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of the  
Scandinavian  
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Mail  
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*Scandinavian Joint Issues*



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# Finland's Easter Witch

A Finnish stamp showing a witch on her broomstick caught the attention of the philatelic media this spring at Easter.

Americans usually associate witches with Halloween rather than the Christian observance of resurrection and new life. Almost all of the larger circulation philatelic publications in the U.S. took note of the unusual Finnish €0.60 stamp issued March 6.

Finland's Posti said in a news release that superstitious people believed that witches broke loose while Christ was buried in the tomb, and that Easter fires were used to drive away the demons. In Sweden, there was a belief that the witches were flying to a rendezvous with the Devil.

Associating witches with Easter is not confined to Finland. In Germany and Sweden, children dress like witches with brooms and go from house-to-house collecting coins or candy as do American trick-or-treaters at Halloween. Masquerading Finnish children carry willow twigs, baskets, coffeepots, and other items at Easter time.

Posti estimated two million Easter cards are mailed annually, surpassed only by Christmas and Valentine's greeting cards.

The Finnish self-adhesive stamp shows a long-nosed witch holding a black cat and with a coffeepot dangling from her broomstick. When *The Posthorn* inquired as to the symbolism of the coffeepot, employees of Posti huddled and came up with their collective but "unscientific" speculation. The witch might have been headed for a "festival" of witches between Good Friday and Easter and refreshments always are served at festivals. A Posti spokesperson added that coffee was considered sinful and was banned in olden times. Being forbidden, coffee might have appealed to witches.

One never knows where a philatelic pathway might lead.

— Paul Albright



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# The 1880 UPU Parcel Post Convention and Swedish Foreign Parcel Mail, 1881 - 1921

by Sören Andersson

## The Universal Postal Union

The Universal Postal Union was established in 1874 to regularize international mail procedures. Conventions were established and treaties were signed so that countries would handle each other's mail consistently and reciprocally. It shortly became apparent that further work was needed to make standard procedures and rates to facilitate international parcel-post service. In the fall of 1880, the UPU held a three-week meeting in Paris at which many countries were represented. Sweden sent Adolph Wilhelm Roos, regarded by many as Sweden's most important postmaster general.

On November 3, an agreement was signed by most of the participants, the provisions of which were to go into effect on October 1, 1881. The 1880 Convention was not fully successful as not all the countries agreed to the terms. The U.S. and Great Britain, for example, were not interested in the program.

## Procedures and Cross-Border Rates for International Parcel Post

The proposed agreement included an initial simplified rate scheme. It was suggested that postal fees for transiting an international parcel as heavy as 5 kilograms should cost the equivalent of 50 French centimes to be received by each country handling the item. However, some countries, including Sweden, found the planned fees too low. Sweden objected to the low international rates because its own domestic rates already were higher for heavier parcels. For instance, postage for a domestic 5-kg parcel was the equivalent of 3 kronor – eight times higher than the Swedish equivalent of 50 centimes! Modifications were made to make international rates to be somewhat proportional to individual countries' domestic rates.

The Paris accord initially established the maximum international package weight at 3 kg, and it gave some countries the right to add extra fees of 18-72 öre for incoming or outgoing parcels. Sweden was allowed to add as much as 72 öre.

All centime rates for normal parcels sent in accordance with the UPU Convention were in increments of 25 centimes, and all Swedish rates for these parcels were therefore in increments of 18 öre at the contemporary exchange rate. Conveniently, international exchange rates remained largely unchanged from 1880 to 1920, although there was some fluctuation during World War I.

Surcharges for cross-border mail also included an additional fee for sea transport. A maximum ship surcharge of as much as 3 francs was allowed to be imposed according to distance, but for sea transport of packages ➤



Figure 1. Address card for parcel to Germany, 1883.

from Sweden to Germany, the fee was only 18 öre as the distance was less than 500 nautical miles. Furthermore, there was no fee for the very short sea transport to Denmark, but the ordinary transit fee charged by Denmark was 36 öre for overland mail transit.

Therefore, transit rates might have been 18 öre for a package direct to Germany on a long-distance ferry, but 36 öre for a similar-weight package overland through Denmark to the German border. To make the charges consistent, however, Sweden adjusted its outgoing fee. In other words, a 3-kg package carried by ship in 1885 from Sweden to Germany would have cost Sweden's ordinary postage, its normal outgoing fee, the ship fee, and Germany's postage cost. The total fee would have been 36+72+18+36 öre, or 1.62 kronor. The same overland package would have been charged Sweden's ordinary postage, its adjusted outgoing fee, the Danish transit fee, and Germany's postage cost, or 36+54+36+36 öre = 1.62 kr. (See Figure 1.)

The author knows only two Swedish parcel post cards used before the fees were reduced in 1886. In an 1886 rate change, the same package would have cost 18 öre less.

### Parcel Cards

The North American student may find the use of special address cards unfamiliar. It has been a long tradition in Europe that separate address cards accompany parcels. These cards are normally sent along with the parcels. They advise recipients to fetch their parcels at the post offices as the carriers deliver only smaller parcels. In the illustrations, one can also see the card and label formats that were decided at the Paris Convention. The formats were specified in special appendices to the UPU convention documents. There was also a bigger label with the same number to be affixed directly onto the parcel.

The UPU's simplified parcel postage rate makes it possible to compute the total postage fee from the known country-handling rate parts and the currency-exchange rates. The table below lists some countries' extra fees for incoming and outgoing parcels:

Country	Conversion Rates	Source/Destination Fees
France	25 centimes	0
Sweden	25 c = 18 öre	50 - 100 c (36 - 72 öre)
Germany	25 c = 20 pfg	0
Denmark	25 c = 18 øre	0
Norway	25 c = 18 øre	0
Italy	25 c = equivalent	25 c
Switzerland	25 c = 25 c	0

In addition, the source country and the destination country would assess ordinary postage fees. Therefore, one can find that the total fee for a small parcel from Norway to Italy, for example, might be:

Norway postage	= 50 centimes
Norway outgoing	= 0
Sweden transit	= 50 c
Denmark transit	= 50 c
Germany transit	= 50 c
Switzerland transit	= 50 c
Italy incoming	= 25 c
Italy postage	= 50 c
Total = 325 centimes, or 2.34 Norwegian kroner	

However, exceptions abounded. Some countries had special, non-UPU agreements for direct connections, and there were other fees for heavier parcels. Weight rates also changed from time to time, and the maximum weight for the UPU parcels was increased to 5 kg in 1896. ►

When Russia (including Finland, Baltic states, Poland, etc.) joined the parcel agreement on November 1, 1895, at first a special fee of one krona was established for packages as heavy as 3 kg in direct connections to Finland (Figure 2). Therefore, this is one of the few exceptions where the fee is not divisible by 18. Later, for heavier packages to Finland (3-5 kg) and all parcels up to 5 kg to other parts of European Russia via Finland, the fee was 198 öre from 1899 to 1918. The 198 öre is the Swedish normal fee of 36 öre, Swedish extra fee of 54 öre, Baltic Sea fee of 18 öre, Finnish (Russian) normal fee of 36 öre, and Finnish (Russian) extra fee of 54 öre. There was also a fee of 234 öre for packages via Germany. This was made up of the Swedish normal fee of 36 öre, Swedish extra fee of 54 öre, sea fee between Sweden and Germany of 18 öre, German transit fee of 36 öre, Russian (Finnish) normal fee of 36 öre, and Russian (Finnish) extra fee of 54 öre.

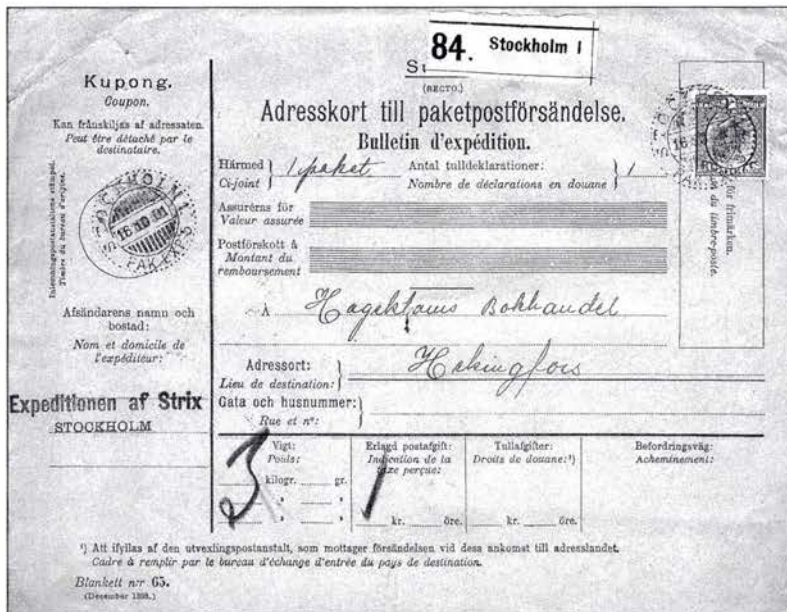


Figure 2. Special 1 krona address card.

### Insurance and Other Service Fees



Figure 3. Address card for insured parcel to Italy.

value of 200 francs (144 kronor in Sweden). In 1892, the fee was changed so that the same fee applied to 300-franc increments of insurance.

A parcel card for an insured package to Italy is shown in Figure 3. The insurance fee is for two insurance increments @ 5 centimes per country x 5 countries = 50 centimes, or 36 öre. The domestic ➤

It was not agreed to charge for additional services at the 1880 Convention. However, by 1920, fees for insurance, cash on delivery, return receipts, and express mail services had been added. A charge for bulky items also was instituted.

Insurance of parcels sent according to these special UPU rules was introduced in Sweden and some other countries on April 1, 1886. Centime rates for insuring normal parcels sent in accordance with the UPU conventions were not in increments of 25 centimes but in steps of 5 centimes per country involved. Each step insured a declared

and transit postage was 2.34 kr to make the total fee of 2.70 kr.

A wartime situation required stamps in 1917 with the strange denominations of 1.98 and 2.12 kronor. (Editor's Note: See figures on front cover.) The reason is found in the parcel rates shown above. These odd values were mainly used for parcels to Russia. During World War I, neutral Stockholm became a re-mailing point for transiting (smuggling) parcel mail to Russia from the rest of Europe, largely from Switzerland. This caused a large demand for 1.98-kr stamps (= 275 centimes), which was the fee for an uninsured parcel, and 2.12 kr for an insured parcel (see Figure 4).

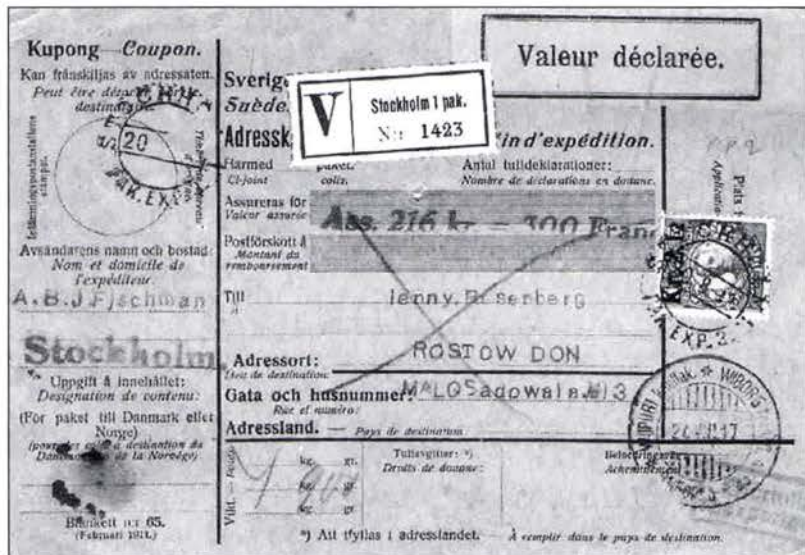


Figure 4. Address card for insured parcel to Russia with 2.12 kr stamp.

On April 1, 1886, it also became possible to send cash-on-delivery (COD) parcels according to the UPU conventions. This fee was not as uniformly regulated as other fees: Sweden charged 15 öre for each 15-kr COD increment. Special rectangular labels in rose color with the French word "Remboursement" were initially affixed on the address cards. The labels were changed later and became triangular and orange. A special form of address card was introduced in 1911 for these parcels. It was a double card where the second part was returned as a postal money order to the sender.

The introduction of extra fees for bulky items may perhaps not be called a service, but it is nonetheless interesting for postal historians. The UPU allowed these extra fees in 1885, but they are not found in Swedish rate books until 1895. The size of the parcels was originally to be small, with a maximum length of 60 cm,



Figure 5. Address card for bulky parcel to France.

or about two feet. Bigger items could be sent if one paid an extra fee for bulky items. Some fragile items were also charged as bulky. The extra fee was 50 percent of all fees except for the special surcharges for incoming or outgoing parcels, rounded up to the next 5-centime increment.

In the case shown on Figure 5 for a bulky package to France, the normal fee was 180 öre (250 centimes), of which 75 centimes is Sweden's outgoing fee. The special surcharge ➤



calculated as  $(250-75) \times 50\% = 87 \frac{1}{2}$  centimes and rounded up to 90 centimes and converted to 65 öre. The total fee is therefore  $180+65 = 245$  öre.

Express delivery is also dealt with in the UPU parcel conventions. It did not signify swifter transportation of the parcel, just immediate delivery after the item arrived at its destination post office. The UPU fee for this service was 50 centimes, equal to 36 öre. This fee was used for items to Denmark and Norway from 1893 and to Great Britain in 1912.

Express delivery was not available elsewhere until 1913. Figure 6 shows an address card for an express parcel to Germany with its parcel fee of 144 öre and express fee of 36 öre.



Figure 6. Address card for express parcel to Germany.

### Special non-UPU Rates

Originally, the British were not involved in handling parcels. It was not until May 1, 1886, that an agreement went into effect with simplified parcel rates to Great Britain via Göteborg. The rate structure differed from the one used for the traditional UPU parcels. There were two or three rate

groups according to weight. During WWI, problems arose in sending parcels to countries beyond Germany, so many of these items had to be routed through England. It then occurred that rates became combinations of the special rates to Great Britain and the ordinary UPU 50-centime rates.



Figure 7. Address card for parcel to France via England during World War I.

Figure 7 shows a parcel card to France. The total rate is the combination of the fees for 1-3 kg to Britain (180 öre), the sea rate across the English Channel between countries (18 öre), and French postage (36 öre).

### End of the First Rate Accord

Post-war European hyperinflation forced most countries to require rapid rate adjustments that shortly led to the end of the initial period of the UPU parcel-rate structure. The UPU Congress in 1920 in Madrid led to major changes in the rate structure, and these became effective in 1921 – a subject for another article. ➤

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## Extant Parcel Cards

For a collector, it may be of interest to know how rare or common parcel cards from the pre-1921 period are. The total number of address cards known for parcels sent during this period from Sweden to foreign countries may be around 300. The most common destination is Finland. A second group is Belgium, Russia, Switzerland, and Germany where 7-20 cards are known to each of these countries. Two to six cards are known for packages sent from Sweden to France, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Romania, Spain, Austria, and Turkey. Items are also known to Canada and The Netherlands, but on all these one or more stamps have been removed.

Items without any extra services are, of course, the most common. Insured cards are found quite often. COD items are quite rare and only about five express cards are known. Only one bulky-item card is so far known, and I have not seen any item with a return receipt requested. There is only one known copy of the second part of the COD address card used as a money order from abroad. These rarity listings only apply to parcels sent under the UPU conventions before 1921.

There were non-UPU and bilateral agreements used mainly for heavier items and for items to Denmark and Norway. I also know of three parcel cards to the United States from before 1920, which were sent using non-UPU rate agreements.

The above discussion could be confusing because of rate exceptions that were not noted. Much about the rates to various countries and for various services can be calculated, however, by accounting for the rates that one knows were applied, and subtracting that figure from the total fees that were paid. I offer to help readers decipher rates on cards they have if there are questions about how the rates were applied. ■

*Sören Andersson is a dealer in fine Scandinavian covers. He may be reached at Box 19113, 104 32 Stockholm, or by e-mail at SA@SAStamps.se.*

*(Editor's Note: SCC member Herbert R. Volin worked with the author to prepare this article for publication.)*

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# Scandinavian Joint Issues

by Richard Zimmerman

The following listings record all twin (same date, same design) and joint (same design and different issuing date or same issuing date and different design) stamp issues involving at least one of the Scandinavian countries. None of these countries have issued in the past a "Siamese" stamp (same stamp for several countries or stamps from both countries linked together). Common issues (only common topic without officially being recognized by postal administrations) are not reported. Europa, Norden, and Territorial joint issues are listed separately.

The lists were compiled by the International Philatelic Society of Joint Stamp Issues Collectors, which was founded in 1999 to bring together all collectors interested in joint issues. We are particularly interested in having collectors in Scandinavia join our society. Further information is available at the Society's website, <http://perso.club-internet.fr/zimmerm/index.htm>, or by writing or emailing Richard Zimmerman, 124, avenue Guy de Coubertin, F-78470 Saint Rémy les Chevreuse, France, [rzimmerm@club-internet.fr](mailto:rzimmerm@club-internet.fr).



This joint issue by Åland and the Faroes was issued in conjunction with an exhibition in Mariehamn in September 1995. It commemorates the millennium of the birth of St. Olaf.

## Twin and Joint Issues

- 1946 (22 March) **Norway - Canada:** Little Norway (Canada not issued)
- 1956 (30 October) **Denmark - Finland - Iceland - Norway - Sweden:** Nordic day, Swans - Twin issue
- 1961 (24 February) **Denmark - Norway - Sweden:** SAS Airline - Twin issue
- 1963 (14 May) **Denmark - West Germany:** Ferryboat line - Joint issue
- 1966 (15 January) **Sweden - West Germany:** Nobel winner Nathan Söderblom - Joint issue
- 1967 (16 June) **Finland - Sweden:** Finnish community in Sweden - Twin issue
- 1969 (28 February) **Denmark - Finland - Iceland - Norway - Sweden:** Nordic postal cooperation, Ships - Twin issue
- 1973 (26 June) **Denmark - Finland - Iceland - Norway - Sweden:** Nordic cooperation, Building - Twin issue
- 1977 (2 February) **Denmark - Finland - Iceland - Norway - Sweden:** Nordic cooperation, water lily - Twin issue
- 1983 (24 March) **Sweden - USA:** Diplomatic relationship - Twin issue
- 1985 (21 February) **Denmark - West Germany:** Bonn-Copenhagen link - Twin issue
- 1985 **Finland (28 February) - USSR (25 February):** Kalevala legends - Joint issue
- 1985 (21 May) **Denmark - Sweden:** Knut IV - Twin issue ➤



In 1986, France and Finland issued a joint issue to mark the 250th anniversary of a Swedish-French polar expedition to measure the arc meridian of the earth. There are differences in the designs.



Iceland, the Faroes, and Ireland took note of the St. Brendan's travels in this 1994 joint issue.

- 1986 (23 January) **Sweden - USA:** Stockholmia philatelic exhibition - Twin issue
- 1986 (5 September) **Finland - France:** French expedition in Lapland - Joint issue
- 1987 (8 May) **Norway - Somalia:** Red Cross to support the disabled - Twin issue
- 1988 (29 March) **Finland - Sweden - USA:** 350th anniversary of the first Finnish and Swedish settlements in America - Twin issue
- 1988 (22 September) **Denmark - France:** Cultural year - Twin issue
- 1991 (7 September) **Belgium - Finland:** Artist Alfred Finch - Twin issue
- 1992 (6 April) **Faroes - Iceland:** Discovery of America - Twin issue
- 1992 (3 October) **Estonia - Latvia - Lithuania - Sweden:** Baltic area birds - Twin issue
- 1992 (27 November) **Russia - Sweden:** Religious icons - Twin issue
- 1993 (8 February) **Estonia - Finland:** Friendship - Twin issue
- 1993 (17 June) **Denmark - Russia:** Friendship treaty and cable link - Twin issue
- 1994 (18 March) **France - Sweden:** Cultural cooperation - Twin issue
- 1994 (18 April) **Faroes - Ireland - Iceland:** St Brendan's journey - Twin issue
- 1994 (26 September) **Finland - Sweden:** Sport - Twin issue
- 1995 (1 March) **Finland - Russia:** Nature protection - Twin issue
- 1995 (15 September) **Åland - Faroes:** Birth of St. Olaf - Twin issue
- 1995 (18 September) **Iceland - Luxemburg:** Icelandair - Twin issue
- 1995 (27 October) **Denmark - Sweden:** Astronomer Tycho Brahe - Twin issue
- 1995 (9 November) **Germany - Sweden:** Alfred Nobel Centenary - Twin issue
- 1997 (14 January) **Denmark - Faroes - Greenland:** Margaret II's 25th reign anniversary - Joint issue
- 1997 (9 May) **China - Sweden:** Pheasants - Twin issue
- 1997 (13 November) **Sweden - Switzerland:** Alfred Nobel and chemist laureate Paul Karrer - Twin issue
- 1998 (3 October) **Poland - Sweden:** King Sigismund III Wasa - Twin issue
- 1999 (28 April) **Åland - Finland:** Flowers - Twin issue
- 1999 (12 August) **Sweden - Singapore:** Butterflies - Twin issue
- 1999 (30 September) **Belgium - Sweden:** Nobel Peace laureates - Twin issue
- 1999 (5 November) **Finland - Italy:** Christmas - Twin issue
- 2000 (12 January) **Estonia - Finland:** Dance and Music Festival - Joint issue
- 2000 (4 February) **Iceland - Vatican:** 1,000 years conversion to Christianity - Twin issue
- 2000 (9 May) **Denmark - Sweden:** Øresund bridge - Twin issue ➤



Sweden's Christmas stamps in 1992 were a joint issue with Russia showing religious icons. There are noticeable design differences in the four motifs.

- 2001 (22 March) **Sweden - USA:** Nobel Prize centenary - Twin issue  
 2001 (16 August) **Australia - Sweden:** Botanist Daniel Solander - Twin issue  
 2002 (2 May) **Sweden - New Zealand:** Arts and crafts - Twin issue  
 2002 (October?) **Sweden - Thailand:** Cooperation, Buildings  
 2002 (21 October?) **Denmark - Faroes - Greenland:** Sharks and boats

### Europa stamps

This list reports all Scandinavian countries involved in a Europa CEPT issue for which stamps have the same design. From 1974 on, both designs and dates of issue differed in such a way that they could no longer be considered as joint issues, except for the years 1984 and 2000.

- 1960 **Denmark** (16 September), **Finland** (19 September), **Iceland** (19 September), **Norway** (19 September), **Sweden** (19 September); *Total 19 countries involved*
- 1961 **Iceland** (18 September); *Total 14 countries*
- 1962 **Iceland** (17 September), **Norway** (17 September); *Total 13 countries*
- 1963 **Finland** (16 September), **Iceland** (16 September), **Norway** (14 September); *Total 14 countries*
- 1964 **Iceland** (14 September), **Norway** (14 September); *Total 17 countries*
- 1965 **Iceland** (27 September), **Norway** (25 September); *Total 16 countries*
- 1966 **Iceland** (26 September), **Norway** (26 September); *Total 19 countries*
- 1967 **Iceland** (2 May), **Norway** (2 May); *Total 18 countries*
- 1968 **Iceland** (29 April); *Total 18 countries*
- 1969 **Denmark** (28 April), **Finland** (27 April), **Iceland** (28 April), **Norway** (28 April), **Sweden** (28 April); *Total 26 countries*
- 1970 **Iceland** (4 May); *Total 19 countries*
- 1971 **Finland** (3 May), **Iceland** (3 May); *Total 21 countries*
- 1972 **Finland** (2 May), **Iceland** (2 May); *Total 22 countries*
- 1973 **Finland** (30 April), **Iceland** (30 April), **Norway** (30 April) *Total 23 countries*
- 1984 **Denmark** (3 May), **Faroes** (2 April), **Finland** (7 May), **Iceland** (3 May), **Norway** (4 June), **Sweden** (9 February); *Total 34 countries*
- 2000 **Åland** (9 May), **Denmark** (9 May), **Faroes** (9 May), **Finland** (9 May), **Greenland** (9 May), **Iceland** (18 May), **Sweden** (9 May); *Total 55 countries*

### Norden stamps

The following Norden issues are reported separately because the design is different for each country. They are still considered as joint issues. When date of issue also changed, however, they no longer are included.

- 1980 (9 September) **Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden:** Handcrafts ➤



Norway issued this souvenir sheet with a single NOK 4.50 stamp in 1987 showing a rehabilitation center in Mogadishu. Somalia issued the same sheet and a second single stamp "in support of the disabled."

- 1983 (24 March) **Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden:** Tourism  
 1986 (27 May) **Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden:** Sister towns  
 1989 (20 April) **Denmark, Finland, Faroes (10 April), Iceland, Norway, Sweden:** Costumes

### Territorial twin issues

The following list includes all stamps issued by dependencies, but which have the same design. Otherwise (different design or different issue dates), they cannot be considered as true joint issues. This rule applies also for colonial issues, which are not considered as joint issue.

- 1963 (21 November) **Denmark - Greenland:** Scientist Niels Bohr  
 1967 (10 June) **Denmark - Greenland:** Princess Margrethe's wedding  
 1968 (12 September) **Denmark - Greenland:** Help for Children in Greenland  
 1969 (11 March) **Denmark - Greenland:** Frederick IX 70th birthday  
 1973 (18 October) **Denmark - Greenland:** Heimaey sea disaster  
 1984 (6 June) **Denmark - Greenland:** Prince Henrik 50th birthday  
 1985 (21 May) **Denmark - Greenland:** 50th anniversary of Queen Ingrid's arrival in Denmark  
 1992 (10 June) **Denmark - Greenland:** Royal silver wedding anniversary ■

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# The 1988 New Sweden Issue In International Mail

by Alfred A. Gruber

This tale is known to long-time collectors and may be of interest to newer members. The New Sweden USA airmail stamp was part of a triplet commemorative with Finland and Sweden in 1988. It had been 350 years since the Swedes and Finns first settled along the bank of the Delaware River in North America. This was the first triple for the U.S., but the three stamps achieved no notoriety. First Day Covers abound, some with both the 1938 and 1988 stamps (Figure 1).

Postal rate changes caused the 44-cent U.S. stamp to become a modern rarity as a single on cover. The first day of issue was March 29, 1988 (Figure 2). However, the 44-cent international airmail letter rate was raised to 45 cents on April 3, 1988. Thus, the American stamp by itself was proper postage for only five days. Later usage required an additional one-cent postage.

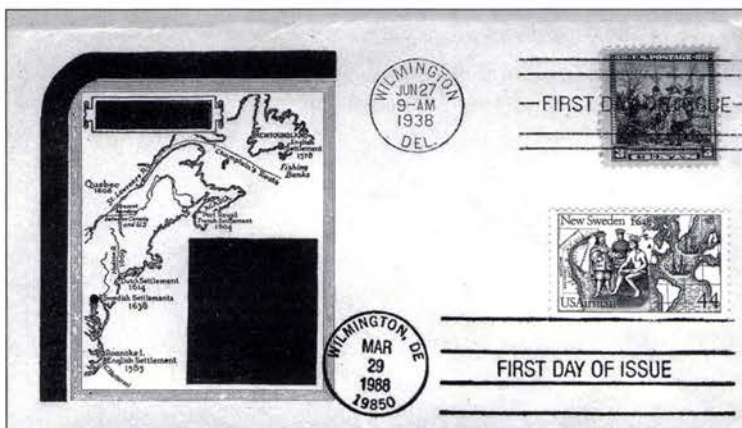


Figure 1.

SCC executive secretary, and I decided to try to find some properly used covers.

If you have ever tried to buy international U.S. airmail stamps in this country used on commercial mail to overseas addresses, you will be surprised how few are to be seen. We visited many bourses for about three years before finding a dealer with three covers. All were from the same writer in California to probably a relative in Spain with a cancel of April 2, 1988 (Figure 3). ➤



Figure 2.

One may ask why the stamp was printed when the rate change was imminent? The answer is that the issue date had been decided much earlier with Finland and Sweden, our partners in this commemoration.

I wish we could say that the Delaware SCC Chapter 13 members were alert, had prepared covers to overseas friends, and now have a fine showing. Such was not the case, and it was only some time later that Bob Lang, former



Figure 3.



One might conclude this was an “inspired” cover. (A poisonous term that denatures the hobby, in my opinion). But if it was sent just for the usage example and sold soon thereafter, couldn’t the recipient have used a letter opener and avoided the three envelope tears? Much later we learned the sender is indeed a stamp dealer who mailed this to his son in Spain. So, it is “inspired.”

There are two other firsts for this stamp. It had the shortest period of proper rate use of any U.S. stamp to that time (and perhaps since). It also had one of the shortest periods of sale at the USPS Philatelic Sales Division — seven months.

Unlike sports, stamp records are not carefully recorded. Our guess is that fewer than 100 legitimate covers are in collectors’ hands. Lang and I would like to know anyone else’s experience with this joint issue. Meanwhile, look for this stamp on cover used within the proper five-day period. ■

The author is a former president of SCC. Email him at email a2gruber@webtv.net.

**References:**

*Linn’s U.S. Stamp Yearbook*, 1988

*Linn’s Stamp News*, September 7, 1992

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# Spitsbergen: Land of the Pointed Mountains

by Greg Frantz

The April 2002 auction conducted by Engers Frimerker in Norway provided an excellent opportunity to examine some of the interesting philatelic material from the Arctic islands of Spitsbergen.

Spitsbergen material has been characterized in different ways, including comparing it to the Hotel Post stamps and covers of Switzerland and Hungary. Hotels in those countries were in remote locations and had no postal service. They issued their own stamps to cover the cost of carrying letters to the nearest post office. Similarly, shipping companies and charter services issued stamps and made cancels to pay for carrying tourist mail from Spitsbergen to a government post, usually in Norway but not always. Many different cancels were created by the different companies with the names of the different ports of call. Early on, these ports of call were only place names that later became seasonal settlements with temporary post branch offices using government cancels.

Loose material is available, mostly used, but for the most part one encounters covers. I estimate that 92 percent of the covers are picture post cards, 2 percent letters, 2 percent Norway stationery, and 4 percent other (ship cards, etc). Probably 90 percent of the covers (cards) were sent to Germany. Other countries encountered in descending order were the U.S., Austria, Italy, Sweden, France, England, Hungary, The Netherlands, Belgium, Norway, Romania, and Egypt.

The philatelic authority on Spitsbergen is Carl A. Pihl's *Norges Byposter*, which lists two stamps and 38 labels (as Pihl calls them). The two stamps were issued by the Vesteraalen Steamship Company and are listed as stamps because Norway recognized these as valid postage to anywhere in Norway but invalid to other countries, as is normal for any local post. No local post I know of ever had a postal treaty or agreement with a postal administration outside its own country. This company was honored by Norway with a stamp (Scott Norway 699) depicting its ship (Figure 1).



Figure 1.

Russia and Norway had an interest in Spitsbergen, with a treaty in 1920 giving Norway possession of the islands effective in 1925. So, effectively, Norway had no say in stamp activities of the shipping companies. But the shipping companies acted in Norway's tourist interest and, in turn, this helped Norway's claim to governorship.

Consul Joh H. Giaever of Tromsø issued many stamps over a 15-year period. These were mainly used on Norddeutscher Lloyd ships. It appears that he worked with shipping companies in promoting tours. Another player was a Captain Bade, who chartered ships or led tour groups from



Figure 2.

1896 on. Information is scarce on his business, but we know he had printed 1,000 each of three stamps.

Thoms Fylkes of Norway issued a blue stamp with a bear-on-shield design in 1905. Only a few stamps and one cover have been reported. There were two covers in Engers' sale; one dated 1919 is not a legitimate use. Figure 2 may or may not be the one listed. A bonus with Figure 2 is that the 5-øre stamp has a double perforation.

Osterreichischer Lloyd issued six different nondenominated labels between 1907 to 1912; Pihl lists four of the six. Norddeutscher Lloyd issued a set ➤

of stamps in 1911-1913. This long set has different colored stamps of the same value, perhaps issued in the different years. Two of the stamps listed are not noted by other writers, were not in Engers' sale, and I have never seen them. They may not exist.

In 1913, the Hamburg American line (HAPAG) issued a set (E34- E38) that may have been used only on one or two voyages as these are very scarce, especially on cover.

Some of the ways Arctic material is or can be collected include, (1) by stamp issue and usage; (2) by cancels and markings on stamps and covers; (3) by steamship lines, ship names, sailing dates, and ship or company cancels; (4) by expeditions and related material; (5) by area, in a display format. There are a variety of pictures on cards showing wonderful scenery of the area and the settlement of Spitsbergen.

Here are some other items that attracted my bids among the 200 lots from a German collector/exhibitor.

**Lot 1379:** A 100-øre letter card by Consul Giaever canceled July 10, 1900 at the Paris exposition. It was carried to Spitsbergen with various cancels, sent to London, and forwarded to Vicarage Rd., Henley-on-Thames. There were two printings of these (determined by examining the back) and are most desirable with the exposition cancel. (Figure 3.)

**Lot 1433:** I believe this is a type of formula card. It is inscribed "Spitsbergen-Brevkort" with a Bergen SS Co. handstamp company name and the ship handstamp, "D.S. Mira." It was sent to Stockholm in 1904. The printer, perhaps in Tromsø, outlined space to accommodate both a Norway government stamp and a Spitsbergen local. (Figure 4.)

**Lot 1459:** This 1903 post card by HAPAG shows the Northern Lights with the Consul Giaever stamp. I have a set of three values canceled July 11, 1897, perhaps the first voyage where they were used. But I have not seen any early covers. It is possible their use was discouraged during 1897-99 when Norway operated a summer post office.

**Lot 1475:** This is a Norwegian postal card updated to 10 øre for international mail (to Germany) and a single 5-øre steamship company stamp. All postal stationery is desirable, but this lot sold for four times the estimate. (Figure 5.)

**Lot 1488:** A card with a 20-øre HAPAG stamp with cancels in August 1913. There were only two HAPAG stamps in the Engers sale; these are rare in any major collection. (Figure 6.) ➤



Figure 3.



Figure 4.



Figure 5.



Figure 6.



Figure 7.

Of the 200 lots, 72 sold for the estimate or reserve, 21 went from two to seven times estimates, and 25 lots did not sell (one expensive lot and the others run-of-the-mill from the 1930s). The lots with the greatest demand seemed to be related to explorer or scientific expeditions to this land of the pointed mountains. ■

Greg Frantz is a member of the SCC Board of Directors and chair of SCC's Chapter 27 (Colorado). He is a frequent exhibitor, including byposts and ship cancels.

**References:**

- Carl Pihl, *Norges Byposter og Anner Norsk Lokalpost*, (1963) 71pp.
- J. L. Jvangean A.I.J.P. *Spitsbergen Svalbard*, 1982, 22pp.
- Arne J. Bay, *Svalbard Filatelien*, 1979, 135pp.

**Lot 1542:** A Norway LETTER CARD (Kortbrev) with a government cancel, 1899 Advent Bay. The absence of a Spitsbergen local is scarce usage for tourist mail. (Figure 7.)

**Lot 1543:** A formula card (Brevkort fra Spitsbergen–Advent Bay) having the Advent Bay government cancel. The printer left room on the picture side of the card to write a small amount of text. (Figure 8.)

**Lot 1544:** This card to a professor in Germany with the 5-øre Giaever stamp, 2nd printing, is the earliest I've seen. Pihl lists it as issued in 1911.



Figure 8.

## Keeping the Appointed Rounds in 17th Century

“The actual post delivery work was given to the local peasants. The post houses were to be located approximately every 20 kilometers, but not more than every 30 km. The peasant, who carried the mail, was freed from other obligations...”

“The post peasant had to take good care of his duties. If he neglected this he was sent to prison for four weeks. Also he had to run with the mail 10 km within two hours otherwise he was sent to prison for eight days with just bread and water for nourishment.”

“If the peasant was caught talking with someone during his duty, he was sent to prison for four weeks. Very severe punishment compared to today's life.” ■

**Reference:**

- Heike Pahlman, "The Golden Age of Finnish Philately, Part 2," *The Finnish Philatelist*, Vol.7, No.1, February 2002, pps. 13-14.

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# Auction Marketplace

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## Engers Frimerker (Norway)

In April, Engers offered a rare collection of Spitzbergen and polar mail with more than 200 lots, including flights and expeditions. (Editor's Note: See Greg Frantz's article on this auction beginning on page 17.) The only known letter from the first Norwegian Airmail flight from Christiania to Trondheim July 6, 1918 (Figure 1) sold for NOK 39,500 (\$5,700) plus charges after bidding started at NOK 10,000.



Figure 1.

## Postiljonen (Sweden)

Postiljonen auctioned a fine postage-due collection in March, including the earliest recorded letter with postage due hammered down at €3,600. An unfranked postage-due Ballon Monté letter from the siege of Paris to Stockholm (Figure 2) started at €8,000, but it did not find a buyer. The Ballon Monté cover was flown with the second balloon that left Paris in the morning of September 25, 1870. A very fine 1S. 1850 Schleswig-Holstein stamp beautifully cancelled (Figure 3) sold for the starting price of €3,500.



Figure 3.



Figure 2.

## Kjell Germeten (Norway)

In general, this April auction was filled with good classic Norwegian stamps, covers, and collections. But it is worth mentioning that some Danish and Swedish cancellation collections went for low starting prices. A rare inverted overprint 30 øre/7 skilling brown sold for approximately \$7,500 (Figure 4).



Figure 4.

## Thomas Høiland Auctions (Denmark)

Høiland's recent HAFNIA 01 auction included a flood of international collections. Included were two top covers (Figures 5 and 6) from the collection of KPK Chairman Kurt Hansen. Figure 5 sold for approximately \$65,500 and Figure 6 for approximately \$54,500 plus commission. ➤



Figure 5.



Figure 6.

## Heinrich Köhler, Wiesbaden, Germany, May 22 to 25

Köhler is offering a Hamburg-American Packet Service, Ltd. (HAPAG) cover to St. Thomas, Danish West Indies, for a starting price of €11,000. This cover is a highlight from the Roger Schnell collection, and is the only one known with a triple franking. ■



Figure 7.

# Sweden Moves Quickly to Honor Pippi Longstocking's Creator

Sweden Post moved swiftly to commemorate the rich literary contributions of famed author Astrid Lindgren when she died January 28 at the age of 94. Claiming two weeks from decision to printing, Sweden Post on March 5 issued a sheetlet of seven, SEK 5 stamps featuring the author (from a 1980s photograph), and six illustrations from her children's books. (See illustration.)

Pippi Longstocking, Lindgren's most famous character, was depicted on a Swedish Christmas stamp in 1969. Ten different themes from Lindgren's stories were shown in a 1987 "story-teller" series.

Despite its speed, Sweden was outperformed by Australia, which used 24 hours to produce stamps of its two gold medal winners at the 2002 winter Olympics. Australia, however, had been planning these stamps for two years and had the technology and template in place. All that was needed was to drop in the digital image of the athlete(s) from the awards ceremonies. ■



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## GREENLAND THULE (1985)

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## 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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**Editor's Note:** See Page 31 for the background on The Posthorn's newest feature — The Cover Corner. This issue presents contributions from SCC Secretary Don Halpern and Swedish specialist James Burgeson.

## South Carolina to Sweden: Unraveling the Route and the Rates

by Don Halpern

I have selected an 1858 cover from Charleston, South Carolina to Gothenburg, Sweden to start this feature because the research includes several books useful to the Nordic postal historian. As other covers are described, additional books will be mentioned.

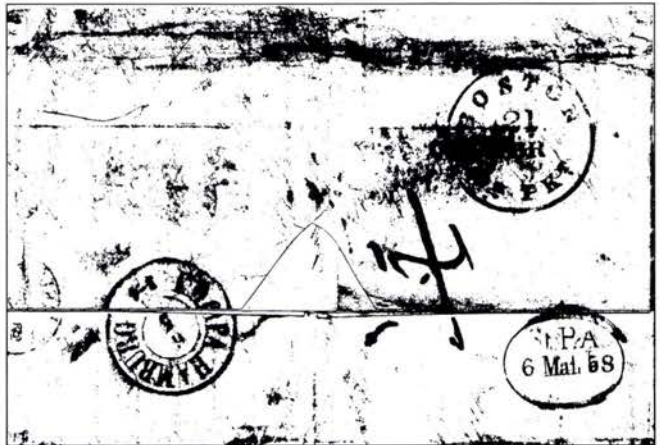
This cover took five days to go from Charleston (April 16) to Boston (April 21) where it was sent as Prussian Closed Mail (PCM) on a British Packet. PCM was placed in mail sacks and sealed. Hargest has a good discussion of mail between the U.S. and Europe in general.<sup>1</sup> Regardless of the route, no postal markings were applied until the bag was opened in Aachen (May 5). A complete description of this cover would include the name of the ship. This can be found by looking up the Boston sailing date in old newspapers that are on microfilm.

It arrived at the City Post Office in Hamburg (St. P.A. postmark) May 6 and transferred to the Danish post office (KDOPA Hamburg postmark) the same day. The Danish post carried it via Helsingør to Helsingborg, where it arrived on May 9. There is no Gothenburg receiving mark. To summarize the route: Charleston, SC > Boston > seapost + U.K transit > Belgian transit to Aachen > Hamburg > Helsingør > Helsingborg > Gothenburg. (Gothenburg also is spelled Gothenberg and Göteborg.)

The rate markings on the cover were the next challenge. The 1852 treaty rate from the U.S. to Sweden was 42 cents via PCM carried on a British Packet.<sup>2</sup> The inland U.S. rate was 3 cents.<sup>3</sup> Seapost and transit through the United Kingdom was 18 cents. Since the closed mail crossed Belgium to reach Aachen, the Belgian share was 2 cents.<sup>4</sup>

In 1850, the German-Austrian Postal Union (GAPU, or the German abbreviation DÖPV) established a series of zones for the distance letters traveled within GAPU territory. The fee for zone 1 was one silver groschen for letters going less than 10 German meilen (about 75 km). Zone 2 was two silver groschen for 10-20 meilen and three silver groschen for zone 3 for distances greater than 20 mielen. The rate from Aachen to Hamburg was 3 silver groschen, about 7 cents.<sup>5</sup>

Sundsbo's book covers Norwegian mail rates and routes in detail, but the most important part for me is the currency conversion tables in the back.<sup>6</sup> The postage from Hamburg, through Denmark to Sweden was 15 skilling banco, or 12 cents.<sup>7</sup> There was also a Swedish credit to Denmark of ➤



7 skilling banco (5 cents) for Danish transit. The red 19 (marked at Aachen) was to show the forward credit, 7 cents to Prussia and 5 cents to Denmark and 7 cents to Sweden. The red 4 1/2 showed a forward credit of 4 1/2 silver groschen (15-skilling banco or 12 cents) to Sweden and Denmark at the Prussian post office in Hamburg.

To summarize the rate in tabular form:

Charleston SC to Boston MA	= 3¢
Boston via PCM to Belgium	= 18¢
Belgian transit to Aachen	= 2¢
Aachen to Hamburg = 3 silver groschen	= 7¢
Hamburg to Sweden = 15 skilling banco	= 12¢
Total	= 42¢

The script *franco* was applied at the Hamburg city post office. It was used from 1856-1867.<sup>8</sup> I have not found a reference for the PAID marking. The circular K.D.O.P.A. HAMBURG (Königlich Danische Oberpostamt) was one of nine varieties used from 1848-1862.<sup>9</sup>

Although this is a complicated and challenging cover, it is an example of a modest victory for the postal historian. Simply put, the route, fees, and currency exchanges added up to the values indicated by the postal markings. It doesn't always work out that way.

#### Footnotes and References:

- <sup>1</sup> Hargest, G. E. *History of Letter Post Communication Between the United States and Europe, 1845-1875*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, 1971, p. 85.
- <sup>2</sup> Starnes, C. J. *United States Letter Rates to Foreign Destinations 1847 to GPU-UPU*. Leonard Hartmann, Louisville, KY, 1982, p.40.
- <sup>3</sup> Phillips, D. G. *American Stampless Cover Catalogue*. Fourth Ed., David G. Phillips Publishing, N. Miami, FL, 1985, Vol. 1, p.23.
- <sup>4</sup> Hargest, p. 87.
- <sup>5</sup> Jensen, P. *The Posthorn*, February 1998 (Vol. 55, No. 1), p.9.
- <sup>6</sup> Sundbø, I. *Norske Brev Før 1855*. Filatelistisk Forlag, Bergen, 1989, p. 140-42.
- <sup>7</sup> Hughmark, G.A. and Halpern, D.F. *Stampless Mail to and from Scandinavia to 1868*. Rosetta Stone Press, New Providence, NJ, 1999, p.183.
- <sup>8</sup> Ibid. p. 55.
- <sup>9</sup> Ibid. p. 118.

## Disinfected Mail from Sweden

by James Burgeson

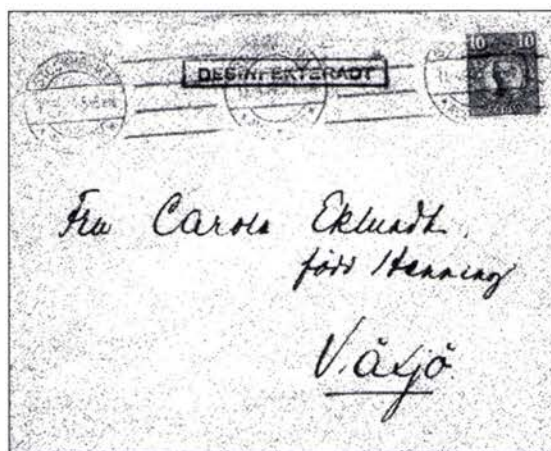
“Disinfected” mail is in the news following the recent anthrax terrorism in the United States. Shown here is a disinfected mail cover from Sweden. I don't think these are particularly rare, but this is the only such cover that I have.

The Marking “DESINFEKTERADT” in a rectangular frame in violet was applied at the Infectious Disease Hospital (Epidemisjukhuset) in Stockholm. Such covers are known at various times after 1900 during outbreaks of cholera.

Earlier versions of disinfected mail involved puncturing the envelope and subjecting it to gas. This one is canceled April 11, 1914 and is not punctured. The cover is franked with a 10-öre rose (Facit 82c) Gustaf V in Medallion paying the inland letter rate.

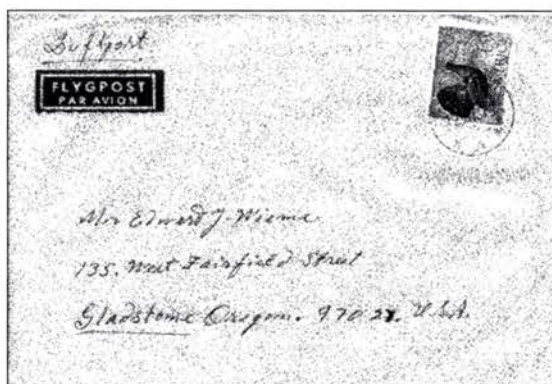
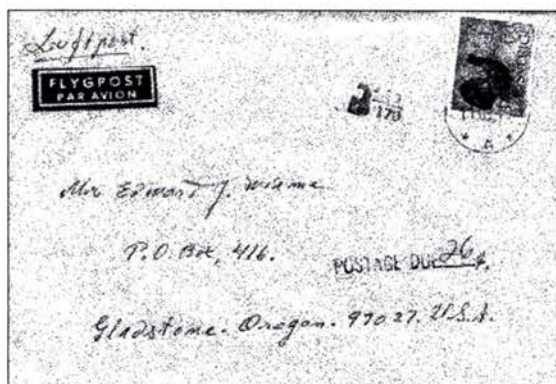
There is some information about disinfected mail of Sweden on page 521 of *Stämpel-Fakta* by Åke Eliasson published by Sveriges Filatelist-Förbund, 1996.

(Editor's Note: A collection of disinfected mail was a popular item at Postiljonen's March 16 auction. The collection, which sold for €12,000, contained cut, pierced, and smoked covers from Venice, Malta, Belgium, and elsewhere.)



## Rate Intricacies for Sweden's International Mail

by James Burgeson



Both of these covers are, (1) marked and labeled "Airmail," (2) sent from the same place in Sweden, Glanshammar, (3) addressed to the same person in the same town in the state of Oregon, and (4) franked with the same stamp, Sweden's 1.70 Kr dark blue coil stamp of 1975. The stamps are even applied with the same tilt!

So, why is postage due on one cover and not the other?

The cover without postage due is cancelled July 12, 1979 and the other about two months later, September 11, 1979. The international surface letter rate for letters up to 20 grams was 1.70 Kr and an additional 25 öre per 5 grams for airmail to the U.S. But letters marked "5gr" in the upper left corner and with no markings showing "Airmail, Flygpost, Par-Avion" (or the like) and fully paid for international surface mail were sent by air without additional charge. This was the postal policy then.

Both covers violate the rule prohibiting "airmail" markings but evidently, they were sent by air anyway. We can't be sure because there are no arrival marks or other evidence.

The one cover was charged postage due, evidently because it did not comply. The "T50/170" represents 50 öre due (double the 25-öre shortpaid) and 1.70 Kr is the correct rate. The cover is marked for 26 cents U.S. postage due. That is approximately 50 öre. Meanwhile, the other cover did not get noticed.

Those interested in learning more concerning mail rates are referred to:

- *Facit Postal VI*, published by Facit Förlags AB, Stockholm, 1997. This straightforward reference shows surface letter rates. Foreign letter rates also are provided.
- *Flygporton 1920-1992*, compiled by Karin Svahn, published by Postmuseum, Stockholm, 1993. *Flygporton* is more difficult than *Facit* and shows, generally, the *additional* amount required for airmail. For example, *Flygporton* contains a rate table effective December 1, 1949 showing the additional (tilläggsporto) for airmail to the U.S. is 30 öre for weights up to 5 grams. But a footnote indicates that letters marked "5gr" or "5grams" in the upper left corner and not showing any markings such as "Luftpost, Par-Avion," etc. and fully paid for surface mail would be sent by air. How this criterion was applied evidently varied considerably until several years later when virtually all letter mail abroad was sent by air.
- The Swedish Postal History Society has the best reference for information on postage due markings. Much useful information can be found on its Web site: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~swesspd/>.

**Check Out Our Website!**  
**[www.scc-online.org](http://www.scc-online.org)**

# Wartime Mail from Finland via Diplomatic Pouch

by Roger G. Schnell, MD

The November 2001 *Posthorn* carried the article, "Swedish Wartime Undercover Addresses." This discussed schemes used to circumvent World War II mailing restrictions. A recent discovery has shed light on a further mechanism — the use of the U.S. diplomatic pouch.

The U.S. practice of sending important official correspondence, as well as diplomatic private mail, via the diplomatic pouch has been used since 1900. Typically, the mail carries the postage of the host country. This practice protects the postal revenues of that country. The U.S. Post Office Department began identifying "pouch" mail received from the Department of State in Washington, D.C. with special markings. These markings established that the mail was posted in the country indicated by the postage so that there would be no postage due charged for domestic onward transit.

Figure 1 was sent from Finland to the U.S. legation in Stockholm in a cover envelope. The letter addressed to New York's Rockefeller Plaza carried the return address of the U.S. legation in Stockholm. It was franked with four Finnish definitives (Facit 159 and 180) to pay the airmail rate to the U.S.A. A boxed marking "AM-M from F-C," which stands for "American Mail from Foreign Country," was applied in Stockholm.

When the pouch arrived at the State Department in Washington, the onionskin cover was transferred to the Post Office Department where the violet marking, "This article was originally mailed in country indicated by postage," was applied. The stamps were canceled May 2, 1944 in Washington. The letter then entered domestic mail service to New York.

While the diplomatic pouch was another method used to circumvent wartime postal restrictions, there was at least one more method — forwarded mail. I have a World War II business cover sent to Sweden and then re-addressed to occupied Norway. My Norwegian sources tell me that most of the mail sent to Sweden was hand-carried across the border into Norway rather than being forwarded. ■

(Editor's Note: Dr. Schnell's article, "Swedish Wartime Undercover Addresses," received the Frederick A. Brofos award as the best article published in *The Posthorn* in 2001.)

## References:

Roger G. Schnell, "Swedish Wartime Undercover Address," *The Posthorn*, November 2001, pages 3-12.  
Ravi Vora, "U.S. State Department Postal History: Diplomatic Pouch Markings," *Official Mail Journal* 7/8, Issue 3/4 1987, pages 3-19.



Figure 1. Letter franked with FIM 11.00. The rate was 3.5 FIM/20 gms surface + airmail surcharge 8 FIM = 11.50 FIM. Letter underfranked .50 FIM. Accessory marking directs mail "Via Pouch."

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# A Norwegian Revenue Tax Stamp Discovery

by Frederick A. Brofos

Walking around in Oslo recently, I was lucky enough to notice a little display of driving memorabilia in a small side window of a store at street level. A closer examination revealed that this was in connection with a driver or chauffeur school. Actually, it was the oldest one in town and was started by Rolf S. Eckblad in 1919. He was licensed by the Kristiania police authorities to teach how to operate motorcycles and cars with gasoline engines. Among the various papers and pictures affixed to the wall was an old driver's license ("Førerkort") from 1913, together with a photo of the owner.

I also saw an early speeding ticket, or rather notice of a fine, of 10 kroner due to the State Treasury. This was issued by the Oslo local police station at Frogner in 1911. The offense was "for driving in Bygdø Allé an automobile faster than a horse going at a fast trot." If not paid promptly, nine days of prison could also be imposed. This additional punishment could be extended by a diet of bread and water. So much for speeding in "the good old days."

As a collector, historian, and cataloger, however, I was particularly interested in three small metal disks nailed to the wall. They appeared to be receipts for the annual tax for the use of a motorcycle. The embossed design was inscribed "AVGIFTS MERKE," i.e., fee stamp, with the Norwegian crowned lion shield in the center and date at the side (Figure 1).

No denomination was shown and this may have varied over the years. Although other years probably existed, the ones seen by me were from 1927 (light brown), 1928 (dull green), and 1932 (reddish brown). The disks were about 75 mm in circumference and thinner than a U.S. 10-cent coin. Apparently made of tin, they were shiny on the inside, but painted on the outside with different colors to distinguish the years easily and to avoid rust. The disks were pierced by four small holes, apparently used for affixing purposes, perhaps by sewing onto a jacket or cap.

In my opinion, the disks were used to pay the tax fee by motorcycle owners. Maybe operators also carried a small driver's identity card with photo. However, the disks would seem to have been too small to be seen on a car and too easily lost. Instead, a large numbered plate was affixed to the front and the back of the vehicle.

These plates had, at one time, in addition to numbers, distinguishing letters — A for Oslo, B for Østfold, C for Akershus, D for Headmark, and so on for other parts of the country. This system may have been changed later.

Just by chance, I had run across a long-forgotten category of Norwegian revenue taxation, hitherto unlisted in catalogs. Collecting metal stamps provides an interesting link between stamp and coin collecting. Of course, there have been the enclosed metal stamp curiosities from Tonga and the like. But have there ever been metal revenue stamps from anywhere? Yes, there comes to mind a lot of old British tax stamps used on parchment deeds, the stamp being held on by a strip of foil, before the whole thing received the embossing. Then there were certain U.S. tobacco revenues imprinted on foil wrappers. Furthermore, there were certain U.S. cotton tax stamps embossed on brass strips.

For a time, the U.S. also used numbered brass disks for the tax on motorcycles (from which the Norwegians may have borrowed the idea). I have seen the following: 1912 (Massachusetts), 1913 (Vermont), 1917 (New Hampshire) (Figure 2). All show the respective state crest and are scarce and collectible. Besides the four small holes for attaching, each disk had an additional metal loop at the top for a leather strap. ➤



Figure 1.

As they were considered part of the firm's history, I was unable to purchase one of the Norwegian disks. However, I was very grateful for a picture rubbing and to record the remarkable story for our readers. ■

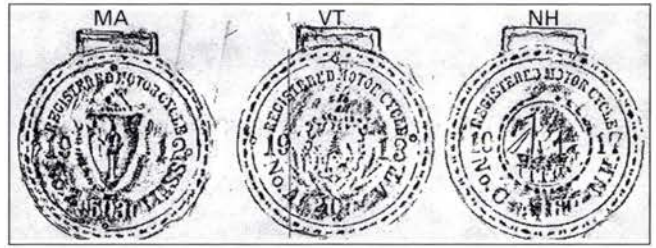


Figure 2.

## Flea Market Find May Be Greenland Revenue Tag

Toke Nørby found this interesting brass tag recently in a flea market in Denmark. For the present, I'm treating it as a "revenue stamp," since it has a clear 10 KRONER value stamped into the brass.



Of additional interest is the fact that "POLITIKREDS 55" (Police District 55) is located in Greenland. There are 54 numbered police districts in Denmark. No. 55 is in Greenland, and No. 56 is in The Faroes, according to a web page that was located on the Internet ([www.station2.dk/politi.html](http://www.station2.dk/politi.html)).

I think this is a dog license tag, although a prominent member of the International Society of Animal License Collectors tells me this would be the first Greenland tag known to him. The tag shows no evidence of having been curved to fit on a collar, and it is not the type to dangle from a dog collar.

Furthermore, there probably are so few "urban" dogs in Greenland that it may be for a sled dog — if for a dog at all.

What do you think this tag was meant for? Contact me at [pnels@att.net](mailto:pnels@att.net), or by snail mail to PO Box 310, Claremont, CA 91711-0310.

— Paul Nelson

## Facit 2001 Specialized for \$25

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# President's Letter

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John DuBois



The SCC National meeting was held at Philatelic Show '02 May 3-5, and SCC participation was outstanding. We entered 62 frames in the exhibit and came away with 12 medals, including 5 gold and 12 special awards! Our exhibits chairman, James Burgeson, did a great job of coordination. Chapter 5 members were gracious hosts. Congratulations to everyone involved. More news will be found in Alan Warren's report on the show in this *Posthorn*.

Our bi-annual elections are coming up this fall; all officers and three directors are up for election. Warren Pearse is chairman of the nominating committee and will have a slate of candidates for the ballot. However, please remember that our Bylaws encourage a Chapter or any group of five members to file additional nominations with the Secretary (Don Halpern) by September 1. The nominating committee may then select up to two nominees for each position.

I have had a number of interesting and helpful responses to my comments last issue about our "mystery" members who are not represented on local Chapter rolls. It seems that we do indeed reach these supporters through *The Posthorn*, but there just aren't that many *per state* when, as one correspondent pointed out, you divide the 550 number I used by 50 states. This yields only 11 per state, on average, and most of these simply live an inconvenient distance from Chapter meeting locations. Of course, large population states will have more than 11, but the lesson appears to be that Chapters in a fixed place will never be convenient for everyone. We will have to rely on our other services to reach these members: *The Posthorn*, individual circuit mailing of Mart books, and increasingly, our Internet-based facilities ([scc-online.org](http://scc-online.org) and the Cyber Chapter email mailing list).

Many members may not be aware of one of these services, the individual Mart circuits. Our Mart Manager, Eric Roberts, manages not only Chapter mailings of the Mart books but also individual circuit mailings. Presently, we have 11 individual circuits in operation. If you live in an area where regular Chapter attendance is difficult, contact Eric (see Officers' list) about getting on one of these individual circuits. These books are one of our most popular services, especially for new collectors.

Something we all tend to do for our friends in the hobby is help out — answer questions, try to identify odd material, offer pointers to literature, and so forth. George Kuhhorn, our membership chairman, has made this easier for members at some distance from other collectors with our "Helpers List" as described on page 32 of the February *Posthorn*. Check this out. George is coordinating a great service with this list.

## Recapping the 2001 Financials

Look at the 2001 financial statements published in this issue. New Treasurer James Clark has done an excellent job of reorganizing our books into numbered accounts. This new numbering scheme will make our record-keeping more precise and reduce confusion in referring to individual items.

The 2001 operating statement is unusual because of one-time NORDIA 01 payments. Early in the planning for NORDIA 01, the SCC agreed to provide seed money for the show with the understanding that our loans would be repaid if NORDIA's income exceeded expenses. Under the excellent leadership of Gordon Morison, that turned out to be the case. The 2001 loan amount is in line item 4550 and the overall repayment is in line item 3104. If these figures are subtracted, we had overall income of \$24,297 and expense of \$25,103 giving a small loss of \$806, which is typical of our operations for the last several years. Member dues made up 66 percent of the adjusted income, and *Posthorn* costs amounted to 58 percent of adjusted expense. I highlight these figures because it shows how member dues are essentially paying for publishing the journal. When (not if) ►

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*Posthorn* costs rise (we know that postal rates are going up this summer), we will inevitably have to look at an increase in dues.

### Chapters Take Note

A few words about Chapter Reports: The SCC Bylaws are dry reading and possibly have never been seen by most members, but they address Chapter Reports in a way that may be surprising. Section 5.1 of the Bylaws says, "Each chapter shall file a written report annually during the first quarter of the calendar year on a form furnished by the Vice President of Chapters in December of the preceding year, setting forth such information as the Board may reasonably require." Section 6 goes on to say that a Chapter may be suspended if the report is not received, or it is not responsive to requirements.

This bit of the Bylaws has been forgotten for quite a few years and has mutated informally into the quarterly publication of the "Chapter Reports" column in *The Posthorn*. It doesn't seem necessary to me that we change either the Bylaws or current custom. However, I would like to see our Chapters regard their quarterly activity reports to the VP of Chapters more seriously. Some of the reports are regular and excellent, but most of our active Chapters push them off to the last minute or neglect them entirely. We're not about to suspend any Chapter over this, but please make a special effort to elevate these reports to an important activity and tell us about planned future activities, as well as those in the past. The reports are read and they are the closest we have to a national newsletter.

### New Membership Incentives

Finally, the SCC is bucking the trend of philatelic organizations and publications to become smaller. We are maintaining a steady membership, but this is not good enough. We need to grow. A basic tool, right now, is the incentive program for enrollment — new members pay only \$12 dues for the first year, or signing up for three years provides the opportunity to purchase a *Facit* catalog for only \$25.

As an incentive for our Chapters to sign up new members to the SCC, I am announcing a contest, effective immediately and running through December 31, 2002. The Chapter that sponsors the most new member enrollments by the end of the year will become first on the distribution list for new Mart books through the year 2003. To qualify a new member, a chapter representative must simply forward the application to our Executive Secretary (Don Brent) along with a note identifying their sponsorship. Don will keep track of the totals. The results will be announced in the February *Posthorn*, but the "reward" will begin operating on January 1, 2003. In all likelihood, we will continue this contest indefinitely on an annual basis. ■

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## NORDIA 2002 Countdown

The countdown to NORDIA 2002 is under way as the October 10-13 exhibition approaches. This year's event will be held in the Gimlehallen of Kristiansand, Norway. Part of the celebration includes the 70th anniversary of the Kristiansand Filatelistklubb.

The exhibition will feature more than 900 frames of competitive exhibits and a bourse of 30 dealers and postal administrations.

Visit the show website for the latest information [www.kfk.no/nordia2002](http://www.kfk.no/nordia2002). A number of souvenir items that are for sale are described there, including various stamps and covers prepared for the event. SCC will hold a regional meeting during the show. ■





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# From the Editor's Stamp Den

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Paul Albright



There is any number of absorbing covers to share with other collectors. Outstanding covers reveal something concerning postal history, or they serve as a springboard to related topics (perhaps the sender, the recipient, or a topical theme), or they reflect a fragment of the historical circumstances that existed when the cover was created.

Sometimes collectors need help in interpreting the significance of covers, especially if there is a language barrier or unfamiliarity with postal rates, routes, or regulations at a given time. In order to provide that help, SCC Secretary Don Halpern suggested a regular "Cover Corner" section in *The Posthorn* where interesting and significant covers will be shown, described, and discussed. Ed Fraser made a similar proposal last year; their arguments have been persuasive.

Here is what Halpern proposed:

"I hope that each of you will find one cover, stamped or stampless, modern or classic, you would like to share with other SCC members in The Cover Corner. If you contact me by email or letter, we can prepare your cover for this slot. The covers will be selected because they are interesting, and the commentary will encourage other members to review their own holdings, or inspire them to begin to collect another aspect of Nordic philately. Look through your covers, take out your gems, photograph or scan them, and send your images and write-up to me."

You will find the first "Cover Corner" in this issue. Your comments are welcome; more important, contributions to "Cover Corner" are encouraged. Contact Don Halpern at PO Box 930, New Providence, NJ 07984-0930, or email halperndon@att.net. He is available to share his knowledge and interest and to work with other SCC members to advance Nordic collecting through a better understanding of Scandinavian covers.

Of course, contributors may continue to send their covers and all other philatelic offerings directly to me for consideration in *The Posthorn*.

\* \* \*

Change is sweeping through postal agencies in Scandinavia and some of that change is beginning to affect stamp collectors. In one recent development, Norway Post paid SEK 50 million to acquire 57 percent of CityMail of Sweden. There are plans for Norway Post to acquire the remaining 43 percent of the bulk mail distribution company in 2006. The decade-old CityMail of Sweden distributes commercial pre-sorted mail (called bulk mail in the U.S.) to about 40 percent of Sweden's households. Norway Post has about 25,000 employees now and plans to expand its stake in the Nordic market through acquisitions and alliances.



Postal authorities in Norway, Sweden, and Finland have been replacing hundreds of traditional post offices with contract stations that offer postal services that are more limited.

Sweden Posten claims it will open an astounding 3,100 new service outlets in 91 areas of the country by November. In justifying this dramatic shift in services, Sweden Posten claimed it will be "where the customers are" because, "Whereas Swedes only set foot in a post office an average of 1.8 times per year on routine postal errands, they grocery shop an average of 1.6 times per week."

At the same time, Sweden has begun pushing the delivery of commercial mail through its electronic ePostbox service. Electronic mail is free to the recipient with volume mailers, including banks and government agencies, charged about 2 kr per delivery, about 25 percent less than paper correspondence. Mail that doesn't fit an electronic address is delivered physically. A Finnish equivalent, Netposti, has been operating since January 2001. It reported 130,000 customers and 100 participating ►

companies, but is not yet profitable.

At the same time that Norway Post was expanding into Sweden, it was establishing its philatelic service as a separate business unit that now must pay postage, as does any private enterprise. For now, the philatelic service is not passing along those postage costs to its customers. However, it no longer publishes its customer magazine, *Frimerkeposten*, in languages other than Norwegian. A brochure in English and other languages has been substituted for non-Norwegian customers, who make up about 10 percent of the philatelic customers. Foreign customers may request the Norwegian language *Frimerkeposten*. Also ended was *Stempleinfo*, the published listing of Norway's special cancellations with about 1,000 subscribers. That information now is available on an expanded Internet site at [www.posten.no/frimerker](http://www.posten.no/frimerker).

Finland Posti, which in March dropped the traditional posthorn logo for a modern design of circles and dots, also abandoned something of particular interest to collectors. Semi-postal (charity) stamps no longer are being issued by Posti. A spokesperson told *The Posthorn* that there was little call for the semi-postal stamps because "customers are not willing to pay any surcharge nowadays and therefore they won't sell." The small contract kiosks don't want to handle charity stamps because of poor sales. "So the charity stamps are not very popular in Finland," according to the spokesperson.

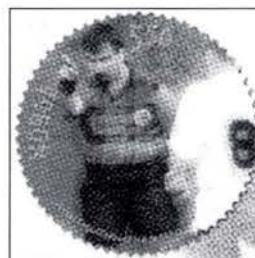


Some 155 semi-postal stamps have been issued since 1922 to raise funds for the Red Cross in Finland. Eleven semi-postal stamps were issued between 1991-1999 to promote philately in Finland. (See illustrations.)

In unveiling its new logo in March, Finland Posti reiterated its basic function to "reach the recipient, but the nature of the job has been altered markedly." Posti referred to electronic communications that generate "significant business opportunities" and concluded: "In addition to personal visits to the post office, postal business is more and more frequently managed by telephone and via the Internet."

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Did Norway knowingly issue an "error" stamp on April 12? Not according to the Norway Post philatelic service. The stamp was one of eight NOK 5.50 self-adhesives issued in booklets to commemorate the centenary of the Norwegian Football (soccer) Association. The questionable stamp shows a middle-aged, mustachioed soccer referee with a bit of a midriff bulge. When the 1997 photo was obtained for the stamp, Norway Post thought it showed 27-year-old Verdens Gang, a Norway Cup official from Ålesund. Before the booklet was released, however, it was learned that the photo was that of Peter Hertel of Brandenburg, Germany, who was amused and pleased to be shown on 1.3 million Norwegian stamps. The round-shaped stamps — a first for Norway — were issued on schedule despite the case of mistaken identity.



Putting a positive spin on an embarrassing situation, the Norway Post's press office: "It is very rare to be portrayed on a Norwegian stamp when you are still alive, and even more special when you are from a foreign country!"

Speaking of mix-ups, Sweden Post Stamps advertised Czeslaw Slania as the engraver of arts and crafts stamps issued jointly with New Zealand in May. It turns out, however, that Lars Sjöblom was the engraver. Sweden Posten told *The Posthorn* that any Slania collectors who acquired the stamps because of the incorrect information could obtain a refund. ■

## SCC Convention Highlights at Boxborough

An excellent convention was held at Philatelic Show in Boxborough, MA, May 3-5, and without doubt, much of the success was due to SCC-member involvement with the show. SCC Chapter 5 hosted the meeting and provided some of the key personnel on the show committee. The show's treasurer was SCC past president Wayne Rindone, and the program coordinator was SCC's current president John DuBois.

The *Posthorn* Committee met May 3 to review progress made with the new improvements to the journal. Plans are under way to introduce color next year.

James Burgeson presented a program on "Swedish Inland Letter Rates 1872-1972" before the SCC dinner was held at the Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History at St. Regis College in Weston, MA. SCC Chapter 5 made arrangements and provided some interesting door prizes.

Museum Curator George Norton provided a tour of the library and exhibit galleries. Portions of the museum's Scandinavian exhibits were on display in the meeting room. John DuBois announced that Roger Schnell won the Frederick A. Brofos Award for the best article in the 2001 issues of *The Posthorn* and the John Siverts award for the best single frame exhibit of Scandinavian material at the show. (See article elsewhere in this issue on Schnell's Brofos Award.)

SCC activity on May 4 began with a board of directors meeting that included a review of dues (no increase this year), last year's financial report, future convention sites, participation in NORDIA, open committee positions, and other matters. Later, the general membership meeting included reports by President John DuBois on the status of the club and the earlier board meeting. Secretary Don Halpern then gave a talk on early mail from Scandinavia that transited the post offices in Germany during the 18th and early 19th centuries.

It was announced at the Cyber Chapter meeting that the electronic format of distribution would be changed in the near future to a 'forum' or mailing list. This will enable submissions to go out to members almost as soon as they are sent in.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped at the SCC table throughout the show. Five new members were signed up, including two from Norway. Harald Tysland specializes in the *Posthorn* issues of his country, and Hans Solbakken is an auctioneer.

Members are now looking forward to a regional meeting at SANDICAL in San Diego in January 2003 and the next national convention at Minnesota Stamp Expo in Minneapolis next July.

— Alan Warren

## John DuBois Wins SCC Bowl at Boxborough

SCC President John DuBois walked off with a gold award, the American Philatelic Congress Award, and SCC's Joanna Sliski Taylor Memorial Award bowl with his outstanding exhibit of "Danish West Indies Postal Stationery." The awards were presented at the Philatelic Show banquet May 4 in Boxborough, MA.

James Burgeson won a show gold, the SCC gold, and the APS pre-1900 award of excellence for "Sweden Ring Type 1872-1891." Jim Gaudet won a show gold, and an SCC silver for "Danish Advertising Booklets 1927-1934." Another show gold and SCC silver were awarded to Jeffrey Crown for "Faroe Island Post 1839-1952." A show gold, the Postal History Society medal, and an SCC bronze went to Don Halpern for "Swedish Foreign Mail Routes and Rates 1600-1868."

A show gold and another SCC bronze were taken by Stephen Kaplan for "Usage of the Ring Stationery of Finland 1891-1911." A show vermeil and an SCC bronze went to Alan Warren for "Denmark: The Frederik IX Issues 1948-1960 on First Day Covers." Harald Tysland of Norway won a vermeil for his "The *Posthorn* Issues of Norway 1893-1908." ►

A show silver and an AAPE medal of honor went to Jerome Kasper for "The Aerogrammes of Iceland," and another show silver went to Robert Lang for "Early Finland Commemoratives 1927-1946."

In the single frame class, a show silver and SCC's John Siverts Award were won by Roger Schnell for "Greenland: Wartime Mail Transit USA 1940-1945." John Stockson took a silver-bronze for "90 Years of Norway Postage 1766-1856," and a bronze award went to Leslie Nugent for "Norway's Stave Churches on Stamps." Tom Bergendahl also showed two exhibits in the single frame class: "An Overview of Norwegian Philately" and "A Variety of Norway Stampless Covers."

SCC past president Roger Quinby served on the show jury at Boxborough.

### Other Scandinavian Area Awards

At the APS winter show in Riverside, CA., Roger Quinby received a *prix d'honneur* in the single frame champion-of-champions competition for his "Russian Postal Cards Used in Finland." In the regular one-frame category at this show, Roger Schnell won a gold for "Greenland: War-Time Mail Transit USA 1940-1945." Frederick Dunn received a vermeil for "Faroe Islands Usages of the Danish Caravel Issues," and a silver-bronze went to Paul Nelson for "Scandinavian Revenues in Three Dimensions."

At the ARIPEX show in Tucson, Wilhelm Lambrecht received a vermeil for his "Denmark: Crown, Scepter, Sword Issue 1864-1870." Nan Butkovich received a silver along with an AAPE award of honor at the ROPEX show in Rochester, NY for her "The 1930 Parliamentary Millenary Issues of Iceland: The Hesshaimer Set." Arthur Zeitler won a vermeil in the single frame class at TEXPEX in Dallas for his "Kobenhavns Fodpost."

David Hill received a vermeil in the single frame category at COLOPEX for "Graf Zeppelin: The 1932 Iceland Flight." At the Garfield-Perry March Party in Cleveland, Stephen P. Kaplan took a gold along with the APS pre-1900 medal of excellence for his "Usages of the Ring Stationery of Finland 1891-1911."

— Alan Warren



Guy Dillaway, left, the exhibits and awards chairman for the (Boxborough) Philatelic Show, presents James Burgeson with one of several awards that the Swedish specialist received at SCC's annual meeting and show. (Photo by Don Halpern.)

### Brofos Award to Roger Schnell



Roger G. Schnell of Florida won the Frederick A. Brofos Award for the best article in the 2001 issues of *The Posthorn*. His winning article appeared in the November 2001 issue and is titled "Swedish Wartime Undercover Addresses: A Conduit for WW II Airmail Communications between USA and Finland."

SCC president John DuBois announced the honor during the SCC annual convention held at Philatelic Show in Boxborough, MA.

In his article, Schnell describes the use of addresses in Sweden that served as means of forwarding letters between the United States and Finland during World War II. After Germany declared war on Finland, airmail service between the U.S. and Finland was suspended. Since Sweden was adjacent to Finland and was a non-belligerent nation, it was a natural choice for mail routing.

Schnell describes clandestine addresses used in Sweden during this period. Using family correspondence to and from a Finnish diplomat in the U.S., Schnell tells the story of these undercover methods for communication. In this case, the mail from the U.S. was addressed to a family friend in Stockholm where the letters were forwarded to Lahti, Finland. (Editor's Note: See a follow-up article by Schnell in this issue.) ➤

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Schnell is a vice president of the American Philatelic Society and a former president of SCC and the American Philatelic Congress. He has collected, exhibited, and written about many aspects of Scandinavian stamps and postal history, and is a nationally and FIP-accredited judge.

The Brofos award is named for the former editor, secretary, and librarian of the Scandinavian Collectors Club, Frederick A. Brofos, a prolific philatelic author himself who has written hundreds of articles over a span of more than 50 years. He has received numerous awards from SCC, as well as from Norway's postal administration and philatelic federation.

— Alan Warren

## **SCC Web Site News** **<http://www.scc-online.org>**

The big news this quarter is the new cumulative index to *The Posthorn* covering the entire 59-year span from 1943 through November 2001. Check out the new Index link on the home page.

Organization into primary subject categories (Danish West Indies, Denmark through Sweden) is preserved from the index printed in 1984, and a new sorting by author has been added. As in the previous index, chapter news, literature reviews, election information, new issues, exhibitions, and similar articles have been omitted.

The subject and author categories are broken into sections to make on-screen reading more manageable. For those wishing to print the entire index, the files may be downloaded in Adobe PDF format.

The principal source for material before 1984 was the excellent index compiled by former *Posthorn* Editor Bob Gross and published as *Posthorn Supplement Volume 41, #2*, in May 1984.

For issues after 1984, indexing was performed from the tables of contents. A paragraph on technical details about how the index was constructed is included on the index page.

In other news, plans are underway to expand "On-Line Publications" into a major section. We will begin adding tutorial, "classic," and research papers from past *Posthorns* and SCC symposia. We also anticipate timely publication of complete philatelic book reviews on the Web with abstracts and occasional full-length reviews appearing in *The Posthorn* each quarter. The initial on-line digital publication, "Iceland Post Offices: Photos and Postmarks," received a favorable mention in the April 2002 *American Philatelist*.

— John DuBois

## **Library News**

This entry will focus on articles written about Iceland that can be found in the SCC library. The library has articles written in many languages, but I will mention a few written in English.

The first is on "Í Gildi" overprints used from 1902-1903. These articles, written by various authors between 1940-1955, describe why the overprint was used, the printing method, varieties of the overprint, and plating of each stamp. The illustrated articles discuss varieties such as misspellings, inverted overprints, and inverted watermarks.

G. J. Aukerman wrote "Foreign Port of Arrival Markings and Transit Markings on Icelandic Material" in 1967. It covers the period between 1880 and about 1940. The focus is mostly on British ports, since most shipping went through Britain. The article also mentions ports in other countries, indicating the rarity of markings.

The next article, "Icelandic 'Fishes' 1939-1945 Perforations," was written in 1962 by Ernest Wise. This is a short article listing and describing perforation varieties on the "fish" issue. The author describes the perforation down to the quarter perforation.

Next is "The Revenue Stamps (and other non-listed material) of Iceland" written by John Norton, Sr. This is a multi-part article about revenue stamps of Iceland. There is a scattering of ➤

illustrations and detail of some of the individual stamps. The article begins with a description of why and where the first revenue stamps of the world were used.

The final article I will mention is "The Post Office Locations in Iceland — A Philatelic Gazetteer" by Wayne Sommer. This article lists the names used by the Post Office — municipalities, towns, villages, individual homes, and landmarks. Individual homes and landmarks were often given names. The article lists locations, and it points out that some names do not translate well into English. (Editor's Note: Some of Sommer's research, with photographs, can be found on SCC's website, [www.scc-online.org](http://www.scc-online.org).)

This is a small sample of the articles contained at your SCC Library. For a listing of what is available, check <http://www.scc-online.org/library.htm>. Email suggestions for future Library reports to me at [aurora\\_80017@yahoo.com](mailto:aurora_80017@yahoo.com).

— Jim Kilbane

## Membership Statistics for the Fourth Quarter 2001

### New Members

3920 Dyck, Mark, 2901 Wascana Street, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4S 2G8 Canada  
3921 Martin, Phillip S., 3 Waconah Rd., Worcester, MA 01609-1725  
3922 Hasselfjall, Mikael, Bågskyttevägen 28, 564 34 Bankeryd, Sweden  
3923 Brett, James, 430 Jackson St., Walkerton, Ontario, N0G 2V0 Canada  
3924 Hopper, Eric, 30 Oxford Court, Fredericton, New Brunswick, E3B 2W8 Canada  
3925 Zirkle, Ben, 5319 Warbonnet Rd., Salem, VA 24153  
3926 Nelson, Mark P., 3753 King William Ct., St Charles, IL 60174  
3927 Fredlund, James D., 900 Delta St., Denver, CO 80221  
3928 Broms, Ray, DNP  
3929 Simonetti, Frank DNP  
3930 Tulet, Andre, 248 Prospect Pl., Brooklyn, NY 11238

### Change of Address

3639 Zatka, Mirko, 10615 Mersham Hill Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93311-3521  
1417 Omberg, Robert, 5 Infield Ct. S., Potomac, MD 20854  
2962 Bjork, Torbjorn, PO Box 550, Warner, NH 03278  
3106 Lacey, Dorothy H., 116 Fourth Ave #2, West Cape May, NJ 08204-1021  
2270 Montello, Larry, 447 W. 8th St. #110, Mesa, AZ 85201  
3454 von Stokirch, Hans, 7/3 Spero Ave. Mount Eliza, Vic. 3903 Australia  
3081 Smith, Gerald, 6125 N. Washtenaw Ave., Chicago, IL 60659  
1835 Davis, Larry R., 5330 Wong Drive #213, San Jose, CA 95136

### Reinstated

2457 Bednar, Leif  
1604 Seastedt, Norman C.  
3236 Denson, Ed

### Donations

3702 Levesque, Guy  
3572 Tigert, Thomas  
3141 Linder, Olaf

### Resigned

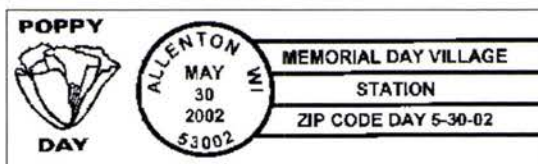
3439 Bewley, David  
2633 Monteith, Colin K. A.  
1187 Peterson, Roy  
1738 Rasmussen, Herbert A.  
2120 Bartlett, Russell C.

### Dropped for Non-payment of Dues

2611 Ander, David V.  
3799 Antoine, George X.  
3812 Bilodeau, Robert  
1929 Douglas, Fr. Marian  
2415 Ellerton, Dr. Norman V.  
3776 Ellingson, Paul S.  
3735 Holman, Gerald N.  
3424 Holmsten, Martin  
3428 Johnston, William W.  
1775 Ladenthin, Lawrence R.  
3613 Lofgren, Thore C.  
3365 Melberg, James K.  
3754 Miller, Robert M.  
3893 Newman, Alan  
3725 Nissen, Carl-Erik M.  
3507 Oeltjenbruns, Harlan  
3824 Olafsen, Astrid  
3828 Ozmun, Mike  
3779 Petursson, Sigurdur  
3880 Powell, Walter  
2336 Rose, Robert J.  
3664 Seiler, Hanspeter H.  
3231 Selehdar, Mrs. Randi  
3608 Shulman, David E.  
3263 Sprott, Douglas H. Jr.  
3879 Statman, Max  
3139 Taylor, Robert S.  
2342 Talbot, J.G. Richard  
3797 Tollan, Rev. John R.

## Special Cancel Honors SCC Stalwart

This special cancel from Allenton, WI serves as a symbolic memorial to W. E. Melberg, long-time librarian for SCC and a mentor to many collectors. "Doc" Melberg began the effort for the special "poppy day" cancel when he realized his hometown Zip code of **53002** coincided with the date for this year's Memorial Day — **5-30-02**. Melberg's family worked with the U.S. Postal Service to complete the project. ■



## Scandinavian Collectors Club 2001 Annual Financial Report

### ASSETS: April 1, 2002

Account	Description	Amount
1001	Citizen's general operating CD	\$ 60,000.00
1150	Citizen's Richter Fund CD	10,000.00
1100	California Credit Union	578.60
1120	Citizens Checking Acct.	11,551.28
1300	Stamp Mart Acct.	5,494.48
1350	Accounts Receivable	3,060.00

TOTAL ASSETS in 2000	\$ 82,979.77
Gain in 2001	\$ 7,704.59
TOTAL in 2001	\$ 90,684.36

### INCOME

Account	Description	Amount
3000	Membership Dues	\$ 16,099.38
3050	First Union CD Interest	2,278.95
3051	First Union Money Mkt	571.39
3054	Stamp Mart Interest	1,227.16
3101	Donations	424.00
3104	Nordia Repayment	11,011.12
3150	Posthorn Advertising	3,678.00
3300	Misc Income	18.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 35,308.00

### EXPENSES

Account	Description	Amount
4001	Executive Secy. Stipend	\$ 1,500.00
4002	Executive Secy. Expenses	942.88
4050	Library	500.00
4100	Awards	1,000.00
4101	Award Mailing	24.72
4151	Webmaster	500.00

#### Posthorn Expense

4250	Editor Stipend	1,500.00
4251	Production Editor Stipend	1,000.00
4252	Business Manager Stipend	250.00
4253	Printing	9,584.67
4254	Foreign distribution	642.45
4255	Domestic distribution	1,308.20
4256	Supplies	198.20
	Subtotal	\$ 14,483.52

4303	Nordic Federation Dinner	1,500.00
4400	Literature Promotion	201.97
4406	Membership Promotion (Facit Purchase)	3,000.00
4450	State License Fee	20.00
4500	Dues notice printing	330.00
4501	Dues notice mailing	600.32
4550	Nordia 2001 Contribution	2,500.00
4553	Grant to Scandinavian Philatelic Foundation	500.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 27,603.41
Net Increase in Funds	\$ 7,704.59

### RESEARCHER SEEKS HELP ON ICELAND STAMPS

Author and researcher Henry Regeling was presented with the KPK medal by the Kjøbenhavns Philatelist Klub during HAFNIA 01. Regeling was recognized for his persevering and comprehensive work and writing in the field of Nordic philately and especially Danish philately.

But Regeling is not resting on his laurels as a researcher and author. He is asking SCC members for some assistance on a new project. Here is the request he sent to *The Posthorn*:

"For a possible book on the 2 Kings stamps of Iceland, I need 125% copies of full sheets of all values. (I have the sheets of the museum in Denmark.) I will reimburse the copying and postage expenses." Contact: Henry Regeling, Bartoklaan106, 2102 ZH Heemstede, NETHERLANDS; telephone 0031-23.5288224. ■

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## Study Group Profile:

# Having Fun with Sweden Ring Stamps

by George Kuhhorn

“Have Fun with Rings!”

That’s the rally cry of collectors who participate in the Sweden Ring Study Group, now more than 20 years old.

James Burgeson started the concept of studying Sweden’s ring stamps in 1980. He led the group, wrote the articles, and printed and mailed the group’s newsletter until 1983. There were further newsletters in 1985 and 1986 under Arthur Anderson’s guidance. In 1992, I re-started the study group, writing regular columns in *Luren*, the last being in 1997. In recent years, death has taken two of our biggest contributors, Bob Paulson and Russell Anderson.

Group members have corresponded via the mails, met at shows, and now we are using email and the Internet. There are as many as 23 people who contribute, but not on every topic. We have several members in England, Sweden, and The Netherlands. Other SCC members are encouraged to join us.

The subjects we have covered are reported in previous issues of *The Posthorn* and *Luren*, which can be found in the SCC Library.

Currently, we have two studies under way (although all studies really are continuous) with the intention of adding to the information base on these interesting stamps. We are working on the v2 varieties of Sweden Facit 50 and 51. In addition, we are seeking more examples of No. 31 with the lower left chamfered corner and the bottom frame break approximately five perforations from the left side. The study group recently concluded a contest for which participant had the earliest cancel on No. 20 — the 6 öre, perf. 14 that was released on July 1, 1872.

Those interested in learning more about Sweden rings and participating in our study group may email me at [geokuhh@starfishnet.com](mailto:geokuhh@starfishnet.com), or by snail mail to George Kuhhorn, PO Box 4486, Emerald Isle, NC 28594.

As we say, “Have Fun with Rings!” ■



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## Sweden Rings Group Watching for Blue Dots

by George Kuhhorn



SCC’s Sweden Rings Study Group has launched a study of a variety of the 1889 provisional stamps that contain blue ink spots. These v2 of Sweden Facit 50 and 51 have the ink spots within the circle of the ring stamps.

In response to lowered domestic postage rates, 10 öre was overprinted onto 12 öre and 24 öre stamps. According to *Stamps of Sweden & Finland, the Early Issues*, a steel die with the 10 öre overprint was attached to a printing plate and “fixed together by ➤





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pins on a suitable base.”

“Occasionally one of the fixing pins stood up far enough to receive ink and print as a circle of color surrounded by a white ring,” (page 57).

Erik Blomberg’s *Ring Type Stamps, 1872-1892*, states that the spots “sometimes” are surrounded by a blurred white ring. This indicates that even spots without the white halo are valid v2 varieties.

Nearly two million of the 12-öre stamps were overprinted in shades of blue, and 200,000 of the 24-öre overprinted in orange, orange-yellow, and lemon-yellow. All were perforated 13.

So far, the blue spots have been reported at a number of positions on No. 50: 12 o’clock, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 6:00, 7:00, 9:00 and 10:00. Charles Usher submitted a No. 51 with a spot at 1 o’clock. I recently obtained a No. 51 at auction with spots at both 12:00 and 1:00, and I recently saw a No. 51 with a spot at 6:00. (See illustrations).

If you have any additions or have any of these spotted stamps, please contact me at [geokuhh@starfishnet.com](mailto:geokuhh@starfishnet.com) or snail mail George A. Kuhhorn, PO Box 4486, Emerald Isle, NC 28594. ■

(Author’s Note: Thanks to John Thomlinson, Charles Usher, and F. R. Ellwanger for contributing to this study.)

#### References:

Blomberg, Erik, *Ring Type Stamps, 1872-1892*, trans. By Sven Åhman, Scandinavian Philatelic Foundation, Thousand Oaks, CA, 1985.  
Wise, Ernest, *Stamps of Sweden and Finland: The Early Issues*, William Heinemann, London, 1975.



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## Norway’s Postal History: A Review

*Fra Svinesund til Haparanda...*, ed. Tor Østlund, Norwegian text, 7 x 9 1/2 inches, sewn, hardbound, illustrated, 184 pages, ISBN 82-996179-0-1, Norway Postal History Society, Oslo 2002. Approximately \$50 from Oddbjørn Solli, Bådebakken 22, 0467 Oslo, Norway.

The title derives from the two most distant transit offices from South to North, of interest to postal history collectors of Norway. This is the 25th anniversary book of the Norsk Posthistorisk Selskab (Norway Postal History Society) and contains nearly 20 chapters of contributions from a variety of authors.

Paul Jensen opens with a brief history of the society founded in 1977. The next chapters address many aspects of prestamp and early adhesive postal history, including foreign mail to Norway in the Napoleonic era, mail through Svinesund and Haparanda, postal connections between Denmark and Norway, and early 19th century sea mail. Harry Snarvold contributes information about accountancy markings in the 1858-1875 period.

Additional chapters describe the development of the different types of post offices in Norway, the 19th century local posts, railway mail, and World War II discussions concerning POW and other workers, censorship, and propaganda leaflets dropped over Norway during the war. One interesting chapter describes how to introduce youngsters to stamp collecting. Paul Jensen concludes the book with an overview of the evolution of postal history as an exhibiting class during the past 25 years.

The book is nicely printed with many black and white and color illustrations. Thanks to Paul Jensen for donating a copy of this fine book to the SCC Library.

— Alan Warren

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# Scandinavian Literature Notes

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*Alan Warren*

Russ Carter tells an unusual story of mail delivery in Iceland during World War II in the Winter 2002 issue of the *Military Postal History Society Bulletin*. The Commanding officer of the American unit at Camp Evans wanted provisions and mail delivered in time for Thanksgiving in 1943. The variable weather and the absence of a regular ship schedule seemed to thwart the effort, so it was decided to parachute the materials into the area.

Six crates of supplies were marked on a manifest and were parachuted into Milar airport, where the British recovered the materials and sent them on to Camp Evans, about nine miles away. However, unknown to the Brits, a mailbag was attached to one of the crates that was damaged on impact. The bag apparently went to sea and was found on a beach by an Icelander four months later. So, check your covers to Company D, 556th Signal Air Warning Battalion, and see if they look water-stained.

In recent years, Iceland Post, in conjunction with the Iceland philatelic federation, has published an occasional journal called *Frímerkjablaðið*. Unfortunately it does not appear to be clearly dated. Issue No. 3 appeared in 2000 and carries articles on Iceland ship's mail by Þór Þorsteins, and on airmail of Iceland 1928-1939 by Ólafur Elíasson, as well as a profile of one of the country's great philatelists Sigurður Pétursson. The following year, Issue No. 4 presents another profile of classic Iceland collector Indriði Pálsson, and another article by Elíasson, this time on mail salvaged from the sea.

The December issue of *Dansk Posthistorisk Tidsskrift* continues the series by E. Menne Larsen on the postal history of Slesvig 1848-1851. In the same issue Anker Block Rudbeck describes a German censor mark used in Sønderborg during 1944-1945.

*Scott Stamp Monthly* Editor Michael Baadke writes in the May issue about the short but interesting philatelic history of North Ingermanland, which is located along the Finland-Russian boundary. The article points out that there are many forgeries of Ingermanland's 1920 issues.

Writing in the February 8 issue of *Mekeel's & Stamps Magazine*, Swedish author Christer Brunström points out how certain well-centered town cancels on some early Swedish stamps attract high bids in auctions. The March 8 issue of *Mekeel's* carries an article by Paul Jackson showing two pre-stamp covers from Åland. In the February *Global Stamp News*, Brunström describes the recent Greenland set that depicts early essays of that country.

P. S. S. F. Marsden writes about Finland train cancellations in the February issue of *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, focusing on trains that linked up with the regular mail trains, but were known as postiljoonivaunut (Finnish) or postiljonskupeer (Swedish). The railway guards on these trains handled the mail and used special cancels.

## Modern Greenland Postal History

Under the above title, Kim Widén describes the different control marks used by Greenland post offices in the February issue of *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. These marks can be found on a variety of postal artifacts and generally are in horizontal format with the name of the Poststation, the date, and the postal code. The different types are described with period of use indicated. In the same issue, Erik Hvidberg and Lars Engelbrecht offer the second part of a series on postal stationery, defining the various forms such as local post postcard, air letter sheet, newspaper wrapper, and stamped envelopes.

In the March issue of *DFT*, Ib Krarup Rasmussen surveys usages of the 27-øre Christian X stamp issued in 1918. Hvidberg and Engelbrecht continue their series on postal stationery in this issue by describing various ways to collect this material, and Ib Eichner-Larsen publishes the second part of his discussion of the kayak post of Greenland.

In the April *DFT*, Bruno Nørdam presents a profile of Danish stamp designer Keith Bassford, ►

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who also designs stamps for England, Guernsey, and Gibraltar. Kim Widén continues the series on modern Greenland postal history with a discussion of “efterporto” or postage added or due for a variety of reasons.

The December 2001 issue of the Dutch journal *Het Noorderlicht* publishes H. C. van Meeningen’s article on the short time in the late 1930s that Sweden issued booklet stamps that yielded the BC and CB pairs. These are the pairs with stamps perforated both on three sides and four sides. In the same issue, Ton Steenbakkens reports on recent Svalbard postal history. Co-authors J. M. Vroom and G. Hendriks begin a series on the century-old dispute about the isthmus of Dannevirke in Schleswig. A second installment appears in the March 2002 issue. Also in the March issue, J.A. Konings looks at Norway’s famous post horn stamp design and a similar design used by Crete.

Sven Andersen continues with part 4 of his series on parcel post rates in the issue 1/2002 of *Info*, published by the Oslo Filatelistklubb.

In the December issue of *Scandinavian Contact*, Roger Partridge presents the second and concluding part on the postal history of Danish Naval officer Aage Vedel. In the same issue, Brian McCloy describes a temporary railway datestamp used in Finland in 1918. In the March issue, Brian Flack provides additional information on rates from Iceland to Germany just after WWII that supplements his book on Iceland rates. Brian Hague writes about a 1938 cover sent to a sailor on the Faroes fishing vessel “Vesturfarið,” which was lost at sea in 1942. Eric Keefe illustrates some of the Finnish “figure” cancels also known as cork or mute cancels.

## **Faroes and Norway Postal History**

Each issue of Postverk Føroya’s *News from the Faroes* includes some postal history background about different locations. The Issue 1/2002 discusses the postal history of Kvívík, and issue 2/2002 features the postal history of Gøta.

In the December issue of *NFF Varianten*, Tore Gjelsvik illustrates a blue, three-ring numeral cancel “306” of Trondheim, Norway, on a 4-skilling value from 1858. The March issue promotes the exhibition called ARCTICA 2002, which will be held in Tromsø, Norway, November 8-10.

The Norwegian Philatelic Federation publishes the journal *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. In the Issue 1/2002, Harry Snarvold illustrates markings found on mails passing through Hamburg in the early 1800s, and in Issue No. 2, Robert E. Bles and Knut Glaso offer articles on the Aalesund local post.

Michael Furnell, editor of England’s *Stamp Lover*, writes about two Nordic areas in the April issue. He describes some of Sweden’s new issues, pointing out that the world’s first engraved self-adhesive issue was the three fishes issue of August 2001. In the other article, Furnell tells about his trip to Iceland in 1999 and some of the stamps that were issued there.

In the December issue of *KPK’s Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, Henrik Mouritsen shows a spectacular parcel cover from Denmark to France, with Danish bicolor stamps and French revenues. Gordon Hughmark discusses the unusual “HB” handstamp that is found on covers to Denmark and Norway that passed through the Thurn and Taxis office in Hamburg from 1778-1806. In the March issue of this journal, Bent Møller tabulates plate flaws found on the 8-øre bicolor issue of Denmark.

In the March issue of *filatelisten* from Sweden, Fred Goldberg tells about the commemorative expedition marking the centennial of Otto Nordenskjöld’s trip to the Antarctic. Using the new issues that Sweden released for this event, Goldberg also served as postmaster on the ship and serviced covers. In the April issue, Helmuth Lavicka provides Part 5 of the series on Frama labels of the Nordic countries, this time about Finland.

In the February issue of *Bältespännaren*, published by back-of-the-book collectors, Åke Torkelstam discusses the Children’s Day stamps of Sweden. The February issue of *Philatelistische Nachrichten* from Germany has a second installment on the registered etiquettes or labels of Denmark. Rolf Dörnbach presents a nice overview of Iceland’s 1933 Hópflug Itala airmail issue. In the same issue, Jürgen Tiemer continues his series on the Norwegian Fieldposts with a discussion of Fieldpost No. 9 from 1910 to 1950. ■

# Transfers and Re-Entries

Alan Warren

A Finnish booklet issued on March 15, 2000 has captured the San Gabriele prize for religious philately. The four FIM 3.50 stamps were issued as part of the observance of a "Year of Hope for Finnish Christian Churches and Communities." Shown is a photo stamp of an infant being held over a baptismal font.

Finland is half way through its series of first class stamp booklets that center on the Gulf of Finland. The first booklet released last September features ship, shore, and underwater scenes from the gulf. The second booklet released April 15 has a marine research motif. The third booklet, to be released sometime in 2003, will show lighthouses, while the concluding booklet will depict shipwrecks.



Åland Post is consolidating some of its operations into a single building and has issued a €1.00 definitive to note that fact. Various offices are scattered across Mariehamn, but production and administrative functions are moving to a new terminal in the village of Sviby, close to Mariehamn's airport. The building's architect, Lars Bergh, also is the artist behind the new stamp. Åland's Philatelic Service will remain at Mariehamn's main post office.

## Nordic Names in the News

Nordic commissioners to the FIP show Philakorea 2002 in Seoul this August are Jørgen Jørgensen of Denmark, Risto-Matti Kauhanen of Finland, Ivar Sundsbø of Norway, and Hasse Brockenhuus von Löwenhielm of Sweden. Serving on the jury at this show is Börje Wallberg of Sweden and Toke Nørby and Knud Mohr of Denmark.

The late Victor E. Engstrom, past president of SCC, was placed in the American Philatelic Society's Hall of Fame. The announcement was made at AmeriStamp Expo, the APS winter show, in February. The great philatelists of the past have been so honored, and Engstrom now joins this distinguished group.

The distinguished speaker at the November meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society London was Peer Lorentzen, internationally recognized collector of classic Denmark. His subject was "Denmark 2 RBS 1851-1854." He and his son Mark presented a slide program showing die proofs, reconstructed plates, and wonderful usage, both internal and to foreign destinations.

Norway has established a new prize in mathematics said to be at the level of the Nobel Prizes. According to *Philatelia Chimica et Physica* (Winter 2002), the international prize is named for Norway's Niels Henrik Abel (1802-1829) and supported by \$23 million from the Norwegian government. An Abel prize was first proposed by King Oscar II in 1902 but dropped when the Norway-Sweden union dissolved in 1905. Despite living in poverty outside the mainstream of mathematics, Abel is credited with important contributions in several areas of mathematics. Norway commemorated the 200th anniversary of his birth with a NOK 5.50 stamp on June 5.



The Oslo Filatelistklubb has awarded the prestigious Anderssen/Dethloff medals to three outstanding philatelists: Arne J. Bay, Egil H. Thomassen, and Peer-Christian Anensen.

Earlier this year, the Postmuseum of Sweden featured a special exhibit arranged by Fred Goldberg and Stefan Heitz on the Nordenskjöld expedition to the Antarctic 1901-1903. Examples of mail to and from expedition members were included. ■

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# Chapter Reports

Walt Jellum, our Vice President for Chapters, is recuperating from a recent hospital visit. We wish him a speedy recovery and anticipate his return to duty for the next *Posthorn*. For this issue, John DuBois and Paul Albright have compiled the Chapter Reports.

## **CHICAGO Chapter 4**

Jerry Grimson reports a healthy and active membership with up to 33 in attendance at meetings. Their welcome mat is extended to those who live in the greater Chicagoland area and who have not yet joined them. Recent meetings have featured some excellent guest speakers. We have been treated to a world premiere slide show, *Aviation Chicago: 1910 to O'Hare*, which explored our city's role as an international transportation hub and its impact upon the mails of the nation. Other features have included Danish West Indies letters and the ever-popular Scandinavian mixture night and show and tell.

Every meeting, concluding at this year's COMPEX, we have been auctioning some of the late Doc Melberg's material. He was a collector of immensely eclectic tastes, and it has been a joy to be able to take part in these auctions. The winner of one of Doc's lots feels the personality of the man in every item; it is as if some of his character and taste rubs off with each cover, card, cancel, or piece of ephemera.

As a courtesy to new Chicagoland SCC members, Chapter 4 mails them, at our expense, our color newsletter, hoping to entice them to join us. However, if we don't hear from these individuals, we take them off the mailing list after about a year or so. We also hope to branch out and attract APS members with a Scandinavian interest.

## **NEW ENGLAND Chapter 5**

Chapter 5 was pleased to host the SCC National meeting during Philatelic Show '02 at Boxborough MA. Twenty-five members and friends attended the reception and dinner at the Spellman Museum. The Spellman shared some of their Scandinavian material in frames around the meeting room and curator George Norton gave an escorted tour of the museum. In May, the Chapter 5 meeting was merged with our National members' meeting where Don Halpern gave a fine talk on 19th Century Scandinavian mail through the post offices in Hamburg.

In June and July, we will return to our reviews of Library audio-visual material and ease back into some show and tell programs. Our meeting room at the Scandinavian Living Center has moved to the "private dining room" from the Library, giving us more space.

## **N. NEW JERSEY Chapter 9**

Warren Grosjean reports about five members attending monthly meetings at his house and those of other members. Paul Ostergaard is now the treasurer.

## **TWIN CITIES Chapter 14**

Ross Olson reports that the March meeting was canceled due to weather. The April meeting featured Sweden show-and-tell and May is scheduled for a program featuring miscellaneous Scandinavia.

## **GOLDEN GATE Chapter 21**

Herb Volin reports the March meeting was held at his house in Alameda with regular circuit books. The May meeting was scheduled early, April 27 at WESTPEX. Jack Day was scheduled to present and discuss examples of the Iceland Í Gildi issues.

## **BOB PAULSON Chapter 23**

January: After electing new officers for the year, member J. Ed Evan spoke about the history of Slovakia and told of his experiences on a recent visit there. February: Bob Lang showed slides of ➤

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Christmas seals issued to help victims of tuberculosis. Denmark first issued these seals in 1904. March: winter member Bob Lang introduced a slide show from Delaware Chapter 13, "The Philatelic History of Finland." April: The meeting was rescheduled for BAYPEX, the Clearwater Club Stamp Show. Early Swedish stamps were shown.

### **MANITOBA Chapter 24**

Roger Fontaine reported, via minutes, on the spring meetings. February was devoted to circuit books and vigorous trading after the business meeting. Robert Zacharias reported that a Slania exhibition would be coming to Winnipeg in October or November of 2002. In May, Zacharias arranged the slide show, "The Cancellation and Usages of the Skilling Issues, 1855-1875, Norway," written by Svend Yort.

### **COLORADO Chapter 27**

Chapter members have been looking at various slide shows and videotapes that are housed in the SCC Library. The chapter will take a break in July and August and resume regular meetings in September. Chairman Greg Frantz gave members a summer research assignment: (1) Where was Norway No. 1 printed, and (2) Why is one of the skilling values between Norway 2-5 a different size from the other values? Other SCC members are welcome to submit answers to new secretary Roger Cichorz, 3925 Longwood Ave., Boulder, CO 80305-7233, or email him at rcichorz@attbi.com.

### **CYBER CHAPTER 28:**

Ed Bode reports that the Cyber chapter now has 34 members on the email list. The regular list mailings are composed of email submissions from members compiled over 3-5 week periods and contain a discussion of topics and questions current to member activities. Photos are often included to illustrate points. A rare face-to-face meeting of Cyber Chapter members was held during the National meetings at Philatelic Show '02 in Boxborough. It was announced that, in the near future, the electronic format of the Cyber Chapter would be changing to a "forum" or moderated mailing list. The principal effect will be that submissions will be distributed almost at once, rather than saved up for a batch mailing. The mailing list facility will provide other improvements as well, such as on-line archives. Contact ebode@juno.com to join the list. ■

## **SCC CHAPTER 13 DELAWARE 36TH ANNUAL AUCTION**

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## **SCC Chapter Meeting & Contacts**

### **SCC WEBSITE: <http://www.scc-online.org>**

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. Higgins. CONTACT: Fred Bloedow, 810 Dobson St. #1A, Evanston, IL 60202-3969 or Ronald Collin, email: collinr@ameritech.net.
5. NEW ENGLAND: 1st Wed. at The Swedish Home, 206 Waltham St., W. Newton, MA at 7:30 in the private dining 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, email: grosjean@optonline.net.
11. REYKJAVÍK: 2nd Mon., 19:00, program 20:00, at Siðúmúli 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: Mark Manno, 123 Casho Mill Rd., Newark, DE 19711, or Alan Warren, email: alanwar@worldnet.att.net.
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: Jerry Winerman (818) 784-7277, or Paul Nelson, P. O. Box 310, Claremont, CA 91711, (909) 626-1764, email: pnels@worldnet.att.net.
21. GOLDEN GATE: Meets monthly on 1st Sat., mid-day at Herb Volin's house in Alameda, CA & at various shows (WESTPEX, PENPEX, SUNPEX, etc.). CONTACT: Herb Volin, sec./treas. (510) 523-3727 HRVolin@aol.com, or Jerry D. Moore, pres. (415) 492-0361 perfinhole@yahoo.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, email: drw63w@aol.com.
24. MANITOBA: 2nd & 4th Wed. at Scandinavian Cultural Centre, 764 Erin St. Winnipeg, MB 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., 3 PM 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. CO. CONTACT: Roger Cichorz, 3925 Longwood Ave., Boulder, CO 80305-7233, email: rcichorz@attbi.com.
28. CYBER: Members connected by email to exchange ideas & scans, plus an electronic newsletter. CONTACT: Edward L. Bode, email: edbode@juno.com.
29. COPENHAGEN: New Danish chapter. CONTACT: Toke Nørby: toke.norby@norbyhus.dk

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## The Scandinavian Collectors Club

Founded November 25, 1935

### Elected Officers

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

**Vice President:** Roger Fontaine, 177 Crestwood Cres., Winnipeg, MB, R2J 1H9, Canada;  
rfontain@ilos.net

**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:** James Clark, marbnk@aol.com

**Immediate Past President:** Roger Quinby, PO Box 738, Clifton Park, NY 12065; rpquinby@aol.com

**Directors:** Greg Frantz, 18314 E. Geddes Pl., Aurora, CO 80016-1608; gfcaptain@aol.com

John Knutsen, 11402 58th Ave. S.W., Tacoma, WA 98499; JAKNUTSEN@att.net

Jerry Moore, 615 Woodbine Dr., San Rafael, CA 94903; perfinhole@yahoo.com

Warren Pearse, 10450 Lottsford Road, #5005, Mitchelville, MD 20721; wpearse@aol.com

Stuart Silverberg, 701 Elm Circle, Golden CO 80401-5819; stustork@aol.com

Viggo Warmboe, 2740 Foxgate Dr., Minnetonka, MN, 55305; viggo@mn.rr.com

### Appointed Officers

**Executive Secretary:** Donald B. Brent, PO Box 13196, El Cajon, CA 92022; dbrent47@sprynet.com

**Historian:** Roberta Palen, PO Box 840, Loop Station, Chicago, IL 60690-0840

**Librarian:** Stuart Silverberg, 701 Elm Circle, Golden, CO 80401-5819; stustork@aol.com

**Stamp Mart Manager:** Eric Roberts, PO Box 460201, Houston, TX 77056; eric.roberts@halliburton.com

**Canadian Mart Manager:** Roger Fontaine, 177 Crestwood Cres., Winnipeg, MB, R2J 1H9, Canada; rfontain@ilos.net

**APS Representative:** Donald B. Brent, PO Box 13196, El Cajon, CA 92022; dbrent47@sprynet.com

**Publicity Chairman:** John Knutsen, 11402 58th Ave. S.W., Tacoma, WA 98499; JKNUTSEN@att.net

**Literature Promotion:** Alan Warren, PO Box 39, Exton, PA 19341-0039; alanwar@att.net

**Webmaster:** Toke Nørby, Vestervang 4035, DK-8000 Aarhus C, Denmark; toke.norby@norbyhus.dk

**Membership Chairman:** George A. Kuhhorn, PO Box 4486, Emerald Isle, NC 28594;  
geokuhh@starfishnet.com

**Exhibition Chairman:** James Burgeson, 2266 Kinclair Dr., Pasadena, CA 91107;  
jburgeson003@earthlink.net

### SCC Study Groups

**DWI:** John L. DuBois, c/o Thermalogic Corp., 22 Kane Industrial Dr., Hudson, MA 01749;  
jld@thlogic.com

**Sweden Ring:** George A. Kuhhorn, PO Box 4486, Emerald Isle, NC 28594; geokuhh@starfishnet.com

**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



## Robert Granville Stone, 1907-2002

Robert Stone, specialist in Danish West Indies and French philately, died February 1 at the age of 94. He authored the postal history volume of the original three-volume *Danish West Indies Mails 1754-1917* (1979), which has just been updated and reprinted. Stone also authored *A Caribbean Neptune* (1993), which documents the postal history of steamship mails in that part of the world during the latter part of the 19th century.

He edited the *France and Colonies Philatelist* (1964-1994) and authored a long series of articles on the designs of the pictorial issues of the French colonies that appeared in the *Essay Proof Journal*. He contributed many articles to such publications as *The Posthorn*, the *Postal History Journal*, *Collectors Club Philatelist*, the *American Philatelic Congress Book*, the *American Philatelist*, and others.

A meteorologist, Stone worked at the Blue Hill and Mt. Washington Observatories and then taught at New York University. He edited the bulletin of the American Meteorological Society for 25 years. He contributed to the *Encyclopedia Britannica* and for many years worked in the United States Air Force Air Weather Service.

He received the Scandinavian Collectors Club Earl Grant Jacobsen award in 1984 for philatelic research, the Lichtenstein award of the Collectors Club of New York in 1982, and the Luff Award of the APS in 1983 for distinguished philatelic research. In 1984 he signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. He was the first American to be named a corresponding member of the Académie de Philatélie of Paris.

— Alan Warren

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## Letter Rates in Sweden: A Review

*Brevportot i Sverige 1786-1830* (Letter Rates in Sweden 1786-1830), Lennart Ivarsson, 8 1/2 by 11 3/4 inches, hardbound, 508 pages, in Swedish. Postmuseum, Stockholm, 2000, ISBN 91-973472-1-3, approx. \$45.

This is a gorgeous book, well researched, printed, and bound. The author is a member of the SSPD (Swedish Postal History Society). Although the text is in Swedish, there is a one-page summary in English. A major portion of the book consists of rate tables so that the language is not a handicap. There are quite a few color illustrations of documents and covers in the introductory material.

The rate that domestic letters paid in the prestamp period of Sweden is usually not apparent from examining the front of the cover. With the tables in this book one can use the date of the letter or cancel, the destination, and any indication of weight as a means to determining the actual rate. The tables cover three periods, due to changes in the postal rates: 1786-1807, 1807-1818, and 1819-1830. The introductory section provides background for the prestamp period with discussions on charter numbers, official mail, postage due, registered mail, and other aspects of handling letters.

Each point of origin is listed alphabetically, but using the old spelling of the period. For example, Avesta was known at the time as Awestad. Under each town entry are the destination cities and their corresponding rates. Although the rates are mostly domestic, some rates are also shown to Bergen, Greifswald, Hamburg, Stalsund and other major nearby cities.

The book concludes with a list of information sources. However, Ivarsson obtained much of the content of this extraordinary book from various archives and original documents. Students of early Swedish postal history are indebted to the author for his research. The Stockholm Postmuseum has kindly donated a copy of this book to the SCC Library.

— Alan Warren

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