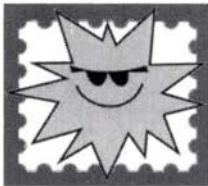


The

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February 2001

Nordic Nobility



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Table of Contents

Nordic Nobility		
Sigismund III Vasa = Zygmunt III Waza	Alfred A. Gruber	3
Royal Correspondence on Auction Block	Paul Albright	5
Tordenskiold's Soldiers	Dan Laursen	6
A French King in Scandinavia	Frederick A. Brofos	8
A Card from a Crackpot to a King	Frederick A. Brofos	10
What We Don't Find in the Catalogues	Sigurður H. Thorsteinsson	11
Two Equals Five Among Iceland's Christmas Stamps	Sigurður H. Thorsteinsson	12
Slania: Past, Present, and Future	Paul Albright	15
NORDIA 2001		
NORDIA 2001 a Resounding Success		17
3 Skilling Yellow: Star of the Show	Gordon C. Morison	20
NORDIA/ARIPEX/APS Awards	Alan Warren	23
New Mail Rates from U.S. to Scandinavia		27
Postal Rules Sink Skilling	Dan Laursen	36
Review: Norgeskatalogen 2001	Alan Warren	40
HAFNIA 01 Gears Up	Don Halpern	40
Landmark Set on Danish Bicolors Published	Roger Quinby	42
Review: Faroes Islands 2000	Alan Warren	42
SCC Launches Member Incentive Plan		43
Index to Volume 57 (Subject and Author)		45

DEPARTMENTS

Album Closed	48	President's Letter	25
Chapters & Contacts	38	SCC and Scandinavian Awards	22 & 34
Chapter Notes	44	Scandinavian Literature Notes	30
Editor's Notes	29	SCC Calendar	34
Library News	35	Transfers and Re-Entries	33
Membership Statistics & Honors	28	Web News	2
News from the Home Office	27		

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SCC Web News



<http://www.scc-online.org>

The Member EMAIL Directory (<http://www.scc-online/dir.htm>) at SCC's Web Site is expanding every month.

As we process dues-renewal forms, those who have filled out the lines for email address and collecting interests are being transferred to the online directory.

A few forms have arrived with collecting interests, but no email address. Perhaps this is a defect in "form design," but to be useful we will need both lines filled in next year.

If you did not supply this information on the renewal form but would like to be listed in the Web Member directory, just drop an email to SCC Vice President John DuBois at jld@thlogic.com with your email address and/or Web URL. We will get it posted.

We also want to post news from SCC's far-flung chapters on the Web Site. Because Web entries are "immediate," we will be able to post notices of forthcoming chapter activities rather than having them in the past tense as usually occurs in the quarterly *Posthorn*. Chapter contacts are encouraged to get their items to Walt Jellum, vice president for Chapters, at wajel@inland.net so he can coordinate the information for both the Web and *The Posthorn*.

— John DuBois

Sigismund III Vasa = Zygmunt III Waza

A Tale of Court Intrigue ♦ War ♦ Religious Conflict ♦ and a Joint Stamp Issue

by Alfred A. Gruber

Most Scandinavian stamp collectors migrate to a specialty, but maintain surveillance in other areas. So it is with my interest in the Swedish kings. After all, I once stood next to Gustaf II Adolf and introduced myself. He didn't acknowledge my presence – but then, he had been horizontal for over three centuries at the time.

Scanning a recent *Facit* catalog, I was surprised to spot a Swedish ruler, not of the Gustaf variety, bearing the unlikely name of Sigismund, commemorated in 1998 (F2100). Figure 1 is a copy of a souvenir sheet of that stamp called the Brown Print. These prints, signed by its outstanding engraver Czeslaw Slania, represented Slania's 998th stamp.



Figure 2.

I find the pose interesting for a king thinking of his legacy. The style is typical of the Rubens School, which was still in use a century later as seen in Figure 2 showing Count Imre Thokoly (1657-1705) on a stamp commemorating the 300th anniversary of Hungary's independence movement (Hungary Scott 2547).

Sigismund's principal role was in Poland (more on that later), resulting in a joint Sweden/Poland issue (Figure 3). This souvenir card featuring Slania and the two stamps is greatly reduced from its 14.7x21-mm size. The Polish stamp is sepia while the Swedish one multicolored. The text on the reverse is in Swedish, Polish, and English (here verbatim).

We would like to present the portrait of Sigismund III Vasa by an artist representing the Rubens school, housed in the castle of Gripsholm, on a joint Polish-Swedish stamp. It was there the future King of Poland and Sweden, offspring of two huge royal families, the Yagiellonians and the Vasas, was born. He was elected King of Poland in 1587 and started the nearly 100-year long period of the reigns of the Vasa's dynasty in the Commonwealth of Poland (Rzeczpospolita). The two countries were connected by a personal union for seven years thanks to him. The art lover and sponsor was marked in the history of Warsaw. He erected the Royal Castle and made the little known city become a residence of Polish kings. Today Sigismund III Vasa, holding a sword and a cross in his hands, looks at the Old Town from a column located in Plac Zamkowy (Castle Square). His person marked his perpetual presence in the history of the two countries and the landscape of Warsaw. The stamp was engraved by Czeslaw Slania, born in Poland. His works are famous all over the world. He is especially highly esteemed in Sweden, where he lives and holds the honourable title of Court Engraver of Sweden. At present Czeslaw Slania is preparing his 1,000th stamp.

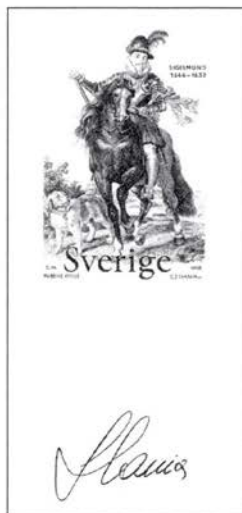


Figure 1.



Figure 3.

Digging in encyclopedias and other tomes reveals Sigismund reigned during the struggle of Catholicism and Lutheranism, serving as Sweden's king from 1592 to 1599. (Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the church door earlier in that century.) But let's start at the beginning of this saga.

Gustav I Eriksson Vasa (1496-1560) was elected Sweden's king in 1523 after some rumruses with the monarchy, imprisonment in Denmark, and an escape in 1520. He ruled until death in 1560 (Figure 4).

Three of his sons became kings of Sweden: Erik XIV (ruled 1560-1568); John III (ruled 1568-1592); and Charles IX (ruled 1599-1611).

Erik was an especially active sort, proposing marriage to Mary of Scotland and Elizabeth I of England, among others. He reportedly died of arsenic poisoning after accusations of madness and incompetence. The Danes took advantage of the chaos, invaded, and touched off the Nordic Seven Years War (1563-1570).

The second son, John III, settled with the Danes and then took on Ivan the Terrible of Russia. King John, a Catholic, married Polish princess Catherine Jagellio, who bore Sigismund (spelled Zygmunt in Poland). Zygmunt was elected to the Polish throne in 1587 as Zygmunt III Waza (ZIII) and inherited the Swedish throne upon his father's death in 1592 where he is known as Sigismund III Vasa (SIII).

ZIII moved the Polish capital from Krakow to Warsaw and embroiled Poland in four wars, two with Sweden. The religious animosities sweeping Europe resulted in SIII's resignation as Swedish king in 1599 when his uncle, the pro-Lutheran Charles IX, Gustav's son number three, forced him out. However, ZIII continued as Polish king until 1632.

He is remembered in Warsaw where the statue honoring him still stands as shown on a postcard (Figure 5). The bronze statue by Italian Clemente Molli was placed atop a 72-foot Corinthian column erected in 1633. Then came the devastation of World War II, leaving the statue amid rubble in 1945. It has been restored as seen in Figure 5. ►



Figure 4.

Moving ahead to October 1999, we find the Lutheran World Federation and the Vatican issuing the *Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification*. Symbolically, the Catholic Bishop in Baltimore and his Lutheran counterpart again put nails in the church door posting that *Declaration*. (There will be no nailing on my Lutheran Church door where I have served on the property committee.) I was hoping the Vatican would issue a stamp to commemorate this event, but, as far as I know, none yet.

It took almost 400 years to settle this religious score. To cap it off, the Church of Sweden (Lutheran) announced that on the first day of the year 2000 they had cut ties with the Swedish government. Lutheran is no longer the Swedish state religion.

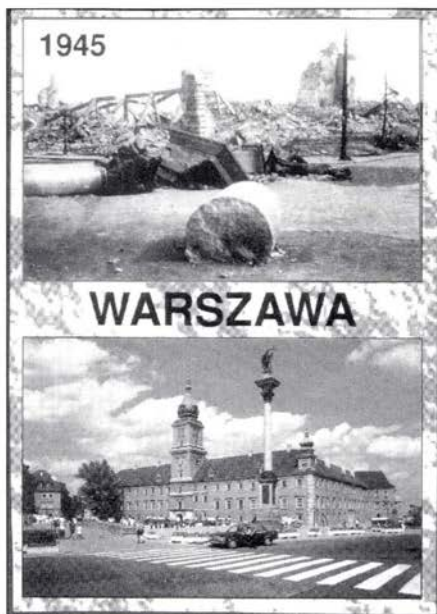


Figure 5.

The author, a former president of SCC, takes pleasure in linking philately and history in print or exhibit. He is a frequent contributor to The Posthorn and American Philatelist.

References:

FACIT 2000 Special

Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1998 edition (Britannica, Inc.)

Dictionary of the Middle Ages, (Charles Scribner & Sons, 1998)

Royal Correspondence on Auction Block

Letters from two Swedish kings who reigned a century apart are up for auction as part of Postiljonen's spring auction March 23-24, 2001 in Malmö, Sweden.

The auction catalog says one letter, signed by King Johan III, was sent from "Svartsjö 18 mars 1579" to "vår käre fru moder" (our dear mother) Queen Katarina. That apparently refers to his stepmother, the former Katarina Stenbock (1535-1621). The future king was an infant when his natural mother died. King Johan reigned in Sweden from 1568-1592.

The second item is a letter from a teen-age king, Karl XII, who reigned from 1697-1718. The catalog describes the item as a "Royal cover '1699' with a 'B' cancellation. As normal for this late usage, the cancellation is blurred. The cover is signed by King Karl XII."

King Karl XII assumed the throne at the age of 15 and was 17 years old when this letter was sent to Colonel Johan Schmitberg at the Marstrand infanteriregemente. King Karl XII developed into a strong military leader of Sweden and died in battle during an invasion of Norway in 1718.

Auction catalogs are available from Postiljonen. Contact information is found on the inside back cover of *The Posthorn*.

—Paul Albright

Tordenskiold's Soldiers

by Dan Laursen

Having recently attended NORDIA 2001 and reviewed the roster of participants, I was reminded of an expression used in Denmark when you see the same persons turn up again and again – “Tordenskiold's Soldiers.” Some explanation may be needed.

Tordenskiold was a Danish-Norwegian naval hero who lived from 1690 to 1720. As the youngest of 17 siblings, he was born Peter Jansen Wessel in Trondheim in Norway, at that time in common realm with Denmark. His father was a well-to-do trader and alderman. When King Frederik IV visited the town in 1704, the teen-ager ran away from family and town to join the King's entourage. His guardian became the Chaplain royal, who sent the somewhat unruly boy to sea until he later was admitted to the midshipman's academy.

Graduated from the academy, Lieutenant Wessel was commissioned to various smaller men-of-war. He soon showed his seamanship and ingenuity, his personal courage, eminent leadership, and his leadership for the possibilities of attack. He was victorious in a long row of engagements with ships of the Swedish navy. Denmark and Sweden were at war almost constantly during those years. In 1716 Wessel was ennobled and assumed the name Tordenskiold (Thundershield). (You can find the name spelled Tordenskjold – as in Figure 3, for example – but I prefer to use the “i” as our hero signed it himself.)

Becoming a Military Hero

The many episodes from his life as a warrior are for the most part true and well documented. This is the circumstance that led to coining the expression, “Tordenskiold's Soldiers.”

Characteristic of all Tordenskiold's victories is that he attacked the enemy with a far inferior force as, for example, in 1716 when he thrashed the Swedish navy's fleet of transport vessels in the Dyrkilen fjord on the Swedish west coast. With a small squadron of only seven ships, Tordenskiold made a surprise attack, forcing officers and crews off the 44 Swedish ships that he then took to Copenhagen.

He was in the same situation in 1719 when he attacked the heavily manned Swedish fortress Karlsten on a little island outside the town of Marstrand on the Swedish west coast. With a single ship, Tordenskiold ran into the harbor of Marstrand on July 27 and in no time captured the Swedish men-of-war there. He then called on the commandant of the Karlsten fortress,

Colonel H. Danckwardt, and demanded he surrender the fortress within the next five days. ➤



Figure 1. Stamp issued October 5, 1990 on the 300th anniversary of Tordenskiold's birth. The motif is Otto Bache's painting of Tordenskiold in Marstrand.



Figure 2. Balthasar Denner's portrait of Tordenskiold.

The commandant did not intend to surrender, and for five days, nothing happened. The sixth morning Tordenskiold took as many of his crew as possible and formed a small company. He landed a short distance from the fortress and started his little "army" marching past the commandant's dwelling again and again, giving the colonel the impression that he had many more soldiers than he really had. It was the same group of men who marched by every time that a "new" company passed the fortress.

Finally, Tordenskiold went up directly under the window of the commandant's residence and shouted the famous words: "Why the Devil are you hesitating? Don't you know that the time has expired!"

Colonel Danckwardt became so scared that he surrendered immediately!

This situation is portrayed on the Danish stamp issued in 1990 on the 300th anniversary of Tordenskiold's birth (Figure 1).

The incident contributed much to the ending of the Danish-Swedish war (also called the Great Nordic War) in 1720. During a journey abroad the same year, Tordenskiold was killed in Hanover, Germany, in a duel with a Swedish colonel, Staël von Holstein of German-Baltic nobility.

The painting of Tordenskiold by Balthasar Denner (Figure 2) was used as the logo for a Danish brand of matches (Figure 3) and, as such, has been in all Danish homes for years in a number of many, many millions.

The Danes did not forget Tordenskiold in a hurry, and we are still reminded of him and his soldiers every now and then. ■



Figure 3. A Danish matchbox with a picture of Tordenskiold adapted from Denner's portrait.

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A French King in Scandinavia

by Frederick A. Brofos

One needs be something of a military genius to have such a brilliant career as the Frenchman Jean Baptiste Bernadotte.

Rising through the ranks of the French Army, he was at last appointed, by the Emperor Napoleon I, a Marshal of France, as well as Prince of Ponte Corvo (a small place in Italy). Nevertheless, Bernadotte had higher ambitions, finally landing in Sweden with his French wife, Désirée. Eventually, they became King and Queen of that country, founding a new dynasty, which has lasted to this day.

All of this came about when the Swedish King Carl XIII became incompetent and the Swedes chose Bernadotte in 1810 as Regent, Crown Prince, and successor to the throne. When the old king died, Bernadotte became king under the name of Carl XIV Johan.

Soon, he joined the alliance against Napoleon, becoming head of their Northern

Army and forcing Denmark (an ally of Napoleon) to cede the crown of Norway to Sweden. The Norwegians resisted that idea, choosing instead the Danish Viceroy Kristian Fredrik as their king and producing a Constitution, all on May 17, 1814. That day is still celebrated as a great national holiday in Norway.

However, under pressure of the Allied powers, Kristian Fredrik was forced to flee and Norway made to settle down under Swedish rule. Carl Johan tried to ➤



King Carl XIV Johan on Sweden Facit 1838.



Royal Palace in Oslo with equestrian statue of King Carl Johan on the right (Norway Facit 1340).



A closer view of King Carl Johan's statue outside Norway's Royal Palace.



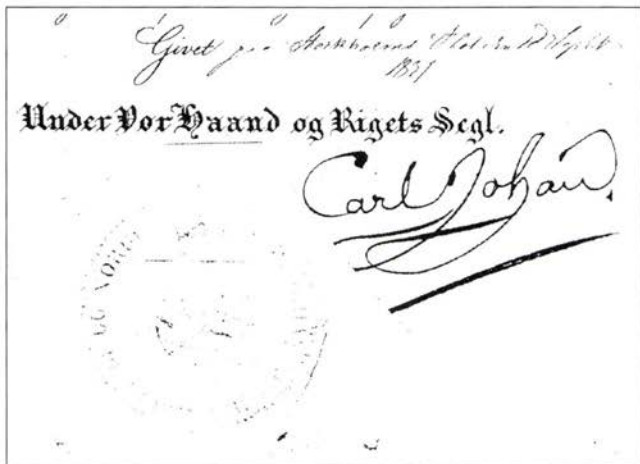
A military appointment of an officer in the Christiansand Infantry Brigade, signed by King Carl Johan in 1837.

change the Norwegian Constitution, but was continually blocked by the Norwegian Parliament. Eventually, of course, Norway regained its independence in 1905.

Carl Johan's son, Oscar I, appeared on Norway's second stamp issue in 1856, but Carl Johan has not been shown on Norwegian stamps until recently, when one can discern the fine equestrian statue of him in front of the Royal Palace. It stands at the head of Oslo's main street, which is named after him.

Sweden was also slow in picturing Carl Johan on a stamp. This was finally corrected in 1994 with a stamp showing a full-length portrait of Carl Johan by the famous French artist F. Gérard.

The stamp (Facit 1838) was part of a joint issue with France on cultural exchange between the two countries. "No single country has had as much influence in Swedish cultural life as France," noted Sweden Post in releasing the six-stamp sheet. That influence included a 19th Century Frenchman who became a King of Sweden. ■



The bold signature of the king and his royal seal as King of Sweden and Norway.

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A Card from a Crackpot to a King

by Frederick A. Brofos

It is just a common U.S. penny post card with Jefferson's head, printed in green by the millions, and used for decades until the postal card rate started to gradually rise to the present 20 cents. However, what makes this particular card of special interest is that it is addressed to no less than the King of Norway.

Persons in high places have long been the targets of crazy people. Some of these unwanted attentions are directed with deadly bullets or exploding bombs, while others only send crank mail. No doubt, there is a psychiatric reason for this undesirable behavior that varies with the individual. Most have in common a certain amount of imbalance and mental disorder, if not outright madness.

The card at hand is from an excited man in New York City who, in September 1926, wrote to the Norwegian King about his

grievances. He claimed in his message that someone wanted to put him in an insane asylum.

His message also indicated that he had been sending similar messages throughout the U.S., Europe, and Asia demanding that other important persons, "Write Wash. D.C. U.S.A. at once."

Of course, to mark an open post card as "Confidential, personal & private," as he did, was ridiculous in itself. The contents of the card certainly indicated the man's instability. Furthermore, he was unsure as to whether there was a King or a President in Norway, so he simply addressed it to the "Ruler of Norway."

This probably caused some mystification at the Oslo Post Office. After pondering the matter, they added an explanatory notation "H. M. Kongen" (His Majesty the King) and "Norges Konge" (Norway's King), upon deciding its correct destination.

At the Royal Palace, I imagine the card was quietly sidetracked to a private secretary for answering, thus sparing King Haakon for more important affairs of state. ■



Danish West Indies

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What We Don't Find in the Catalogues

by Sigurður H. Thorsteinsson

Sheets of 10 and 20 Icelandic stamps

We all know of the different number of stamps in the sheets and panes of Icelandic stamps. Mostly, they have been 120, 100, 50, 25, even 8, 4, 3, or 2 stamps. In the last few years there has been an addition of 10-stamp panes in booklets or sheets of 20 stamps, such as the Millennium of Christianity, an Iceland-Vatican joint issue (see *The Posthorn*, May 2000, p. 26).

I include in this definition blocks, such as the Discovery of North America (Facit 799-800), and all the small sheets in booklets, including Christmas stamps from 1996 onward. Previously, larger sheets were divided into smaller units needed for the booklets (still done for "Stamp Packs"). Recently, however, the printers – either Joh Enschedé en Zonen in Holland or Security Printers Cartor S.A. – have printed special sheets of 10 stamps for the booklets.



Figure 1.

Usually the booklet sheets are 2 stamps by 5 stamps (see Figure 1) with white selvage without any printing or marks, or lately with the logos of Islandspostur. Recent sheets of "postal history," planes, cars, and ships were in sheets of 8.

Booklets never catalogued

Quite a few booklets have never found their way to "catalogization." Chronologically as I know them, this includes all the presentation books, booklets, and samples that have been handed out at International Postal Congresses by the postal administration of Iceland. Sorry to say, but there seems to be no possibility of making an exact list or tally of these. We only know that recent stamps have been handed out in one form or another at every Congress Iceland has attended.

There was a cellophane envelope in 1989 presented as a "FREE GIFT" with the compliments of Frimerkjasalan-Postphil (the Icelandic Post Office). The envelope contained four different Icelandic stamps and a printed advertisement for a standing order for new issues of Icelandic stamps from James Davis and Son, Ltd., then Postphil's agent in the UK (Figure 2). ➤



Figure 2.

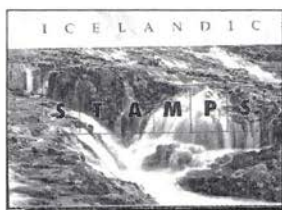


Figure 3.

In 1993 and 1994 there was "A Free Gift" for tourists. These are double folded folders with four and six different stamps, offering subscriptions and year sets (Figure 3).



Figure 4.

Plastic envelopes have been for sale since 1998 in tourist shops only. Each envelope contains four stamps or (beginning in late 1999) 10 stamps. They have a red tag stapled atop for closing, and are packaged 4x35 kr., 4x45 kr., 4x65 kr., 10x35 kr., or another appropriate definition. The label says the contents are "four postage stamps for domestic mail," or "10 postage stamps for domestic mail," etc. for letters/postcards in Europe, or outside Europe (Figures 4 and 5).

These really are a continuation of the cellophane envelopes with 15 krónur worth of stamps from 1962, or the 30 krónur worth of stamps from 1958. These were sold in shops, at that time, before Christmas, to help customers get stamps as they bought their Christmas cards. These cellophane envelopes have for some time been catalogued together with booklets in special catalogues. These plastic envelopes are 18 different so far, all combinations considered.

These have been sold only by special order through private establishments, such as tourist shops. I had to order mine through the Postmaster at ►

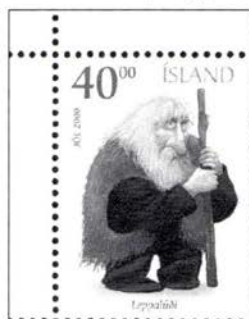


Figure 5.

Two Equals Five Among Iceland's Christmas Stamps



According to official announcements, there were two stamps issued for the Christmas 2000 mail in Iceland. One of them has the imagined drawing of Grýla, the mother of the 13 Christmas Goblins, which were featured on stamps a year earlier. The other stamp was a drawing of the Goblins' father, Leppalúði.



The nominal value of Grýla is 50 krónur for mail to Europe and the nominal value of Leppalúði is 40 krónur for the inland mail. Both stamps were printed in offset lithography but by two different printers, one using ordinary paper and the other printing on white fluor-coated paper.

The Cartor S/A Security Printers used the fluor-coated paper on a mini-block with both stamps with all of the Goblin sons printed on the edges and the Christmas greetings, "Gleðileg ►



Jól." The stamps in this mini-sheet are larger than the others (size 26x39.5mm) and perforated differently (14 1/4x12 3/4).

Both stamps also were printed separately in sheets of 10 with the stamps 25.9x35mm and perforated 13 3/4 x 13 1/2. This means four different stamps.

Walsall Security Printing then printed booklets of 10 of the 40-krónur stamps on ordinary paper without fluor coating. These stamps are 24.5x35.5mm and perforated 14 1/4x13 1/4.

Apart from collecting these stamps individually, you can seek the different sheets of 10, the two-stamp mini-sheet, the booklet, and stamps on different paper and of different sizes and perforations. Add to that mint and used and on cover.

So, all I can say is happy hunting. Does anyone need a helping hand?

- Sigurður H. Þorsteinsson



Hafnarfjörður to get any, as they were sold out at the time at the tourist establishments where I tried to obtain them.

The "EDEN" booklet

The 1992 booklet with 10x30 kr. stamps in the export-trade-commerce set (Facit 801-802) was the first booklet for years to have an advertisement on the back page from somebody other than the PTT. This time the space was purchased by "The Rammagerðin" tourist store. It said atop the back page, TOURIST TOP CHOICE.

The tourist establishment EDEN in Hveragerði, South Iceland, requested equal treatment, and was finally permitted to put a label on the back of these booklets, sold by themselves, which read, "Half a million visitors a year can't be wrong." Somehow this never became popular, so very few of these booklets were produced and still less survived and were saved, as most of the tourists just used the stamps and threw the booklets aside. The EDEN booklets sell for more than ten times the price of the Rammagerðin original.

Fortunately, this has never been repeated.

There are more booklets that are not catalogued. One of them contains



Figure 6.

Facit 321,323,331,337 and 338. Only two such booklets have been found, to my knowledge.

Postcards

When regular night, special Post delivery began in autumn 1992 between Reykjavík and ➤

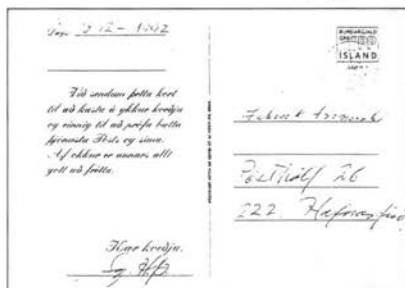


Figure 7.

Akureyri in the north and Reykjavík to Höfn í Hornafjörður in the east, all households on these mail routes got a brochure from PTT telling them how much faster the post would now reach the recipient. “Just try it FREE” was the slogan. This was a part of a pamphlet, and you could tear off one-half of it to send to someone you knew and try it out. (See Figures 6 and 7.)

Another postcard was published by IBM, Iceland, during NORDIA 84. It had a picture of the Laugardalshöll, where the exhibition was held. The whole postcard was electronically printed, including a stamp image with picture of the Hall and the price of postage, plus the cancellation of that stamp. You could only choose between three different messages.

When the post went “Private,” or became a shareholder-owned company with one share held by the minister of communication, a new folder was sent to all households in the country. By tearing off a postcard size part, you could once more try out how fast the service was. This time Póstinum used their new logos and a motivational photo of a smiling Post Lady. (Figures 8 and 9.)



Figure 10.

Since February 1998, there have been at least five different Valentine’s post cards, free for the taking. If you mailed them, you had of course to pay the postage. (Figure 10 is an example of postage.)

Conclusion

Unless you are a local citizen and follow up well on all that is happening at the Post, you can hardly be *a jour* in these matters. In the past few years, fortunately, more are writing articles and catalogues on these items. This makes them easier to collect, except that availability is not very good.

Then comes the question: How many of these items are collectible as regards stamp collecting or postal history? The rules of FIP answer this to a certain extent. Whoever wants to collect material like this does so. No one can forbid that.

My own interests include, for instance, the tickets of fare of the “S/S Akraborg” ferry between Akranes and Reykjavík. (Figure 11.) Due to my work in the countryside, I often had to take this boat, and I never threw away a ticket. The ferry is gone now, as a tunnel has been built under the Hvalfjörður bay. But when travelling through the tunnel, you pay at the toll station and get a receipt. This is printed electronically with heat and fades in two or three years unless you photocopy it.

I have always told my pupils – be it at stamp courses or in school – just collect whatever gives you the pleasure of collecting, but find a way to do it neatly. ■



Figure 8.



Figure 9.



Figure 11.

Slania: Past, Present, and Future

by Paul Albright

While spending hours signing covers, stamps, and other memorabilia at NORDIA 2001, renowned engraver Czeslaw Slania still made philatelic news. This included:

- The unveiling of Slania's design for a joint Sweden-U.S. stamp commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Nobel Prizes (see Figure 1); and,
- An acknowledgement by Slania that his first stamp, completed a half-century ago, contained a major flaw – that is, the wrong person is shown on the stamp (see Figure 2).

These developments provided the opportunity for a snapshot look at Slania's astounding career as a stamp engraver – past, present, and future.



Figure 2. Slania's first stamp showing the wrong individual. Slania signed the stamp on the margin during NORDIA 2001

Dabrowski.¹

In an interview with *The Posthorn* at NORDIA 2001, Slania acknowledged the mistake, saying the error was discovered "a few years ago." The young engraver's mentor, M. R. Polak, designed the battle scene on the stamp while Slania engraved the portrait on the same plate based on drawings and descriptions by some of what he called the general's "pupils." Slania said there was no photograph of General Dabrowski to work from when he engraved the stamp.

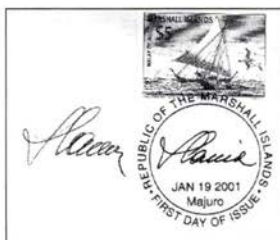


Figure 3. One of two Marshall Islands stamps by Slania released at NORDIA 2001. This souvenir cover has Slania's actual signature adjacent to his pre-printed signature in the cancel.

The Past

Slania was 29 years old when he completed what is considered his first postage stamp, Poland Scott 499 (Figure 2), issued in 1951 to commemorate an insurrection in which Gen. Jaroslaw Dabrowski was killed. Last summer, there was discussion among Slania collectors that the person on the stamp was not the Polish war hero but someone with the same last name, composer-pianist Henryk



Figure 1. Slania's motif for the Sweden Nobel commemorative booklet of four, 8-kroner stamps to be released in March. They depict (top to bottom) Alfred Nobel and the Nobel medals for medicine, chemistry, and literature. Slania's U.S. design cent stamp with Nobel's profile.

The Present

Slania, a native of Poland who emigrated to Sweden in the 1950s, had completed 1,039 stamp engravings as of mid-January with no sign of slowing his output. Two recent stamps for the Marshall Islands (see Figure 3) were released at NORDIA 2001. According to Slania's self-maintained scorecard, he has engraved stamps for 29 countries and banknotes for 10 countries. He works on a free-lance basis while holding royal appointments as an engraver in the courts of Sweden, Denmark, and Monaco. ►

Generally, Slania takes about a month to turn out a new stamp engraving, although his super-sized 1,000th design took four months to complete. Issued at NORDIA 2000, the 50-kroner Swedish stamp shows Great Deeds by Swedish Kings from the ceiling at Drottningholm Palace where the Swedish royal family resides. At 81.25x60.93 mm in size, the Guinness Book of Records lists it as the largest steel engraved stamp ever made (Figure 4).

The Future

Hans Nyman, sales director for Swedish Post Stamps, told *The Posthorn* that the joint Sweden-U.S. Nobel Prize stamp (to be released March 22 in the U.S.) grew out of discussions he initiated with U.S. Postal Service officials in 1998. Negotiations with the Nobel Foundation, which controls the use of the Nobel images, “got serious” in March 2000 with design modifications made to satisfy the Foundation. Slania used a photograph of Alfred Nobel as his model for the engraving, which Slania completed in his usual one-month period (Figure 1).



Figure 5. Court engraver Czeslaw Slania, left, and Hans Nyman, sales director of Sweden Post Stamps, at NORDIA 2001.

There is strong demand for Slania’s services. He usually is booked about six months in advance. He rejects some proposals because he is overloaded with assignments, or he does not feel the subject lends itself to an engraved stamp design, or because he might not be in control of the stamp’s production. He told *The Posthorn* he usually “controls” production of his stamps and that he was not always pleased with the results of some of his French stamps when he was not involved in their production.

Among Nordic countries, Slania has not designed stamps for Finland or Norway, in some cases because he was not interested in the proposed topics. In addition, he noted that Norway’s postal agency has its own stamp engraver.

Engraving is Slania’s art, his life work, and his hobby. It is entirely understandable to Scandinavia collectors when Slania expresses no intent to put aside his engraving tools as he approaches his 80th birthday in October. ■



Figure 4. Slania’s 1,000th stamp design signed by the artist.

The author, who edits The Posthorn, admires Slania’s talent as a stamp engraver but does not collect the hundreds of attractive engraved stamps that Slania has produced.

¹ Czeslaw Slania Study Group, *Close-Up*, July/August/September 2000, p.5.

References:

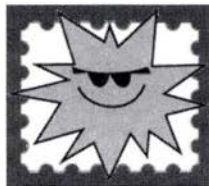
There is considerable literature concerning Slania. Recent overviews are found in *Scott Stamp Monthly*, June 2000, and January 2001.

A leading Slania study group is the Czeslaw Slania Study Group, PO Box 1382, Milwaukee, WI 53201, which publishes a quarterly newsletter, *Close-Up*.

NORDIA 2001 a Resounding Success in the Old West

The first NORDIA ever held in the United States proved a resounding success, mixing North America's Nordic heritage with the cultural diversity of the American Southwest.

Exhibitors from Sweden, Finland, and Norway won the three Grand Prix awards at NORDIA 2001, held January 19-21 in Tucson, AZ. Lennart Daun of Sweden won the NORDIA 2001 Grand Prix with his showing of *Swedish Postal Stationery 1872-1897*. Heikki Pahlman of Finland took the Grand Prix Nordique with his *Finland 1566-1896*, and Tønnes Ore of Norway won the Grand Prix International with *Trieste*. The Grand Awards were Native American Hopi pottery.



Gordon Morison officially opens NORDIA 2001.

(Editor's Note: See more information on awards from the combined NORDIA-ARIPEX-APS show elsewhere in this issue.)

The appearance of the 3 Skilling Yellow, the world's most valuable stamp, attracted considerable attention from collectors, the media, and hundreds of school children (see separate article in this issue).

In addition to the gold awards given to the Court of Honor exhibitors, 22 golds were presented in the competitive classes at a banquet attended by more than 300 people. The medals were of Native American design, crafted in silver with a different stone signifying the different levels. The medals were

designed so that women collectors and the wives of collectors could wear them as jewelry. (An example of the unusual medals can be seen on the NORDIA 2001 Web site at <http://www.nordia2001.org>).

U.S. and Nordic Cultures Featured

The five Nordic postal museums focused on cultural relations with the United States as they presented special stamp exhibits prepared specifically for NORDIA 2001. Also taking part were several local Tucson Nordic associations whose members trace their history to Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, or Sweden. They displayed material showing the history of their families and from where they emigrated to the U.S.

Noted Swedish stamp engraver Czeslaw Slania was kept busy each day signing autographs (see article on Slania elsewhere in this issue).

From the opening ceremony to the end of the exhibition, there was much to do and see. Native American Hopi hoop dancers from the U.S. Southwest enlivened the event at the start. The U.S. Postal Service released its annual Love stamp at the exhibition.

Partygoers dressed Western for a visit to Old Tucson, and there were tours of the area's historic, scientific, and scenic locales.

More than 80 collectors attended a two-morning Postal History Symposium on *Methods and Topics in Postal History, Nordic Mails and Routes*. Eleven papers were presented and published. Additional copies may be ordered from Rosetta Stone Press, PO Box 930, New Providence, NJ 07974 (\$35 postpaid in the U.S. and \$40 postpaid outside the U.S.).

The 90,000-square-foot hall included single and multiple frame exhibits, western historical and postal memorabilia, unique philatelic items, a computer-enhanced ➤

collecting area for the hundreds of youth who attended, and a billion dollar exhibit of money from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP). As part of its display, the bureau showed imperforate sheets of the famous Graf Zeppelin stamps, two \$500 million bank notes, and sold sheets of \$1 and \$5 bills that could be cut apart for spending if desired. The BEP also showed imperforate press sheets from several U.S. issues that honored Nordic countries.

Gordon C. Morison, a retired executive at the U.S. Postal Service, was president of NORDIA 2001, Inc. He acknowledged the other NORDIA board members who carried significant responsibility in planning and carrying out NORDIA 2001. They included SCC members Greg Frantz, vice president and in charge of operations; Alan Warren, secretary and in charge of publicity; Howard Schloss, treasurer and in charge of finance; John DuBois, director and in charge of the Postal History Symposium; Don Halpern, director and in charge of Nordic relations; and Bob Lang, director and in charge of hospitality. ■



Hopi dancers performed at the exhibition's opening ceremony. (Photo by Don Halpern.)

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ICELAND 1999

Many price increases for rare stamps and covers, and a trend toward price increases for

modern issues. New is a chapter on Greidslu and Orlof stamps, and the plate flaws section is expanded. In English and Danish. (GF20. 144 pages. \$24.50)

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DAKA DANSK BYPOST (1996)

Covering all Danish locals and postmarks and prices for covers and stationery. In English and Danish. (144 pages. \$24.50)

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GREENLAND PAKKE-PORTO (1988)

Most complete study of Pakke-Porto stamps ever, this Eric Woweren catalog and reference work is unsurpassed. In English and Danish. (GF1. 96 pages. \$15.50)

GREENLAND THULE (1985)

The authoritative catalog/handbook on the five Thule stamps, with extensive chapters on plate flaws and postal history. In English and Danish. (GF4. 40 pages. \$10.00)

ICELAND I GILDI '02 - '03

In 1941, Erik Lundgård wrote a treatise based on primary sources and interviews. This work, now published, throws new light on the stamps, covers philatelic side in detail, with information on the overprints and varieties. In Danish, but many illustrations and tables. (80 pages. \$36.50)

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3 Skilling Yellow: Star of the Show

by Gordon C. Morison

The world's rarest and most valuable item by weight, size, or density was one of the features at the NORDIA 2001 Stamp Show Stampede in Tucson, Arizona, which attracted thousands of collectors from throughout the United States and the Nordic countries January 19-21, 2001.

A flimsy piece of yellow paper, this rare Swedish postage stamp error, not yet 150 years old, sold for \$2.3 million in a 1996 philatelic auction to become not only the world's most valuable postage stamp but also the most precious item by size of all collectibles. Arrangements for the stamp to be shown at NORDIA 2001 were made with the anonymous owner by Danish auctioneer Thomas Høiland, who carried it to the United States.

On arrival in the U.S., he was met at the airport by postal inspectors who escorted him in two cars to the New York City post office where the stamp was secured overnight. Høiland arranged with the U.S. Postal Service to transport the stamp as Registered Mail from New York City to Tucson. He paid a Priority Mail rate of \$3.50, a registry fee of \$27, and an added handling fee of \$1,706.25 calculated at a rate of 75 cents per \$1,000 of declared value. Postage was paid by two PVI labels, one for \$999.99 (the machine's limit) and the other for \$736.76. The 3 Skilling Yellow was delivered at a news conference in Tucson before the show opened.

In New York City, Høiland appeared at a news conference and on NBC's "TODAY" show where he announced that he was sending the stamp to Tucson by Registered Mail. The public relations effort was designed to promote stamp collecting and publicity for Nordic stamps and for NORDIA 2001.

Høiland told the media he selected the U.S. Postal Service to secure the stamp on its trip to Arizona because the Postal Service offers the protection and security needed. The mail system, he said, is protected by federal laws, with the help of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the nation's oldest federal law enforcement agency. The donor of the Hope Diamond mailed that gem to the Smithsonian Institution by Registered Mail, and the wrapper used for that package was on display in Tucson as well.

History of the Stamp

The 3 Skilling Yellow error of the first Swedish postage stamp has passed through the hands of some of the world's wealthiest stamp collectors. In 1996, an anonymous Swedish collector purchased it at auction.

A schoolboy found the 3 Skilling Yellow in 1885 among the papers of his deceased grandfather. Not a collector, the boy sold it and other stamps for seven crowns to Stockholm stamp dealer Heinrich Lichtenstein, who kept it for eight years. The stamp then was placed for sale with the Viennese dealer, Sigmund Friedl, from whom Philipp La Rénotière von Ferrary, a wealthy German count and well-known stamp collector, purchased it. From there, it passed through the hands of several noted philatelists ➤



The 3 Skilling Yellow - a focal point at NORDIA 2001.

including King Carol II of Romania.

Questions concerning the authenticity of the yellow error began to arise while Ferrary owned the stamp because no other 3 Skilling Yellow had been found. The stamp should have been green. In 1922, a leading Swedish stamp expert examined the stamp and declared it a genuine color error which he believed occurred by inserting a 3 Skilling printing cliché into one position of a printing plate of 8 Skilling stamps that were to be produced in yellow. The mistake went undetected.

Nevertheless, questions surrounding the stamp continued. The Swedish Postal Museum was twice offered the opportunity to buy the stamp, but declined because of the suspicion. In 1975, a scientific analysis relying heavily on x-ray crystallographic pictures determined that the yellow shade was the same as for the 8 Skilling yellow stamp. Paper, color, printing, delivery, and cancellation also met tests of genuineness. The previously skeptical Swedish Post Office recognized the 3 Skilling Yellow error's genuine status by reproducing it on a 1992 postage stamp. ■

The author, a retired executive of the U.S. Postal Service, was president of NORDIA 2001, Inc.



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SCC Honors Three with Awards

Three internationally recognized philatelists – from the U.S., Norway, and Denmark – were honored by the Scandinavian Collectors Club at its Annual Meeting held in conjunction with NORDIA 2001 in Tucson, AZ.

Paul H. Jensen of Norway was presented the Carl E. Pelander Award, for furthering the aims of the SCC. Jensen served on the ARIPEX jury for the combined exhibition in Tucson and chaired the FIP postal history commission for a number of years. Over the years, he has been a mentor to many exhibitors in the U.S. and the Nordic countries. Jensen spoke to the SCC General Meeting on current trends in exhibiting.

Knud Mohr of Denmark was given Honorary Life Membership in SCC. He has held leadership positions in many capacities of organized philately, including KPK, the Nordic Federations, and now as president of FIP. Mohr announced in Tucson that a chapter of SCC would be established in Denmark and that SCC would be involved in planning future NORDIA exhibitions.

Dan Laursen of Tucson, an expert on Greenland philately and a prolific writer, received the Frederick A. Brofos Award for the best article or series of articles in *The Posthorn* for the year 2000. His two-part article “The American Issue of Greenland” appeared in the November 1999 and February 2000 issues.

Much of the information was through the author’s personal knowledge of the players in this interesting story. His research sources included private correspondence, interviews, and government archives. Laursen is a member of the Editorial Board of *The Posthorn* and writes regularly for SCC’s journal and other philatelic periodicals in the U.S. and Europe.

The Brofos Award honors a former editor of *The Posthorn*, **Frederick A. Brofos**, who is a prolific writer himself.

Laursen’s winning articles, which received a vermeil in recent literature competition at CHICAGOPEX, have been reprinted in a booklet. A few copies of the 24-page booklet are available on a complimentary basis to SCC members who provide a SASE with 55 cents postage (US) to Posthorn Editor, 4615 Hampshire St., Boulder, CO 80301-4210.

— Alan Warren



*FIP President
Knud Mohr of
Denmark*



*Three who were honored at NORDIA 2001. Dan Laursen, standing left, received the annual Brofos Award for outstanding article in *The Posthorn* in 2000. Paul Jensen of Norway, standing right, was presented the Pelander Award for furthering the aims of the SCC. Former SCC President Roger Schnell, seated, won the Grand Award at ARIPEX.*

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NORDIA/ARIPEX/APS Awards

Outstanding Scandinavian exhibits were entered in all three venues at the recent combined exhibition in Tucson-NORDIA 2001, ARIPEX, and the American Philatelic Society's single frame AmeriStamp Expo. Each part of the show required a separate jury to evaluate the nearly 900 frames of competitive entries.

NORDIA 2001

Lennart Daun of Sweden won the Grand Prix NORDIA for "Swedish Postal Stationery 1872-1897," Heikki Pahlmann of Finland took the Grand Prix Nordique for "Finland 1566-1856," (Figure 1.) and Tønnes Ore of Norway received the Grand Prix International for his "Trieste." (Figure 2.) Among the competitive exhibits entered by the Nordic postal administrations, the Grand Prix Postal went to Åland Post.



Figure 2. Tønnes Ore, left, receives his award from Peter McCann, president of the American Philatelic Society.

Gold awards were won by Gerhard Wolff for "Zeppelin Mail from and Drop Mail over the Nordic Countries," Ross Olson for "Definitive Postage Stamps of Sweden 1920-1938," and Don Halpern for "Mail To/from/transiting Sweden 1690-1868."

Large vermeils went to William Benfield for "Denmark Essays and Proofs: The First 75 Years," Warren Pearse for "Danish West Indies Mails 1790-1917," James Burgeson for "Sweden Ring Type 1872-1891," James Gaudet for "The Advertising Panes of Denmark," and Kauko Aro for "Postal Cards of Finland 1871-1886."

Vermeil medals were awarded to Jeffrey Crown for ►



Figure 1. Heikki Pahlmann, left, and Roger Quinby, SCC President.

With nearly 500 frames in the NORDIA section, the awards list would be too long to repeat here. A more complete list can be found on the updated NORDIA 2001 Web site at <http://www.nordia2001.org>.

However, the results for U.S. exhibitors are as follows. Gregory Frantz received championship gold and was a candidate for the Grand Prix NORDIA with his "Steamship Companies." (See Figure 3.) Another championship gold went to Roger Quinby for "Russian Currency Stamps and Postal Stationery Used in Finland 1891-1918."



Figure 3. SCC Board Member Greg Frantz assisted in mounting 500 frames of NORDIA exhibits and went on to capture a championship gold with his own exhibit.

"Postal History of Faroe Islands 1839-1962," Gregory Frantz for "Norway Private Post," and Charles Shoemaker for "Greenland: The American Issue." Large silvers went to Donald Brent for "Denmark's Wavy-line Design: The Surface Printed Issues," Dan Laursen for "Danish Postal Stationery 1864-1902," Jerry Moore for "A Survey of Swedish Perfins," W.E. Melberg for "Danish Sunday Post 1929-1972," and Robert Lang for "Early Finland Commemoratives 1927-1946."

The top Nordic youth award went to *From the Bookshelves of My Childhood*, shown by Sofia Karlsson of Sweden (Figure 4) who had been sponsored to attend by NORDIA 2001 as a result of her winning the major youth award at NORDIA 2000 in Sweden last year.



Figure 4. Sofia Karlsson of Sweden captured the top Nordic Youth Award.

ARIPEX

Roger Schnell, former SCC president, took the grand award at the annual Arizona Federation of Stamp Clubs show with his "Classic Iceland 1788-1902" exhibit. He also won a special SCC award and the Postal History Society medal. Silver awards went to W.E. Melberg for "Postal Stationery Pieces of Denmark Used as Franking," and Gerhard Müller for "Iceland During WWII." Larry Crain received a silver-bronze for "25 Years of Iceland First Day Covers 1944-1969." Paul Nelson had his intriguing non-competitive display of "Scandinavian Revenues in Three Dimensions."



Figure 5. Kurt Hansen, president of the Copenhagen Philatelists Club (KPK), accepts a gold medal and a special SCC award from Roger Quinby. Hansen showed "Ship Mail to and from Denmark" at NORDIA 2001.

APS AmeriStamp Expo

In the APS single frame competition, Arthur Zeitler received a gold along with the SCC John Sieverts award for his "Københavns Fodpost."

Vermeil awards and runner-up awards to the Sieverts award went to Roger Schnell for "Faroe Island Wartime Air Mails - To - Through - From the USA," and to Donald Brent for "Danish Locals 101." Brent also received an AAPE award of honor for his entry. Jeffrey Crown also took a vermeil for "Faroe Islands Freight Stamps."

Arnold Engel received a silver for "German Airship Mail from and to Scandinavia Flown Between 1930 and 1937." David Anderson won a silver-bronze for "Sweden: 1924 World Postal Congress - 50th Anniversary."

—Alan Warren

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Roger Quinby

A Look Back at NORDIA 2001



The warm glow of this fabulous philatelic weekend will be with us for a long time. It all began with informal discussions at FINLANDIA 95 initiated by SCC President Paul Nelson when the Nordic Federation announced that it would not hold a NORDIA show in the same year that one of the Nordic countries was hosting an international show under FIP auspices.

The question was raised, "What about the possibility of a NORDIA in the USA in 2001?"

After more than five years of discussions, the show was arranged in Tucson, AZ in conjunction with ARIPEX and the APS. The journey was difficult and certainly entailed considerable risk for the SCC, the Nordic Federations, and other participants. Your Board voiced concern with a number of issues but at the end of the day, challenges became opportunities for success and the weekend came together very nicely. Our participation in the NORDIA shows in the past four years was instrumental in building Nordic friendships and confidence in the SCC as an organization capable of hosting a regional international show. Systematically, we built the framework for a successful show.

Special words of appreciation belong to Gordon Morison and the NORDIA Organizing Committee for their outstanding work in arranging the show. Congratulations, as well, to all of the exhibitors for their outstanding participation and fine displays.

We appreciated the decision of the APS to hold its Winter Meeting at Tucson and in helping with many details. Ken Martin of APS did an outstanding job.

Czeslaw Slania was very gracious signing his name for a never-ending line of admirers. The pre-show postal history seminar organized by John DuBois was well attended and enthusiastically applauded. The extensive show promotion and publicity under the direction of Alan Warren assured good attendance. We enjoyed the biggest SCC member turnout at an Annual Meeting in the past several decades. We also signed up 13 new members, many from the Nordic countries.

Everyone involved gave philately a fantastic kick-start into the new millennium.

Membership Incentives

Elsewhere in this *Posthorn* you will find a description of SCC's new Membership Incentive Program, which has been under discussion by the Board for the past year. There are three components of the plan. At this time, the incentives are available only to persons with U.S. or Canadian mailing addresses.

First: we are now offering a one-year trial membership at a reduced cost of \$12. Considering that most specialty societies have been raising annual dues to as much as \$25, this trial membership provides any collector with the opportunity to get acquainted with our journal, the library, and many club services at a very reasonable cost. I encourage all members to ask Executive Secretary Don Brent for a few trial membership return cards for you to place on the welcome table at your local bourse.

Second: For serious collectors who are not – but should be – members of the SCC, we are offering a remarkable opportunity for a three-year membership at \$45 (itself a bargain) with the option of purchasing the 2001 *Facit* for the astoundingly low price of \$25. ►

Third:

Because we are also interested in having current members renew for multiple years, we are offering the 2001 *Facit* at \$25 to any member who renews for four years. However, members who are fully paid up for 2001 and/or 2002 may receive credit toward the purchase of the catalogue.



The SCC Board at work during NORDIA 2001. Not all of the board members can be seen in this camera angle.

Don Brent will be happy to accept your checks and provide you more details. Contact him. ■

Proverbs for Collectors:

That which is desired by many is owned by few.

— *Danish proverb*

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News from the Home Office

Don Brent



I am just back from NORDIA 2001 and still recovering from the excitement. This was one of the best shows I have been to in several years, and SCC's contributions were a major force in its success.

Almost 100 of our members signed in at the SCC table. We visited old friends from home and abroad and made new ones. There was the opportunity to see philatelic material that is not available at the regular shows. SCC had a variety of different meetings and many developments were advanced. Things are in the works that will make us an even better society. It makes you wish for shows like this more often.

Extra copies of the NORDIA 2001 program are available. To receive one, send a 6.5" x 9.5" SASE with \$1.18 postage (U.S.) to me at PO Box 13196, El Cajon, CA 92022.

As I clean up after the show, some chores need attention. The most important is to remind those who have not paid their dues for 2001 to get that check in right away. This is the last issue of *The Posthorn* you will receive unless your dues are paid.

Thirteen new members signed up at NORDIA and they receive our welcome and their first issue of our journal. Thanks also to those who have sent in their renewals and to the six new members who joined in the last quarter of 2000. I welcome questions that new members might have about SCC and its services.

We had 13 resignations last quarter - those who told us that they were not renewing. Each year, we lose some to age or changing interests (this is expected), but 2000 was an improvement over previous years. We wish everyone the best and appreciate your letting us know your membership decisions. When we do not hear anything, there is no way to know why someone left SCC.

Many new things are happening with the Scandinavian Collectors Club. Keep in touch to let us know how we are doing and what you would like see next. ■

New Mail Rates from the U.S. to Scandinavia and elsewhere in Western Europe

Postcards and Aerograms: 70 cents

Letter Rate (Group 3): 80 cents

Not Over

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2 oz. \$1.60

3 oz. \$2.40

4 oz. \$3.20

5 oz. \$4.00

6 oz. \$4.80

Global Priority Mail: small envelope, \$5.00; large envelope, \$9.00.

Membership Statistics for the Quarter Ending 12/31/00

New Members

3806 Nyberg, Edward J. Jr., 101 Champions' Green Drive, Madison, AL 35758-7507
3807 Erickson, Delor, DNP
3808 Clark, James, DNP
3809 Iversen, Jon, Abildhøj 16, DK+7600
Struer, Denmark
3810 Francis, James N., 2321 Westcreek Ln., Houston, TX 77027
3811 Anderson, David N., DNP

Resigned

2178 Isacsson, B.
1286 Hvidonov, A.
3729 Hayford, G.
3651 Linquist, D.
3235 Fishenden, Martin
831 Saarinen, Bjorn-Eric
2948 Seim, Kenneth
3769 Cooil, Robert W.
3756 Lund, Francisca
2741 Trosclair, Ron
2829 Riggs, Kern
2604 Evan, Edward
3415 Becker, Karl

Change of Address

3271 Hansen, Dr. John H. L., 871 Osprey Court, Louisville, CO 80027
2081 Arnould, Howard L., 2222 Windrow Dr. Princeton, NJ 08540
L31/2128 Blackburn, Edwin H., 303 Chiquita Ave., Apt. 13, Mountain View, CA 94041-1046
PH-33 The Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY
3105 Rannikko, Toivo, 276 Waterford St., Gardner, MA 01440
3660 Blute, James F.III MD., 4420 E. Ina Rd., Tucson, AZ 85718-1614
3516 Peters, Donald J., P.O. Box 512481, Punta Gorda, FL 33951-2481
3558 Renn, David F., 5123 Fern St., #B, Fort Smith, AR 72903-2425
3679 Lane, Dustin A., P.O. Box 284, Silver Lake, WI 53170-0284
3473 Lund, Steve, Box 37, Lianse, MI 49946-0037
1405 Prestrud, Stuart, 12329 Roosevelt Way NE, Apt C301, Seattle, WA 98125
2934 Klugman, Prof K.P., 3669 Briarcliff Rd., Atlanta, GA 30345
1756 Ljunghammar, Oskar S., 7221 NE 182nd St., Apt 212, Kenmore, WA 98028-3701
3680 Bertoni, Santin Gallardo, Aportado Postal 146, Tequisquiapan Queietoro, C.P. 76750 Mexico
3752 Kelly, Raymond, P.O. Box 7192 Gardenvale, VIC 3186 Australia
3483 Cuddy, Richard, 720 Sunset Pl., Charleston, IL 61920
1832 Moore, Willis, 21 Sheldon Lane, Hilton Head, SC 29926

Donations

Anonymous
1028 Day, J.
3687 Angus, J.
3416 Hoffman, W.
724 Lind, A.
3226 Bennett, D.
1361 Gumbiner, M.
1372 Christenson, J.
1545 Sickels, G.
3572 Tigert, T.
3345 Cichorz, R.
3294 Svensson, R.
1995 Clark, T.
3466 Tuchman, A.
3053 Klaus, K.
1095 Lang, R.
1462 Deisz, G.
3649 Habsen, B.
3067 Wolfel, W.
2629 Tjellveit, A.
1338 Aro, K.

Change to Life Membership

L94/2934 Klugman, Prof. K.P.

Member Honors

Golden Life Member

Leroy Carl Anderson 633

Quarter Century Members

Howard H. Schloss	1956	M. Burton Hopkins, Jr.	1983
Welsey A. Nelson	1943	Arne Thune-Larsen	1948
L. H. Mike Michaelson	628	Roy Bjercke	1992
Herbert E. Oberg	1947	Roe C. Blume	1993
Eric Roberts	L-53/1963	Thomas S. Clark	1995
Dr. Robert W. Snelsire	1964	Manville I. Bro	2009
John O. Guyer	1982	Wilbur Jonsson	L-74/2018
David Villadsen	2016		

From the Editor's Stamp Den

Paul Albright



For a novice collector and fledgling philatelic editor (namely, Yours Truly), NORDIA 2001 was inspiring yet also a bit overwhelming. It was the place to be for Nordic collectors! And, fortunately, many of you were there. The head count at the SCC General Meeting was estimated at 75. Still more members skipped the meeting to remain on the expansive exhibit floor and at the bountiful dealer tables.

Impressions from my first NORDIA: Powerful exhibits, outstanding material offered by knowledgeable Scandinavian specialty dealers, helpful representatives from the Nordic postal agencies, and strong attendance and participation by leading collectors in the U.S., Canada, and Europe. The well-attended symposium on postal history presented enough philatelic research to keep any reader or researcher occupied for months.

This first NORDIA to be held in the U.S. also provided the opportunity for face-to-face meetings of the oversight Posthorn Committee and our new advisory Posthorn Editorial Board. Their positive discussions will lead to more changes and improvements in SCC's journal in forthcoming issues. We plan, for example, to feature new columns in the spring, experiment with the use of color printing this year, and enlarge the format to 7x9 inches effective with the first issue in 2002 (the beginning of a new volume).

Our continuing objective, of course, is to publish important and original philatelic research along with intriguing and interesting shorter pieces that inform and engage SCC members. You can help *The Posthorn* achieve this objective by contributing to our pages. I look forward to hearing from you. ■



The new Posthorn Editorial Board held its first meeting at NORDIA 2001. Standing, left to right, are Paul Albright, Posthorn Editor, Paul Nelson of California, Wayne Rindone of Massachusetts, Roger Schnell of Florida, Paul Jensen of Norway, Toke Nørby of Denmark, and Sigurður Thorsteinsson of Iceland. Seated in front are Dan Laursen of Arizona, left, and Roger Quinby of New York.

Send comments and suggestions to *The Posthorn* editor.

Scandinavian Literature Notes

Alan Warren



The November issue of *Scott Stamp Monthly* has two interesting articles of Scandinavian interest. George Warnock gives an overview of the stamps of Greenland with many illustrations. Vesela Stridsberg describes the Swedish Postal Museum in the first of a series on Nordic postal museums that *SSM* is publishing.

Egil Thomassen writes about censorship and routing of airmail from occupied Norway during WWII in the October issue of *The Airpost Journal*. Issue No. 4/2000 of

News from the Faroes features an article about the postal history of the island of Sandoy. Geir Sør-Reime tells about the Norwegian Arctic dependency of Jan Mayen Island, located between Iceland and Greenland, in *Mekeel's & Stamps Magazine* (September 22). This volcanic island has a meteorological station, an airstrip, and a post office.



Bureaucracy Sinks *Skilling*

Skilling lost its battle with Danish officials over the rules concerning the content and mailing costs for the journal. (See article elsewhere in this *Posthorn*.) In the October issue, Bruno Nørdam had an unusual article about the labels that many Danish dealers have released over the years. In its final issue in November, *Skilling* published a brief history of the journal along with illustrations of some of the journal's covers over its 28 years. Kåre Pedersen wrote about the field post handstamp markings of North Schleswig during 1914-1918, and another article illustrated Paquebot markings used in Greenland in 1998 and 1999.

One of the casualties of *Skilling's* demise is the long running series by Vagn Jensen on Denmark's cancellations, listed alphabetically by town and showing the various types and their beginning and ending dates where known. The series ends with Laven. Bruno Nørdam's series of articles on Denmark's essays will continue in another Danish journal, *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift*.

Steffen Hartby provides an extensive discussion on the steel engraved stamps of Denmark in the October issue of *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. In the 3-2000 issue of Norway's *Frimerke Forum*, Knut Arveng presents a 30-page article on the history of the Zeppelins, including their association with Norway. Arveng also offers a brief profile of the journal's editor Sven Bølum on his 79th birthday. The October issue of Sweden's *filatelisten* carries a report on the ÅLEX 2000 exhibition in Åland. The same journal announces that Roy Rønningborg has sold the auction firm of June Frimärken to Roy Gustavsson and Sören Olsson.

Topical collector David Shaw corrected a description error concerning Sweden's 1974



stamp that honors Robert Bárány, the Nobel laureate in medicine for 1914. Writing in the May-June 2000 *Topical Time*, Shaw reports two publications listing the Vienna Opera House as the building behind Bárány's portrait on Sweden Facit 905. Using Swedish material at the SCC Library, Shaw determined that the building depicted on the stamp is actually at the University of Vienna where the laureate obtained his medical degree. ►

Iceland Rarities

SCC past president Roger G. Schnell published an article in the December issue of the *London Philatelist* pointing out that the “aurar” official letters, wrappers, and book rate parcels are quite difficult to find. Schnell describes these aurar issue items and provides a census of known material. In the same issue, Harry Larsen describes a cover from the 1864 war between Denmark and Prussia.

Another aspect of Danish philately is recorded in Kurt Hansen’s article in the December issue of the British journal *Postal History*. During the 1840-1860 period, stamps and markings of both England and Denmark are found on Prices Current. Whether postage of Britain alone or both countries was required depended on the type of ship handling the mail. Another example is the period during which both the sender and the addressee had to pay postage on printed circulars.

Too Dangerous to Mail

The prolific writer Frederick A. Brofos has another intriguing item in the December issue of the British journal *Stamp Lover*. He cites a case during WWII in which an envelope containing a document was just too “dangerous” to be placed in the mails, and instead was furtively delivered to the British Legation in Oslo. The document, later named “The Oslo Report,” was not recognized immediately for its importance when delivered in November 1939. Even after it was forwarded to the British Secret Service in London, it was shelved. It was found to contain information about rocket development, radio-guided glider bombs, the German radar system, and poison gas experiments. After V-2 rockets finally landed on London, the contents of the document were recognized as being correct. The author of the unsigned document eventually was revealed as Hans Kummerow, a pacifist scientist working in Berlin.

Mike Edwards continues his series on Iceland covers in the December issue of *Scandinavian Contact* with a discussion of Pioneer flights from 1924 to 1938. In the same issue, Mike Tuttle offers the eighth part in his series on foreign, port-of-arrival, and transit markings of Iceland, this time on mail from Norway.

In the December issue of *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, Steen J. Petersen describes undercover mail to and from the Faroes during WWII sent via the famous Post Box 506 in Lisbon. This issue also carries promotional articles on the upcoming HAFNIA 01 (October 16-21 in Copenhagen). In the same issue, Jens Jensen writes about the U.S. postal service in Greenland.

The January issue of *DFT* is devoted to more HAFNIA items and also carries the list of over 100 Danish clubs that make up the federation, Danmarks Filatelist Forbund.

The December issue of the bulletin of the Danish West Indies Study Unit of SCC shows an imperforate copy of the 2-franc Harbor stamp. The right margin is sufficiently large that it does not appear to have been trimmed from a fully perforated stamp. Some possible explanations are offered. Another article describes the “Rebuts Commission” marking found on some DWI postage due stamps. This commission apparently served as the dead letter office. However, an individual who had the handstamps in his possession for a while also used the marking as a favor item.



Two articles in the December issue of *KPK's Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift* touch on other DWI material. Svend Seitzberg writes about DWI's double postal cards with “Verdenspostforeningen” at 70 mm, illustrating a number of varieties. Kurt Hansen ►

shows the only known cover from Copenhagen to St. Croix via Hamburg, London, and Southampton bearing 48 skilling postage. In the same issue of *NFT*, Gordon Hughmark and Kurt Hansen provide the fourth part in their series on mail between Denmark and the USA up to 1865.

In the December issue of Denmark's *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift*, Otto Kjærgaard describes a May 1940 cover sent from Copenhagen to Greenland that was examined and censored twice by the Germans, once in Berlin and again in Vienna. The front of the cover is endorsed "Via Siberia – U.S.A." In the same issue, E. Menne Larsen continues his series on the handling of mail in Schleswig during the 1848-1851 period.

Slania Interest

Interest in the Royal Court Engraver of Sweden, Czeslaw Slania, intensified with the issuance of his 1,000th stamp design and his appearances at recent exhibitions. News of the famous engraver appears in the quarterly journal *Close-Up* published by the Czeslaw Slania Study Group. Many issues carry an updated checklist of his work. Information about the group is available from P.O. Box 1382, Milwaukee WI 53201.

The first of a series on the sovereignty of the Nordic countries by G. Hendriks appears in the January 2001 issue of the Dutch journal *Het Noorderlicht*. Included is a list of key year dates when various parts of the Nordic countries were under different administrations or achieved their independence. J. M. Vroom continues the series on the development of mail transportation in Denmark 1848-1864.

In the Swedish journal *filatelisten* for November, Karl-Erik Samuelsson begins a series on the plate varieties of the large format official stamps of Sweden, and Erik Sjögren provides the 19th part in his series on the PKP railway markings. In the December issue, postal historian Lennart Ivarsson writes about the list numbering system used on prestamp mails of Sweden. In that issue Harry Snarvold writes about two aspects of Norwegian fieldpost – mail from Finnmark to Torneå and an unusual letter sent in 1857 from Tamsø to Hammerfest by a circuitous route.

The November issue of *The Finnish Philatelist*, published by the Finnish Study Group of SCC, has two articles by Heikki Reinikainen on the m/75 issue—one on a variety and one on forgeries. A third installment on the cancelled m/30 definitives is provided by Hannu Kauppi. All articles are in English, and many have been translated from Finnish since they appeared in that country's journals originally. Information about the study group can be obtained from Bob Lang, 23 The Horseshoe, Newark DE 19711.

In the November issue of *Philatelistische Nachrichten*, published by the Nordic country study group in Germany, Uwe Raster illustrates some of the recent pictorial cancels used in the Faroes and discusses the Midvágur post office. In the same issue, there is a review of fluorescent papers used in Finland over the past 30 years. Rolf Dörnbach describes the Alfred Wegener expedition to Greenland of 1930-31. Norway study group leader Jürgen Tiemer continues his series on Fieldposts with No. 4 at Elvagardsmoen. ■

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Transfers and Re-Entries

Alan Warren

The Danske Filatelisters Fællesfond has presented its Robert Bechsgaard memorial cup to Lis Birkedal of Post Danmark. The award is presented to individuals who have made outstanding contributions in furthering Danish philately.

Finland Goes Euro in 2002

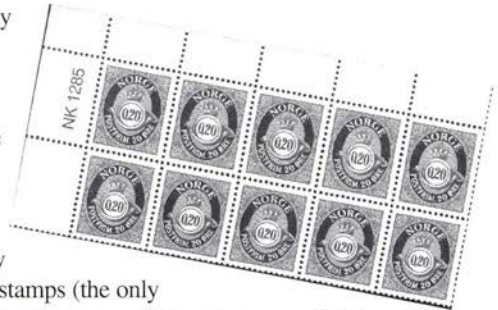
Finland will be issuing its first euro-denominated stamp in January 2002 as part of currency reform under the European Union. Five prestigious designers were asked to submit a modern heraldic design. Graphic designer Mika Launis had the top three entries among the 16 that were submitted. The judges praised his winning design (see illustration) for its updated approach to heraldic design, a fixture of Finnish stamps since 1856.



Beginning in 2002 only stamps denominated in euros will be sold, but stamps denominated in markka will remain legal postage until June 30, 2002. As of July 1, 2002, only Finnish stamps denominated in euros will be legal postage.

New Perfs for 20-Øre Posthorns

There is a new 20-øre posthorn variety for Norway collectors to seek. To meet demand from postal customers, Norway Post ordered a reprint of the 20-øre posthorn design from Joh. Enschedé in the Netherlands. The reprint (see illustration) is perforated $13 \frac{3}{4} \times 13 \frac{1}{4}$ compared with the 1997 issue of 10-50-øre stamps perforated $12 \frac{3}{4} \times 13 \frac{1}{4}$ when printed by Norges Banks Seddeltrykkeri. The 20-øre stamps (the only reprint from the 1997 series) went on sale in December 2000 without an official first day cancel. Blocks of 10 stamps may be ordered from Norway Post.



Meanwhile, Norway (on February 7) issued three redesigns in what is commonly termed the longest, uninterrupted stamp series in the world – the classic posthorn stamps. Another six stamps (all nine in the krone denominations) will be issued later, but the new and more colorful NOK 1, 2, and 6 denominations are now in use. Norway's first posthorn design was issued in 1872, according to Norway Post.

Brofos Thanked for Pictorial Cancels

Frederick A. Brofos, author and former *Posthorn* Editor, has been honored for another philatelic talent – designing pictorial cancels. Brofos has designed 26 cancels to mark the annual Tri-State Collectors' Exhibition in New Hampshire. His designs have ranged from portraits of Daniel Webster to the sinking of the "Titanic." At the 2000 exhibition in October, Brofos received a special plaque from the USPS, "For 25 years of service to the United States Postal Service and for your wonderful pictorial cancellations, we thank you."

The January 1 issue of *Linn's Stamp News* reports on a contest jointly sponsored by the Norwegian postal service and the country's largest daily newspaper *VG*. The contest was to come up with winning pet photos that could be used on future Norway stamps. The first such stamp, depicting three kittens, will appear in June. ■

Scandinavian Area Awards

There were a large number of Scandinavian entries in the FIP Stamp Show in London last May. A few of the highlights were Peer Lorentzen's "Denmark Classics 1851-1863" which received a large gold plus special prize and was a contender for the Grand Prix International. Arnold Nyman's "Finland 1856-1885" in the championship class was a contender for the Grand Prix d'Honneur. Other large golds included Lennart Daun's "Swedish Postal Stationery 1872-1897," Michael Roger Lascombe's "French Mail Sent to Scandinavia 1773-1875," Goran Nykvist's "Finland Postal Stationery 1845-1884," and Jacobus Sundman's "Finnish Private Post 1866-1933." In the literature competition a small vermeil went to Don Halpern and Gordon Hughmark for their *Stampless Mail to and from Scandinavia*.

At the Espana 2000 exhibition held in October in Madrid, Ingolf Kapelrud of Norway served as one of the vice-presidents of the jury. Other jury members included Juhani Olamo of Finland, Egil Thomassen of Norway, and Börje Wallberg of Sweden. Thomassen's collection of Norwegian Airmail was in the Court of Honor, and Gustaf Johansson's postal history of Sweden's Skilling Banco stamps competed in the Championship Class. In the regular competitive classes there were a number of Nordic entries. Seven of them received gold medals: Erik Hvidberg Hansen for "Postal Stationery of Denmark 1865-1920," Svein Arne Hansen for "Destination Norway 1840-UPU," Olavi Koponen for "Finland 1856-1884," Michel Roger Lascombe for "French Mail Sent to Denmark, Norway and Sweden 1773-1875," Paul Berg Helland for "Norwegian Postal History up to 1854," Olof Høglund for "Gustaf V Medallion Without and With Surcharge 1910-1920," and Sigurður Petursson for "Icelandic Postal Stationery 1879-1920."

The CHICAGOPEX show added a new category for articles in its literature competition. SCC's Dan Laursen won a vermeil for his two-part article on "The American Issue of Greenland." At the same show *The Posthorn* received a vermeil. At the Glasgow 2000 show in Scotland, *The Posthorn* and the Faroe islands Study Circle journal 238 won silver awards.

– Alan Warren

SCC Calendar

	Annual	Regional*	Nordic	International
2001	NORDIA 2001 (Concluded)	APS Stamp Show Aug. 23-26 Chicago, IL	NORDIA 2001 (Concluded)	HAFNIA2001* Oct 16-21 Copenhagen, Denmark
2002	PNSE Sept 27-29 Philadelphia PA		NORDIA 2002* Oct 10-13 Norway	
2003	Minnesota Stamp Expo Minneapolis, MN		NORDIA 2003* Iceland	
* SCC Regional meetings will be planned in conjunction with NORDIA 2002 and 2003 and with HAFNIA 2001.				

Library News

Stuart O. Silverberg M.D., SCC Librarian

The library has been running smoothly in its new home at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library for over a year now. Our space is cozy but adequate, and any SCC members dropping in will have the use of not only our room but also the greater library facilities as well.

Early in 2000, the Library received a major bequest from the estate of Lauson Stone. The holding comprised over 250 auction catalogs, 300 journals, 45 exhibition catalogs, and 30 books. Cataloging of this substantial collection continues and will be entered in the on-line Web index as material is shelved.

Other recent literature contributions include *Brevportot i Sverige 1786-1830 (Swedish Letter Rates 1786-1830)* by Lennart Iverson, and *Danish West Indies Mails 1754-1917, Vol. I B Postal History*, 2nd edition, revised and enlarged by John L. DuBois

The library also received news from the estate of Russ Anderson that his research and library materials were left to the SCC. We expect these to reach the Library later this year.

The Library catalog is available on-line at: <http://www.scc-online.org/libindexlib.htm>

To request library materials, send or telephone your request to Stuart Silverberg, SCC Librarian, c/o RMPL, 2038 So. Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224; telephone (303) 273-0263. ■

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Postal Rules Sink *Skilling* After 28 Years

The well-known Danish philatelic magazine, *Skilling*, has ended 28 years of publication following a run-in with government regulations – or rather, varying interpretations of rules by bureaucrats.

In 2000, tighter rules on postal subsidies were issued focused on single sales rather than mail subscriptions and the amount of advertising versus editorial content in publications. “Inspections” of two issues disqualified *Skilling* from continued subsidies. Editor Jan Bendix’s appeals resulted in differing interpretations.

“I have tried to get some simple rules from the Ministry of Transport to edit *Skilling* by, but there are no rules, only interpretations and they change every time a new person from the administration writes to me,” Bendix said in an email published in *Luren*.

In addition to higher postage rates, the magazine might have been forced to pay full postage on previously issued numbers in an amount of about \$7,000. The only resort was to stop publishing the journal at the end of 2000.

Thank you so much Jan Bendix for 28 years of Denmark’s best stamp journal. *Skilling* will be missed by thousands of your hobby friends.

— Dan Laursen

Proverbs for Collectors:

That which is loved is always beautiful.

— Norwegian proverb

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The Scandinavian Collectors Club

Founded November 25, 1935

Elected Officers

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Vice President: John DuBois, c/o Thernalogic Corp., 22 Kane Industrial Dr., Hudson, MA 01749; jld@thlogic.com

Vice President, Chapters: Walter Jellum, 26854 Tropicana Dr., Sun City, CA 92585; wajel@inland.net

Secretary: Donald Halpern, PO Box 930, New Providence, NJ 07974-0930; halperndon@att.net

Treasurer: Howard Schloss, 261 Congressional Ln. #705, Rockville, MD 20852; cayuga@erols.com

Immediate Past President: Paul Nelson, PO Box 310, Claremont, CA 91711-0310; pnels@att.net

Directors: Greg Frantz, 18314 E. Geddes Pl., Aurora, CO 80016-1608

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Jerry Moore, 615 Woodbine Dr., San Rafael, CA 94903; perfin@usa.com

Warren Pearse, 350 S. River Landing Rd., Edgewater, MD 21037;

wpearse@aol.com

Viggo Warmboe, 2740 Foxgate Dr., Minnetonka, MN, 55305;

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Exhibition Coordinator: Warren Pearse, 350 S. River Landing Rd., Edgewater, MD 21037; wpearse@aol.com

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Finnish Study Group: Roger Quinby, PO Box 738, Clifton Park, NY 12065; rpquinby@aol.com

Danish Wavy Line: Donald B. Brent, PO Box 13196, El Cajon, CA 92022; dbrent47@sprynet.com

Scandinavian Revenues: Paul Nelson, PO Box 310, Claremont, CA 91711-0310; pnels@att.net

SCC CHAPTER MEETING & CONTACTS

1. SEATTLE/NW: 2nd Mon. at University Christian Church. CONTACT: Ken Elliott, P.O. Box 22808, Seattle, WA 98122-0808, email: ScandiaW@aol.com.
 4. CHICAGO: 4th Thu. (except Jul. & Aug.) at Golden Flame, 6417 W. Hiaggins. CONTACT: Fred Bloedow, 810 Dobson St. #1A, Evanston, IL 60202-3969.
 5. NEW ENGLAND: 1st Wed. at The Swedish Home, 206 Waltham St., W. Newton, MA at 7:30 in the Board Room. <http://scc5.thlogic.com>. CONTACT: John L. DuBois, c/o Thermalogic Corp. 22 Kane Industrial Dr., Hudson, MA 01749, email: jld@thlogic.com.
 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, email: carl_probst@gardencitygroup.com.
 9. N. NEW JERSEY: 3rd Wed. at members' homes. CONTACT: Warren J. Grosjean, 32 Juniper Rd., Wayne, NJ 07470-6156.
 11. REYKJAVÍK: 2nd Mon., 19:00, program 20:00, at Siðmúli 11, The Center of the Icelandic Philatelic Federation. Junior meeting every Tue., 17:00 in The Seljakirkja in Breiðholt, Reykjavík. CONTACT: Sigurður H. Þorsteinsson, Postbox 26, IS-222, Hafnarfjörður, Iceland, email: sholm@tv.is.
 12. WASHINGTON DC: 3rd Thu. 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 Tue. at members' homes. CONTACT: Ian Wellings, 1407 Ivy Dr., Webster Farms, Wilmington, DE 19803.
 14. TWIN CITIES: 2nd Thu. (except Jul. & Aug.) at Lynnhurst Community Center, 50th St., & West Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN. CONTACT: Rossmer V. Olson, P. O. Box 23377, Richfield, MN 55423, email: RossVole@aol.com.
 15. ROCHESTER: 1st Mon. at Robert Gustafson's home. CONTACT: Robert Gustafson, 877 Helendale Rd., Rochester, NY 14609-2908.
 17. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: 1st Wed at members' homes. CONTACT: Paul Nelson, P. O. Box 310, Claremont, CA 91711, email: pnels@worldnet.att.net; phone: (909) 626-1764, or (818) 784-7277.
 21. GOLDEN GATE: Meets at major stamp shows throughout year. CONTACT: Jerry Moore, email: perfin@usa.com.
 22. HOUSTON: Periodically at stamp shop of Mary Jane Menzel, 2015 W. 34th St., Houston, TX (selected Sun. afternoons). CONTACT: Eric Roberts, P. O. Box 460201, Houston, TX 77056-8201, email: eric.roberts@halliburton.com.
 23. BOB PAULSON: 1st Mon., 1:00 PM, at Cuzzin's Restaurant, 28910 U.S. Rt. 19, Clearwater, FL. CONTACT: Doris Wending, 4673 Devonshire Blvd., Palm Harbor, FL 34685, or email Judy Nelson: island1@gte.net.
 24. MANITOBA: 2nd & 4th Wed. at Scandinavian Cultural Centre, 764 Erin St. CONTACT: Robert Zacharias, 808 Polson Ave., Winnipeg, MB R2X 1M5, Canada, email: zachar@escape.ca.
 25. TUCSON: 4th Tue. (except Jul. & Aug.) at members' homes. CONTACT: Jack F. Schmidt, phone: (520) 648-0034, or email: schmidt@azstarnet.com.
 26. TIDEWATER: 3rd Sat. at Larchmont Branch of the Norfolk Public Library System, 6525 Hampton Blvd., Norfolk, VA 23508, (757) 441-5335, fax: (757) 441-1451, email: gwalker@npl.lib.va.us. CONTACT: Michael Falls, 575 Virginian Dr., Norfolk, VA 23505-4242, email: Mfallsice@aol.com.
 27. COLORADO: 1st Sat. from Sep-Jun, 10 AM at the Rocky Mt. Philatelic Library, 2038 S. Pontiac Way, Denver. CONTACT: Stuart O. Silverberg, 701 Elm Circle, Golden, CO 80401-5819, email: stustork@aol.com.
- CYBER CHAPTER: Members connected by email to exchange ideas & scans, plus an electronic Newsletter. CONTACT: Edward L. Bode, email: edbode@juno.com.

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Norgeskatalogen 2001: A Review

Norgeskatalogen 2001, 53rd edition, Oslo Filatelistklubb, Oslo, Norway, 2000. Available in Norway for NOK 280, or from your favorite stateside literature dealer.

The annual catalog of the stamps of Norway continues to offer more than just the usual catalog listings. For some years now this publication has included several articles that expand on topics of Norwegian philately. Thus, the book becomes an important resource. In several places where additional text provides background information on a series, for example the posthorn issues, the text is in both Norwegian and English. Plate flaws of the posthorn series are illustrated and tabulated.

There is an index of watermarks identified with each issue, and several sections on cancellations and their values according to which stamps they appear on. The special articles are quite diverse in nature. Arvid Løhre profiles Norwegian stamp designer Kolbjørn Finstad. The well-known postal historian Paul Jensen provides some background on the overprinted stamps of Norway used on the little known island Bouvet-Øya.

For the first time, there is a listing of the so-called hole cancellations used during the late 19th century, including the dates of first and last usage for each town. Oddbjørn Solli discusses covers sent to Germany during the skilling period.

The main parts of the catalog are nicely printed, showing the stamps in color. This book continues to set a high standard for single country catalogs.

– Alan Warren

HAFNIA 01 Gears Up



Plans are proceeding for Denmark's big show October 16-21 in Copenhagen. General Commissioner Toke Nørby reports that many exhibits had to be turned down due to the overwhelming number of applications. Countries with the largest number of entries are Denmark 88, Germany 54, Argentina 39, USA 38, Great Britain 29, Italy and Sweden both with 27, Switzerland 25, Norway 22, and Japan with 17.

In the National Class (Denmark, DWI, Greenland, Faroes, and Schleswig) there will be 165 frames; Nordic Class (other Nordic countries) 93, Europe Class (other European countries) 475, other foreign 457. Eight hundred frames of thematic exhibits will be shown, 148 literature items, and 267 frames in the Open Class.

– Don Halpern

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The auctions also include top quality objects from many other countries. The market for stamps in Norway is one of the strongest in the world, and this is reflected in the prices realized not only for Scandinavian items. Our computer systems includes some 18,000 customers worldwide and we believe our selling potential would be most interesting also for vendors abroad.



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Landmark Set on Danish Bicolors Published

The bicolored stamps of Denmark were in use from 1870 to 1905 and include numerous issues and values, shades, inverted frames, watermarks, types, and other distinguishing details, all of which have been exquisitely described in this newly published landmark set.

The Bicolored Stamps of Denmark, 1870-1905 by Lasse Nielsen, published by the Copenhagen Philatelist Club (KPK) on January 1, 2001, is the culmination of several studies that began in 1920 when a group of philatelists began describing their observations in the periodical, *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift* (NFT). These studies had a temporary culmination in a book written by G. A. Hagemann in 1941. This publication proved an incentive for philatelists, and numerous articles were published in *NFT* during the next three decades.

By the 1960s, the KPK decided to publish a definitive study, incorporating all the latest research, on the bicolored stamps for the 100th anniversary of the first issue, but the project proved too ambitious. After a wait of 30 years, the six-volume set is available. The hardbound books are beautifully printed on heavy paper, handsomely illustrated (many in color) and with full text in English and Danish.

Knud Mohr, FIP President and NORDIA coordinator, and KPK President Kurt Hansen introduced the books during a reception at SCC's General Meeting at NORDIA 2001. KPK donated one set to the SCC Library with the other available sets selling quickly.

These books may be ordered from Roger P. Quinby, P. O. Box 738, Clifton Park, NY 12065-0738. The price of US \$250 includes air mail shipping directly from the publisher to any address in the U.S. or Canada.

— Roger Quinby

Faroe Islands 2000: A Review

Færøerne: Frimerker og Stempler, 20th edition, 5" x 8," perfect bound, 224 pages, DAKA Forlag, Tervuren, Belgium, 1999, ISBN 87-90414-26-8. Available for \$29.50 postpaid in the U.S. from Lizabeth Stamp Company, Box 321, Bloomsburg, PA 17815.

It seems incredible that this catalog of the postage stamps and postmarks of the Faroes is now in its 20th edition. For the collector of this country, this specialized catalog is a must. The utility of this catalog is further extended since the text is in both Danish and English. It begins with the provisional issues of 1919 and 1940 - 1941, and then follows the stamps from 1975 when the country established its independent postal administration. Prices shown are for mint, used, and on cover.

Plate flaws of the stamps are shown, as well as the first day cancellations. Booklets, year sets, presentation packs, maximum cards, first flights, perfins, and Christmas seals are covered. Other important sections address postmarks and the markings found on mail during World War II. Most important, this edition now has postal rates from 1975 for various classes of mail and destinations. The illustrations are quite good.

No serious student of Faroes postal history should be without this catalog.

— Alan Warren

SCC Launches New Membership Incentive Plan

SCC's Board of Directors has approved a Membership Incentive Program that benefits both new and current members. The new program is in addition to the previously established One-Year Reduced Dues Trial Membership Plan of \$12. Here is how the new Incentive Program will work.

New Members

Anyone with a United States or Canadian mailing address who joins the SCC before September 30, 2001 for a three-year membership, at the standard rate of \$15 per annum paid in full, may purchase the 2001 *Facit 2001 Special Catalogue* for \$25. This represents a substantial discount of \$35 based on the suggested retail price \$59.95 for the 2001 *Facit*.

Anyone who has joined the SCC since August 1, 2000 may be eligible for the same catalogue discount by renewing for an additional two years on or before August 30, 2001. The membership dues must be paid in full to be eligible for the *Facit* catalogue at the special price.

Current Members

Any current member with a United States or Canadian mailing address who renews membership for four years may purchase the 2001 *Facit 2001 Special Catalogue* for \$25. A current member who has already paid dues for 2001 and/or following years may apply the paid dues for up to two years toward eligibility for the *Facit* discount. This represents a discount of \$35 based on the suggested retail price of \$59.95.

The catalogue offer is available at this special discount only to new SCC members and current members renewing membership according to the terms and conditions set forth above.

This program is made possible through the cooperation of Facit Förlags AB of Stockholm, Sweden, the publishers of the *Facit 2001 Special Catalogue*, and Subway Stamps of Altoona, PA. The catalogues will be sent free directly by Subway Stamps. The membership incentive programs will expire on September 30, 2001 unless extended by the Board of Directors.

Because the number of catalogues available for these programs is limited, the Board of Directors reserves the right to cancel the Membership Incentive Program if the supply of catalogues is exhausted before September 30, 2001.

To take advantage of the Membership Incentive Program, contact Don Brent, SCC Executive Secretary, PO Box 13196, El Cajon, CA 92022, or email him at dbrent47@sprynet.com. ■

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Chapter Notes

Calling all SCC Chapters! Walt Jellum, the new vice president for Chapters, is eager to re-ignite regular news notes from the Chapters for *The Posthorn*. His first step is adding email addresses to the "SCC Chapter Meeting & Contacts" list found in this issue. Chapters are asked to provide regular updates and news notes to Walt at wajel@inland.net.

Chapter 7, New York

Our millenium kickoff went well. We had almost twice as many members as usual. We were especially glad to get Kauko Aro, Ed Fraser, and Paul Helgesen together with us at the same time. Ed brought in some Finnish forgeries that were real eye openers. This spring we may do a computer workshop with emphasis on scanners. The Collectors Club Building where we meet has just completed a major renovation/restoration, and the newly worked building is quite impressive.

—Carl Probst

Cyber Chapter

About 20 SCC members attended the first face-to-face meeting of the cyber chapter at Nordia 2001 in Tucson. The attendees exchanged personal information and collecting interests. Ten new members are joining the cyber chapter, making 32 members. Interested members may contact Ed Bode at edbode@juno.com.

—Ed Bode

Chapter 24, Manitoba

The Scandinavian Collectors Club of Manitoba invites you to join its ranks and share in its common adventure. New or novice, expert or specialised, it makes no difference. All are welcome. We are a group of about 18 members, each of whom collects stamps from one or more Scandinavian countries. Membership fees are \$8 for the year.

—Roger Fontaine

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INDEX TO THE POSTHORN, VOLUME 57, 2000

Subject Index	Issue/Page
Arch, Brad (obituary)	3/46
Book Reviews	
<i>Air Mail Operations During World War II</i>	2/24
<i>Danmarks Poststempler: Annulleringstempler</i>	4/43
<i>Norway Letter Rates to Foreign Destinations</i>	4/22
<i>Norwegian Air Mail</i>	2/23
<i>Production of Denmark and Greenland Stamps</i>	2/27
<i>Report from #24</i>	1/29
<i>Roald Amundsen: Expedition Mail, Letters, Postcards & Stamps</i>	4/42
<i>Service Stamps of Denmark</i>	3/22
Brofos Award	1/28
Colvard, George T. (obituary)	2/47
Danish West Indies	
New Information on Scarcity of Overprints	3/23
Davenport, Carl (obituary)	1/40
Debo, Arno (obituary)	4/48
Denmark	
Bridging the Sound (Copenhagen/Malmö)	4/3
Captain's Mail from Danish War Ship	4/39
Danish birth certificate sells for record price	1/30
Philippine Plane Crash: A Denmark Connection	3/11
Vitus Bering "Columbus of the East"	2/3
Engstrom, Victor E. (obituary)	3/47
Finland	
Air Mail Beginnings in Finland 1919-1924	3/3
Greenland	
American Issue	1/13
Highlights of Greenland Philately	2/15
HAFNIA 01	4/27
Iceland	
Commemorating 125 Years of Icelandic Settlement in the West	4/20
First Air Mail Issue, an Update	3/9
Iceland-Vatican Joint Issue	2/26
Iceland's Air Mails 1932-1934	3/13
Local Icelandic Sea Mail	4/12
Manuscript Cancellations	3/16
Joos, Gunnar (obituary)	3/46
Moldenhauer, Frantz-Caspar, Jr. (obituary)	1/40
NORDIA 2000	2/28
NORDIA 2001 Update	1/39, 2/29, 3/30, 4/22
Norway	
Local post history	2/11
Naval Visitors	4/16
Overprints	1/3, 3/24
Surcharged revenues	1/9
Two Ship Letter Cards	4/44
Paaskesen, Erik (obituary)	2/47
Postal Administrations (addresses and websites for all 8)	2/31
Richter, Jared (obituary)	4/48
Scandinavian Collectors Club	
Canadian Stamp Mart	4/41
Chapter News	2/43, 3/41, 4/34
Editor's Notes	1/42, 2/44, 3/44, 4/32
Financial Report	2/34
Index to Volume 56 of The Posthorn	1/45

Subject Index, continued

	Issue/Page
Scandinavian Collectors Club, continued	
Member Forum	2/44, 3/23, 4/36
Member Survey	3/32
Membership Statistics	1/44, 2/46, 3/45, 4/31
News from the Home Office	1/43, 2/45, 3/45, 4/31
President's Letter	1/32, 2/35, 3/36, 4/29
Scandinavian Literature Notes	1/33, 2/36, 3/38, 4/25
Scandinavian Area Awards	1/36, 2/40, 3/41, 4/24
SCC at Sandical	1/26
SCC Website	4/42
SCC at Winnipeg	3/19
Stamp Mart	2/41, 4/35
Transfers & Re-entries	1/37, 2/42, 3/42, 4/27
Stone, Lauson H. (obituary)	1/41
Stone, Lauson H., Library donated to SCC	3/28
Sweden	
Bridging the Sound (Copenhagen/Malmö)	4/3
Ring type: Missing Part of a Post Horn	2/21
Thorsteinsson, Sigurður	1/28
Welo, Norman W. (obituary)	3/46
Whittlesey, Charles A. (obituary)	2/47

Author Index

	Issue/Page
Albright, Paul	
Editor's Notes	1/42, 2/44, 3/44, 4/32
Anderson, Russell H.	
Book review, <i>Report from #24</i>	1/29
Blume, Roe C.	
Norwegian Overprints	1/3
Brandt, Don	
Commemorating 125 Years of Icelandic Settlement in the West	4/20
Brent, Donald	
News from the Home Office	1/43, 2/45, 3/45, 4/31
Brofos, Frederick A.	
Lively Naval Visitors to Norway	4/16
Philippine Plane Crash: A Denmark Connection	3/11
Surcharged Norwegian Revenues	1/9
Some Norwegian Local Post History	2/11
Two Ship Letter Cards of Norway	4/44
Crown, Jeffrey	
Captain's Mail from Danish War Ship	4/39
Danielski, Stefan	
Bridging the Sound	4/3
Downs, Sandra	
Iceland-Vatican Joint Issue	2/26
Fontaine, Roger	
Canadian Stamp Mart	4/41
Gruber, Alfred A.	
Iceland's First Air Mail Issue: An Update	3/9
Halpern, Don	
Lauson Stone: My Memories	1/42
Jensen, Paul H.	
Book Review: <i>Norwegian Letter Rates to Foreign Destinations</i>	4/22
Norwegian Overprints	3/24
Knutsen, John	
Who We Are: Results of the Member Survey	3/32
Kuhhorn, George	
Missing! Part of a Swedish Post Horn	2/21

Author Index, continued	Issue/Page
Laursen, Dan	
The American Issue of Greenland	1/13
Nørby, Toke	
The Columbus of the East (Vitus Bering)	2/3
Parker, Carita (translator)	
Air Mail Beginnings in Finland 1919-1924	3/3
Quinby, Roger	
President's Letter	1/32, 2/35, 3/36, 4/29
Sorensen, Arnold	
New Information on Scarcity of DWI Overprints	3/23
Strokirch, Hans von	
Icelandic Manuscript Cancellations	3/16
Thorsteins, Thor	
Iceland's Air Mails 1932-1934	3/13
Local Icelandic Sea Mail	4/12
Thorsteinsson, Sigurður	
Iceland-Vatican Joint Issue	2/26
Warren, Alan	
Book Reviews	
<i>Danmarks Poststempler: Annulleringstempler</i>	4/43
<i>Norwegian Air Mail</i>	2/23
<i>Production of Denmark and Greenland Stamps</i>	2/27
<i>Roald Amundsen: Expedition Mail, Letters, Postcards & Stamps</i>	4/42
<i>Service Stamps of Denmark</i>	3/22
<i>World War II Air Mail</i>	2/24
Scandinavian Area Awards	1/36, 2/40, 3/41, 4/24
Scandinavian Literature Notes	1/33, 2/36, 3/38, 4/25
Thorsteinsson Wins Brofos Award	1/28
Transfers and Re-entries	1/37, 2/42, 3/42, 4/27
Wowern, Eric. V.	
Highlights of Greenland Philately	2/15

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Russell Anderson Remembers SCC Library

SCC member Russell H. Anderson, who was active in bringing new collectors into the hobby, died November 25 at the age of 80. Anderson, a retired high school industrial arts teacher in Torrington, CT, bequeathed his philatelic library to the SCC Library.

In the 1980s and 1990s, Anderson wrote a number of articles for various Canadian and U.S. philatelic publications, including *The Posthorn*.

One of his continuing activities was to promote the hobby, especially Scandinavia collecting. He was active in helping stamp clubs to get started in prisons and veterans' hospitals, providing packets for children in elementary school clubs, and in setting up exhibits at U.S. Post Offices. Starting in 1937, Anderson collected the U.S. and Scandinavia with special interest in the work of master engraver Czeslaw Slania.

Anderson was born January 7, 1920 in Plymouth, MA. He was a graduate of Fitchburg State College in Massachusetts and served in the Army Air Corps in World War II. He joined SCC in 1988.

— *George Kuhhorn contributed to this report*

Philately Loses Ernesto Fink

Philately has lost Ernesto (Ernst) Fink, a collector of Sweden and other countries and an APS judge. Fink, who was a Golden Life member of SCC, died January 11 in Austria after a long illness, according to his widow, Eva.

Fink was a native of Austria but left Europe during the turbulent years around World War II. He settled in Mexico where he was in the Mexican handicrafts business for many years, returning to Vienna about 1985.

From his base in Mexico City, he formed collections of Sweden, including Skilling Banco, first issues of Mexico and Austria, and was a frequent visitor to stamp shows in the U.S. and Europe. He served as an APS judge at many shows in the U.S.

— *James Burgeson*

SCC Donor Scott Taylor, 1926-2000

SCC supporter Scott H. Taylor of Ridgeley, MD died in December at the age of 74. Together with his late wife Joanna, they were partners in Scojo Stamp Co., specializing in Scandinavia. Scott was also an auction agent, notably at the Matthew Bennett Auctions in Baltimore.

The Taylors graciously donated to SCC a number of the Orrefors "Corona" bowls used each year for an outstanding exhibit at our convention meetings. After Mrs. Taylor's death in 1995, the award was named the Joanna Sliski Taylor Memorial Bowl.

The bowls were purchased by the Taylors and engraved with the SCC logo and year date. Scott turned over the inventory of the bowls to SCC several years ago. Taylor was an Army officer in World War II and a Civil War buff.

— *Information from Alan Warren, Alfred Gruber, and Howard Schloss.*

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