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#### Official Publication of the SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB

Published Quarterly Since 1943 Copyright 1997 Scandinavian Collectors Club

Vol. 54, No. 2

May 1997

Whole No. 211

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Business Manager (Advertising): E. A. Menninger, P.O. Box 457 Lillington, NC 17546 THE POSTHORN (ISSN 0551-6897) is published quarterly by The Scandinavian Collectors Club. Membership, including subscription, \$15 per year, \$21 for Non North American addresses. Contact Executive Secretary for membership & change of address. Advertising rates & terms available from Business Manager. Periodical postage paid at Madrid, lowa 50156. Copyright 1997 by The Scandinavian Collectors Club.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Posthorn, SCC Exec. Secretary, P. O. Box 125, Newark, DE 19715.

Affiliate 79, American Philatelic Society Affiliate, Royal Philatelic Society of Canada Printed in USA (USPS 603680, ISSN 0551-6897)

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# Earliest Use of the "Blackjack" on D.W.I. Mail

by John L. DuBois



Figure 1 — This "blackjack" cover is a circular from a merchant in St. Thomas and is the earliest use of a blackjack in the Danish West Indies known at this time.

The cover in Figure 1 is the earliest recorded use of the "blackjack" (Scott #73 US) on Danish West Indies mail. The "cover" is a "prices current" circular of the St. Thomas merchant James T. Abbott & Company and traveled on the first experimental sailing of the United States Brazil Mail Steamship Company ship Havana from St. Thomas to New York.

#### The United States Brazil Mail Steamship Company

Formed in 1864 and reorganized in 1865 to operate between New York and Rio de Janeiro with stops at St. Thomas and ports in Brazil, the United States Brazil Mail Steamship Company was given a contract by the US to carry monthly mail starting 1 January 1866. The first regular northbound call at St. Thomas departed on 22 January 1866.

However, prior to this the company made trial runs of chartered steamships — the *Havana*, *North America*, and the South America — starting with the Havana; which left New York on 29 September 1865. It was this ship which first picked up northbound mail at St. Thomas on 22 November and carried this circular. It would have entered the US mails in New York on 30 November, if the Havana kept its promised schedule, where it was canceled with a typical New York "split cork" and sent on to Baltimore.

#### The J.T. Abbott Circular

The circular obviously was printed just for transport on this trip. [Ed. Note: unfortunately the circular could not be reproduced legibly.] Under the company name is the headline: "Per U.S.M.S. 'Havana' St. Thomas. 21st November.1865."

Towards the bottom of the circular is a listing of vessels in port the morning of November 21st, 1865, thus confirming the date. No doubt a bundle or quantity of these circulars from J.T.



Figure 2 — Another cover carried on the trial run of the Havana for the US & Brazil Mail Steamship Co.

Abbott was placed aboard the ship.

However, since there are no St. Thomas post office markings on the cover it is very likely that they were smuggled on board. Or, it is possible that, since this was an unofficial trip for postal purposes, such a bundle of printed commercial material was overlooked by ships authorities even though their contract explicitly prohibited "letters or newspapers out of the mail bags." This explanation seems unlikely, since one other cover carried on this trip which has survived was clearly processed through official postal channels and was properly franked.

That cover, shown in Figure 3, is from the Arnould collection. The cds and manuscript notation indicate passage on the same sailing of the Havana. A 3 cent D. W. I. stamp paid local postage and the 10 cent U.S. stamp paid steamship as well as inland postage. (The 3 cent postal envelope was apparently just handy, it served no purpose in payment of postage.) These indications

appear to show formal treatment of mail, even on the "experimental" trip.

#### Blackjacks on D.W.I.

The presence of the "foreign" U.S. stamp on D.W.I. mail is a consequence of pre-UPU usage where U.S. stamps were stocked on St. Thomas to prepay the steamship fee.

This is only the second time a cover from the D.W.I. with a "blackjack" stamp has been recorded. The other is an almost identical circular from James T. Abbot & Company, also probably smuggled, dated 13 December 1867, and also to Baltimore. In addition, there are at least four recorded covers originating in the U.S. with blackjacks which have St. Thomas transit marking datestamps between 1868 and 1869.

Circumstances surrounding the J.T. Abbott circulars provide an interesting look at the probable practice of mail smuggling, and in addition, the contents give a fascinating snapshot of commercial activity in St. Thomas in 1865 near the beginning of its long decline.

[Ed. Note: In our November 1996 issue Mr. Dubois discussed a "T" due marking. Torben Hilberg reports an 1895/6 inventory from Christiansted lists receipt of a "T" stamp during the period 1 April 1895 to 31 March 1896 which was purchased locally. Edward Leahy points out that the stamp probably became swollen over time.]

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# Kopek Rates in Domestic Finnish Postal Traffic

## October 1-November 29, 1917

By Lauri Siivonen Translation by Anneli Hvidonov Edited by Roger P. Quinby

The following synopsis is provided to clarify the rates of kopek valued stamps and postal stationery and mixed penni kopek franking in domestic Finnish mail between October 1 and November 29, 1917. On October 1, 1917, the penni valued postal rate for inland letters was raised from 25 penni to 30 penni and for post cards from 10 penni to 15 penni. (Postal Circular XXXI of September 27, 1917). In addition to these, kopek values could also be used, although not obligatory, until they were removed from domestic postal traffic on November 29, 1917.

The kopek rate for a letter in domestic traffic starting October 4, 1914, was 10 kopeks, and for a post card, 3 kopeks (Postal Circulars XII of April 20, 1891 and XXVII October 3, 1914). This was based on the so called old (Circulars XII, 1891) stamp exchange rate. The exchange tables are:

Old Exchange Rates Until Oct. 3,1917.	New Exchange Rates From Oct. 4,1917.	
30 penni = 12 kopeks	30  penni = 24  kopeks	
25 penni = 10 kopeks	15 penni = 12 kopeks	
10  penni = 3  kopeks	10 penni = 8 kopeks	
5 penni = 2 kopeks	5  penni = 4  kopeks	

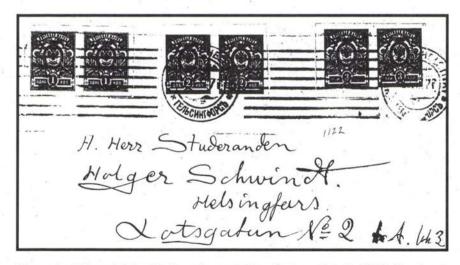


Figure 1. 12 kopek inland letter rate went into effect on Oct. 1, 1917. The kopek imperforate issues of 1917 provided accurate franking for the new rate.



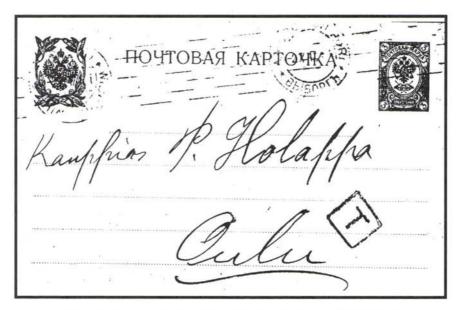
Figure 2. The 5 kopek inland post card rate went into effect on October 1, 1917. Canceled at Helsinki, 8. X. 17.

After the penni valued postage rates were raised 5 penni on October 1, 1917, it automatically also raised the kopek valued rates by an equal amount, that is by 2 kopeks. The new kopek rates starting October 1, 1917, were:

- 12 kopeks for a letter. Figure (1).
- 5 kopeks for a post card. Figure (2).



**Figure 3.** Franked according to the "old" rate (2 kopeck = 5 penni + 10 penni = 15 penni card rate). Canceled, 28. XI. 17, the last day for kopek franking in domestic traffic.



**Figure 4**. Three kopek card with postage due boxed "T" sent from Wiipuri, 2. X. 17, shows that rates were raised, although not uniformily enforced. See Figure 3.

Also, corresponding mixed franking was permitted and used, although rather infrequently. This is illustrated in Figure (3): 10 penni postal card with 2 kopek Russian met the "old" rate. This card is 2 kopeks underfranked; did it pass unnoticed or was simply ignored, or since there were so few mixed franking items in domestic traffic, the rates were not fully understood? The 3 kopek postal card with T-cancels sent from Viipuri (Figure 4) reveals that the kopek valued postal rates had really been raised although not uniformly enforced. The 3, 5 and "6" kopek franking is found on post cards after October 4th and throughout November.

In addition to the 5 kopeks card rate, a franking of 6 kopeks was also used (Figure 5). It was assumed that the kopeks postage rate for cards was raised by half of the letter raise (6 kopeks/12 kopeks), as in penni values (15/30). Mixed franking of 6 kopeks cards also exists (Figure 6). Starting October 1, 1917, the Russian types were used along with penni values, including Saarinen stamps. (Postal Circular XXIX of September 26, 1917).

The exchange rate for rubles was, however, falling rapidly. Due to changes in exchange rates the Post Office had to adapt to the new rates mentioned before (Postal Circular XXXII of October 4, 1917). The old exchange rates still had to be used on October 3, 1917. The new postal exchange rate was not applied immediately (who has the earliest cancellation?). It seems to have been too confusing for clerks to understand the complicated instructions concerning how the Russian money exchange rate was to be applied in the Post Office.



**Figure 5.** Mistakenly, a 6 kopek post card rate was often used based on the belief that the card rate was one half the 12 kopek letter rate. From Oct. 1 to Oct. 4, actual card rate was 5 kopeks.



**Figure 6.** From Oct. 1, 1917, the new Finnish Saarinen stamps could be used concurrently with the Russian type penni or kopek stamps. This Nov. 2nd mixed franked card was underfranked and passed unnoticed at both Tampere and Helsinki.

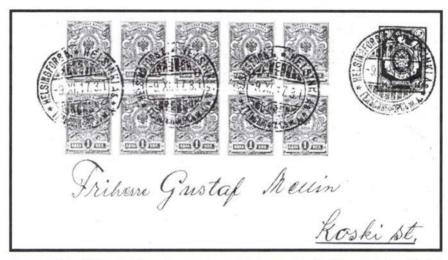


Figure 7. The 24 kopek letter rate was, by postal decree, in effect from October 4th, but not applied for several weeks. Helsinki, 9. XI. 17, to Koski st.

The application of the new exchange rates did not start before the middle of October, even though the corresponding kopeks rates were published in the October 4th Circular, paragraph 40. (See tabulation on page 6). The 30 penni letter rate was raised to 24 kopeks and the 15 penni post card rate to 12 kopeks (Figure 8). Mixed franking was also used again. Figure (9) shows a second



**Figure 8.** This reply card shows the correct 12 kopek card rate applied after October 4, 1910. From mid October, all "three" kopek post card rates are known. Underfranked cards frequently passed unnoticed.

weight class letter (mentioned on the reverse) stamped with 24 kopeks + 30 penni, following the rate correctly. Figure (10) is a mixed franking card, (10 penni + 4 kopeks = 5 penni, total 15 penni.



Figure 9. 10 kopeks entire plus 14 kopeks and 30 penni is accurate mixed franking for second weight (33 grams noted on back) letter after October 4, 1917.



Figure 10. Last day mixed franking 10 penni postal card with 4 kopeks added to meet 15 penni card rate.



Figure 11. Helsinki, I. XI. 17, enforced 24 kopek/30 penni rate. 4 kopek = 5 penni + 20 penni = 25 penni. Letter underfranked by 4 kopeks or 5 penni; marked with boxed "T", 5 x 2 = 10 penni postage due.

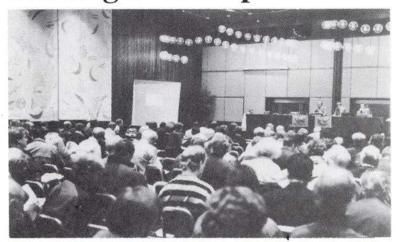
T-cancel and a postage due marking were added to mail franked according to the old rates. Figure (11) shows a letter with the old postage (2 x 2 kopeks @ 5 penni for a total 10 penni franking) of November 13, 1917, with the appropriate T-cancel and 10 penni postage due marking (2 x the missing 5 penni). At that time 4 kopeks were only worth 5 penni. See exchange table on page 6.

The use of kopeks values in domestic mail ceased on November 29, 1917, but some kopek valued mail went through after that date. As a rule a T-cancel was added and a 2 x penni valued postage due fee noted. In the fall of 1917 the kopek tariffs in general varied greatly. The October 1-4 kopek rates were sometimes mistakenly accepted until the demonetization of kopek franking at the end of November, 1917.

	ry of Rate Changes ates for Domestic Mail		
Date	Letter Rate	Post Card Rate	
Oct. 4, 1914 to Sept. 30, 1917	10 kopeks	3 kopeks	
Oct. 1 - 3, 1917	12 kopeks	5 kopeks	
Oct. 4 - Nov. 28, 1917	24 kopeks	12 kopeks	

Do you have a kopek or mixed franking cover from this period? Please share it with us. Send a Xerox to: Roger P. Quinby, PO Box 738, Clifton Park, NY 12065-0738.

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## Scandinavia at ANPHILEX

## by Alan Warren

The 100th anniversary of the Collectors Club of New York is now history. The event included a wonderful reception held during CAPEX 96 in Toronto. However, the highlight of the celebration was the ANPHILEX show in November at New York's Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Here many of the world's greatest rarities were brought together under one roof.

In the Aristocrats of Philately section, Sweden's famed tre skilling banco yellow error was displayed, courtesy of the auction firm of David Feldman and the new owner who had just purchased it for a record sum. Just about the only significant Aristocrat missing was John duPont's one-cent British Guiana. Another favorite section was a special display of one-frame exhibits by CCNY members that were not in competition. Following is a brief overview of those exhibits of Scandinavian area material.

Knud Mohr showed "Denmark April Letters" which in fact were first day and other early uses of Denmark's first stamp, issued April 1, 1851. The showing of the 4 RBS on covers included manuscript cancels and mute cancels with the side stamp indicating the date. H. L. Arnould presented a short lesson on "The Changes from Payment of Postage by Addressee to Prepayment by Senders as Seen in the Foreign Mails of DWI." Examples included mail to and from Venezuela, Peru, Guadeloupe, the Barbados route, and Spanish markings used in Puerto Rico.

SCC President Roger Quinby showed "Russian Postal Cards Used in Finland" including examples of usage to Natal and Cuba, along with devalued cards and varieties. Past President Roger Schnell presented "Iceland: The Skilling Issue" including a die proof, color proofs, and three of the eleven known skilling covers in private hands. An-

other SCC Past President and our new Secretary, Don Halpern, exhibited "The Swedish Post Office in Stralsund" starting with stampless mail from 1601 before the Swedish post office was established there. He continued with material from the 18th and early 19th centuries until the post office closed in 1849.

There were nearly sixty invited multi-frame exhibits at the show. In Peer Lorentzen's "The Kingdom of Denmark 1806-1863," we saw a frame of "fodpost" markings on cover, a frame of the 4 RBS, two frames of the 2 RBS, and one frame of unusual destinations including France, Germany, Russia, Belgium, and New Zealand. A classic collection of "Finland 1856-1872" was shown, courtesy of David Feldman. This mouth-watering showing of the first three issues of Finland included exceptional multiples, color errors, tête-bêche pairs, cancellations, and usage on cover.

Gene Scott's "Iceland Numeral Issues 1873-1904" included many key usages on cover such as the only known trans-Atlantic skilling cover and the only known use of the 3-skilling value. Pieter Ahl displayed "Norway No. 1" including the largest known multiple (a block of 39), the only known unused block of four, and various markings and unusual usages such as a cover with !2 copies of the stamp.

Two "anonymous" collectors presented a wonderful display of the skilling banco issues of Sweden in imperforate format, multiples, and on some striking covers. Included were rare examples canceled first day on July 1, 1855 which was a Sunday. A limited edition hard bound color catalog of the show was sold for \$40, or \$20 with show admission. Information about the catalog and the Collectors Club of New York can be obtained from them at 22 East 35th Street, New York NY 10016.

# PACIFIC 97 May 29th to June 8th The Philatelic Event of the 90's

SCC Dinner, Seminars, Board & General Membership Meetings highlight final weekend. Support your Club's programs and social events. Check with the SCC table for any last minute changes:

June 6: Seminar at 10:30 AM Frank Correl — The Schleswig Plebiscite Era

June 6: Board Meeting at 2:00 PM (All SCC members are welcome to attend.)

June 6: Dinner, Chapter 21 hosts dinner meeting at Iron Horse Restaurant, 30 Maiden Lane, at 6:00 PM. No host bar. \$25 for dinner. Contact Ray Erickson

for reservations. Philatelic entertainment is promised.

June 7: General Membership Meeting at 10:00 AM.

June 7: Seminar at 1:00 PM, Ivar Sundsbø — Norwegian Postal History.

## What a Chair!

What was it like to be a refugee in Sweden during WWII? On the one hand, your new country is offering you asylum, protection, security, and on the other hand, it is not joining the war against your persecutors.

As the fifty year anniversaries of WWII events fade away, Sweden has issued a stamp of Endre Nemes's painting "The Baroque Chair."

Nemes was born in Hungary but spent his childhood in Slovakia and attended the Academy of Arts in Prague (the Czech Republic and Slovakia are issuing stamps jointly with Sweden). He came to Sweden in 1940 as a refugee.

His first notable work in Sweden was "The Baroque Chair," featured on the October 6, 1996 issue. It seems to have something to say about Sweden's neutrality. In the depths of the chair seat swims a northern pike (it looks like a barracuda), but the bobber (fishing float) among the weeds is ignored, disconnected to anything. Meanwhile, the Royal Palace is sitting in the sun, catching some rays.

Nemes is credited with introducing



continental traditions into the Swedish art scene. He's described as a mixture of the baroque and the surreal.

If we define "baroque" as laying on detail after detail, surely "The Baroque Chair" is baroque. While the Swedish Post emphasizes the war connection, there are other things going on in the painting (for example, sexual imagery).

Nevertheless, I find this painting significant in its wartime aspect. It was painted in 1941 by a refugee in Sweden and while it contains some negative imagery of Swedish neutrality, without Sweden's asylum it may never have been painted.

# SCC Annual, Regional & International Meeting Schedule

	<b>Annual Meeting</b>	Regional Meeting	Intern'l Meetings		
1997	VAPEX	APS STaMpsHOW	NORWEX '97	PACIFIC '97	
	Va. Beach, VA	Milwaukee, WI	Oslo, Norway	San Francisco, CA	
	November 7-9	August 21-24	April 16-21	May 29-June 8	
1998	CHICAGOPEX	How About a	NORDIA '98		
	Late October	Spring Event?	Odense, Denmark		
1999	BALPEX	Timing Depends on	NORDIA '99		
		Annual Meeting	Turku, Finland		
2000	WINNIPEG, MB	Spring or Fall	NORDIA 2000		
	Early July	Show is Best	Sweden		
2001	A NORDIA in		HAFNIA 2001		
	the USA?		in Denmark		

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## **Letters Received**

## New forged cancellation on Icelandic stamps



Figure 1 -- fake cancels: note "rounded"
"G"

The early issues of Iceland are generally thought to be mostly canceled to order with current postmarks or at times backdated but genuine cancels.

Besides these varieties "used" to meet collector demand, there have been fake postmarks. Here shown (Figure 1) is one of them, presented to me for examination in 1996.

The genuine postmark was created for canceling the stamps commemorating the 1,000th anniversary of the first session of the first Icelandic Parliament. The fake postmark corresponds pretty much to the most common type of the two types of the genuine postmark.

The clearest difference between the genuine and forged cancel is seen in the letter "G: in the word "Thingvellir" (your editor still hasn't been able to reproduce those Icelandic consonants in a printing run: "Th" is of course an anglicized Icelandic letter). The genuine "G" is cornered, or squared, at the bottom right of the letter whereas the fake "G" is rounded at bottom right (compare Figure 1 with Figure 2).

Probably the fake postmark was pro-



Figure 2 — genuine cancel: note "squared" "G" at lower right

duced to change unused stamps missing gum to used items, which are in great demand by collectors.

As far as I know, this forgery has up to now not been mentioned or described or pictured in the literature. In my 24 years of experience in examining Icelandic stamps, this is the first time I've seen this forgery. Perhaps it was produced in recent years.

Günter Wahl Dresden, Germany

Ed. Note: Günter Wahl is a retired math and science teacher. He was very active in organized philately in the former DDR. Today he is an international exhibitor and judge. He has expertised stamps, stationery, and covers from the Danish areas since 1968, and Sweden and Iceland since 1972.

In 1991 he was acknowledged by the German expertising society (of united Germany) as an examiner/expert and has joined KPK, the German society for Scandinavian philately, and so forth.

Address changes to: Bob Lang PO Box 125 Newark, DE 19715-0125

#### **Unattended Three Skilling**

Dear Editor.

I enjoyed the article in the November 1996 *Posthorn* about the Swedish three skilling yellow.

Toward the end is the story of Sven Forselius going back to the exhibit hall to recover the stamp from its neglect. I can confirm that that was not the only time this stamp was out of the limelight when it shouldn't have been.

I attended CAPEX 96 on the first day of the show. I wandered into the Philatelic Gems area while most everyone was at a first day sale or some such thing. The gems area hadn't been lit yet, so I stumbled upon the area by mistake. Here was the 3 skilling, lots of US inverted airmails, and not a soul around - no guards, no workmen, no lights — just me! I couldn't believe it!

Chapter 23, Florida



### More on Censor Label Cover

Dear Editor

I have a little additional information regarding my article on the Cnesor Label in the November 1996 *Posthorn*.

The British Ministry of Defence advises that W R Mortimer, the writer of the card, was an enlisted man aboard HMS *India* until August 8, 1915.

From the Observer's Directory of Royal Naval Submarines 1901-1982: "[The British submarine] E13 was interned by the Danish authorities on 18 August 1915 after running aground at Saltholm while under fire from German destroyers."

It seems the Handbook by F.J. Carter erred in saying those crewmen were interned in Norway.

Vernon A. Johnson Philomath, Oregon

### China-Sweden Joint Issue

In the past year Swedish Prime Minister Göran Persson has been strongly criticized for being cozy with China without understanding the depth of human rights violations there.

For example, the Swedish Constitutional Commission called him on the carpet for his statement last year that he admired "China's stabile regime." Also, he was asked why he invited China's vice-president to Sweden though the vice-president had been named in a debate about inhumane care of children.

Given that political climate, I find it interesting Sweden Post is issuing a joint stamp with China.

The topic is pheasants. If ever there was a strong topic for a joint issue this is it. The US population of pheasants all started from a Chinese population transplanted to Oregon by a US diplomat to China. They're are a great game bird all over the world now and Sweden has chosen to have a joint stamp issue.

— J. L.

# The Tre Kronor Issue: Early First Day Covers

## By Alan Warren



Fig. 1 Registered first day postcard of the new 60 öre Three Crowns issue released the same day as the Gustaf V right profile 20 öre. With this issue Sweden introduced a new first day cancel of Stockholm with text in Swedish and English.

In the August 1993 Posthorn Bob Paulson presents a nice overview of the classic looking "Three Crowns" issue of Sweden, pointing out the popularity of this very simply designed stamp. Bob refers to the earlier issues of this series on first day covers as being somewhat difficult to find. In this article I will describe a few of these early FDCs of the Three Crowns stamps.

(Incidentally, Bob Paulson stated that no significant plate flaws occurred. However, both Menzinsky and Facit describe a double transfer which is found on the 60 öre value of 1939.)

The first value released, the 60 öre, was issued simultaneously with the 20 öre Gustaf V right profile issue on February 10, 1939. Figure 1 shows a registered first day post card with the

two stamps and cachet stating that these new stamps replace the definitives which have been in use since 1920; i.e. the Standing Lion issue. Another "first" for this release is the introduction of the special double circle FD cancel of Stockholm with wording in both Swedish and English, "First Day Cover."

Figure 2 is an FDC of these same two stamps on a registered cover to Scotland. The cover appears to be overpaid as the rate to England was 30 öre with a registration fee supplement of 20 öre. Even so, at Sowerby Bridge, Yorkshire a 3 penny postage due marking and stamp were added to the front. Arrival marks on the reverse include the Yorkshire strike again and the registry office oval mark of Dundee in Angus County. (See endnote.)

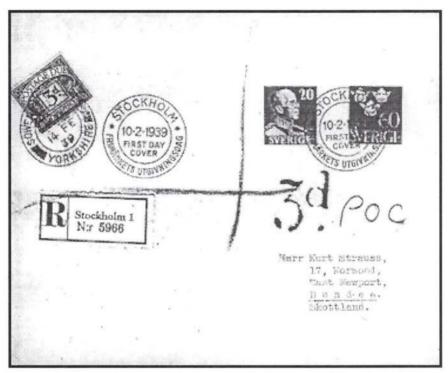


Fig. 2 FDC of the same values sent to Dundee, Scotland with 3 penny postage due added in Yorkshire.



Fig. 3 FDC to the U.S. with 90 öre Three Crownsreleased September 22, 1939.

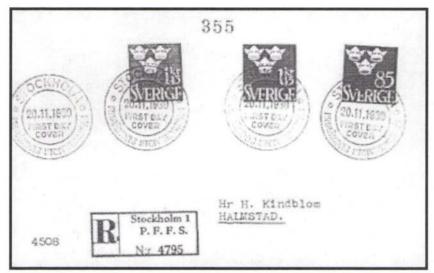


Fig. 4 The last three values of the Three Crowns released in 1939 are seen here on a domestic FDC to Halmstad.

The next Three Crown values to be issued appeared simultaneously on September 22, 1939. These values were the 90 öre, the 1 kr, and the 1.20 kr. Figure 3 shows another registered cover, this time to the United States, with the 90 öre stamp. This letter also appears overpaid since the rate was 50 öre including registration. Arrival marks on the reverse show New York's registry division received the letter October 7.

Three more values of the Three Crowns set were issued on November 20 later the same year — the 85 öre, and the 1.15 and 1.45 kr. Figure 4 is a first day cover of these three values on a registered cover to Halmstad, with a Halmstad arrival mark on the reverse the same day.

As Bob Paulson indicates, these classic looking stamps attract collectors due to the simplicity of their design. And finding the early Tre Kronor stamps on covers is a challenge.

#### References

Paulson, Bob. "A Modern Swedish Classic: The Tre Kronor Issue of 1939-1969," *The Posthorn,* August 1993, 50 (3) pp. 123-4.

Menzinsky, Georg. Postage Stamps of Sweden 1920-1945, Postal Museum Communication No. 23, Stockholm, 1946.

FACIT Special 1992, Katalogin-tressenter AB, Stockholm, 1991.

FACIT Postal 1993, Facit Förlags AB, Stockholm, 1992.

#### Endnote:

If the letter were double weight the Swedish franking would be proper (if, say, a piece of cardboard were used to keep the FDC protected from folding in transit). It seems most likely, however, that this cover is overfranked. Why did the folks at Sowerby Bridge add postage due? If anyone has an answer, please write to: John Lindholm, 2316 Lakeview Drive, Fergus Falls, MN 56537.

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# Scandinavian Literature Notes

By Alan Warren

In the 3-96 issue of Frimerke Forum from Norway, Birger Løvland writes about the Setesdal region and lists the post offices there and when they opened. He also shows the evolution of some town postmarks over the years such as Grænna to Grendi. Co-authors Bjørn Storesund and Helge Hasselgreen illustrate sheet margins of Norwegian stamps showing printing dates.

J. L. Jvangean writes about the recent markings on North Cape covers bearing the "MS Arkona" handstamp in the September issue of *Het Noorderlicht* from Holland. René Hillesum gives a brief overview of Finnish cancels in the same issue. Dan Laursen tells about the new location in Copenhagen for the Danish Post Museum in the August issue of *Luren*, published by the Scandinavian Philatelic Library of Southern California.

In an article with the interesting title of "Cyberphilately" which appeared in the September issue of Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift, Carsten Abildgaard discusses some of the philatelic materials that can be found on various home pages on the world wide web. In the September issue of Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift, Karl-Erik Stenberg writes about Sweden's first date cancels, the so-called arc cancels.

In the German nordic journal Philatelistische Nachrichten for August, Andreas Kessler continues his detailed discussion of Denmark's Coat of Arms postal card with the 10 øre small corner numeral type. Uwe Raster illustrates plate flaws on some recent Faroes stamps, and Peter Haubner shows some Finnish slogan cancels.

#### Iceland Aur Issue

Orla Nielsen writes about the 10 aur oval issue of Iceland, perf 12-3/4, and

the author's attempt to reconstruct a quarter pane of the stamps in the October issue of *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. This issue also contains a chronological listing of articles which have appeared between 1961 and 1996 on the bicolor issues of Denmark and DWI in *NFT*.

In the September issue of Skilling, Arne V. Rasmussen discusses the mail of the Danish U.N. forces in Croatia. Examples of Free Mail Service handstamps are shown as well as mail on which special services such as insurance or registration were paid. The article will be continued in future issues. In the same issue Ingolf Mathiesen illustrates some charity stamps of Schleswig, and editor Jan Bendix continues his series on Danish philatelic exhibitions, covering the period 1932-1936

In the September issue of Scandinavian Contact from Great Britain, Susan Oliver discusses the Franco Betalt marks of the Faroes. In the same issue Ted Hollick reports on research conducted by him and Martin Fishenden to document Swedish cancel No. 29 which consists of a dotted circle and 3-line date. They have listed towns and dates ranging from 1894 to 1942, but seek additional input from other collectors. This issue also carries the final part, No. 21, of the long running series by Roger Partridge on the postal history of Scandinavia in World War I. He began the series over five years ago.

The October issue of Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift has a profile of the Stockholm dealer AB Philea. Sten Anders Smeds reports a Swede's view of CAPEX 96. In the October issue of Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift, Oskar Sørensen writes about the branch of-

fices of Rømø from 1853 to 1996. In the October issue of *Stamp Lover*, published by the National Philatelic Society of Great Britain, Eric Glasgow writes about the early stamps of Finland.

#### Denmark's Resistance Movement

In the November issue of *The American Philatelist*, published by the American Philatelic Society, SCC member Frederick A. Brofos describes some of the materials held in Copenhagen's Museum for Denmark's Freedom Fight. Mails which were confiscated from post offices by the Resistance group known as "1944" were used after the war to prosecute collaborators and traitors. Mail sent to the Vesterport Spy Center is also described.

In the October issue of *Skilling* from Denmark, editor Jan Bendix continues his series on the philatelic exhibitions of that country, with mention of those from 1935 to 1937. This period includes the 50th anniversary exhibition of KPK in Copenhagen, marked with the specially overprinted 10 øre wavy line issue in September 1937.

The November issue of Sweden's Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift is largely devoted to the philately of Estonia. There is a society of Estonia collectors in Sweden, and Eesti Postmark took considerable advertising space in this issue. In one article Elmar Ojaste and Vambola Hurt discuss the provisional postal stationery of Estonia during the period 1991-1993. In another article Ojaste discusses the origins of Baltic area philately dating back to the 17th century.

In the "Focus Pages" section of the November issue of Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift, authors Otto Kjærgaard and Lennart Weber illustrate consistent varieties in some of the common issues of Denmark. Examples are shown for the Caravel series, the Frederik IX stamps, and the 1955-56 30 øre provisional over-

prints. The November issue of Skilling describes the 1996 Christmas seals of Denmark and profiles the designer Franz Füchsel. Each pane of this amazing issue consists of 50 different designs. In the same issue editor Jan Bendix continues his series describing and illustrating the stamps issued at Denmark's philatelic exhibitions, this time with shows from 1937 to 1940.

#### **DWI** Featured

The December issue of *Nordisk* Filatelistisk Tidsskrift carries several articles of interest to Danish West Indies collectors. Lasse Nielsen provides a plating study of the 4 cents "squared" issue, and Harry Larsen shows an interesting 1834 letter sent from St. Thomas to Madeira. The third item is Svend K. Seitzberg's study of DWI postal cards.

In the December issue of Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift, Peter Schweizer raises the question about true varieties in Denmark's newer offset printed issues, and shows some examples of double prints. In the December 1996 issue of Denmark's Posthistorisk Tidsskrift, Toke Nørby presents a 2-part article on the history of perfins in Denmark. He illustrates devices used to cut the design in the stamps and tells about organizations in several countries that specialize in this collecting area.

Effective January 14, 1997 postage rates in Greenland are increased about 5%. The letter rate in Greenland is now 4.50 DKr and to Denmark it is 4.75 DKr. In February a new stamp was issued to mark the opening of the new Greenland Cultural Center in Katuaq. The strikingly designed building and its auditorium will be the forum for theater, film, music, and lectures. If you are interested in subscribing to new issues of Greenland directly, write to Greenland Postal Service, P.O. Box 115, 3951 Qasigiannguit, Greenland.

Skagen is the northernmost town in Denmark, at the tip of Jutland. There is an art museum and the place is popular with artists because of the quality of light there. But this past November, when Denmark issued two stamps of Skagen paintings, they chose "interiors."

# Greenland Postmarks after 1938 New GF6 from DAKA

The last time the Wowern GF series issued a separate volume on Greenland postmarks was 1984. There have been a whole lot of new ones since.

Most post offices have received new datestamps since the GF 5 catalog of 1990. Paaskesen (whose DAKA publishing took over the publishing of the Wowern catalogs) has tried to contact each post office for new information but this catalog is probably not 100% complete. This is still a leap forward.

The introductory material has English translations. All postmarks listed are pictured at 70% of original size. Some have been retouched. A few from the Danish Postal Museum show dates outside actual period of use. I've seen this before in catalogs and appreciate the introductory note pointing this out. Prices are in Danish currency. There are useful tables of Greenland and Danish place names.

US APOs — the air force bases — are listed, with a few illustrations, as well.

The two main catalogs of Greenland and Faroe Islands have already been re-issued. This is the first of the "smaller" catalogs to reappear and will be joined by other titles during 1997 and 1998.

SCCers will be happy to know that there is a full page ad for SCC and the Posthorn in the catalog. Good stuff.

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# Scandinavian Area Awards

At the MIDAPHIL show in Kansas City, Jeffrey Crown won a gold for his "Faroe Islands Post: 1839-1962." There were quite a few exhibits of Scandinavian material at the Omaha Stamp Show, thanks in large part to David Anderson. He received a vermeil for his "Sweden: The 2 Öre of 1891-1892," and silver awards for the following three entries: "Swedish Envelopes for Military Personnel, with Reply Stamps 1929-1962," "Sweden Bicolored Numeral Types of 1892," and "Sweden: The Universal Postal Congress' 50th Anniversary." A

silver was also awarded to Betty Rutherford for her "Faroe Islands," and David Anderson also took a silverbronze for "Sweden: The 1889 Provisionals." Kern Riggs received a bronze at the same show for "1,000 Years of Danish Monarchy."

At ROPEX in Rochester, New York, Dr. Warren Pearse got a vermeil for "Danish Mails 1795—1917. Bob Paulson won a silver for "A Study of Sweden's Tre Kronor Issue 1939-69" as well as the APS Medal for Excellence for best post-1940 exhibit.

# Treasurer's Report

#### FINANCIAL OPERATIONS 1996

#### BALANCE SHEET

INCOME		ASSETS	
Dues	15,131.24	Cash in Bank	91,576.46
Interest Earned	4,344.37	Accounts Receivable	2,240.00
Donations	1,124.40	Fixed Assets	4,682.92
Misc Income	73.00	TOTAL ASSETS	98,499.38
TOTAL INCOME	20,673.01	LIABILITIES	
		Dues in Advance	20,000.00
		EQUITY	78,499.38
Posthorn Cost	6,724.77	RECONCILIATION	
Administrative Cost	3,839.70	Assets 1995	89,561.57
Depreciation	1,170.73	Net gain 1996	8,937.81
TOTAL EXPENSES	11,735.20		
NET GAIN	8,937.81	Assets 1996	98,499.38
		— Hov	vard H. Schloss

# Exhibits for 1997 Annual Meeting VAPEX '97, October 31-November 2

1996 was a banner year for exhibiting at our annual meeting. We filled 135 frames at ROMPEX '96 in Denver last May. Many awards were awarded to Scandinavian exhibitors. We want to surpass this in 1997. We can do it!

Our goal for 1997 is 150 frames, including single frame exhibits. We are looking forward to all of you to participate. If you have any questions contact me or Mike Falls or our host Tidewater Chapter 26. Mike's address is 575 Virginian Drive, Norfolk, VA 23505-4242. Please advise Bob Paulson also as he keeps a running total of frames committed. Bob's address is 1261 Pine Ridge Circle West, Unit #D-1, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689.

A prospectus is available from Leroy Collins, PO Box 2183, Norfolk, VA 23501 or from Bob Paulson. Entry forms should be sent directly to Leroy Collins.

#### Record Mail Delivery in Sweden (Nothing to be proud of)

Nordstjernan reports that Sweden has the record for late mail delivery — 56 years. Apparantly a father in Harlösa wrote a "get well" card to his daughters who were recovering from ear treatment at the hospital in Lund. In 1990 the greeting was discovered in the hospital's post center and was properly posted to the surviving daughter and delivered. Nordstjernan didn't assess blame to either the hospital or Sweden Post. It sounds ike the hospital might be to blame. Therefore, we are still looking for the longest mail delivery time.



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# ONE HUNDRED SWEDES IN AN ORANGE GROVE

# (Upsala Post Office in Florida) by Alfred A. Gruber





Figure 1 -- Upsala, Florida postmark found in the Margie Pfund Memorial Postmark Museum

Drive into Sanford, Florida, and you will see one of those cast historical markers that offer a thumbnail précis of the place:

In this vicinity Henry Shelton Sanford, pioneer citrus grower, established the Saint Gertrude grove in 1871. There, and at his Belair Grove and experimental gardens, he advanced the industry through development of some 140 types of citrus. The Sanford Gardens experimented with other tropical fruits, planting 30,000 exotic trees from South America and Africa. Much of the labor in the groves was performed by Swedish immigrants who settled at nearby New Upsala.

Henry Shelton Sanford was of monied family, pursuing many interests. Lacking rank, he arranged with the state of Minnesota for the title of General in exchange for a gift of two cannon. The title would prove advantageous in his new position as American Ambassador to Belgium. During this period he conceived the idea of learning what might grow in Florida where he had bought 12,535 acres in 1870. He first hired black people to work in the groves, but they were run off by the white settlers of Mellonville, the prede-

cessor town to Sanford. Then he started negotiations with an agent in Sweden to bring over various craftsmen and tradesmen. This was during the peak immigration flow to America.

Between 75 and 100 Swedes came to New Upsala in 1871 and 75 more in 1873. Each family was awarded a 5 acre plot of land. Having expected to be carpenters, printers, bricklayers, etc., many were disgruntled with the type of labor they were forced into. Imagine their reaction to their first Florida summer! A number broke their contract and ran away.

Of course the Swedes built a Lutheran church and eventually applied for a post office.

According to A Chronology of Florida Post Offices, the first post office was established 11 Nov 1884 as Upsala. (Pronounced Up-sail-a with the accent on the middle syllable.) Mail was delivered to the facility three times weekly by a contract carrier. John Monson was postmaster. The office was discontinued Jan 1885 when the service was moved to Paola. Application for a new post office originated Apr 24, 1890, signed by the proposed postmaster June 10th, and was received in the office of

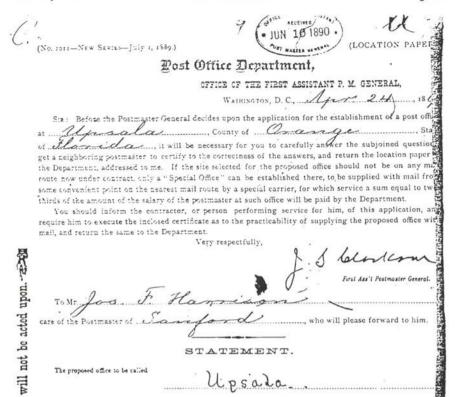


Figure 2 — portion of June 10, 1890 application for a Post Office at Upsala.

the Postmaster General on June 16th. Fig 2 is from the microfilm of the application at the National Archives building in Washington, DC. The location and nearest post offices are described. The population to be served is "... one hundred."

Action was quick. On 28 Jun 1890, the new post office opened in B. O. Seltzer's store. A copy of the circular date stamp of UPSALA, FL dated 1891, Figure 1, is courtesy of THE MARGIE PFUND MEMORIAL POST MARK MUSEUM at Bellevue, Ohio. Postmasters over an eighteen year period were Joseph Harrison, Benj. O. Seltzer and Sofia Lundquist. Finally discontinued Mar 31, 1908, the office was moved to nearby Goldsboro.

The entire experimental grove project collapsed in a calamitous freeze the night of 29 Dec 1894, followed by another in February. All the plants were

destroyed. As few as 16 Swedish families elected to stay. Others went to Miami or to central Florida Swedish communities. The total area population fell to 2,000 from 5,000. The sole surviving citrus variety tested at the groves is the Valencia orange brought to Florida by General Sanford from Spain.

Upsala is now a residential area where probably few residents know of its history. The small Lutheran cemetery is overgrown and forgotten. Surviving is a Presbyterian Church organized by the younger Swedes in 1890.

#### References and aid

Many thanks to Alicia Clarke, curator of the Sanford Historical Museum and Library for her assistance.

Bradbury, Alford G., and E. Story Hallock, *A Chronology of Florida Post Offices*, The Florida Federation of Stamp Clubs 1962.

#### NORWEX 97

#### **Bulletin 2**

A discussion of the Norwegian local forgeries seems to have spawned the article in NORWEX 97's *Bulletin 2* by Bjørn A. Schøyen which gives a nice history of the various local posts. There seems to be renewed interest in this area. Also featured are mail bag labels, Norway #1 numeral cancellations and the first regular airmail route in Norway.

Arne J. Bay's "From Lead Seal to Tin Tag covers labels for mail bags used on bags shipped to, from, and within Norway, without seals and with wax or lead seals, with customs declaration, for insured mail, and used on a money bag. Many illustrations.

Tore Gjelsvik has already written a handbook of Norway #1. Here he illustrates and discusses "Numeral Cancellations on Norway No. 1." The article updates our knowledge of the introduction and use of these markings.

This information can be read in English!

J.L. and Ernst M. Cohn

## Katalog, International Philatelic Exhibition, Oslo, 16-21, April 1997

For information contact Mr. Ingold Kapelrud, Commissioner General, Sjøråkveien 1, N-4070 Randaberg, Norway

A few months after bulletin 2 for NORWEX 97 the catalogue followed. The specialty this time is an article by Arne J. Bay, "Norwegian Postal Seals before and after 1814," pp. 622-75, Norwegian text with an English summary and captions for the 17 striking color photos of official, money and returned letters. The author's book on the subject is in preparation. 1814 is the year when Norway and Denmark separated.

Tore Gjelsvik is represented again, this time with an article on "Pen Cancellations on Norway No. 1," all in English, pp. 76-86. Shown are mutes, town names, ship and railway markings, written numerals, personal signatures, and manuscript oddities that include date, "used," "by express," and the initials "L/S." Some old listings are questioned, others corrected.

Harry Snarvold surveyed "Norwegian Letter Mail Overseas up to UPU" In English, pp. 88-108, with 21 colored cover illustrations plus a black and white picture of the ship *Hindostan* leaving Southampton on 24 Sept. 18422. His survey contains six geographic subdivisions and is followed by lists of monetary abbreviations and references.

Egil H. Thomassen reports on "The Forgotten Air Route (complete texts in English and Norwegian), pp. 130-145, with seven colored cover photos (one is shown twice) and four black and white photos. The route connected Perth to Stavanger, Oslo, Stockholm, and Helsinki. Information bout it has been sketchy for a long time, because this Air Route 730 was opened on 25 August 1939 in anticipation of World War II, and information about it was largely destroyed to keep it from falling into German hands. The author found much of that information in the files of Stavanger airport and has now reported it, including changes of originating and intermediate airports as well as time changed due to the use of faster planes than originally planned. The "schedule" became purposely irregular to confuse the Germans. This British Airways route was operated until the Germans invaded Norway, whence the Jason escaped on the morning of 9 April 1940 by flying to Stockholm and it, together with the Juno that had already been at Stockholm, eventually found its way home. The article contains many interesting, useful aeronautical and mail(including censorship) details.

All papers are well conceived and written as well as aptly illustrated, printed and bound.

— Ernst M. Cohn

# This 'n' That in Norway: A Review

#### by Alan Warren

A Selection of Philatelic Essays, Frederick A. Brofos, 272 pages, 8-1/2 by 11, plastic bound, illustrated, published privately by the author, Warner NH 1996. Not for sale.

A lifetime of Norwegian postal history writing will be found in this book by one of SCC's most prolific authors, Fred Brofos. Well, not quite a lifetime for we expect to see many more such philatelic essays from this font of Norway knowledge.

A former editor of *The Posthorn*, recipient of the Carl E. Pelander and the Earl Grant Jacobsen Awards, and an honorary member of SCC, Fred has bestowed on an insatiable readership a collection of his many years of writings. Although a good deal of what is to be found here has appeared in our club journal, Fred also draws on his writings which appeared in other periodicals, notably *Luren* and even *The American Philatelist*.

He has divided his presentation into two parts. The first deals with Norway buttouches on so many aspects of the country's stamps and postal history as to be overwhelming in breadth. Vikings, Cinderella issues, postal stationery, military postal history, maritime mail, railway station markings and railroad stamps, German censorship, diplomatic courier mail, revenues, stamp design, paquebot markings, and machine cancellations are just some of the topics he delves into.

In the second part of his collected writ-

ings, Fred roams through other Scandinavian countries and Finland to give us a glimpse of Danish post cards, DWI forgeries, Danish Christmas seals, Swedish canceling devices, local post in Karelia, German censorship of Danish mail, post office letter seals, advertising cards, and more fascinating topics.

A great compliment has been paid to Fred by noted Norwegian postal historian Paul Jensen, who commented that much of the information found here remains unknown to many collectors in Norway. This book is a tribute to the relentless research that Fred seems always engaged in. When I attended NORWEX in Oslo in 198 Q who should I run into at the Norwegian Post Museum but Fred doing his usual thing - research.

This is not a professionally produced book and was not intended as such. Page numbering is done by hand, and there is no alphabetical index. Instead, the contents are listed at the beginning as an "index" showing each article in the order in which it appears.

Unfortunately, Fred only made a few copies of this book as it was a labor of love and therefore at some cost. However, the SCC library and some other philatelic libraries around the country have been blessed with a donated copy from Fred where they are available to those who have insatiable needs for new revelations of Norway and Scandinavian postal history.

### SCC CHAPTER 13 DELAWARE

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# Eckerö Postal History: A Review by Alan Warren

Postgeshichte: Eckerö, Walter Erich Hühn, 84 pages, approx. 6 by 8-1/4, saddle stitched, illustrated, in German, 1996.

The Forschungsgemeinschaft Nordische Staaten publishes a quarterly journal and, from time to time, publishes monographs such as this work on the postal history of Eckerö. Each of the nordic countries has a study group within the FG Nordische Staaten, and this publication is sponsored by the Åland Study Group.

Hühn begins with the historical background of the Åland islands and then discusses the movement of mail by post rider and ice boat. Mails from Sweden to Finland often went via Grislehamn through Eckerö to the mainland and on to Åbo. The author illustrates some mail during the prestamp period which went by this route.

He also discusses disinfected mail during the Cholera period beginning in 1831. From 1847 to 1870 a boxed Eckerö handstamp was employed. Blockade mail, ship mail, official mail, and fieldpost are other topics discussed by the author, who also brings us up to modern times with some of the more recent cancellations in use.

The illustrations are well done and if the handicap of the German language can be overcome, this booklet is recommended for the Åland collector. It comes automatically with a membership in the FG Nordische Staaten. For details of membership or the possibility of buying the monograph independently, write to the organization's secretary Roland Daebel, Stolzenhagener Weg 4, 16515 Wensickendorf, Germany.

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# Many Crown Post Letters of Åland entered market suspiciously

Many of the Crown Post pre-philatelic Åland covers, such as the one illustrated in Figure 1, were stolen from official archives, according to Scandinavian Contact.

Apparently, in the late 70s and early 80s, someone representing themselves as a "Baron" approached the Åbo Provincial Archives, the Åbo Academy Library, various Church archives and possibly others.

He made off with a bunch of covers. These entered the market through Sweden. Sweden has ruled the Swedish dealer offered the material in good faith so much of this material remains in private hands.

Now there's a question that perhaps the recent discoveries of Cyrillic straight line postmarks were from this stolen hoard. The Skarpans cover find (a military fort on Åland with such a canceling device in the Post Museum), offered by a Finnish dealer, is strongly defended by both dealer and owner.

There are a fair number of the crown covers on the market and any detailed collection of Åland postal history should include some. At this point, who knows where some came from. — J.L.

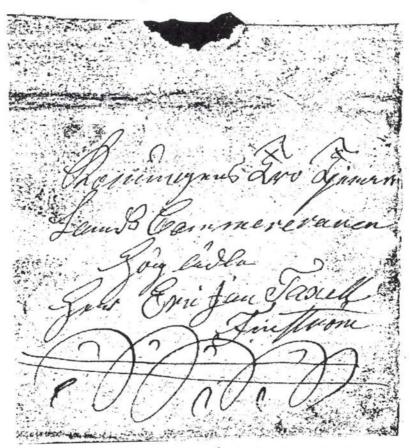


Figure 1 - A Crown Post letter of Åland. Stolen from archives?

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-Founded, Nov. 25, 1935 -

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SWEDEN EDITOR: John Lindholm, 2316 Lakeview Dr, Fergus Falls, MN 56537

FINLAND EDITOR Roger Quinby, P.O. Box 738, Clifton Park, NY 12065

#### SCC Study Groups

DWI STUDY UNIT John L. DuBois, 241 Crescent St., Waltham MA 02154

REVENUES: Tim McRee, Box 388, Claremont, NC 28610

SWEDEN - RING TYPE

STAMPS: George A. Kuhhorn, P.O. Box 4486, Emerald Isle, NC 28594

FINNISH STAMP UNIT Roger Quinby, P.O. Box 738, Clifton Park, NY 12065



### **President's Letter**

By Roger P. Quinby

Shortly stamp collectors, writers, dealers, accumulators and exhibitors will gather in San Francisco for an eleven day philatelic celebration that promises to be the most important and exciting show of the 1990's. The SCC will have a table at the show. We will hold Board and General Membership meetings. The Golden Gate Chapter is hosting a dinner Friday evening, June 6th. Dealers from Scandinavia, US and Europe will have large stocks of material representing all of our varied collecting interests. Seminars on The Schleswig Plebiscite Era and Norwegian Postal History will be offered. Will eleven days be enough?

By now many of you have already heard that there is a possibility of the Scandinavian regional international show, Nordia 01, coming to the US in the spring of 2001. Paul Nelson laid the groundwork at Finlandia 95 for this possibility and the Nordic Federations through their representative Knud Mohr have encourage us to begin the necessary planning and organization for a Nordia 2001.

In order to move Nordia 01 forward and to take care of other important SCC business, the Board held a January "meeting" by mail-in votes. A summary of Board action follows:

- Recommended the creation of a IRS 501(c) (3) Not-for Profit Corporation to organize and run Nordia 2001.
- Approved a contribution up to \$2,500 on a 1:2 matching ratio to Nordia 2001, Inc.
- Authorized an expenditure of not more than \$1,000 to partially reimburse air fare, meals, lodging & miscellaneous expenses for a Nordia qualified judge to serve on the VAPEX jury this November.
- Authorized an expenditure of not more than \$250 for a NORWEX 97 special prize to be awarded in accordance with show rules.
- •Elected Ms. Sandra Downs of Level Green, PA to a two year term on the Board to fill Bob Paulson's vacancy created by his election to Vice-President, Chapters.

Ms. Roberta Palen of Chicago has been appointed the new SCC Historian. We are pleased to welcome Sandra and Roberta to these important leadership positions.

In January, Nordia 2001, Inc., a NFP membership corporation was established. The IRS filing for tax exempt status is pending. The officers are: Paul Nelson, President; Gordon Morison, Vice-President; Howard Schloss, Treasurer; and Don Halpern, Secretary. Your membership and donations are encouraged and appreciated. The Nordia 2001 Board will meet at Pacific 97. All SCC members are invited to attend the meeting. The time and place of the meeting will be posted at the SCC club table.

The strength of our Club lies in the volunteers who dedicate hours of unselfish labor week after week maintaining member services and attending to the many recurring administrative details inherent in an international organization such as ours.

We are especially grateful to the dedication of our immediate past officers, Paul Nelson, Ray Merikallio and Jed Richter. Paul has assumed new responsibilities with Nordia 2001, Inc. Ray and Jed are simply retiring. Jed's distinguished service to the SCC and philately generally is warmly appreciated and recognized. Jed, we applaud and salute you and wish you many years of pleasure with the world's greatest hobby.

Two of our most important officers are now looking to pass the baton, W.E. "Doc" Melberg, our Librarian, and Bob Lang, the Club's Executive Secretary. The SCC's continued success depends on maintaining the high level of library and member services we now receive. So, at this time we are soliciting volunteers for these essential positions. Please be in touch with Bob Lang or myself.

1997 will surely be a busy year for the SCC. The new officers invite your suggestions and participation in the plans and programs for the coming years. Nordia 01 will challenge our resources, but opens the door for many new opportunities for friendships and philatelic enjoyment at the highest levels. Come forward and share the hobby with us.

To stay in touch with the latest news dial up the SCC on the World Wide Web. Our address is: http://nb.net/~downs/scc/scc.htm

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# News from the Home Office

By Bob Lang

We are glad to welcome 12 new and three reinstated members to our Viking band. Hope they will be with us for many years to come. We are a bit sorry so many decided to resign from SCC this year. Hope they won't stay away too long?

I want to express my thanks to our outgoing president, Paul Nelson, for his leadership and guidance during the past two years. He is a man who likes to get things done and is willing to go the extra mile to see that objectives are accomplished as promptly and efficiently as possible. Thanks, Paul, for a job well done. Thanks also to those outgoing officers and directors for your support and I look forward to working with the newly elected board members in the months ahead.

To date, I've had one response to my plea for a successor, for which I am grateful. If there are others who would like to be considered, please drop me a note. As I said before, there is no obligation.

Last, but not least, is my hope that I will see many of you at PACIFIC 97 in San Francisco this June. SCC has a society table in a very prominent location, so drop by and say hello. Cheers!

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### Editor's Notebook

### by John Lindholm

This issue is called the May issue because when it is so late the Post Office will not tolerate it being called the February issue. Joe Fry and Sandra Down will be putting together the *Posthorn* in the future. Joe Fry's address is 400 S. Highland St., #715, West Memphis, TN 38111. Sandy Downs is at 120 Old Gate Road, Level Green, PA 15085

#### My Last Posthorn

This is my last *Posthorn*. I have enjoyed the challenge of philatelic editing. I hope the *Posthorn* was fun to read, informative, and worth saving. The folks I worked with were great. More often than not, if there was a problem it was me.

I just never found quite enough time to do the job right and get the issues out on time. My children are all still at home, and my writing career continues to progress. With my wife working more than full time as a family physician, there just haven't been enough hours in a day. My apologies for my slow coreespondance.

Scandinavian philately is a great joy for me. I will continue to help the *Posthorn* edit some Swedish articles and perhaps a few isolated others.

I hope that this magazine has enriched your collecting interests. Enjoy your hobby!

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# **Library News**

Dr. W. E. Melberg, SCC Librarian

Aarhus Frimærkehandel has donated two of its publications: AFA DENMARK 1996-97 & AFA SKANDINAVIEN 1996-97. These donations are presented to the SCC Library in exchange for a review. The books can be purchased through Jay Smith and perhaps other Scandinavian dealers in the USA or directly from AFA. See the listing below. Facit Förlag again came through with a complimentary copy of FACIT SPECIAL. On November 5th an empty envelope from Trelleborg, Sweden was received with a Milwaukee P.O. message: "Received without contents". Since there were 190 Swedish Kroner in special franking on the parcel, I figured that a fellow philatelist had mailed something of value to the Library. I wrote to the Trelleborg postmaster for information; she returned a new mailing that contained the FACIT. Someone between Trelleborg and Chicago made off with a nice free sample! The SCC Library has joined the British "238" Faroe Is. Study Circle. They publish a journal every four months which is packed with interesting information. They are an energetic group that even arranges trips to the Faroes. Write to me if you want to participate.

#### Library Donations - October 1, 1996 to December 31, 1996

Cash: Russell Anderson, Tom Bergendahl, Wallace Gaarsoe, James Gaudet, Roberta Palen and Roger Quinby.

#### **Publications:**

#### Aarhus Frimærkehandel

AFA DENMARK 1996-97 This book, in color, covers Denmark in great detail. Mint, used stamps along with issues on cover are priced in Danish Kroner. Most varieties are detailed. The Faroes, Greenland and DWI are also included along with booklets and Christmas seals. 344 pages of information.

AFA SKANDINAVIEN 1996-97. This publication of 528 pages covers all of the Scandinavian countries plus Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Lists prices for mint and used stamps plus first day covers.

#### Roe Blume

NORSK FILATELISTISK TIDSSKRIFT. Many issues from the 1960's.

#### John DuBois

"A possible Christiansted postage due hand stamp." J. DuBois. 8/96. 4pp. Personal research data.

#### Facit Förlag AB

FACIT SPECIAL 1996-97. 718pp. This great book covers all of Scandinavia. It is presented both in Swedish and English. (See opening paragraph for special comment).

#### Robert Fashingbauer

1996 SCOTT CATALOGUES. A complete set of seven volumes.

#### David Feldman

THE "TRESKILLING" YELLOW - THE WORLD'S MOST VALUABLE STAMP. David Feldman. 1996. 32pp.

#### Finnish Postal Museum & Library

POST MUSEUM BOOK, POSTMUSEUM BROCHURE & POST MUSEUM LIBRARY GUIDE. These three publications give a concise picture of the contents

and nature of the Finnish Postal Museum and Library in Helsinki.

#### **Gregory Frantz**

BYPOST of NORWAY. Gregory Frantz. 80pp. Photocopies of an outstanding exhibit of Norwegian local stamps.

#### Dr. Erik Hamberg

STORSAMLAREN HANS LAGERLÖF. Erik Hamberg. 35pp. A biography of a top collector and leading contributor to the Swedish Postal Museum. Includes an English summary.

#### John Lindholm

GRØNLAND 1996-97 - DAKA GF 5. E. Paaskesen & E. v.Wowern. 192pp. Detailed Handbook (Catalog) of Greenland postal stamps. ( A review copy donated by the authors.)

#### Paul Nelson

NORWEX 97 - INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION - BULLETIN 1. 72pp. Rules & Regulations. Article: "Postal History of a Country in the Remote North" (B. Storberget); BULLETIN 2. Articles: "From Lead Seal to Tin Tag" (A. Bay), "Numeral Cancellations on Norway No. 1" (T. Gjelsvik), "The First Regular Airmail Route in Norway" (E. Thomassen) and "A Short Journey Though the History of the Local Posts of Norway" (B. Schøyen).

### Roger Quinby

FACIT SPECIAL 1996-97. 718pp. This great book covers all of Scandinavia. It is presented both in Swedish and English.

#### Roberta Palen

"The Vikings." H. LaFay & T. Spiegel. NAT.GEO.MAG. 4/70. 42pp.

#### Purchased:

KØBENHAVNS POSTSTEMPLER. Jan Bendix. 1996. 352pp. Catalog of København's postmarks, most are illustrated with dates of usage.

NORGESKATALOGEN - 1996. P-C Ånensen (formann). 368pp. Catalog of the postage stamps of Norway. (English preface, a vocabulary in English and German)

NORWAY NUMBER ONE - The 4 Sk Lion of 1855. V. Tuffs. 1983. 52pp. The complete history of this stamp. Includes plating diagrams and descriptions.

DAKA HÅNDBOG 1996 - KLASSICK - ISLAND - GRØNLAND - FÆRØERNE. E. Paaskesen. 1995. 184pp. This book brings together the popular collecting areas of the North Atlantic countries for the first time. Pocket-sized edition.

VIBORG 1979. FILATELISTKLUBBENS 50 ÅRS JUBILÆUMS UDSTILLING. 75pp. Articles: "Da Viborg havde blaa Postkasser" (F. Mørck), "Felt og krigsfangeposten ved Viborg" (V. Andersen), "Danmarks første frimærke" (H. Schønning), "Grønlands 'portomærker' " J. Sørensen & T. Nørby, "Dobbeltmorderen Rasmus Mørke Henrettelse paa Kleitrup Hede, 1 1/2 Mil fra Hobro, d.5te Januar 1881" V. Andersen, "Poststempler fra Viborg" Å. Kabell & "De tofarvede" B. Schaffer, K. Hansen, L. Nielsen and S. Seitzberg.

DANMARK, FÆRØERNE, GRØNLAND - KATALOG OF POSTCARDS SOLD BY THE POST OFFICES. 1996. John Steiness. 72pp.

"238" JOURNAL OF THE FAROE ISLANDS STUDY CIRCLE. Back issues to update our holdings.

STAMPS AND STORY OF THE FAROE ISLANDS. D. Brandt. 1996. 176pp. Interesting publication about these islands. The Faroese Postal Administration is offering this book by using stamps to enhance the story. They state: "A new book, with illustrations of stamps, covers and other philatelic material on almost every page, has been written by Don Brandt, a well-known author and stamp collector living in Iceland. Whether you are a serious collector of Faroese stamps or just interested in learning more about a tiny nation in the North Atlantic, this book is an absolute must."

### Canadian Stamp Circuit News Roger Fontaine

Great news all around for both the Canadian Stamp Circuit and for Canadian members of SCC. There are now close to 40 circuit books to pick from and another 25 expected in. Sales for 1997 to date exceed \$1,000. That's well over last year's total and Canadian membership is up by eight members.

Now is a good time to sell those extra stamps and to find missing items. How about updating your album with the newer issues? Old to modern, used to mint, from all of Scandinavia. One dollar plus postage gets you a blank book to fill. Give it a try! \$3.37 or \$5.24 gets you five circuit books to pick from. You choose the country.

American's visiting Canada can plan ahead and have circuit books waiting for them anywhere in Canada. And sales are in Canadian dollars — a 30% saving.

Thanks to all participating members. I look forward for new material to pass on to new and to regular buyers. And, we have an internet address too: hansengf@escape.ca

Roger Fontaine, 177 Crestwood Cr., Winnipeg, MB, R2J 1H9

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For twenty-five years we've been helping to build collections through our monthly lists of Scandinavian specialty material: covers, booklets, locals, stationery, seals, literature, and sometimes even ordinary stamps. If you're looking for the unusual, at pleasingly reasonable prices, we could be your source. Let us hear from you, because you'll enjoy our lists (we're told they make interesting reading) and may find some items you need.

### GREENLAND 1996 GF/DAKA CATALOG

For the first time in six years, there's a new edition of the popular Wowern catalog of Greenland. Just published by DAKA, it has comprehensive coverage of stamps, including Pakke Portos, and specialty items in almost 200 pages. It's fully illustrated and in English. (A separate catalog devoted to postmarks will be published in March, 1997.

\$35.75

### **Lizabeth Stamp Company**

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# SCC Chapters — Meeting Times/Places and Contact Address

- CHICAGO: 4th Thursday (except July and August) at Golden Flame, 6417
   W Higgins. MAIL ADDRESS: Ron Collin, PO Box 63, River Grove IL 60171-0063
- 5. NEW ENGLAND: First Wednesday at The Swedish Home, 206 Waltham St, West Newton, MA at 7:30 in the Board Room. MAILING ADDRESS: John L. DuBois, 873 Hill Rd., Boxborough, MA 01719
- 7. NEW YORK: 2nd Wednesday (except July and August) at The Collectors Club, 26 E 35th St. MAILING ADDRESS: Carl Probst, PO Box 8056, Hicksville, NY, 11802
- 9. NORTHERN NEW JERSEY: 3rd Wednesday at members' homes. MAIL-ING ADDRESS: Warren J. Grosjean, 32 Juniper Rd, Wayne, NJ 07470
- 12. WASHINGTON, DC: Third Thursday (at the McLean Community Center, 7:30) unless there is a major show or it is summer. MAILING ADDRESS: Peter Alten, 9300 Main St. Manassas, VA 22110
- 13. DELAWARE: Last Tuesday at members' homes. MAILING ADDRESS: Robert D. Lipscomb, PO Box 59, Rockland, DE 19732
- 14. TWIN CITIES: 2nd Thursday (except July and August) at Lynnhurst Community Center 50th St. and West Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis. AD-DRESS: Ross Olson, PO Box 23377, Richfield, MN 55423
- 15. ROCHESTER: 1st Monday at Robert Gustafson's home. MAILING AD-DRESS: Robert Gustafson, 877 Helendale Rd, Rochester, NY 14609
- 17. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: 1st Wednesday at Glendale Federal Bldg, 13300 Ventura Blvd, Sherman Oaks. ADDRESS: Paul Nelson, PO Box 310, Claremont, CA 91711
- 21. GOLDEN GATE: Meets at major stamp shows throughout year. MAILING ADDRESS: Thomas Olson, 4 Woodmont Court, Berkeley, CA 94708
- 22. HOUSTON: Periodically at stamp shop of Mary Jane Menzel, 2015 W. 34th Street, Houston, TX (selected Sunday afternoons). MAILING ADDRESS: Eric Roberts, PO Box 460201, Houston, TX 77056
- 23. FLORIDA WEST COAST: 3rd Monday, 6:00 PM at "Kissin Cuzzins" restaurant, on US 19 North and Curlew, Clearwater. ADDRESS: Bob Paulson, 1261 Pine Ridge Cir. W. #D1; Tarpon Springs, FL 34689
- 24. MANITOBA: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at Scandinavian Cultural Centre, 764 Erin Street. ADDRESS: Glenn Hansen, 113-211 Watson St., Winnipeg, MB R2P 2E1
- 25. TUCSON: 4th Tuesday (except July and August) at members' homes. MAILING ADDRESS; Jack F. Schmidt, 805 W. Hermosa Pl, Green Valley, AZ 85614
- 26. TIDEWATER: Meets at stamp shows and members' homes throughout the year. MAILING ADDRESS: Michael Falls, 575 Virginian Drive, Norfolk VA 23505-4242
- 27. COLORADO First Saturday from September through June, 10 AM at the Rocky Mt. Philatelic Library, 2038 S. Pontiac Way, Denver. MAILING AD-DRESS: Stuart Silverberg, 23509 Shingle Creek Rd, Golden, CO 80401
- Chapter contacts should get their news to Bob Paulson by January 1 and July 1. SCCers are encouraged to attend chapter meetings while traveling. If there is no chapter near you, contact Bob Paulson to see about forming a chapter in your area. Bob Paulson, 1261 Pine Ridge Circle W #D1, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689



### Chapter News by Robert Paulson

**Basic Chapter Activities** 

All of the SCC chapters engage in some or all of the following rewarding and enjoyable activities: sharing philatelic information, purchasing stamps and covers from SCC Mart books, buying, selling and trading materials, hearing talks by chapter members or by visiting speakers, watching slide shows and examining copies of award winning exhibits. If you don't belong to an SCC chapter please consider joining one in your area or forming a new chapter with other nearby Scandinavian collectors. See Chapter Contacts for meeting times and locations, and the names and addresses of contacts for each chapter. Please contact me if you would like to help in starting a new chapter.

#### Chicago Chapter 4 News

New chapter officers for 1997 are Richard Gorene, Roberta Palen, Norman Anderews and Ron Collin.

#### Washington D.C. Chapter 12 News

At our meeting in January, Frank Correl gave a fascinating presentation of the Danish Gebyr stamps. His collection of covers and documents spanning the history of these stamps complemented his wonderful analysis of their use by the Danish Post. Several of us pan to be at Pacifica '97.

If you are at any of the major shows in the D.C. area please join us for our usual Saturday lunch.

— Peter Alten

Delaware Chapter 13 News

Our holiday dinner was held January 4th and is always enjoyed since it follows the hustle and bustle of the holiday season and seems so much more relaxed. SCC executive secretary Bob Lang and his wife Peggy presented a video tour of the Orkney Islands. The Langs toured Scotland under the Elder Hostel program and this side trip to the Orkneys was a pleasant and educational diversion.

There is archaeological evidence dating to 3,000 BC of inhabitants on the islands. Vikings from Nowway settleed about 800 AD and the islands remained part of the Kingdom of Norway until 1472.

— Alan Warren

#### Twin Cities Chapter 14 News

Our perusal of the SCC cicuit books has been a bit disappointing recently. The quality of input to these books seems to have deteriorated.

Only seven at January meeting due to snow. You know it's bad when even Minnesotans decide not to go out.

January 11 & 12 was our annual SNOWPEX. The *Posthorn* editor couldn't make it because of snow. A set of two show covers, featuring the Iceland flag in the cachet, are available for \$2.50 from Bill Anderson, PO Box 22291, Wayzata MN 55391

— Ross V. Olson

#### Florida West Coast Chapter 23 News

In October Ed Evan concluded his slide presentation on C. Slania. Annual Christmas party was the usual convivial affair. SCC Secretary Don Halpern, who was here on business, visited us in January. We enjoyed his comments. Bob

Paulson is writing a "monthly" column for Linn's on Scandinavian Philately.

— Bob Paulso

#### Manitoba Chapter 24 News

We've seen increased member interest in exhibiting. Had a fine Christmas Party with Smorrebrød, Aquavit and Tuborg beer flowing, if not freely, plentifully.

The Winnepeg Philatelic Society has listened to those of us who joined and shook the joint up until they aw some daylight and the relationship between our SCC chapter and the WPS has changed for the berrer. (Glenn Hansen edits theihr monthly journal.)

This new spirit of cooperation includes the Senior Citizen's Stamp Club and a number of school—and-library based junior clubs. Ole Hellsten is Youth Convenor for WPS and has successfully built up an endless supply of stamps for juniors. These are available to juniors at one cent per stamp. We feel kids appreciate stamps they pick and pay for themselves.

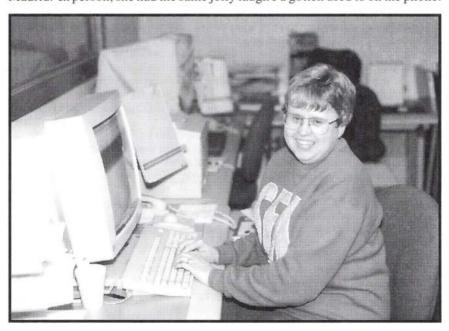
— Glenn Hansen

### Trish Johnson leaves Wilcox Printing

For years, Trish Johnson type set the *Posthorn*. In recent years the SCC has changed how we put together the journal and Wilcox Printing has changed their operations as well.

Trish left Wilcox before the last couple issues. I had less contact with her towards the end but when I began editing the *Posthorn* she was the lady on the phone, ready to listen and help. Over the years she worked on countless articles our readers have enjoyed.

I did not want to leave my editorship without thanking her. I took this picture many years ago when my family was on vacation and passed near Madrid. In person, she had the same jolly laugh I'd gotten used to on the phone.



# 1996 Posthorn Contents Summary

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### Did You Know? Spaniards Conquer Swede's Point and Rename it Madrid.

The *Posthorn* is printed in Madrid, Iowa. However, Scandinavian Americans should know that it wasn't always so. After Peter Cassel brought his Swedes to New Sweden, Iowa, in 1845, groups from Östergötland and Småland sometimes split off and settled in places like Swede's Point and Borgholm. Perhaps Swedes have a knack for ticking people off or perhaps Spaniards are a fiery bunch but in 1883, when the town at Swede's Point became official, folks, including the Spanish, wished to get back at those Swedes and named the town Madrid. (It should be noted that Madrid is pronounced with a very "long" short a, a kind of midwestern vowel that doesn't sound at all like Spain's Madrid.) So the *Posthorn* is published in a former Swedish immigrant colony with roots from the late 1840s (very early for a midwestern Swedish settlement). Swede's Point became Madrid in 1883. (Borgholm, named after the town on Öland off the Swedish coast, is now Munterville, Iowa. Apparently the Swedes couldn't keep their names.)

We have received a request from Steinar Skoglund to trade stamps. Steinar has Norway 1945 to date and seeks used U.S. Steinar is from Eilertsensvei 6, N-1734 Hafslundsøy, Norway

### Membership Exchange

If you are looking for pen pals, stamp exchanges, obscure information, or a way to sell extra material we will print FREE MEMBER-TO-MEMBER "ADS" on a "space available" basis with minor editing as necessary. Try to be brief — 40 words or less is best, SCC and the *Posthorn* cannot be held responsible for stamp exchanges. Use good judgment.

Submit requests to the Editor. (Dealer members will not be eligible for gratis ads, but can purchase M-T-M space at the rate of 20 words for \$2. (minimum) plus 10¢ per additional word. Contact our Business Manager listed on the Contents Page.)

Wanted: Photocopy or photograph of a complete sheet of **Sweden 3 öre Lösen** for plating study. Martin Fishenden, 8 Severn Rd, Chilton, Didcot, OX11 0PW England (3235-2)

\* S \* C \* C \*

To Sell: **Brazil**. Used early material available at apx. 1/2 Scott. Ex: #2 @ \$100 US. Items found in older circuit system from 70s. Write for terms of sale. Roger Fontaine, 177 Crestwood Cr., Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R2J 1H9 (3278-2)

\* S \* C \* C \*

Finland 1875-85 Arms Type. Member studying printing impressions would appreciate offers of any quantity. Jeffrey Stone, 20 Springfield Road, Aberdeen AB15 7RR, Scotland (1521-2) \* S \* C \* C \*

Wanted: Katalog over Danmarks Jernbanefrimærker, with supplements. Catalog written by Reinhold Jensen and P. Thomassen covers 1865-1965 Danish Railway Parcel Stamps. Interested in buying or trading Danish railway parcel stamps & Danish perfins. George A. Sellnau, 1511 Bering Drive, Houston, TX 77057 (1-800-204-6824) or gsellnau@aol.com (3239-2)

\* S \* C \* C \*

Wanted: Mint Postal Stationery: Norway 56,57,60,61,62; DWI: BK3C, 12A, 14B, Bkd 4A, 5A, 10A, 12B; Iceland: Ringstrom 12T3, 13T1-2-3, 15T3, 18T1+3, 20T3, 21-1T2+3, 21-2T2, 22T1, 29T2, 31T2, 32T2, 34T1, 37A, 45A, 48T1, 52. Robert Frigstad, 2181 Lakeaires, White Bear Lake, MN 55110 (0772-2)

\* S \* C \* C \*

Seeking correspondent in Sweden for exchanging new issues or recent at face value. My interests are airmail, military post and Swedish history. English only — so far. Ray Broms, PO Box 503, Elk Grove, IL 60007, USA (3409-1)

\* S \* C \* C \*

More recent local commercial mail available from Åland, Faroe and Greenland. Quantities limited. Steven Zirinsky, PO Box 49, Ansonia Station, NY, NY 10023 Fax 718-937-5515 (D1,P3)

\* S \* C \* C \*

For Sale: **Posthorns: 1967-1983.** \$45 + shipping. Robert Frigstad, 2181 Lakeaires Blvd., White Bear Lake, MN 55110 (0772-1)

\* S \* C \* C \*

Advertising & Exhibition labels, letter seals, all **Back of the Book** material from all Scandinavian countries wanted. Offers to: John Fosberry, 63 Sandringham Road, Buckland, Newton Abbot, England TQ12 4HB (3633-1)

\* S \* C \* C \*

Wanted: material on **Christian IX** issue, especially photocopy of 20 aur sheet (or strip of 3 with THJONUSTA variety in center). Dean Dougherty, Box 2229, New London, PA 19360 (3547-1) \*S\*C\*C\*

Wanted: Iceland varieties. Will buy at 1-1/2 times FACIT. Need 230v1, 301v3, 358v1, 390v1 and 505v1 + v2. Karl Klaus, 152 West Lincoln Ave., Roselle Park NJ 07204 (3053-1)

# George B. Lindberg

One of Sweden's best known philatelists, George B. Lindberg, died November 26, 1996 in a nursing home in Stockholm at the age of 89. He was a widely respected philatelic figure both in his native country as well as internationally. After serving as the president of the Swedish Philatelic Federation (SFF) for many years, he was made honorary president of the organization. He was named a vice president of FIP in 1980.

Lindberg organized STOCKHOLMIA 1974 and STOCKHOLMIA 1986. Over the years many honors were bestowed on him including Sweden's Strandell Medal and Order of Vasa, Finland's FINLANDIA Medal, Norway's Silver Lion, and so forth. He was an active collector of the Baltic area.

He began collecting at the age of ten, and one of the first items placed in his first album was a censored post card he received from an Aunt in St. Petersburg in 1917.

### W. Joseph Harris

### 1927-1996

William Joseph Harris moved from being a part-time to a full-time stamp dealer after his retirement from a Baltimore bank. He died Dec. 23 in a Mississippi nursing home after a long bout with cancer. He was 69.

Harris was born in China where his father was a representative for the Liggett & Myers Tobacco Co. Born April 14, 1927, his family returned to the United States in 1929.

Joe was a good guy who did things for the SCC (membership #1516). A member of APS since 1967 and several Maryland philatelic societies, Joe first carried an inventory of stamps from Scandinavian and then gradually expanded to cover most of Europe. His own collecting specialties were Greenland and Iceland.

He served in the navy in World War II, graduated from college after the war and then began work at Baltimore's Equitable Trust (now NationsBank). He never married and never changed employers.

Last fall he moved to Tupelo, Mississippi to be near his brother. He had lung cancer for some time (he was a heavy smoker) and finally succumbed to brain cancer.

There are many dealers who take a table at the club shows and smaller bourses and provide a steady backbone to our hobby. W. Joe Harris was one of these.

### Lars-Tore Eriksson

The March issue of *filatelisten*, the publication of the Swedish Philatelic Society, reported the death of long-time *Posthorn* advertiser Lars-Tore Eriksson. Eriksson was born on the first day of December in 1949 and lived all of 47 years; passing away in Kalmar February 13.

He began dealing in Stockholm in the 70s selling town cancels and covers with Göran Heijtz. He went on to be an auctioneer. He grew tired of big city stress and moved the auction business to Kalmar and put it under his own name. Eventually Lars-Tore Eriksson Frimärksauktioner became a leading Swedish firm.

He was capable, worked hard, and was an innovator (full color catalogs, simultaneous auction rooms in Stockholm, Malmö and Kalmar, etc.).

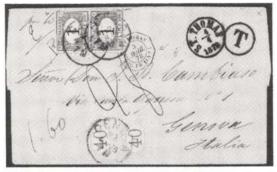
Heijtz reports Lars-Tore was a good badminton player in his youth and also clever at chess.



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