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Iceland's Graf Zeppelin Trial Prints

A planned visit to Iceland by the German airship Graf Zeppelin in 1931 prompted Iceland's postal authorities to order special overprints of the Christian X issue to mark the events. The overprints, reading "Zeppelin 1931," were intended for use only during the period of this airmail dispatch.

Before overprinting took place, it was the custom to do trial prints using different type fonts to achieve the desired appearance. From these trial prints, selections were made for the style to be overprinted. Only a few such trial prints have survived as authorities considered these nonessential for preservation in the archives.

About 1950, four different stamps from the Christian X issue of 1920 were found overprinted "Zeppelin 1931." According to information from the supervisor of the overprinting, the printers used single stamps for the trials and no trial stamps were handed out from the post offices.

Trial overprints were made on values that were not to be issued. The trials were made with different fonts and with black or brown ink on single stamps.

"Zeppelin 1931" was overprinted and issued on May 25, 1931 on 30-aur (1926 reprint), 1-krona (1931 reprint), and 2-krona (1930 reprint). The illustrations here show the 1-krona overprinted stamp (*Facit* Iceland 163) and two unissued trial prints on 1-eyr and 25-aur stamps.



— Þór Þorsteins

Reference:

Brandt, Don, *Exploring Iceland Through Its Stamps*, Iceland Review, Reykavík, 1991.

Jónsson, Jón A., *One Hundred Years of Icelandic Stamps, 1873-1973*, Post and Telecommunications Administration, Reykavík, 1977.



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The Story of Iceland's Worlds Fair Stamps

By Þór Þorsteins

A special series was authorized to help finance Iceland's participation in the New York Worlds Fair in 1939-1940. The cost of the exhibition was to be paid over two years based on equal contributions by individuals, institutions, and societies. Part of the cost was to be recovered by the sale of stamps and coins at the pavilion.

An exhibition council of 15 participants headed by a steering committee was appointed. The steering committee was headed by Vihjálmur Þór, who was assisted by Ragnar E. Kvaran and Haraldur Árnason. They were to implement the decisions of the exhibition council.

The Icelandic Post and Telegraph Agency agreed to three commemorative stamps for the fair, as well as a number of definitive values. Among the subjects considered for the commemorative stamps were the following:

1. A statue of Leif Ericson,
2. Leif Ericson at Vinland,
3. A statue of Þorfinnur Karlsefni,¹
4. A Viking ship,
5. A map showing the routes of Leif and Þorfinnur,
6. The Icelandic pavilion at the fair,
7. The Trylon and Perisphere at the fair,
8. The Icelandic flag.

Numbers 3, 5, 7, and 8 on the list were considered the best motifs for the fair stamps.

On February 25, 1939, Postmaster G. Hlíðdal instructed De la Rue & Co in London of the intended stamps, both commemoratives and definitives,² and that Árnason was his representative. He further indicated that Árnason was to transmit the printer's quotations to him and that the stamps were to be printed by April 1 or sooner. The Icelandic flag stamp (*Facit* Iceland 244) was retained on the list of stamps but dropped as a Worlds Fair issue.

On March 10, De la Rue submitted its printing estimate, which the postmaster found too high. Reduced quantities of three stamps were ordered and the same plate was to be used for two values (40 aur and 2 kr) of the Þorfinnur stamp, resulting in at least a 50 percent reduction in printing cost. At this time, the Post decided to drop a separate 40-aur Þorfinnur stamp and substitute the 40-aur geyser stamp that was issued May 10 as *Facit* 230.

Delivery of the Worlds Fair stamps was made via the "SS Manhattan" sailing from Southampton on April 20 bound for New York with the 20-, 35-, and 45-aur stamps. As is required, the Universal Postal Union was advised of the new issues, but was told that the 2-kr stamp was a definitive and not a Worlds Fair commemorative. Upon receipt of the balance of the shipment in Reykjavík, it was discovered that the 2-kr stamp bore the Worlds Fair lettering, which had not been intended. ►



Halldór Pétursson's original drawing for the 20-aur stamp.



Drawing by Halldór Pétursson for the 35-aur stamp.



Drawing by Halldór Pétursson for the 45-aur stamp.

The postmaster requested that the exhibition council return the incorrect 2-kr stamps from New York and that none of them should be sold. The council replied on May 15, indicating that stamp sales were going well and inquiring how many of the 2-kr stamps had been printed. They furthermore requested permission to sell this item.

The postmaster advised the Ministry of these developments and recommended that there be no change from what was advertised to the public and that a new definitive 2-kr stamp without the Worlds Fair wording must be ordered. He advised De la Rue of the serious error on their part and that a great shortage of definitive 2-kr stamps existed. One hundred thousand 2-kr stamps in the Þorfinnur design were ordered. The printing house responded on May 31 regretting the mistake and agreeing to absorb the costs for this additional printing.

Late in July, the stamp column of the New York *Herald Tribune* newspaper reported that Iceland had issued a stamp without advertising it. The exhibition authorities reported to the postmaster that they had knowledge of the sale of 2-kr Worlds Fair stamps. They advised the postmaster that in their opinion the best course of action was to release the stamp and thus prevent speculation. The postmaster advised the ministry that 35 sheets of the 2-kr Worlds Fair stamps had been sold. There were reports that the stamps might have been sold as early as June 20.

The postmaster informed the Universal Postal Union on July 25 and dealers were informed that 75,000 stamps (changed to 50,000 the next day) would be issued.³ The Postal Service also advised De la Rue that it was prepared to pay for 50,000 of the 2-kr Worlds Fair stamps.

In December 1939 the Icelandic trade delegate, Vilhjálmur Þor, indicated that the government intended to participate in the Fair in 1940 and that 75,000 sets of three should be overprinted. Of this quantity, 10,000 were to remain in Iceland and 65,000 were to be sold at the fair.

The Postal Service reacted favorably to overprinting from 50,000 to 60,000 sets of three and 10,000 to 15,000 of the 2-kr stamp. The Postal Service further hoped that the public would accept this overprint of "1940" on each value.

On March 26, 1940 the Postal Service overprinted 60,000 sets of the 25, 35, and 45 aur stamps and 7,500 of the 2 kr. One-half of this quantity of the lower valued stamps was shipped to the fair along with 7,500 of the 2-kr stamp. The overprinted stamps were to go on sale in Iceland on May 11 and be valid for postage until the end of 1940.

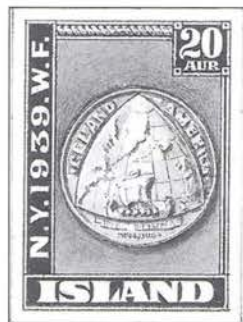
There was some discrepancy in either the number of 2-kr stamps that were overprinted or the amount shipped because on May 18, an additional 5,000 sets of the lower values and 1,000 of the 2 kr were shipped to New York. Because of confirmed orders for the stamp it was deemed sold out in Iceland.

Revenue from sale of the 1939 and 1940 issues in Iceland was used for a post office building fund.

Final tabulations reported that 75,000 sets of the lower values of the 1940 overprints and 24,500 of the 2-kr value were produced. Some 5,500 of the 2-kr value were destroyed in 1941. ■

(Author's Note: The basic information for this article was obtained from the records of Iceland Post and the De la Rue printing firm. Part of this article appeared in the NORDIA 1996 exhibition catalog.)

(Editor's Note: SCC's former Treasurer, Howard Schloss, who specializes in the philately and the history of the 1939-40 New York Worlds Fair, assisted with editing this article.) ►



Imperforate proof, with frame design by Árni Sveinbjörnsson and illustration by Halldór Pétursson. Some changes made before printing.



The 2-kr stamp printed and sold in error.

References:

Brandt, Don, *Exploring Iceland Through Its Stamps*, Iceland Review, Reykjavík, 1991.

Jónsson, Jón A., *One Hundred Years of Icelandic Stamps, 1873-1973*, Post and Telecommunications Administration, Reykjavík, 1977.

¹ Þorfinnur Karlsefni was an Icelandic merchant who led a party of settlers to the New World in 1004 with the intention of permanent settlement. During their stay, his wife bore a child — the first European descendant born in North America. Unfortunately, flintlock weapons were not yet available and the natives were unfriendly. The Vikings were forced to leave in 1007. It was not until 1587, almost 600 years later, that Virginia Dare became the first child born to English parents in the New World. Virginia Dare and her parents are shown on a 1937 commemorative, *Scott U.S. 796*.

² A commemorative stamp is issued for a special occasion. A definitive stamp is intended for more extended use and may be reissued.

³ Compare *Facit* Iceland 255, *Scott* Iceland 216, and *Facit* 260 and *Scott* 229.



Icelandic First Day Covers at the New York Worlds Fair

By Howard Schloss

The first day covers for the 1939 Icelandic stamp appeared on April 30, the opening day of the Worlds Fair.

The cover shown in Figure 1 was prepared by Ludwig W. Staehle for Jacques Minkus, who operated a philatelic concession in Gimbel's Department Store in New York. Not many cacheted first day covers exist since they were not particularly popular among conventional stamp collectors of the period. The cover, sold by Gimbels for \$0.50, does not contain a 2-kr stamp since its issuance was unintended as is carefully explained in the accompanying article by Þór Þorsteins

Figure 1.



Icelandic overprint of 1940, which was issued on May 11, 1940, the first day of the Fair in 1940. A return address on Figure 2 indicates J. Wahlgren of Sweden, who may have designed this cover.

Unknown to the Icelandic planners, the British Army had scheduled an invasion of Iceland for May 10. This was intended to forestall German occupation of strategic Iceland, which would have been disastrous for the Allies.

Many of the 1940 FDCs were held in Reykjavík and bear backstamps of Liverpool, England on December 1, 1940. Some of the covers bear censor strips while others do not. From Liverpool, the covers followed normal wartime routing to their destinations.

I am indebted to Alan Warren for a photocopy of a cover to Sutton Coldfield in England, which was censored and arrived May 23, 1940. It is not known how many covers were dispatched this soon. ■

Reference:

Gimbels Stamp News, Vol. 2, No. 5, May 1940.

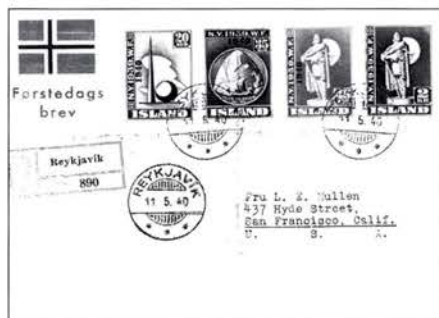


Figure 2.



Iceland's þrír Overprints of 1897

By Indriði Pálsson

(Translated by Don Brandt from *Frímerkjablaðið*, No. 5, 2001)



The domestic (inland) printed matter postal rate in Iceland during 1897 was 3 aurar up to 10 kvint, or 50 grams.

The supply of 3 aurar stamps in the Reykjavík post office was exhausted by the end of October 1897, with stock renewal from Denmark not expected to arrive until late in November. Anticipating the shortage, postal authorities in Iceland had a quantity of 5 aurar stamps overprinted with 3 aurar. It is believed that some 136 sheets (13,600 stamps) received the overprint, although various people familiar with the case were of the opinion that a larger quantity may have been overprinted. All stamps overprinted bore a crown watermark.

Most of these stamps had a 12 3/4 perforation; an unknown quantity of perforation 14 x 13 1/2 (certainly very small) also received the overprint.

Stamps perforated 12 3/4 came from remaining stock of the first (1896) and second (1897) printing of the 5 aurar green, while the 14 x 13 1/2 perf derived from the second (1884) printing of the 5 aurar. All overprinting was accomplished in Reykjavík.

The intention of the postal authorities was probably to have one uniform overprinting on a perf 12 3/4 stamp, but things turned out differently and several types resulted. These can be divided into two main groups:

- A. At least 86 sheets received a two-step overprinting, first a numeral 3 in red and then the word þrír (three).
 - a) On the upper six rows of each sheet the numeral 3 is from a grotesque font and the letters of þrír are small.
 - b) On the lower four rows an antique font was used for the numeral and the overprinting letters are larger. ►



1



1 + 2

Some of the sheets were overprinted upside-down and a double overprint is known. These stamps were placed on sale at the Reykjavík post office beginning November 1, 1897.

- B. At least 50 sheets were overprinted only with the þrír.
- c) The upper six rows have small letters.
 - d) The lower four rows have larger letters.
- Stamps from this overprinting were placed on sale at the Reykjavík post office beginning November 3, 1897.

Almost all overprinted stamps of both types were sold in Reykjavík during the first days of November. The only known post office outside Reykjavík to receive any þrír overprints was Seyðisfjörður (in East Iceland), which got 12 sheets, and these were sold before the end of the year.

Variety of Forgeries

Needless to say, this temporary issue proved to be interesting immediately and the stamps were in demand by collectors. Because the number of stamps was small, the supply quickly disappeared. Some individuals, turned away at the post office, yielded to temptation and managed to forge the overprint in hopes of making a profit; most of the forgeries were poorly done, but some collectors were completely deceived and blindly bought the forged stamps.

The accompanying illustration shows the four genuine overprints, all mint stamps: (a) small þrír with 3; (b) large þrír with 3; (c) small þrír; (d) large þrír.

The most common forgeries of this well-known overprinting are listed below and all except number 3 are illustrated. (Captions of the illustrations are tied to the following numerical listing).

1. Overprinting on dark green 5 aurar stamp issued in 1898, after the legitimate overprinting was accomplished.
2. Overprinted þrír from small font atop numeral 3 from large antique font.
3. Overprinted þrír from large font atop numeral 3 from small arotesque font.
4. þrír incorrectly spelled, with letter “r” dotted rather than having Icelandic mark for long vowel.
5. Letter “þ” clearly from wrong font and made from two different letters.
6. All letters from wrong font, best distinguished by letter “r.” ➤



1 + 4



2



4 + 5



Double forgery, big overprint + 4



5 + 7.1



4 + 5 + 7.2



1 + 6



6

7. It is most likely that overprints have been forged when:
 - 7.1 date in hand cancellation pre-dates the legitimate overprint.
 - 7.2 date in hand cancellation is long after overprints were sold out at post office.

In the illustrations, more than one type of forgery appear on some of the stamps, as noted in the captions. ■

Reference:

Jónsson, Jón A., *One Hundred Years of Icelandic Stamps 1873-1973*, pages 197-243, Post and Telecommunications Administration, Reykjavík, 1977.

Weiergang, Valdemar and Yort, Svend, "The þrir Surcharges of Iceland," *The Posthorn*, Vol. 2, No. 4, October 1945.

(Editor's Note: Indriði Pálsson has studied Iceland's issues from 1870-1903 for many years and owns the foremost collection of stamps and covers from this period. Þór Þorsteins recommended this article for The Posthorn and arranged the translation and the illustrations.)

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Iceland Revisited by the Viking Hrafna-Flóki

By Sigurður H. Þorsteinsson

The settler who gave Iceland its name was the Norseman Hrafna-Flóki, who used three ravens for navigation assistance on his voyage of discovery.

In ancient times, navigation was done mainly by the stars, the moon, and the sun. Another method was placing a magnetic stone on a piece of wood and floating it in the water. Third, sailors took some birds, preferably ravens, on their long journeys.

In the *Landnáma*, (History of the Settlement), it tells how Flóki took three ravens with him to sea. When he let the first one go, it flew to the stern and pointed back to where they had come from. The second flew up in the air and came back to the ship. The third one flew astern of the ship and pointed to land. Hrafna is Icelandic for "ravens," and that nickname was tied forever to Flóki.

Flóki Vilgerðarson arrived on the eastern shore and sailed around to the western fjords. There, he walked up a high mountain, and saw another fjord full of ice. From this, he named the country Iceland. He found an abundance of fish in the sea, lakes, and rivers. He and his men kept fishing the rest of the summer, but they forgot to make hay for the cattle they brought. This led to their returning to Norway in the autumn. Some years later, he came back and settled in Fljót, north of Skagafjörður. By then, Ingolfur Arnarson and many others had already settled in Iceland.

Hrafna-Flóki's first appearance in Icelandic philately was in 1930. The motif of the 5-aurar stamp in the Millenium set shows a Viking ship under sail (*Facit* Iceland 174). The design was called, "The arrival of Hrafna-Flóki."

Now, Hrafna-Flóki is revisiting Icelandic philately again in the form of the illustrated sheetlet to be issued next March as part of the NORDIA 2003 observance. The sheetlet was drawn by Tryggvi T. Tryggvason, engraved by Martin Mörck of Sweden, and printed by the Austrian State Printing. The stamp in the sheetlet has a 250-kronur value, but is being sold for 300 kr.

NORDIA 2003 will be held at Kjarvalsstaðir (near Reykjavík), October 16-19, 2003. As NORDIA 2003 approaches there will also be a special coin-letter, with a special Flóki Vilgerðarson memorial coin and the Flóki sheetlet.

Other Icelandic stamps planned for 2003 are: January, 200th anniversary of the police and the fourth issue of summer flowers; March, Flóki and an Icelandic cow; April, centennial of the Free Church of Reykjavík and two booklets with island ferries; May, Europa issue and Icelandic poultry; September, birds and prize-winning designs by children 9-12 years old; October, reindeers and postage stamp day; and November, Christmas stamps and the third in a series on Icelandic Islands. ■





Commemorative Stamps for Iceland's New Republic

By Þór Þorsteins

History often shows how difficult it is to issue stamps within a narrow time-frame, especially during a period of political transition. One such case was the issue commemorating the founding of the Icelandic republic in 1944.

The start can be fixed at Feb. 10, 1944 with a discussion between Vilhjálmur Þór, the minister of communication, and Guðmundur Hlíðdal, director of the post and telegraph. At that time, it appeared the government considered it desirable to issue stamps on June 17 – the date set for the end of Iceland's union with Denmark and establishment of its own republic. It was decided to wait on the stamps until the Alþing (parliament) completed its discussions, which it did on February 25 by declaring the treaty terminated and ordering a plebiscite on the decision and a new constitution.

A March 21 letter from the Communication Ministry to Hlíðdal stated:

As it cannot be seen that any steps have been taken to have stamps printed, the Foreign Ministry has been requested to contact the Icelandic Embassy in London, to contact the printers Thomas De la Rue & Co. and ask confidentially whether the celebration stamps can be printed for the Post and with arrival in Iceland before 17 June.

The intention was to issue 5-10 different values with three motifs. If that was not possible, an attempt would be made for fewer values and only one motif. The embassy was requested to do its utmost to receive an agreement from the firm and, if refused, to try Bradbury Wilkins, which was printing all the bank notes for the National Bank.

The embassy in London answered March 28, saying the printers (De la Rue) could deliver the first stamps of the new republic before the end of May, but only one motif (a picture) in six values. The design had to arrive in England by April 3 at the latest. Also requested was the size of stamps, the highlights of the drawings, and the values.

The frame by Árni Sveinbjörnsson was immediately mailed to the embassy together with a photo of Jón Sigurðsson, who for many years had been a leader in Iceland's effort to gain more independence during the 1800s. The values, quantity, and colors were accepted by the government and cabled to the embassy on March 29.



Frame drawing by Sveinbjörnsson and photo of Sigurðsson pasted into the frame.



Two other proposals from Sveinbjörnsson, one with the queen of the mountains (a symbol for Iceland) and the other the old Icelandic coat of arms (gyrfalcon).

Competition Open while Design Underway

The director of the post and telegraph wrote a detailed letter March 31 to the ambassador in London requesting his help in ensuring the arrival of the stamps in Iceland by June 17 even though only a portion of the quantity might be available. He stated the stamps were to portray Sigurðsson and be the size of the Geysir (geyser) series issued from 1938 (*Facit* Iceland 227-236).

Technically, competition for the stamp's design was open until April 5. Because of the printer's deadline of April 3 for a design, it was decided to retain the Sigurðsson photo for the time being, as no other proposal existed. ➤



If a better proposal were received before April 5, notification would be cabled and the drawing sent by air immediately.

Owing to the shortage of time, it had not been possible to execute all details on the drawings of the stamps. The director requested the printers to closely examine and improve the frame as necessary. The letter also confirms the requested quantity, their colors, and that the embassy and the printers were to finalize the issue. Samples were requested as quickly as possible, without delaying the printing in any way.

The embassy handed the frame drawing and photo to the printer on April 4. The printers stated the next day that engraving must commence immediately (even though a new proposal might arrive) if delivery was to take place on schedule.

Promotion of the Issue

On April 12 there was an official announcement that the celebration stamp would be issued. The same day, the embassy was informed that the Sigurðsson photo would be used without change. Several received proposals were afterward returned to their authors.

The printers handed the embassy blackprints of 10, 25, and 50 aurar stamps on May 3 and requested confirmation of acceptance. Two days later there was a request that accent marks be added to the "u" and "i" in "júni" and the "o" in krónur. In the original drawing, there was no accent mark found on the name of Jón Sigurðsson. However, none of the related Icelandic documents refer to having Sigurðsson's name on the stamps. It is believed it was simply forgotten from the start.

On May 15, postal authorities confirmed receipt of the samples and asked if it would be possible, without delaying delivery, to make the shadows around Sigurðsson's head thinner, longer, and equal sideways and downward. The same day a request was made for an air shipment of part of the quantity during the first days of June. The request was for 50,000 pieces of each aur value and 25,000 of krónur. During World War II, no air transport existed for Iceland so the idea was to get the British Ministry to request the Royal Air Force to carry the stamps to Iceland.

On May 22, the post and telegraph renewed its request and asked cordially for an answer whether the changes on the photo were possible. Two days later an answer arrived that such a change would mean a long delay and that May delivery would be impossible.

The Icelandic Consul in Leith confirmed on June 5 to the printers that seven cases were on the way to Iceland by sea and expected to arrive within a week or so. On June 9, a cable was sent because the air shipment was missing. The embassy was asked to find out what happened and to influence a quick shipment. Iceland confirmed arrival of the sea shipment on June 12, but the air shipment still was missing then. It isn't known when the air shipment arrived.

On June 14, postal authorities handed newspapers copies of the commemorative stamps (*Facit* Iceland 268-273) together with a sample of special cancellation. And so it was possible to have the stamps ready for sale three days before the republic was established in þingvellir. ■

(Editor's Note: This article was adapted from the author's article in *Frímerkjablaðið*, No. 5, 2001; translation by the author.)

References:

- Brandt, Don. *Exploring Iceland Through Its Stamps*, Iceland Review, Reykjavík, 1991.
Jónsson, Jón A., *One Hundred Years of Icelandic Stamps, 1873-1973*, Post and Telecommunications Administration, Reykjavík, 1977.

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Essays for Greenland's First Postage Stamps Are Mostly Wishful Thinking

By Bruno Nørdam and William R. Benfield



Figure 1.

October 16, 2001 marked the long-awaited opening of HAFNIA 01, the World Philatelic Exhibition held in Copenhagen, Denmark. To commemorate the event, several countries, including Greenland, issued special stamps. Greenland's contribution was an attractive souvenir sheet containing three stamps with motifs featuring the "preliminary drafts for Greenland's first postage stamps." (Figure 1.) At least, that is what it says just to the right of the "Polar Bear" essay.

Unfortunately, this is mostly wishful thinking on the part of the Greenland Post Office. The three essays featured on this souvenir sheet are definitely not from Greenland and were never intended at any time to be stamps for Greenland.

To fully understand the situation, a short Greenland history lesson may be helpful. The United States recognized Danish sovereignty over Greenland in 1915 as part of the sale of the Danish West Indies. France, Italy, Japan, and England acknowledged Danish sovereignty in 1920. However, a conflict arose in 1921 when Norway refused to give written approval. By 1924, Norway was hunting and fishing in eastern Greenland and had established weather and telegraph stations.

In 1930, the Norwegian Government delegated police authority over East Greenland to some Norwegian citizens. One year later, the Norwegian flag was hoisted over MacKenzie Bay, and the area was proclaimed as occupied under the name "Land of Eric the Red." Denmark responded to this action on July 12, 1931 by summoning Norway to the International Court in The Hague. On the same day, Norway occupied additional areas in East Greenland. The legal proceeding in The Hague started on November 21, 1932. The conflict was resolved on February 7, 1933 when the court voted 12-2 in favor of confirming Danish sovereignty over Greenland.

Coincidental to the legal battle at The Hague, the Tegnerforbundet, a professional ►

organization of Danish artists and illustrators, organized a drive to generate interesting designs for new Danish postage stamps. In the November-December 1932 issue of *Tegneren*, the organization's official journal, the membership was encouraged to submit designs for new postage stamps in an effort to demonstrate that Danish artists had the ability to produce beautiful stamps. The membership responded to the challenge and at least 44 designs were received.

All 44 designs were reproduced in color in the January-February and March-April, 1933 issues of *Tegneren*. The so-called "Greenland essays" are in the top row of figure 2 marked "NORDLYS," the Danish word for the "Northern Lights." The 5-øre is printed in light green, the 10-øre in red, the 15-øre in blue, and the 25-øre in violet.

These four essays are generally thought to be the work of Harry Nielsen. This assumption is because Nielsen is known to have submitted a similar 30-øre essay in a 1937 *Berlingske Tidende* Design Competition. The four *Tegneren* essays from 1933, plus the single 30-øre essay from the 1937 competition, are occasionally offered as a set of essays from Greenland. There is an anecdotal story that the essays were rejected because of opposition in Greenland to stamps containing the word "Danmark." The story appears to be fanciful.

It can be stated with certainty that these five essays did not originate as a set, nor were they ever from Greenland.



Figure 2.



Figure 3.

Figure 3 shows the four 1933 designs. The 5-øre design features the Aurora Borealis; the 10-øre essay shows a seal's face just breaking the surface of the water; a polar bear is depicted on the 15-øre; and the 25-øre essay features a man wearing cold weather gear holding a "DANMARK" banner with his right hand and the Danish coat of arms with his left.

It is probably no accident that the 25-øre essay was not included in the Greenland set in 2001. The 25-øre design is obviously not a stamp from Greenland. It is a stamp from Denmark proclaiming Danish sovereignty over Greenland. This essay was clearly intended to applaud the International Court's decision that Greenland belonged to Denmark.

The large "DANMARK" with the small "Grønland" on each stamp makes it clear that Greenland is only the topic of the essay and not the source. These stamps were clearly intended to be Danish. They were never essays for Greenland postage stamps. ►



Figure 4.

The Harry Nielsen designs in Figure 4 won the third place prize of 500 kroner in the 1937 *Berlingske Tidende* competition. It is the 30-øre value from this group that is erroneously thought to be part of the so-called "Greenland essays" discussed earlier. It is assumed Nielsen privately produced these "sets" of five essays sometime after the 1937 competition. These "sets" are reported to be printed in black, reddish brown, brown, violet, blue, and green; the authors, however, are unable to confirm this information. ■

Danish West Indies

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1841 Cover from Copenhagen to London

By Don Halpern

This issue's cover was neither rare nor expensive. Dated Copenhagen, January 5, 1841, it was a letter to London. It was mailed January 11, and it reached Altona January 19. It was backstamped upon its arrival in London, January 25, 1841.

The cover (Figure 1) has two interesting features. First, there was a manuscript franco in the lower left corner, but it was charged one shilling and eight pence (1/8 in black, Figure 2) postage due. If it were fully prepaid, there would be a red paid marking. The second point that attracted me to this cover was the series of numbers across the top:

"13 5 29," as shown in Figure 3. I knew that the 29 (Rbs) marked in the upper right was the postage from Copenhagen to Altona. (Altona, located on the Elbe River, was a city in Holstein, a part of Denmark. It was a short mail carriage ride to Hamburg, which was a central postal clearing center with many foreign post offices.)



Figure 2. had expired. The 1/8 marking was the British packet rate with two pence going to the ship's captain. The cover is backstamped Kjobenhavn, Altona, and upon arrival in the U.K.

I also knew that the 13 (Rbs) in the upper left was the fee to carry the cover from the Danish post office in Altona to the ship moored in the Elbe. This was based on the 1836 Anglo-Danish treaty that stated that British and Danish mail would be sent via Altona to/from Hull in the U.K. on a no-accountancy basis (British fees were kept by England and Danish fees by Denmark). After 1846, the port of arrival was changed from Hull to London.

The 5 Rbs marking in the middle was a late fee charged in Copenhagen for a letter mailed within an hour after the receiving time for that post shipment

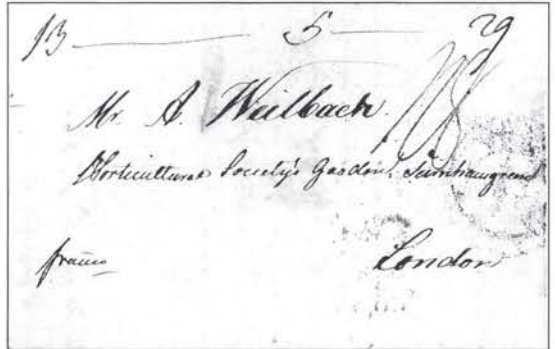


Figure 1.



Figure 3.

References:

- Hughmark, G.A. & Halpern, D.F. *Stampless Mail to and from Scandinavia to 1868*. Rosetta Stone Press, New Providence, NJ 07974, (1999) p. 136 ff.
Maintz, O. *Analyse af Danske Præfilatelistiske Breve*. A/S Robert Bechsgaard, Denmark, (1987) p. 72.

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“Eftertaxering” in Sweden

By Sören Andersson

The illustration shows a cover that recently appeared on eBay. It has an unusual purple handstamp on a letter from Malmö to Copenhagen. The handstamp relates to the postage stamp that was valid only for Swedish domestic use, and so was invalidated as shown by the UPU-mandated box that equals zero.

The almost-unreadable text on the upper part of the handstamp says *taxe perçue* (postage paid) and the name of the post office, probably MALMÖ BAN UTR. The cover was subjected to a routine called “eftertaxering” in Swedish. Instead of returning the cover for the proper postage or charging postage due in a “normal” manner from the addressee, a special card was mailed to the sender from the Malmö post office asking him to supply extra postage by franking the card and returning it to Malmö. In the meantime, the original item would have been forwarded without delay.

The *taxe perçue* wording may seem strange, but it is a message to the foreign post office that, though the item can seem underpaid at a first glance, they must regard it as fully paid. In this way, revenue for the letter is kept completely within Sweden.

I have not seen the rules for when the eftertaxering procedure was to be used instead of the traditional postage-due routines. Early 20th Century eftertaxering items are rare for normal international mail, but later they take a larger share of the unpaid items. Early items can be found for special mail, such as registered, insured, and money orders that are left at a window. In this case, the eftertaxering-card was sent to the originating postmaster, as he was partly or wholly responsible for the incorrect franking.

Well known are cards sent by a RPO clerk named Sjö Dahl in the late 1880s asking for 2 öre extra for foreign registered letters paid at the old 38-öre rate instead of the new rate of 40 öre.

There has been no good study made on these handstamps, and I do not know of any specialized collector of them. Nevertheless, they are interesting and worth keeping by collectors of Swedish material whenever found at a reasonable price.

(Editor’s Note: H. R. Volin assisted in writing this article.)



Norwegian Royal Visit to Iran

By Frederick A. Brofos



Two stamps were issued Jan. 7, 1965 to commemorate the state visit of Norway’s late King Olav V to Teheran, Iran.

Not often seen is the special First Day Cover, prepared locally in color, showing the Shah and the King (at right) together with their national flags and the Shah’s crown. The printers had a little difficulty producing the letter “Ø,” which was not in their alphabet. However, they were able to concoct a crude Swedish “Ö” instead. There was no special postmark used. The Iranians were not that far advanced in philatelic gimmickry.

A Centenary Stamp Properly Used

By James Burgeson

Facit Sweden 341 is a nice stamp to have on cover, and the one shown here is especially nice. It is a coil pair postmarked only three months after the stamp's release in July 1942. Usually, covers postmarked near the issuance date are best. It is also important that the rate is correctly paid, and this one is.

Checking reference documents (see below), we learn that the basic postage rate was 30 öre. Registration was an additional 20 öre. The premium for airmail is covered by the special wartime rate of 65 öre per five grams. This letter was evidently double weight, making the premium for airmail SEK 1.30 and making the total postage SEK 1.80 paid by the coil pair.

The 90-öre light blue and 10-öre red stamps were issued to mark the centennial of Sweden's elementary schools.



References:

Facit Postal VI, published by Facit Förlags AB, 1997, and *Flygporton 1920-1992* by Karin Svahn, published by Postmuseum, Stockholm, 1993.

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The Skilling Oscar Forgeries of Norway

By Frederick A. Brofos



Figure 1.



Figure 2.



Figure 7.
Genuine.



Figure 3.



Figure 4.



Figure 5.



Figure 6. Another 8-skilling old timer, close clipped, poor color, but quite a good head for a fake. Distance between circle to top and bottom frame is too wide.

Back in 1958, I wrote some articles about Norwegian forgeries for *The Posthorn*. The 8 skilling Oscar I (shown here as Figure 4) was among several old forgeries that I donated to the Norwegian Postal Museum where they are on permanent display.

My friend, the late Carl H. Werenskiöld, wrote an article in 1980 in *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift* about Norwegian forgeries, including most of the accompanying illustrations. It is rather surprising how crude some of the copies are, and maybe some were actually sold as “space fillers.”

I recently ran across in Norway yet another unknown “phantom” (Figure 5). Poor King Oscar has a strange “hollow-eyed” look. No wonder that the stamp’s denomination, both in figures and spelling, has been altogether left out!

The color is dark red, like the 8-skilling value, but the blue oval cancellation is a non-postal, private marking. The perforations are so small as to be unmeasurable. Nevertheless, I thought this discovery to be a very interesting addition to our “Old Timers Rogues’ Gallery.”

References:

Brofos, Frederick A., “Facsimiles and Forgeries of Norway,” *The Posthorn*, April 1958, Vol. 15, No. 2, and October 1958, Vol. 15, No. 2.

Sale of Greenland Overprints Finances Youth Center

The sale of 300 reversed overprints has helped finance a new community center building in the remote Greenland village of Qaanaaq. Ten sheets of the reversed overprints from 1996 were removed from the vaults of Post Greenland and sold to raise funds to help youth in Qaanaaq. (See *Posthorn*, February 2002, page 40, for background.)

In April, Thomas Høiland Auctions turned over a check for DKK 1 million (about \$133,000) to help finance the project that was initiated by Denmark’s Crown Prince Frederik. The auction house sold the stamps through auction and private sales. Post Greenland announced, “Inauguration of the new community center was scheduled for September.”

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Auction Marketplace

Frank Banke

Northland's auction of the Roger G. Schnell Grand Prix Gold Medal Collection of Danish West Indies in May created excitement among collectors. While the auction has dispersed this outstanding collection, it resulted in others having the chance to add some key items from a remarkable collection.

In the final minutes before the auction, I counted some 30 bidders and two U.S. agents in the room. At the conclusion, there were some surprises at both the high and low end of the ledger.

All prices quoted are the hammer prices to which must be added 15 percent buyers' premium.

The early Fleuron type cancels brought good prices. A St. Croix Fleuron lot (#15) went for \$5,250. St. Thomas small Fleuron lots (#13 #14) sold for \$4,750 and \$4,250 for good quality examples. Of the other foreign St. Thomas marks, the small green "St. Thomas" mark (#20) in beautiful condition sold for an amazing price of \$9,500, while the large green mark (#21) went for \$5,000, still a good price. A unique Spanish red line mark (#53) "S.Tomas" brought \$5,500, which is not expensive for this rare mark.

One must bear in mind that the quality of DWI material is mixed. One has to live with the quality as found. To illustrate, fine material from the many foreign post offices in St. Thomas went for moderate to high prices. In particular, a lot of Curacao/GB stamps (#37) sold for \$5,500 with a very fine appearance but affected by the tropical climate.

A registered C51 cover (#41) brought \$5,750, a high price, but there are only three or four known. A double-rate DWI/GB cover (#94) in acceptable quality sold for \$7,250 (see Figure 1), while another double-rate DWI/U.S. cover (#92) brought \$8,000. Although this cover had some extensive improvements, it is the only one known.

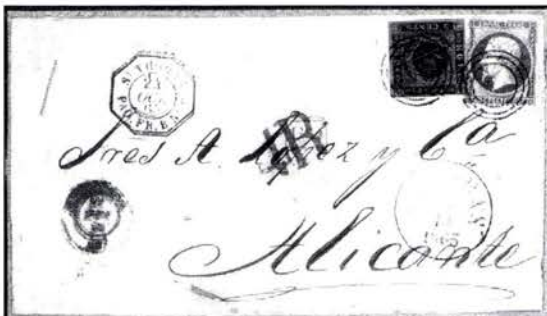


Figure 2. The first scheduled departure of CGT "Louisiane" carried this letter to Alicante, Spain, via France. The notation "4R" (center of cover) indicates the 4-reales charge from the French border to the addressee. Only known example of a first-issue DWI adhesive and a French adhesive used in combination.



Figure 1. Double-weight letter from Christiansted, posted August 27, 1871, and franked with two second issue DWI adhesives paying the local charge from St. Croix to St. Thomas. Deposited in the British P.O., St. Thomas, where a red circular St. Thomas CDS and a vertical "C51" duplex cancellation were applied. Departed St. Thomas on the Royal Mail Steamship "Nile" on August 29, 1871; arrived Plymouth, England, on September 10.

The fantastic 2¢ U.S. strip of five (#97) brought \$8,000 (estimated at \$4,000-\$5,000). The newly discovered combination cover DWI 3¢/French 80¢ (#80) found a buyer for only \$15,000, in my opinion one of the bargains in this auction for a top DWI item (see Figure 2). A mixed cover with Mexican/French stamps (#48) sold for \$4,750, which is a good price. Two fine HAPAG covers, one with GB stamps (#68), brought \$7,000 and the other with a U.S. stamp (#69) sold for \$10,500 (see Figure 3).

Danish West Indies' own stamps were a mixed affair. One cover with a spectacular strip of three (#76), only two of which are known in private hands, sold for \$18,000. Another cover with a single to Hawaii (#77) sold for \$17,000. These are reasonable prices for these important covers. ►

A cover with the 3¢ white gum (#70) sold for \$6,250, not a high price for a cover of which only few are known. The bargain, however, was the single franking to Düsseldorf, Germany (#79) that sold for only \$4,000.

The bicolor issues were quite popular, but here it seems that buyers were more concerned about quality. For example, Lots 125 and 126 sold for \$4,000 and \$2,300, whereas scarce and similar early special rate covers, e.g., #128, #129, and #134, sold for only \$900, \$1,400 and \$1,400. A cover with a late usage of the popular 14¢ stamp sold for \$12,000. This is the one of two known (#141). The finest cover in the sale in respect to quality (#112) was a rare 12¢ rate to Denmark franked with a strip of four of the 3¢ II printing. The cover went for \$525. Covers in this quality are extremely rare and must certainly have pleased the buyer.

The highflier, I think, was the "Metropolis" shipwreck cover to DWI (#102) that was featured in *The Posthorn* (February 2002, page 2). The 1878 cover started at \$200 and sold for \$1,200.

None of the top three items in this sale found buyers at the reserve amounts, but they surely were worth the estimates of \$50,000-\$75,000. These were the unique DWI 3¢ and 4¢ squared issue on cover to Dresden (#100), the cover with the bicolor 14¢ and 7¢ to Hamburg, (#140), and the Spanish D26 mark on cover (#39). These are at the top of DWI philately.

One may find it sad to see this collection sold and spread across the world. But it also enhances other collections and inspires other collectors to add to their own holdings from the enormous diversity of Danish West Indies philately. ■

(Editor's Note: Illustrations and captions provided courtesy of the *American Philatelist*, published by the American Philatelic Society.)

References:

- Schnell, Roger G., "Unusual Franking of the Danish West Indies," *American Philatelist*, June 2002, pps. 520-525.
 Banke, Frank, "Auction Marketplace," *The Posthorn*, February 2002, page 22.
 "DWI cover collection in Northland May auction," *Linn's Stamp News*, May 6, 2002, page 1.

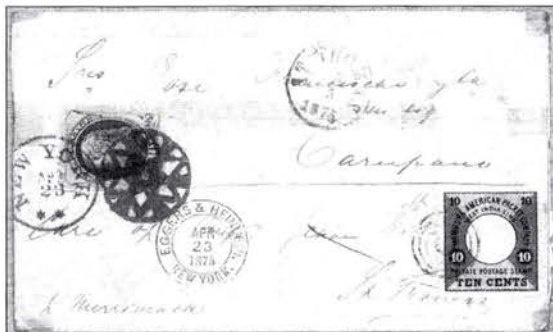


Figure 3. Letter from New York dated, April 23, 1875, sent on the U.S.-Brazil Mail Steamship Co.'s "Merrimac" to St. Thomas. There the letter was redirected to Carupano, Venezuela aboard the HAPAG steamer "Rhenania."

Nordic Postal Administrations on the Internet



- ÅLAND: <http://www.posten.aland.fi/>
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President's Letter

John DuBois

Summer is a traditionally slow season for philately as our attentions turn to vacations and family; this year is no exception. It would be a good idea, however, to begin planning now for next year's exhibits at the regional meeting at SANDICAL in January and the SCC national show at Minnesota Stamp Expo in July. As a committee member for the Philatelic Show in Boxborough, MA, I see that exhibitors too often put off their applications until it too late. A deadline three or four months ahead may seem unreasonable, but the time is really needed to give judges a chance to check out references and adequately study the exhibit subjects.



Slate Nominated for SCC Officers, Directors

As I mentioned in the last *Posthorn*, our bi-annual election is this fall. If there are no nominations received before September 1, beyond the slate put forward by the nominating committee — which means all candidates are unopposed — we will save the approximate \$1,000 cost of sending out a mail ballot by having the Secretary cast one vote for the candidates and therefore elect them. (This procedure is spelled out in the Bylaws Article VII, Section 4.5 and was used in the year 2000 election.)

The nominating committee's slate is **President, John DuBois; Vice President, Roger Fontaine; Treasurer, James Clark; Secretary, Don Halpern; Vice President for Chapters, Arnold Sorensen; Directors for four-year term, George Kuhhorn, Howard Schloss, Herb Volin.** (Directors whose terms expire this year are: Greg Frantz, Jerry Moore, and Warren Pearse. Directors whose terms expire in 2004, and therefore are not on the 2002 ballot are: John Knutsen, Stuart Silverberg, and Viggo Warmboe.)

Walt Jellum, our vice president for chapters, is recuperating from a hospital visit and has asked that we nominate a replacement for the fall elections. Arnold Sorensen has agreed to be nominated for this position. He was born in Denmark and has been a SCC member since 1963. His collecting interests have included Denmark and Greenland, but are now concentrated on DWI postal history. He and his wife enjoy traveling, even to stamp shows!

Looking Ahead to NORDIA

NORDIA 2002 will take place October 10-13 in Kristiansand, Norway. A few U.S. members will be exhibiting and attending. As many of you learned at NORDIA 2001 in Tucson, AZ last year, these shows are a focal point for interaction between our U.S. and Nordic collectors and dealers. If you haven't been to a NORDIA, I strongly urge you to consider attending these shows, which rotate among the Nordic countries. In 2003, NORDIA will be in Reykavik October 16-19. This is a closer destination for American and Canadian members, accessible by more modest airfare. Now would be a good time to start planning to attend NORDIA 2003 in Iceland.

It's Still "Buyer Beware!"

Online Internet purchase of material is becoming more significant to our hobby. The eBay auction site plays, perhaps, the biggest role in this activity. It is very important to remember, however, that the same concerns and precautions that apply to any commercial auction also apply to eBay. In particular, the practice of shill bidding can occur just as easily online as on an auction floor. One seller in Denmark has been the subject of complaints to eBay by one of our directors over apparent shill bidding. As of this writing, the seller is no longer registered on eBay. ■

From the Editor's Stamp Den

Paul Albright



The inquiry published on Page 30 from a self-described "comparatively new member of SCC" in Australia illustrates how networking and electronic communications is augmenting the resources of collectors and researchers at lightning speed.

When Ray Kelly's airmail letter of May 25 arrived in early June, I decided to publish his inquiry in this edition of *The Posthorn*. First, however, I emailed the request to two other members who I thought might have some knowledge of the matter, or would know experts in this field. I wanted to test the usefulness of responding to member requests through the expanding electronic linkages that are tying the world into a global community.

Both emails were answered the next day and the request forwarded to other collectors who are studying Danish postal stationery. Within 48 hours, I received information from six knowledgeable U.S. and Danish philatelists, one of whom pointed to additional information available on the Internet.

All of this information was compiled and airtailed to Australia since Kelly did not provide his own email address. Had he done so, the information would have been available to him weeks earlier.

Nevertheless, not everyone is online or known to those with similar philatelic interests and knowledge. I encourage other SCC members who read Kelly's inquiry to share their information to our member "Down Under." He has promised that "maybe one day when all my queries are resolved, I will send an article on the postal stationery essays."

When that article is published in *The Posthorn*, all SCC members will benefit.

* * *

Several members have voiced concern that we are off schedule in the production of *The Posthorn*. In most cases the May issue was not delivered until July. Receipt of this August issue is not going to be much better, I fear. Editorial, graphic production, printing, and distribution delays all play a part, but these are not offered as excuses. We are trying to get back on schedule for upcoming issues.

Members in the Southeast U.S., particularly North Carolina, experienced an extraordinary delay in the delivery of their May issue. A tractor-trailer truck hauling mail crashed into a creek and burned near Charlotte, NC on July 7, killing the driver. The U.S. Postal Service recovered some mail, delivering severely burned, water-soaked copies of *The Posthorn* to two members in North Carolina; another member did not receive his copy, which probably was destroyed in the wreck.

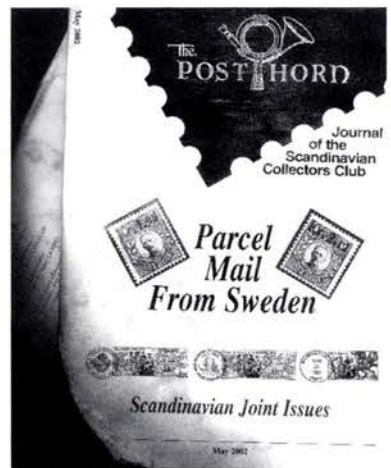
If your May issue did not arrive, or you received a damaged copy, please contact Executive Secretary Don Brent for a replacement copy.

* * *

Swedish voters may cast absentee ballots at approximately 1,450 Posten outlets in August and September. Posten has been handling absentee voting since 1942, with about one-third of the nation's votes cast in that manner in the three most recent elections. Rural voters may cast their ballots with 2,700 rural mail carriers, who are "qualified polling agents."

* * *

Our apologies to Finland's Heikke Pahlman for misspelling both his first and last name on Page 19 of the May issue. ■



Burned, water-damaged copy of *The Posthorn* received by George Kuhhorn.

News From The Home Office

Don Brent

Summer is the slow time of the year, philatelic-wise. Dues renewals will not come up for a few months and aside from inquiries and new member sign-ups, there is much less to do in the summer. This is a time I can spend working with my collection and catching up on chores in the office.

I also have a couple of other hobbies that keep me busy during the summer, one of which is land speed racing. I spend a couple of weeks every August racing on the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah. It is quite a change from stamp collecting and preparing exhibits.

Speaking of exhibits, I want to ask for your help in finding a cover(s) that I have been seeking for several years. I collect and exhibit Danish wavy-line stamps and stationery plus help coordinate the Danish Wavy Line study group. (Editor's Note: See profile on the study group in this issue.)

A couple of items have eluded me for some time. One is the usage of the first Danish postage due stamp. This is AFA Portomærker # 1, (Facit Denmark # L1, or Scott # J1). It should be an easy cover to find, but I have only been able to acquire two in the past few years. The stamp probably will be used in a multiple to make up an underfranked or redirected cover. The second is a cover from the Sept. 11, 1919 flight from Copenhagen to Aarhus with the GOLIATH cachet and franked with a wavy-line stamp.

If you have these covers, or see any in dealer stock, please let me know. I would appreciate any help.

Back to SCC business. There are a few Facit 2001 Special catalogs available if you would like to participate in the member incentive program. To take advantage of the offer, you need to extend your membership for three years ($\$15 \times 3 = \45) and purchase the Facit for \$25. The total will be \$70, which you can mail to SCC, P.O. Box 13196, El Cajon, CA 92022 (USA). We also have some SCC lapel pins for \$6 each (including shipping).

We gained 14 new members last quarter. Our membership is moving in a positive direction. I would like to welcome all new members and remind you that we are here to help you with any SCC-related matters. We are also open to suggestions for improving the club. ■



Membership Statistics for the Second Quarter 2002

New Members

- 3931 Usher, Charles A., 11 Helme Dr., Kendal, Cumbria, UK LA9 7JB
- 3932 Davis, Lee, 4108 Purdue Dr., Metairie, LA 70003
- 3933 Erickson, Lester E., 3470 Oak Dr., Kissimmee, FL 34746-3949
- 3934 Tillott, R. J., 11 Bracken Close, Copthorne, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 3QE England
- 3935 Starling, Dr. Scott, P.O. Box 33, Bexley, NSW, Australia 2207
- 3936 Hagstrom, Neal, DNP
- 3937 Quinn, James J., 44 Patricia Lane, Spruce Head, ME 04859
- 3938 Solbakken, Hans, PB 1775 Vikia, Oslo, Norway N-0122
- 3939 Tysland, Harald, Boks 2526, Drammen, Norway N-3003
- 3940 Hoel, David, 36 S. Battery, Charleston, SC 29401
- 3941 Searjeant, Robert L., P.O. Box 23942, Rochester, NY 14692
- 3942 Soerensen, Morten P., 174 Glorietta Blvd., Orinda, CA 94563
- 3943 Hanson, Dr. John D., 21690 SW 109th Terrace, Tualatin, OR 97062-6013
- 3944 Olson, Neal, 8380 E. Lk. Carlos Dr. N.E., Carlos, MN 56319

Deceased

- 1269 Benjamin, Richard K.
- 541GL Gummesson, Rolf
- 2907 Korn, Gerhard G.

Change of Address

- 1808 Glatt, Ellis, P.O. Box 80628, Las Vegas, NV 89180-0628



Author's Note: Most of the information mentioned below probably has been updated, or is in current books and catalogs. Nevertheless, these articles from 1952 add depth and perspective to the collector's philatelic knowledge.

A review of *The Posthorn* from a half-century ago yielded a few articles of interest. I will recap some of them by what I consider their order of importance to today's collector.

Continuing a treatise on the "Postal Markings and Cancellations of Finland, Part II" from the final 1951 issue, this article (April, Vol. 9, #2) focuses on the railroad cancels. The article includes historical text detailing how, when, and where these cancels were used and provides a listing devised by the author, George Wiborg. Since 1952, listings that are more complete have appeared in several catalogs.

Hans Windfeld-Hansen translated a two-part article by Egle Rathje about the "Danish Pre-Stamp Postal Cancellations" in the January and April issues (Vol. 9, #1&2). Part I of this extensive work discusses the evolution of postal markings and offices in Copenhagen from 1624. Among other things, it shows a diagram of the Main Post Office, identifying each of the 19 different sections handling mail. It also illustrates several of the earliest known cancels. Part II shows the results of a survey of the Copenhagen cancels before 1851, including Foot Post cancels.

In the October issue, (Vol. 9, #4), Sven Yort writes about the "First Postage Due Stamps of the DWI." This article discusses the types, printings, and varieties of this 1902 issue. It validates the belief that there were three different printings of the four values. I'm sure that most of this information can be found in current publications, much of it the result of work done by the SCC DWI Study Group.

The July issue (Vol. 9, #3) contains a one-page article by Doris Stericker highlighting a newly found "Broken Frame Variety on DWI Bicolored Stamps." The broken frame is found in the left margin, opposite the second highest bud on the ornament. The same variety can also be found on a number of Danish bicolored denominations.

Carl Werenskiöld discusses his plating studies on a reconstructed block of 16 of the "Norway 10 Øre Johnsen Issue" in the July Issue (Vol. 9, #3). This detailed study of Scott Norway 40 attempts to give the reader a methodology for classifying which printing and location on the plate for a particular stamp.

The October 1952 issue (Vol. 9, #4) makes note of the special cacheted covers authorized by the Norwegian Post Office in August 1949 for "Queen Maud Land, Antarctica's Newest Post Office." These were the only covers produced for the joint Norwegian-British-Swedish Polar Research Expedition that spent about two years in the Antarctic. The covers were postmarked in 1950 and 1951 at the expedition site, then backstamped "Oslo" upon their return on May 10, 1952 before being delivered to the addressees.

About 20 years after the first known Rockwell Kent Greenland Airmail Covers were flown, Lauson Stone writes about "A Rockwell Kent Forerunner" cover in the July issue (Vol. 9, #3). Unlike the expedition covers, this one is dated June 20 and bears an ink drawing of the woodcut used later to make the unofficial stamp. This cover was mailed to Godhavn in Greenland. Only one other similar cover is known, and it is unused and unaddressed.

The July 1952 Issue (Vol. 9 #3) announced that there would be 16 temporary post offices created to take care of mail at the forthcoming 1952 Olympic Games in Helsinki. Each post office will be identified by a capital letter at the bottom of the inner circle of the commemorative canceller.

If you are curious about 1950s technology for detecting watermarks, read Carl Werenskiöld's article in the October 1952 issue (Vol. 9, #4). The complicated apparatus and procedure are described in detail. These would be considered archaic by today's standards.

Photocopies of specific articles in *The Posthorn* are available from the SCC Library, c/o Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, 2038 S. Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224, or email SCC Librarian Stuart Silverberg at stustork@aol.com. Please send a minimum of \$1.00 for photocopying and postage costs. ■

Scandinavian Literature Notes

Alan Warren

SCC past president Roger Schnell described a handful of rare Danish West Indies covers in an article in the June issue of the *American Philatelist*. These 19th century pre-UPU items all bear the stamps of two or three countries or private entities and are known as combination covers. Some of the combinations shown include DWI and British stamps on one cover, stamps of the U.S. and Britain, DWI and France, Britain and HAPAG adhesives, Britain and Curaçao, and DWI with Dominican Republic issues, among others. (See: "Auction Marketplace" in this issue of *The Posthorn* for more information.)



Gordon Hughmark continues to provide new information on 18th century handstamp markings. He and David Cornelius have co-authored an article in the June issue of the *British journal Postal History* about the Hamburg Stadtpost "paid" handstamp mark of July 1855 on mails from the Baltic fleet. Only three letters are known with this rare marking, which appears to have been a provisional one until the Hamburg office could obtain a proper date stamp.

A Misdescribed Norway Rarity

Issue 4 of *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift (NFT)* reports the discovery of a first day cover of the 1931 Radium Hospital issue of Norway, bringing the total to three known FDCs of this stamp. The cover was recently described in an auction catalog only as a registered cover bearing two copies of the stamp sent from Oslo to Eidsvold, and brought a high bid of about \$20. *Norgeskatalogen* lists FDCs of this issue around \$2,500! In addition to the auctioneer not recognizing the cover's true value, the 2001 *Facit Special* catalog erroneously lists the first day as April 14. The Norwegian catalog states the stamps were delivered April 27 and the earliest known use is May 1, 1931, the cancellation date on the newly discovered FDC.

Issue No. 5 of *NFT* offers highlights of recent auctions by Engers and Germeten. In the same issue, stamp designer Hedvig Wright Østern describes her work in preparing the Norwegian orchid stamps of 1990 and 1992.

In the June issue of Denmark's *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, Lasse Nielsen compares revenue stamps and postage stamps printed during the skilling period. In the same issue, Danish postal historian Henrik Mouritsen describes an 1894 postal money order sent from Denmark to the United States.

The Fight Against Forgeries

The Association Internationale des Experts en Philatelie (AIEP) published the fifth in its series of collected articles, entitled *Fakes, Forgeries, Experts*. Using the 1930 Zeppelin overprint of Finland, Dieter Leder describes how to use a computer to scan the images of a genuine stamp and a suspected forgery, and then remove the background design so that only the overprint remains. After changing the color of one of the overprints, he uses the computer to superimpose one image over the other. Any discrepancies in size of letters/numerals or distance between them will be readily seen.

In the same issue, Carl Aage Møller illustrates covers and parcel cards of the Faroes, Greenland, and Denmark that have been altered by adding stamps and/or markings to inflate their value. At the end of this volume, some of the members of AIEP are listed with their specialty areas. Among them is Hans Enger of Norway whose specialty is forgeries of Norway stamps and cancels.

In issue No. 4 of Norway's *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, Ivar Sundsbø shows examples of counterfeit posthorn issues, often identified by forged perforations seen under magnification.

In the *Faroe Islands Study Circle Newsletter* No. 14 for August, Brian Hague offers some extracts from the official war diary of the Lovat Scouts, a regiment that served there from 1940 to 1942. In the study circle's major journal "238," Hague has written extensively on the wartime mails to and from British forces in the Faroes. For information about the study circle, contact Norman ➤

Hudson, 28 Enfield Rd., Ellesmere Port, Cheshire CH65 8BY, United Kingdom
(jntropics@hotmail.com).

The June issue of *Scandinavian Contact* from the U.K. carries Eric Keefe's discussion of stamps and postmarks related to the Olympic games held in Finland in the 1940s and 1950s, and Rob Willett presents the first part in a series on Danish railways and their postal markings. Accompanying the June issue is a separate index to Volumes 1-18, from 1953-2001.

The *COMPEX 2002 Directory* contains a nice profile of the late Willy Melberg, former SCC Librarian. On display in the SCC Chapter 4 exhibit area of the show were over 30 frames of Nordic material including "Something is Rotten in the State of Denmark" entered by Melberg's widow, Florence. This is a delightful look at various errors, flaws, and unintended varieties that her husband assembled over the years. Mrs. Melberg has an article in the directory about the collection.

New Swedish Journal

A new journal from Sweden for collectors, edited by Bo Grendal, appeared earlier this year. Issue No. 1 of *Skillingtrycket* includes some color illustrations. Esbjörn Janson illustrates a set of labels issued in 1918 promoting the Sagostunden musical band. Thomas Hernqvist discusses identification of various deliveries of some of Sweden's Arms type issues 1858-1872. Picture post cards are featured in several articles and a mail auction appears in this introductory issue. For information about the journal and subscriptions, contact Bo Grendal, Dragby, 74030 Björklinge, Sweden (bo.grendal@skillingtrycket.com).

In the May issue of Holland's *Het Noorderlicht*, H. C. van Meeningen provides a rate table for mail from Sweden with the changes that occurred between 1992 and 2002. Beginning this year, there is no longer a set of different rates for the Norden group of countries. The A-post and B-post rates to the other Nordic countries are the same as for the rest of Europe.

Of Interest to Schleswig Collectors

Schleswig collectors will be interested in several recent articles. The May issue of Holland's *Het Noorderlicht* contains the third and concluding part in the series by co-authors J. M. Vroom and G. Hendriks on the century-long quarrel over the Dannevirke. The April and June issues of Denmark's *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift*, continue E. Menne Larsen's running series on the postal history of Schleswig from 1848-1851. In the April issue of this Danish publication, Toke Nørby illustrates some military covers during the 1848-1849 period that were marked on the back with a cross in red crayon, and hence were postage free. Uffe Munch-Andersen provides the eighth part in his series on registered mail labels.

Writing in the May issue of *Philatelistische Nachrichten* from Germany, Thomas Kahlbom describes the handling of mail in Denmark from the letter box to the post office and/or mail center, then to the destination mail and distribution centers before delivery. He also illustrates recent postal markings including hand, machine, and roller markings from various post centers. In the same issue, Rolf Dörnbach tabulates 100 postal stations in Iceland showing their status and street address. In the journal's section on Sweden, Peter Loest discusses some of the fine points of the coil stamps issued by Sweden 1920-1938.

Tore Gjelsvik describes proofs of Norway's Oscar skilling issues in the June issue of *NFF-Varianten*. In the same issue, Tor Odd Braseth discusses the postal history of the Ogdal region.

Ian Robertson reviews the Norwegian training base in Ontario during World War II in the June 18 issue of *Canadian Stamp News*. The occasion of the recent visit by King Harald of Norway stimulated the article, which delves into details of Little Norway and the stamp issued with the slogan "Wings for Norway." Speaking of things Norwegian, the June issue of *Britain's Stamp Lover* contained a reprint of Frederick A. Brofos's article from *Luren* about the Sun Cross banner that was to be flown in Norway during the Nazi occupation in place of the ➤



Norwegian flag.

Helmuth Lavicka continues the series on FRAMA labels of the Nordic countries in the May issue of Sweden's *filatelisten*, this time focusing on those of Åland. The June issue of *filatelisten* summarizes activities of the Swedish Philatelic Federation's congress held in April in Värnamo.

Sven Andersen offers part 5 of a series of articles on the handling of parcel post in Norway in the Issue No. 2 of *Info* from the Oslo Filatelistklubb. And, finally, a business trip to Iceland inspired author Geir Sør-Reime to write an article about Iceland's history and its stamps in the July 19 issue of *Mekeel's & Stamps Magazine*. ■

"Dogged" Mystery Solved!

The "Greenland Revenue Tag" shown in May's *Posthorn* (page 28) turns out to be a dog tag after all, but probably not from Greenland. Our good friend Tøke Nørby contacted the Kort-og Matrikelstyrelsen (the new Geodætisk Institut name), which publishes excellent reference sources on Denmark.

In a 1957 publication, Police District 55 (now in Greenland) was listed in the main part of Denmark, specifically in the town of Nykøbing Mors. The tag shown in *The Posthorn* is from 1960.

A dog license collector in North Carolina confirmed for me that the tag is for a dog. He has examples from other police districts in the same approximate period. So, sometime between 1957 and the present, the police districts in Denmark were reorganized and Politikreds 55 was assigned to Greenland.

— Paul Nelson

Information, Please — Danish Postal Stationery Essays

(Editor's Note: The following inquiry was received from SCC Member Raymond J. Kelly in Australia. Members may contact him directly with any information. Also, see "From the Editor's Stamp Den" on Page 25 for a comment.)

"I collect Denmark Postal Stationery Postcards to 1926. Several years ago, I was fortunate to acquire a selection of Postcard Essays in varying colors, border designs, and paper stock. Most were endorsed on reverse 'R Friedl' or 'S Ringstrom, Trellborg, Museum for Filateli.' I am aware that S. Ringstrom wrote the authoritative publication *Helsager Ganzsachen Postal Stationery*.

My interest is to learn more of R Friedl and the Ringstrom Museum, and I write in the hope that member(s) may offer information. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated."

Contact: Ray Kelly, P.O. Box 7192, Gardenvale, Vic 3186, Australia

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Transfers and Re-Entries

Alan Warren

Part of the Swedish postal service's recognition of the 750th anniversary of the founding of Stockholm is a special exhibit at the Postmuseum on Queen Christina. The postal service was founded in 1636 during her reign. The exhibit features a display of letters that Christina wrote to her father, Gustav II Adolf, to other members of the royal family, and to Pope Alexander VII. The exhibit runs through January 12, 2003.



Greenland Post has a second airplane for the efficient handling of mails. The first plane, *Paartog*, was placed in service in July 2001 and proved very successful and economical. The second plane, *Anguarti*, provides better coverage within the country as well as improved mail service to Copenhagen.

For some years now, most European countries have had 1- or 2-letter symbols as part of their postal codes. The International Standards Organization (ISO) has now specified the abbreviation AX as the official postcode designation for Åland. If you want to subscribe to the country's new issues, stationery, phonecards, FDCs, and many other collectibles, write to Posten, Philatelic Service, P.O. Box 100, AX-22101 Mariehamn, Åland.

Awards & Competitions

The jury for NORDIA 2002, which takes place in Kristiansand, Norway October 10-13, is composed of Gunnar Dahlvig, Sweden; Olafur Elfasson, Iceland; Per Fabricius Jensen, Denmark; Eero Hellsten, Finland; and from Norway Per Kindem, Torbjørn Larsson-Fedde, Bjørn Myhre, Ivar Sundsbø, and Arne Thune-Larssen. Apprentice judges are Jaakko Ossa of Finland and Hallvard Slettebø of Norway.

Postverk Føroya, the philatelic office on the Faroe Islands (www.stamps.fo), received a three-star award in the latest Philatelic Web Site Competition conducted at PhilaKorea in Seoul by the Philatelic Computing Study Group. Only one Web site with Scandinavian ties was in the non-governmental category, but it did quite well. Named overall best Web site among the 31 entries was "Exploring the World of Czeslaw Slania's Engravings," which is a Danish site found at slania-stamps.school.dk.

Speaking of Slania, he has received two more honors, this time from Britain's Royal Mail (formerly Consignia). The Phillips Gold award is for outstanding contributions as a stamp designer, and the Rowland Hill award for his lifelong achievements as a stamp engraver.

The 25th anniversary celebration of the Norway Postal History Society attracted a veritable Who's Who of Norwegian philately. Some of the celebrants were Paul Jensen, Harry Snarvold, Ivar Sundsbø, Tor Østlund, Arne Bay, Arne Thune-Larsen, Bjørn Mugerud, John Torstad, Efrøn Rebolledo, and Finn Aune.

International Commissioners for the Bangkok FIP exhibition, being held October 4-13, 2003, include Frode Vesterby Knudsen of Denmark, Risto-Matti Kauhanen of Finland, Ingolf Kapelrud of Norway, and Borje Wallberg of Sweden. The Icelandic Philatelic Federation will represent Iceland with no personal commissioner selected.

Swedish postal historian Lennart Ivarsson received the Trelleborg Medal in literature from the Trelleborg Philatelic Society for his book on postal rates, *Brevportoi i Sverige 1786-1830*. The Swedish Philatelic Federation awards the Strandell medal from time to time to outstanding philatelists. The medal, which was established in 1961, was awarded this year to Roland Frahm and Hasse Brockenhuus von Löwenhielm. ■

Member Forum

Library News

The SCC library is located in the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library in Denver, Colorado. This all-volunteer regional library has developed over the past decade and now houses thousands of books, periodicals, auction catalogs, and audio-visual materials accessible through a computerized catalog. The facility is also home to a Western history book collection, a map/postal service room, and hosts numerous stamp club meetings, including SCC's Colorado Chapter 27.



The SCC Library is located in a separate but accessible room. Upon entering the SCC room the first thing that will catch your eye is a flag used from Denmark's Bornholm-Christiansen postal ship. Other things you will see are two Scandinavian postal uniform jackets, a desk set of flags of each Scandinavian nation, a few photographs from Scandinavia, and a sign declaring that "Columbus Had a Norwegian Map." Several members of Chapter 27 and the Rocky Mountain library were active in set-up and take-down of exhibits at NORDIA 2001 in Arizona; a banner from that exhibit is in the library.

The library contains hundreds of philatelic books and articles, as well as books describing life and travel in Scandinavia. There are a number of slide programs covering a wide range of topics. Periodicals abound, including a complete run of *The Posthorn*. There are specialized catalogs and some auction catalogs that feature Scandinavian material. Librarian Stuart Silverberg is constantly challenged to keep the collection organized, send out requested materials, and keep the library up to date. Take a moment to thank him for the job he has done.

The SCC has a fine library, which has benefited through the years from the generosity of many donors. We do receive some of the new books as they are published, which is a plus for the library. A big thank you should go to all those who have donated materials over the years.

For a listing of materials, check the library catalog at www.scc-online.org. For comments or requests, contact me at aurora_80017@yahoo.com.

— Jim Kilbane

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

During the last quarter, a new section with book (and catalog) reviews has been added to SCC's Web site. Look on the home page under "Recent Additions." The objective of this area is to allow more reviews than space allows in *The Posthorn* as well as catch up on some older items that never made it into print.

There have been a few requests for an exchange and sale section where SCC members could have listings of extra stock for sale or material wanted. It has been the policy for some time to make such listings available in *The Posthorn*, but our quarterly publication schedule makes this option less desirable. So, we will be setting up a "members exchange" page for classified type listings. All that will be necessary is an email to the Webmaster (jld@thlogic.com) containing the information. Listings will be restricted to SCC members exchanging their personal material. All matters of authenticity, privacy, and payment will be strictly up to the members.

— John DuBois

From The Membership Chairman

We have gained a number of new members in the past 18 months. As we grow, we know little of the needs of these new members, or, for that matter, the desires of our older members as well.

As membership chairman, I would like to help each member — new and old — to be satisfied with what the SCC has to offer. Only a few members have used our new “Helpers” list so far, but all reports have been more than satisfactory. We hope you too will use it and enjoy it.

I’ve had an idea to start a series of articles aimed at the general Scandinavian collector. Most articles in *The Posthorn* have been on specialized subjects. Please advise if this type of series would be of interest to you.

I have noticed that in the past our membership does not readily offer suggestions. Now is the time to write or email; let us know what we can do to be of service. Your officers have offered and will continue to offer the best society they can produce. Perhaps your suggestions will make our society even better than it is. Thank you!

I can be reached at George Kuhhorn, P.O. Box 4486, Emerald Isle, NC 28594, or email geokuhh@starfishnet.com.

— George Kuhhorn

The Danish Wavy-Line Study Group



This philatelic cover displays examples of the first issue.

expand on previous studies, others on overprint varieties, some with stationery printings, some on earliest known uses with different cancels, and still others working with the new engraved issues. We try to be an umbrella group to cover all areas related to the design and not just a few flyspeckers.

There are some excellent reference books on the subject. The foremost of these is N. F. Olsen's, *Danmarks Bogtrykte Bølgeliniermærker*. Unfortunately, this is out of print but copies become available occasionally. There are two currently available SAVA catalogs on the subject, one on the letterpress and the other on the engraved stamps. There is also some excellent information in the *AFA* and *Facit Specialized* catalogs that give a jumping off spot. The group has some reproductions of the basic figure in enlarged format and position mock-ups that are great for the flyspeckers. (Figure 2.) These are provided to the members on request.

Membership in the group is informal. All collectors with an interest in this area are encouraged to participate. Much of the interaction is on a personal basis with members sharing and seeking help in their area of research or ➤

The Danish Wavy-Line Study Group is a specialized unit of the Scandinavian Collectors Club that is formed around the study and sharing of information regarding the stamps and stationery using the wavy-line design. The basis came from Therschilsen's winning design of 1902 (Figure 1). It covers the surface printed stamps and stationery from 1905 through 1933 and their engraved partners from 1933 to the present day.

Members may be interested in the plate and printing varieties or usage. Some may be working on continuing to



Figure 1. The original artist drawing is in pen and ink. The artist signed it on the reverse.



study. Plans are to publish a newsletter a couple of times a year to introduce members and their area of study along with research results. There are no dues and contact among members is both on a personal and group basis, depending on the area of interest. To learn more or to join the group, write or email Don Brent, PO Box 13196, El Cajon, CA 92022, or dbrent47@sprynet.com.

— Don Brent

Figure 2. The study tool is used as a base for the design and then marked as varieties are found. There is no center because the value is separate from the design in the mother die.

Top APS Honor Goes to SCC's Alan Warren

Alan Warren, former SCC president and a veteran leader in a host of philatelic organizations, has received the highest recognition accorded by the American Philatelic Society (APS). Warren, a longtime contributor to *The Posthorn*, received the John Luff award for exceptional contributions to philately.



In addition to his regular articles in *The Posthorn*, Warren has written for more than 40 publications in the U.S. and abroad. He is active not only in SCC and the Scandinavian Philatelic Foundation but also in the American First Day Cover Society, American Philatelic Congress, American Society of Polar Philatelists, the Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle, the Military Postal History Society, the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition, and the APS Writers Unit. He was secretary for both NORDIA 2001 and INTERPHIL 76.

Warren also writes and lectures about and exhibits First Day Covers and is an accredited philatelic and literature judge. He and two other Luff award winners were honored by APS at STAMPSHOW 2002 in August.

SCC Calendar

	National	Regional*	Nordic
2002			NORDIA 2002* Oct 10-13 Kristiansand, Norway
2003	Minnesota Stamp Expo July 18-20 Crystal, MN	Sandical February 7-9 San Diego, CA	NORDIA 2003* October 16-19 Reykjavík, Iceland

* SCC Regional meetings will be planned in conjunction with NORDIA 2002 and 2003.

Chapter Reports

CHICAGO Chapter 4

Ron Collin reports that the Chapter 4 meeting place, the Golden Flame Restaurant, has been sold and will become a pharmacy. The chapter will be scrambling to find an acceptable and affordable meeting location. Use the Chapter meeting and contact list to determine future meeting places.

NEW ENGLAND Chapter 5

Chapter 5 continues working its way through the SCC's Library audio-visual material. Regular meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of August, September, October, and November in the "private dining room" of the Scandinavian Living Center. Our December meeting will be the customary dinner get-together at Grassfields Restaurant in Waltham; date to be announced.

NEW YORK Chapter 7

Carl Probst reports a new member, Andre Tulet, who is originally from Paris. The chapter is currently on vacation and will work out a season schedule in the fall.

REYKJAVÍK, Chapter 11

Owing to poor health among the leading members of the club and other circumstances, the program for last winter was not as active as had been expected. The youth work started in the autumn and flourished with good participation. The main difficulties were to get capable leaders and trainers for the weekly meetings. The program was somewhat less productive in the new year. The good thing is that the youth who participated were eager and ready to work, as they have been for more than 15 years. Club meetings included guests from Islandspostur plus some meetings regarding NORDIA 2003, which will be held in Reykjavík on Oct. 16-19, 2003. The General Commissioner for NORDIA 2003 will be the Secretary of the club. The club President will be organizer of frames and setup of the show. The president of the Icelandic Philatelic Federation, Gunnar Rafn Einarsson, is also a member of the club and president of NORDIA 2003.

DELAWARE Chapter 13

At the May meeting, Al Gruber presented a program about the Swedish inventor John Ericsson, discussing the 1926 U.S. commemorative stamp honoring him. Alan Warren showed a first day cover of that stamp that had been sent to Ericsson's birthplace in Sweden. At the June meeting, the results of the chapter mail auction were compiled. Chapter meetings will resume in September.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Chapter 17

Paul Nelson reports that Chapter 17 will continue to meet at a member's home on the first Wednesday of most months. The contact email or phone number listed under Chapter Contacts should be used to determine the exact time and place.

GOLDEN GATE Chapter 21

The chapter continues to meet at members' homes on the first Saturday of each month. Activities include stories and lies, circuit-book purchases, and slide shows. Email or telephone chapter contacts for more information.

BOB PAULSON Chapter 23

Chapter 23 reports a successful auction in May and a showing of the SCC library video on Iceland in June. July's activity was "stump the group," a new activity. Members brought in something they could not identify or wanted to puzzle the members with. Everyone enjoyed the exercise. Show and tell is planned for the next few meetings. ➤

MANITOBA Chapter 24

Robert Zacharias reports that club meetings will be resuming on September 25, at the Scandinavian Center. Since March, the chapter has gained three members, two of which found out about the chapter from the Internet. Upcoming topics for the fall include a talk on Karelia, a show and tell, and a slide show, possibly on Swedish numeral cancels. The annual Christmas party, a highlight of our club, will be held on December 11.

TIDEWATER Chapter 26

Mike Falls reports regular attendance of three or four members and planned show & tell for the next few meetings.

CYBER Chapter 28

Planning continues for the changeover to an email mailing list. The list will be called the "SCCforum" at the address: SCCforum@scc-online.org. As soon as everything is ready, all current chapter members will be automatically subscribed to the list and will receive an email with full details about the new procedures. To sign up for the electronic chapter, email edbode@juno.com.

Scandinavian Area Awards

Ross Olson won a gold at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show in Denver in May with his "Definitive Postage Stamps of Sweden 1920-1938." Leroy Anderson received a second award for his showing of "Faroe Islands" at Wiscopex, the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs show held in March.

In the single frame category of the NOJEX show in Secaucus, NJ, Walter Grosjean received a silver-bronze for "90 Years of Norway Postal History 1766-1856," and Leslie Nugent won a bronze for "Norway's Stave Churches on Stamps."

At the Americover show in Oak Brook, IL, in July, Martin Tannenbaum received a silver-bronze for "Iceland Postal Stationery 1879-1939."

— Alan Warren

Hunt Continues for Blue Dot Ring Stamps



The Sweden Ring Study Group has bagged some more blue dots, but the hunt is not over.

A study of the V2 variety of Facit Sweden 50 and 51 was publicized in the *May Posthorn*. Jim Burgeson shared this 51v2 with a blue dot at the 9 o'clock position. Dave Anderson sent a photocopy of a 51v2 with a blue dot at 7:00. Thanks to both of these "rings aficionados."

I would like to hear from anyone else who has these blue dot varieties. Please contact George Kuhhorn, PO Box 4486, Emerald Isle, NC 28594 or email geokuhh@starfishnet.com.

—George Kuhhorn

Check out our website: www.scc-online.org

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: Jan. - April, June, Sept., Oct., 4th Thurs; May, Sat. of Memorial Day weekend; July, Aug., no meeting; Nov., Dec., 1st Thurs. Golden Flame restaurant has been sold and unavailable for future meetings; for meeting locations & other information 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 Siðumúli 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: Judy Nelson, islandl@gte.net.
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: CONTACT: Toke Nørby: toke.norby@norbyhus.dk.

Wilse, the Norwegian Photographer

By Frederick A. Brofos

I came across an interesting card mailed from Oslo in 1926 to my father in London. It was sent and autographed by the famous photographer Anders B. Wilse, and shows one of his photographs of a dark wood reproduced in brown (unfortunately, not clear enough for reproduction here). Wilse is well known for his many beautiful pictures of Norwegian nature and scenic views. A number of these have been used on Norwegian stamps:

- North Cape I, 1930. The cape with "S/S Bergensfjord" in foreground (Figure 1).
- Polar explorer and humanitarian Fridtjof Nansen I, 1935, frontal portrait.
- Tourist set, 1938, comprised of a 15-øre reindeer before Finse Mountain, 20-øre and 30-øre ancient Borgund stave church, and 30-øre scene of Jølster in Sunnfjord (Figure 2).



Figure 1. *Facit* 183.



Figure 2. A registered cover from Oslo to Milwaukee, WI franked with the three Wilse photographs used in the 1938 tourist set.

All of these stamps were reissued several times.

Wilse and E. Rude were considered the best in their line at one time. Rude specialized in portraits. His pictures of King Haakon VII and King Olav V have appeared on many stamps.

An old advertisement (Figure 3) shows that Wilse had an office in the large Commerce Building in Kristiania (Oslo), and so did my father. They probably met there or at a Rotary Club sausage and beer feast. As the card relates, the Rotary had 90 members in 1926, spread around in Oslo, Trondheim, Bergen, Stavanger, and Skien.

I also have three cards that were sent to members of the Kristiania (later Oslo) Filatelist-Klub advertising illustrated talks by Wilse between 1915 and 1927. In these three instances, his subjects were, Through Telemark over Hardanger Moor to Sogn, (1915), Slides from Swedish Lapland (1917), and With S/S Stavangerfjord to the North Cape (1927). There may have been other talks. Indeed, Wilse may have been a member of the club and a philatelist, too. ■



Figure 3.

Member Advertisement 1,400 cancelled copies of 5-Öre perf. 13 ring-type stamps. Of much interest to those studying plate varieties as present owner did not remove any. Send check for \$110 (post-paid in U.S. or Canada) to: James Burgeson, 2266 Kinclair Dr., Pasadena, CA 91107 (USA). For information: jburgeson003@earthlink.net.

Book Reviews

Faroese Postal History: A Review

Løst og fast af Færøernes posthistorie, Ingolf P. S. Nielsen. Published 1986 by Undir Reyni, 8 1/4 by 5 3/4 inches, 87 pages clothbound. Plus English translation supplement by Marilyn Amedro, 1996, 8 1/4 by 6 1/4 inches. Available as a package from Postverk Føroya, DKK 75.00 post-paid to USA addresses.

Following its publication by Postverk Føroya in 2001, Vilhelm Johannesen's *Postur í Føroyum* undoubtedly will prove to be the definitive work on the development of postal services in the Faroes for many years to come. However, the text is in Faroese and this limits its appeal to a wider audience; more accessible to English speakers is a smaller, alternative offering available from Postverk Føroya.

Ingolf Nielsen's Danish text *Løst og fast af Færøernes posthistorie* was published in 1986. In 1996, a literal translation of the text into English was produced as a supplement to the original volume. It was always intended that this supplement be used in conjunction with the original volume. The supplement is straight text; no attempt was made to include any of the many old photographs and other illustrations that greatly enhance the original publication. However, cross-referencing makes reading the two volumes in conjunction a simple matter.

Author Nielsen is a stalwart of the islands' philatelic society and this work arose from his interest in Tórshavn cancellations. While frequently exhibiting on this theme in the 1970s, he began to supplement his postmark collection with appropriate photographs and other historical information. In order to keep his display "pure" for the judges a little booklet of this material was made to hang on the side of the display frames. This evolved into the published work, which deals with the development of postal services throughout the islands from the 1850s to postal independence.

— Brian Hague



The cover of Nielsen's book is a sketch of an old postman by artist Ingalvur av Reyni, whose work has appeared on Faroese stamps. The artist is a Finnish collector himself.

New Compilation from a Prolific Philatelist

A Selection of Philatelic Essays II & Other Memorabilia, Frederick A. Brofos, privately published by the author, 8 1/2 by 11 inches, approx. 400 pages, Warner, NH 2002.

This is the second volume of the collected writings of Frederick A. Brofos, past secretary and editor of SCC. He made only a few copies and one should be in the SCC Library in Denver.

A lifetime of collecting and Brofos' wide-ranging interests are reflected in these articles, drawn from many different journals over the years. Most of the items are about aspects of Norwegian philately. Here, one can learn about Spitsbergen locals on a post card to Italy; North Cape stamps and cancels; hotel numeral postmarks; Norwegian telegraph seals; printed to private order postal stationery; scarce German censorship markings on Norwegian mail; WWII memorabilia such as ration cards, anti-Nazi stickers, and the "General Orders for Allied Forces in Norway."

However, Brofos' interests go beyond Nordic philately and include the pictorial postmarks he has designed for over a quarter of a century for the Tri-State Collectors Exhibition in Concord, NH, ➤

registry receipt machines, Leavitt machine cancels, Krag machine cancels, postmark machines used privately by hotels as arrival stamps, and many other subjects.

A good index would greatly assist in retrieving these intriguing nuggets of postal history. Still, this volume is a delight to leaf through, as was the first compilation (1996) of this prolific philatelic writer.

— Alan Warren

Postal History of Christmas Seals

Bogen om julemærkets posthistorie (The Book on the Postal History of the Christmas Seal), Ole Steen Jacobsen, 6 3/4 by 9 3/4 inches, 96 pages, hardbound, in Danish with English summary, published by the author in Denmark, 2001, ISBN 87-985542-3-9, approx. \$40.

Denmark introduced the Christmas seal to the world in 1904. Before that there had been other types of charity seals, and the English post office in Rochdale had a special Christmas cancellation in 1902. Danish postmaster Einar Holbøll, who worked at the office in Gentofte and later Charlottenlund, invented the Danish seal.

Sweden and Iceland also introduced Christmas seals in 1904 and other countries followed later. At first the seal was to be placed on the back of the envelope, but in 1941 in Denmark, permission was granted to place them on the cover front, thus creating the opportunity for tied seals.

Today, the serious student of Christmas seals can study them just as postage stamps, with analysis of proofs and essays, gum, paper, watermarks, perforations, cancellations, and formats such as sheet, booklet pane, and souvenir sheet.

The book lists the date of issue for each seal (yes, people collect FDCs of these seals), and the quantities printed. Collectors also search for usage on unusual mail such as COD matter and Sunday letters.

All of the Danish seals are illustrated in color, and in fact, many color illustrations throughout this handsome book make it a joy to look through. The illustrations carry captions in both Danish and English. A bibliography concludes this well presented book.

— Alan Warren

A New Tool for DWI Collectors

Bibliography of Danish West Indies Philately, Paul Wijnants, 7 x 9 3/4 inches, hardbound, 88 pages, edition of 200 copies, B.P.R. L., Begijnendijk, Belgium, 2001. ISBN 90-76873-02-X, approximately \$40, but price varies.

This work contains some 728 entries, a few of which reference older bibliographies. Included are most of the important books and papers on DWI philately published between about 1900 and 2000 in English, Danish, German, and a few other languages. It will serve well as the primary bibliography for students and researchers of DWI stamps and postal history.

Each reference entry is in alphabetical order by author. Where the author is not known, the entries are curiously found under "E" as Editor followed by the initials of the journal. Authors' names lack diacritical marks. Each entry is assigned a unique number and also a four-digit index number so that the reference can be located through the author's indexing system.

The index is organized by subject with a major focus on the individual stamp issues. For example, the 2200 series is devoted to the bicolor stamps with subordinate numbers relating to individual stamp values, printing, forgeries, proofs and essays, and other aspects. Then the author lists the ►

index numbers in order followed by the reference numbers so that researchers can examine all of the references for a specific stamp issue or cancel type, etc.

The weakest aspect is the exclusion of much material that is relevant to DWI postal history, but which does not contain specific or numerous references to the Danish West Indies. Neither are there many entries referencing maritime or geo-political material concerning the Caribbean and other regions of interest to the postal historian of DWI mails.

There are some technical and typographical problems that detract from this book, and it is hoped that the author will seriously consider updating and reprinting his work, especially since this edition is limited to 200 copies.

This bibliography is a key tool for collectors of DWI. The author has also made the very nice gesture of turning over the proceeds on the sale of this book to the Belgian Child Cancer Foundation.

— John DuBois and Alan Warren

Stamps of Iceland: An Important Book

Stamps of Iceland 1872-1904, Henry Regeling, approximately 7x10 inches, 208 pages, hardbound, written in English, 2001, published by the author, ISBN 90-9015179-6. Available from Jay Smith, PO Box 650, Snow Camp, NC 27349, \$95.

An important new book on Icelandic stamps made its debut at the HAFNIA 01 exhibition in Copenhagen. *Stamps of Iceland 1872-1904* by Henry Regeling draws together all of the most important information previously in print on the skilling and aur issues. In addition, Regeling has added a great deal of research to cover fully the story of these issues, each separate value, and their delivery to Iceland.

There is detailed information on the printing plates, printings, perforations, colors, and extensive information on flaws shown with pictures and drawings and their changes in position during reprint printings. Many previously unknown varieties are shown. A useful bibliography completes this handbook.

The author, who is from The Netherlands, has written two previous well-known works on Danish service stamps and the overprints from 1904-1912-1915. He recently was awarded the KPK medal for his studies on Danish philately.

Collectors of classical Icelandic stamps are indebted to Regeling for bringing all of this information together in one reference source.

— Þór Þorsteins and Alan Warren

NK Catalog a Must for Norway Collectors

Norgeskatalogen 2002, 6 by 8 1/2 inches, soft covers, perfect bound, 432 pages, Oslo Filatelistklubb, Oslo, approx. \$40, ISBN 82 7319 182 6.

This excellent annual catalog is a must for Norway collectors. Although the text is in Norwegian, there are occasional summary pages that are also in English, including the introductory pages. For terms, there is a Norwegian/English/German vocabulary. All stamps are shown in color.

Once again there is an important illustrated section on counterfeit cancels. Everything the specialist could want is here including rate tables since 1877, and back-of-the-book items such as souvenir sheets and franking labels. Each edition offers some new articles and this year we find a discussion of the Crown and Posthorn cancellations, and an article by Oddbjørn Solli on stamped covers to France during the skilling period.

As usual, this catalog comes highly recommended.

— Alan Warren

Album Closed

Rolf Gummesson: A Legend in the Stamp Trade

Rolf Gummesson, legendary stamp dealer of Stockholm, Sweden, died June 8 at the age of 88. He was born in Lund in 1913 and by the age of 8 he was avidly interested in stamps, which would serve not only as his hobby but his vocation as well. Rolf was among the founders of the stamp club at Katedralskolan in 1928. Every break between lessons was used for trading stamps.

In 1933, after senior high school, he went to Hermods business school in Malmö. Before entering the school of economics and business administration (Handelshögskolan) in Stockholm, he held positions at a savings bank, at Kockum shipyard in Malmö, and at a patent agency in Stockholm.

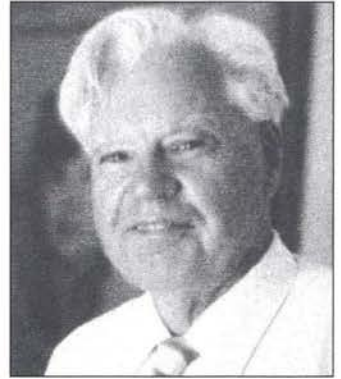
While attending school he made monthly business trips to the stamp shops in Copenhagen and Malmö. During his studies at Handelshögskolan (1936-1938), Gummesson rented a flat for two staff members across the street so that he could use the school breaks for management of his office.

In high school he wrote a work on collecting "Mythological and History of Religions Themes on Stamps," which eventually issued as a book in 1936. At Handelshögskolan, his thesis was "Methods of Distribution in the Stamp Trade." After marrying in 1939, his stamp trading expanded and the office moved to Kungsgatan 55, where the company remains today.

During World War II, the staff expanded to 13 persons and the business shifted primarily to wholesale materials, which became known worldwide. The trade with kiloware was a large part of the business until 1982. The average stock was 25 tons from more than 100 different countries. In 1982 the kiloware business was turned over to a staff member, as Gummesson's interests changed to classic Finnish and other Scandinavian rarities, where his philatelic knowledge played a key role.

His Finland collection was highly regarded. Gummesson won his first international gold medal at Palermo in 1959. Following several more gold medals, he was awarded the Grand Prix in Luxembourg 1963. In 1964, he published a handbook, *Finland – Early Town Cancellations*.

His oldest son Per succeeds his father in the ownership and management of the stamp business. His son has also taken over Rolf's former duties with the Chamber of Commerce and in issuing certificates for Finnish stamps. It was Rolf's greatest desire that his business and activities would continue after he was gone, and this is assured by his son. Other survivors include another son, a daughter, and several grandchildren.



Californian William Benjamin Dies at 80

William R. Benjamin of Claremont, CA, a quiet collector who built an outstanding and varied collection, died of cancer on April 30 at the age of 80. Benjamin joined SCC in 1968 and was one of the earliest members of SCC Chapter 17.

His interest in watermarks and in early handmade papers provided some occasional articles in *Luren*. He developed a photographic method using a radioactive source to record watermarks. The resulting photographs were very useful for study.

In addition to his general collection of Scandinavia, Benjamin amassed a vast philatelic library and extensive collections of France, other countries, and specialty areas.

Professionally, Benjamin was a renowned mycologist (fungi-specialist botanist) associated with the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden.

— Paul Nelson and S. J. Luft

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

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Exhibition Chairman: James Burgeson, 2266 Kinclair Dr., Pasadena, CA 91107;
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