedish government brought back the draft and is looking into expanding its existing network of shelters, even though it already has 65,000 such structures, which would provide space for up to two-thirds of its population of 10 million. Russia has been accused of several risky military maneuvers near or inside Swedish airspace during the past few years, raising concerns over an accidental or deliberate escalation of tensions.

Sweden has 20,000 active military members while Russia has over a million, and the Swedes would be unlikely to win any confrontation with Moscow. Stockholm also isn't a member of NATO, the military alliance that obliges members to help defend member states in case of an attack. Instead, Sweden is circling back to its Cold War-era strategy of total defense, which relies on all citizens resisting an invasion and refusing to cooperate with any foreign powers. To remind the Swedes of their responsibility, the Swedish government is also launching advertisements in media outlets this week, ahead of the large-scale distribution of the pamphlets starting next week. It is the first such campaign in over half a century.

Even if you are inclined to disbelieve much of this as politically motivated rhetoric, the underlying facts cannot be ignored. Or, I should say, the facts would be ignored at our own peril. Sweden may be considered by some to be mild mannered and good natured, but the country does take defense very, very seriously. For example, the rural road systems are designed to double as fighter jet runways, with many re-fueling and re-arming stations "hidden" throughout the country. Sweden also makes some of the world's best fighter jet aircraft, one of them the Gripen. According to *Wikipedia*: "A key design goal during the Gripen's development was the ability to [land and] take off from snow-covered landing strips of only 800 [meters] (2,600 ft), furthermore, [with] a short-turnaround time of just ten minutes, during which a team composed of a technician and five conscripts would be able to re-arm, refuel, and perform basic inspections and servicing..."

The Swedish population has a tradition of being trained and ready for military service. A Swedish philatelic friend explained to me back in the 1990s that, as he was growing up, every Swedish man was required to have a rifle for military training. According to *Wikipedia*, "Between 1901 and 2010, military service for men was mandatory and during the Cold War, 85% of Swedish men were enlisted."

With a Crimea-like situation (Russian-speaking and Russian-heritage people living in currently non-Russian countries) existing in the Baltic countries, with which Sweden has very close relationships, the threat of Russian "intervention" in or invasion of one or more of the Baltic countries is a real possibility. The Russians did the very same recently in Crimea and are operating a low-grade war against Ukraine.

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I have read numerous reports that the Russians continuously probe and act aggressively on the Baltic countries' borders; the tactic is to make that activity seem normal so the defenders are less likely to quickly recognize the onset of a real attack. A Baltic conflict could easily pull Sweden into an armed conflict with Russia. Ongoing Russian intrusions into Swedish airspace and Russian submarine operations in Swedish coastal waters further increase tensions.

[While Sweden is not part of NATO, Sweden's neighbor Norway is a NATO member. (Collecting Norwegian NATO postal history is quite a challenge.) Many Americans seem to be unaware that U.S. Marines have been rotating forces through northern Norway, with one of the stated goals being "to prepare for cold weather fighting in North Korea or Russia" (according to a publication that focuses on Marine activity). A significant amount of American equipment is pre-positioned in Norway; and it is not for use in North Korea. While all of this is part of the U.S. involvement in NATO, U.S. involvement in Norway has increased in the last couple years with U.S. Marines keeping a close eye on the Norway-Russia border where the Russians have become as aggressive as they have in many other parts of the world. Apparently, U.S. presence near the border has, so far, successfully reminded the Russians that crossing the border won't be without major consequences. (If any readers have personal experience with this Norwegian arena and are able to talk about it, I would very much like to know more, especially in regard to possible postal history being generated in the Norway-Russia border region.)]

Many Americans, especially those that have not traveled internationally or don't feel it is important to follow international news, may think all this is overblown hype. However, these countries are spending very real money to protect themselves from what they perceive as very real risks. If there is one usually reliable way to measure how "real" a situation is, watch whether or not a country is willing to spend money. It is ironic that President Trump has many times strongly criticized European NATO member countries for not spending a large enough percentage of their GDP on defense; what is never mentioned is that the only serious potential aggressor against which those countries need to defend is... Russia.

From a philatelic perspective, Sweden has a very rich heritage of military mail and postmarks. These are listed and priced in a great section in *Facit Postal*, the postal history and cancellation catalog (the most recent is *Postal IX*, which is in stock). Sweden's military postal history also includes their involvement in UN military activities around the world which has generated a lot of fascinating covers. [UN Forces mail can also be found for Denmark, Finland, and Norway.] I do stock Swedish and Scandinavian/Nordic military and UN postal history, as well as military postal stationery, and would be happy to assist with approvals. Tell me about your interests.

From 1929 to about 1985, Sweden issued ingenious military reply envelopes. The envelope, a form of postal stationery with a postage-paid indicium, was distributed free to soldiers, and they could be mailed to or from soldiers. However, printed on the back of the envelope, under the oversized flap of the envelope, was a gummed reply stamp that could be cut out and used on a plain envelope for the postage on a reply letter. There are about 15 major types of the envelopes/reply stamps listed in the *Facit Classic Specialized Catalog* (the 2018 edition is in stock). There are also many minor varieties, printing variations, color differences, etc., and of course those used from soldiers often have military postmarks. While a very few of the military reply envelopes can get up to the \$200 mark, the vast majority are down in the range of \$4 to \$15, and many of the individual reply stamps can be found for as little as a dollar or two. These are all very collectible, and the reply stamps are even included in several of the European-printed Swedish stamp albums. I do attempt to stock the intact envelopes, mint and used reply stamps, and reply stamps used on covers. None of that material is on my website yet (as usual due to lack of time), but please do let me know of your interest and I will be happy to assist via approvals.

It will be interesting to see, with an increase in the number of Swedish active military forces and an expected increase in training maneuvers, if Sweden brings back the reply mail envelopes. While one might assume that "e-mail, text messaging, and video chat makes postal mail no longer relevant for soldiers," based on what I have heard from retired military folks (I have not had the privilege of serving), an actual handwritten letter from a friend or loved one still means a tremendous amount to the soldier who is away from home.

Here in the U.S., we don't have very good access to postal history (covers) that are currently being created (as the result of normal postal use) in places like Sweden. However, it would be very much worthwhile to seek out, document, and collect modern Swedish (and other Scandinavian/Nordic) military-related postal history. Such material collected today will become the classics for future generations of collectors.

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Posten Norge to Test Delivery Robot

Source: <https://www.norwegianamerican.com/business/posten-norge-to-test-delivery-robot/> Admin Website article submitted by Paul Albright. Written by Rasmus Falck, an innovation and entrepreneurship advocate who currently lives in Oslo, this article originally appeared in the October 5, 2018, issue of *The Norwegian American*.

The world's first combined letter and package robot may soon bring mail to Kongsberg

Oslo — Recently, the startup Buddy Mobility signed a development agreement with the mail company Posten Norge. The goal is to develop the world's first self-driven letter and package robot. According to a press release, the robot can handle up to 100 households daily. It will have advanced steering and sensor technology. The maximum speed will be under 4 mph, so the risk for the environment is minimal. "This increases the likelihood that we can take the robot faster," says Posten Norge CEO Tone Wille.

In a recent demonstration, Wille sent a text to Minister of Transport Ketil Solvik-Olsen's cell phone. The code enabled Olsen to receive the letter from the robot. "That is the first letter in the world delivered in a mail and packing machine," said Wille after the letter was delivered as they stood by the robot. The demo occurred during Arendalsuka, an annual one-week "festival" for politicians, organizations, and businesses. "I find that the government sector in Norway is very good at grasping the opportunities that technology provides: not just to streamline and save money, but because of how to provide better services to the residents using technology," said Olsen. "The purpose is still to serve the people, not just to save ourselves money."

The plan is to test out the new robot with people in Kongsberg at the end of the year. This could signal the disappearance of the mailbox. A resident will receive a message that letters and packages are en route. He or she can decide to go down the street to pick them up or have them delivered to the front door at a convenient time. The robot drives back on its own in the evening. Overnight, it is filled with the next day's deliveries.

"We believe there is considerable potential in autonomous technology, and it's exciting that such a large actor as the Post is leaning forward and contributing to the development and application of such solutions," says Buddy Mobility developer Per Ivar Selvaag in a press release. "Potentially, this may pave the way for an international commitment, because letter and parcel delivery have many similarities around the world."

"In the Post, we have set high ambitions to drive innovation and apply new technology," said Wille in a press release. "Self-propelled technology is not science fiction but reality. We are looking forward to many exciting applications for autonomous technology in transport and logistics systems. We want to be Norway's foremost learning arena for this type of technology. We have great faith in a self-governing future and believe that there are profitable applications in the short and long term for a logistics actor like us. To a certain extent, we rely on the technology development of the major vehicle manufacturers. At the same time, we also want to stimulate the market to develop more niche-driven solutions, something that is an example of the innovation contract with Buddy Mobility."

According to its website, Buddy Mobility is an "autonomous vehicle service bringing new efficiencies to urban mobility. The team is an international group of designers, product developers, researchers, and engineers based in Oslo and the San Francisco Bay Area." According to a presentation by the startup, the strategy is to partner with delivery and passenger providers to extend the services that make movement more flexible, reliable, and sustainable.

The story goes back 25 years to the Danish electric car, Kewet. Norwegian investors took over the company and changed the name to Buddy. The company went broke in 2011. CEO and Investor Tharald Nustad and others took over what was left. Today, Buddy Electric is among the shareholders in Buddy Mobility. They have also developed electric scooters and wheelchairs for the mobility impaired.

There are similar technologies in the new mail-delivery robot and in future self-driven cars. Selvaag has experience from the international car industry. Today there are more than 1,100 colorful Buddys on Norwegian roads. In this year's movie *Downsizing*, Buddy was featured on screen for almost two minutes with star Matt Damon as a passenger. The first robot has arrived from the United States and will be filled with more Norwegian technology.

Posten Norge was founded 370 years ago. It was the first owner of a steamboat in 1827, and was involved in the railway from Christiania (Oslo) to Eidsvoll in 1854 and the first mail automobile in 1918. Internet changed Norway and Posten. Today, it has 17,200 skilled workers who live to deliver and find new ways.

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