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Finland Aims Cupid's Arrow at Companies

By Paul Albright



Cupid takes aim at the Finnish corporate market.c

Finland Post is aiming Cupid's arrow directly at the corporate market. Beginning in May, Finnish companies could design personalized first class postage stamps with company logos, slogans, photos, or other depictions of company products.

Finland Post (Posti) offered the nondenominated stamps as a new way for companies to market products and to build name identification and image. To kick off the campaign, Posti released its own corporate stamp showing a winged Cupid (Amor) aiming his

bow and arrow through the clouds. A perforated stamp serves as a background for Cupid.

Companies may order sheets of 20 nondenominated first class stamps for

€20 compared with the normal rate of €13 for 20 first class stamps (€0.65 each). Posti will screen the designs "with a mind to good practice and copyright issues," according to Markku Penttinen, managing director. He said there could be no stamps showing violence or depicting firearms, tobacco, or "adult entertainment." Customers are responsible for obtaining copyright permission for the images they wish to use.



Finland's first customized stamp from 2000.

Posti's printer, Ifi Ltd., could produce up to one million customized stamps per week, but Penttinen expects lesser orders to be used on invitations, company announcements, holiday mail, or perhaps for a targeting marketing campaign. Posti worked with Ifi Oy to combine digital image processing and laser printing to produce self-adhesive stamps. Finland Post produced customized photo stamps in 2000 but they were targeted for sale as Christmas stamps from the Santa Claus Post Office in Lapland.



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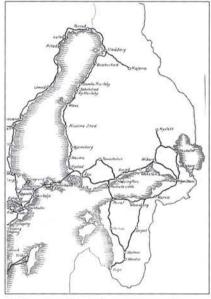
The King's Road in Finland

By Lauri Poropudas

Along the southern coast of Finland lies a centuries-old route known as the King's Road. This route connected Turku (Åbo) and Viipuri (Vyborg) and has been one of the main post routes across Finland and especially to and from Finland, Sweden, Russia, and the Baltics.

This route was formed – at least partly – in the 9th century and the complete route was known by the 13th Century and mentioned in 15th Century documents. In 1638 it became a post road connecting Stockholm, Turku (Åbo), Viipuri (Vyborg), Nyen (the town inhabited mostly by Finns in the place where Peter the Great founded St. Petersburg in 1703), and Sweden's new areas in the Baltics.

In addition to facilitating communications, the rudimentary road served to bind together the new parts of the country. As an emerging European



A drawing from the old map shows the post routes more clearly. The King's Road follows the Finland's south costal line. The King's Road was also called lower Vyborg Road. The Upper Vyborg Road went from Helsinki via Tavastehus (Hämeenlinna). (Drawing by Heikki Pahlman.)

power, Sweden wanted to know what was happening in different parts of the huge

country



This is known as "Sweas Rikes Postwägar Anno 1698," the oldest map showing the post routes in Sweden and Finland. The King's Road is one of the routes. The map belongs to the Postmuseum in Copenhagen.

with new nationalities and surrounded by the hostile countries of Russia and Denmark. It was important to have a good network of information and communication between the local rulers and the capital in Stockholm.

Names of the road

The King's Road has been known by many names that tell us something about its history and importance. Because the road follows the coast of the Gulf of Finland it has been called the Coastal Road or the Great Coastal Road. Vyborg Road is another name that has been used. Lower Vyborg Road separates it from Upper Vyborg Road, which goes inland via Hämeenlinna, 100 kilometers north of Helsinki. (It is seen in the old post map.)

The road also was known as the Summer Road since it was difficult to traverse in the spring and autumn because of water and broken or weak ice. Winter travel was easier when rivers, lakes, and the sea along the coastline were frozen. Travel by either land or water routes was convenient in the summer.

3

Although rarely traveled by kings, the King's Road was used by diplomats, couriers, and ordinary travelers. The name King's Road meant that it was built and kept up by the king and the central power. County and local roads were built and kept in order by local authorities, many of whom were selected by the king.

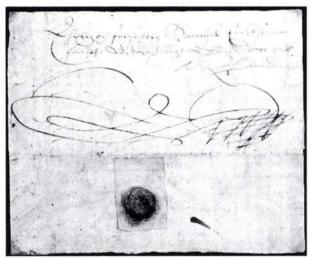
The present day Finnish Tourist Board describes the King's Road this way:

"For centuries, the road between Stockholm and St. Petersburg was maintained by royal decree. The road was imperative for communication between the kings and queens of the Baltic nations. Without it wars could be fought, commerce would be halted. Land along the road would be given to those loyal to the crown so that it would always be preserved. Here along the road life flourished and the little villages and hamlets sprung up to support international commerce – medieval style."

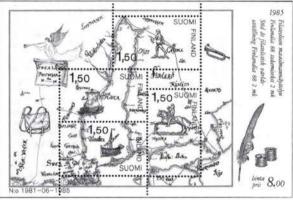
Post road from 1638

The King's Road was a postal route for general post since 1638 when royal bailiff Bernhardt Steen von Steenhausen created the route when traveling to his estates near Nyen. This was the year Finland got its first post office.

It was about this time that other postal routes were decided. The Upper Vyborg Road (Torneå, Haparanda, Uleåborg [Oulu]) went north from Vyborg to Oulu, opening about 1644. A route north from Turku was used when there was weak ice on the Sea of Åland but still not possible to use the water route; it could take two months for the post to be transported to Tornio and Haparanda and then to Stockholm and vice versa. The Finnish portion of the King's Road was about 570 kilometers from Turku to Vyborg.



This may be the oldest Finnish letter outside the archives, dated July 30, 1599 at Turku Castle. It is addressed to the royal manor in the Raseborg near Tammisaari (Ekenäs). This must have been carried along the King's Road from Turku. (From Heikki Pahlman's collection.)



The 1698 post route map was used in the design of Finland's first miniature sheet issued in 1985 to promote FINLANDIA 88.

An ancillary route went from Helsinki to Hämeenlinna and another from Porkkala to Reval (Tallinn) in Estonia. Started in 1640, this route (via sail and rowboat) made the post route much shorter than across the bottom of Finland. For example, it took 7-10 days to travel from Turku to Nyen (St. Petersburg) whereas the same trip on the southern side of the gulf took 2-3 days from Turku to Porkkala and 1-2 days over the sea if the weather was good for rowing (about 80 kilometers).

Post offices and letter carriers

The King's Road got its first post offices when the route opened in 1638. Offices were at Turku (Finland's oldest city), Helsinki, Porvoo, Vehkalahti (1664, later 1723 Hamina) and Vyborg. Still on the route was Käkisalmi on the Lake Ladoga shore, which got its post office in 1638. Porkkala, near Helsinki, where the route to Reval started, was opened in 1640.

selve

A Christinestad forwarded letter from 1842 bearing Åbo and Russian Helsingfors postmarks. It probably was carried along the King's Road from Helsinki to Turku. (Kaj Hellman auction photo from February 2003.)

Between the post offices, peasant farmhouses were selected to be postal houses. The ideal situation was for postal houses to be 12-20 kilometers apart. The post peasants were relieved of military service, day-labor, and feeding and providing shelter for travelers. These responsibilities were carried by the rest of peasants.

"Postal masters" in these houses were supposed to be literate and usually had a son or a worker to carry the post bag to the next postal house immediately upon its arrival. The deliveryman was supposed to carry the bag by running or certainly in haste, but there was no way of checking if this was done. Later in the

18th Century, horses and carriages were added for deliveries. The postal house or the carriers were not permitted to accept any mail along the route. All letters were to be left at a post office. When this was difficult, exceptions were made – some with permission, some without.

The road was little more than a muddy path in the 17th Century. Maintaining roads was an unwelcome burden for the peasants who were not eager to do this since they had no need for the roads themselves. Neither the climate nor soil conditions are conducive to building and maintaining roads.

Different types of posts developed at different times in the sparsely populated, largely illiterate countryside. There was an official or general post open to all but utilized mostly by persons in official positions. There was a crown post for kings and local and county authorities. There was a church post carried by church servants. The army had its own post. They all used the same routes with various circulation methods. For example, church mail might move from one church to the next and so forth. Post offices were opened slowly, first in Ekenäs (Tammisaari) ca.1735, then in Degerby 1745-1752

(later Lovisa 1752-) and Karis (Karjaa) ca. 1751. In the last part of the 17th Century, Finland accounted for 2.5-4.8 percent of the income of the Swedish post office. There were 95 post offices in the Swedish system in 1680, of which 17 were in Finland. Turku ranked eighth in income and Vyborg was 15th. Those two towns accounted for one-half to two-thirds of the income for the post from Finland.

There are a few estimates from those years concerning the amount of mail. In 1698, for instance, some 5,748 letters were sent to southern Finland from Stockholm (11,733 if the Baltic areas are included). Most of these went by sea and not over the King's Road. Those numbers are 4.8 percent of all letters sent from Stockholm, but 31.6 percent of all letters going to Finland were official mail with 16.9 percent to other addresses. On the northern route via Haparanda-Torneå (Tornio)- Uleåborg (Oulu), 9,825 letters were carried that year.

30 Mov. 183 chulten delingeo

Disinfected letter from Turku (the first Åbo postmark was in 1812). Åbo and Wiburg/ Vyborg were written in Latin letters, the remaining 26 in Russian letters. The letter to Helsinki, dated November 11, 1831, was perforated for disinfection. (From Heikki Pahlman's collection.)

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Identifying King's Road mail

The first postmarks were used in 1812 when Finland became a part of the Russian Empire. The cancels were single-row name cancellations without the date. There were 28 post offices that received a postmark, eight of them situated along the King's Road or near to it. The names were spelled in Swedish but written in Russian letters except that Åbo and Vyborg were in Latin letters: Åbo (Turku), Karis (Karjaa), Ekenäs (Tammisaari), Helsingfors (Helsinki), Borgå (Porvoo), Lovisa (Loviisa), Fredrikshamn (Hamina) and Vyborg (Viipuri).

There were five more offices that had postmarks along the route from Åland to Kexholm (Käkisalmi) on Lake Ladoga. This means that one-half of Finland's earliest postmarks were along the King's Road.

The postmarks help to tell the routing. If the destination was along the King's Road we can be sure it traveled that route. Before the use of postmarks,

however, routing is a bit complicated. We can say that all post from Sweden or Åland to Russia or to the Baltic region and vice versa went along the King's Road or possibly via the Upper Vyborg Road. Summertime mail from Stockholm to the Baltic and vice versa traveled the King's Road.

Declining Post, Rising Tourism

The situation changed when Sweden lost its areas in the Baltic. The border shifted to the West and 1725 saw a border post office in the Taskula and after the next war in the Ahvenkoski (1743). On the border, the post master was also the border officer checking passports and examining mail crossing the borders.

The border traffic was quite heavy in the middle of 18th Century because of wars in Europe. For example, Russia was fighting from 1756-63 with Prussia and Austria. These years increased the importance of the King's Road as a postal route. Diplomats, officers, and the post Towns mentioned in this article. Listed first are the names in Swedish (used on postmarks of the period) followed by the Finnish spellings in parenthesis.

Vyborg/Wiburg/Wibourg (Viipuri) Åbo (Turku) Helsingfors (Helsinki) Ekenäs (Tammisaari) Karis (Karjaa) Kexholm (Käkisalmi) Uleåborg (Oulu) Torneå (Tornio) Haparanda (Haaparanta, on the Swedish side, sister town for Tornio) Abborfors (Ahvenkoski) Tavastehus (Hämeenlinna) St. Pertersburg (Pietari) Borgå (Porvoo) Lovisa (Loviisa) Fredrikshamn (Hamina)

were using the King's Road between Russia and Sweden and into Central Europe. After these wars, Russia used a route via Memel in Lithuania. In addition, there was considerable mail from Russians who occupied areas in east Finland and in Carelia (Karelia) to their relatives inside Finland and Sweden.

The status of the King's Road began to decline after 1809 when Sweden ceded Finland to Russia. Steamboat traffic, which included the post, began in the late 1830s. Rail traffic began in 1862 and in a few decades became the primary courier of the post.

Today the King's Road is promoted as a tourist attraction extending "east to the court of the Czars in St. Petersburg, and west, across Finland and the Baltic Sea, to Stockholm."

The author is Editor of Filatelisti in Finland.

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Tapio Suominen *Suuri rantatie/Stora Strandvägen*, Jaakko Masonen, ed., Tielaitos and Painatuskeskus, Helsinki, 1992 and 1993, 338 pages, (English summary Pages 296-299.), ISSN 0782-985X, ISBN 951-37-1044-0.

Jukka-Pekka Pietiäinen, Suomen postin historia, 1, (The History of Finland's Post), Postijalennätiniaitos, Helsinki, 1988, ISBN 951-47-1065-7 (in Finnish only). ■

Scandinavian Revenue Stamps for Stock Certificates and Bonds



Figure 1. Danish revenue stamps shown on an ornate certificate issued in 1901 by a Swedish-Danish-Russian telephone company. The pen cancel number matches the certificate number. By Paul A. Nelson

Several Scandinavian countries had revenue stamps that were specifically to be used for bonds or corporate stock certificates upon their issue. Here is some information about a few of these, together with references to two websites where more information may be acquired.

Denmark had several series of revenue stamps, specifically to be used to pay tax on "Foreign Obligations." Shown here are two of these, on a stock similar to the one on which some Swedish revenues appear. The Danish stock was issued November 14, 1901. The cancellation, which is in pen and ink, is the number of the share certificate to which they apply. In this example, the share certificate number is 4133. These two stamps are in different shades of red and blue.

The Poulsen/Nelson catalog of Danish revenues lists 118 different stamps from 1872 to 1920. The 1989 catalog does not

differentiate between these shades. I believe this is an omission in our catalog, and future updates will attempt to correct the data.

The Saarinen catalog of Finnish revenue stamps, published in 1998, states that there was taxation of shares, when issued or revalued by the company, beginning January 1, 1916. Documentary stamps were used at first. In 1922, documentary stamps with the overprinted words "OSAKEANTI AKTIEEMISSION," or Stock Share Issuance, were provided. There are abbreviations of this text on many of the later stamps. Saarinen lists 95 stamps issued between 1922 and 1963. The share tax was no longer collected in 1966, and the law was repealed at the end of 1968. These stamps are not fully documented, according to Saarinen. The website referenced below illustrates a few Finnish certificates with some of the different AKTIE stamps.

Many Swedish share certificates have a printed documentary stamp that was placed on the blank paper before it was turned into a valid certificate. Apparently this was done at the company option, when the number of shares to be issued made it less costly to imprint the paper than manually to affix adhesive revenues to the shares after they were printed.

Denmark, Finland, and Iceland required an inventory of valuable properties after World War II. Of course, much of this property was in the form of bonds or shares of stock. In each country, stamps were provided to show that the property had been inventoried by the state. I've not shown these stamps here.

Furthermore, in Denmark and in Sweden, there were specific revenue stamps that were to be put on the sales documents when shares were sold or exchanged. These are not discussed here either.



Figure 2. These Swedish embossed stamps are machine dated on April 17, 1916, which is probably when the certificate was issued. Note the ornamental rope border of the certificate goes over the imprints. The two certificates shown are from the same telephone company that evaporated soon after the Russian revolution.

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Looking for Stock Certificates

Two websites that offer information about Scandinavian stock certificates with and without revenue stamps are found at www.osakekirja.com and www.aktiesamlaren-bjb.se/.

The first is in the Finnish language, but I'm certain that emails in English can reach the webmaster with your questions. To view images, click on "Kuukauden kirjat" and then try the different numbers that appear at the bottom. The second site is in Swedish and English, and I have visited this dealer's store in Stockholm. He has a fine stock of certificates and also of Swedish stamped paper. The website is well-documented from a stock collector's point of view, but there is no information that's aimed at a philatelist.

I recommend the catalog that is offered; it gives illustrations and a good price guide for Swedish shares, but it does not document which shares have the embossed and imprinted documentaries (I think these are a specific type of "stamped revenue paper," in our vocabulary). If you order a copy, ask for the current price guide, which is an insert to the paper bound catalog itself.

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The Birth of Iceland's Revenue Stamps

By Sigurður H. Þorsteinsson

I began my research on the initial use and printing of Icelandic revenue stamps in the early 1960s. The obvious place to start was at Prentsmiðan Gutenberg, the State Printing Office, which printed these stamps from the outset. Having received permission to conduct this research from the Ministry, I was provided a small space in an office at No. 1 Pingholtsstræti, where the State Printing Office was located then.

In the beginning, I focused on recording the printing dates, the different values and types and variety of pictures, paper, and printing colors. I also noted special shades of paper, the number of stamps delivered from the printing office to the State Cashier's Office, the delivery dates, and any other details regarding the printing.

These research papers were given to Por Porsteins for his work on his book on the subject, *Revenue* and Collectible Stamps as Well as Cancels Used in Iceland (Gjalda-og söfnunarmerki auk stimpla á Íslandi), published in 2000.²

I received the law and regulations from the State Cashier's Office, which also provided me with the different rules for how and who should collect revenues before and after the printing of the specialized revenue stamps. This also included information on how the collection of revenues should be stated in writing on official papers from the time of the Landssjóður (before 1918) and up to that date.³

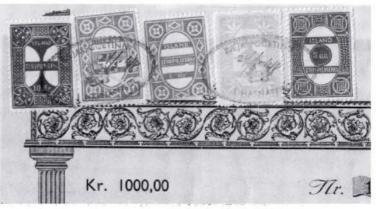
I had to go outside the State Printing Office to find out who had drawn and designed the stamps, where the printing forms were created, and by what printing method. I discovered that they had been drawn by artist Ríkarður Jónsson at least until the mid-1930s.⁴ Designer and printer Jón Árnason described how he had created these according to Ríkarður's instructions, carved from hard wood. These were then used one-by-one to make the negatives for the printing clichés. These negatives were created in 5x5 blocks that were printed one opposite the other, or téte-beche. These formed opposite, identical rows in the center of each sheet. I was informed that other individuals had been involved in the design and creation of the stamps as well.

I recently came across an affirmation of what I had heard of the manner in which these stamps were created. Published in Vilhjálmur S. Vilhjálmsson's book, *Fólkið í Landinu II*, ⁵ is an interview with Jón Árnason who is quoted by anthropologist Indriða Indriðason as follows:

"I used to make plates of letter etchings before photo printing was formally established. It was thus during the years of World War One that I created forms or printing plates of the Revenue stamps for the Government when those stamps were initially used. Ríkharður Jónsson would draw the stamps and carve. I

would then make the patterns and forge the plates. Most of these forms are still used today, after 30 years."⁶

Árnason's statement was made before 1952 and the carvings by Ríkharður Jónsson were made in 1918. So, these carvings were used for up to 35 years. This also explains the many varieties that have appeared in these same revenue stamps. As Árnason's quote explains, the creation of the plates was done by pressing Ríkharður's carved pattern into a substance, which left a three dimensional impression, forming the negative ready for printing.



Five values on a 1,000-krónur stock certificate. Left to right, the values are a 10-kr. dark brown, 2-kr. green, 1-kr. brown, 25-aurar yellow, and 5-au. green. The 1 kr. is a variety showing a broken line beneath the "e" in Stimpilmerki.

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Four revenue stamps on a bank draft, including a scarce 60-aurar green/black, two 2-kr. green, and a 5-kr. light brown.

on a variety of public documents such as marriage and baptismal certificates, as well as deeds of sale and other public papers.

It wasn't until September, 1918 that Ríkharður Jónsson and Jón Árnason completed the printing plates for 12 different values of revenue stamps in 50stamp sheets. They replaced the use of postage stamps, not only as revenue stamps, but also as It wasn't until 1935 that two additional values were added and Ríkharður was asked to redraw the stamp designs, except the 2.50 krónur, which was added in 1966. Many different individuals have drawn the revenue stamps since then, including the advertising agency Myndmót, as well as Auk, h.f.

In 1947, a survey of properties was conducted. All inhabitants were required to declare their property to the government. This included bank accounts, property, and any other possessions. A new revenue stamp was created for this property accounting. These stamps are found today on valuable documents such as bonds, stock certificates, and the like.

Background of Icelandic Revenues

Before 1918, signatures on official documents were required as verification of service fees. This changed with enactment of Law No. 12, of August 12, 1918, regarding the creation of revenue stamps. At that time, no such stamps existed; in their place, officials used postage stamps for that purpose until revenue stamps were available. We are able to find proof of this



Revenue stamps used as a receipt for paid customs. These are on an import invoice from Copenhagen in July 1938. Note the variety on the 50-aurar blue, which has a broken frame on the top (second printing of this value).

verification of payment of customs for both import and export of goods.⁷ Many high-value postage stamps were used on custom documents, some receiving a circular date stamp (CDS) and others the "Tollur" (customs) cancel. Often, these high-value stamps were cut out and sold as "postally used" when they actually were from customs documents. On May 11, 1938, Law No. 91 permitted the use of stamping machines (meters) for the purpose of verifying the receipt of revenue.

In 1991, the international FIP (Fédération Internationale de Philatélie) agreed to include revenue stamps as equals in collections and stamp shows, and as items eligible for exhibition competition. It is at this point that the revenue stamps awakened the interest and received the respect from collectors that they deserve.

Endnotes:

1 Gutenberg, State Printing Office. Diaries and printing journals.

2 Þór Þorsteins, Gjalda-og söfnunarmerki auk stimpla á Íslandi, Reykjavík, 2000, 83 pages.

- 3 State Treasurer: Law and regulations regarding Revenue Stamps and Collection of Official Fees in Iceland.
- 4 Jón Árnason, printer. Personal recollection during the 1960s.

5 Vilhjálmur S. Vilhjálmsson, *Fólkið í Landinu II*, Reykjavík, 1952, Víkingsprentm (The Public Organization of Culture and Education), 243 pages.

6 Indriði Indriðason: Conversation and article about Jón Árnason, printer at the Gutenberg Printworks, around 1950.

7 Jón Árnason, printer: Recollection in a personal discussion.

A New Book on Danish Revenue Paper

By Paul A. Nelson

Claus Rafner has been named as the author of the third in a series of five books on Danish tax history being published by the Danish Association of Tax and Customs History (Told- og Skattehistorisk Selskab). The association celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2002, and is publishing the five books on that occasion.

This third volume, which will have its publication date in the autumn of 2004, will be titled *Enevælde* og skattefinansieret stat 1660-1818, (The absolute monarchy and its financing with taxes 1660-1818). There will be about six chapters that stress tax history, including an illustrated description of the stamped revenue paper issued in Denmark during those years. The first stamped paper series, from 1657, was overlooked in the Poulsen catalog, *Catalog of Scandinavian Revenue Stamps, Volume II, Denmark.* To my

knowledge, these earliest stamped papers have not been described in print before, certainly not for the philatelist.

Rafner, whose graduate studies were on the Danish tax system of the 1600s and 1700s, prepared an award-winning philatelic handbook and catalog on the Danish taxpaid stamps for alcohol and tobacco. He is a good choice for this new book, and revenue philatelists and historians should be pleased with the result.

Illustrated here is a receipt from 1658 with a stamp of the first series. The stamp, which is actually a wax seal with a white paper wafer on it, is impressed in the left upper corner of the document. Below is stated the name of the accountant of the royal treasury keeping the

Sunde of: for Fracfaard Attack ficipe if you don I fuli Ditx BC4, Cinfine of Court Anile A and := 22 - 8 2 52 "ideal, "fier happore ist & house me Andm My Risbing il 8.4

Photo by Claus Rafner from the original in the National Archives, Copenhagen.

accounts of the "sealed paper." His name, Thomas Thomison, is either found handwritten or, in this case, printed with a kind of rubber stamp. The figure of the seal, which is difficult to see from a photo, is made up of the Danish national coat of arms (that is, three lions on a shield) with the year 1657, referring to the year this duty was introduced. Sealed paper was replaced by stamped paper in 1660, when the next series was introduced.

The first volume in the series was published in October, 2002, and the second will be available in late 2003. According to Rafner, however, the first two and last two books of the five will have little of interest from a revenue philately point of view.

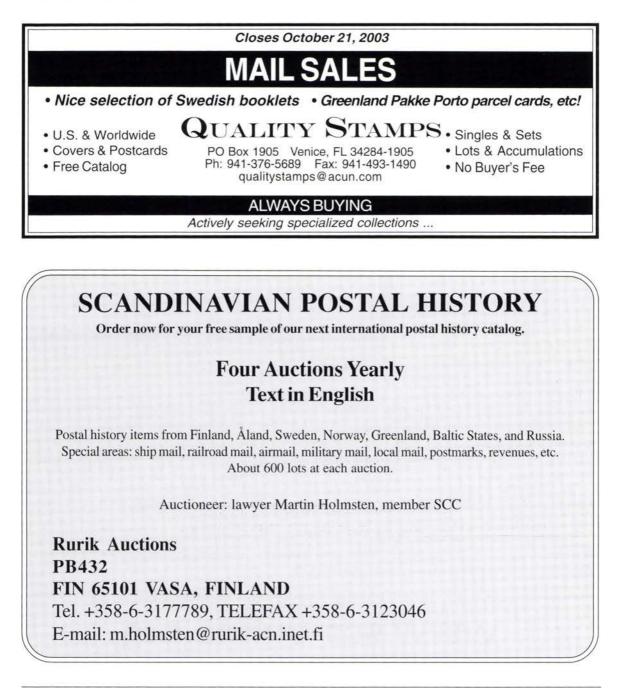
Each book will be available for DKK 428 plus shipping, and may be ordered now from the Told- og Skattehistorisk Selskab, Østbanegade 123, DK 2100 København, Denmark. Full information (in Danish) concerning all five books is available at www.zise.dk. ■

www.scc-online.org

An Invitation from NorrPhil in Sweden

SCC members are invited to participate in the 35th-anniversary NorrPhil Stamp Show scheduled March 26-28, 2004 in Taby, 20 kilometers outside Stockholm. The exhibition will cover all normal exhibit classes as well as a postcard class, a one-frame class, and an Internet class. Eight non-Swedish postal administrations are expected as part of the bourse. Other activities will include a stamp auction, youth activities, and a philatelic Internet café.

The deadline for exhibit applications is October 1. A show prospectus and exhibition guidelines are available upon request from SCC Exhibition Chairman James Burgeson at 2266 Kinclair Dr., Pasadena, CA 91107, jburgeson003@earthlink.net.



Cover Corner

Early French Markings on Scandinavian Mail

by Don Halpern

The transition from stamp collector to philatelist to postal historian might be gradual to some SCC

members. For others, like myself, the distinctions could be quite sharp. After I filled all of the spaces I could afford to fill in my album, I began to collect franked covers with the correct rates and, hopefully, interesting postal markings. The transition to early covers mailed before stamps were "invented" or issued came about one cold January at a bourse in New York City where I found a 1764 cover from Göteborg to Banff, "New Brittain".¹ I was hooked.

At that time, 18th Century covers from Denmark and Sweden to the wine merchants in Bordeaux were available. I collected them and

tried to understand their markings and rates. The first problem was to determine which country applied a given marking. Fortunately, the various posts color-coded their charges. The French marked all postage

Figure 2 illustrates French cursive numerals.

DENHERIANE

Figure 1, includes an enlargement of "34."

or-coded their charges. The French marked all postage dues in black except for a short period when they used red ink. With the help of postal historians like Gordon Hughmark, I began to describe the covers for an exhibit. One of the more challenging efforts was to understand the various rate markings. The rates from Denmark and Sweden to their post offices in Hamburg are known.² The postage due in Bordeaux was the combination of the rate from Hamburg to Paris and from Paris to Bordeaux or any other town in France. The postage dues, using

French numerals, were not easy to decipher. An example of this is a 1793 cover with a 34-sou postage due illustrated in Figure 1. The actual 34 was extracted from the cover, cleaned up, and shown next to the cover. Fortunately, Vic Engstrom illustrated these numerals in the third volume of D.W.I. Mails (Figure 2)⁻³.

The Engstrom numerals do not show the numerous varieties of some of the numbers; the 3 in 34 (Figure

1) is one of several ways postal clerks wrote a 3 during that period. One needs to be careful not to confuse the 2, 3, and 9. One way to "see" a lot of covers and postal markings is to review the illustrations in the Lundh books.⁴ Although there are a number of postmark and rate errors in this reference, it is a great source of 18th Century Danish covers to and passing through France.

An interesting sideline to these pen markings is the use of handstamped markings, "tampons" issued by the French posts in the mid-1800's. One example is shown in Figure 3 – an 1861 letter from

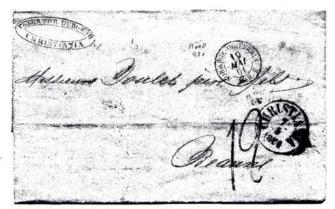


Figure 3. A 1861 letter from Christiania.

Christiania to Beaune, arriving with a handstamped 12 decimes postage due marking.

Up to this point all of the markings have been routine. A January 1757 triple-weight cover (³/₄ mark to show ³/₄ of an ounce) from Copenhagen to Bordeaux (Figure 4) shows a 3 # 9 marking. It was mailed during the Seven-Year War and the cover was carried privately by boat to Amsterdam and then by post to Paris where it received a HOLLANDE postmark. I've interpreted the rate as follows:

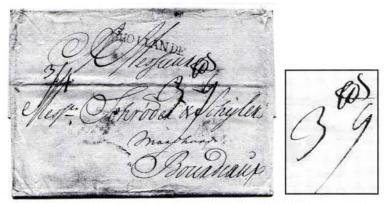


Figure 4, includes an enlargement of the 3 livre and 9 sou postage due mark.

Amsterdam to Paris Paris to Bordeaux A paraph Total

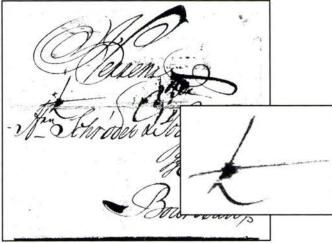


Figure 5, includes the 1 livre mark separately for emphasis.

Endnotes

1. Halpern, D. The Posthorn, Vol. 59, No. 4, November 2002, p. 28.

2. Hughmark, G.A. and Halpern, D. F. *Stampless Mail to and from Scandinavia to 1868*, Rosetta Stone Press, New Providence, NJ 07974, 1999, Appendix C, p 181, ff.

3. Engstrom, V.E., Editor, *Danish West Indies Mails*, 1754 - 1917. Scandinavian Philatelic Publishing Co. Washington, DC, 1979-82, Volume III, Chapter 16, p. 40.

4. Lundh, B. Les Cachets "D. ALLEMAGNE", "HAMBOURG" et "HAMBURG". Danske Filatelisters Fællesfond, 1989; *The Postal History of Helsingør 1740-1864*, Danske Filatelisters Fællesfond, undated. ■

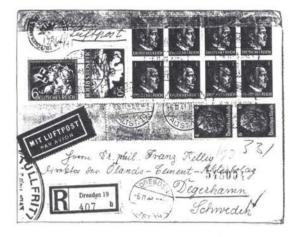
= 39 sous = 1 livre and 19 sous
= 24 sous = 1 livre and 4 sous
= 6 sous (additional charge for winter weather)
= 69 sous = 3 livre and 9 sous (20 sous = 1 livre)

Another interesting marking is illustrated in Figure 5. Again a Seven-Year War, double-weight cover, privately carried in January 1762 to Amsterdam. A forwarder paid the postage to Paris. I interpret the marking as a one-livre charge from Paris to Bordeaux. This charge was the sum of 18 sous due with a paraph for an additional charge of two sous for inclement weather.

That takes care of the big black numerals on unfranked covers to or passing through France. Examples of other numerals will be shown in future *Posthorns*.

Swedish Customs Mail Inspection

Frederick A. Brofos

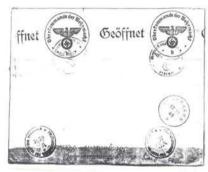


A remarkable World War II cover was sent from Dresden, Germany, on November 6, 1943 to Degerhamn, Sweden, where it arrived 11 days later. In the interim, it had been opened by authorities in both Berlin and Stockholm.

The registered airmail cover carried philatelic franking of two semi-postal stamps, as well as several se-tenant stamps from booklet panes. There may have been stamps inside the envelope, which perhaps were confiscated. The cover had German Wehrmacht censor seal and

markings on the back but also a blank white label affixed

across the top. Stamped over this was an unusual circular mark in violet. With the Swedish "Three Crowns" emblem in the center, the surrounding text reads: "TULL TAXERINGSEXP FÖR BREVFÖRS. STOCKHOLM." (Customs Taxation Office for Letter Mail. Stockholm). The cover's front also bears part of an oval Swedish mark in violet, reading: TULLFRIT (Customs Free).



This was war time and spy time and, naturally, the Postal Customs Service had to keep their eyes peeled for anything suspicious.

Small Wrapper Serves as Danish Money Order

Frank Banke

This unusual wrapper band was used as a money order, probably for the payment of an advertisement or a newspaper subscription. In addition, this small wrapper/money order (8 cm x 4.6 cm in size) is the only

evolar J. Richter

such piece recorded from the duchy of Lübeck to the duchy of Lauenburg. In general, only a few letters are recorded to the duchy of Lauenburg.

The Danish 4-skilling stamp pays the letter rate plus the money order charge (paid in cash) shown as a blue numeral 4 in manuscript in the lower center of the cover. The manuscript "Auslage 4M" in the lower left is equivalent to 19 ½ Lybsk skilling to be paid as shown in large manuscript in the center. The N17 manuscript mark in the upper left is the registration number. ■

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The Posthorn, May 2003

President's Letter

John DuBois

Seeking Club Records



Roberta Palen has been our club's official historian for a number of years and has recently embarked on a comprehensive reorganization of our archives. Foremost in this effort is the need to collect copies of club records, proceedings, reports, publicity, etc. that may be residing with former officers, both elected and appointed, as well as

members. It is easy for records of a volunteer organization such as ours to be stashed away in personal files and then lost, forgotten, or thrown away when a person is no longer an officer or active in the club. I would like all members to please take some time to consider whether you have any club records tucked away. If so, it is important for Roberta to have these (or photocopies). The club will reimburse photocopy and mailing expenses. The address is Roberta Palen, P.O. Box 364, Forbes, MN, 55738.

Publicity Leader Needed

The work carried out until recently by our late Publicity Director, John Knutsen (whose Closed Album is in this issue), is among the most important activities of the SCC. Making our publications and services known to philatelists everywhere is vital to gaining new members and reinforcing local chapters. A separate appeal for a volunteer to take up this position is on Page 36. The main requirement is enthusiasm to promote the SCC, along with minimal writing skills. We urgently need to reactivate this work. Please contact me at jld@thlogic.com with questions or, better yet, your offer to help.

Financial Statements

Our annual financial report, which appears in this issue, contains important information and a few things that need explanation. The opening assets do not match the closing figure given last year because one of our Certificates of Deposits was not recorded on the 2001 balance sheet. This was an oversight related to transfer of the books to our new Treasurer and, as a result, the asset balance at the end of 2002 was actually \$7,456 higher than reported. Overall operations during 2002 show a loss of \$6,810 as compared to a budgeted loss of \$1,795. However, \$1,800 of this amount corresponds to uncollected *Posthorn* advertising invoices that were finally received in the first quarter of 2003. So, the "excess" loss over that budgeted was really \$3,215 as noted in the preliminary Treasurer's report at the January regional meeting in San Diego. The major components of this \$3,215 are: (a) \$1,083 less interest income than anticipated due to the sharp reduction in interest rates during 2002; (b) \$944 higher expenses, of which \$844 went for one-time services related to the *Posthorn* format conversion to a larger size page; and (c) \$909 lower *Posthorn* advertising income.

Member dues of \$9,797 received for 2002 was dramatically lower than the figure of \$16,099 that came in during 2001. Even though the anticipated (budget) figure was \$10,000, this difference requires some explanation. We realized that 2001 was an unusual year because of the many new members joining during NORDIA 2001, as well as the multi-year dues received in response to the member promotions initiated at the same time. Therefore, a budget figure of \$10,000 was used for dues income, more in line with, but optimistically about 10 percent higher than 1999 and 2000. As the result came out about even with expectations, our budget will show anticipated dues income of \$10,000 for 2003 also.

Exploring SCC's Library

I hope members will explore using our Library more in the coming months. The new Library Committee has been reorganizing, adding shelf space, and generally fixing up our ability to provide member service promptly. If you haven't looked into the resources our Library offers, I urge you to do so. Information and the complete index are on the Web at http://www.scc-online.org/library.htm or you can send Library email through palbright@wiche.edu.

Thinking About Reykjavík?

We have heard from more than a dozen members who are planning to attend NORDIA 2003 in Reykjavík October 16-19 and possibly stay over for sightseeing. While the SCC is not organizing any formal tours, I will be happy to act as a clearing-house for members who would like to know what others are doing and possibly get together informally. If you wish, you may email your plans at jld@thlogic.com, and I will distribute information.

News From the Home Office

Don Brent

Before preparing this column, I took a moment to check the membership list. Our total membership has dropped by more than 50 members so far this year. This is not good. This year, we lost 49 who did not renew and 3 who resigned. When these are matched against the potential for new members, we see a negative projection for the year.

We need your help. You can get new members. Just ask. Local clubs and bourses are an ideal place. Anyone with an interest in Nordic material is a potential member. They do not have to be specialist collectors to reap the benefits of membership. Do you need some applications or membership incentive post cards? I will be happy to get some to you if you drop me a note or email. SCC remains a real bargain among the philatelic societies and we have a lot to offer the Scandinavian collector.

I hope that we have the opportunity to meet in July at our annual show in Minnesota. Personally, I am looking forward to making the trip back to the Midwest. It is always fun to get together and catch up with other SCC members. There should be plenty of Nordic exhibits and dealers to check out plus the fellowship that is part of the weekend. Perhaps some of our Canadian members from the Winnipeg area will make the trip to Minneapolis.

In the past few months, six members passed away. We offer our sympathy to the friends and family of the deceased members. The quarter also saw us add four new members and reinstate two others. As always, I would like to welcome our new members and remind you that we are here to help you with any SCC-related matters. Be sure to get in contact if you have any questions or problems with your membership. We are open to suggestions for improving the club. Just drop me or any of the officers a note or email and your suggestions will be passed on to the Board for consideration.

Membership Statistics for the First Quarter, 2003

New Members

3968 Modesitt, Jeff, 6037 S. Bellaire Way, Littleton, CO 801213969 Wilson, Rufus, RR3 Box 28-1, Dalton, PA 184143970 Dirks, George A., DNP3971 Negline, Paul, DNP

Reinstated

2336 Rose, Robert J. 3576 Wurdeman, Mark

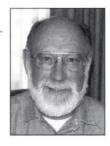
Resigned 3596 Goldsmith, Michael 1008 Hazelwood, Barbara 2854 Granstrand, Richard B.

Deceased

1686 Bole, Eric L.
2997 Smedegaard, Ernest
3885 Romig, Raymond L.
2892 Jones, Richard W.
945 Gudmundson, Harvey G.
3661 Knutsen, John A.

Donations

L89/2573 Sabin, J. 3861 Griffiths, Frank



Dropped for Nonpayment of Dues 3733 Albertsen, A. 3696 Austin, A. 2747 Baker, T. 2935 Blaze, F. 1880 Beatty, W. 1978 Brooks, G. 3945 Brunn, S. 3635 Burns, P. 3707 Bystrov, A. 3234 Carlson, K. 3657 Day, R. 3197 Decamp, C. 1200 Elnan, O. 3851 Enockson, K. 3810 Francis, J. 3200 Freeman, A. 3463 Goerne, C. 3498 Hale, J. 2996 Harrison, R. 3765 Holtsmark, E.

3796 Jonsson, J. 1080 Jorgensen, D. 3400 Levi, R. 1917 Mathiesen, H. 3766 Matson, G. 2683 Melberg, A. 1947 Oberg, H. 3715 Okerman, J. 3944 Olson, N. 1109 Quarles, A. 2811 Ross, J. 3766 Ruttkay, S. 3728 Salim M. 3941 Searjeant, R. 3009 Sholder, S. 3938 Solbakken, H. 3019 Svensson, B. 3746 Swap, R. 3572 Tigert, T. 3934 Tillott, R. 2038 Trondsen, E.

3839 Valley, D.
2637 Waagen, H.
3949 Waterstradt, C.
2917 Weaver, G.
1293 Weil, C.
1252 Wenger, J.
1354 Whipple, B.
3896 Youngman, O.

Change of Address

- PH-22 Oslo Filatelistklubb, Frydenlundgata14, NO-0169 Oslo, Norway
 PH-68 Bendix, Jan, Sundbyvej 8, DK 3600 Frederikssund, Denmark
 3186 Barstad, Severin, 601 E Westchester Dr., Apt 311, Tempe, AZ
- 85283-2941 3161 Steele, John R., 5861
- S. Snowdrop Pl., Boise, ID 83716

From the Editor's Stamp Den

Paul Albright

Some sweepings from the floor of the stamp den.

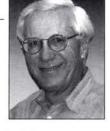
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Imitation may be a form of flattery but it also can be a validation that the originator is doing something right. I view it that way when other publications turn to *The Posthorn* as a source for their own articles. It signals that our club journal is mining a few rich veins of Scandinavian philatelic knowledge.

Two recent examples appeared in Denmark's *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift (DFT)* and the new Nordic philatelic publication in the Czech Republic. *DFT* translated and reprinted Sören Andersson's article on "The 1880 UPU Parcel Post Convention and Swedish Foreign Parcel Mail, 1821-1921" from the May 2002 *Posthorn.* The Czech publication rewrote Geir Sør-Reime's article on "Norge or Noreg?" from the November 2001 *Posthorn.* It is gratifying, of course, to see that the content of *Posthorn* is attracting the attention of other editors.

Faroe Islands cover collectors might keep an eye peeled for special markings following a month-long strike of hourly-wage workers that tied up the mails and other commerce in the Danish dependency. When the strikes began in May, arriving ships were not served so mail was held on board. Mail arriving by airplane was not delivered either. As the work stoppages continued into their third week, mail destined for the Faroes was held in Denmark. Collector Igolf Nielsen emailed from Tórshavn that the "distribution of the inland post is nearly normal."

This short information item, incidentally, demonstrates again the power of electronic communications and the willingness of collectors to cooperate. Jan Prygoda of the Netherlands was first to pick up news that mail for the Faroes was being held in Denmark. He spread the information to a Nordic-Baltic philatelic bulletin board that he moderates on Yahoo.com. In response to my email for more information, Toke Nørby of Denmark contacted Igolf Nielsen in the Faroes for his on-the-scene information. From England, Faroes specialist Brian Hague emailed his contacts in the Faroes to receive further updates that he shared with *The Posthorn*.





Lohengrin, not Tristan and Isolde

Scott's, the major stamp collecting catalog in the U.S., has been caught mixing its operas in its listing of two Norway stamps from 1995. The catalog lists Norway Scott 1099 and 1100 as showing Norwegian soprano Kirsten Flagstad in scenes from "Tristan and Isolde." In a letter to *Scott's Stamp Monthly*, opera fancier Allen Van Cranebrock of Tucson, AZ pointed out that Scott 1100 showed a scene from "Lohengrin." Scott's said its catalog description would be corrected in an upcoming edition.

Sweden Posten continues to adjust to new economic circumstances, affecting postal services in the process. This spring, Posten announced it was revamping its mail terminal network because of continuing declines in mail volume and closing 200 branch offices that provide financial services.

Swedish mail volume has dropped steadily since the mid-1990s and is projected to continue to fall, according to a May 21 press release from Bertil Nilsson, head of Posten Production. Plans are to phase out the letter terminal at Norrköping beginning in October and the parcel terminal in Växjö next year. Approximately 450 employees will be affected by the terminal reconfiguration.

There has been a 70 percent drop in financial transactions processed by Svensk Kassaservice since 1992. Svensk Kassaservice (a part of the post office network) will close 200 of its 1,200 branch offices, primarily in "densely populated areas" where other financial alternatives are readily available. In some cases, rural letter carriers will be asked to take up the slack created by closing some offices.

The latest figures show 2 percent of Sweden's population pay a majority of their bills through Svensk Kassaservice with 4 percent making cash deposits and withdrawals, but these percentages are expected to decline by 15-20 percent annually, according to an April 24 announcement. Further information is available by clicking on Press Releases at www.posten.se.

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A referendum is scheduled for September in Sweden to determine public sentiment toward introducing the euro as the nation's new currency. According to Christer Brunström of Sweden (writing in the April 7 Stamp Wholesaler section of *Stamp Collector*) some dealers have offered to buy kronor and öre stamps at considerably less than face value, suggesting these stamps will lose their franking power if the euro is adopted.

This prompted a statement by Britt-Inger Hahne of Posten that made an interesting point concerning postage. Not only did she say that stamps in kronor/öre would remain valid but added that a postage stamp is actually a receipt for a prepaid service so that the currency used to pay for that service is irrelevant. I had never thought of postage stamps in this way but it seems to be a valid definition.

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Norwegians now can decide what advertising is sent to them through Norway Post and the form in which it is received. Customers can sign up on a new "Me and Mine" (Meg og Mitt) Internet database (http://posten.apt.no/megogmitt/?fn=400) to screen direct mail advertising according to individual desires. Users can register their preferences as to (a) the type of advertising from food to toys to automobiles to furniture, (b) say how long they want to receive the advertising, and (c) whether they want to receive advertising via regular or electronic mail. Advertisers will not have access to users' addresses.

Celebrating Åland-Sweden Boat Mail

The annual postal boat race in Åland is being commemorated with a special cancel on mail carried in this summer's competition. The postal boat race, which started 30 years ago, celebrates the adventurous delivery of the post across the Åland Sea to and from Eckerö in Åland and Grisslehamn in Sweden during the 17th century. In addition to special cancels, Åland Post also is offering a souvenir card for the race on June 14. Further information is available from Åland Post at www.posten.aland.fi. ■

Norway's Coarse-Perforation Varieties of 1892-1893

(Norgeskatalogen Numbers 51 IV b vt1, 52 IV vt1, and 56B) (Part 2)

By Bjørn Kristian Wang

Epoch Two, July-October 1893 (NK 51 IV b vt1 & NK 56B)

Editor's Note. Part One appears in the February 2003 Posthorn, pages 3-10.

The second usage of the coarse-perforation perforator does not have a convenient, logical reason for existing. Most likely, it is the result of a temporary use of the backup perforator while the regular perforator was undergoing maintenance or repair. It may also have been a test of the apparatus to make sure it was in proper operating order in anticipation of the coming retirement of the older apparatus.

Stamps made during this period provide the best clues to determine what really happened and when their manufacture took place. All of the stamps in this period, which I call Epoch 2, are 3-øre stamps. Both NK51 IV b and NK56 occur with this unusual perforation. By this time all of the 5-øre stamps had been printed, perforated, and were already in use.

To analyze this group, we need to start with NK56B. This stamp is known to have been used in at least four different cities. The location most important to this discussion is Bergen. At least four examples are known used in Bergen from December 1893 through February 1894. This usage coincides with the usage of virtually all known specimens of the coarse-perforated NK51 IV b. The earliest known use of NK51 IV b vt1 is December 19, 1893, while the first known usage of NK56B is the next day, December 20 (see Figure 9). This would seem to indicate that both stamps were released nearly simultaneously at the Bergen post office and that both stamp issues were in the same delivery.

The Bergen post office received two shipments of 3-øre stamps during the last half of 1893. Five hundred sheets were delivered on July 7 followed by an additional 500 sheets on October 4. Based on the printing dates for NK56, it would appear that the coarse-perforated stamps could not have been included with the July delivery and must have been included in the October shipment to Bergen. It makes sense that the sheets would simply have been sold in the order that they were received.

From this we move to a study of the delivery dates of both stamps to the central stamp office from the postal directorate. On August 25, 1893, the following stamps were delivered: the final 872 sheets of NK51 IV b and the first 2,000 sheets of NK56. Tying in the usage data from Bergen we can assume that all of the coarse-perforated 3-øre stamps were included in that delivery.

Perforations Made During Maintenance?

Since both types of stamps were delivered on the same day from the postal directorate I believe that they were also perforated at the same time as well. The question is: how did the stamps get perforated by the "wrong" machine? It is likely that the complete answer will never be known. I am willing to offer a solution that is the most logical in light of the current evidence.

The first delivery of 2,000 sheets of NK56 was a continuation of an already existing contract for the fiscal year of 1892-93 to deliver one million 3-øre stamps. This contract was partially filled by the deliveries of 4,872 sheets of NK51 IV b. The NK56 delivery on August 25 of 2,000 sheets, and an additional 3,340 sheets on September 12, 1893, was simply to finalize the agreed amount for the fiscal year.

These same 2,000 sheets of August 25 were part of a larger delivery made to the postal directorate, of 5,370 sheets, on August 9, 1893. It is my contention that a few leftover sheets of NK51 IV b were included along with this first group of NK56.

NK 56 was the first stamp with serif printing. With the change from sans-serif to serif printing plates, it seems logical that the perforator and other equipment would receive maintenance during the break-in printing. This theory implies that at least a few sheets of NK51 IV b remained at the printer, unperforated, for several weeks. I believe that this is a more logical explanation for the existence of these stamps than to speculate that the perforation process shifted between the various perforators. The cancellation data presented earlier supports my contention of concurrent perforation for the two different stamps.

Are there any other theories to better explain this problem? I see no other way to logically explain why both types of 3-øre stamps ended up in Bergen at exactly the same time. The old perforator was 30 years old at the time and was permanently retired toward the end of the year. An intermediate use of the coarse-perforation comb would be the only logical explanation. This usage was limited to a few sheets of stamps sometime in early July 1893.

NK 51 IV b vt1



Figure 7, Stamp #25, auction lot, December 2000.

As mentioned, coarse-perforated examples of NK51 IV b are known used in Bergen. Normal usage for this stamp runs from late December 1893 through early January 1894. Georg Størmer states in *Norgeskatalogen* 1986/87 that he knew of a total of 16 examples with usage dates from December 1893 through February 1894. Of these, 14 were used in Bergen with single additional specimens used in Christiania and Indre Sogns Postexpedition. One of the additional known specimens, shown in Figure 8, was used in April of 1894. I have been able to trace a total of 30 examples, all but two cancelled in Bergen (see Chart 2). *Norgeskatalogen* (2003) lists 20 examples, the latest used being a stamp cancelled in Christiania in late 1899.

The coarse-perforated examples of NK 51 IV b are only known in one mail color, which match closely the regularly perforated examples of NK 51 IV b. Watermark positions 2, 3, and 4 are

currently known. The first mention of this variety was made by Johannes Jellestad in *NFT* 1924. Anderson and Dethloff again make mention of this stamp in *Norges Frimerker* in 1924. They stated that they knew of only two examples at that time. The 1942 edition of *Norges Frimerker (Norgeskatalogen)* states that only a very few were known.

In his book about Danish, Icelandic, and Norwegian stamps, Ernest Wise speculated that only one or two sheets of this stamp were ever produced. He states that all were sold in Bergen in November 1893. I believe that he is correct that all of the original stamps were



Figure 8. (Stamp #24)

sold from the Bergen post office. I believe, however, that Wise underestimated the number of these stamps originally produced. Also, I cannot justify his estimated sales dates with any cancellation data. From the available data, it is most likely that this stamp was sold only from about December 19 through December 30, 1893.

An example of this stamp is listed in *Frimerker som Hobby* in 1980. It states that an example was auctioned in 1979 for about NOK 7,000. From auction data of the time, this is probably stamp #17 listed in Chart 2.

Using the delivery data, I estimate that between 10 and 30 sheets of this stamp were sold at the Bergen post office. This would give a total issue of only 1,000-3,000 stamps. Allowing for a survival rate of between 1-4 percent, the number of known specimens seems to match. No mint examples of this stamp are known. I estimate that 35-40 used examples of this stamp may exist. Several of the known examples are damaged in some way. A listing of known specimens is in Chart 2.

#	Usage Date	Cancellation	Notes
0	No mint examples known		
1	19-12-1893	Bergen Tur	Several added perforations on lower left side.
2	21-XII-93	Bergen	Damaged example. From vertical row 1 in the sheet.
3	21-XII-93	Bergen	
4	?2-XII-93	Bergen	Indistinct photo from old auction catalog.
5	22-XII-93	Bergen	Date is indistinct.
6	23-XII-93	Bergen	
7	24-12-1893	Bergen Tur	
8	24-12-1893	Bergen Tur	
9	28-XII-93	Bergen	
10	28-XII-93	Bergen	
11	29-XII-93	Bergen	Unclear first digit in date. Most likely a 2.
12	29-XII-93	Indre Sogns Postexpd.	
13	2?-XII-93	Bergen	Date could be 23, 26, or 28. Likely is 28.
14	2?-ХП-93	Bergen	Indistinct photo from old auction catalog.
15	30-XII-93	Bergen	Slightly discolored. Good perforations.
16	30-XII-93	Bergen	Skanfil Auction 6/01 Lot 1136. Missing upper left corner. Thinned at right. Same as final stamp listed below?
17	30-XII-93	Bergen	
18	30-XII-93	Bergen	
19	??-XII-93	Bergen	Unclear cancellation.
20	-93	Bergen	Missing corner perf. Same as final stamp listed below?
21	7-1-1894	Bergen Tur	
22	27-1-94	Bergen	
23	23-11-94	Bergen	
24	7-IV-94	Bergen	From vertical row 9 in the sheet.
25	-94	Bergen	
26	23-XII-99	Christiania	Very late usage?
27	Unknown	Bergen	Thin spot.
28-29	Unknown	Unknown (Likely Bergen)	
30	Unknown	Unknown(Likely Bergen)	Skanfil Auction 1/97 Lot 356. Missing corner. No Pho

Chart 2. Known examples of NK 51 IV b vt1

NK 56B

NK 56B is a popular stamp that can easily be confused with NK 60. The stamps were printed by the same printer and have the same perforation. Figure 10 shows the difference between the two stamps. Other than this difference, cancellation dates must be used to differentiate between the stamps.

Surprisingly, despite the rarity of the stamp, NK 56B is known in two distinct shades. I have verified stamps in a light yellow-orange shade, as well

Figure 10.



NK 56 the Posthorn ring and bell are attached



NK 60 Posthorn and bell are not attached

as a darker orange shade. Both of these same colors also occur on the regularly perforated stamps. The 1988 handbook lists that watermark positions 1, 2, and 3 are known on the coarse-



Figure 9. NK 56B, Stamp #7, auction lot, November 2001.

perforated stamps. I have been able to verify positions 1, 2, and 4. From the combined information, it appears that this stamp occurs in all four horizontal watermark positions.

Størmer did not publish a listing for this particular stamp, but the 1966 handbook states that about 20 examples were known at that time. The 1988 handbook indicates that roughly 25 used examples of NK 56B are known. I have been able to trace only 13 separate examples. In addition, single examples are listed by Sjønnung and Wise. A listing of known specimens is shown in Chart 3.

	Usage Date	Cancellation	Notes
0	No mint examples known		
1	28-IX-93	Christiania	Missing corner.
2	29-IX-93	Christiania	
3	29-IX-93	Christiania	
4	1-X-1893	Christiania	
5	2-X-93	Christiania	
6	4-X-93	Røraas	From vertical row 8 in the sheet. Early version of Perforation Flaw #3.
7	31-X-93	Kristiania	
8	20-X11-93	Bergen	Figure 9.
9	??-I-93	Bergen	From vertical row 10 in the sheet. Figure 2.
10	18-1-94	Christiania	
11	-2-94	Bergen Tur	From vertical row 5 in the sheet.
12	8-2-1894	Bergen Tur	
13	?-1-95	Kristiania	Plate-flaw variety similar to that listed on re-engraving 37 in the 1966 and 1988 handbooks. This stamp is not re-engraved. See Figures 11 and 12. From vertical row 6 in the sheet.
	Possible Examples		
1	September 1893	Unknown	Listed in the collection of Ernest Wise in 1975.
2	30-IX-93	Drammen	Listed as a cancellation date by Sjønnung.
	Refuted Examples		
1	10-VII-93	Bureau Reexpediante De Kristiania	Germeten Auction 12/00 Lot 1429. Start price of NOK 2000. Stamp withdrawn before auction. NK66.

Chart 3. Known examples of NK 56B

Noting the delivery of 500 sheets of 3-øre stamps to Bergen on October 4, 1893, we see that this date coincides with the majority of cancellation dates from the other known usage locations for NK56B. It is likely that all of the coarse-perforated stamps were sent out to postal offices in late September and early October 1893.

According to the 1966 handbook, examples of NK56B are known with re-engraved dies. This assertion is not repeated in the 1988 handbook. I have never seen any NK56B with re-engravings and I doubt that any exist. Almost all of the re-engravings come from what has been termed Plate Ix of NK56. This plate would have been used during the later part of the printing of NK56. Since the coarse-perforated stamps of NK56 seem to have come from the first delivery of this stamp, it seems unlikely that they would exist re-engraved.



Figure 11. (Stamp #12)



Figure 12.

Stamp 12 in Chart 3 does exhibit a plate flaw similar to a plate flaw listed in both the old and new handbooks. The flaw is a colored area in the right side of the upper right "wheel" in the design (See Figures 11 and 12). This stamp is not re-engraved and appears to have been printed before the reengravings that resulted in Plate Ix.

My research shows some examples of NK 60 or NK 66 have been misidentified as NK56B. One recent example is shown as Figure 13. This stamp was for sale by a major auction house in Norway in 2000. Fortunately, this item was withdrawn on



Figure 13. Refuted example #1 (NK 66), auction lot, December 2000.

auction day. It is in fact an example of NK66 that has a cancel before the real examples of NK56B were even printed – a deceptive stamp bearing an incorrectly dated cancel.

General Discussion

How many of these perforation variety stamps were originally made? For many years, *Norgeskatalogen* published 34,200 as the total issue of NK56B. This number may have been based on the delivery of 372 sheets (37,200 stamps) sent to the Postal Directorate in July and forwarded to the Central Stamp Office on August 25, 1893. This shipment may have contained *all* of the coarse-perforation 3-øre stamps discussed in this article. Unlike the *Norgeskatalogen* view of the 1940s to the 1960s, I do not believe that all of these 372 sheets were coarse-perforated stamps. In fact, I think that only a small fraction of these sheets were of the coarse-perforation varieties. In my

opinion, the remaining stamps were normally perforated. I offer my own speculation for total numbers of issued stamps in the following chart:

Catalog Number	Estimated Survivors	Estimated Issue Amount
51 IVb vt1	35-40	1,000-3,000
52 IV vt1	120-140	7,500-10,000
56B	25-30	1,000-3,000

Given the numbers I have estimated for original issue amounts, these stamps would have the lowest quantities issued for all Norwegian stamps, except for the postage due stamp listed as NK P15b. This stamp only has a total issue amount of 1,700; but all of those stamps were distributed directly to collectors and have a very high survival rate.

Most of the known examples of these coarse-perforated stamps are of mixed quality. Most are missing one or more perforations, and many show less-than-perfect centering. This general lack of quality has likely resulted in a high percentage of discarded stamps over the years. As the normally perforated stamps for all three of these issues are relatively common, substantial numbers of stamps could have been discarded during the first half of the 20th Century when few people knew of the perforation varieties.

To emphasize the point, I quote Charles B. Middelthon from 1942: "One single missing perforation can reduce a good stamps value by 50 percent. And common stamps which are missing one or more perforations are not worth collecting at all."

An additional problem with NK56 is that little information was published in the past to differentiate it from NK60.

Conclusions

Obvious conclusions from this discussion are that these stamps are all very rare, although they are not as rare as previous listings may have indicated. They also have a mysterious origin. I list four additional conclusions that are not yet widely accepted, but seem logical in light of the available data on these stamps.

Conclusion #1: The coarse-perforated stamps of 1892-93 were made with the same perforator as the later regular issue coarse-perforation stamps of 1894-1897.

Conclusion #2: The 5-øre stamps were perforated and issued at a separate time from both types of 3-øre stamps. The 5-øre stamps were made as a result of a test operation of a new piece of equipment. The 3-øre stamps were produced as a result of a temporary emergency or trial usage of the same piece of equipment. Effectively, there were two separate manufacture/issuance periods, each encompassing a different denomination.

Conclusion #3: The two types of 3-øre stamps known with the coarse-perforation variation appear to have been perforated and issued simultaneously. This conclusion is reached using cancellation and delivery data.

>

Conclusion #4: The nature of the coarse-perforation perforator makes it relatively easy to attribute these stamps to whatever particular vertical row that they originally occupied in the sheet. This information could be useful in trying to reconstruct the printing plates for these three stamps. Knowing that the variation of NK52 IV the period after POSTFRIM is located in vertical row 9 in the sheet, limits the possible positions in the sheet where it can be placed. I will leave the project of reconstruction to those who are more capable of completing it.

Unanswered Questions

Admittedly, I do not have all of the answers about these stamps. A few issues remain that would provide a clearer picture of the history of these stamps. If anyone has access to the following information it would help to clarify the situation:

- How many 5-øre stamps were delivered to the Christiania post office in early April 1893?
- ٠ How many 3-øre stamps were delivered to the Christiania post office in late September 1893?
- How many 5-øre stamps were delivered to the Fredrikstad and Christiania post offices in . September or early October 1893?
- Why would both NK 51 and NK 56 be in the same perforation batch and delivery?

I welcome any information or rebuttal that would help to gain a greater understanding of these rare issues.

Norgeskatalogen	Facit	Scott
51 IV b vt1	51 Plåt IV Var. III	38b
52 IV vt1	52 Plåt IV Var. III	39d
56B	72 C Var. IV	49a (Not differentiated)

a 1 11 1

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank Geir Flatheim and Harald Tysland of Norway, who shared substantial amount of information with me. Their generous assistance helped me to register a significant number of additional examples of these rare stamps.

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Norway Post Museum Finds a New Home



The Norway Post Museum, which shut its doors last November, reopened on May 11 in smaller quarters at the Maihaugen historical center some 120 miles north of Oslo. In a press release, Norway Post said the opening day of an exhibit on "Norwegian Stamps from 1855-2003" attracted 2,700 visitors. According to Arne Woll, chief of the Postmuseum, "The last year we had 20,000 visitors at the museum. This year we at least will have 150,000."

The Postmuseum's library, archives, and part of the collections are tucked into a building between the railway station and a reproduction of an old-time bakery in the

"Old Lillehammer town" section of the sprawling open-air museum. Helge Sognli of Norway Post told *The Posthorn* that a 1950s style post office will operate at Maihaugen during the tourist season.

Parts of the collection of stamps and artifacts remain in storage or in vaults at the Bank of Norway. The situation may change when and if a communications museum is started in 2006 in Oslo, according to Paul Jensen, a leading figure in Norway's philatelic community. (See February 2003 *Posthorn*, page 40 for more background.)

-Paul Albright

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Scandinavian Literature Notes

By Alan Warren

The Summer 2003 issue of the Cinderella journal *Atalaya* from Sweden reports on the recent activity of local stamp artist Jan-Erik Wellerfors. He has designed locals for the towns of Mullsjö, Kalmar, and Kiruna. Information about the journal may be obtained from the editor Christer Brunström at Kungsgatan 23, 30245 Halmstad, Sweden (be sure to send one or two international reply coupons to defray postage), or by email to Christer.Brunstrom@utb.halmstad.se.

The journal of Postverk Føroya, *News from the Faroes*, is issued four times a year. The latest postal issues are offered for sale and there are short articles about the new stamps. Each issue also carries a postal history article about one of the offices or towns. Issue 1/2003 features the postal history of Slættenes, and 2/2003 features Vatnsoyrar.

This issue also discusses the set of stamps issued in 2001 that show ancient fittings known as pew gables, which once graced a medieval church at Kirkjbøur. These artifacts were removed over a century ago and sent to the National Museum of Denmark in Copenhagen for safekeeping. The Faroes government decided these national treasures should be returned to the islands. Only after they built the National Museum of the Faroes in Tórshavn did the Danish museum agree to return the artifacts.

News from Norway

Øyvind Traagstad presents an overview of the official stamps of Norway in issue No. 1/2003 of *Info*, published by the Oslo Filatelistklubb. The official stamps were issued from 1926 until 1982. The stamps were no longer valid after March 30, 1985.

Ivar Sundsbø concludes his series of articles on home place collecting in issue 4/2002 of *Frimerke Forum*, published by Frimerke-Ringen Posthorn. This is a popular area of collecting and exhibiting in Europe where the focus is on cancels and covers of an area where one was born or grew up. The series reproduced some of the pages in his exhibit. In issue 1/2003, Birger Løvland reminisces about the "Hurtigruten" using old picture post cards.

Tore Gjelsvik shows two covers from 1869 and 1871 that went directly from Trondheim to Newcastle by the steamship *Norway* in the Norwegian journal *VFF-Varianten*, published by the Nordenfjelske Filatelistforening. Issue 1/2003 of *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, published by the Norwegian Philatelic Federation, carries a short article about the postal savings stamps that were introduced 50 years ago. In the same issue, editor Steinar Furunes analyzes an 1833 prestamp cover that went from Trondheim to Strömstad, Sweden where it was cancelled in transit, and then on to London on its way to the final destination of Belfast.

News from Holland

Henk von Meeningen, writing in the December 2002 issue of *Het Noorderlicht*, published by the Netherlands Scandinavian Society, discusses the "slant" markings used in sheet margins of Swedish stamps to position the stamps for perforating and assembling into booklets. Editor Ton Steenbakkers describes the arguments in Norway over place names.

In the March 2003 issue, Steenbakkers analyzes a 1925 letter from Norway to Holland requiring postage due. Henk Burgman provides a table with current postal rates of the Nordic countries, both priority and economy classes.

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News from Great Britain

In the December issue of *Scandinavian Contact*, published by the Scandinavia Philatelic Society, David Loe writes about and illustrates the handstamped registration marks found on Iceland mail. He presents tables indicating periods of use for certain of these markings. In the same issue, Bob Johnson supplies the third installment of his series on post office markings of Denmark, this time focusing on slogan cancels and paste-on labels of the post office that encourage senders to put their return address on the envelope.

In the same issue, Mike Tuttle provides the 12th installment of his series on foreign port-of-arrival and transit marks of Iceland. In the March 2003 issue, Editor Alan Totten offers a history of the stave churches of Norway illustrated with stamps and picture post cards. David Macdonald begins a series on the business reply cards of Denmark, and Rob Willett continues his series on Danish railways. Rolf Scharning writes an interesting history of the post office Aamot paa Modum, located near Drammen in Norway.

News from Denmark

Arne Fredens discusses the postal conditions in Fejø from 1815-1919 in the December 2002 issue of *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift*, published by the Danish Postal History Society. In the same issue, Kåre Pedersen begins a series on Schleswig postal history with a discussion of the Fårhus Camp from 1945-1949, showing examples of mail to inmates. In the March 2003 issue of *PHT*, E. Menne Larsen continues his Schleswig postal history series with the tenth installment on the period 1848-1851. Arne Fredens supplies the second installment on his series on Fejø with a description of the movement of mail between Vesterby and Østerby, and by providing tables of data showing the amount of mail, by class, that was sent to Fejø during the period 1875-1919.

In the January issue of *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, published by the Danish Philatelic Federation, Bruno Nørdam continues his series on draft designs for Danish stamps from 1966-1969, and coauthors Erik Hvidberg and Lars Engelbrecht provide part 10 of their series on postal stationery, this time focusing on the "korrespondancekort." A newly designed cover appears on this journal with the February issue, which contains another postal stationery installment, this time on newspaper wrappers. In this issue Henrik Mouritsen discusses what exhibitors need to do to achieve the best awards. He cites several publications available in the United States including the American Philatelic Society judging manual. In the same issue, Kim Widén writes about the renumbering of postal codes in Greenland, and the postal stationery authors focus on aerograms.

The entire December issue of *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, published by KPK, is devoted to the 1864 Danish 2-skilling crown-in-oval issue. René Kejlskov Jørgensen examines the various printings and the plate flaws in detail, and Ole Steen Jacobsen shows some usages of the stamp. In the March issue, Kurt Hansen analyses four covers from Denmark to the Kingdom of Hannover 1852-1853. Coauthors Gordon Hughmark and Kurt Hansen continue their study of letters between Denmark and the United States, this time during the period 1841-1849 which included retaliatory rates.

Danish perfin stamps are discussed by Bob Schwerdt in the March 2003 edition of *The Perfins Bulletin*, published by the Perfins Club in the U.S.

News from Sweden

In conjunction with the 300th anniversary of the founding of St. Petersburg in Russia, Sven Wallenius writes about the ties between Sweden and that city in the February issue of *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift*, published by the Swedish Philatelic Federation. He uses stamps and picture post cards to tell the story. Postal historian Lennart Ivarsson looks at the progressive wear of the single line town cancels of Sweden.

In the March issue of *SFT*, Harry Snarvold shows two covers sent from Norway to France during the French-German War of 1870-1871. In the April issue, Lars-Eric Ferdinandsson writes about the test stamps that are printed by Sweden Post as one of the training materials used in the school for post office clerks. These are considered a "Cinderella" item that a number of people collect. In the same issue, Paul Gustafsson discusses picture post cards and how these are collected by postal history buffs as well as

deltiologists. The line between the two fields becomes blurred to the point where some argue that view cards should be permitted in postal exhibits.

News from Iceland

In issue 1/2002 (whole number 6) of *Frímerkjablaðið*, Kristin Fenger describes a contest for children to design stamps, and Þór Þorsteins shows some proposed designs for the 1938 University issue of Iceland. Ólafur Elíasson illustrates the much sought after OAT and AV2 markings found on covers during the WW II period. Issue 1/2003 (#7) features an article on local post stamps and markings of Iceland by Gylfi Gunnarsson. This issue also carries an article about Iceland's participation in the 1939-1940 New York World's Fair by Þór Þorsteins, and another about postal tributes to Leif Ericsson by Sigurður Þorsteinsson. Ólafur Elíasson gives another installment in his series on the OAT and AV2 markings. A brief article on a previously unknown Icelandic perfin stamp was in the same issue and has been translated into English and published in the March 2003 issue of *The Perfins Bulletin* from the Perfins Club in the U.S.

Miscellaneous Literature

David Straight, who often writes about back-of-the-book philately, talks about the postal innovations from Scandinavia, in the February 10 issue of *Stamp Collector*. He mentions the 1964 lottery tickets of Norway that had a piece that could be torn off and used as postage; the 1990 issue of a Stockholm newspaper with a cutout that could be pasted on an envelope for postage; and the well-known military envelopes of Sweden that included a printed stamp that could be clipped and used for reply postage. In the April 7 issue of *Stamp Collector*, Straight writes about business reply mail and uses Danish business reply mail as the centerpiece of the article.

The Czechslovakian journal Zpravodaj sekce Severských Známkových Zemí (Report of the Nordic Country Stamp Study Group), issue 68/2002, has an article on the London issue of Norway. Charles Shoemaker, writing in the March 2003 issue of Across the Fence, published by the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, discusses mail to Greenland in World War II that was subject to censorship in Bermuda. The January-February issue of Scanoter, published by the Maritime Postmark Society, is devoted entirely to an article on the "Fra" marks of Scandinavia, and reprints an earlier article by Henry Tester on the Fra handstamps of Denmark. Christer Brunström writes about sports shown on some Scandinavian stamps in the March 2003 issue of Global Stamp News.

Scandinavian Area Awards

At the MIDAPHIL show in Kansas City, MO in October, and also at the York County (PA) Stamp Show in January, Alan Warren won vermeil awards for "Denmark: The Frederik IX Issues 1948-1960 on First Day Covers." The Sarasota (FL) National Stamp Exhibition in January was an invitational for international gold-winning exhibits. Each exhibitor received a prix d'honneur, including former SCC president Roger Schnell for his "Classic Iceland 1788-1902."

Gordon Morison received a gold medal for his "Iceland Postal Cards" in the court of honor at ARIPEX in Tucson, AZ in January. At the same show, silver-bronze awards went to Dan Laursen for "Danish Postal Stationery 1864-1902" and to Per Erik Nilsson for "Sweden Portokort."

At the SANDICAL show in San Diego, CA in February, SCC Executive Secretary Don Brent received a vermeil and an AAPE award of honor for his "Denmark's Wavy Line Design: The Relief Printing Issues." Another vermeil, along with the American Air Mail Society medal, went to Jerome Kasper for his "Aerogrammes of Iceland." Paul Nelson received a silver for "Scandinavian Revenues in Two and Three Dimensions."

Harold Peter won a gold at the COLOPEX show in Columbus, OH in February for his "Fieldpost Schleswig-Holstein – Denmark Wars 1848-1851 and 1864." In the literature competition at the same show, *The Finnish Philatelist* received a silver. At the AmeriStamp Expo in Biloxi, MS in March, Alan Warren won a silver for "Denmark: Cachet Varieties of the Horsens Filatelistklub for the Vitus Bering Issue." Charles Shoemaker received a prix d'honneur in the single frame Champion of Champions class for his "Greenland: The American Issue."

— Alan Warren

Transfers and Re-Entries

By Alan Warren

The Trelleborg Philatelic Society announced a new literature award, which will be first presented in 2005. The award is a silver medal and bears the city's coat of arms from the 13th century. Any handbook on Nordic philately, written by an author residing in any of the Nordic countries, is eligible with a publication date of 2002 or beyond. The book can be published in any Nordic language, German, or English. The Trelleborg literature award committee consists of Jan Billgren of Sweden, Knud Mohr of Denmark, Björn-Erik Saarinen of Finland, Ólafur Elíasson of Iceland, and Paul Jensen of Norway.



A veteran sailing ship from the days of the grain trade between Australia and Europe is honored on its centenary with a new • 0.55 stamp from Åland. A 1937 painting by Australian artist Arthur Victor Gregory shows "Pommern" with full sails battling through a storm. "Pommern," which was launched in 1903 from Glasgow, Scotland, is now berthed in Mariehamn as a museum ship. It is reputed to be the only surviving four-masted steel barque in its original condition. The ship never had a propulsion engine and consequently no propellers. "Pommern" was among the grain-hauling ships described by Alfred A. Gruber in the August 2001 issue of *The Posthorn*. If you collect Danish railway, bus, or ferry parcel stamps, you

might be interested in the study group for these issues, Dansk Fragt-og Banemærkeklub, as reported in the Summer 2003 issue of the Swedish journal *Atalaya*. More information about the group is available from Hans Andersen, Engbovej 115, 2610 Rødovre, Denmark.

Postal Souvenirs

As so many postal administrations are doing, Ålandsposten offers T-shirts and model cars along with recent and current new issues. The model cars are quite popular and they have released nine of them so far. The first one is no longer available and has become quite a collector's item. Each model reproduces a postal truck or van that was used in earlier years. Now, Iceland Post has issued its first model car based on a postal vehicle from 1930. Information about obtaining these souvenirs can be obtained by contacting the postal service's websites at www.posten.aland.fi and www.stamps.is. In the United States they are also available from the firm Nordica, Box 284, Old Bethpage NY 11804.

Henk Burgman, writing in the March 2003 issue of *Het Noorderlicht*, discusses the Christmas Seal Collectors Club in Denmark. Toke Nørby mentions that there are at least three websites for those interested in this material. There is a Christmas Seal site at www.julemaerket.dk, a private organization at www.julemaerker.dk, and a store at www.christmasseal.dk.

People News

SCC member John J. Henry was honored at the APS show in Biloxi, MS., in March, having achieved
 50 years as a member of the American Philatelic Society. He was presented with a medallion and certificate.
 Sweden Post named Marianne Nivert as chairman of the board of directors, and Erik Olsson as

managing director. Both appointments became effective in May.
 ✓ SCC's webmaster Toke Nørby added another achievement to his philatelic résumé. He was recently

SCC's webmaster Toke Nørby added another achievement to his philatelic resume. He was recent named to the board of directors of the Kjøbenhavns Philatelist Klub, KPK.

✓ The auction house Postiljonen has formed an internal working advisory board with Knud Mohr of Denmark, former president of the International Federation of Philately (FIP) as chairman. One of the efforts will be a series of seminars to spread knowledge and goodwill for philately. ■

Stockholm Box Cancels Used After 1847

Stockholm had a single post office until the late 1860s, but it had a number of sections that performed different functions. One of the sections handled incoming mail for passage through Stockholm to other destinations. From about 1848, the transit section used box cancelers, even though most other sections



Figure 1



Figure 3

used the new circular date stamps. (The free-letter section used box cancelers until about 1851, and the parcel section used them until around 1871. Though old-

style box cancelers had late uses in most other post offices beyond Stockholm, it was not commonly used after 1848 in the capitol city.)

Stockholm's transit section was issued its new type of box canceler in 1848, and it was used until 1869, according to the best information that was known until recently. The new boxes were unlike the earlier cancels in that the old ones had full dates as shown in Figure 1, but the new cancelers had

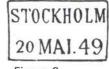


Figure 2

only the day, month in letters, and last two year digits as shown in Figure 2. The transit canceler was used primarily to backstamp transit mail, and they are

not uncommonly found in collections of Swedish covers. Occasionally, however, the box canceler would be used to deface stamps on letters that arrived uncanceled. Most of these items were probably received directly from ships.

I bought the poor example of a stamp shown below from a circuit book for a dollar, but the excellent cancellation extends the last known use of the type to November of 1872. (See Figure 3.)

Thanks again to Sören Andersson for his invaluable help in providing background information for this article. I would like to know if anyone has seen a later date on this type of Stockholm box cancel, either on a stamp or on a cover.

- George Kuhhorn, Sweden Ring Type Study Group chairman, GeoKuhh@starfishnet.com.



Second Stamp from Sweden for Saint

Sweden has issued two stamps within four months honoring the same religious figure. A sheetlet with a single 40 kr. stamp was issued May 31 to commemorate the 700th anniversary of the birth of Swedish-born St. Birgitta, one of the Roman Catholic patron saints of Europe and the founder of the Birgittine convents. A nondenominated first class (brev) coil stamp showing St. Birgitta was issued on January 20 (shown in the February 2003 issue of *Posthorn*, page 31.)

The background of the new 40 kr. stamp shows a handwritten account of one of the 700 revelations attributed to the saint. In this revelation, she condemns the medieval Pope's sojourn and lifestyle in the French city of Avignon and called on him to return to Rome. The portrait of St. Birgitta was taken from an altar screen from Tjällmo church and currently on display at Sweden's Museum of History. ■

-Paul Albright

Auction Marketplace

Frank Banke

Corinphila Auctions, Switzerland

Corinphila's beautiful hard-bound catalog for the "Sibelius" collection is a must reference for classic Finland material. The actual sale on April 6 produced some interesting results.



Corinphila Lot 1410



Corinphila Lot 1169

Most remarkable was the 1866-issue of 5 Kop. têtebêche on letter. Starting at \$42,700, it went for \$120,000 all inclusive (lot 1169). Another astonishing,

rocket price was the 10 Kop. oval and 5 Kop. armstype stationery with 10 copies 8 Pen. stamps to Switzerland. It opened at \$4,200 and went for \$55,500. A Swiss collector was very



Corinphila Lot 1017

happy with this acquisition. The famous and only known 20 Kop. oval stationery in private hands (lot 1410) did not sell

during the auction but sold later for the starting price of \$85,400. It is supposedly also one of the most important and rarest stationery pieces in the world.

Four of the five eye-catching têtebêche pairs sold for their starting price. Lot 1017, 5 Kop. small pearls mint block of four, went for \$85,400. Lot 1048, 5 Kop. large pearls used pair on piece, went for \$51,200. Of the 10 Kop., a mint pair (lot 1062) went for \$42,700 and the beautiful used block of four (only two are known) sold for \$85,100. A fine cover to Norway franked with a 10 Kop. strip of three (lot 1093) started at \$12,800 and sold for \$23,900.

Carlo and

Corinphila Lot 1062



Corinphila Lot 1048

Engers Frimerker, Norway

At the other end of the philately we find the First Day Covers. In some countries these are for the waste-bin but are highly collected items in other places. In Norway, FDCs have been a popular and much-appreciated collecting theme. The redesigned airmail stamp from 1937 together with three definitives all first-day cancelled on a registered air mail letter to Vienna (lot 1124) sold for \$5,500 against a starting price of \$1,700. The sale also included a fine collection of Greenland parcel post stamps with more than 400 lots. The sale took place March 21-22 in Oslo.



Engers FDC Lot 1124

Northland, New Jersey

The second part of Roger Schnell's DWI postal history collection was offered by Northland May 24-25. It included a fine selection of the British Post Office C51



letters with no fewer than 35 letters and two foreign letters through St. Thomas with additional British stamps. One is a mixed



Northland Lot 68

franking with French and a 4d. British stamp, estimated at \$1,500-2,000 (lot 68) and another with an Italian and a 4d. British stamp estimated at only \$300-400 (lot 86). The material ranges from as early as 1768 to the end in 1917.

Northland Lot 86

Postiljonen, Sweden

Previously, we have reported some prices of kings' letters from Sweden. In March, Postijonen had one letter from Riga with the rare Riga ribbon mark from 1708-10 addressed to King Karl XII. Starting at \$13,000, it went for \$16,000 (lot 1212). Another fine item was the Sweden skilling banco letter to Helsingfors franked with two



Postiljonen Lot 490

copies of the 6-sk. adhesive and one copy of the 8-sk. adhesive in very

Revision

Postiljonen Lot 1212

attractive condition. It sold for \$13,500 against a starting price of \$6,500 (lot 490).

Scandinavian Collectors Club Statement of Assets, 12/31/02

	2001	2002
Citizens Checking Account		17,782.66
Citizens Money Market		35,989.70
Citizens CDs (2)	30.000.00	
California Credit Union		279.78
Accounts Receivable		1,783.50
Stamp Mart, net worth		5,494.48
Total Assets (2001 restated to include missing CD)	98,140.54	91,330.12
Net change in 2002		\$(6,810.42)

SCC Operating Statement, 2002

INCOME	2002 detail	2002 totals
Membership Dues		9,797.34
Interest		
First Union CDs	583.66	
Stamp Mart	1,227.16	
Citizens Bank CDs	26.39	
Citizens Bank Money Market	1,079.72	
Interest Subtotal	2,916.93	2,916.93
Misc.		190.89
Total Income		12,905.16
EXPENSE		
Posthorn		
Editor Stipend	1,500.00	
Production Editor Stipend	1,500.00	
Format conversion services (one time)	843.95	
Business Manager Stipend	250.00	
Printing	10,381.75	
Domestic mailing	480.87	
Foreign mailing	607.70	
Subtotal	15,564.27	15,564.27
Executive Secretary stipend	1,500.00	
Executive Secretary expenses	957.49	
Donation, Rocky Mtn. Philatelic Library	500.00	
Promotion	220.17	
Fees	168.00	
Awards	161.25	
Donation, Washington Exhibition 2006	500.00	
Office Supplies	53.70	
Library	90.70	
Subtotal	4,151.31	4,151.31
TOTAL EXPENSES		19,715.58
Net change in Funds		\$(6,810.42)

Visit Minneapolis for a Scandinavian Christmas in July

SCC members will find a "Scandinavian Christmas in July" when they travel to suburban Minneapolis for the annual general membership meeting and awards. The meetings and exhibition will be July 18-20 at Minnesota Stamp Expo 2003.

In addition to SCC, the Christmas Philatelic Club will be holding its annual meeting at the same time — thus, the theme of Scandinavian Christmas in July. Further information on the show is available at www.stampsminnesota.com.

SCC's general membership meeting and a board of directors meeting are planned on July 19. Other activities include a SCC dinner (July 18), presentation of several SCC awards, and a seminar by Steve Kaplan on Finnish ring postal stationery. Specific times and venues will be available at the show. The show hotel is the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Plymouth MN.

At least six SCC members will be exhibiting at the Crystal Community Center. The visiting Nordic judge is Sigurður Pétursson of Iceland.

Minnesota Expo has free gift certificates worth \$10 to use in the bourse, which includes Scandinavian specialty dealers among the 40 dealers. ■

SCC Seeks a Volunteer as Publicity Manager

Job Description:

The principal responsibility of the SCC Publicity Manager is to create or edit, and distribute publicity documents to the philatelic community. This will usually consist of taking information on a future philatelic event of interest to the SCC, writing a press release or similar document, and mailing-emailing it to a standard list of recipients. (The source material will sometimes already be press releases requiring only editing for SCC purposes.) Occasionally, it will be necessary to contact or respond to interested people and organizations by telephone. Direct telephone and postage expenses will be reimbursed.

Routine tasks of the job will include:

- · Writing or editing press releases about philatelic events.
- · Mailing and emailing documents to a mailing list.
- · Responding to inquiries about philatelic events by mail, email, and telephone
- Maintaining a publicity mailing list.

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

Library News

The SCC Library is growing by leaps and bounds. During the summer (probably in July), we expect the arrival of many boxes of material from the Scandinavian Philatelic Library of Southern California, Inc., or SCC Chapter 17 as it is commonly known in our ranks. While this will challenge the Library Committee to find adequate space, it is good news for the membership. Once the material has been sorted and catalogued, there should be expanded choice of Scandinavian philatelic materials available for research. The Library received a donation of the National Geographic video titled, "Iceland River Challenge" from Alfred Gruber. That makes some 60 audio-visual programs available to chapters for their programs. The audio-visual list is available on SCC's Web site, www.scc-online.org (click on "Library" to reach the electronic catalog).

Library Committee member Jeff Mondesett is researching into coming up with a searchable electronic catalog of the Library's holdings. The new system will allow easier and more complete access to the listings and subjects. We are looking forward to the results.

In spot checks of the holdings, the Library Committee has found some catalogued items are missing. We have instituted a new system of record keeping on loaned material, but the old records are not adequate to trace items that disappeared previously. If you have an item that belongs to the SCC Library, please return it.

—Jim Kilbane

	National	Regional*	Nordic & International
2003	Minnesota Stamp Expo July 18-20 Crystal, MN	Sandical Feb 7-9, San Diego, CA (completed)	NORDIA 2003* October 16-19 Reykjavík, Iceland
2004	Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition October 1-3, King of Prussia, PA	To be announced	
2005	Rocky Mountain Stamp Show May 20-22, Denver, CO	To be announced	NORDIA 2005* Göteborg, Sweden
2006	Sandical San Diego, CA	Washington 2006 May 27-June 3, Washington, DC	NORDIA 2006*

SCC Calendar

Sweden Forgery

By James Burgeson

Shown here is something quite unusual: A forgery of a Swedish stamp! We collectors of Scandinavia have few forgeries to fear. There have never been many. This one is



actually a perf 13 ring-type stamp, *Facit* 31i, red lilac on soft paper that is made to resemble *Facit* 44 by adding the fake blue posthorn on the back. *Facit* 44 has always had a much higher catalogue price than the perf 13 issue

20,0

varying from 3 times to 12 times more. There were fewer made to begin with.

I bought this stamp about 30 years ago. Several of these are said to have been made in London in the 1930s, I learned in letters from Rolf Gummesson and Ben de Lambert, now both deceased. Gummesson is said to have had an unused copy that was considered a proof. Experts Per Sjöman and Ernst Fromen, now also deceased, did not believe the proof theory; now all examples are believed to have been made in London. They are said to have been offered for sale in Sweden before World War II to, among others, Harry Wennberg, a well-known dealer and expert who declined to have anything to do with them.

The alert collector will notice at once that the cancellation date on this example is about four years too early for a 6-öre posthorn-on-the-back stamp. On closer inspection, the mouthpiece on the posthorn is a little bit too large. The missing fragment of color on the bell of the posthorn evidently is due to subsequent hinging. Lastly, the shade of color is unknown on a posthorn stamp, which may have played well with the proof theory.

Libraries with Collections Specializing in Danish Philately

By John R. Sabin

This note constitutes a list of various stamp libraries with specialties in Danish philately. I have encountered these while looking for various philatelic books or articles. I hope that such a list might be interesting and useful to collectors trying to research a particular subject in Danish philately.

I have not included specific names and email addresses, as these can change quickly with personnel shifts. Current contact information can be found on the appropriate pages. I am sure I have missed several sites that should be included, for which I apologize. Please let me know what should be added or modified by email at sabin@qtp.ufl.edu or regular post at 415 NW 23rd St., Gainesville. FL 32607. An electronic version of this article, which can be updated in a timely manner, is reachable from the Scandinavian Collectors Club homepage at http://www.scc-online.org/.

In general, I have found the club librarians (who generally are volunteers) to be helpful. Many times they will loan books or provide copies of articles for a nominal fee. In general, however, if it is a club library, material is only sent to club members. However, membership is usually not expensive and includes other advantages beyond library access.

Parentheses indicate the language of the web page.

- The American Philatelic Society: (English) This is a large and eclectic library. The homepage, which includes general contact information, is found at http://www.stamps.org, and has a hotlink at *library* to the library's page at http://www.stamps.org/TheLibrary/lib_AbouttheAPRL.htm. Here there is found information for contacting the librarian, as well as a link at http://www.stamps.org/TheLibrary/lib_CardCatalog.htm for interactive search of the card catalog.
- The Atlanta Stamp Collectors Club Library: (English) A small collection is held by the Atlanta Stamp Collectors Club. The library is described at: http://home.attbi.com/~libpjr1/ascccat.htm.
- Danmarks Filatelist Forbund: (Danish/English/German) This library has extensive holdings of Danish interest. The main library page can be found at http://www.danfil.dk/bibliot.html where contact information, location, opening times, and rules for use may be found.
- Elsted-Lystrup Frimærkeklub: (Danish) The club's home page is at http://www.danfil.dk/ klubber/elsted-lystrup and contains contact information. The library is mentioned if one clicks on *Mere oplysninger Om Frimærkeklubben*, but no other information is available.
- Espergærde Frimærkeklub: (Danish) The club's page may be found at http://www.danfil.dk/ klubber/espergaerde/index.html. Clicking on *Biblioteket & Udstyr* gives a listing of their holdings, last updated in 1991.
- Forschungs Gemeinschaft der Nordische Staaten: (German/English) The main page for the club is found at http://www.nordische-staaten.de/. Clicking on *Bibliothek* gives a pop-up menu with the names and flags of the Scandinavian countries, which, when clicked, gives a list of the library holdings and ordering information.

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- Göteborgs Filatelist Förening: (Swedish) The main page for the club is located at http:// www.gff.o.se/. Clicking on *Förenings biblioteket* produces information on the library, which, in addition to normal library activities, both buys and sells philatelic literature. The library lends only to members.
- Grenaa og Omegns Frimærkeklub: (Danish) The club maintains a homepage at http://www.grenaafrim.subnet.dk/. A click on "bibliotek" brings up their library page. In addition to the library holdings, the club members have collected an archive of some 3,000 philatelic books and articles from various journals. The archive can be downloaded as a .pdf file from http:// sudeten.bizland.com/cgi-bin/index.cgi?action= . Although the listings are in an arcane order, the file can be searched electronically. Material in the archive that is privately owned is not loaned, but copies of much of the material are available from Erik Sørensen (erik-sorensen@stofanet.dk) for a nominal price plus postage. It is not clear that membership is necessary for use of this service.
- **Grindsted Frimærkeklub**: (Danish) The club's main page is found at http://www.danfil.dk/ klubber/grindsted/index.html. Clicking on *om os* will produce a page with URL http:// www.danfil.dk/klubber/grindsted/page2.html where contact information is offered for the library.
- Herlev Frimærkeklub: (Danish) http://www.danfil.dk/klubber/herlev/. No information is available other than that a library exists.
- **Kjøbenhavns Philatelist Klub**: (Danish/English) The main page for the club is located at http:// www.kpk.dk/ where hotlinks to *Aktiviteter -> Biblioteket ->Information* provide practical and contact information.
- **National Philatelic Society**: (English) The home page of the Society is found at http:// www.ukphilately.org.uk/nps/new/new.htm which has a hotlink at *NPS Library* on the left. They have a smallish Danish collection (50-odd books) and some periodicals listed in their holdings. However, nonmembers cannot borrow.
- Post & Tele Museum: (Danish/English) The Danish Post & Tele Museum maintains a study center that includes an excellent library. Information may be obtained from the main P&T Museum page, http://www.ptt-museum.dk/main.asp, by clicking on Samlinger, links -> Studiehuset -> Biblioteket.
- **Rougsø Frimærkeklub**: (Danish) The homepage at http://home.worldonline.dk/bilbo/ rougsoe_frimaerkeklub.htm gives contact information and announces the library.
- The Royal Philatelic Society London [RPSL]: (English) The RPSL, the oldest philatelic society in the world (est. 1869), maintains an extensive library of philatelic material that includes books and monographs, bibliographies and indices, periodicals, catalogs, auction catalogs (some dating back to the 1880s), collections, exhibition literature, and other research material. The library holdings of books are not readily determined, but the periodical collection is extensive. It is my understanding that RPSL is attempting to increase its Scandinavian holdings. Library usage is restricted to members. The library web page can be found at http://www.rpsl.org.uk, and the secretary can be contacted at secretary@rpsl.org.uk.
- Scandinavia Philatelic Society: (English) The SPS Library contains 105 books and booklets on Danish philately published during the last 60 years, half in the Danish language. Circulation of literature is limited to UK SPS members, but "reasonable" requests for copied material from overseas members can be considered. The society homepage can be found at http://www.scandps.org.uk/.
- Scandinavian Collectors Club: (English) The collection is extensive and diverse. The main library page is found at http://www.scc-online.org/library.htm, and the electronic catalog, rules for use, and contact information can be found at http://www.scc-online.org/libindexlib.htm.
- Silkeborg Frimærkeklub: (Danish) The library page is found from the home page at http:// www.silfi.dk/ by clicking on *Bibliotek*, which gives an electronic listing of their holdings. Clicking on *Bestyrelse* on the home page gives a list of contacts.

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- Swedish Postal Museum: (English) The museum's home page is found at http://www.posten.se/ english/museum/index.html, where contact information may be found. Clicking on *opening hours* brings one to http://www.posten.se/english/museum/faktum.html, which gives library information. The museum has a large and excellent collection, which includes much Danish material.
- Western Philatelic Library: (English) This site, found at http://www.fwpl.org, provides an excellent collection of bound journals, such as *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift, Frimærkesamleren*, and *Pincetten*, among many others. Bound volumes that represent complete runs (a set of all issues published from No. 1 to the present) are noted with "[C]." All others are partial runs from just one volume to nearly complete sets. In addition to the catalogued, bound journals, there are thousands more that are not yet part of the bound collection. It is worthwhile to inquire if you don't see what you want. They also have journals from Norway, Sweden, Iceland, and Finland.
- Aalborg–Nørresundby–Frimærkeklub: (Danish) The homepage is found at http:// www.danfil.dk/klubber/aan/, and clicking on OM AANF brings up a page with the library listed and includes a reservation form for borrowing materials.

In addition, there are many more general sites that list museums and libraries:

- A list of many national philatelic museums and libraries can be found at the **Philatelic Supersite Museums and Libraries**, available at http://www.cancelnations.com/museums.htm.
- A worldwide list of Stamp Libraries and Museums listed by **The Stamp Yellow Pages** can be found at http://www.stampshows.com/museums.html.
- Another list of philatelic museums and libraries, listed by country, is maintained by **Graeme Sherman** and is available at http://dspace.dial.pipex.com/town/square/ac752/museum1.htm or http://dspace.dial.pipex.com/gs/museum1.htm
- AJ's Encyclopedia of Stamps & Philatelic Links, which provides a list of philatelic organizations at http://wardaj.tripod.com/i/xref/dxd.htm, is also useful.
- Finally, as always, Joe Luft's listing of philatelic resources at http://my.execpc.com/~joeluft/ resource.html is indispensable.

Thanks for comments and assistance from Toke Nørby and Johnny Barth (KPK). I have had special help over the years from the libraries at Danmarks Filatelist Forbund, the Scandinavian Collectors Club, and the Danish Post & Tele Museum, for which I am grateful. ■

Chapter Reports

Compiled by Arnold Sorensen, Vice President for Chapters

NEW ENGLAND Chapter 5

Mats Roing has been preparing a series of philatelic quizzes for the meetings. Each has 10-15 questions. You may find one occasionally in future issues of *Posthorn*. The May meeting was at the APS Philatelic Show in Boxborough, MA. This show attracts some members that don't normally attend the chapter meeting.

NEW JERSEY Chapter 9

Finnish specialist Kauko Aro is resigning and moving south. Warren Grosjean reports that several members have been able to acquire stamps on eBay that they never would have had access to before. The club continues to use the circuit books at their meeting, but the material is becoming scarcer. The March meeting saw a discussion of the Finland Roulettes plus the upcoming Corinphila auction of the Sibelius Collection. Someone had recently acquired a Finland #1 with Nokaistad script cancel, and an eBay purchase of a pair with a low box cancel CASA that mystified everyone.

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REYKJAVÍK Chapter 11

Planning continues for NORDIA 03 to be held in October in Reykjavík. Chapter 11's Sigurður Þorsteinsson is the general commissioner for the show.

DELAWARE Chapter 13

The chapter continues to meet at members' homes on a rotating basis. For the January meeting at Dewy Smith's place, each member brought a show-and-tell. The February meeting was hosted by Tom Bergendahl with a slide program devoted to Scandinavian history, scenery, and stamps.

TWIN CITIES Chapter 14

The January, February and March meetings were all triple-header events. The first third of each meeting is devoted to perusal of circuit books. This is followed by a presentation by a member, and lastly they close with a show-and-tell session. The programs included Roy Spiller on early Danish numeral cancels, Ross Olson on the life and works of engraver Czesław Slania, and Bob Schermerhorn on World War II airmail routes from Scandinavia to Europe and other Continents. Al Sarvi will be chairman of Minnesota Expo and Viggo Warmboe is liaison between the show and the SCC. Olson will be the exhibit chair.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Chapter 17

Paul Nelson states that meeting dates and places remain the same.

GOLDEN GATE Chapter 21

The chapter's last meetings were at WESTPEX in San Francisco and COALPEX in Walnut Creek where a couple of members exhibited and won ribbons. The chapter has 18 members and is in the process of becoming affiliated with the APS.

MANITOBA Chapter 24

The chapter is on summer hiatus and will resume regular meetings in September. At the annual Winnipeg Philatelic Show in May, the chapter opened its meeting to the public. Chapter 24 will have space at the Icelandic Festival at the museum in Gimli. The chapter will also have a display at the Folklorama. Forty-two different cultures will set up displays during a two-week period in August.

TIDEWATER Chapter 26

Mike Falls reports that they routinely have five of the 13 chapter members at meetings. Members have interests outside the Scandinavian area as well. Two members exhibited at the Springfield, VA show, Springplex. Falls exhibited "Allied Military Mail of Iceland During World War II," and Howard Schloss exhibited "New York World's Fair, 1939-1940." Both won gold and Schloss took the show's reserve grand award.

COLORADO Chapter 27

Peter Bergh showed a final draft copy of his monograph: *Danish Øre Bicolors: An Introduction* at a spring meeting. The chapter has compiled a list of English translations of common philatelic terms in Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish. Roger Cichorz wrote and distributed a detailed analysis of the May, 2002 auction of Roger Schnell's DWI collection by Northland Co. About 12 of the 20+ members attended monthly meetings this spring. The chapter does not meet in July and August.

CYBER Chapter 28

The Cyber chapter has 40 members. It is open to all SCC members where participants share their philatelic interests or show unusual and interesting items. All newsletters are sent via email. In newsletter 43, for example, Arnold Sorensen wrote about his experiences with some 200 eBay purchases. The more

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members, the more contributed material. Contact Ed Bode at edbode@juno.com and ask to be on the email list.

COPENHAGEN Chapter 29

Toke Nørby has joined the Board of Directors of the Copenhagen Philatetist Klub as a province representative. He has been active in establishing a new Danish stamp news group. Look it up at news:dk.fritid.filateli. SCC members are invited to post inquiries about Danish or other Scandinavian stamps.

Book Reviews

German Military Units and Field Post Numbers Connected to Norway 1940-1945, Erik Lørdahl, 8¼ by 11¾ inches, perfect bound, soft cover, 346 pages, War and Philabooks Ltd., Tårnåsen, Norway, 2001, ISBN 82-995588-3-2. NOK390 (approx. \$43) plus postage. Ordering details from the author at Gydas v. 52, 1413 Tårnåsen, Norway, or by email loreri@c2i.net.

Drawing on the earlier work of Torbjørn Larsson-Fedde, Karl U. Sanne, and Ragnar Wolden, the author has compiled an extensive database of fieldposts of German units during the occupation of Norway in World War II. In addition to the army units he includes naval and air units that were based in Norway, units that attacked the Soviet Union from northern Norway and Finland, construction units, Norwegian volunteers in SS detachments, and Norwegian students arrested and sent to Germany for "re-education."

The major parts of this book are devoted to listings of the fieldpost numbers in numeric order (yellow pages), unit designation in alphabetical order (green pages), and unit locations in alphabetical order (pink pages). The tables include fieldpost number, location, unit designation, and inclusive usage dates (from/ to). The explanatory text is presented in Norwegian, English, and German, thus bringing the information to a wide audience.

To provide a clearer picture of the material, there are a number of illustrations of covers, post cards, propaganda stamps and labels, registration labels, fieldpost cancels and handstamps, censor marks and resealing tape, and SS handstamps for mail entering the civil post. Abbreviations are listed and there is a bibliography showing additional sources.

The English language portion of the text is quite good. There was a correction to one of the illustrations slipped into the book on a separate piece of paper. This is a very useful book for those interested in postal history of the German units in Norway during the Second World War.

-Alan Warren

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Postbesørgelsen i Danmark under 1864-krigen (Postal Communications in Denmark during the 1864 War), Max Meedom, 7 by 9½ inches, Danish text, hardbound, 288 pages, Forlaget Nordfrim, Otterup, Denmark 1998, ISBN 87-87958-26-0. \$68 from Jay Smith & Associates, Box 650, Snow Camp NC 27349.

The late Max Meedom's byline was frequently seen in Danish philatelic journals on a variety of postal history subjects. This book is an in-depth study of postal communications during the Danish-German war of 1864. He begins with postal conditions in Jutland during the occupation. Chapters are devoted to Prussian Fieldpost organization, the Danish Fieldpost system, censorship as practiced by both sides, the configuration of Danish postmarking devices, and the smuggling of mail between Øerne and Jutland as well as other routes during the conflict.

Steamship routes for handling mail are also described. One appendix identifies by date the significant postal events during 1864, and another the key military events during the same period. Another appendix gives the postal rates for different classes of service. The bibliography includes general references on the war, followed by postal history sources by chapter. A proper name index concludes the book.

Many covers and a few prints are used to tell this story. The illustrations are nicely done.

— Alan Warren

Book Reviews continue on Page 46

A Glance Back

By Bob Lang

(Author's Note: The information below was published 35 years ago. It has most likely been updated and may have appeared in more recent philatelic literature and catalogs.)



The 1968 issues of *The Posthorn* were devoted almost solely to the study of Norwegian stamps (57 pages). If you collect Classic Norway you will find a wealth of information in these six issues from 35 years ago.

Issues #5 & #6 of Volume 25 contained an extensive article by Carl Werenskiold about Norway No. 1, including details about the "NORWEX" Reproductions. This 18-page article discusses in detail printing procedures, the original die, the matrix, watermark die, preparation of the clichés, the paper, the printing ink, the printing operation, reconstruction of a sheet, and the several official reprints (really afterprints) of Norway No. 1, plus a section on the forgeries, counterfeits, and cancellations. Four pages are devoted to the Official Reproductions of the original stamp for the NORWEX Exhibition in Oslo in 1955.

Issues #1 & #2 featured a reprinted article from the 1964 American Philatelic Congress book titled "Norway – Coat of Arms Issue 1863-66." This 24-page article is profusely illustrated with eight pages of detailed prints of the five denominations. In addition, the narrative discusses the methods of printing the 2-skilling and 24-skilling stamps. There are tables and diagrams denoting the various measurements, as well as numerous visuals of the errors found to that date.

Issue #3 contains an article by T. Soot-Ryen on "Norway – The Stereotyped Stamps of 1883 - 85 (NK No's 1-47)." It contains detailed descriptions of the paper, watermarks, production methods, the clichés (both steel & rubber-like material) and irregularities. This article includes close-up photos of the clichés and a table showing delivery dates and quantities of the different denominations plus a detailed description of the delivery of each denomination (including the color varieties).

The other NORWAY article is found in Issue #2 entitled "Wild West Days in Northern Norway," by Frederick A. Brofos. This is a philatelic history lesson about the Ofoten Railroad that was built in the late 1800s above the Arctic Circle to facilitate the shipping of iron ore from Swedish Lappland to an ice-free port in northern Norway. It discusses the problems encountered along the route and shows circular date cancels of two of the notable Norwegian towns: Rombaksbotn (where a Klondike type atmosphere reigned) and Victoriahavn (later renamed Narvik).

Other highlights in the 1968 issues include an article in Issue #3 about "Soldier's Mail from the Danish West Indies" by Verner Eskenvall. It describes a prototype printed envelope for soldiers to use sending letters back home to Denmark. It shows two 1887 hand-made envelopes that were used before the properly printed envelopes.

Issue #4 featured a DWI article by Roger Preston on "Virgin Islands (U.S.A.) Provisional Revenues." It shows examples of three varieties of U.S. playing card revenue stamps overprinted (1920-1934) for use in the Virgin Islands. The author also shows 10 re-surcharged values and discusses the fact that cigarettes were taxed but does not show any stamps to collect that tax. A third DWI article by Preston (Issue #3), "Virgin Islands U.S.A," tells how the 1967 Virgin Islands 6-cent postal card came to be.

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 palbright@wiche.edu. Complete issues of *The Posthorn* are available for purchase by SCC members while supplies last. ■

Finnish Town of Ii among Shortest Postmarks

Readers of *Linn's Stamp News* have been submitting the shortest postmarks in the world. Thus far, four locations were tied with two letters each for their name: Aa, Scotland, Bo, Sierre Leone, O.K., Kentucky, and **Ii, Finland**. Roger Quinby shared a postmark of Ii, which is located near where the Iijoki River empties into the Gulf of Bothnia north of Oulu. *Filatelisti* Editor Lauri Poropudas explains that the name "Ii" stems from the Sami words for dark or night and that "joki" is Finnish for river. A post office was established at "Ii" on New Year's Day, 1894. ■

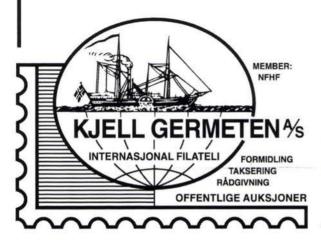
- Paul Albright

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SCC Director and Publicity Chair John Knutsen, 62

SCC Director and Publicity Chairman John A. Knutsen died February 10 in Tacoma, WA after recently retiring as professor of international business and marketing at the University of Puget Sound (UPS). During 27 years at UPS, he led many student trips aboard, primarily to Asia, to study international trade and business He taught on several foreign campuses, including a year at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He was the director of the UPS business leadership program.

Knutsen, 62, was an enthusiastic world traveler and had a wide range of interests from ornithology and philately to reading and visiting museums. He was also a lifelong ham radio enthusiast. He was appointed SCC Publicity Chairman in 2000 and joined the Board of Directors in 2001.

His wife, Winona, summed up his philatelic interests in an email to The Posthorn.

"John certainly loved collecting stamps and I have a roomful of albums to show for it! His death was completely unexpected, and the afternoon of the day before he died he went to a stamp shop. He loved to travel, and I've been like the spouse of many collectors and have seen some of my best sights outside of stamp shops while he was hunting for treasures inside!

"His collection areas were broad: Norway was a favorite. He had a relative who was a stamp engraver there, so, this country was very special to him. Sweden, Iceland, Switzerland, and Japan were among his top areas (I think!) As a poor, newly married graduate student, he had a close call with his collection when I thought I'd take the blue stamps from various albums and use them to decorate a bathroom wall!

"When I cleaned out his office, where he had 27 years of professor stuff, I found six large boxes full of albums there. No wonder he liked going to his office so much!"

-Paul Albright

Denmark's Peer Lorentzen, Champion Exhibitor

The world of philately will continue to benefit in many ways from the contributions of the distinguished Danish collector and exhibitor, Peer Lorentzen, who died March 28 at the age of 76.

His son, Mark Lorentzen, said an article is planned telling more about the controversial Greenland "Danmark Befriet" overprints based on Peer Lorentzen's conversations with the key figure in producing the

overprints in 1945. In addition to this historical record, Lorentzen's collection of Denmark's classic stamps will be auctioned to other collectors "over the next couple years, primarily through Høiland Auctions, but Postiljonen will sell his essay collection plus some selected items."

Peer Lorentzen was among the leading international exhibitors. In 1991, he won the grand award at ARIPEX and then the APS Champion of Champions with his "Denmark 1-10, 1851-1863." In more recent years, he won the Grand Prix National at HAFNIA 01 with his "Danish Classics 1851-1863," and the Grand Prix Nordique at NORDIA 02 for "Danmark's Posthistorie: ca 1800 til ca 1865." He also won the Grand Prix International in Madrid 2002.

Lorentzen was trained in Copenhagen as a civil engineer. He relocated to Michigan where for many years he ran his own company manufacturing automobile lubricants. He sold the firm in 1996 and moved back to Denmark with his wife, the Danish stamp dealer Kirsten Ehlers Lorentzen. Before leaving the United States, he donated a painting by the Danish artist Michael Ancher to the Danish Immigrant Museum in Elk Horn, Iowa.

Lorentzen was a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London. In addition to his widow, he is survived by a daughter Lise and his son Mark, who also exhibits Danish material.

- Toke Nørby, Alan Warren, Paul Albright

Harvey G. Gudmundson, Chicago leader

Harvey G. Gudmundson of Chicago, a collector and exhibitor of Scandinavian material and a leader in Chicago-area philately, died February 25 at the age of 70. He became active in SCC's Chicago Chapter 4 in the 1960s following military service in the Navy. He served Chapter 4 as vice president, exhibition chairman, and president (three times, including 2001).

In 1970, Gudmundson was elected to the first of six terms as a Vice President of COMPEX, the combined philatelic exhibition and show hosted yearly by Chicago chapters and clubs.

Echoing his Icelandic roots, Gudmundson collected and exhibited Iceland, notably air mail issues. Other exhibits of Icelandic materials included airmail labels, revenues, postal stationery, imperfections, Iceland Abroad, and "Let's Go Fishing in Iceland." He also exhibited the Four Kings issue of Denmark, Sweden 1858-1911, Danish West Indies, Karelia



and North Ingermanland, Greenland, and the Northern Countries Issues of 1956. He also actively sought out recruits for SCC membership at local Scandinavian events and by contacting members of the American Philatelic Society in the Chicago area.

Survivors include his widow, Jane, two sons, a daughter, and a granddaughter.

- Ben Cohen and Jerry Grimson

Book Reviews (continued)

Postryttaren, the yearbook of the Post Museum of Sweden, ISSN 0586-6758.

The annual of the Postmuseum of Sweden is sponsored by the Friends of the Postmuseum, an organization that is now more than 75 years old. Since it is an annual, *Postryttaren* is considered a serial, perhaps somewhat akin to the *Congress Book* of the American Philatelic Congress. However, the Swedish book carries both scholarly articles as well as general information items to reach a wide audience. The books contain many color illustrations and are well-printed and bound.

Taking a look back at the three volumes of the 21st Century, we find:

Postryttaren 2002 — This is Number 52 in the continuing series. This edition, edited by Jan Billgren, includes an article about a letter from Queen Kristina, in 1647. Other articles discuss the postal road from Markaryd and the Markaryd post office; Swedish postage due markings with centime values (1897-1965); the first four Swedish postal steamships; stamp exhibitions; information about the Swedish post office in Hamburg; Swedish pioneer airmail between 1809 and 1920; and a report of activities in the Postmuseum in 2001. Finally, there is a 10-page index of articles in *Postryttaren* from Number 1 through Number 51.

Postryttaren 2001 — Sven-Rune Johansson gives a short history of the Friends organization, founded in 1926. Björn Sylwan offers a profile of the Swedish stamp engraver and printer Pehr Ambjörn Sparre. Postal historians Jan Billgren, who edited this volume, and Tomas Bjäringer present a nice tribute to the late Lauson Stone, who built internationally recognized collections of Sweden's stamps and postal history.

Swedish Polar collector Fred Goldberg contributes a nicely illustrated discussion of rare postal artifacts from the 1901-1904 Antarctic expedition of Otto Nordenskjöld. This year's book also describes the Strandell Medal, established in 1961 by the Swedish Philatelic Federation (SFF) and presented periodically to nationally or internationally recognized philatelists in honor of their contributions in writing, service, or collecting/exhibiting.

Jane Rothlind profiles a Polish engraver of Swedish stamps less well-known than Czeslaw Slania, namely Piotr Naszarkowski. In addition to other articles, there is a summary of the activities of the Swedish Postal Museum during the year 2000.

Postryttaren 2000 — Postmuseum President Gunnar Nordlinder describes how the museum was completely overhauled in order to meet the needs of visitors and users in the 21st century, with newly installed exhibits and a computerized library and information retrieval center. The story of the renovations is detailed in the first article by Carola Bratt et al.

This edition, capably edited by the Museum's Erik Hamberg, contains an article about the *Titanic*, in keeping with a recently popular subject area. Postal historian Jan Billgren discusses insured mail sent abroad in an extended article. Robert Mattson gives an overview of a little known exhibition held in Stockholm in 1909, using view cards, artifacts, and postal history items to tell the story.

Articles by Jane Rothlind and Christina Jägerbäck profile two of Sweden's stamp engravers—Martin Mörck and Czeslaw Slania. The concluding article summarizes the activities of the museum for 1999.

Although *Postryttaren*, which translates to Post Rider in English, are published entirely in the Swedish language, the black and white and full color illustrations and the philatelic content are so interesting that it is worth the work to make a translation of an article of interest.

The yearbook is available through its publisher, the Swedish Postmuseum, Box 2002, 10311 Stockholm, Sweden. The email address for the museum is postmuseum@posten.se. The website is www.posten.se/museum and there are many on-line searches that may be done. To receive *Postryttaren* each year, one should join the Friends of the Postmuseum (Föreningen Postmusei Vänner).

- Paul Nelson and Alan Warren

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. Stamp King store, 7139 W. Higgins Rd., Chicago, 60656. CONTACT: Fred Bloedow, 810 Dobson St. #1A, Evanston, IL 60202-3969 or Ronald Collin (773) 907-8633 (daytime), 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, (973-839-6383), or email: grosjean@optionline.net.

11. REYKJAVÍK: 2nd Mon., 19:00, program 20:00, at Siðúmúli 11, The Center of the Icelandic Philatelic Federation. Junior meeting every Tue., 17:00 in the Seljakirkja in Breiðholt, Reykjavík. CONTACT: Sigurður H. Þorsteinsson, Postbox 26, IS-222, Hafnarfjörður, Iceland, email: sholm@tv.is.

12. WASHINGTON DC: 3rd Thu. at the McLean Community Center, 7:30, unless there is a major show, or it is summer. CONTACT: Peter Alten, 9300 Main St., Manassas, VA 22110.

13. DELAWARE: Last Tue. at members' homes. CONTACT: Mark Manno, 123 Casho Mill Rd., Newark, DE 19711, or Alan Warren, email: alanwar@worldnet.att.net.

14. TWIN CITIES: 2nd Thu. (except Jul. & Aug.) at Lynnhurst Community Center, 50th St., & West Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN. CONTACT: Rossmer V. Olson, P.O. Box 23377, Richfield, MN 55423, email: RossVOle@aol.com.

15. ROCHESTER: 1st Mon. at Robert Gustafson's home. CONTACT: Robert Gustafson, 877 Helendale Rod., 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 Tues., noon, at Cuzzin's Restaurant, 28910 U.S. Rt. 19, Clearwater, FL. CONTACT: Doris Wending, 4673 Devonshire Blvd., Palm Harbor, FL 34685, email: Judy Nelson, island1@gte.net.

24. MANITOBA: 2nd & 4th Wed. at Scandinavian Cultural Centre, 764 Erin St., Winnigpeg, MB. CONTACT: Robert Zacharias, 808 Polson Ave., Winnipeg, MB R2X 1M5, Canada, email: robertzacharias@shaw.ca.

25. TUCSON: 4th Tue. (except Jul. & Aug.) at members' homes. CONTACT: Jack F. Schmidt, phone: (520) 648-0034, or email: schmidt6@mindspring.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.

The Scandinavian Collectors Club

(A 501(c)3 non-profit organization) Founded November 25, 1935

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