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POSTHORN

February 1998

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COVER: The Icelandic Stone presented by Halfdan Helgason of the Philatelic Federation of Iceland to the Scandinavian Collectors Club. See story, page 19, and Roger Quinby's comments on page 29.

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RESCUE OF THE AIRSHIP ITALIA SURVIVORS

By Alfred A. Gruber

Figure 1. Svalbard is the modern Norwegian name for Spitzbergen. X marks the location of the Italian support ship City of Milano; the arrow in the upper right marks the drift of the survivors on the ice. (Scott Norway 356)



It is spring, 1928.

The famous Italian General, Umberto Nobile, fresh from his 1926 transpolar flight from Kings Bay, Spitzbergen (Figure 1), to Alaska in the airship *Norge*, commands a polar scientific expedition in a similar airship, the *Italia* (Figure 2). The Italian government will not support the expedition with a special stamp. An expedition supporting label is produced, shown on a cover bearing Nobile's autograph (Figure 3).

Disaster strikes. The *Italia* crashes. The gondola is smashed; men are thrown out. The gas envelope drifts away over the arctic ice with some of the crew, never to be heard from again.

At 1030 GMT on 25 May 1928, six hours after the crash, wireless operator Giuseppe Biagi is radioing the world on an emergency set with a 435 mile range.

SOS Italia. Nobile on the ice near Foyn Island, northeast Spitzbergen, latitude 80:37, longitude 26:50. Impossible to move, lacking sledges and having two men injured. Dirigible lost in another locality. Reply via IDO 32. SOS.

Fifteen days pass. Nicholas Schmidt, a Russian ham radio operator in the Archangel area, 1,200 miles away, is the first to pick up the message. Schmidt informs his government, which then notifies the Soviet Embassy in Rome and the world. Only then is their survival known, despite their being only about 250 miles (well within radio range) from the base ship at Kings Bay and the Norwegian radio station there. The only reasons for the delay are official egos and media pressure keeping the Kings Bay radios transmitting instead of listening.

Journalists, who with most others had become pessimistic, suddenly have a story and the world news outlets are humming. Rescue operations will require airplanes and icebreaker ships from many nations. Heavier-than-air aircraft are still in the wood-and-fabric era, but flown by men experienced in the Arctic. Airplanes are yet to overtake dirigibles in range and reliability.





Figure 2. Dornier Wal (upper left) and airship Norge, sister ship to the Italia (upper right) (Scott Norway 753)



Figure 3. Expedition label and General Umberto Nobile's autograph on 18 May 1928 cover cancelled on Italian support ship City of Milano.

Stamps nicely illustrate the melange of ski and float planes, flying boats, and ships coming to the rescue from the northern countries. Norway brings two World War I Brandenburg floatplanes and a sealing ship. The Soviets bring two ice-breakers, *Krassin*, carrying a Junkers G-24 ski plane, and *Malygin*, with a Junkers F-13 ski plane (Figure 4). Another F-13 with floats leaves Helsinki (Figure 5). Sweden sends a Heinkel 5 floatplane, a Junkers G-24 floatplane and two Fokker C-VD ski planes (Figure 6). Italy dispatches a large Savoia Marchetti S-55 and a Dornier Wal flying boat. One thousand Italian stamps (Scott Italy C7) are privately overprinted on the back to publicize and finance rescue efforts (Figure 7).



Figure 4. Ice Breaker Malvin rendezvous with Graf Zeppelin in 1931 (Scott USSR C26)

The great Norwegian polar explorer, Roald Amundsen (Figure 8), enters the effort in a French Latham 47 flying boat. It disappears, and is never heard from again.

The ice floe on which the survivors float is covered with thousands of hummocks, which cast continually changing shadows and patterns. The ice, although eight feet thick, is disintegrating. On 17 June they sight an airplane. The *Italia* crew fires Very lights and smoke, but the Norwegian pilots, passing within two miles, fail to see them. Biagi radios that the airplane was seen. More airplanes appear. Finally, on 20 June, Major Maddalena installs a radio in his S-55 and is guided to the site by Biagi where supplies are dropped. There is no stretch of water for the large flying boat to land and rescue the men.



Figure 5. Junkers F-13 ski plane (Scott Sweden C6, C7)

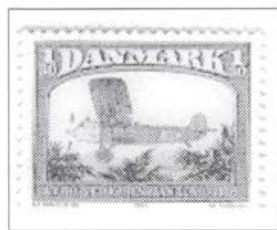


Figure 6. Fokker CV (Scott Denmark 697)

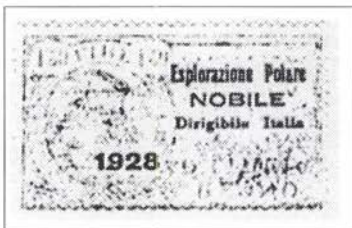


Figure 7. Private overprint on back side of Italian stamp (Scott Italy C7) to raise support for rescue effort



Figure 8. Roald Amundsen, 1872-1928 (Scott Norway 399)



Figure 9. Cover to Natale Ceciooni, a member of the *Italia* polar exploration party injured in the crash. This cover was air dropped to the stranded survivors.

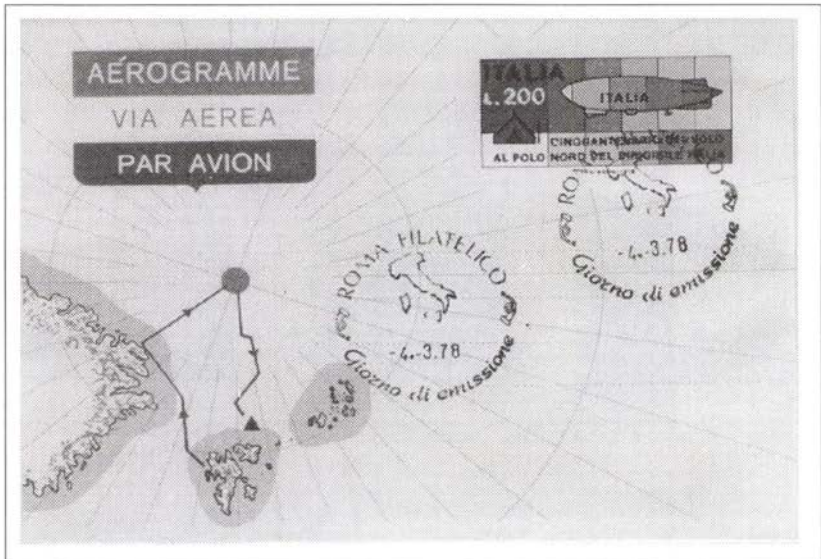


Figure 10. 1978 Italy commemorative aerogram honoring the *Italia* polar expedition.

Proper smoke pots from the initial air drop eliminate the difficulty of finding the camp. On 22 June, both Italian flying boats drop more supplies and some letters (Figure 9). That evening, two of the Swedish Heinkels make drops. The next evening, a Swedish pilot, Lt. Einar Lundborg, lands his Fokker C-VD. He can only

carry one person and refuses to take anyone other than the seriously injured Nobile, despite Nobile's protests. Ceciooni, although also injured, is too heavy for a safe liftoff, and Lundborg will soon return. But the arctic weather sours, as usual. Lundborg eventually returns, only to crash and join the party on the ice. The fascist Italian government labels the general (who was, if not anti-fascist, at least neutral) a coward for abandoning his crew. It is not until the end of World War II that the truth is told in his homeland.

After 48 days on the ice, on 11 July, the icebreaker *Krassin* breaks through and takes the survivors on board. It is just in time; a few days later the ice breaks up.

Dead or missing from the airship were seven Italians and one Swede; from the Latham flying boat, two Norwegians and four Frenchmen - fourteen in all. The Italian Dornier Wal crashes in France on the way home from the rescue mission; all three on board perish.

It is spring, 1978. Italy honors the *Italia* expedition with a commemorative aérogram for the 50th anniversary (Figure 10). General Nobile attends the ceremony. He dies two months later, on 19 July 1978, at the age of 93.

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Author's note: Thanks to Dr. Hal Vogel for the illustrated covers and advice.

Editor's note: This article previously appeared in the Feb 1997 issue of *Airpost Journal*.

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POSTAL RATES FROM NORWAY TO THE GERMAN-AUSTRIAN POSTAL UNION 1850- 1867

Originally published in Norwegian in *Budstikka*, a publication of the Norwegian Postal History Society by Paul Jensen, translated **Introduction** by Gordon Hughmark, edited by Don Halpern

Since Norway was part of Sweden from 1814 to 1905, Norwegian postal agreements were, in reality, the responsibility of the Swedish-Norwegian foreign ministry in Stockholm. In other respects, Norway's position in the dual monarchy was reasonably independent. Norway had its own assembly and laws, its own navy, its own currency and last but not least its own postal system. Foreign affairs were a shared responsibility of both monarchies.

Overland mail between Christiania and Stockholm had been more difficult than seapost between Christiania and Copenhagen. In 1820 the sea connection to Copenhagen required only two days whereas the post connection to Stockholm required seven to nine days.

There were three main routes for Norwegian foreign mail in 1824:

1. Christiania - Kongsvinger-Karlstadt-Stockholm for mail to Eastern Europe. This was the northern route.
2. Christiania- Frederikshald (Halden)-Helsingborg-Copenhagen which was the land route via the west coast of Sweden.
3. Christiania-Fredriksvern (Stavern)-Frederikshavn which was a direct seapost connection to Denmark. Letters travelled overland via Jutland to Hamburg.

In 1827, with the first steamship, there was a direct postal route in the summer via Fredriksvern-Copenhagen-Kiel. A direct post steamship route from Christiania to Kiel beginning in 1846 provided a transit time of 60 hours. Meanwhile, the transit time from Christiania to Stockholm had been reduced to 78 hours. A railway connection was not available until 1867.

Postal Rates Before 1851

Postage from Norway to the nearest foreign general post office always had to be prepaid because of Norway's small size and its great distance from other countries. Mail to the East was prepaid to Stockholm, for Denmark, prepayment was to Copenhagen or Frederikshavn, and for Europe and the remainder of the world, prepayment was to Hamburg except during 1848-1850 when it was sent to Lübeck because the postal route to Hamburg was closed. ▶▶

In Hamburg, mail to and from Norway mail either went through the Swedish-Norwegian post office (for the post through Sweden in winter) or the Danish royal post office (KDOPA) in Hamburg for the direct sea route to Norway or overland through Denmark.

The Norwegian domestic postage for foreign letters was 6 skilling specie (sk. sp.). Transit postage was 29 skilling banco (Swedish currency) equal to 29 sk.sp. per 3/4 lod (1 Norwegian lod = ca 15.6 grams) so the total postage was 35 sk.sp. per 3/4 lod to Hamburg. The corresponding postage for summer letters via Denmark was slightly less, 32 sk.sp. per 3/4 lod.

Letters with destinations beyond Hamburg were sent from Hamburg by the Prussian or Thurn & Taxis post. The additional postage depended on the route and the final destination. This was paid by the recipient. It was virtually impossible to send a fully paid letter beyond Hamburg.

Connection with the German-Austrian Postal Union (GAPU)

The GAPU was established in 1850. Postage was determined by the distance from the letter's entry into GAPU territory to the destination if it was in the GAPU territory or to the point of exit from GAPU territory if the destination was another foreign country. There were three postal rates as a function of the distance a letter travelled:

Zone 1 - Less than 10 German Meilen or 75 km.

Zone 2 - From 10 to 20 Meilen or 75 - 150 km.

Zone 3 - Greater than 20 Meilen or 150 km.

Postage per German lod (ca 14.6 g) was 1 silbergroschen (sgr) in the north part of the GAPU or 3 kreuzer (kr) in the southern portion of the GAPU for zone 1, 2 sgr./6 kr. for zone 2 and 3 sgr./9 kr. in zone 3. Norway obtained the rights to the GAPU rates by entering into an agreement with Prussia in 1851. The Hamburg Stadtpost became a member of the GAPU January 1, 1852 which provided Norwegian access to the GAPU through the Hamburg Stadtpost office.

Currency

The Norwegian currency was the skilling daler specie, divided into 5 ort, which was subdivided into 24 skilling specie (sk. sp.). The Swedish currency was the rigsbankdaler, which was divided into 48 skilling banco (sk. bco.) One sk.sp. was considered equal to one sk.bco. for postal accounting. The Danish currency was the rigsbankdaler banco, divided into 6 marks, which was subdivided into 16 rigsbank skilling (rbs.) so that a rigsbankdaler was equal to 96 rbs.

The Lübeck schilling (Lsk.) had been used for many years for postal accounting in both Denmark and Norway. The usual exchange rate was 1 Lsk. equal to 2 sk.sp.

The exchange rate for Danish currency was:

3 rbs. = 2 sk.bco. (after 1858, 6 öre) = 2 sk.sp. = 2 kr.CM = 1 Lsk = $\frac{3}{4}$ sgr.

6 rbs. = 4 sk.bco. (after 1858, 12 öre) = 4 sk.sp. = 4 kr.CM = 1½ sgr.

Scandinavian Currency

The three Scandinavian countries used silver as the basis of their currencies until 1875. A Scandinavian Currency Union was established, based on gold, with a decimal currency system with 100 öre = 1 krone. The same currency was accepted in the three countries until 1922. The exchange rates before 1875 were:

Norway:	1 Speciedaler = 5 ort of 24 sk.sp. = 120 sk.sp.
Denmark:	1 Rigsbankdaler = 6 marks of 16 rbs = 96 rbs.
Sweden:	1 Riksbankdaler banco = 48 sk.bco. From 1858, 1 riksbankdaler = 100 öre with 1 sk.bco = 3 öre. This implied devaluation of the daler. The riksbankdaler was replaced by the krone by the Scandinavian Currency Union of 1875 without a change in value.

Examples:

Sweden - Norway: 1 Sk.bco = 1 sk.sp. From 1858 3 öre = 1 sk.sp.

Denmark - Norway: 1 Rbs. = $\frac{2}{3}$ sk.sp.

Prussia - Norway: 1 Sgr. = $2\frac{2}{3}$ sk.sp.

The Lybske skilling (Lübeck schilling) had been used since 1741 for postal accounting. Postage for the GAPU zones were (with rounding):

Zone 1 = 1 sgr. = 1½ Lsk. = 3 sk.sp.

Zone 2 = 2 sgr. = 3 Lsk. = 6 sk.sp.

Zone 3 = 3 sgr. = 4 Lsk. = 8 sk.sp.

Post Connection with the GAPU

After the insurrection in Holstein (1848-1850) had been put down, mail could be sent directly to Hamburg. Holstein was one of the founders of the GAPU. During this insurrection, mail went via Lübeck/Travemünde outside of the war zone.

Seapost via Denmark

Domestic postage for foreign mail from Norway was 6 sk.sp. per lod after 1849. Seapost to Denmark was 8 sk.sp. and postage to Hamburg was an additional 4 Lsk. = 8 sk.sp. for a total of 22 sk.sp. in 1851. GAPU postage from Hamburg, as previously stated, was based on distance. Sea postage was reduced to 6 sk.sp. in 1852



which reduced the postage to Hamburg to 20 sk.sp. Danish transit postage was reduced to 3½ Lsk. (7 sk.sp.) in 1853 which reduced the postage to Hamburg to 19 sk.sp.

Postage from Norway to Hamburg was reduced to 16 sk.sp. in 1855. When postage stamps were introduced in Norway, they could be used for franking to Hamburg (16 sk.sp.). The 16 sk.sp. postage also applied to Lübeck, but postage to Travemünde was 18 sk.sp. Full franking to cities in the GAPU was then 19 sk.sp. per lod for zone 1, 22 sk. sp. per lod for zone 2 and 24 sk.sp. per lod for zone 3. Thus 24 sk.sp. represented the maximum postage from Norway to the most distant parts of Austria-Hungary. Registered letters required a 4 sk.sp. cash payment by the sender, but no increase in the GAPU postage. These postal rates for seapost via Denmark applied until August 10, 1865.

Transit via Sweden (Winterpost)

The domestic rate of 6 sk.sp. per lod also applied for this route. Transit through Sweden also required the payment of postage via Denmark or postage via Ystad (Sweden) to Stralsund (Prussia) based on the Prussian-Swedish postal treaty of 1852.

The total postage to Hamburg or Lübeck was 21 sk.sp. per lod with a total postage of 24 sk.sp. per lod for GAPU zone 1, 27 sk.sp. for zone 2 and 30 sk.sp. for zone 3. These rates were in effect from 1852 to July 29, 1857.

The Swedish transit was then reduced to 13 sk.sp. which reduced the postage to the GAPU border to 19 sk.sp. On January 1, 1860 the winter postage to Hamburg was reduced to 20 sk.sp. From July 29, 1857 to January 1, 1860 the postage via Svinesund was 3 sk.sp. more than via Sandøsund. This difference was reduced to 2 sk.sp. from January 1, 1860 until 1865.

The postage for printed matter and wrappers was 6 sk.sp. to any part of the GAPU. This rate was the same for seapost or overland routes. Postage for samples of merchandise was also the same as printed matter:

Samples less than 2 lod = letter rate for 1 lod
2-3 lod = double letter rate

These rates were valid until July 10, 1865. Postage for registered letters was the letter rate plus 4 sk.sp. to be paid on delivery. Postage was the same, franked or unfranked.

The 1865-1867 Period

A circular of August 10, 1865 stated that the zone designation by the GAPU was eliminated and that postal rates were reduced. Denmark had been required to cede Schleswig, Holstein and Lauenburg to Prussia and Austria in 1864 so postal rates were somewhat lower. The following rates applied for the GAPU:

	<u>With Seapost</u>	<u>Transit over Sweden</u>
August 10, 1865 to October 1, 1865		
Prepaid letters per lod	19 sk.sp.	21 sk.sp.
Unpaid letters per lod	21 sk.sp.	23 sk.sp.

After October 1, 1865 the postage for seapost and transit via Sweden were the same.

	<u>Prepaid</u>	<u>Unpaid</u>
October 1, 1865 to May 25, 1866	16 sk.sp.	20 sk.sp.
May 26, 1866 to April 15, 1868	16 sk.sp.	19 sk.sp.

Norway entered into a postal agreement with the North German Union after the war between Germany and Austria replaced the GAPU agreements.

RATE SUMMARY

<u>Postage per lod</u>	<u>Seapost</u>	<u>Transit over Sweden</u>
1851		
Hamburg/Lübeck	22 sk.sp.	25 sk.sp.
Zone 1	25 sk.sp.	28 sk.sp.
Zone 2	28 sk.sp.	31 sk.sp.
Zone 3	30 sk.sp.	34 sk.sp.
1852		
Hamburg/Lübeck	20 sk.sp.	21 sk.sp.
Zone 1	23 sk.sp.	24 sk.sp.
Zone 2	26 sk.sp.	27 sk.sp.
Zone 3	29 sk.sp.	30 sk.sp.
1853-1854		
Hamburg/Lübeck	19 sk.sp.	same as 1852
Zone 1	22 sk.sp.	“
Zone 2	25 sk.sp.	“
Zone 3	28 sk.sp.	“
1855-1856		
Hamburg/Lübeck	16 sk.sp.	same as 1852
Zone 1	19 sk.sp.	“
Zone 2	22 sk.sp.	“
Zone 3	24 sk.sp.	

RATE SUMMARY

<u>Postage per lod</u>	<u>Seapost</u>	<u>Transit over Sweden</u>
1857-1860		
Hamburg/Lübeck	same as 1855	21 sk.sp.
Zone 1	“	22 sk.sp.
Zone 2	“	25 sk.sp.
Zone 3	“	27 sk.sp.
1860-1865		
Hamburg/Lübeck	same as 1855	
Zone 1	“	20 sk.sp.
Zone 2	“	21 sk.sp.
Zone 3	“	24 sk.sp.
1865-1868		
Hamburg	16 sk.sp.	20 sk.sp.
All zones, paid	16 sk.sp.	16 sk.sp.
All zones, unpaid	19 sk.sp.	19 sk.sp.
To Schleswig, Holstein & Lauenburg, February 1865 to September 29, 1865:		
Paid letter	12 sk.sp.	14 sk.sp.
Unpaid letter	14 sk.sp.	16 sk.sp.
To Schleswig, Holstein & Lauenburg, September 29, 1865 to April 15, 1868:		
Paid letter	12 sk.sp.	12 sk.sp.
Unpaid letter	16 sk.sp.	16 sk.sp.
To Lübeck, 1865:		
Paid letter	12 sk.sp.	
Unpaid letter	15 sk.sp.	
To Travemünde until May 26, 1866:		
Paid letter	12 sk.sp.	
Unpaid letter	15 sk.sp.	
To Travemünde after May 26, 1866:		
Paid letter	12 sk.sp.	
Unpaid letter	16 sk.sp.	

After April 15, 1868, Schleswig, Holstein, Lübeck and Travemünde required the same postage as the North German Postal Union territory.

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DR. ROGER SCHNELL RECEIVES PELANDER AWARD



Dr. Roger Schnell (L) receives the Carl Pelander Award from Chapter 13 President Al Gruber (R), at the VAPEX Palmares Dinner.

(Text taken from introductory remarks by Former SCC President Alfred A. Gruber; edited by Bob Lang)

The Carl E. Pelander Award is presented to members of The Scandinavian Collectors Club for outstanding work in furthering the aims of the Club. When the Delaware Chapter #13 advanced the nomination of Roger Schnell to receive this award they believed that he not only met but exceeded the requirements both nationally and internationally. The SCC Board of Directors obviously concurred.

Starting in January 1991, Roger Schnell's name appeared on the SCC Officers list as Vice President, and soon after as President for the years 1992-1994. He brought with him a strong team of leaders to keep the Club vital. The most significant change he instituted was restructuring the financial basis of the Club and Stamp Mart.

Roger is a recognized APS and FIP exhibit judge. He served as United States Commissioner to NORDIA '92 and to NORWEX '96. In those capacities and others he publicized SCC internationally. Much of the groundwork he laid is seen in the future arrival of a NORDIA Exhibition in the United States, for the first time outside Scandinavia, in the year 2001.

An outstanding philatelist, Roger was the Director of SCC's Danish West Indies Study Group for many years and he regularly exhibits and publishes in that area and others to be cited later. He has authored and edited many articles and brochures on Scandinavian and Caribbean related philatelic subjects, including the plating of Norway #1. He has received International Gold Awards for his DWI Postal Stationery and Norway exhibits, and he garnered the American Philatelic Society's Champion of Champion Award in 1989. That's "Numero Uno" in the United States, folks.

He is currently President of the American Philatelic Congress, and he chaired the prestigious APS Committee on Restructuring for the Next Hundred Years!

Roger's interest in philately extends back over 50 years. He has collected such exotic and difficult subjects as Isle of Man, German Offices in Turkey, the German/Soviet Zone and German Ships of the Caribbean Sea. He currently has turned his sights on Iceland.

Roger, please come forward to receive your Pelander Award. Well earned!

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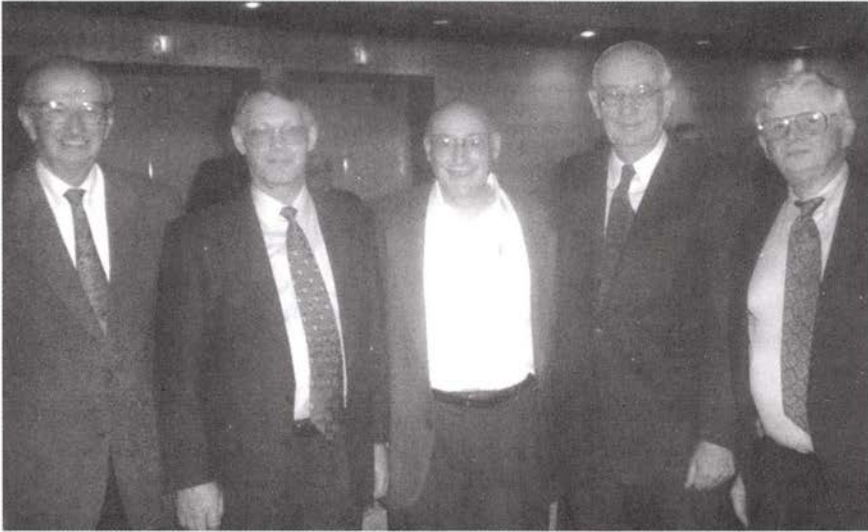
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HALFDAN HELGASON'S SPEECH AT VAPEX



VAPEX Grand Award winner Don Halpern (center) with Halfdan Helgason, visiting judge from Iceland (second from left); Gordon Morison (second from right), winner of the coveted Orrefors Bowl; gold award winner Warren Pearse (left); and SCC President Roger Quinby (right).

President of the Scandinavian Collectors Club, Mr. Roger Quinby.

Members of the Scandinavian Collectors Club.

Ladies and gentlemen.

First of all , I want to express my gratitude for the invitation to this great philatelic event called VAPEX 97.

To be invited here to serve on the VAPEX jury is a great honor, not only to me, but to all Icelandic philatelists, and not least the Icelandic Philatelic Federation. I want also to tell you how important it is to us, as stamp collectors in Iceland, to witness and feel your work, philatelists of this leading country in the world's philately, not to mention other fields.

In Iceland the philatelic situation is on a little bit smaller scale. The first Icelandic philatelic society was founded in Reykjavik in 1957, simply called "*Society of Stamp Collectors*". Some years later, another stamp club was founded, called "*Scandinavian Collectors Club*" which soon became a chapter in your society, thanks to the man behind that club, Sigurdur H. Thorsteinsson, and I'm



sure many of you still remember him. He was, and still is, very keen on philately, had good relations to many philatelists here, and in those years he visited at least some chapters of your society. Unfortunately this club, like some others founded in the sixties, did not manage to survive. But others survived and in 1968 the Icelandic Philatelic Federation was founded and soon we had established very good relations with our friends in the Nordic countries.

As you may know, an inter-Nordic exhibition is held each year alternately in the Nordic countries and ever since 1978 we have been participants in one way or another, at first on a very small scale. Though, already in 1984 we arranged our first Nordia in Reykjavik, and a second in 1991, and again in 1996.

I want to tell you how much we appreciated the participation of many exhibitors from your Club in all our NORDIA exhibitions and many even visited the shows. I recall especially NORDIA '96 where I had a very interesting chat at the frames with visitors from here.

Maybe thanks to our NORDIA shows we had many very active philatelists in the eighties and exhibitors with good exhibits receiving good awards and good attention both in Iceland and abroad. And we had even young collectors in our footsteps eager to exhibit.

But for various reasons the situation has been slowly changing. Many of our exhibitors have left the stage, collections are split up and a great many modern things are occupying the young generation and disturbing their interest for stamp collecting.

Fortunately we do have people that are willing to fight this trend and to show the way we have good exhibits even on an international scale. At this moment we have five FIP qualified exhibits which is very good compared to many other nations. When we want to boast, we compare to others per capita. There are about 270,000 inhabitants in Iceland. That means roughly 1 to 1000 compared to the USA. So our five FIP qualified exhibits would call for 5000 US exhibits, which would be quite a show.

OK, this was just a small joke, but I mentioned previously the good cooperation with the other Nordic countries. Through it we take part in the other countries' national shows, both as exhibitors and jurors, and we receive exhibits to our shows and sometimes a juror from some other Nordic country. We are trying to extend this cooperation with other countries to broaden our philatelic views. For our national show this year, held in September, we received very good exhibits from Germany and the Netherlands, thanks to the good work of the president of our Philatelic Federation, Mr. Sigurdur Petursson, and we are looking forward to cooperate with these countries in the future.

I mentioned also previously the good relations Icelandic collectors had in the past with the Scandinavian Collectors Club here in the USA. I'm talking on behalf of the Philatelic Federation of Iceland, when I say: We would be very happy if we could establish a new philatelic cooperation with the Scandinavian Collec-

tors Club here. We would like to see your exhibits in our shows and we could send our exhibits to your shows. We would like to see a juror from here working with our jurors in Iceland and maybe some other time an Icelandic juror will work again at a stamp exhibition here in USA.

Mr. Roger Quinby, President of the Scandinavian Collectors Club, on behalf of the Icelandic Philatelic Federation I bring a small token of gratitude and friendship to the Scandinavian Collectors Club. This is a piece of Icelandic rock, with an inscription which I hope will be our guide for for the next century of stamp collectors:

**Scandinavian Collectors Club
VAPEX 97**

**Cornerstone of
co-operation**

Philatelic Federation of Iceland



Some of the SCC participants gathered for a group photo following the VAPEX Palmares. Front row from left: Howard Schloss, Doc Melberg, Dave Anderson, and Greg Frantz. Back row from left: Florence Melberg, Warren Pearse, Al Gruber, Halfdan Helgason, Roger Schnell, Don Halpern, Gordon Morison, and Roger Quinby.

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DENMARK'S PROVISIONALS: A REVIEW

Denmark's Provisionals. Danmarks Provisorier 1904-1912-1915, by Lasse Nielsen and Henry Regeling. Kjøbenhavns Philatelist Klub, København, Denmark 1997, ISBN 87-983015-3-5, \$35.

On the occasion of its 110-year jubilee, Copenhagen Philatelist Club (Kjøbenhavns Philatelist Klub or KPK) has published an outstanding book about Denmark's Provisionals which were issued in 1904, 1912, and 1915. The book was written by two experts: Lasse Nielsen of Copenhagen and Henry Regeling of Heemstede, Netherlands.

This book distinguishes itself by an objectivity and depth of the subject that is without equal. The book is also important because it is in both English and Danish, making a wider distribution possible. Although these stamps may be called classical provisionals, they are not very rare or expensive, thus enabling anyone to acquire some and examine them.

As a book lover, I applaud KPK for the very beautiful and attractive presentation. It is simply an exquisite pleasure to take this book in the hands, open it, and gaze at the beautiful typography and the excellent reproductions of material that is sometimes difficult to illustrate. Take this from an old experienced editor. The book does much credit to the printers Thøttrup Bogtryk og Offset, Farum, Denmark.

The introduction defines the terminology used by the authors. Here also are descriptions of the normal and inverted frames, and what exactly is understood by the various flaws. The two different watermarks found and the perforation of the stamps are discussed. The introduction is rounded off by mentioning the cancellations of the provisionals and, or course, a little about falsifications to which provisionals always are exposed .

The classical provisionals, as we may very well call them because they are the first and oldest Danish provisionals, consist of the following: 4 øre on 8 øre bicolor overprinted in 1904 and again in 1912; 15 øre on 24 øre coat-of-arms type overprinted in 1904 and 1912; the 35 on 16 øre and 20 øre bicolors and the 35 on 32 øre official stamp, all issued on April 1, 1912; and, finally, the 80 øre on 12 øre bicolor and 80 on 8 øre official, both issued July 17, 1915.

The authors discuss why these provisionals were made and issued, since there were many different stories about the matter. However, I think the authors hit the nail on the head when they declare that it was most likely simple thrift, a.k.a. penny-pinching, because the Postal Service wanted to use up huge stocks of stamps which were useless, due to rate changes in connection with the new postal law of 1902.

For all of the stamps involved, the authors provide a very thorough description of the basic stamps. For example, the stamp type used for overprinting is discussed in detail, including the various printings. For the bicolours, a concise but thorough description is given about both the ovals and the frames. It is actually knowledge that benefits all collectors of Danish stamps and not just those interested in the provisionals and their flaws.

The same careful treatment is also given the basic stamps of the coat-of-arms type and the official stamps. This is a welcome addition to the philatelic literature; there is not much written about the officials.

For all of the provisionals there are descriptions of the printing method, as well as the essays and proofs, all accompanied by excellent illustrations. There is also information about the sheets, how many are known, and whether they are kept in the museum or in private collections.

All through the book the illustrations are absolutely wonderful. There are clear and distinct figures of the individual basic stamp, along with diagrams that show where the matrix flaws and the secondary flaws are found in the sheet. Then there is a full description of all the flaws in the overprints, accompanied by fine illustrations. For each of the provisionals, there is a reference list for collectors who want to penetrate deeper into the subject.

In the introduction, the authors write that the book is "both in Danish and in English to make it possible for foreign collectors to read about and take pleasure in the many special aspects and the many flaws on these stamps."

The best way to judge a book is to use it. Opening the book, I sat down and examined the old provisional stamps I have in my album and the very few duplicates I own. I concluded that the authors have indeed reached their goal and purpose. I learned a lot about the stamps I have known and owned throughout a long, long collector's life, and not only about the provisionals but especially about the underlying stamps. It was an exquisite delight to once again be busy with these old issues.

Using the book confirmed my first impression. It is an outstanding contribution to our philatelic literature and it is especially important that it is also written in English. It is extremely well written and superbly illustrated. This book does both the authors and the publisher great credit, and I can only give it my best recommendation. It is a book that every serious collector of Danish stamps must have in his or her library.

- Dan Laursen



SCC MEETING SCHEDULE

	ANNUAL	REGIONAL	NORDIC	INTERNATIONAL
1998	CHICAGOPEX Chicago, IL November 6-8	NATIONAL TOPICAL Falls Church, VA July 17-19	NORDIA '98 Odense, DK October 16-18	ITALIA '98 Milan, Italy Oct 23 - Nov 1
1999	BALPEX Hunt Valley, MD September 3-5	A SPRING SHOW? Help us decide	NORDIA '99 Turku, Finland September 24-26	
2000	WINNIPEX Winnipeg, MB	SPRING OR FALL?	NORDIA 2000 Sweden	
2001	NORDIA 2001 Tucson, AZ January 26-28	SUMMER OR FALL?	NORDIA 2001 Tucson, AZ January 26-28	HAFNIA 2001 Denmark

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CLUB NEWS BRIEFS

KAI HANSEN RECEIVES KPK HONOR

Congratulations to our Golden Life Member Kai H. Hansen of Grand Rapids, MI, who recently celebrated 50 years membership in the Copenhagen Philatelic Club (KPK). This is a great honor! Twenty-seven KPK members were honored for their membership milestones: two for 60 years, five for 50 years, two for 40 years, and eighteen for 25 years. Kai is the only American and the only SCC member on the list. The Scandinavian Collectors Club says "Til Lykke!"

- **Dan Laursen & Bob Lang**

CALL FOR EXHIBITS AT NATL TOPICAL SHOW

For the first time ever, SCC will be represented at the National Topical Stamp Show, this July 17-19 at the Fairview Park Marriott Hotel in Falls Church, VA. If you collect and/or exhibit Topicals here is a golden opportunity to show that exhibit you have been preparing. SCC has opted to take a table and have a meeting at NTSS in order to encourage our members who collect topicals (and there are many excellent Nordic Topical subjects) to try their hand at exhibiting.

This show features Topical Exhibits ONLY! We know many of you collect/exhibit Scandinavian/Nordic related Topics. Here is your chance to share them with the rest of the philatelic world. An exhibitor's prospectus is available from either Warren Pearse, 350 South River Landing Road, Edgewater, MD 21037 (410) 956-4668 or wpearse@aol.com and/or Bob Lang, P.O. Box 125, Newark, DE 19715 (302) 731-4385 or langsc@dol.net.

Space will be limited, as this show appeals to ATA member unit exhibitors. SCC has no frame allocation. There is a Single Frame Class at \$25, and an Open Class 3 to 10 frames at \$8/frame (\$4 for juniors). May 15 is the entry deadline so we encourage you to get your entries in ASAP. We are hoping to see 10-12 SCC member exhibits. Hopefully they will be Scandinavian related topics, but we are not fussy. We will provide special recognition for the top ranked SCC member exhibit. So let's show what a non ATA Society can do!

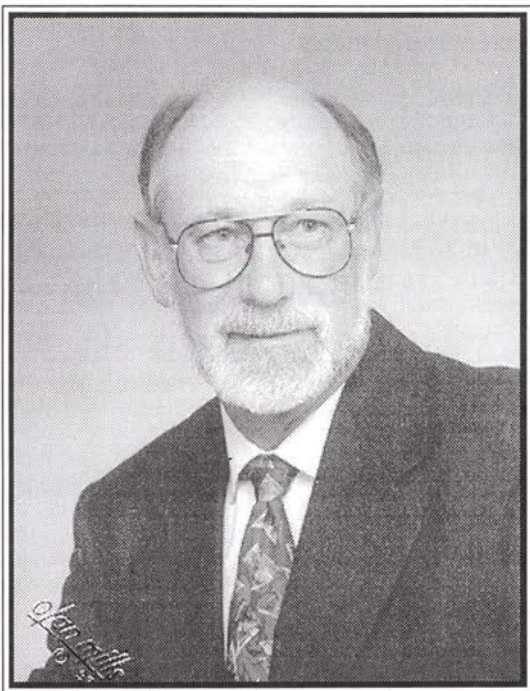
SCC will have a table for the entire three days of the show. We will also have a General Meeting on Saturday at 3PM with a program suited to the material being exhibited. There are many special events planned, including a trip to Mount Vernon on Thursday (the day before the show), A President's Reception on Friday evening at the National Postal Museum, the Award's Banquet on Saturday and a bus tour and Baltimore Harbor Cruise on the Monday following the show. Special Hotel Room Rates have been arranged at \$88/room on Wed-Sat night and \$69 on Sunday evening. Call the hotel at 1-800-228-9290. Hope to see you there!! - **Bob Lang**

CLUB NEWS BRIEFS

MEET SCC'S NEW EXECUTIVE SECRETARY! DON BRENT TRANSITIONS INTO KEY POST

I want to introduce myself to the SCC members with a short philatelic biography. I am fifty six years old and have been collecting for forty five. In 1966 during a trip to Denmark I purchased a Stender Danish album in Copenhagen as a souvenir of the trip and that began a more serious approach to Scandinavian collecting. This album was my introduction to a level of collecting beyond what was in Scott. I remain today primarily a collector of Denmark. I am a member of APS, AAPE, UPSS, and ISWSC in addition to the SCC.

While I now collect all of Scandinavia plus some other countries in specialized albums and a world wide collection to 1965, my main interest is early 20th century Denmark. Some years ago I became interested in the Danish Wavy-lines after buying an auction lot that included someone's beginning of a handwritten exhibit of Wavy-lines and Provisional issues. That auction lot plus the column that Randy Neil was writing in *The American Philatelist* at the time got me interested in exhibiting and I put together an exhibit of about three frames, entered in a regional show, and won an award. I was hooked. From



then on it has been a fantastic experience with more learning and expanding philatelic horizons. Today it is traditional study, postal history, (plus social history), stationery, and postmarks all under the umbrella of a single simple design.

With all my enthusiasm about exhibiting I have to say that I still consider myself just a stamp collector. I look forward to working with the officers and members and hope that I can be of some help to the SCC. - **Don Brent** □



THE SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB

Founded November 25, 1935

ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Roger Quinby, PO Box 738, Clifton Park NY 12065
VICE PRESIDENT: Dr. Warren Pearse, 350 S. River Landing Rd, Edgewater MD 21037
VICE PRES, CHAPTERS: Robert W. Lang, PO Box 125, Newark DE 19715
SECRETARY: Donald Halpern, PO Box 930, New Providence NJ 07974-0846
TREASURER: Howard Schloss, 261 Congressional Ln #705, Rockville MD 20852
DIRECTORS: Glenn Hansen, 113-211 Watson St, Winnipeg MB Canada R2P 2E1
Anders Melberg, 1426 Bristol, Westchester IL 60154
Sandra Downs, 120 Old Gate Rd, Level Green PA 15085-1329
David Anderson, 33780 Feldspar St NW, Princeton MN 55371
Michael Falls, 575 Virginian Dr, Norfolk VA 23505-4242
Gregory Frantz, 18314 E Geddes Pl, Aurora CO 80016-1608

APPOINTED OFFICERS

EXEC SECRETARY: Donald B. Brent, PO Box 13196, El Cajon CA 92020
HISTORIAN: Roberta Palen, PO Box 840, Loop Station, Chicago IL 60690-0840
LIBRARIAN: Dr. W.E. Melberg, Box 134, Allenton WI 53002
STAMP MART MGR: Eric Roberts, PO Box 460201 Galleria Sta, Houston TX 77056
CANADIAN MART MGR: Roger Fontaine, 177 Crestwood Cr, Winnipeg MB Canada R2J 1H9
APS REPRESENTATIVE: Robert W. Lang, PO Box 125, Newark DE 19715-0125
PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN: Marvin D. Hunewell, PO Box 190047, St. Louis MO 63119
AWARDS CHAIRMAN: Ron Collin, PO Box 63, River Grove IL 60171
LITERATURE PROMOTION: Alan Warren, PO Box 17124, Philadelphia PA 19105
WEBMASTER: Sandra Downs, 120 Old Gate Rd, Level Green PA 15085-1329

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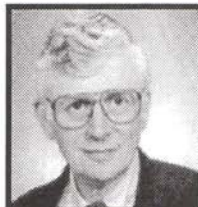
SCC STUDY GROUPS

DWI STUDY UNIT: John L. DuBois, 241 Crescent St, Waltham MA 02154
REVENUES: Tim McRee, Box 388, Claremont NC 28610
SWEDEN RING: George A. Kuhhorn, PO Box 4486, Emerald Isle NC 28594
FINNISH STUDY GROUP: Roger Quinby, PO Box 738, Clifton Park NY 12065

SCC ONLINE!

Visit the SCC website for up-to-date information on chapter meetings, sites of philatelic interest on the Internet, e-mail addresses of club members, and more!

<http://www.nb.net/~downs/scc.htm>



President's Letter

Roger P. Quinby

Plans for a first ever Nordia in the United States were given a strong boost with the APS Board's decision to hold its Winter/Spring meeting at Tucson in conjunction with ARIPEX (200 plus frame WSP exhibition), AmeriShow Expo (100 plus single frame exhibition), and Nordia 2001. During the last weekend in January, 2001, Tucson will be the site of a major amalgamation of domestic and international philately. At the present time, Nordia 2001 is planning 400-500 frames of Nordic postal history, traditional, thematic, open (display), revenue and youth classes. In addition there will be a Nordia Championship Class. The nine member jury panel will include one juror from each of the five Nordic Federation countries. Mark your calendar now to be in warm and sunny Tucson from January 26-28, 2001!

The SCC annual convention was held in conjunction with VAPEX 97 at Virginia Beach, VA last November. Except for the weather (it rained the entire weekend) we enjoyed a very successful philatelic weekend. Twenty SCC members contributed 29 single and multiple frame exhibits ranging from Florence Melberg's touching one frame exhibit commemorating May 5th, 1945, the last day of German occupation of Denmark, to Al Gruber's beautiful and well researched exhibit, "Mail from the Chinese in Mexico."

Don Halpern took the Grand Award with his "Mail Through the Danish Post Offices in the German States until 1866", Gordon Morison captured the coveted SCC Orrefors crystal bowl with "Iceland Postal Cards" and Warren Pearse was awarded a gold medal for his "Danish West Indies Mails 1790-1917." The *John A. Siverts Memorial Award* went to Michael Falls for "Major Errors and Printing Flaws of Icelandic Stamp Issues." Congratulations to all our exhibitors.

Dr. Roger Schnell showed his *Grand Prix d'Honneur Nordique* exhibit, "The Danish West Indies Post Office 1856-1917," in the VAPEX Court of Honor. Roger also served as Chairman of the VAPEX jury, where he was joined by Iceland's Halfdan Helgason, a guest of the SCC. Mr. Helgason, at the annual Friday night dinner, presented the SCC with a beautifully engraved Icelandic stone. He noted it symbolizes the beginning of cooperation between the Icelandic Philatelic Federation and the Scandinavian Collectors Club.

We were delighted to have Mr. and Mrs. Helgason with us at VAPEX. Our Icelandic collectors gained important exhibiting tips and insights from Mr. Helgason. He has invited us to participate in Icelandic national exhibitions, and those of us who attended Nordia 96 in Reykjavik know the warmth and friendship that will greet each American exhibitor and visitor.

The VAPEX Awards Banquet was a showcase for the SCC. Prior to the presentation of the Grand Award to Don Halpern, SCC past president and Chapter 13 president Al Gruber presented Roger Schnell with the Pelander Award. Roger's exhibits, research on DWI rates during the classic period, and service on both domestic and international juries and in behalf of the SCC earned Roger this most important recognition from the SCC Board. Congratulations, Roger! Hats off to Mike Falls and Chapter 26 for their efforts to make the SCC Annual Meeting at VAPEX 97 a great success.

We had a busy Board of Directors meeting and I will try to summarize the discussions and Board decisions. First and foremost, you will be pleased that the Board voted not to increase the annual dues. The Board voted to maintain *The Posthorn* at four regular issue a year, name the audio-visual portion of the SCC Library in honor of Robert Lipscomb, elected Bob Lang Vice-President Chapters to fill the unexpired term of Bob Paulson, confirmed the appointment of Don Brent as Assistant Executive Secretary, confirmed the appointment of Stuart Silverberg as Assistant Librarian, confirmed the appointment of a Nominating Committee (Paul Nelson, Chairman with Alan Warren & Robert Frigstad), confirmed the appointment of Warren Pearse as Exhibit Chairman, voted to support the efforts to reactivate of the Seattle Chapter and voted to present a Special Prize at each Nordia through 2001.

Finally, the Library Committee, under the direction of Alan Warren, submitted a report recommending that we look into the possibility of permanently locating the library within an already established philatelic library. Although we have been very fortunate to have had the service of Doc Melberg for many years now, a very dedicated and competent librarian, maintaining a library in a member's home is always temporary and sooner or later we will have to find another home. Doc has indicated to us that he would like to retire as Librarian, so the time has come to consider a plan for another move. Doc suggested that a SCC Chapter, rather than a single person, take over the library and the Denver Chapter has agreed to do so.

Stuart Silverberg, Greg Frantz and Doc Melberg suggested that we consider the offer of the recently formed Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library (RMPL) to house our specialized collection in a separate room at their site, a newly renovated one story commercial building. If this transfer takes place (we await the final report of the Library Committee by May, 1998 and a written agreement with the RMPL), Stuart will become Librarian upon the complete transfer of our holdings to Denver. At the time of this writing, I am optimistic that we will reach a favorable agreement with the RMPL. For more information about the RMPL, check out their web site at <<http://www.collectorsmall.com/philib/RMPL.htm>>. You may also write Donald G. Beuthel, President RMPL, 2038 South Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224. We will update you on the future of the SCC Library in the May issue of *The Posthorn*. □

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News From the Home Office

Bob Lang

This is the 25th time I have written this report and it's likely the last time I will do so under this heading. I am turning the duties of Executive Secretary over to a willing and very able Don Brent of La Mesa, California. His biography appears elsewhere in this issue. I hope you will give him the loyalty and support you have given me.

In the six years I have held this post, I have welcomed over 300 new members and many reinstatements. Unfortunately, I can't say that our membership has increased by that much as there have been many who have passed on, resigned or just dropped out for whatever reason. I do believe though, that SCC remains a healthy organization, but we continue to need new blood, plus a willing cadre of volunteers to help chart our course into the next millennium. I hope each of you will do your part!

This quarter SCC welcomes 13 new and one reinstated members. We are however, saddened by the loss of eight to death and another four who have resigned. On a positive note, Malcolm Price (England) and John Sabin (Florida) have decided to become Life Members. Our congrats and best wishes to both of them. In addition, many THANKS to the 33 members who added a few extra (tax-deductible) dollars to their dues renewal checks. Those contributions, no matter how small, do make a difference!

Thanks again for a great six years. It's been fun serving you and I plan to stay involved in some capacity, right now as VP for Chapters. One of the biggest benefits of this job has been the many friends I have made. I will miss being in touch with them on a regular basis. However, I do hope to see many of you at upcoming SCC shows and meetings in the months and years ahead. Cheers!! Bob Lang □

ROBERT D. LIPSCOMB AUDIO VISUAL LIBRARY

At the annual meeting on November 8, 1997, the national board of directors of the SCC unanimously declared that:

"The audio visual part of the Scandinavian Collectors Club library will henceforth be known as the Robert D. Lipscomb Audio Visual Library. The memorial recognizes the significant contributions Bob made to the SCC library and to other collectors designing papers and talks. The majority of slide shows in the library were photographed by Bob with assistance of others in the Delaware Chapter. The technical quality of his work sets the bar for others."



Scandinavian Literature Notes

Alan Warren

In the October issue of *Luren*, published by the Scandinavian Philatelic Library of Southern California, veteran Norway collector Fred Brofos discusses the Norwegian London series. In the same issue, Thor Thorsteins discusses the use of the stamps of Iceland on bank checks during the late 1930s, and also to pay taxes on exports during the period 1918-1921. Subscriptions to *Luren*, published monthly, are \$10 payable to the SPLSC, Box 310, Claremont CA 91711.

In the September issue of *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift* from Denmark, Max Meedom writes about the postal history of Stubbekøbing in the period 1850-1875. In the same issue Kurt Hansen presents the second part of his series on postal conditions of the duchy, Hamburg, and Lübeck during and immediately following the 1864 war.

In the August 1997 issue of *Philatelistische Nachrichten* from Germany, Roland Daebel discusses Thor Solberg's 1935 flight over Greenland, Iceland, Faroes, Norway and Denmark. In the same issue Cyril Schwenson illustrates some counterfeit cancellations found on Finland's Vaasa issue with strikes of the Sortavala telegraph office. Jürgen Tiemer, leader of the Norway Study Group of the FG Nordische Staaten, presents an unpriced catalog listing of the so-called miniature cancels of that country.

Greenland Parcel Stamps

Sonia Sondhelm describes the use of parcel cards for packages posted at the Greenland post office in Copenhagen from 1939 to 1952 in an article in the Autumn 1997 issue of *Polar Post*, published by the Polar Postal History Society of Great Britain.

The August issue of *The Finnish Philatelist* has a nice overview article on the stamps of North Ingermanland by Harry Walli, translated into English by Carita Parker. Information about the Finnish Study Group of SCC can be obtained from Bob Lang, Box 125, Newark DE 19715.

Polar philatelist Fred Goldberg of Sweden has put together a 12-page booklet with color illustrations, entitled "Norwegian Postal Service 100 Years on Svalbard." He incorporates both history and postal history in this brief treatise including mail from expeditions that passed through the area. Further information is available from author Fred Goldberg, Box 1210, 18124 Lidingö, Sweden.

K. Lyngby presents the first article of a series on Randers bypost in the August issue of *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. The series was continued in the Sep-



tember issue. Much of the August issue of Sweden's *filatelisten* is devoted to reports of the Mare Balticum exhibition held in Kalmar. 13-year old Maili Linnard won a large silver and a special prize in the open class with her exhibit of 200 years of postal history of Otepää.

In the October issue of *Postal History Journal*, Gordon Hughmark discusses prestamp markings on Danish area mail sent to continental Europe during the first half of the 19th century. He illustrates a number of handstamp markings of town names, including straight line, boxed, and CDS, as well as some auxiliary markings.

Air planes of the World

Knut Arveng continues his series on "Conquering the Skies" in the 3/97 issue of Norway's *Frimerke Forum*. The series is an overview of the topic of airplanes, and this installment is devoted to aspects of World War II. He uses airmail stamps of many countries as well as covers with special cancellations. In the same issue, editor Sven Bølum discusses Christiania bypost.

Plate flaws and varieties of Denmark's 25 øre 1875-1905 bicolor issue are the subject of an article by Ed Hall in the September issue of *Scandinavian Contact*. In the same issue, Ivor Smith furnishes the second part of his series on modern Norwegian postmarks; Alan Totten presents the third part of his series on Scandinavian mail intercepted during WW I; and Les Freestone and Eric Keefe continue with part eight of their series on Finnish Fieldpost 1939-1945, this time on the subject of censorship.

The November issue of *Luren* contains a long article by Arne V. Rasmussen on various Scandinavian country fieldposts established in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the handling of mails from these countries to U.N. forces during the period 1992-1996. In the October issue of *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, editor Lennart Weber presents a profile of the Danish Philatelic Federation's new president Flemming Skov Jensen, who has collected stamps for fifty years.

In the same issue of *DFT*, Carl Jørgensen describes the guidelines for the new exhibit category known as the Open Class, in which exhibitors are allowed much more latitude in the types of material permitted in their displays. K. Lyngby provides another installment in his series of articles on Randers Bypost.

SFF's journal *filatelisten* occasionally features an article titled "My Collection" in which a collector describes his or her particular interest. The September issue has such an article by Gert Fredriksson about the author's "home town" collection of mail from towns just outside Kalmar such as Torsås, Bergkvara, and Söderåkra.

Uffe Munch-Andersen illustrates a number of engraving plate flaws found on Denmark's 30 øre Thorvaldsen issue of 1938 in the October issue of *Skilling*. Svend Wæver discusses usage of the 19th century 1½ ring Lübeck cancel found

on letters to Finland, Norway and Sweden in the October issue of KPK's *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. Harry Larsen describes fieldpost mail during the 1864 War in the same issue.

Numeral Cancels

In the October issue of *Stamp Lover*, published by the National Philatelic Society of Great Britain, Bernard Towler discusses the numeral cancels of Denmark and Norway in a general way. Editor Lennart Weber writes about Denmark's emergency issue (Nødfrimærke), which were prepared during the 1963 Cuban Crisis and the Cold War, in the November issue of *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*.

Uffe Munch-Andersen continues his illustrated listing of engraving plate flaws of the 1938 30 øre Thorvaldsen issue of Denmark in the November issue of *Skilling*. In the November issue of SFF's *filatelisten*, Bengt Oom mentions that a group of investors bought several Scandinavian items in the late 1980s and placed them in a bank vault with the expectation they would appreciate in value. Now some of the material has apparently been found to be counterfeit or altered. □

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Library News

Dr. W.E. Melberg, SCC Librarian

The SCC Library received two large book donations this past quarter, one from the Wallace Gaarsoe estate and the other from Art Lind, Carl Probst and the members of the New York Chapter 7. As you will note in the listing of new acquisitions we really filled in some empty spaces. I am busy making up a list of duplicate publications from these donations. These will be offered to the general membership via an auction in the near future.

Florence and I attended VAPEX 97 to give the annual Library report. The Show was good. It was nice meeting club members, now we have faces to go with the names and, of course, we renewed acquaintances with our "old" friends. Aren't we lucky to "age" so well? We particularly enjoyed Al Gruber's *LEWIS & CLARK* presentation and best of all being introduced to Hr. & Fru. Halfdan Helgason from Iceland. His comments at the Judge's critique and Banquet were very interesting. He encouraged SCC participation in Icelandic Shows.

Library Donations - September 30, 1997 to December 31, 1997

Cash:

Peter Alton, Chapter 4 COMPEX Auction, Eric Jarvlepp, and the VAPEX SCC Library duplicate book sale.

Publications:

Aarhus Frimærkehandel

DANMARK FRIMÆRKEKATALOG 1997-98. The old Danish standby catalog featuring Denmark, the Faroes, Greenland and the Danish West Indies. In color. Includes Stamp Booklets and Christmas Seals.

Chapter 7, New York

DANMARKS FØRSTE FRIMÆRKE - FIRE R.B.S. J. Schmidt-Andersen. 1961. 200pp. The complete story about Denmark's first postage stamp with plating illustrations and two Reprints of the RBS (Denmark's first stamp). Includes liberal English translation.

THE STAMPS OF THE DANISH WEST INDIES. G. Hagemann. 1930. 110pp. Contains a great deal of information. Photocopy.

FINNLAND - HELSINGFORS STADTPOST & TAMMERFORS LOKALPOST. R. Granberg. 1923. 60pp. Photocopies.

STUDIER OCH MEDDELANDEN. No. 2 - 8. 1932 - 1956. VUODEN 1866 (1871) 10 pennin värvirhepainos. A. Faberge & E. Hellman. 19pp.

FINNLAND II - GANZSACHEN - AUSGABE 1923. 130pp. Textbook of early Finnish postal items.

FINLANDS NY- OCH EFTERTRYCK. av kopekmissionerna 1845-1866. L. Linder & E. Wahlström. 1947. 12pp. Publication about early Finnish emissions and reprints.

"*The 'PAKKE POST' Period of the Postal History of Greenland, 1905-1937.*" J. Birch. PHJ. 7-8/61. 9pp.

GRØNLANDS FILATELI FRIMÆRKEALBUM. 1959. J. Fynbo. 70pp.

FRIMERKER SOM HOBBY. R. Wold. 1955. 245pp. Book about philately as a hobby.

SOJEX 1961 - OFFICIAL PROGRAM. 24pp. Southern New Jersey Stamp Exhibition. Fifteen Scandinavian exhibits were present.

FORTEGNELSE OVER NORSKE POSTSTEMPLER ETTER 1845 - (DEL I 1941 OG DEL II 1950). S. Sanness. 1941. Listing of Norwegian postmarks. Includes Prephilatelic 1845-54, First-Day 1920-50 and Airmail 1938-50.

KATALOG OVER NORGES HELPOST. C. Pihl. 1954. 61pp. Catalog of Norwegian postal stationery.

HÅNDBOK OVER NORGES FRIMERKER 1855-1955. DEL I 1855-1888.

Norsk Filatelistforbund Redaksjonkomiteen. 1963. 312pp. Includes reprints of the first six Norwegian stamps.

DIE PRIVAT-, EISENBAHN UND DAMPFSCIFFSMARKEN VON SKANDINAVIEN U. FINNLAND. O. Rommel. 1909. Listing of railway and steamship postmarks of Scandinavia.

STOCKHOLMS POSTSTÄMPLER 1686-1910. A. Levin. 100pp. Photocopies.

KATALOG ÖVER SVENSKA FÖRSTADAGSBREV OCH MINNESPOSTSTÄMPLAR. S. Tullberg. 1955. 82pp.

FACIT 1962

FACIT 1964

AFA SKANDINAVIEN KATALOG 1962

KATALOG OVER NORGES FRIMERKER 1961, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1970 & 1972.

Corinphila Auctions

CLASSIC FINLAND - THE "TOBIAS MELLGREN" COLLECTION. 61pp. Corinphila Auction catalog. Sale held in November 1997. Beautiful publication with great color reproductions. Will be recognized as a top research source.

Michael Falls

MAJOR ERRORS AND PRINTING FLAWS OF ICELANDIC STAMP ISSUES. Michael Falls. Photocopies of this great one frame exhibit that won the John Siverts Memorial Award at VAPEX '97.

Wallace Gaarsoe Estate

AFA SKANDINAVIAN FRIMÆRKEKATALOG 1954. An early Aarhus Frimærkehandel Scandinavian publication. 124pp.

DANMARKS FRIMÆRKER 1858-1862. J. Schmidt-Andersen, 1964. 98pp.

DANMARKS FRIMÆRKER 1854-1857 OG 1863. J. Schmidt-Andersen, 1958. 78pp.

DANMARKS GENNEMSTUKNE FRIMÆRKE 1862. J. Schmidt-Andersen, 1958. 70pp.

AFA DANMARK, FÆRØERNE, GRØNLAND & DANSK VESTINDIEN SPECIALKATALOG 1976. 275pp.

AFA SPECIALKATALOG 1981 - 82. DANMARK, FÆRØERNE, GRØNLAND & DANSK VESTINDIEN. 447pp.

DK 87/88. SPECIAL KATALOG. FRIMÆRKER & MØNTER. Saga publication. 281pp.

POST- OG TELEGRAF HÅNDBOGEN 1976. 264pp. (Denmark)

DANMARKS KATALOGET (DAKA). J. Schmidt-Andersen. 30pp.

POST OG TELEGRAFKORT OVER DANMARK. 1976. Map of Denmark.

1875 - 1895 BICOLOURED ISSUES OF DENMARK. C. Heywood. 1954. 30pp.

DANSKE POSTFRIMÆRKER - 1851-1901. EN HISTORISK AFHANDLING UDARBEJDET PAA GRUNDLAG AF ORIGINALE ARTSTYKKER. O.

Koefoed. 1901. 192pp. (An early stamp album belonging to H. Konwiser).

GREENLAND 1991. - GF 5 - POSTAGE STAMPS AFTER 1938. E. Wowern. 1990. 192pp.

SCOTT STANDARD STAMP CATALOGUE. 1897. 700pp.

FUNDAMENTALS OF PHILATELY. SECTIONS 1 THRU 5. L.N. & M. Williams. 1963.

HERST BOOKS (7). "Nassau Street.", "Fun and Profit in Stamp Collecting.", "More Stories To Collect Stamps By.", "The compleat philatelist." "Still More Stories to Collect Stamps By.", "The Best of Herst's Outbursts." and "She Was A Character." These books appeared in the early 1990's.

POSTADRESSEBOK. 1985. 67pp. Norway. Also has Oslo postnumbers.

Gunnar Joos

FACIT - SPECIAL 1997-98. Facit Förlags AB. 752 pp. The latest edition of this great publication. Many new features are presented: Swedish Revenues stamps with prices, articles about Russian Postal Stationery in Finland and Danish Classic Covers. Comments about the stamp market are also included. As usual a top publication.

Paul Nelson

NORWEX 97 - INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION - BULLETIN 1. 72pp. Held in Oslo, 16 to 21 April, 1997. 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). KATALOG. 222pp.

John Sabin

FRIMÆRKEPENGE. C. Lund-Jensen & J. Sømød. 1975. 52pp. Listing of "stamp money" used during WW I & II.

Swedish Postmuseum - Dr. Erik Hamberg

POSTRYTTAREN - ÅRSBOK FÖR POSTMUSEUM 1997. 151pp. The Yearbook of the Swedish Postmuseum.

Alan Warren

FILATELISTISK ÅRSBOK 1996. Norsk Filatelistforbund. 160pp. The yearly book on Norwegian Philately. The article listing is made available to members upon request.

NORWEGIAN POSTAL SERVICE 100 YEARS ON SVALBARD. F. Goldberg. 10pp.

Publications purchased:

GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL COMMISSIONERS. J. Lievsay. 1997. 20pp.

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Editor's Notes

Sandra Downs

I'm finally getting into the groove; this issue was nearly a breeze to put together. It helped tremendously to take an overview course on the computer software so I can do things the easy way! Thanks to all of the members who offered their help. Kaul Kaup was one of the first to respond. He did a fabulous job combing the errors out of this issue, and will now serve as Copy Editor.

I received an update on Joe Frye from his daughter on New Year's Day. Joe is toughing his way through rehabilitation but is doing well. He's able to make a fist, and is working on walking again. While he continues to counsel his attending staff on the right way to do things, the atmosphere at the center is nice, clean, and friendly. He has no phone yet, but you can send notes and cards to him at this address: Joe Frye, c/o Cordova Rehabilitation Center, 955 Germantown Parkway, RM 213-B, Cordova, TN 38018.

I understand a few of you sent articles to Joe this fall, and I expect to see them sometime soon. I'm still awaiting shipment of the archives from Joe's daughter. Meanwhile, I would like to encourage our Nation Editors and Resident Associates to drum up new research articles in their respective areas.

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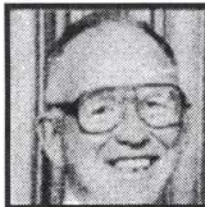
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Chapter News

Bob Lang

With my new hat on (this is Bob Lang, your new VP for Chapters), I am pleased to report that the Seattle Area Chapter #1 has been reactivated. The credit all goes to two dedicated and hard working members; the late Bob Paulson who made all the initial contacts and Mrs. Donna Samuelson who accepted the challenge and arranged the first few meetings. Donna tells me there are 15 active members who are meeting on the second Monday night of each month at the University Christian Church, 4731 15th Ave., NE in Seattle. I'm told you enter the building at the SW corner of 50th and 15th Ave. If you are in the area, look them up, I'm sure you will be welcome. They have produced an attractive flyer to help attract new members, elected officers and had several meetings, so they are well on their way. **NOW SCC HAS 17 ACTIVE CHAPTERS!!**

My objective in 1998 is to start a regular dialog with each Chapter Contact Person, so we can get needed information to you in time for meetings, help find ways to attract more members and share proven methods of keeping members interested and involved. I hope each chapter will have input and will benefit from this exchange of ideas.

I plan to have been in touch with each Chapter by the time you read this. If I have not, please contact me at P.O. Box 125, Newark, DE 19715; Phone 302-731-4385 and/or Email at <langsc@dol.net>

Chapter 26 sent in a recap of our Annual Convention at VAPEX:

CHAPTER 26 NEWS

Tidewater Chapter 26 has now had the privilege of hosting our parent organization's convention at a national show, VAPEX. Wow! What a busy but great time we all had. It was great meeting many of the folks that one only reads about.

The Friday evening dinner was held at a local seafood restaurant, Captain George's, and everyone pigged out on the bountiful seafood cuisine. Awards were presented for the one frame exhibits and special awards were presented to Halfdan Helgason, who is from Iceland and is the first FIP qualified judge to attend a SCC convention in preparation for NORDIA 2001. He presented a beautifully polished piece of Icelandic lava to the SCC, and an Icelandic souvenir sheet to everyone at the dinner.

As a sidenote, Halfdan and his lovely wife, Erla, were met at the Norfolk Airport by chapter member Mike Falls. Having a little extra time before the show set-up, Mike gave them a short "nickel" tour of Norfolk's downtown area before



heading to the show hotel. Even though Halfdan was a show judge and quite busy, he and Mike were able to chat quite a bit about Icelandic philately.

Saturday morning's board meeting went smoothly and another great stamping day was had by all. At the banquet that evening, SCC members managed to make off with a lion's share of awards. Don Halpern won the Show Grand Award, and Gordon Morison won the "Joanna Siski Taylor Memorial Award," which is the SCC National Award.

Chapter 26 member Tom Boyle gave an interesting program on Friday afternoon: Scandinavian Airmail Routes of World War II. He again gave it on Saturday afternoon for the local American Air Mail Association chapter. As many of you probably already know, Tom is involved with writing a book on World War II airmail routes and rates. It will be a fantastic work when completed. It is due to be out by the Fall of 1998.

SCC Past President Al Gruber presented a Sunday program on "Lewis & Clark — Then and Now," a promotion on the upcoming celebration of that famous expedition.

Chapter 26 gained a couple of new members during 1997, but on a sad note, lost one member to the great stamping ground above...Jack Strandfelt. We now have a nucleus of 12 members who are busy doing a multitude of things. Since this report is being prepared in December 1997, by the time you read this we will have had another meeting at a stamp bourse on Jan 10, 1998. Hopefully we'll see a video on Iceland's Stamps. □



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SCC CHAPTER MEETINGS AND CONTACTS

- 1. SEATTLE:** 2nd Monday at University Christian Church. CONTACT: Ken Elliott, PO Box 22808, Seattle WA 98122-0808.
- 4. CHICAGO:** 4th Thursday (except July and August) at Golden Flame, 6417 W Higgins. CONTACT: Ron Collin, PO Box 63, River Grove IL 60171-0063
- 5. NEW ENGLAND:** First Wednesday at The Swedish Home, 206 Waltham St, W Newton, MA at 7:30 in the Board Room. CONTACT: 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. CONTACT: Carl Probst, PO Box 8056, Hicksville, NY 11802
- 9. N. NEW JERSEY:** 3rd Wednesday at members' homes.
CONTACT: Warren J. Grosjean, 32 Juniper Rd, Wayne, NJ 07470
- 12. WASHINGTON, DC:** Third Thurs (at the McLean Community Center, 7:30) unless there is a major show or it is summer. CONTACT: Peter Alten, 9300 Main St., Manassas, VA 22110
- 13. DELAWARE:** Last Tuesday at members' homes. CONTACT: George Colvard, 311 Plymouth Rd, Wilmington DE 19803
- 14. TWIN CITIES:** 2nd Thursday (except July and August) at Lynnhurst Community Center, 50th St. and West Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis MN.
CONTACT: Ross Olson, PO Box 23377, Richfield, MN 55423
- 15. ROCHESTER:** 1st Monday at Robert Gustafson's home.
CONTACT: Robert Gustafson, 877 Helendale Rd, Rochester, NY 14609
- 17. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:** 1st Wednesday at Glendale Federal Bldg, 13300 Ventura Blvd, Sherman Oaks.
CONTACT: Paul Nelson, PO Box 310, Claremont, CA 91711
- 21. GOLDEN GATE:** Meets at major stamp shows throughout year.
CONTACT: 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).
CONTACT: Eric Roberts, PO Box 460201, Houston, TX 77056
- 23. BOB PAULSON (Florida West Coast):** 3rd Monday, 6:00 PM at "Kissin Cuzzins" restaurant, on US 19 North and Curlew, Clearwater.
CONTACT: Doris Wendling, 4673 Devonshire Blvd, Palm Harbor FL 34685
- 24. MANTOBA:** 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at Scandinavian Cultural Centre, 764 Erin Street.
CONTACT: Glenn Hansen, 113-211 Watson St., Winnipeg, MB R2P 2E1
- 25. TUCSON:** 4th Tuesday (except July and August) at members' homes.
CONTACT: Jack F. Schmidt, 805 W. Hermosa Pl, Green Valley, AZ 85614
- 26. TIDEWATER:** Meets at shows and members' homes throughout the year.
CONTACT: 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. CONTACT: Stuart Silverberg, 23509 Shingle Creek Rd, Golden, CO 80401



EXHIBITOR ALERT!

The SCC Board Meeting will be at the NATIONAL TOPICAL STAMP SHOW in Falls Church, VA, July 17-19, 1998. SCC will have a table and members may present seminars. Although there is no frame allotment set aside, SCC exhibitors are welcome to show their topical or thematic exhibits. This is an excellent opportunity for members to show the their versatility of their collections. Please contact Bob Lang for rules and prospectus.

Transfers & Re-entries

By Alan Warren

Finland collectors will be interested in the new journal *The Finnish Philatelist*. Just two issues have appeared so it is easy to start a complete run of this newsletter published by the Finnish Study Group of SCC. The second issue has articles on the early cancels of the 1875 coat of arms stamps, rare postal rates, WW I censorship, and new issues from Finland. For information about the group and its publication, write to Robert Lang, Box 125, Newark DE 19715.

October 23 - November 1, 1998 are the dates of the FIP show, which will be held in Milan, Italy. ITALIA 98 has our own SCC president Roger Quinby as one of the two U.S. Commissioners, the other being airmail collector Stephen Reinhard. The show is being restricted to four classes: postal history, aerophilately, thematic, and literature. Other commissioners include Knud Mohr of Denmark, Kari Rahiala of Finland, Paul Jensen of Norway, and Gunnar Dahlvig of Sweden.

Swedish Postal History

For the serious student of the postal history of Sweden there is a small and somewhat elite group of collectors of this type of material. The Sällskapet för Svensk Posthistorisk Dokumentation (SSPD) consists of just over 100 members who have collected, exhibited, and especially written about their subject. Domestic members meet several times during the year and every so often they publish a booklet of collected articles on various aspects of Swedish postal history.

In 1997 SSPD released No. 5 in its series entitled *Aktuellt om Posthistoria*. One article reviews Sweden's fieldposts abroad, particularly for Swedish forces stationed as part of the United Nations' peacekeeping activities in recent years in Egypt, Congo, Cyprus, the Middle East, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia. Another delves into the conveyance of parcels in Sweden by diligence post in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Editor of the booklet is Gustaf Ankarcrona who is also currently the president of SSPD. Information about the organization and its publications can be obtained from secretary Sören Andersson, Box 19113, 10432 Stockholm, Sweden.

A Danish collector is gathering information on APOs and Navy post offices in Denmark and Greenland from 1941 to date in preparation for an article. He is aware of eleven Navy offices and fifteen APOs in Greenland, and five APOs for Denmark as well as three Navy offices for Copenhagen with ties to London. Those interested in corresponding with him on this subject should write to Per Rønberg, Kirkevænget 5, 5856 Ryslinge, Denmark.

SPLSC Cachet Artist

Dave Bennett, vice president of the Scandinavian Philatelic Library of Southern California and a well-known cachet artist, is featured in an article in the quarterly publication of the Åland Philatelic Service. Issue No. 3/97 of *Ålandsposten filateli* tells how Bennett, who works for a commercial cartoon studio, got involved with first day cover cachets ten years ago with a U.S. issue. Since then he has prepared cachets for new issues of many of the island countries such as Åland, Greenland, Iceland, Faroes, Guernsey, and Jersey.

Bennett's cachets are works of art and he sells them under the trade name Bennett Cachetoons. His island country cachets he refers to as Puffin Cachets. Since he is attracted to stamps featuring owls, Bennett decided to prepare a cachet for the owl stamp booklet issued by Åland in 1996. He has also prepared cachets for the FRAMA label and the ringed seal issue of Åland. Information about his covers can be obtained from Bennett Cachetoons, 14418 Miranda St., Van Nuys CA 91401-4232. □

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 3682 GUNDERSON, WILLIAM N. 5449 S. Locust, Englewood, CO 80111
 3683 SAVAGE, DAN 21 Johnson Drive, Stratford, PEI Canada C1B 1K9
 3684 LARSON, JOHN W. 13559 Sherman Road NW, Seattle, WA 98177
 3685 MOORE, ERNEST M. 5914 Walhonding Road, Bethesda, MD 20186
 3686 HELGASON, HALFDAN, Masholum 19, IS-111 Reykjavik, Iceland
 3687 ANGUS, JERRY E. 11 Byers Avenue, Portsmouth, VA 23701
 3688 MORKEBERG, THOMAS Faarupvej 7, D-7300 Jelling, Denmark
 3689 BARTHOLD, WALTER 323 Stevens Avenue, Ridgewood, NJ 07450
 3690 RAFNER, CLAUS Birkerød Parkvej 22, st. th., DK-3460 Birkerød, Denmark
 3691 O'DELL, KEITH E. 973 Balboa, Morro Bay, CA 93442
 3692 NUPPONEN, BERT P.O. Box 251, Nobel, ON Canada P0G 1G0
 3693 HERREN, JR., CHARLES W. 1825 NW 173rd Avenue, Beaverton, OR 97006

CHANGE OF STATUS

- L-88/1898 PRICE, MALCOLM J. of Sussex, England - From Regular to Life
 L-89/2573 SABIN, JOHN R. of Gainseville, FL - From Regular to Life

REINSTATED

- 1837 HENNIG, BARNARD A. of Chicago, IL - From June 97 Drop List

DECEASED

- 1645 HAGUE, COL. BENJAMIN P. of Edgewood, RI - Member since 1972
 1355 CARRUTHERS, HELEN W. of Memphis, TN - Member since 1969
 3604 PETERSON, CLIFFORD B. of Salina, KS - Member since 1996
 1636 PAULSON, ROBERT E. of Tarpon Springs, FL - Member since 1973
 1191 MARTIN Jr, JEROME Z. of Lansdowne, PA - Member since 1967
 3381 JOHNSON, RICHARD K. of Rhinelander, WI - Member since 1992
 1037 LETH, RAYMOND of Canton, PA - Member since 1965

RESIGNED

- 3246 OBERLIN, PAUL A. of Hamden, CT - Member since 1989
 2732 DOTY, CONNIE of Orinda, CA - Member since 1983
 3633 FOSBERY, JOHN of Devon, England - Member since 1996
 3250 LUND, HOLGER of Risskov, Denmark - Member since 1989

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- 2635 GUSTAFSON, IVAR W. 56 Perennial Drive, Cranston, RI 02920
 3554 BERNHARDSSON, MIKAEL Sodra Vagen 36 B, SE-412 54 Gothenburg, Sweden
 PH27 SPS LIBRARY, 15 Ramsay Wood, Gatehouse of Fleet, Kirkcudbrightshire, England UK DG7 2HJ
 3563 BLISS, GORDON 185 Tower Street, Dedham, MA 02026
 3579 COULBOURNE, JOSEPH 6 Yosemite Lane, Fredericksburg, VA 22408
 3227 GLASO, KNUT Leirbruveien 6, N-7026 Trondheim, Norway
 1286 HVIDONOV, ANNELI 16 Spring Hollow, Roslyn, NY 11576
 L-73 KAUP, KARL LEE PO Box 6676, San Diego, CA 92166-0676
 3613 LOFGREN, THORE 1312 17th Street, Greeley, CO 80631
 2979 TENNENT, ALEX 3697 Highway 101, Gamaliel, AR 72537
 3420 TERAMO, KARI A. Krenatoorintie 9A, FIN-02680 Espoo, Finland

- 1354 WHIPPLE, BRYAN R. R. 23125 Fort Ross Road, Box 259, Cazadero, CA 95421
 2417 TUTTLE, MIKE 29 Betley Hall Gardens, Betley, Near Crewe, England UK CW3 9BB
 3275 VAN SIKKELERUS, JOOP J. 8 Kaya John Menge, Curacao, Netherlands Antilles
 2328 BACON, PAUL L. 20 Fieldwood Drive, Bridgewater, MA 02324
 1228 EGY, HAROLD A. P.O. Box 7764, Phoenix, AZ 85011
 3096 FERBER, LEROY W. P.O. Box 210, West Berlin, NJ 08091
 1377 NOLTE, MYRON 3862 Sherview Drive, Sherman Oaks, CA 94103
 3435 NORSTAN, KARL A. Box 1069, SE-18121 Lidingo, Sweden
 2917 WEAVER, GARY 2296 Bridlewood Boulevard, Obetz, OH 43207
 2115 SHIGAKI, MASAFUMI Tsuchihashi 2-14-16, Miyamae-Ku, Kawasaki, 216-0005 Japan
 3223 VOSS, REV JACK K. 4930 Portrait Place, Colorado Springs, CO 80917
 2429 LOE, DAVID J. 36 Karaka Street, Auckland, New Zealand 1309

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1408 Norman Gary	3481 John Mc Cay, Jr.	3294 Ernest Svensson
3379 Chris Gray	1620 Lynn Minneman	GL336 Norman Welo
2632 Eric Hansen	2761 Otto Ofjord	3067 William Wolfel, Jr.

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY 12/31/97

Total Paid Last Report.....	897
New Members.....	+ 13
Reinstated.....	+ 1
Deceased.....	- 7
Resigned.....	- 4
Dropped from Rolls.....	0
Total Paid This Report.....	900
Courtesy & Exchange.....	35
SCC Staff & Library.....	75
Total PH Copies.....	1010

GROUP FLIGHT TO NORDIA '98

The SCC Board agreed at VAPEX '97 to support NORDIA '98 in Odense, Denmark in October by having Don Halpern set up a group flight to Denmark. Contact Don at P.O. Box 930, New Providence, NJ 07974, by letter, phone (908-508-0690) or FAX (908-508-0691) if you are interested. There are two possibilities: A direct flight to Denmark or a possible stopover in Iceland. Other suggestions are welcome. If enough people respond, we will proceed. The more people, the lower the airfare for all of the group.

ALBUM CLOSED: BOB PAULSON

By Bob Lang

Born on Christmas Day 1926, you could truthfully call Bob Paulson a "Santa Claus" to the Scandinavian Collectors Club and to Nordic stamp collecting, as he was always GIVING!! Bob was a great organizer, communicator and a willing, helping hand when it came to any task he was asked to do on behalf of the Club and the hobby. Ever since he joined SCC in 1972, he has been a leader and driving force for our Society. His energy and vitality will be sorely missed.

Bob started collecting stamps as a boy growing up in New England. He attended Concord, NH High School, and the University of New Hampshire, where he earned a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He also served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

After moving to the Houston area in the late 70s, Bob helped establish a SCC Chapter (#22) there. He served as President before moving to the Clearwater, FL area in 1987 where he immediately became involved with the fledgling Chapter 23, that today bears his name. He was also a member of the "Cape Townsend" Stamp Club there.

When SCC had its Annual Meeting at FLOREX in Orlando in 1993, Bob teamed with Wade Beery to make all the arrangements for the SCC events that took place, even though he lived over 100 miles away. It was here that Bob got seriously interested in exhibiting. He was responsible for creating a Chapter exhibit of "Scandinavian Flags" that barely missed winning the prize for best Chapter one-frame exhibit. That exhibit went on to win the award at WESTPEX the next year.

When SCC revised its bylaws several years ago, Bob was elected as a four-year Director. When the Vice President for Chapters position became vacant, Bob volunteered to fill the unexpired term. Later, he was elected to that post. He spearheaded a successful effort to reactivate Chapter #1 in Seattle, which is now up and running.

When SCC needed someone to encourage and coordinate exhibiting amongst our membership, Bob eagerly accepted the challenge and was instrumental in generating SCCs best ever showing of exhibits at ROMPEX last year and again at VAPEX this year even though he was critically ill himself. Such devotion, few of us have, even under the best of circumstances.

Bob was an exhibitor of Swedish material, taking a Vermeil (posthumously) at VAPEX; and he was an enthusiastic writer too, having penned a Scandinavian Stamp column in *Linn's* and many articles for *Luren* and *The Posthorn*. Bob had many friends in the hobby, but his best friend was his loving wife Pat, who was at his side on Oct. 3rd, when he breathed his last. May we all try to emulate his loyalty and devotion to our philatelic endeavors. □

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