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November 1998

FINLAND'S #225 MUTE CANCEL





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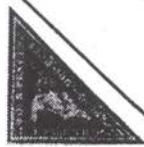
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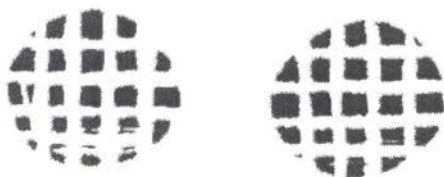


PHILANGLES



FINLAND'S #226 MUTE CANCEL'S LONG HISTORY AGAIN DOCUMENTED FROM A RECENTLY SORTED CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE 1930'S

By Ed Fraser



In *The Posthorn*, November 1982, I described the three most common "cork" or "mute" cancels in an article titled "Mute Cancels: The Big Three" [pages 204-208]. The stories of each could go much further, but #226 [of Nikolaistad, or Vaasa] is very special because it was used so prolifically for a number of years. Further details of the canceler are unknown, but it was obviously made of metal - and I would think steel - because it shows very little change over time. [It's not known if any of the mute cancels were actually made of cork, although many were obviously made of a soft and flexible material-while some were definitely made of metal.]

The earliest cover with this #226 cancel that is listed in the classic reference, the 1961 E. A. Hellman book *Die Figurenstempel Finnlands*, is dated 3 July 1877. The "cork" cancel era began in early 1877, and developed rapidly. This cancel is known on a late usage of a serpentine issue [actually, a 20 penni pair that is shown as an illustration in E.A. Hellman's book]. However, it is very common on both the 1875 perf 11 stamps and the 1882 perf 12 V2 stamps, and it is truly abundant on the 1885 issues. To be more exact, we should exclude the 1885 issue 5 mark and 10 mark stamps which themselves are not abundant. On any quantity of 1885 stamps, it is THE most common "cork" cancel.

Relating this to Finnish stamp cancellation generally, I'll propose that about 10% of all stamps were cork canceled in the late 1870's and early 1880's. However, I'll guess that between the "cork" cancels E.A. Hellman and others in Finland removed in the 1930's and 1940's from bulk accumulations for E.A.

Hellman to study, the number appears far lower there. In a conversation I had with Aaro Laitinen in the 1980's, he didn't think it was even close to 10%. However, from apparently old accumulations here in the U.S. that I have seen over the years that is, ones that have probably been outside Finland since the 1930's, I think my 10% estimate is a little low.

In the early 1890's with the introduction of the straight line town [postal stop] cancels and the numbered carrier cancels, "cork" or mute cancels were phased out. Hence, with far fewer places still using "cork" cancelers, the percentage of stamps canceled with them declined sharply, so the abundant 1895 perf 13 x 14 stamps are common with only a few different cork cancels that were still in use. Also, it is fairly hard to find the frequently used 1891 kopeck stamps with "cork" cancels at all. The prolific #226 also was almost phased out.

The big question is "why *almost*?" Why wasn't it just discontinued like the others? To date, we don't really know! We do know that very usage continued, with the result that several examples are known on 1901 lithographed stamps, on the 1902 typographed stamps, on the 1911 stamps, on the 1919 issues, on issues in the 1920's, and finally a few on the 1930's issues! Even a few - not many - are known canceling Swedish stamps, including the latest on their 1911 issues, including a 1915 Swedish cover to Finland.

With this background, the cover shown in Figure 1 is quite thought provoking!

Koivulahti [Kvevlaks] is about 10 miles outside Vaasa, and in addition to registry labels, would have had a dated canceler. The 110 page study of 1920's to 1950's era bridge style Finnish cancels, *Suomen Tasavallan Siltaleimat* by Eero J. Helkiö, c. 1983, on page 52 does illustrate two examples of Kvevlaks cancels from the mid-1930's era. The postage rate at the time was 4 marks, being 2 marks for the letter and 2 marks for registry. It would appear that somehow the cover was accidentally never canceled at the originating post office. Expecting that the #226 "cork" canceler was still at the Vaasa post office suggests that the "cork" may have become a "subsequently canceled" canceler, much as the 20th century Lahti "cork" cancelers were [See *The Posthorn*, "The Mute Cancels of Lahti" in three parts, issues of November 1981, pages 145-151; May 1982, pages 102-108; and May 1983, pages 93-100]. This is consistent with the Figure 1 cover being backstamped at Vaasa, especially being backstamped twice at Vaasa, each time with a different Vaasa canceler [both happen to show the same date and hour], but not being date stamped on the front at Vaasa.

Kaj Hellman proposed the idea that he may have seen postal directives from the 1950's referring to having different cancelers to cancel incoming uncanceled stamps from foreign countries. Were there any such suggestions or directives earlier? The reasoning of having special cancels with text saying



Figure 1. The Vaasa (Nikolaistad) #226 "cork" cancel on a registered commercial cover from Koivulahti (Kvevlaks) to Helsinki, franked with the 1936 issue of the 2 mark red. The cover is backstamped twice at Vaasa on 16 Feb 1938, and once at Helsinki on 17 Feb 1938.

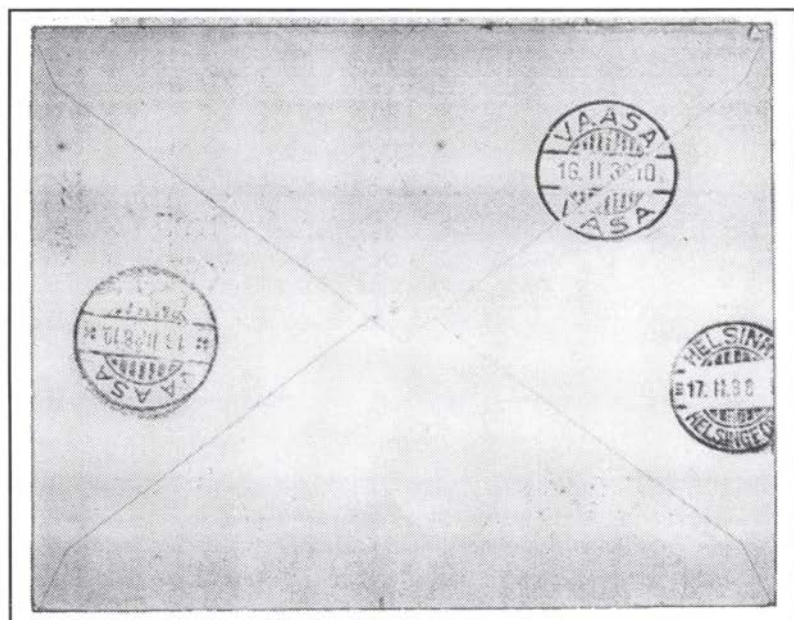


Figure 2. Reverse of preprinted cover to the Swedish Newspaper in Helsinki, shown in Figure 1. It has 3 backstamps: Vaasa 16.11.38.10 and 16.11.38.10, and Helsinki 17.11.38.

“subsequently canceled”, as Germany did from the 1900 era, but Finland did not, was to insure that the addressee would realize that the cancel date on the stamps was later than the date of mailing. A deliberate practice of using mute cancels to cancel stamps that missed being canceled when they first arrived at the post office may leave some mail undated if there are no other partial or transit cancels, but it can indicate that they were “subsequently canceled”. [Here the trouble was taken to backstamp the Figure 1 cover.] Very good evidence of this practice of mute canceling can be found on covers going through certain post offices in both Finland and also Sweden. Do any readers know of 20th century mute cancel usage at any post offices in Denmark or Norway, possibly as a “subsequent cancel”?



Figure 3. Another late usage, but decades earlier, of the #226 cancel on a 1901 type 10 penni postal card from Vaasa to Uleåborg [Oulu]. The message is dated “Briind6 27 VII ‘10 “ and backstamped Uleåborg 2(-) VII 01. The postmark of Nikolaistad is dated 28 VII 01.6e. This example is listed in the 1961 E. A. Hellman book, and probably is from his collection.

References:

1. E. A. Hellman, *Die Figurenstempel Finnlands*, c. 1961. This textbook in German and Finnish renumbers the cancels from his earlier, smaller work, establishing the “new” numbers now in use, but showing the old numbers in a reference table, too. It tries to list all known stamps, covers, and cancels. Stamps from older collections may still show the old number system penciled

on the stamp's back. Initially there appeared to be more "cork" cancels, with numbering running well over 600. By the time of the 1961 book, many were eliminated or combined by further study and finding more material to compare. [My first guess would have been that the number would grow larger over the years, but the opposite is the case! It really indicates the extensive collection E.A. Hellman had accumulated by the 1940's!] It seems that the current #226 used to be old #178 and old #164.

2. E. A. Hellman and Aaro Laitinen, also called *Die Figurenstempel Finnlands*, c. 1974. This small book gives notes and pictures to update the 1961 book.

3. Aaro Laitinen, *Die Figurenstempel Finnlands - The Figure Cancels of Finland - A Catalog*, c. 1981. With the general improvement in the cancel illustrations and the numerous corrections and additional town identifications, the scope of the field is brought into much sharper focus for the Finnish "cork" cancel collector. There is text in English, too. The earlier books, especially the 1961 textbook, still provide very helpful background and assistance by giving dating and routing information from known covers, and a few additional illustrations of the cancels to show wear and inking variations. The number of different cancels finally has just about stabilized with this catalog, as the elimination and combining of the 1961 book's numbers is now quite apparently nearly complete. My guess is that in this half-century, 1981 was close to the low point for the number of actual different mute cancels known. Since then, the number has been growing very slowly every year based on new, authenticated finds. There are almost no eliminations anymore. Note that these new finds are not especially significant to the individual collector, as new discoveries are really always RR or R5 rarity [at most, only a few examples are found] - unless I suppose you're the one finding them!

4. Eero J. Helkio, *Suomen Tasavallan Siltaleimat*, c. 1983.

5. *The Posthorn*, articles referenced above about Finnish mute cancels appeared in the issues of November 1981, May 1982, November 1982, and May 1983.

Readers comments appreciated. I would be interested in comparing notes on all 20th century usages of mute cancels, especially those usages not listed in the Aaro Laitinen 1981 Catalog. Ed Fraser, P.O.Box 1302, Melville, NY 11747. □

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SCANDINAVIAN SEA RESCUE SERVICES

By Bob Lang

Author's note: This article is taken from an exhibit I recently assembled with the larger topic of "Safety at Sea — Scandinavian Style." While the exhibit deals with lifesaving techniques, passive (lighthouses, lightships, daymarks and other aids to navigation) and active, I've restricted the scope to the latter in this article.

Since the dawn of recorded history, man has relied on markers by day and lights by night, to guide him as he traversed the world's seven seas. When tragedy struck, as it often did, active sea rescue services came into play.

Active Lifesaving Services are those where one human being makes an effort to save the life of another, using a device such as a lifeboat, breeches buoy, life car, life ring or helicopter. Very few stamps have been issued honoring these type of services.

The first man-made lifesaving aid to navigation was the Danish invented Lever Light, set out at Skagen in 1627. Norway's first beacon dates from 1655 at Lindesnes. Sweden erected a daymark at Vinga in 1606 and built its first lighthouse tower in 1669. Finland (including the Aland Islands) followed in 1753 with a combination tower and lever light at Uto. In the more remote Nordic countries, lighthouses did not appear until 1878 in Iceland and 1893 in the Faroe Islands.

Saving human lives from the perils of the sea via an organized effort, volunteer or government assisted, is comparatively new. In 1737, Chinese records show five lifeboats in service along the Min River. The earliest organized European efforts at lifesaving were concerned primarily with saving victims from drowning, not shipwrecked seamen.

It was not until 1824 that the English founded the first Lifeboat Institution. The Dutch established theirs later the same year, and the United States followed in 1848. The Danes were next in 1852, followed by the Norwegians (1891), the Finns (1897), the Swedes (1907) and Iceland established it's National Lifesaving Association in 1928.

The Danes, a long-time seafaring nation, recognized the need to provide rescue services, not only to their own mariners, but to those of other nations; so in 1852 they established the Danish Lifesaving Service. One hundred years later a stamp was issued to commemorate the founding of this humanitarian effort (Figure 1).

DENMARK

In 1996 Denmark issued a set of three stamps featuring wooden dinghies. The lower value 3.50 Kr (issued for Local B-Class Mail) shows a small sailing





Figure 1

boat that was used in and around Roskilde fjord (Figure 2). Few collectors are aware that these small boats were used as Lifeboats, from the early to mid 19th Century, on larger fishing boats before they were equipped with rubber life-rafts.

FINLAND

In May 1997 Finland celebrated the 100th Anniversary of its volunteer Life-Boat Society by issuing a six-stamp booklet, featuring Sailing Vessels, four maximum cards and a First Day Cancel.

The *Merikoko* was built expressly as a Sea Rescue vessel in the 1930s, operating out of Uto. After a recent



Figure 2

refurbishment it is still in use today. The Finnish Life-Boat Society established its first rescue station in 1898 and its services now extend to the entire coastline and inland waters of the country. It boasts over 100 boats and ten thousand members. Figure 3 shows the ship on a Maximum Card; Figure 4 illustrates the full complement of ships as a booklet pane.

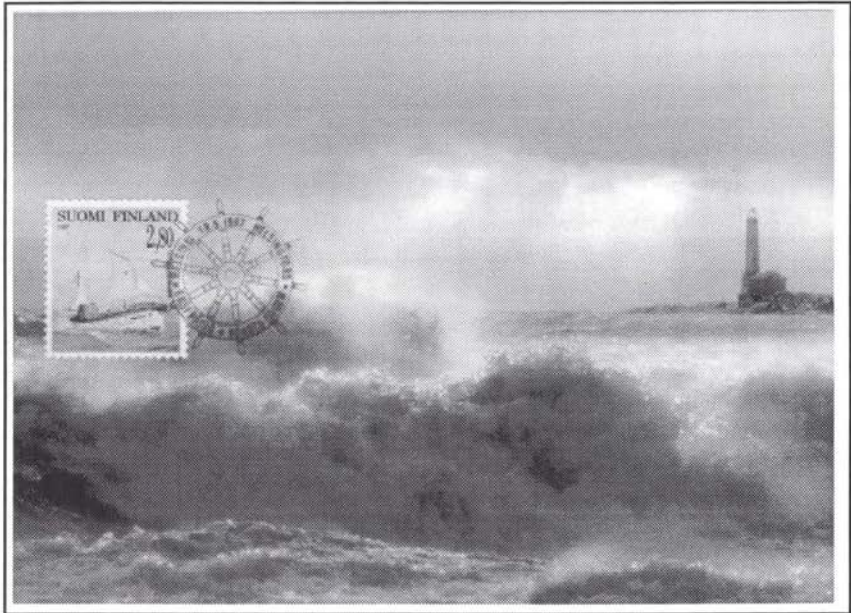


Figure 3

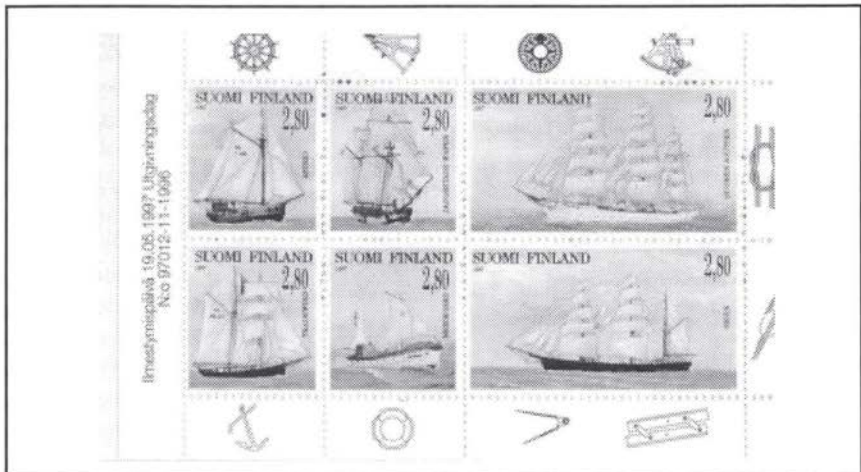


Figure 4

ICELAND

Iceland, an island nation, did not establish its National Life-Saving Association until 1928. Shortly thereafter (1933), its sea rescue service was featured on two values of Iceland's first Charity Stamp set. Seen above flanking the center stamp, the 10+10 and 35+25 aurar stamps depict a Life Car being used to rescue sailors from a foundering ship (Figure 5). The extra aurer went to the



Figure 5



Figure 6

National Life-Saving Association. These stamps are almost unknown postally used on cover.

The 1949 Charity set high value (75 + 25 aurar) also benefited the Life-Saving society. It pictures a lifeboat, filled with shipwrecked survivors, making its way to shore. (Figure 6).

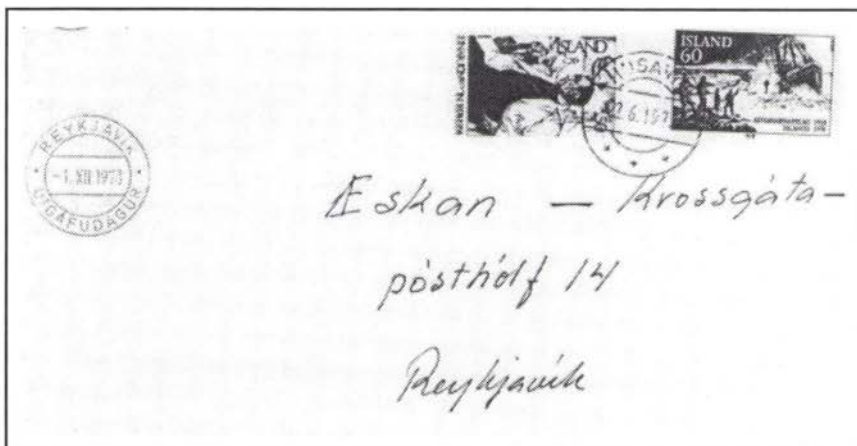


Figure 7

In 1978 a stamp was issued to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the National Life-Saving Association. The stamp shows one of the 87 Rescue Squads saving seamen from the grounded trawler *Dhoon* by means of a breeches buoy. This rescue effort took place in the "West Fjords" region in 1947 and resulted in the saving of 12 of the 15 crew aboard the stricken vessel. A "local use" cover is shown in Figure 7.

Among the other sea rescue services provided by Iceland's volunteer Life-Saving Society is the maintenance of some 50 rescue huts at mostly remote beaches where stranded seamen are apt to make land. These are equipped with radios, food and warm clothing.

NORWAY

Norway followed Denmark and Sweden, establishing the Norwegian Society for Sea Rescue in 1891. Its founder Colin Archer, is featured on the four stamp Semi-Postal set issued in 1941 for the 50th anniversary. The high values show the first wooden sailing vessels used by the Society and built by Archer, who also built the polar vessel *Fram*. Figure 8 shows a 1943 German censored, Registered Express cover to Sweden using the entire Lifesaving issue.

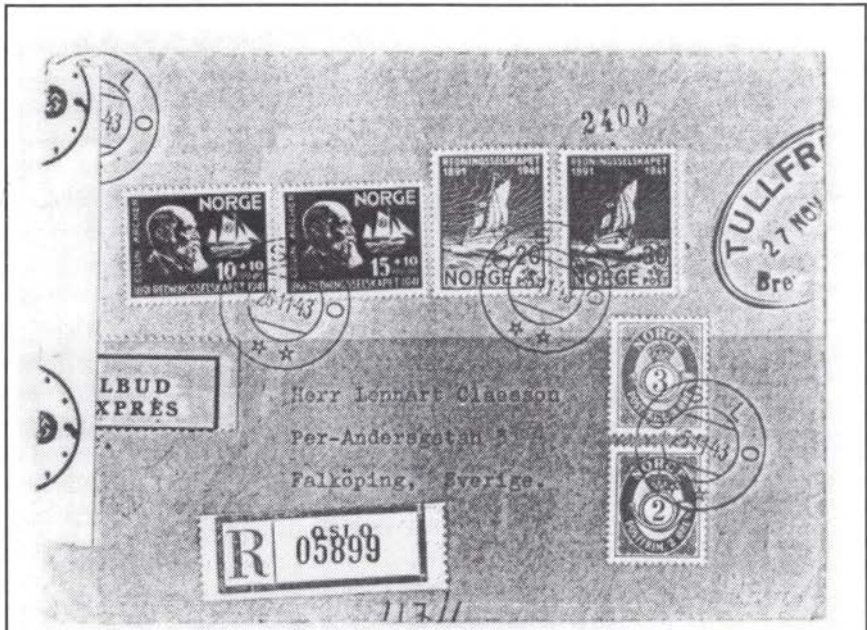


Figure 8

In June 1991 the Norwegian Society for Sea Rescue became 100 years old. A two value set was issued showing the evolution of the lifeboat, from the old wooden sailing vessels (27.00 Kr. value) to the fast moving power boats (3.20 Kr. value) of today (Figure 9). This humanitarian organization founded in 1891 by Colin Archer and other private individuals, has more than 800 local branches, 250 specially-trained personnel and 33 state-of-the-art vessels rendering all types of sea rescue and life saving services to more than 350,000 mariners in distress.

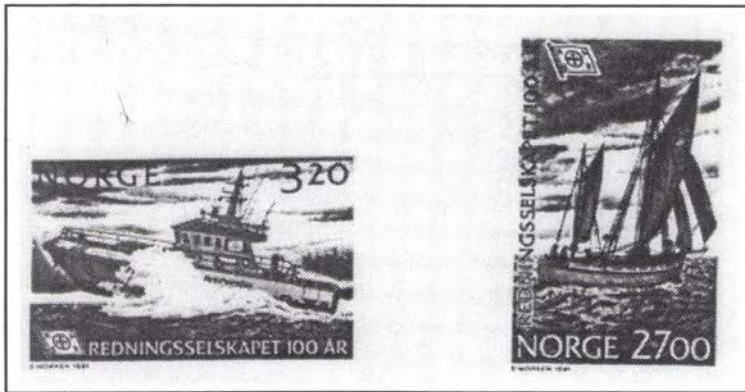


Figure 9

SWEDEN

Although Sweden initiated Lifesaving services as early as 1865, it did not officially organize a Sea Rescue and Lifeboat Service until 1907. On the 50th anniversary of that occasion they issued a three value set with a single theme showing a lifeboat coming to the rescue of several seamen on a disabled vessel. The First Day Cancel shows the emblem of the Swedish Lifesaving Society (Figure 10).

In 1975, Sweden issued a five stamp set in booklet and coil strip form recognizing the humanitarian work of several organizations that "Watch, Guard and Help" Swedish citizens (Figure 11). The 90 öre green stamp shows a helicopter of the Swedish Sea Rescue Service, hovering over the German ship *Mercur*, assisting in the rescue of a disabled seaman.

The real test of collecting and exhibiting topical material for a subject such as this is to find and show covers postally used. It can be a daunting task, but the "thrill of the hunt" makes it all worthwhile.

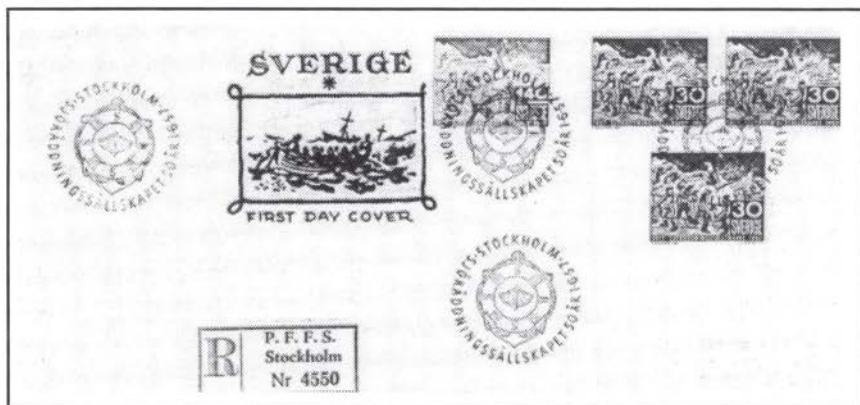


Figure 10

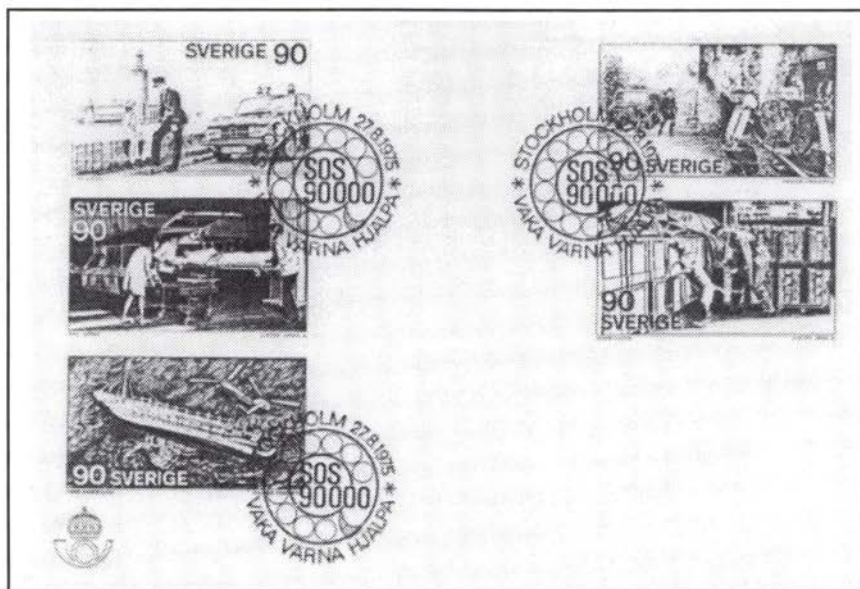


Figure 11

REFERENCES

Historical and technical data has been derived from a wide variety of texts on the subject and from philatelic releases from the countries involved. Besides the over 100 books (perhaps 10+ on sea rescue services exclusively) and periodicals on the subjects in my own personal library, I have relied heavily on 16 volumes of the ATA Lighthouse (LH) Unit's former monthly newsletters called *The Pharos* and 6 volumes of the current ATA LH Unit's bimonthly newsletter called *The Philatelic Beacon*; 14 volumes of the US LH Society's quarterly publication called *The Keeper's Log* and various web sites on the Internet. One publication that yielded important Icelandic information was Don Brandt's book *Exploring Iceland through its Stamps*. □



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NORWEGIAN "GEMS" OF 1888 AND 1937/38

By Tom Bergendahl

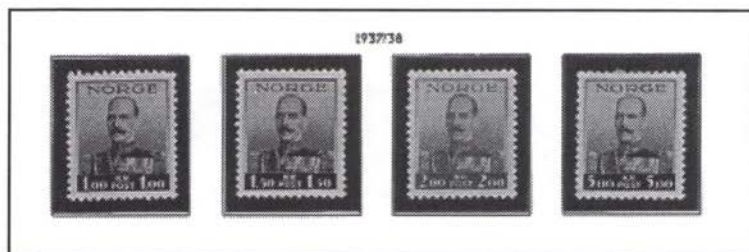


Figure 1

In 1937 and 1938 four high-value (1, 1.50, 2, and 5 Kr) Norwegian stamps were issued for postal use (Figure 1). The stamps are numbered: Scott 177-180, Facit 237-240, and Norges Katalogen 213-216. The first stamp was issued December 18, 1937 and the last two issued on the date of February 21, 1938, a period of less than two months.

This new issue replaced the same four stamp values previously issued in the period of 1910-1918. Both of these high-value stamp series showed King Haakon VII. The 1910-1918 issue's King Haakon was an engraving by H. Rui, who was also well known for his cancel designs. The 1937/38 issue shows an actual photograph of King Haakon taken by photographer Rude.

It was interesting to find a Brev-Kort (letter card) addressed to photographer Rude (Figure 2). This card has a Christiania ByPost cancel of February 11, 1888. According to the Norges Helpost catalog, this green-colored Brev-Kort is a #30 type II which was first issued in October 5, 1896.

The translation for the back side of this card (Figure 3) states: "Be so good as to deliver altogether 1 dozen of my profile picture. Granfos 9/2/88 O. Tobiesen." It might be an interesting research project to find out if Mr. Tobiesen was an important person.

Maybe you will find some interesting philatelic relationships from items in your collection or dealers' boxes. I was fortunate to obtain this one from the Brofos collection. □

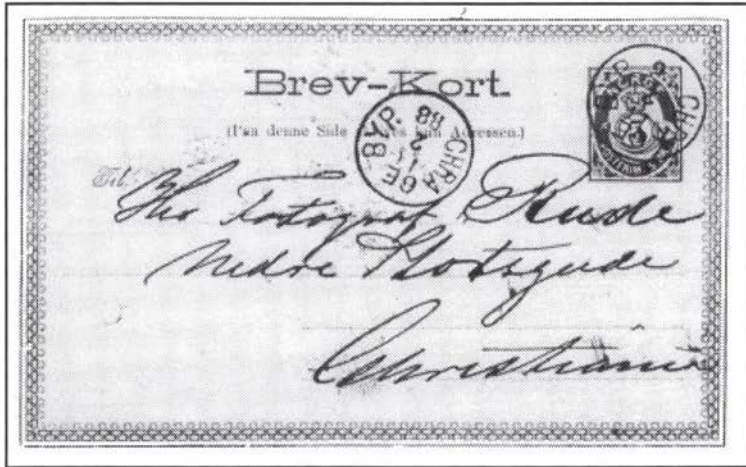


Figure 2

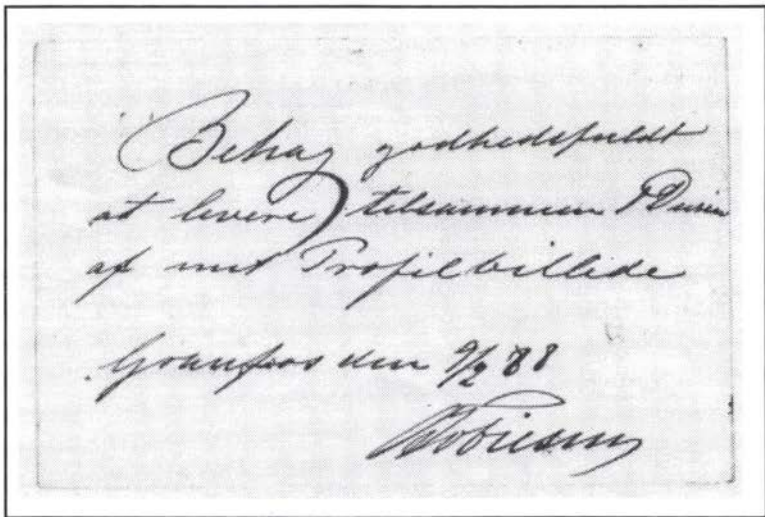


Figure 3

New DAKA/GF Specialized Catalogs



GREENLAND 1999

(DAKA/GF 5; 192 pages. \$29.50 postpaid)



This 16th edition, the second by DAKA, has been extensively revised and improved based on research and in response to users of the 15th edition. Prices have been updated to reflect the market. After treating the Pakke-Porto stamps, the volume turns to postal issues since 1938, including stamps, booklets, official year sets (and forerunners), presentation packs, first day covers, maxicards, postcards, plate blocks, se-tenant stamps from booklets and souvenir sheets, special fee stamps, postage due material, Thule locals, and flight covers. Profusely illustrated, the GF5 is bilingual (Danish and English).

GREENLAND CINDERELLA

(DAKA/GF7; 120 pages. \$24.50 postpaid)

This newcomer to the DAKA/GF catalog family is devoted to Greenland Cinderella material. Incorporating chapters from older GF catalogs, it has major additions to cover the entire range of this popular area. Notable is a chapter on meter marks and detailed treatment of Christmas seals, charity stamps, Greenland Children's Society labels and sheets, Gentofte Greenland Committee issues, promotion labels, commemorative sheets, local stamps, savings stamps, private booklets, and essays. It's fully illustrated and bilingual (Danish and English).

ICELAND 1999

(DAKA/GF20); 144 pages. \$24.50 postpaid)

This second annual edition of the DAKA/GF Iceland catalog (in Danish and English) has major price increases. New is a chapter on Greidslu and Orlof stamps, and an expanded plate flaws section, with many new items and new and much improved illustrations.

FAROE ISLANDS PLATE FLAWS 1975-83

(DAKA/GF11; 72 pages. \$21.50 postpaid)

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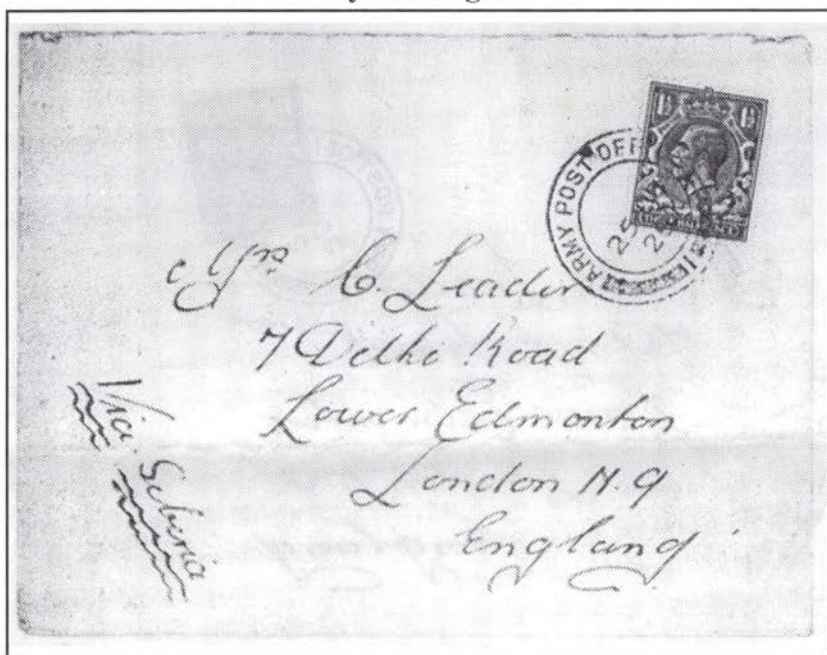


Figure 1

Relative to the interesting subject of “Via Siberia” mail, raised in Alfred A. Gruber’s article on that subject in the August 1998 *Posthorn*, he is quite correct in his assumption of why that marking was used. This was a practice from 1903 to around 1940 to speed mail from Southeast and East Asia to Europe (figure 1). Otherwise the mail would have gone more slowly (and sometimes with some additional risk) south and west, via the Indian sub-continent, Suez Canal, etc. It also was used during times of conflict etc., to avoid shorter routing through potentially hostile areas.

It was the Turn-of-The-Century opening of the Trans-Siberian Railroad (TSR) that made this feasible. It would have been normal to have found a Japanese port, as well, in this circuit (so mail would have normally gone to Vladivostok via Tsuruga, Japan). At this time the Trans-Siberian Railroad purposely was operated into Manchuria, using lines of the China Eastern Railroad (CER) diversion that saved considerable distance and TSR (completion) construction cost.

“Via Siberia” international mail routing was suspended with the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese War (1904-05) and not resumed for international mail until about 1923. By that time the USSR had built a through connection that enabled the TSR now to traverse only Siberia (avoiding dipping into Manchuria and Japanese influence). ▶▶

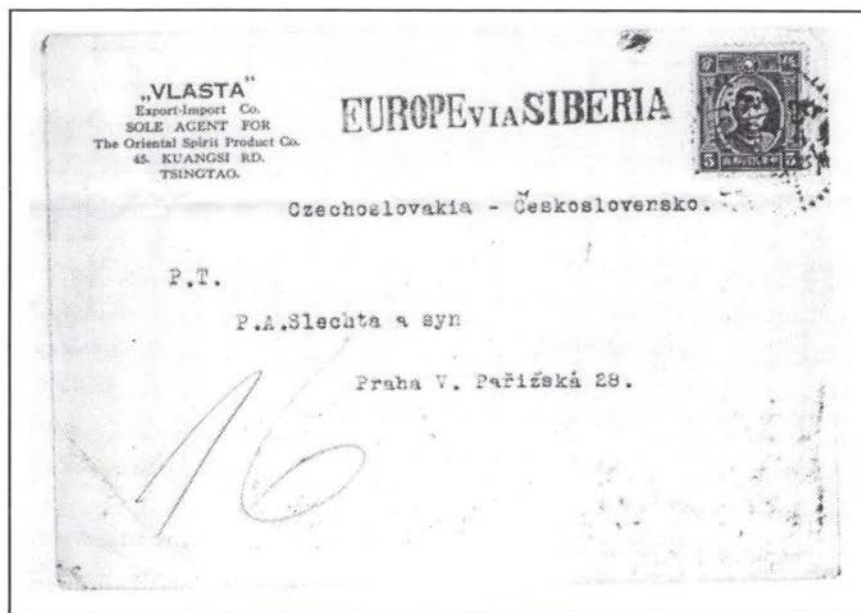


Figure 2

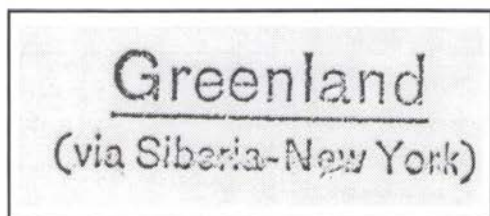


Figure 3

Japanese ports eventually also were reincluded in this routing, when Japan finally withdrew its occupation troops from Northern Sakhalin Island in 1925 (after withdrawal of the last of the sizable Japanese force as a result of their participation in the Allied

Intervention of Russia, that had concluded for virtually all of the other national elements five years earlier).

Use of the TSR for this accelerated mail routing became less of a factor with the introduction of air mail service through Siberia in 1929. "Via Siberia" directed international mail routing can be seen into the summer of 1940. However, WWII events would suspend this mail route once again. I doubt this sort of international mail direction practice saw much (if any) use after the war.

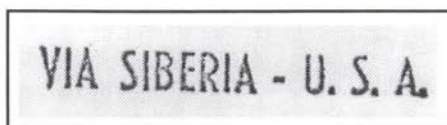


Figure 3a

Much of the "Via Siberia" mail direction was accomplished by either private handstamps (figure 2) or manuscript inscriptions (figure 1) by the



Figure 4

sender. Occasionally there were “official” (postal or governmental) “Via Siberia” postal stamps applied to mail that would be so diverted. This would include some early WWII mail (figures 3/3a) associated with Greenland (after Denmark was overrun) and some French military-marked mail from their forces in Southeast Asia just after the Boxer Rebellion (figure 4). The preponderance of “privately” applied direction markings should not obscure the fact that this was an official international mail route that can be seen in Imperial Russia postal documents as early as 1 October 1903.

ENDNOTES

1. British Army Post Office 1 (Shanghai) 25 July 1928 cancellation on properly franked soldier mail to England sent “Via Siberia.” This was exactly a year after this Russian redirection was authorized by Britain from China station for its forces’ mail. It was subsequently suspended for three years (1932-35).
2. Tientsin, China, 15 April 1934 printed rate commercial mail to Czechoslovakia that is “privately” stamped for transmission to “Europe via Siberia.”
3. Tientsin, China, 31 May 1905 French Army Corps of Occupation mail to Ardennes, France, with French military post stamped “. . . Voie Siberie” marking that accompanies a sender’s manuscript “Via Siberie” inscription. □

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES TO "THE 'A' SERIES GERMAN CENSOR MARK OF WWII" IN *THE POSTHORN*, AUGUST 1998.

By Eric Jarvlepp

This very interesting article deserves additional comment because most rules have some exceptions. The circled "A" censor marks were also applied to censored mail in some instances.

I have two letters, mailed from Estonia to Finland in July-August 1944, that were censored in Königsberg. The letters were tested with chemical developers for the purpose of revealing invisible secret messages. None were found, but four different chemicals were applied by brush in parallel strokes; four is the highest known number of chemicals used on one piece of mail which represents a most severe form of censorship. The covers had been resealed with embossed tapes. The machine approval stamp only left a few faint red color marks on the high points of the embossed tape. Therefore, an "Aa" identifying handstamp was used to indicate Königsberg.

A postcard with the same routing was also tested with an almost clear developer and, again, "Aa" was used to identify the Königsberg censorship office.

As to the list of censorship offices, there is yet another one. In Slovakia, "Nc" (meaning German censor) in a similar circle, was used to mark censored mail. In what city was it used?

NORDIA 99 PROSPECTUS AVAILABLE

Members of the Scandinavian Collectors Club are invited to participate in Nordia 99 to be held in Turku, Finland the weekend of September 24-26, 1999. To qualify, exhibits should have earned a vermeil medal at an APS World Series of Philately show.

Exhibits must be a minimum of five (5) frames and not more than ten (10) frames. Competitive classes include: traditional, postal history, postal stationery, aerophilately, thematics, literature, and the open class. SCC member exhibits should relate to Scandinavian/Nordic philately.

The frame fee is 100 FIM (currently about \$18.50) per frame which is less than the fees proposed for Nordia 2001. Bulletin No. 1, an application, and tourist information, is available from the United States representative, Roger P. Quinby; P. O. Box 738, Clifton Park, NY 12065-0738. Applications should be returned to Roger Quinby by January 15, 1999.

SCC MEETING SCHEDULE

	ANNUAL	REGIONAL	NORDIC	INTERNATIONAL
1998	CHICAGOPEX Nov 6-8 Rosemont IL	NATL TOPICAL Jul 17-19 Falls Church VA	NORDIA 98 Oct 16-18 Odense DK	ITALIA 98 Oct 23-Nov 1 Milan Italy
1999	BALPEX Sep 3-5 Hunt Valley MD		NORDIA 99 Sep 24-26 Turku FI	
2000	WINNIPEX Jul Winnipeg, MB	SANDICAL, Feb FLOREX, Nov	NORDIA 2000 Sweden	
2001	NORDIA 2001 Jan 26-28 Tucson AZ		NORDIA 2001 Jan 26-28 Tucson AZ	HAFNIA 2001 Denmark

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THE GUSTAVS

By Alfred Gruber

With Apologies To E.A.P.

While I pondered weak and weary
In wee weird hours with eyes a'bleary
O'er many a catalog of ancient lore.
Came a knock, knock, knocking
The Gustavs came a'knocking,
Knocking at my closet door.

The shaded light revealing
A bony finger peeling
Through the pine closet door.
Stepped forth the first Gustavas
House of Vase - or Vasa's
Strode out on my study floor.

Surplice hanging and he abanging
His halberd on that oaken floor.
Shaky finger appointing
At the pantheon a'hanging;
Portraits hanging o'er den's door.

There stood Adolphus - still bleeding
Out the speargash proceeding
From the Lutzen wound; He the second Gustav.
"Kneel, you hinge licking lout", I hear him shout.
"Covers you seek from my first mail route
But pay first homage to the great Adolph."

Came the third spirit through the hall.
"Scant recognition get I at all,"
Cried he, "Just Pilo's self portrait
Painted at my coronation.
The Swedish and Royal Academies I created
for Letters, History and Antiquation."

"The thanks I got was a bullet
From the assassin, James of Ankarstrom,
At the Opera House in my Stockholm."

But the worst was yet to come!
Moaned he; "My son, my son!"
A wraith in rags stumbled in.

Gustav the fourth, the final Vasa,
Staring at the wall portraits
Found only a blank frame staring forth,
Between the Gustavs third and fifth.

All the memorials were enlarged stamps you see.
No philatelic remembrance made. For he
Dethroned and in poverty,
Died forgotten, (the final curse) in Suisse.
The proud Vasa line was gone; Forever!

Thence came the House of Bernadotte.
Gustav V was idolized
Eight different portraits philatelicized
His reign of four decades plus more;
Through two world wars he led the nation
From horse drawn post to aviation.

Gustav VI Adolf strode proudly in
Carrying his ninety one years well.
Now wearing the crown
His son, the XVlth Gustav
Ruling with great renown.

Dawn, that reliever of night's terrors broke,
The Gustavs vanished at six's stroke.
Down fell the glass and tongs;
my bones slumped,
My eyelids drooped,
In slumber
Mid dreams of stamps without number. □



ROYAL 2000 / WINNIPEX

By Roger Fontaine

DATELINE: Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. April 27-30, 2000

WANTED: Exhibitors, Dealers, Collectors, and SCC Members

Winnipeg: population 650,000 in 280 square miles of city at the junctions of the Red and Assiniboine rivers. A prairie city, flanked by the Pre-Cambrian Canadian Shield one hour to the north and east, where Manitoba's 100,000 lakes are found. Winnipeg, transportation gateway to the continent. Home to the Forks, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the Royal Canadian Mint, the Winnipeg Blue Bombers football club and the Winnipeg Goldeyes, 23 golf courses within city limits, fishing, riverboat tours, folklorama, Winnipeg Folk and Jazz Festivals, Le Festival Du Voyageur in February...

And did I mention stamp clubs? Winnipeg Philatelic, B.N.A.P.S., SCC Chapter 24, and the Creative Retirement Stamp Club.

The Year 2000 will have Winnipeg hosting ROYAL 2000 and SCC's first-ever stamp show outside of the United States, along with an annual meeting of SCC members. All SCC members are invited and most welcome. You'll be in for a full weekend of fun and activity. Exhibition set up is on Thursday April 27. Official opening ceremonies are at 10 AM on April 28. A special Scandinavian Supper is planned for Friday night at the Scandinavian Cultural Center, home of SCC Chapter 24. Saturday and Sunday holds seminars, meetings, and the President's Reception and Banquet. The show closes Sunday at 4 PM. ROYAL 2000 is a joint effort between the Winnipeg Philatelic – their 100th anniversary bash – and the Scandinavian Collectors Club of Manitoba.

For partners and travel companions of collectors, there is plenty to do. Winnipeg is a great shopping and entertainment city with a taste of many cultures to sample. Come early or stay a while after the show, and make Winnipeg your spring vacation destination. The low Canadian dollar makes every purchase a bargain.

Exhibitors are urged to contact Glenn Hansen or myself as soon as possible to guarantee a spot in the show. If you need more information, tourist pamphlets, or if you have any general questions, write or phone in and we will endeavor to answer your needs.

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177 Crestwood Cr.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
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Glenn Hansen
372 Fern St.
Winnipeg MB
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email: fredrik@escape.ca



TRENCHARD, BROFOS NAMED TO WRITERS HALL OF FAME

Herbert A. Trenchard and Frederick A. Brofos were named to the Writers Hall of Fame at the Writers Unit breakfast at Stampshow in Santa Clara, California on Sunday, August 30. Herb Trenchard was associate editor of *Philatelic Literature Review* from 1968 to 1980. During this period and subsequently he contributed extensive articles on the great collectors and the dispersal of their collections. With his seminal article on the subject in 1966, Trenchard was probably the first writer to bring attention to the importance of auction catalogs as "philatelic literature."

He has authored articles on some of the more obscure writers during the early years of philately and, more recently, has written about first day ceremony programs in *The Ceremonial*, published by the American Ceremony Program Society. Trenchard's articles often include detailed bibliographies, reflecting his extensive research. He is a previous APS Luff award winner and has devoted countless hours of volunteer time at the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum as well as the American Philatelic Research Library.

Fred Brofos is a writer well known to the Scandinavian collecting community with his many articles which have appeared in *The Posthorn*, published by the Scandinavian Collectors Club, and *Luren*, published by the Scandinavian Philatelic Library of Southern California. Born in London, Fred grew up in Norway during the second world war, where he acquired a great interest in military mail and censor markings. He has served the Scandinavian Collectors Club as secretary, librarian, and editor and has received the three major club awards.

In addition to his writings in these two journals and others published in the Nordic countries, Fred has had two articles printed in the American Philatelic Congress yearbooks and three articles in the COMPEX directories. Apart from Scandinavian subjects he has written about machine cancellations and New Hampshire post offices. In 1996 a reprinting of over 120 of his articles was published in a limited edition.

In 1989 Fred was the first foreigner to be awarded a grant from the NORWEX Fund in recognition of his writing for over forty years on Norwegian philately. In 1981 he received the Norway Postal Museum's gold medal of honor.

The Writers Unit 30 is an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in writing, editing, publishing, or promoting philatelic literature. Membership information can be obtained from Secretary-Treasurer George B. Griffenhagen, 2501 Drexel Street, Vienna VA 22180-6906. - Alan Warren



NORDIA 2001 FUNDRAISING

By Paul Nelson

The desire to have NORDIA 2001 supported by the entire U.S. and Canada Scandinavian philatelic community has created some innovative proposals. Recall that NORDIA 2001 is a fully recognized IRS 501(c)(3) organization, meaning that donations are deductible on both US federal and state income tax returns. Revenue is expected to be provided from frame fees, bourse fees from the Scandinavian dealers, a budgeted matching fund and limited direct support from the SCC national budget, support from individual collectors, SCC Chapters, other 501(c)(3) organizations, and other sources.

In addition to certain individuals who already have pledged financial assistance, the committee has enlisted the help of two specific sponsors:

Eric Roberts, the Manager of the Scandinavian Stamp Mart of the SCC, will accept donations of stamps that are made to NORDIA 2001. He will make up martbooks from unmounted material that is submitted to the Mart, or he will, of course, accept completed books. He will provide a letter to the donor with the "sales value" of the material, which should be a sufficient receipt and appraisal for income tax purposes. NORDIA 2001 material in the martbooks will be merged; no attempt to segregate one particular donor's material will be made except to notify the donor of the expected "sales value".

All individuals and SCC chapters that utilize the SCC Martbook system will benefit because of the additional material available from the mart; NORDIA 2001 will benefit because the returns will go to assist in the support of this project. Martbooks usually take about 18 months to be retired, so you should take steps now to clean out your stockbooks of duplicate useful material. Eric's address is Post Office Box 460201, Houston, TX 77056; be sure that you include a note that the material is to benefit NORDIA 2001.

Northland Auctions has agreed to accept donations of philatelic material for sale to benefit NORDIA 2001. Collectors interested in supporting this exhibition can donate philatelic items by contacting Jerry Birdsall, Northland, P.O.Box 34, Verona, New Jersey 07044, (1-800-950-0058). The usual auction arrangements will apply. Donations must have a catalog value exceeding \$200, and acceptance is at the discretion of the auctioneer.

In addition, Northland Auctions also will contribute a 10% sales commission to NORDIA 2001 for each donated lot sold.

This generous arrangement will allow individual collectors to support NORDIA 2001 without being limited to Scandinavian material, of course; although Northland always has excellent Scandinavian lots in its sales. The total amount, or some percentage of consigned lots may be donated to NORDIA 2001, and the commissions will be prorated accordingly.

□

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 19715-0125
SECRETARY: Donald Halpern, PO Box 930, New Providence NJ 07974-0846
TREASURER: Howard Schloss, 261 Congressional Ln #705, Rockville MD 20852
DIRECTORS: Glenn Hansen, 372 Fern St, Winnepeg MB Canada R2K 0H8
Anders K Melberg, 1426 Bristol, Westchester IL 60154
Sandra Downs, PO Box 477, Imperial PA 15126-0477
David A. Anderson, 33780 Feldspar St NW, Princeton MN 55371
Michael E. Falls, 575 Virginian Dr, Norfolk VA 23505-4242
Gregory Frantz, 18314 E Geddes Pl, Aurora CO 80016-1608

APPOINTED OFFICERS

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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
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AWARDS CHAIRMAN: Ron Collin, PO Box 63, River Grove IL 60171
LITERATURE PROMOTION: Alan Warren, PO Box 39, Exton PA 19341-0039
WEBMASTER: Sandra Downs, PO Box 477, Imperial PA 15126-0477

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COMPUTER COORD: Paul Helgesen, 34 Plymouth Rd, White Plains NY 10603-1129

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Hudson MA 01749
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 information on chapter meetings,
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club members, and more!

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



President's Letter

Roger P. Quinby

Plans for Nordia 2001 are moving along very well. Gordon Morison has assembled a very strong group of volunteers from the general philatelic community, nicely complementing the core group from the SCC. Gordon and publicity director, Alan Warren will keep us posted on Nordia. This stamp show will surely be the largest Nordic area philatelic event ever held in North America; we anticipate a strong bourse, an exceptional display of exhibits (many never previously shown in North America), and many visitors from the Nordic countries eager to meet with American and Canadian collectors sharing common philatelic interests and specialties .

Over the past several months I have received several letters from long time members who have expressed concern about the direction of the Club's activities. Members have also written expressing some disappointment with recent issues of *The Posthorn*. The critics write: few well researched original articles, the range of articles does not adequately cover the diversity of members collecting interests, the contributor base is too concentrated, and there are too many 'news' articles. These are fair comments and point out manifest shortcomings with the Club journal.

These letters are also poignant reminders that while we are staking out new ground in sponsoring and supporting the first Nordia show in North America, we cannot totally exhaust our resources, volunteers' time and energy on just a single project as important as it may be to our future growth.

With Nordia 2001 now taking shape we must turn again to those concerns which directly affect membership interest in the SCC. These problems relate primarily to *The Posthorn*. The problems are systemic and go far beyond the reach of the editor to cure on her own. Sandra Downs has worked tirelessly to solicit articles and then get the publication out on time. As I noted in my last communication, a number of articles were lost prior to Sandy becoming editor, and although we had backup on some articles, most will have to be rewritten. This has been a serious setback and it will take time to again build a backlog of first rate articles. That is the past, now we have to look forward.

YOU CAN HELP. Many of our members subscribe to the Nordic journals. Have you seen an article in one of these journals that would be of interest to a wider audience? Can you translate it or have it translated for republication in *The Posthorn*?

Many of you have covers in your exhibits or your collections that can be the basis for an article. Recently, while judging at the Minn Stamp Expo, where I had the opportunity to enjoy the warm hospitality of the Twin Cities Chapter, an interesting question was raised about the authenticity of postally used covers bearing Greenland's 1945 America Issue. After the show I contacted several SCC members and several experts in Denmark and received assurances that indeed these issues can be found on postally traveled covers, but *Facit*, for its own reasons, does not recognize it. It is apparent that this subject should be treated in an article in *The Posthorn*. I have solicited the experts and I hope they will respond. For sure, there must be other similar examples.

In addition, our editor needs the support of long time collectors and writers to serve as associate editors who will help plan the journal three or four issues in advance to assure balance of well written, peer reviewed, diversified feature articles. The journal is the sum product of our commitment to the SCC and to philately. Your contribution as an associate editor, writer, researcher doing peer reviews, will make your participation more fulfilling and increase the enjoyment of the hobby tenfold for our membership. *The Posthorn* needs your help. We will be pushing hard for volunteers at the annual meeting in Chicago.

Another writer mentioned that he belongs to a 'Cyber chapter' with other members linked by email. Issues are raised and information exchanged at fixed intervals via email. It seems to me that this idea should be explored by the various study groups, and summaries of exchanges could be published in the journal or possibly developed into feature articles. Possibly you would be willing to let us publish your email address together with your area of interest or expertise so we may bring more members together. If you have a question about Finland, I'll try to get an answer for you.

Michael Ball of Michigan has agreed to serve as Awards Chairperson. We welcome him to the team. Many thanks to Ron Collin who has been our Awards Chairperson for so many years. Finally, I want to thank three Board members – Glenn Hanson, Anders Melberg, and Sandra Downs – who have served the SCC with dedication and distinction. In keeping with a policy of rotating the Board positions, three new members will begin service in January.

□

MEMBER TO MEMBER

Wanted: 20th century on - cover usages of "cork" cancels of Finland, and also of Sweden. Additional information also appreciated. Ed Fraser, Box 1302, Melville, NY 11747.



Scandinavian Literature Notes

Alan Warren

John Lindholm, former editor of *The Posthorn*, had an article in the October 19, 1998 issue of *Linn's Stamp News* on the 1945 Swedish issue marking the 300th anniversary of the press in that country. He writes about Sweden's first newspaper editor Johan Beijer, the designer of the stamp set Bertil Bull-Hedlund, and a couple of flaws found on the stamps.

The theme of the September issue of *Het Noorderlicht* from the Netherlands is "Cinderellas" but might more appropriately be called back-of-the-book material. Some of the areas touched on for several different Nordic countries include Christmas seals, locals, railway stamps, charta sigillata, and various fiscals.

Postverk Føroya publishes a quarterly, *News from the Faroes*. Issue 3/98 carries an article on the fishing industry in the islands, and a short history of the post office at Miðvágur on Vágoy. In issue 4/98, stamp designer Anker Eli Petersen talks about his work in creating the 1998 Christmas seals. Both issues of course have information about new issues. Collectors interested in subscribing to this new issue information booklet can write to Postverk Føroya, Frímerkjadeldin, 159 Tórshavn, Faroe Islands.

Cinderellas

Speaking again of Cinderella material, one good source for information in this area is the journal *Bältespännaren*, which is issued twice a year by the specialty society based in Sweden which focuses on these lesser known oddities. Articles in the August issue discuss the local post of Mullsjö, review the new book on revenues of Finland and Åland by Saarinen and published by Jay Smith, and give an overview of the American Civil War revenue issues. In the August issue of the American Air Mail Society's *The Airpost Journal*, author Leif H. Gouiedo describes the attempt at trans-Atlantic flight by the Swedish pilots Albin Ahrenberg and Axel Flodén.

Margaret Morris writes about wartime Greenland in the June issue of *Scandinavian Contact* from England, and Bill Ross furnishes the fourth part in his series on Åland postal history. In the September issue W. J. D. Annand presents the third part in his series on Sweden's local posts, and Colin Maycock discusses the handling of Finnish fieldpost covers during 1941-1942. Co-authors Les Free-stone and Eric Keefe also discuss Finnish fieldpost in part 12 of their long running series, this time on the Finnish volunteers in Russia. Martin Fishenden describes plate flaws of the perf 13 50 öre postage due of Sweden.

Danish Essays

In the August issue of Denmark's *Skilling*, author Bruno Nørdam provides another part in the series on Danish essays, this time dealing with 1933 issues. In the September issue, A. Quist Christensen describes in some detail the 15 øre, type III plate flaws on the Frederik IX series. A news item in the October issue heralds the opening on October 9 of the new Post & Tele Museum, and A. Quist Christensen explores further flaws on the Frederik IX issue mentioned above.

Issue 3-98 of Norway's *Frimerke Forum* has an extensive article by Knut Arveng about the airport at Gressholmen. Much of the country's aviation history revolves about this important harbor for seaplanes which opened in 1927. Information provided and illustrations accompanying the article discuss the Dornier Wal, Charles Lindbergh, Thor Solberg, the routes to neighboring Scandinavian cities along with a table showing the air routes from Gressholmen from 1927 to 1940. Max Meedom, writing in the September issue of *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift*, talks about the transport of mail between Sjælland and Falster by iceboat during the period 1840-1855. In the same issue, E. Menne Larsen presents the first part of a series on postal communications between Denmark and Spain and Portugal during 1939-1945.

Gentofte's early postal history is the subject of Ole Steen Jacobsen's article in the September issue of KPK's *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. The Danske Filatelisters Fællesfond is profiled in the August issue of *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. Current directors of the organization are K. E. Reddersen, Jesper Haff, Kurt Hansen, Erik Passkesen, Bent Mathiesen, Herluf Houlberg Nielsen, and Holger Carstensen. In the same issue editor Lennart Weber describes some of the many etiquettes used in Denmark for the return of mail to the sender.

The September issue of *DFT* profiles several new candidates for administration of the Danish federation, Danmarks Filatelist Forbund. Other articles anticipate the coming exhibition NORDIA 98 being held in Odense and the theme of the show, Hans Christian Andersen, as reflected in cancellations and other philatelic materials. The October issue continues the information about the Odense show including a profile of the auction house of Thomas Høiland, which conducted a sale of rarities during the exhibition.

Pomerania

Jan Billgren discusses the postal conditions between Sweden and Pomerania during the period 1683-1897, and illustrates some of the transit marks at Greifswald and Stralsund in the August issue of SFF's *filatelisten*. In the same issue Stig Högström catalogs the meter stamps of Gotland between 1928 and 1978. In the September issue of the same journal, Harry Hohndorf discusses the possibilities of plating Sweden's military stamp, Facit M2. Hohndorf is co-author with Mats Gustafsson of the new book from SFF on Sweden's military stationery with reply stamps.

The May 1998 issue of *Philatelistische Nachrichten*, quarterly journal of the Forschungsgemeinschaft Nordische Staaten in Germany, has an article by

Günter Wahl on the postal stationery of Denmark's arms issues from 1882 to 1895. Wahl also writes about some Iceland fakes. In the same issue Rolf Dörnbach continues his series on the Greenland expeditions, this time profiling the Scottish Trans-Greenland expedition of 1965. Dörnbach and co-author Wolfgang Holz also discuss the origin and usage of Iceland's numeral stamp "219."

Each issue of *PN* contains sections of pages produced by the study groups for the various countries such as Finland, Sweden, Åland, Iceland, Norway, etc. In this May issue there is a listing of each issue of the journal from issue No. 1 to No. 100 by country and by subject for that country. In the August issue of *PN*, Günter Wahl continues his series on Danish postal stationery of the arms issues. Uwe Raster, who chairs the study group for the Faroes, begins a series in this issue on the post offices of the islands, starting with Saltangara.

In this same August issue of *PN*, Rolf Dörnbach begins a new series on the artists of Iceland as reflected by that country's stamps. He begins with the sculptor Einar Jónsson. In the same issue, Åland study group chairman Gerhard Müller continues his series on the automat stamps of the country. Copies of the articles mentioned in this column can be obtained from SCC Librarian Doc Melberg. But remember, some time during the coming months the library will be moved from Wisconsin to the Denver area. Some of these same journals are also in the American Philatelic Research Library in State College. □

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Transfers & Re-entries

By Alan Warren

Postal History dealer John Olson, who moved not all that long ago from Florida to Colorado, has moved once again to North Carolina. According to a recent communication he will participate in about four or five show bourses a year and continue with his mail order business. His new address is John Olson, 21253 Cold Springs Lane, Cornelius NC 28031.

IBRA 99 will be held April 27 through May 4 next year in Nürnberg. In addition to being a FIP exhibition, this show has been known for having an extensive competitive literature section. *Bulletin 2* lists the commissioners which include Knud Mohr of Denmark, Pekka Taitto of Finland, Sigurdur Petursson of Iceland, Erling Aune of Norway, and Bengt Bengtsson of Sweden.

In Postiljonen's catalog for auction #167, they indicated that their booth would serve as a message center during the Portugal 98 exhibition in Lisbon, September 4-13, 1998. They offered this information and service center for members of all Nordic philatelic societies and the offer included: passing on messages either open or closed, forwarding meeting arrangements, holding one's own schedule for others to inquire about, information about results after the Palmares, and guided tours of interesting collections.

Anyone could avail themselves of these services including jury members and commissioners as well as all Nordic area collectors. The commissioners for this particular show were Denmark's Knud Mohr, Sweden's Hasse Brockenhuus von Löwenhielm, Norway's Arne Thune Larsen, and Iceland's Sigurdur Petursson. This is a very generous offer and Postiljonen indicated that they will offer such information services at future exhibitions where they have a booth.

Scandinavia Philatelic Society

The quarterly journal of our "sister" organization in the United Kingdom is now using a better grade of paper, close to a semi-gloss, which helps for better quality print and clearer illustrations. The journal, *Scandinavian Contact*, has reached Whole No. 181, and the June 1998 issue includes a cumulative index for Volumes 1-16, 1953 to 1997. The society has a web page at

<http://www.pherber.com/sps/sps.html>.

Former Assistant Postmaster General Gordon C. Morison was the invited speaker at the October 21 meeting of the Collectors Club of New York. Gordon displayed and gave an illustrated lecture on his very impressive exhibit of Icelandic postal cards, 1879-1940s. He showed essays, foreign destinations, and numerous plate flaws as well as a previously unrecorded overprint type. An appreciative audience was on hand to see and hear about his outstanding collection.

Carl E. Jørgensen received the Danish Federation's silver pin for his contributions to philately over the years. He was also a founder of the Danish postal history society. □

Scandinavian Philatelic Foundation Update

Preliminary news from NORDIA 98 in Odense is that the Foundation's book *AFA Iceland Specialized Catalog 1997* received a large vermeil in the literature section. The catalog covers the pre-republic issues from 1870 up to 1944. Copies are still available from the Foundation at the address below.

The current work in progress is a detailed description of the Danish advertising booklets by James Gaudet. The manuscript and tables of flaws are being set by the printer and the book should be out before the end of 1998. This particular work will be an original publication in English. Many of the previous publications are translations from Nordic languages into English of important reference works.

A price list of all SPF publications and membership information can be obtained by writing to Secretary/Treasurer George B. Koplowitz, Box 6716, Thousand Oaks CA 91359. - *Alan Warren* □

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Library News

Dr. W.E. Melberg, SCC Librarian

This report shows the Summer Library doldrums. Not very much to report. By the time you read this, CHICAGOPEX '98 will be history. Hopefully the SCC in its first participation in this top show will have left some good impressions of Nordic philately.

Library Donations - July 1, 1998 to September 30, 1998

Publications:

Norman Clayton

SCANDINAVIAN HUMOR. J. Anderson. 216pp.

Robert Fashingbauer

COMPEX '98 DIRECTORY. 160pp. Four articles by SCC members: "Fun in Philately." by Lester Winick, "A Philatelic Tribute to Children Around the World" by Norman Clayton, "Letters to Santa" by Roberta Palen, "Stockholm 1924, and the Railroad Excursions for Delegates" by Benjamin Cohen.

John Sabin

"Det færøske 2 kr. automathefte." V. Guttesen. 1998. 74pp.

Purchased Books:

Whitey Johnson's Estate

FINNLAND - FRÜHE ORTSSTEMPEL. Rolf Gummesson. 96pp. Early word cancels of Finland.

SVENSK LÖSEN. Curt Haij. 51pp. A study of postal dues.

ENGELSK-SVENSK ORDBOK. 973pp. English-Swedish dictionary.

SVENSK-ENGELSK ORDBOK. 979pp. Swedish-English dictionary.

F.C Moldenhauer

NORWEGIAN AIR MAIL. Egil Thomassen. 343pp. Great book! Worth a look for students of this area, and in English! Presented at a special Library discount rate by the publisher. □



Chapter News

Bob Lang

Not much in the way of news as we emerge from the summer doldrums and gear up for the fall/winter/spring stamp season. Hopefully when we get around to our next report in the May '99 issue all chapters will have items of interest to share. So let's get right to it!!

Chicago Chapter #4 - Fred Bloedow has kept the chapter newsletter coming my way, and of course the bulk of the news surrounds the Annual National Meeting which will just be over by the time you read this. The whole chapter has been involved in preparing for the SCC Annual Gathering at CHICAGOPEX in early November. September meeting was a "Scandinavian Show and Tell" and a talk by Harvey Gudmundson on his recent trip to Iceland. John Dasher was declared the winner of the year long philatelic scavenger hunt! October's meeting will feature the SCC Library slide show on "Danish Local Posts". Hope to see many of you at CHICAGOPEX!!

New England Chapter #5 - Late breaking sad news - Walter Johnson, long time member and staunch supporter of all SCC activities (responsible for the plastic SCC Banners used at shows and special meetings) passed away on October 17. His cheerful smile and helping hand will be sorely missed.

Washington DC Chapter #12 - BALPEX was the scene of a meeting attended by members from up and down the East Coast. Peter Alten welcomed about 15, including several Officers and Directors of SCC and NORDIA 2001 who gathered to view a slide show on "Danish West Indies" and talk stamps. Roy Ferber of Chap 13 was the only Scandinavian exhibitor at the show that will host SCC's Annual Meeting next year.

Delaware Chapter #13 - After another successful Auction in June the meeting schedule reverted to a more standard format. Ian Wellings was elected President for the second time. In July, Dean Dougherty showed slides of Iceland relating them to works of art or literature. Discussion at the September meeting centered around the "Charitable Giving of Stamps", particularly to the "Stamps for the Wounded" program, and more recently to benefit NORDIA 2001. Our next meeting will be about "Viking Art on Stamps"; another slide show we are developing for the SCC Library.

Southern California Chapter #17 - Regular meeting notices are shown in LUREN, edited by Paul Nelson.

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter #21 - Held a meeting in conjunction

with STAMPSHOW, which took place in nearby Santa Clara. Our new Executive Secretary, Don Brent, attended the meeting in order to meet many of the faithful that attend that APS Show on a regular basis.

Bob Paulson (FL West Coast) Chapter #23 - The "eat, then meet" gang from the Tampa Bay region write that their new restaurant meeting place is about one mile further south on US Route 19 in Clearwater. At a recent meeting the "Show and Tell" items centered around Denmark, Iceland and Sweden. Past President Mike Baranovic was welcomed back from recent surgery. Snow Birds will soon swell the size of the group, to include "yours truly" this winter.

Winnipeg, Manitoba Chapter #24 - Glenn Hansen recently returned home after a lengthy period in the hospital this summer and early fall. Robert Zacharias filled in on SCC duties in Glenn's absence and was able to meet with Glenn regularly during his illness. While on a few hours pass from the hospital, Glenn received the Distinguished Service Award from the Winnipeg Philatelic Society, for his steadfast devotion to his fellow philatelists. Good Show, Glenn!!

Tidewater Area Chapter #26 - Mike Falls reports that the Chapter members are busy with plans for another big VAPEX Show, coming up in early November. SCC members who attended last year's event were most pleased.

Colorado Chapter #27 - Stuart Silverberg reports that meetings resumed in September at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library (soon to be the site of the SCC Library), with a review of the 1930 Iceland Parliamentary Issue, preparation for a December Auction and a review of NORDIA 2001 progress and activities. Both Stu and Greg Frantz will be attending NORDIA '98 in Odense in Mid-October.

DOWN UNDER EXHIBITOR NEWS - While this information is a year old I'd like all SCCers to know that our members in Australia and New Zealand have been active exhibiting Scandinavian material in local and regional shows. David Loe, who I had the good fortune to visit with last October while in Kiwi Country, sent a long letter and the Palmares from AUPEX'97, New Zealand's National Show.

David received a Large Vermeil for his five frames of "Early Postmarks of Iceland". I was afforded a sneak preview of some of his exhibit pages and I agree wholeheartedly with the judges decision. David does lament the fact that Icelandic stamps and covers from whatever period are very hard to come by in NZ.

Other SCC exhibitors at AUPEX '97 were John MacDonnell from Victoria, Australia who received a similar Large Vermeil for his five frames of "Sweden: Travelling Post Offices 1862-1914"; and Patricia Capill of Palmerston North (She and her husband Colin joined SCC at PACIFIC '97) garnered a Vermeil

for her five frames of Denmark.

Congratulations to all, even if the recognition is a bit late. We hope some day we'll be privileged to see some of these exhibits here in the States. Perhaps you will consider showing at NORDIA 2001. For those SCC members who are active exhibitors in other than the US and Canada, we would appreciate your sending copies of your shows palmars to Alan Warren at P.O. Box 39, Exton, PA 19341, so we can recognize your exhibiting achievements.

My thanks to all who provided information for this report. If you want to see your Chapter activities reported in the next issue, please send them to me ASAP. Since that festive time of year is fast approaching, I want to wish each and every one of you a very HAPPY HOLIDAY and a HEALTHY and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!! Cheers!! Bob Lang

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There is no question that this new book will remain the definitive volume on the I GILDI issues. It belongs on the shelf of every collector of Iceland stamps. Although the text is in Danish, those who cannot read this language will be able to gain much information from the illustrations and tables.

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Editor's Notes

Sandra Downs

As a full year of managing *The Posthorn* comes to a close, I feel a mixed sense of relief and disappointment. It hasn't been easy. My technical skills required some adaptation to work with our printer. I haven't had the time or energy to chase down fellow members for articles. My relative youth and lack of philatelic connections contributed greatly to the "newsy" format you've seen this past year. I've been grateful that members sent in information worth publishing.

I'm sad to report that Karl Kaup has taken ill, and will no longer be able to serve as copy editor. His services over the past year have been a great help.

Please note the change of address for submissions: PO Box 477, Imperial PA 15126-0477, and email change to <sdowns@premiertechnologies.com>. Life has taken another turn, and I decided that a PO Box would provide some stability as well as a means of passing on the baton at some point, since I would eventually like to step back into the shadows and turn my attention back to our website. Meanwhile, thanks to all of you who have contributed this past year. A joyous holiday season to all! □



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News From the Home Office

Don Brent

This quarter started with STAMPSHOW 98 in Santa Clara and has picked up steam as it comes up on dues renewal, election time and preparation for our annual meeting at CHICAGOPEX. I was fortunate to be able to make the show in northern California in August and got a chance to meet some of Chapter 21 members. Saturday morning there was a meeting of the chapter at STAMPSHOW with a slide show on Norwegian varieties and mart books. Gordon Morison was in attendance and gave a run down on NORDIA 2001 to the chapter members. John DuBois, a nominee for Director was at the meeting all the way from Massachusetts. There were plenty of interesting meetings and seminars to attend, some great exhibits to check out and even a little time to spend at the bourse. Jay Smith was out to Calif. as were many other dealers with some nice material. After the show it has been time to get down to work and prepare for dues renewal and election.

You should have received your dues renewal notice and election ballot some time ago and hopefully!! mailed in your dues to this office and your ballot to Bob Frigstad. All of our officers agreed to stand for reelection and the Nominating Committee came up with a slate of three nominees for Two-Year Directors. There were no contested offices but remember it is necessary that we have a general election. In the future should you be interested in running for office or know someone you feel would make a contribution to the society, let the Nominating Committee know.

We gained thirteen new members this quarter including two from overseas and three from Canada. We wish to extend our welcome and remind you that we are here to help you with any SCC related matters. We also lost two members to death including Walter Johnson, a very important member of Chapter 5. I wish to extend our sympathy to their family and friends. There have been quite a few address changes lately and it would really help if you would let me know of your moves as the USPS has changed their regulations regarding forwarding mail and notifying us of address changes. We now have to pay postage due on some of the notices AND they do not forward your POSTHORN but rather return it which requires a second mailing. Let us know as soon as you move or before if possible.

CHICAGOPEX is coming up soon and I hope to have met many of you there. Please get those ballots and dues renewals in as soon as possible.

Best regards, Don Brent

□

Membership Statistics for the quarter ending September 30, 1998

NEW MEMBERS

- 3715 Okerman, Jame P. 152 Main Street, Hoosick Falls, NY 12090
3716 Swenson, Paul L., 721 N. 12th Street, Oskaloosa, IA 52577
3717 Penella, Robert J., 1330 Midland Ave., Bronxville, NY 10708-6813
3718 Catjens, Gregor, BP54, F-94302 Vincennes Cedex, France
3719 Wickberg, Michael B., 539 S. Zurich, Tulsa, OK 74112
3720 Jørgensen, Torben Mehl, Blomsterager 405, 2980 Kokkedal, Denmark
3721 Jones, Harry B., P.O. Box 2395, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568
3722 Graue, Sharon Everson, P.O. Box 192, Vallyford, WA 99036
3723 Kaplan, Stephen P., P.O. Box 221113, Beachwood, OH 44122
3724 Theilgaard, Morten, 359 Acadia Drive SE, Calgary, Alberta T2J 0A6 Canada
3725 Nissen, Carl-Erik M., PO Box 51, Port McNeill, BC V0N 2R0 Canada
3726 Plaami, Jeanette, PO Box 1721, Lloydminster, SK S9V 1M6 Canada
3727 Short, Harold A., 1575 Tindall Ranch Road, Corralitos, CA 95076

DECEASED

- H20/1031 Frye, Joe F., c/o CRC, 955 No. Germantown Pkwy, Corova, TN 38018
Member since 1964
2780 Hansen, J.P. Hart, Vibevej 4C, DK-2990 Nivaa, Denmark Member since 1990
3255 Johnson, Walter O., 4 Lincolnshire Way, Winchester, MA Member since 1969

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- 3218 Messerschmidt, Peter, 1504 Brushy Bend Dr., Round Rock, TX 78681-1448
2952 Weigel, Jack W., 2716 Maitland Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48105
1228 Egy, Harold A., PO Box 2347, Sun City, AZ 85372-2347
995 Kuipers, Henry, Beethovenlaan 15, 7604 GC Almelo, Netherlands
2395 Streeter, Ronald M., PO Box 0983, N. Highlands, CA 95660-0983
L-13/0720 Richter, Jared H., 410 Pearl St. Apt 2B, La Jolla, CA 92037
1049/3300 Gruber, Alfred A., and Annette, 27 Old Oak Rd. Newark, DE 19711
3615 Boatman, B. B., 179 Marcy Dr., Loveland, CO 80537
L-20 Helm, Robert, 25 Peak St., Stamford, CT 06905-1119
2962 Bjork, Tor, 2567 N. Miller Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85257-1619
3431 Duska, Ruth, 12031 Forbes Glen Dr., Herndon, VA 20170-2705
3623 Ostergren, James E., 7550 N 16th St. Apt. 210-6, Phoenix, AZ 85020-4643
1764 Brandal, Ole L., PO Box 58817, Renton, WA 98058-1817
3539 Downs, Sandra B., P.O. Box 477, Imperial, PA 15126-0477
2298 Hansen, Glenn F., 372 Fern St., Winnipeg, MB R2K 0H8 Canada
3495 Swanson, Lynn A., 8697 Bayard Ct., Eden Prairie, MN 55347-2234
3150 Kvidahl, Frank J., 58 Central Ave., East Brunswick, NJ 08816-4608

□

SCANDINAVIAN AREA AWARDS

At the National Topical Stamp Show, Bob Lang received a bronze for "Safety at Sea - Scandinavian Style" along with the Lighthouse Unit award. At the Plymouth Show, Roger Quinby won a gold for his "Russian Currency Stamps Used in Finland" and Rossmer Olson took a vermeil along with an AAPE award for his "the Definitive Postage Stamps of Sweden 1910-01936."

At the JUVALUX exhibition in Luxembourg, SCC Secretary Don Halpern received a large vermeil for "Mail through the Danish Post Offices in the German States to 1866," and Jeffrey Crown won a vermeil for his "Faroe Islands Post 1839-1962." John DuBois took a gold at Philatelic Show in Boxborough MA with his "Danish West Indies Mails." A silver was awarded to Charles Shoemaker at MILCOPEX for his "Greenland: The American Issue" along with an AAPE award of honor.

LeRoy Ferber received a bronze for his one frame entry at BALPEX, "Postmarks from the Last 10 Weeks of the 52 Post Offices of Karelia (1944) Under Wartime Invasion Conditions." - Alan Warren

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NORDIA 2001 UPDATE

By Alan Warren

In recent months great strides have been made in making a NORDIA show a reality in the United States in the year 2001. The reason there is no such exhibition that year in Scandinavia is that these shows are not held in those years when an FIP show takes place there. In the year 2001 there will be a HAFNIA in Copenhagen later in the year.

Some years ago forward thinking members and officers of SCC came up with the idea of a Nordic federation show in the U.S. The SCC board approved the concept of a separate organization to put on the show. Papers were drawn up to establish NORDIA 2001 INC and SCC provided a substantial sum to get the group off the ground. Under the recent leadership of president Gordon Morison, significant steps have been taken to prepare a budget and to create a series of committees to do everything from publicity to show set-up to planning seminars and even to arranging pre and post show tours.

In addition to Morison, the other officers are Don Halpern, Secretary and Howard Schloss, Treasurer. These officers also serve as directors along with Bob Lang, Alan Warren, and Greg Frantz. The first publicity announcement has been sent to the philatelic press both here and in Scandinavia. A meeting of NORDIA 2001 members was held at CHICAGOPEX on November 7 to elect directors and officers to continue the process of putting on this exciting show.

The location will be Tucson AZ and the dates are January 26-28, 2001. The Nordic show will be held in conjunction with the SCC convention that year as well as with ARIPEX and the American Philatelic Society's winter show. SCC members have received a letter from Gordon Morison and Roger Quinby, presidents respectively of NORDIA 2001 and SCC, urging members to contribute funds to the show and to serve as volunteers for one of the many committees.

Early in 1999 the first bulletin will be ready with the general and special rules of the exhibition and a preliminary prospectus. A web site has been set up with the wonderful assistance of Toke Norby of Denmark, assisted by John DuBois. The address is <http://www.fi.au.dk/~tn/nordia2001/welcome.html>. During the NORDIA 98 show in Odense in October, NORDIA officers and board members were able to meet with Nordic federation personnel to clarify some of the requirements for a NORDIA show. It is expected that some of the finest Nordic area exhibits will be seen in Tucson that year.

Membership applications, donor forms, and other details of NORDIA 2001 can be obtained by writing to NORDIA 2001 INC, P. O. Box 59305, Potomac MD 20859. □

ALBUM CLOSED: WALTER JOHNSON

By Wayne Rindone

SCC New England Chapter 5 Vice President Walter Johnson passed away October 17, 1998, following a brief illness.

Since he rejoined the rejuvenated Chapter 5 in 1989, Walter has been its most faithful member and contributor. He frequently reminded us that he was much more an accumulator than a collector, and his cigar boxes contained a full range of all types of Scandinavian material, as well as material from other places. At most of the meetings he attended, he brought with him another unusual piece of his accumulation to share with the group.

In addition to serving the Chapter as Vice President for the last several years, Walter also handled the Stamp Mart circuit books for the group, and often brought cakes and other refreshments to the meetings. He hosted several annual chapter dinner meetings at the Winchester Country Club, followed by a get-together in his home nearby.

Walter was the owner and proprietor of Duprin Copy Centre in Woburn, Massachusetts, and he took every opportunity to use his facilities to produce useful things for the club and its membership. Each year he gave all chapter members a full color Scandinavian philatelic calendar, also printed name cards for everyone, a sign directing visitors to the meeting location in the building, and many other things at no charge. He hosted a chapter meeting at his print shop, and showed off his color copying capabilities by printing enlarged color copies of items we brought from our collections.

He even got in the act of printing things for the national SCC. At the 1994 national meeting at Philatelic Show, Executive Secretary Bob Lang accepted Walter's offer to print up 17 by 20 inch plastic banners picturing the eight Scandinavian flags and mail them to each chapter. The club did pay a nominal charge, less than Walter's actual cost, for these. Bob tells me that earlier in 1998 he called Walter asking if he had any more of these available. Walter said he did not think so, but a few weeks later Bob was pleasantly surprised when four more showed up in the mail.

It turned out that Walter's experiences with the SCC and Chapter 5 go back further than anyone else in the current membership. He joined SCC for the first time in 1969, and was a charter member of the original Chapter 5. We do not know how it came to be that the Chapter became inactive for a period in the early 1970's, but it seems reasonable to believe that Walter, becoming distracted from stamps by the demands of running his new business, may have had something to do with it. We do know that current Chapter 5 will not be the same without Walter. □

SCC CHAPTER MEETINGS AND CONTACTS

- 1. SEATTLE/NW:** 2nd Mon at University Christian Church. CONTACT: Ken Elliott, PO Box 22808, Seattle, WA 98122
- 4. CHICAGO:** 4th Thurs (except Jul, Aug) at Golden Flame, 6417 W Higgins. CONTACT: Fred Bloedow, 810 Dobson St #1A, Evanston, IL 60202
- 5. NEW ENGLAND:** 1st Wed at The Swedish Home, 206 Waltham St, W Newton, MA at 7:30 in the Board Room. CONTACT: John L. DuBois, c/o Thermologic Corp., 22 Kane Industrial Dr, Hudson MA 01749
- 7. NEW YORK:** 2nd Wed (except Jul, Aug) at The Collectors Club, 26 E 35th St. CONTACT: Carl Probst, 71 Willoughby Ave, Hicksville, NY 11801
- 9. N. NEW JERSEY:** 3rd Wed 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 Tues at members' homes. CONTACT: George Colvard, 311 Plymouth Rd, Wilmington DE 19803
- 14. TWIN CITIES:** 2nd Thurs (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 Mon at Robert Gustafson's home. CONTACT: Robert Gustafson, 877 Helendale Rd, Rochester, NY 14609
- 17. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:** 1st Wed 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 Sun afternoons). CONTACT: Eric Roberts, PO Box 460201, Houston, TX 77056
- 23. BOB PAULSON:** 1st Mon 6:00 PM at Shoney's, US 19 N & Nebraska, Palm Harbor. CONTACT: Doris Wendling, 4673 Devonshire Blvd, Palm Harbor FL 34685
- 24. MANITOBA:** 2nd and 4th Wed at Scandinavian Cultural Centre, 764 Erin St. CONTACT: Glenn Hansen, 372 Fern St, Winnipeg, MB R2K 0H8.
- 25. TUCSON:** 4th Tues (except Jul, Aug) 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 Sat from Sep-June, 10 AM at the Rocky Mt. Philatelic Library, 2038 S. Pontiac Way, Denver. CONTACT: Stuart Silverberg, 23509 Shingle Creek Rd, Golden, CO 80401

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