

NOVEMBER 2004

The
POSTHORN

Rowboat Mail in The Faroes

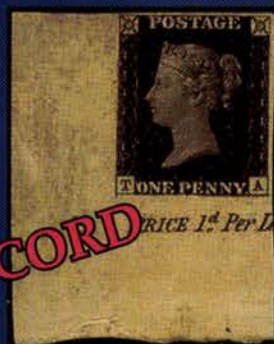


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Mozart's Posthorn Serenade

Collectors don't normally associate the utilitarian posthorn with classical music, but the irrepressible Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart did. Here is a German-produced card showing a few lines from the score of Mozart's "Die Posthornserenade," the popular name given to his Serenade No. 9 in D Major.

The graphic artist mixed philately and musical themes by reproducing the opening bars of Trio II of Mozart's serenade and superimposing images of a curved posthorn, a mail carriage, several worldwide stamps, and a few string instruments. The posthorn ("corno di posta" in the score) was the featured instrument in this Trio (section) of the piece and gave the serenade its popular name.

Collectors, of course, are most familiar with the posthorn as a symbol of the post and as the herald sounded when mail arrived by foot, horseback, or carriage across Scandinavia and the rest of Europe.

Mozart composed "Die Posthornserenade" in July, 1779 and completed it August 3, 1779, while he was in Salzburg, Austria. There are two marches included as part of the serenade, usually a signal that the piece was composed for some festive occasion. In 1783, Mozart wrote to his father asking that the work be sent to him in Vienna, Austria, where he possibly adapted it for Viennese audiences.¹

The greeting card was sent to Alfred A. Gruber, former SCC president, and his wife in 2003 by their daughter who resided in Vienna at the time. ■

— Paul Albright



¹ See Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus, *Serenade No. 9*, Ernst Eulenbug, Ltd., London, 1960.



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The Skyds System: Sea-mail in the Faroe Islands

By Per Erik Knudsen

A brief historical background

The Faroe Islands were part of the Kingdom of Norway when the Kalmar Union — uniting Denmark, Norway and Sweden under the reign of Queen Margrethe I — was established in 1389 (and confirmed in 1397). The islands remained part of Norway until 1814, when the Treaty of Kiel transferred Norway from the Danish to the Swedish crown. However, the remote lands that had followed Norway into the Kalmar Union, and which remained part of the Danish-Norwegian kingdom until 1814 (i.e. Iceland, Greenland, and the Faroes), were to be retained by Denmark.

At that time, the Faroes had approximately 5,200 inhabitants living in about 120 villages. Most people derived a living from the rearing of sheep and were dependent on whatever their own land, or land rented from the Crown, could bring them. Certainly, fishing and whaling were important for the islanders' survival, but at that time such products could not easily be exported. In the 1801 population census, only six people claimed that fishing was their living. The marriage age was high as, according to the law, before a man could marry he had to be able to bring up a family, or to possess enough land to do so. Partly for this reason, the Faroese population had been stable for centuries. In addition, of course, the harsh conditions in the Faroes took lives and kept the population down.

Up to 1856, all trade in the Faroes was monopolized by the Royal Trade Company. This company had been established at the time when the Crown held absolute power. From 1660 to 1814, the united Kingdom of Denmark-Norway was ruled as an absolute monarchy with no representation of either the nobility or commoners. In Denmark, this situation remained for another 35 years. In the Faroe Islands, the islanders had limited local representation in the Lagting (Faroese Løgting), a parliament dating back before the year 1000. This situation changed in 1816 when the Faroes became a Danish county.

The Skyds system

The 5,200 Faroe islanders, living on these remote Atlantic islands at the edge of Europe, had no particular need to correspond with Denmark-Norway. Apart from the clergy and the handful of civilian and military administrators, the inhabitants would have had few close relatives living in mainland Europe. Pre-1800 letters that may have survived from personal correspondence are almost non-existent, at least outside museum archives. Personally, I have seen no letters of this kind, either on the philatelic market or at exhibitions, in the 20 years and more that I have eagerly collected stamps and postal history from the Faroes.

Generally, the type of postal material that can be seen from time to time is the outside part of reports and official mail from the Royal Trade Company. These were sold from the royal archives in Copenhagen about 40 years ago. Figure 1 shows a letter dating back to 1751. So far, this is the oldest item I have seen and is still in my own

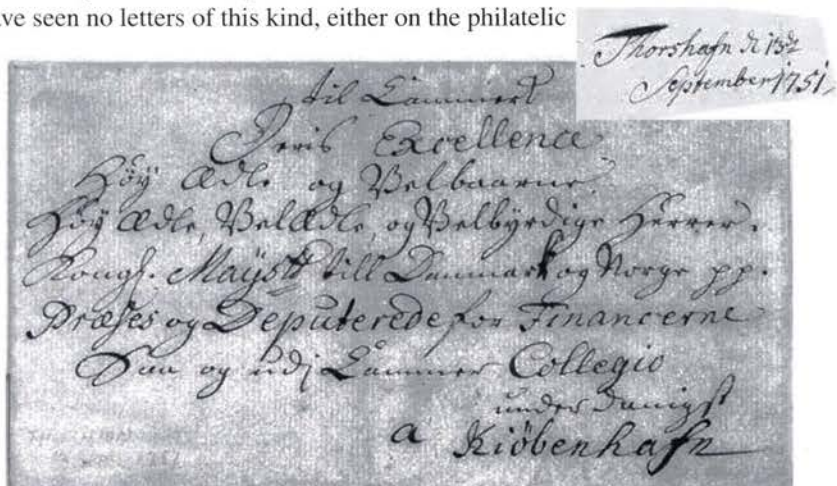


Figure 1. Letter sent from Tórshavn to Copenhagen, September 1751.

collection. (A number of later letters, with the same addressee and sender, were sold at auction within the last year).

The need for transport within each of the separate islands in the Faroes was limited. Even if a farmer owned a horse, it would rarely be used for riding to the next village or to a neighboring farm. Walking was normal on the often dangerous paths over the mountains. Rain and fog could add to the hazards of the journey, in winter or summer. The islands' first roads were established after World War I. Whatever had to be transported, normally went by sea.

However, administrators and clergymen needed transport within the Faroes, just as they did in the Norwegian homeland. In Norway, transport was organized for these groups of people, using coaches and horses. In the Faroes, the Lagting had established a system of transportation — both from village to village and from island to island — using commandeered men and rowboats. Anyone who saw the film “Barbara” might remember this kind of transportation. Originally, these men received no payment. Rather, it was a burden placed upon them, and no excuses could be used to avoid such service when an official wished to travel on duty.

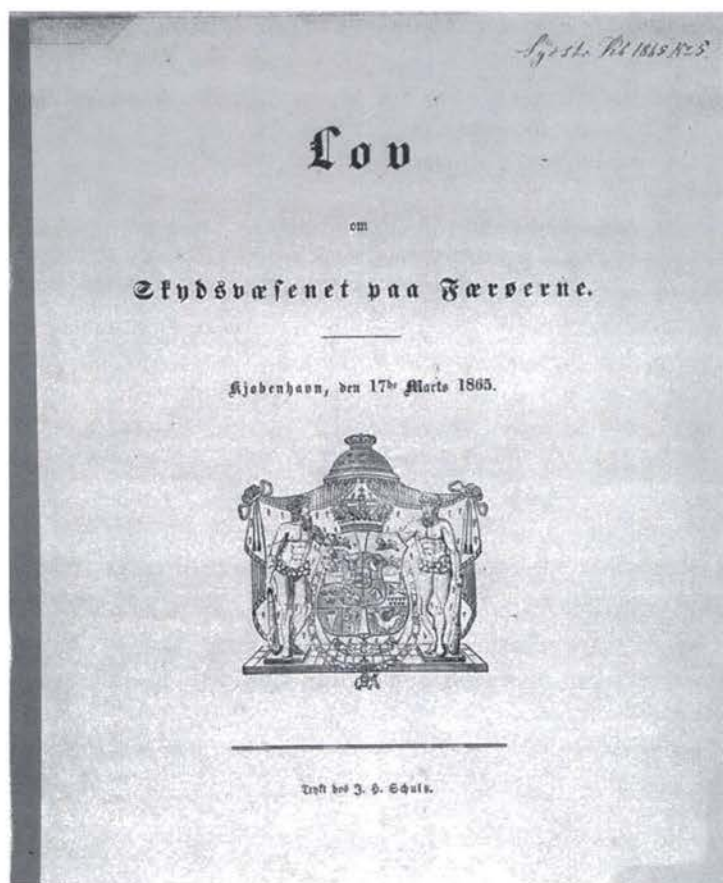


Figure 2. Danish law relating to the Skyds system in the Faroes, March 17, 1865.

a special law for the “Skyds” system was passed in Copenhagen (Figure 2). Generally speaking, the law and the regulations that stemmed from it only confirmed the arrangements that had been made over the previous decades.

Travelers other than clergymen and administrators who needed transport normally paid. If they were poor, they could make free use of available spaces in boats when an official was being transported. The most frequent travelers, though, were the clergy, as they needed to visit all the villages and the churches they served.

An official report from the 1780s states that, up to 1750, the normal payment for a journey by sea over a distance of an old “Danish mile” (7.538 kilometres) was a couple of bottles of brandy or some rolls of tobacco. The legendary rule was that “if you cannot feed a man, then transport him.” When the rowing crew could not return home the same day, they had the right to receive free food and lodging in the village in which they were “stranded.”

In the above-mentioned report, a system of fair payment was proposed. This was because people living near civil servants and churches had to shoulder the whole burden. The proposed system gradually came into force over the next 90 years. In 1865,





Skyds mail

What has this to do with mail and ship-letters? Well, the transportation of letters was part of the Skyds system.¹ Official letters, on royal duty, were to be transported in the same manner as men. A normal letter would wait for the next transportation of people. *Express letters*, however, had to be handled with the same kind of efficiency as if a civil servant himself was traveling. People and mail were transported not by ship but by rowboat. The

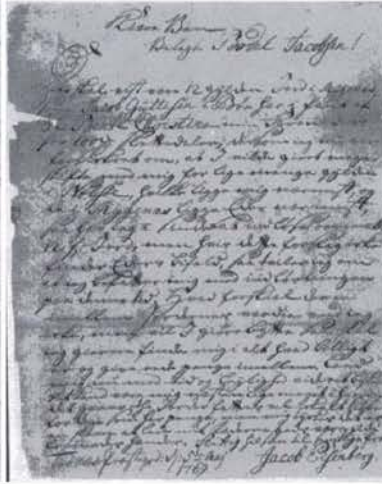


Figure 3. Wrapper and contents of a clergyman's unofficial letter, May 5,

open sea had to be crossed. Sometimes, it would require the services of eight or nine men to transport a single letter across difficult and dangerous waters. And the men would be ordered to set out within hours!

Until 1870, there was no official mail system between the various islands in the Faroes. The transport of an item of mail needed to be organized by the sender. Even between the islands, the transportation of letters had to be arranged privately. As in other parts of the world, letters were sent with people one knew would be traveling. One could also hand them to the Sysselmand, the official local authority, or to Nævneren, the local administrator of the Skyds system. I have not yet found what fee the letter's sender had to pay. The letter then waited for the departure of an official transport. In worst cases the delay may be weeks or even months. Figure 3 is the oldest letter of this kind that I am aware of. It is a letter sent on May 5, 1769, from the vicarage at Todnæs in Sand(ur)*, on the island of Sandoy, to Gaasedal (Gásadalur)*, on the island of Vágur, by a notoriously greedy clergyman. The text shows that this letter is not an official one. It had therefore probably waited for transport in more than one village en route.

Royal Duty

From 1771 onwards, letters on official (royal) duty had to be marked "KT" (Kongelig Tjæneste = Royal Duty). Such letters from the Faroes are not at all common. However, letters from 1800 onwards can sometimes be found at quite moderate prices on the philatelic market. Express letters with "KT" are scarce, but can also be found — but at collectors' prices. Two such letters, dating back to January 1825 and to the period 1843-48, are shown in

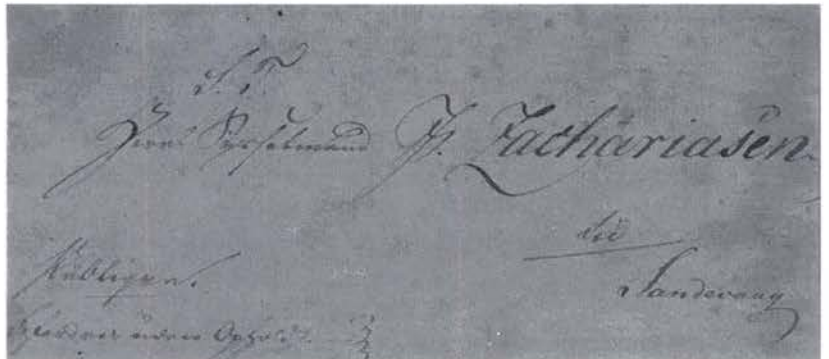


Figure 4. 1825 Skyds letter from the Governor.

*Words in parentheses are old spellings that were used prior to when the language was orthographically corrected.

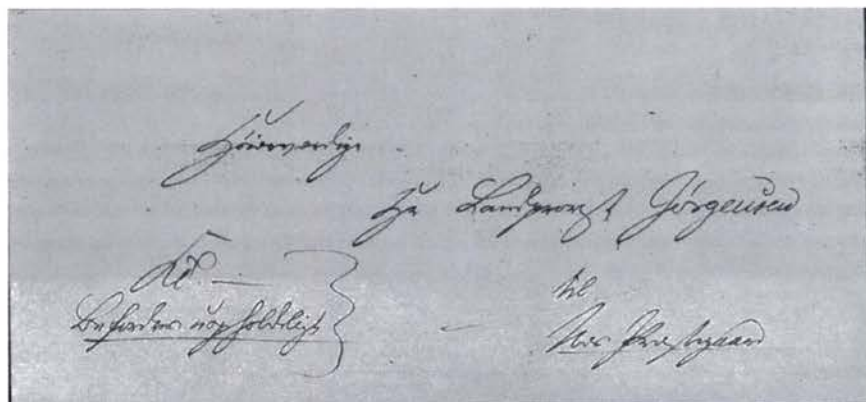


Figure 5. Skyds letter from a Governor to a Vice Bishop.

Figures 4 & 5. The oldest of these letters was sent from Vestmanna to Sandavágur, forwarding an order to Sysselmand H. Zachariassen from the Governor (Amtmand), Emilius Løbner. The second is a letter from Governor Christian Pløyen, residing in Tórshavn, to the Vice-Bishop, Otto Jørgensen, residing at Toftir on the island of Eysturoy. Both

letters had been transported by rowboats across fjords. Try to imagine that your express letter has to be transported by between five and nine men, who have been ordered to row it to the recipient in the shortest possible time, for almost no reward. The text in the lower left corners of the letters says, in addition to the letters “KT,” “Befordres uden ophold” and “Befordres uopholdelig.” Both inscriptions can be translated as “To be forwarded without delay,” and are formulas used to indicate express mail.

A story, referred to in the philatelic literature, tells us that the Skyds system was misused by some officials by the sending of private correspondence. Correspondence between clergymen could not legally be opened by any layman, so who could possibly have monitored what letters were being transported?

No postal markings

There are no indications on normal letters to prove that they were transported by the Skyds system. But we know, of course, that letters from one island to another had to be carried over the sea. So, among collectors, most unstamped, pre-1900 letters from one island to another are reckoned to have been transported by the Skyds. An example of this is the small letter shown as Figure 6. The letter, dated October 6, 1873, was sent from Hoyvík, just north of Tórshavn, to the island of Nólsoy. At this time Tórshavn had a post office, but no mail route to Nólsoy existed. The letter was written to confirm that Mr. P. Mohr accepted an invitation to attend a wedding on Nólsoy. He also expressed the wish that the crew of rowers could attend the wedding too, as this was the only way he could attend.

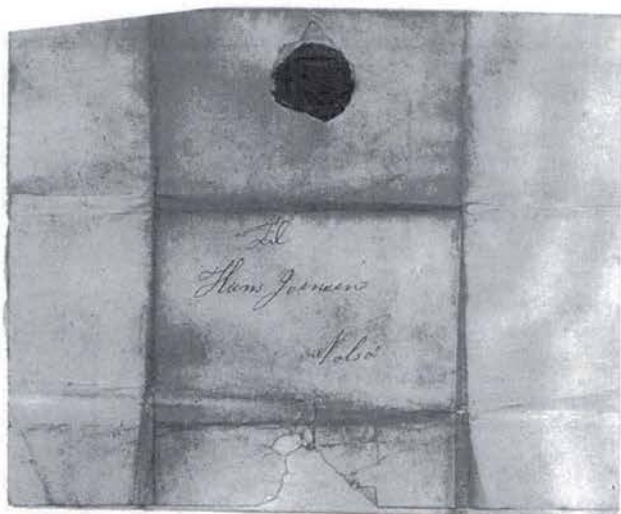


Figure 6. A RSVP to a wedding invitation, October 6,

(When I was exhibiting at Norðatlantex in Tórshavn in 1996, an elderly Faroese lady approached me to say that this particular letter was among several letters stolen — or disposed of in an unauthorized sale — from the “family archives” at Nólsoy some decades previously. I had bought this, and a few others addressed to members of her family, at open Danish auctions several years earlier. I promised to send photocopies of all of them to the family. I did so and everyone was happy. But this is a real problem in philately, and particularly when collecting postal history.)

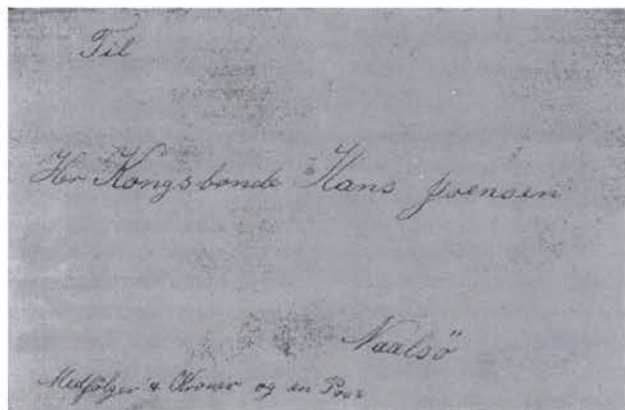


Figure 7 is another cover originating from this archive. It is an address card for a small parcel — in this case containing medicine on a doctor's prescription (which is also shown) together with surplus money. Such items are extremely rare.

Mail routes and the Skyds system

For several decades after the post office organized mail routes, hired or contracted staff had to walk along the mountain paths between settlements. When undertaking deliveries, even the postmen had to cross the fjords by use of the Skyds system. The post office paid for the Skyds directly. Contracted staff was paid according to amounts specified in their contracts. In one document from 1914, it was stated that where the distance over land was more than about 10 kilometers, and if the postman was unable to

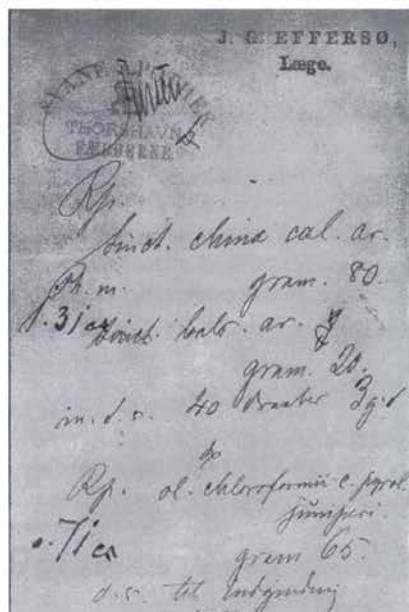


Figure 7. Card and contents from a parcel of medicine carried in the Skyds system.

walk a shorter distance due to snow and ice, he was allowed to use the Skyds. Four rowers were normal, but in bad weather the contract allowed the use of six rowers or even eight or nine, if required. This document related to routes starting in Klaksvík and serving the islands of Borðoy, Kunoy and Kalsoy, where fjords with dangerous waters had to be crossed. The routes were served twice a week during the summer months and once a week in the winter. The contracted weight of mail to be carried was limited to 15 kilograms.

End of the royal trade monopoly

When the Royal Trade Company's monopoly ended in 1896, the company was divided and sold to private enterprises. Trade prospered

over the next decades, fisheries expanded, and the need for transport facilities made the whole society in the islands move towards the greater organization of communications of all kinds.

Regular shipping routes between Denmark, Iceland, Britain, and the Faroes were soon established. From these routes one can find both "ship letters" and letters without any postal markings. One will often find manuscript markings identifying the specific ship that was to carry the letter. Senders often knew the fastest and safest routes.



Figure 8. Oldest letter known with a Danish stamp sent from the Faroes, January 5, 1852.

It was quite normal to send mail by a visiting ship, even before 1856. As can be seen from Figure 8, mail to Europe was often sent first to Scotland for faster transportation. In this case, the letter was franked with an 1851 Danish 4RBS stamp, the rate for the distance from Copenhagen to Ærøskøbing. However, this letter never arrived in Copenhagen. Instead, it was sent via Lerwick (Shetland) to Hamburg and forwarded to Ærøskøbing, which until 1864 was a small town in the Duchies of Sleswig and Holstein. The letter is the oldest letter known with a Danish stamp sent from the Faroes and also the earliest letter carrying a Danish stamp sent outside Denmark.

Improved shipping and mail services

Regular routes between the islands were soon a necessity. Even small vessels carried mail. Nearly all such mail bears postage stamps. The letter shown in Figure 9 does not, but the sender in this case is the ship owner. So, this is sea mail and not Skyds mail. You can see that it was sent by the steamship "Smiril." In this period, the ship carried the well-known but rare canceler with the ship's name. Clearly, the "SMIRIL" name-stamp wouldn't have been used on a letter without a postage stamp. Can we presume that, on this occasion, the Mortensen company cheated the post office?

All mail to and from the Faroes was forwarded free between Tórshavn and Copenhagen up to 1870, according to rules made at the time when the Royal Trade handled the transport. It was natural, therefore, that Tórshavn was the first settlement in the Faroes to get a post office, on March 1, 1870, with the numeral postmark "238" and special mail rates. From April 1, 1871, the Faroes became part of the Danish national postal area, with Danish inland rates.

During the following 50 years, nearly 40 Faroese villages became part of the expanding postal distribution system. But, as mentioned previously, the islands still had no roads. So, even after the inland steamer routes were well established, the Skyds system lasted into the early 1920s, at least as far as the clergy were concerned. ■

(Editor's Note: Author Per Erik Knudsen of Oslo, Norway has won international gold medals with his exhibits of Faroese postal history. This article resulted from a collaboration of author Per Erik Knudsen; the editor and secretary of the Faroes Islands Study Circle, Norman Hudson; and the editor of The Posthorn, Paul Albright. The article was published in the November 2004, issue of "238," the journal of the Faroe Islands Study Circle. For more information about the study circle, contact Norman Hudson at 28 Enfield Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, CH65 8BY, Great Britain (email, jntropics@hotmail.com), or check the society's website at www.faroeslandssc.org.uk.

(Cover illustrations courtesy of Norman Hudson and Ann Mette Heindorff. The photograph is from Postur i Føroyum 1870-2000, published by Postverk Føroya in 2001, and used with permission of the Faroese Post Office. The foggy scene shows a boat carrying mail landing south of Vagur.)

¹ The Danish word "Skyds" might roughly translate to "transportation" in English. In Norway, a similar system using horses and carriages was called "Skydsplikt" (or "Skyssplikt" in modern Norwegian). "Plikt" in Norwegian translates to "duty."

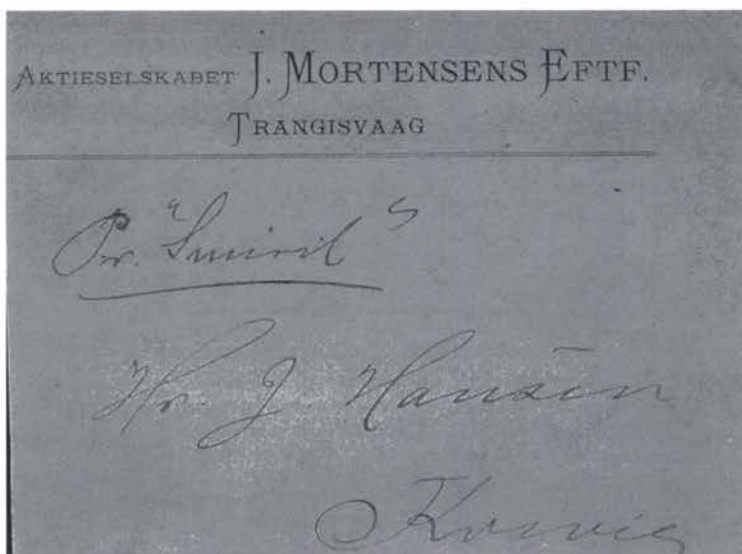


Figure 9. Unstamped letter carried on steamship "Smiril."

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Usages of Denmark's 2-RBS Stamp

By Mark Lorentzen

Part II (Part I was published in *The Posthorn*, August, 2004.)

The niche for the 2-Rigsbank Skilling (RBS) stamp was carved out of Copenhagen's "footpost" service. Established in 1806, this was a private postal service that delivered mail in central Copenhagen for a charge of 2-RBS. It was taken over by the Royal Danish Post in 1849, but continued to operate as a separate letter delivery service. The charge was maintained at 2-RBS for letters carried within the city center of Copenhagen (defined as being within the ramparts or city walls). Special footpost messengers continued the collection and delivery of such letters, while letters sent to the city center of Copenhagen from outside the ramparts were treated as regular domestic mail and were delivered by the official postal service.

Thus, the handling of mail in the city center of Copenhagen was maintained by two different postal services and two different sets of postal messengers. This was reorganized by the postal law of March 11, 1851, so that only the Royal Danish Postal Service collected and delivered mail. The famous "Birth Certificate," which detailed the intended usage of the 4-RBS stamp, also informed in the last paragraph: "For letters handled within Copenhagen, stamps with a value of 2-RBS would be forthcoming."

In this way, the intended usage of the 2-RBS stamp was officially explained. As it turned out, this stamp was used in unforeseen circumstances, which resulted in a treasure of unusual covers with 2-RBS stamps. But its usage was dominated by letters sent within the ramparts of Copenhagen. So let us start by looking at a couple of examples of this common usage.

These two letters (Figures 1 and 2) were sent from places inside the ramparts to addresses also inside the ramparts, for which the postage rate was 2-RBS. The first letter (Figure 1) has a black mute cancellation and



Figure 1

a blue footpost cancellation from May 12, 1851. This is the earliest recorded usage of a 2-RBS letter, sent only 12 days after the stamp was issued. The next letter (Figure 2) is also a regular 2-RBS cover. It is shown because of the fine penmanship and overall beautiful appearance. To top it off, the stamp is a type two, which is known by the almost disjointed foot of the numeral 2.



Figure 2

Exceptions to the rule

When a letter crossed the ramparts in either direction, the postage rate was 4-RBS, which required franking with a 4-RBS stamp. Franking a letter with two 2-RBS stamps to cover added postage was not officially permitted, but exceptions to the rule allowed several of these letters to pass through the post (Figure 3). There is no record of any letter for which this exception was not granted. Note the numeral "1" cancellation, which signified that the letter was mailed in Copenhagen. These numeral cancellers began to be delivered to the post offices in October, 1852.

When only one 2-RBS stamp was affixed to a letter from an address inside the ramparts to an addressee outside the ramparts (Figure 4), the recipient had to pay the missing postage of 2-skilling (note the large numeral "2" marked with chalk). However, there was no additional penalty. The same treatment was applied to a letter sent in the other direction — from outside the ramparts to an addressee inside the ramparts, which was an even rarer occurrence.

The early postal law did not cover letters sent by footpost in Copenhagen, so these mailings did not have to abide by the same rules

as the regular mail. This resulted in a few differences. For example, the only weight restriction was that footpost letters were required to weigh less than 500 grams. Evidence of this distinction is shown by a footpost letter, which was sent with two counterfeit silver coins (Figure 5). Though no specific weight was indicated, clearly such a letter would not have passed as a single weight domestic letter of one "lod" (about 15 grams).



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

Because the same weight gradations did not apply to footpost letters, there is no recorded example of a multiple weight footpost letter with 2-RBS stamps. Another interesting difference was that a stamp could be placed anywhere on the envelope without penalty (Figure 6).



Figure 6



Figure 7

Another exciting item is the letter from Ordrup to Copenhagen (Figure 7). According to the rules, 6 skilling was charged for unframed or incorrectly franked letters. However, the rules did not take into account the issue of the 2-RBS stamp. The end result was that the sender was given credit for the value of the stamp on the cover, as 2-skilling was subtracted from the postage due, and only 4-skilling (marked

with red chalk) was collected from the recipient. It is curious to note that though this cover came with a certificate written in 1965, it had not been seen publicly in over 30 years, so it had been forgotten by almost everyone. It is fortunate when such a classic jewel is discovered (or rediscovered), allowing it to be seen and studied by the public again.

The 2-RBS on domestic rate letters

As time went on, the use of the 2-RBS stamp became more widespread and interesting. Though frankings with two 2-RBS stamps were allowed as an exception to the rule within Copenhagen, such franking was not permitted outside of Copenhagen. So it is surprising to see this franking accepted to cover the domestic letter rate from Copenhagen to Kallundborg (Figure 8). Even more exceptional is Figure 9 because Flensburg was in the Duchy of Slesvig, which was outside the Kingdom of Denmark. Two double weight domestic rate covers from Copenhagen are known, each franked with four 2-RBS stamps. One of these jewels has a strip of four 2-RBS stamps and was sent from Copenhagen to Odense (Figure 10).



Figure 8



Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11



Figure 12

The next example of a mixed franking is also unique. However, it was derived in a completely different manner. The letter was sent from Lyngby (39) to Copenhagen with a 4-RBS stamp covering the domestic letter rate (Figure 12). Two days later, it was redirected and sent by footpost to another address within Copenhagen (Nørregade 243) with a 2-RBS stamp affixed to cover the local letter rate.

Foreign mail within the ramparts



Figure 13

1855 (Figure 14). A market report sent from England with a one-penny newspaper cancellation and a 2-RBS stamp is also known to exist.

The above mentioned market reports and letters were brought from foreign destinations on an informal basis. A slightly different case existed for letters mailed from Greenland, which was regulated by the Danish postmaster general. By law, these letters were carried free of charge to Denmark.



Figure 14

The only other recorded double weight domestic-rate franking with a 2-RBS stamp is the unique cover to Nyborg (Figure 11). Sent as early as 1851, this exotic combination is the only mixed franking with the Ferslew printing of the 2-RBS stamp (the left stamp is a type two with a disjointed foot).

Market reports were often brought by ships from foreign countries. Upon arrival in Copenhagen harbor, a 2-RBS stamp was affixed to cover the local letter rate and it was delivered by footpost. An example of this usage is shown by a printed market report from Malaga forwarded within Copenhagen (Figure 13). Though these covers were rare, regular handwritten letters forwarded in a similar manner were even scarcer. The letter shown was dated November 30, 1854, in Rio de Janeiro and delivered in Copenhagen on January 9,

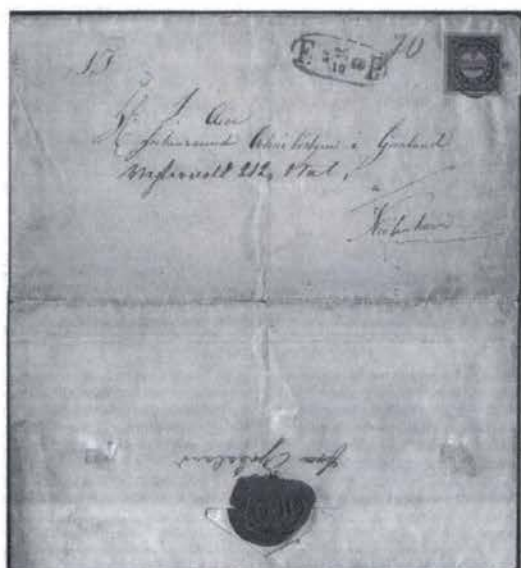


Figure 15

The handwritten endorsement “fra Grønland” (from Greenland) ensured that no additional postage was charged (Figure 15).

Usages outside Copenhagen

On April 26, 1852, the Aalborg postmaster, Sørensen, announced in a newspaper that the use of 2-RBS stamps was approved for local usage within Aalborg:

“It is hereby informed to the corresponding public as follows, from the 26th of this month it is possible to buy 2-RBS stamps at the Postal Office for the use on city letters that are put in various mailboxes. Aalborg Post Office, the 26th of April 1852, Sørensen.”

One can assume that Aalborg city letters may still be found. As early as September, 1852, the postmaster extended the local use of the 2-RBS stamp to include letters to the neighboring town of Nørre Sundby

(Figure 16). Only one of these covers is known to exist.

Beside the official usage inside of the cities of Copenhagen and Aalborg, a few letters exist from the provinces franked with two 2-RBS stamps to cover the 4-skilling domestic letter rate. One letter was sent from Hirschholm (25) to Copenhagen (Figure 17); there is a handwritten date in the cancellation. Another letter was sent from Elsinore (24) to Copenhagen (Figure 18). This usage for 2-RBS stamps was not permitted, but it was allowed as an exception to the rule.



Figure 16



Figure 17



Figure 18

What is most unusual is that the post offices from which covers were sent had no official sale of 2-RBS stamps.

A grand total of only six covers were mailed outside of Copenhagen with a 2-RBS stamp (this includes the cover from Ordrup and the official usage in Aalborg). About 20-25 single 2-RBS stamps and a few pairs have been recorded with numeral cancellations, signifying their usage outside of Copenhagen.

Mailings to Prussia

From 1851, only the 4-RBS stamp could be used on mail to foreign countries. The rate covered the postage to the border. The rest of the fee had to be paid in cash by either the sender or the recipient. The frankings were determined by distance, the route taken, and weight. From July 15, 1854, letters to foreign destinations could be prepaid by stamps. An official circular specifically stated that only multiples of one stamp (implying the 4-RBS stamp) should be used to cover every 4-skilling of the given postage – and an additional stamp for any remainder, which was not divisible by four. Thus a 22-skilling franking required six 4-RBS stamps.

This annoyed many people and the following amendment was made by the postmaster general on August 5, 1854: “When letters are franked to foreign countries, it is permitted to use one 2-RBS stamp as supplementary franking.” It was also stated that only one 2-RBS stamp could be used per letter – and that this variance applied only to letters sent from Copenhagen.

The Prussian postal areas were split into three categories: Rayons 1, 2 and 3, which were determined by the distance from where the letter entered the country. Prussian rayon 1 was defined as the area less than 10 “mil” from Hamburg or Büchen. Prussian rayon 2 was defined as the area less than 20 “mil” from either Hamburg, Büchen, Wismar, or Swinemünde. Prussian rayon 3 was defined as the rest of Prussia. The postage rate to Prussia was simply 1 Silver Groschen (S.Gr.) for each rayon.

The postage rates were converted to Danish currency as follows: 1 S.Gr.=4-skilling; 2 S.Gr.=9-skilling; and 3 S.Gr.=13-skilling.

This permission to use mixed frankings produced some of the most beautiful covers in Danish philately. As a group, these covers are often referred to as “Heyn” letters because several of the letters were sent to this addressee in Danzig, Prussia (Figure 19). An interesting observation is that many of the Heyn covers were written in Elsinore. A messenger brought the letters to Copenhagen, where they were mailed, saving 2-skilling in postage. The postage was calculated a 9 skilling from Copenhagen to Hamburg (Danish rayon 2), plus 13-skilling from Hamburg to Danzig (Prussian rayon 3), totaling 22-skilling.

The two letters to Stettin are significant because they show how the routing could affect the postage rate. The first letter was sent from Copenhagen, via Hamburg, to Stettin (Figure 20). The distance to Stettin from Hamburg/Büchen was more than 20 mil, resulting in a postage rate for a Prussian rayon-3 destination. This is the only recorded 2-RBS mixed franking to Stettin with the 22-skilling rate.

The second letter was sent from Copenhagen by steamer via Swinemünde to Stettin just 10 days later (Figure 21). The distance to Stettin from Swinemünde was less than 20 mil, resulting in a postage rate for a Prussian rayon-2 destination. The postage was calculated as 9-skilling from



Figure 19



Figure 20

Copenhagen to Swinemünde (Danish rayon 2), plus 9-skilling from Swinemünde to Stettin (Prussian rayon 2), totaling 18-skilling.

A final word

This concludes a two-part, abbreviated history of the production and usage of the 2-RBS stamp. Originally, it was intended to cover the limited area of use within the ramparts of Copenhagen. It ended up covering many unexpected uses, extending even to a role in mixed frankings to a foreign country.

Denmark's 2-RBS stamp has a beautiful classic design and an attractive blue color. The production of the stamp took place by a very primitive process, which resulted in many easily identifiable varieties.

There is still plenty to be studied and discovered within the realm of the 2-RBS stamp. It is a proud day for any collector when he adds his first 2-RBS stamp to his collection. This stamp has attracted the interest of kings and famous collectors. It is not without reason that the 2-RBS stamp has become the most popular and sought after of all Danish stamps. ■



Figure 21

(Editor's Note: This two-part series by Mark Lorentzen and his late father, the distinguished Danish collector Peer Lorentzen, was adapted from articles published in Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift (NFT), in the June, 2001, and October, 2001, and in London Philatelist in November, 2002. Editorial assistance from Linda Jay Geldens. Peer Lorentzen's outstanding collection was sold at auction in 2004, including the Danish "Birth Certificate" and much of the material that illustrated these articles.)



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Vending Machines to be Withdrawn in Finland

By Matti Heikkinen
(Translation by Jarmo Nousiainen)

Franking labels have been sold in Finland in vending machines since testing began with the first three Swiss-made Frama machines on April 1, 1982. The new machines aroused great interest: hundreds of thousands of Frama labels were ordered in advance and people kept standing in lines for the machines during the first few days. At its peak, the Frama network on the Finnish mainland comprised 42 numbered machines. Furthermore, the autonomous province of Åland introduced a Frama machine in Mariehamn on October 29, 1984. The popularity of Åland's Frama labels was also enormous: advance orders were made for 210,000 labels. The largest order by a private person comprised 13,000 labels.

Later, two French-made Dassault TVM 624 machines were introduced on October 1, 1991. These and subsequent Intermarketing machines offered the possibility of obtaining a receipt for the purchased labels. At its best, the network comprised approximately 320 Dassault machines. Then, on May 10, 2001, testing with the French-made Amiel SIMA 1351 machine started in Turku. All of the Frama machines were withdrawn by December 31, 2001. Because of the introduction of the euro on January 1, 2002, Finland Post considered the costs of

adjusting the Frama machines for the euro coin to be too expensive.

Meanwhile, Intermarketing Oy developed three models of its PA (an abbreviation of "postiautomaatti") machines. With the still-operating PA-10 machine, it is possible to purchase as many as 20 labels at a single session and gain a receipt for the purchase. At present (late 2004) there are less than 100 Intermarketing PA-10 machines in use in various post offices in Finland, but Finland Post recently determined that the machines are not cost-effective (See *Posthorn*, August 2004, page 19). Therefore, Finland Post terminated its maintenance contract of the vending machines, which means that they will be withdrawn as they cease to function properly. In Turku, the single Amiel SIMA 1351 machine has already been taken out of use. (See the cover story in the February, 2004, *Posthorn*, pages 3-5.)

On behalf of all franking label collectors, I wish that Finland Post would maintain at least one machine in proper working order. Åland, which has its own postal administration, continues to promote the use of its only Frama machine at the post office in Mariehamn. There are new designs and denominations to meet four current postage rates. In addition, the Frama printer in Mariehamn is used to process advance orders for franking labels sent in by collectors from around the world.

For your information, Finnish franking labels have been divided into dozens of main types that are numbered in various stamp catalogues, and there are hundreds of varieties to make collecting very interesting. Last year, I compiled a 292-page handbook of the Finnish franking labels that provides a comprehensive view of the labels and the machines that have been used during 22 years. The 2005 edition of LaPe catalogue contains a list of ATM stamps, which the publisher calls "especially appropriate" as Posti will not introduce any new styles.

Furthermore, the association "Suomen Postimerkkivihkojen Keräilijät ry" specializes in stamp booklets and franking labels. It publishes a bulletin entitled "Ohjausviiva," edited by Heikki Kähäri, 31, rue du Scheid, L-6996 Hostert, Luxembourg; email, HKahari@pt.lu. ■



Finnish franking label and purchase receipt



A PA-10 unit still used in Finland



€ 0.60 Åland franking label

Fantastic prices in our last sales!



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Realized: USD 1.050

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President's Letter

John DuBois



Awards Undergo Study

One of the important, and hopefully rewarding, activities of the SCC is to present its own awards during the philatelic exhibition where we hold our annual meetings. The idea is to encourage and reward exhibiting by our members who show Scandinavian material and extend collecting to a wider audience. As I discussed in my previous President's Letter, this objective has been upset in the past when one or more of our silver and bronze award medals have been given to an exhibit that received a higher award in regular competition.

For this year's exhibition at PNSE, we took two steps toward correcting the problem. First, we experimentally changed the rules for SCC medal awards, for this show only, to specify that they could not be given below the main show award level; and, second, the Board of Directors discussed how to change the rules on a permanent basis.

There was a substantial divergence of ideas on how to make this change so that our medals are uniformly rewarding and meaningful. But a concept emerged that seemed to hold promise. This would be to keep using medals, but to drop the "gold-silver-bronze" designations and instead name awards after distinguished philatelists in SCC's history, such as Victor Engstrom, Paul Jensen, and Jed Richter, etc. The medals, then, would not imply overall ranking, but excellence in category, such as postal history, classic Nordic, research, etc.

Rather than decide this issue in haste, a small committee was designated to study it further and particularly, to solicit additional input from SCC members. Please let me know your thoughts via email or letter (addresses on the last page of each *Posthorn*). The Board will decide before next year's competition.

Concerning an Increase in Dues

Another important action, recommended by the Board of Directors, and enacted at the annual meeting during PNSE, was to increase club dues by \$5 yearly to \$20. The last increase in dues was more than 10 years ago and, as I have explained in previous columns, this raise is essential to maintaining fiscal health of the SCC. Even this increase does not give us much, if any, breathing room; strict cost controls will continue to be necessary. Nevertheless, I believe we can continue to provide excellent service to our members and publish a leading journal in the field of Scandinavian philately.

An Electronic Posthorn

Another publication topic discussed at some length during the board meeting was a way to enhance *The Posthorn* by some form of complementary electronic publication. It is not yet clear exactly what form this might take, but a possibility would be to make the entire *Posthorn* available on our website, with individual member password access, in Adobe Acrobat "pdf" format. This would allow full color to be used throughout and, perhaps, additional editorial material, at little or no additional cost. No decisions have yet been made and your webmaster and editor will continue to explore the possibilities. Comments and suggestions are welcome!

Honoraria Funds

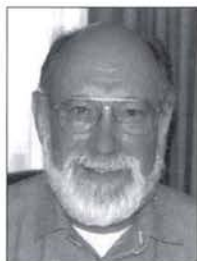
As many of you know, philately and the SCC lost a distinguished and beloved Norwegian philatelist when Paul Jensen passed away in July. We have already received several contributions toward a SCC fund in his memory, and the board discussed how to structure this fund. It was voted to establish the fund in Paul Jensen's name, but that additional names may be considered in the future to allow expansion.

Additional Information

More information on the Board's discussions is available in this issue of *The Posthorn*, as well as on SCC's Website, www.scc-online.org. ■

News from the Home Office

Don Brent



The major item here is the dues renewal activity. By now, you have received your dues renewal notices and most have taken care of this chore. I want to thank all of those that sent in your renewals. We really appreciate your support and participation. **You have mailed in your 2005 dues, haven't you?** If not, please take a moment to handle it right now.

While we finally had to increase the dues, membership in SCC still remains one of the big bargains in philatelic societies. By getting your dues in promptly, you save SCC the expense of a follow-up reminder. In the future, I encourage you to consider paying for years in advance to save the hassle of an annual notice. Of course, those who have paid in advance or hold life memberships did not receive an annual notice. To show off that paid-up membership, we still have some of the SCC lapel pins — a great way to show your SCC affiliation at stamp events. They are still just \$6, including shipping.

Membership was quiet this last quarter with a net gain of nine members. We gained five new members plus five reinstated primarily through the efforts of our Membership Chairman, George Kuhhorn. Unfortunately, we lost one this quarter. Welcome to the new members. We are here to help you with any SCC-related matters.

On a personal note, some time ago I wrote about my search for covers using the first Danish postage due stamp (the 1-øre value) to pay a deficiency. Since then, I have located two covers. Thanks for keeping an eye out for them. These are the most difficult covers of the wavy-line stamps to find, even more elusive than the single use of the 2-øre. One will be included in my exhibit the next time it is shown. I am still looking for a cover flown on the airship "Goliath" franked with a wavy-line stamp(s) from the September 11, 1919, flight from Copenhagen to Aarhus. If you have any of these or know of them, please let me know. I would appreciate any help with this search.

I hope that you all have a great holiday season and that we have the opportunity to meet in the coming year at one of our shows. ■

Membership Statistics for the Third Quarter, 2004

New Members

- 4011 Velapoldi, Rance A., Nygaardskogen 28, N-3408 Tranby, Norway
- 4012 Lutt, Frederick, 9561 Daly Road, Cincinnati, OH 45231
- 4013 Wynns, John P., 3518 S. Mission Rd. Unit 4, Tucson, AZ 85713-5682
- 4014 Shakesby, Charles A., 16 Hillside Road, Neilston, Glasgow, East Renfrew, UK G78 3ER
- 4015 Sigurjonsson, Brynjolfur, Holngardi 43, IS-108 Reykjavik, Iceland

Reinstated

- 676 Gustafson, Robert J.
- 3252 Anderson, James A.
- 2270 Montello, Lawrence J.
- 3609 Ball, Michael A.
- 3813 Jensen, Kurt

Deceased

- L-12/0522 Olausen, Fredrik G.
- L-24/0975 Bloedow, Fred

Recent Donations to SCC or to the Library (cash or materials)

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1201 Halpern, Don | 2816 Schnell, Roger |
| 4010 Karp, Aaron | 1087 Warren, Alan |
| 1389 Nelson, Paul | Capra, David |
| 3617 Norby, Toke | Sweden Postmuseum |
| 2339 Olson, Ross V. | |

Change of Address

- 2031 Lowe, Michael, PO Box 156, Omaha, NE 68101-0156

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From the Editor's Stamp Den

Paul Albright



Finland Happy with Personalized Stamps

Unlike the United States, Finland's Posti appears quite pleased with its program of offering personalized postage stamps to the public. The U.S. program was canceled recently because inappropriate photos of criminals, spies, or other notorious persons slipped through the system and were issued as stamps for first class mail.



A couple and their pets on Finnish personalized stamp

Finland began offering personalized stamps first to businesses in 2003, and then opened it to the public on March 26, 2004. So far, about 20,000 images have been made into about one million first-class stamps, about one-half to the public.

"We have had very few problems," Marja Pihlman of Posti wrote in an email to *The Posthorn*. "We check every picture and our customers know that we are very strict, so very few even try anything 'funny.' The public has welcomed the service and use it as planned: to make stamps with pictures of their children and pets, to celebrate their anniversaries, and so on."

Since it would be impossible for collectors to acquire all of these personalized stamps, Posti has issued its own stamps that use the frame designs that are available to individuals and businesses. The most recent "collector" designs show birds in flight and an orchid.



A personalized business stamp with the logo of Metritishi, a supplier of fixtures and furniture for restaurants and

Iceland's Postal Operations 120 Years Ago

In sorting a sheaf of Iceland articles donated to the SCC Library by Roger Schnell, former SCC president, I was intrigued by an 1882 report on the Iceland postal system, or rather the apparent lack of such a system. The editor of *The Philatelic Record* in Great Britain had traveled to Iceland with hope of reporting on the postal system for his readers, "but after careful inquiry, we could discover no traces of system."

What this late 19th century editor found was: "...one post, at uncertain intervals, from the north of the island to Reykjavick, the capital. The letters for other localities are taken on by any one who happens to be going in that direction." He visited the small post office in Reykjavík to find "all the letters addressed *poste-restante*, many of them of ancient date..."

In observing office operations, he commented: "The chief work of the Post-office seems to devolve on a very smart little boy of about twelve; whilst the worthy Postmaster, in gold-banded cap, beams benevolently on all comers, and smokes cruel bad cigars, the fumes of which are eminently calculated to work chemical changes in the colours of stamps."

Swedish Tennis Star Promotes Åland

Åland's postal administration continues to promote its postage stamps through the use of athletes and athletic competition. In recent years, the agency has issued stamps connected with track and field and the 2004 Olympics and has marketed one of its employees, who is a competitive weightlifter, as the world's strongest mailman. Now, Posten på Åland announced it will issue a stamp on May 26, 2005 showing Swedish tennis champion Björn Borg. The stamp, which shows Borg standing on a rock beside the sea, is the fourth in the "My Åland" series. According to Posten, Borg first visited Åland eight years ago but has returned many times since with his family.



Tennis star promotes Åland

Faroes Charges for Swap Ads

Postverk Føroya, the Faroese postal agency, has begun charging for the collector exchange advertisements published in its quarterly bulletin, *News from the Faroes*. The previously free swap and contact ads now cost DKK 40.00 (paid in advance) and will be published only for customers of the philatelic service.

Do Postage Stamps = Independence?

Are postage stamps and a distinct postal system indicators of independence? Perhaps more than we think. This suggestion comes from Linda Jakobson, a China expert based in Beijing for the Finnish Institute of International Affairs. Speaking at an international conference in Los Angeles in October, she used the relationships between Finland and Åland as a model that might be applied to solve the strain between China and Taiwan. In her talk, she noted that “the residents of Åland have a very strong local, separate identity... its own parliament, its own tax laws, its own flag, its own postage stamps, etc.”

I emailed Dr. Jakobson, who is the daughter of a Finnish diplomat, to elaborate on the postal aspects of her argument. She responded that, “Yes, I do think the separate stamps, as the separate flag, is a symbol of the distinct identity the Åland islanders have vis-à-vis Finland. When one travels among the islands of Finland and then Åland by boat and suddenly you have to buy new stamps, one does feel this is a distinct place.”

A recent fuss involving stamps of the United Nations underscored Dr. Jakobson’s point. The August-September issue of the UN post office’s *Philatelic Bulletin*, showed peace stamp designs from several children around the world, including one from Taiwan. Shortly afterward, the UN claimed there was a mistake and that the Taiwanese design was not one of the six finalists. The *Taipei Times*, however, claimed that the UN pulled the stamp because China objected to the design that showed Taiwan’s flag among the flags of many nations. To demonstrate its independence from the mainland, Taiwan’s privatized post office issued its own International Day of Peace stamp on September 21 using the youngster’s design. ■

Greenland’s Europa Stamp Most Beautiful of 2004



Greenland’s Europa stamp for 2004 was selected as an international prize winner even before it was released by Greenland Post. The 2004 theme for the Europa stamps was vacations. For this theme, Greenland selected a photo of two young girls dressed in Greenland’s national costumes with the Arctic Ocean as a background. The girls are leaning toward each other in the traditional show of greeting among Greenland’s natives. “Greetings from Greenland,” is the typography across the DKK 6.50 stamp.

PostEurop, which promotes the Europa stamps among 43 postal services in Europe, announced in September that the Greenland stamp was selected as the most beautiful in the Europa series for 2004. Greenland Post did not release the stamp until October 18 — certainly after the tourist season was concluded above the Arctic Circle. ■

— Paul Albright

Back Issues of The Posthorn for Sale!

The SCC Library has extra copies of many issues of *The Posthorn* dating back to the 1960s (at least). Unfortunately, there are gaps. The Library no longer has complete runs by decades (or even years, in some cases).

This is an opportunity for members of SCC to obtain older issues of *The Posthorn* for their reference shelves. Cost: 50 cents per copy (if we have it), plus shipping. The proceeds will help improve the research collection and library services.

Send your want lists to: SCC Library, c/o RMPL, 2038 South Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224, or email palbright@wiche.edu. (Invoices will accompany fulfilled orders.)

Auction Marketplace

By Frank Banke

Thomas Høiland, November 8-10

The third and remaining part of Peer Lorentzen's Denmark collection once again attracted many collectors and filled the auction room at the Old Stock Exchange building in the center of Copenhagen — the last Høiland auction to be held in these surroundings. Thomas Høiland will move their offices to a recently acquired building with enough space to house future auctions.

"The Birth Certificate" (Lot #1) was the star of the night — or was it! Five years earlier, Lorentzen acquired the item from the Swedish auction house Postiljonen for nothing less than 300,000 euro, almost \$400,000. This time, it was estimated at \$90,000 and sold for \$125,000 (costs included.) The so-called "Ugly Duckling," alias the 2 RBS Thiele used block of four, was estimated at \$68,000 and went to a Danish collector for \$86,000, considerably less than when it was sold four years ago for \$400,000. The astonishingly fresh mint pair of 2 RBS Thiele printing (#130) sold for the estimate of \$31,000. The famed "Lyngby" letter with mixed franking 2 and 4 RBS went to another keen collector of Denmark for \$75,000, some \$15,000 above estimate.



Mint pair of 2 RBS sold for \$31,000.

After the auction, there was considerable reflection on the three fascinating sales of the Lorentzen collection. The question now appears to be: When will Danish philately again be graced with such a capable and keen collector for the aesthetics as the late Peer Lorentzen? His contribution to philately certainly was that he brought Danish philately back on the world stage.

Postiljonen, October 1-2

The Faroe Islands collection formed by the late Christian Andersen was the attraction of this auction. Some items worth mentioning included a 2-sk. bi-colored with ink cancellation on local letter in good condition (#272), which began at \$3,800 and went for \$6,500, and the popular Thorshavn 238 numeral cancel on local 2-sk. letter sold for \$4,600. The only recorded example of the 284 Trangisvaag numeral cancel sold for \$9,500, despite the stamp having been skillfully repaired. A letter with the rare ship star-cancel "SMIRIL" (#295) was a good buy for only \$2,900. A fine parcel card from Copenhagen with star cancel Trangisvaag (#304) sold for \$4,800. Some \$6,500 was paid for a 4-øre bisected on 10-øre stationery letter (#312), and the bisected 1905-issue 4-øre wavy-line with perforation 12¾ (*Facit* 1b) was an excellent buy at the starting price of \$3,700. The 1919 provisional 2/5-øre with full sheet margin on letter and apparently unique sold for only \$631 — a bargain at this price.



Bisect on stationery letter brings \$6,500

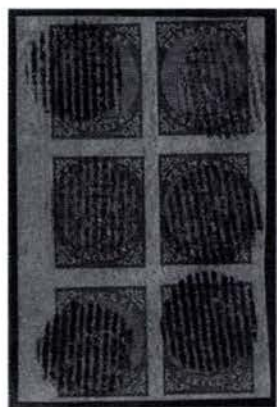
From the Danish West Indies, a letter with the rare Puerto Cabello provisional hand stamp (#440) sold for \$3,700 with some repair to the letter sheet. From Iceland, a 10-aur 1876-issue mint hinged block of four (#506) from the early printing sold for \$5,600 after starting at \$1,150. A Swedish 8-sk. banco (*Facit* 4b), well-centered and in mint condition without gum, started at \$1,500 and sold for \$8,000.

Moldenhauer, November, 12-13

The second part of the Fossum collection of Norway is the big attraction at Moldenhauer's auction. More than 300 lots are going under the hammer. Many remarkable items will be offered, such as a fantastic

selection of 4-sk. 1855 with numeral cancellations and manuscript date cancellations. A beautiful mint pair of 4-sk. 1855 with original gum (#1403) had a starting price of \$18,500. Another spectacular multiple (#1419) is a used block of six with part of sheet margin at the left side and is the only recorded vertical block of six. The block will start at \$47,000.

At the previous Fossum auction, a letter with mixed franking 4-sk. 1854 and 8-sk. Oscar was auctioned; shortly after, Norwegian expert Finn Aune issued an opinion that the letter was a forgery. In the upcoming auction, a similar letter will be offered as the only genuine mixed franking with Norway No. 1 for a starting price of \$56,000 (#1449). A unique proof for the second issue (#1664) that became the Oscar-issue will start at \$3,700 and is very similar to the 1855-issue. This copy is the only one recorded in blue; one other is known in brown. The next issue of Auction Marketplace will report the highlights of this top Norway auction.



Only recorded vertical block of six stamps

Jan Holding, October 31

With more than 700 Scandinavian lots, Jan Holding offered mostly material from Denmark and Danish territories. Two letters with 2 RBS Ferslew printing (#35 and #36) started at \$3,100 and \$2,500 respectively. These seem to have dropped in price recently, even for good to average quality. Lot #352 is a collection of Danish stamps with socked-on-the-nose cancellations, starting at \$1,000.

Kaj Hellman, October 9



New perforation find

With almost 1,500 lots of Finnish material going under the hammer, Kaj Hellman presented a wide range of material for the dealer and collector. Lot #1081, a money letter to France franked with the 3½ Rupel (*Norma* 54) went for the estimated \$4,000. A recent discovery – the 2-Penni 1911 issue in mint condition with the hitherto unknown perforation 14¼ x 14¾ (#1113) – started at \$7,700 and sold for \$8,600, not really a big sum for a unique stamp. The experts think that the stamp might be from those supplied to the UPU, but this has not been verified. Two other stamps from the same issue were the 5-penni *Norma* 76Be (#1114) (unsold at \$7,700) and a 40-penni *Norma* 79B in used condition (#1120), which sold for \$3,100. That is a lot of money to pay for the perforation where the normal stamp costs only a few cents. But for the keen philatelist, there are undiscovered rarities to hunt for in dealer stock. Perhaps your own Finland collection contains some undiscovered rarities.

Engers Frimerker, October 8-9



Imperforated pair from Norway

Engers' sales are a bit differently organized than most auctions. Used stamps are sold first, then the mint, and finally the letters followed by the collections. A large lot with 4-sk. Norway No. 1 containing 114 stamps, seven pairs, and five letters sold for \$9,400. A unique imperforate used pair of 5-øre posthorn *NK* 99 (#399) sold for \$3,400 and a single stamp sold for \$2,000 (#400). A letter with the same stamp sold for \$2,450 (#987). A collection with 187 unusual postcards (#1258) sold for \$5,800, starting at \$750. More than 250 lots of Greenland Pakke-Porto stamps went on the block, but prices must have been too high as more than 70 percent were unsold. ■

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A Greenland Cover to France's Foothold in North America

By W. Joseph Schlitt

The World War II era represents a fascinating period for collectors of Greenland's postal history. Greenland had recently issued its first stamps and a countrywide network of post offices had been established. Add to this the problems caused by the invasion and occupation of much of Europe. Thus, the WWII period in Greenland includes circuitous mail routings, undercover addresses, censorship, and the presence of foreign military bases with their own postal services.

The front and back of one of my favorite WWII covers are shown in Figures 1 and 2, respectively. As indicated by the photos, this is a well-traveled and much examined piece of mail. The first thing that attracted my attention to the cover is the indicated destination, St. Pierre & Miquelon, which is France's tiny enclave in North America. In my experience, mail from Greenland to France and especially French colonies, is much scarcer than mail to the Nordic countries, Great Britain, or even the United States, or Canada.

Another feature, which caught my attention, is the franking – a pair of the 30-øre polar bear stamps from Greenland's first issue (*Scott/Facit* 7). In-period covers with this stamp are the scarcest of the first issue, with a *Daka* GF 5¹ catalog value of 900 DKK.



Figure 1. A well-traveled transatlantic cover.

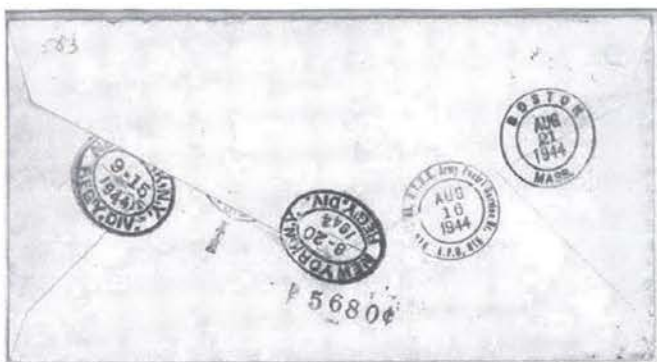


Figure 2. Back of cover.

Examining Franking and Routing

The next question is whether or not the 60-øre franking is correct for a registered letter to St. Pierre & Miquelon, which are made up of a group of Atlantic islands just south of Newfoundland. If I am interpreting the rate tables of Widén and Knudsen² correctly, the cover is certainly not over-franked. There was a special war-time rate of 30 øre for letters weighing up to 20 grams to the U.S. and Canada. Registration was another 30 øre, giving the 60-øre total. However, there is some question as to whether the special war-time rate should have applied to other North American stamp-issuing entities such as St. Pierre & Miquelon or Newfoundland, which did not join Canada until April 1, 1949. If the special war-time rate did not apply to St. Pierre & Miquelon, the rate for a registered letter should have been 70 øre. Note that the letter was not originally intended as airmail. The airmail label is French and was almost certainly added in St. Pierre, along with the airmail stamp.

The routing of the letter started when it entered the civilian mail stream at Godthaab, where it was postmarked with the standard Swiss-type canceler (29.Bro.01)³ on July 27, 1944. The registration label hand-stamped Godthaab was undoubtedly applied at the same time. Then like most mail destined for North America, the letter was passed on to a U.S. military base, in this case Grondal Air Force Base. Here, it was backstamped with Grondal's APO 615 double-ring date stamp (201.Tor.01)⁴ on August 16, 1944. At this point, the letter was apparently flown directly to New York. Chronologically, the next postmark is the typical double-ring New York Registry Division oval backstamp dated August 20, 1944. There is an additional double-ring transit cancel in Boston the next day, so the letter was then headed to St. Pierre. It may have gone via a Canadian city, such as Halifax or North Sydney, Nova Scotia, or even via St. John's, Newfoundland, which served as a U.S. base in WWII. However, there are no transit cancels to confirm this.

By the time the letter reached St. Pierre, the addressee had moved to New York City. Therefore, a forwarding address was added in ink, along with the black 10-franc St. Pierre & Miquelon airmail stamp (*Scott C-4*). This received a pair of single-ring St. Pierre & Miquelon postmarks. The date is a bit obscure, as it is in black ink on a black stamp. However, careful inspection shows that it is 6-9-44 (September 6). Again there are no Canadian transit cancels, but there are four later cancels in New York City. All four are partially or completely underneath the envelope flap. Two of these are partially visible on the left side in Figure 2. The flap may have been opened when the letter was censored, but is now partially stuck down. However, all four cancels are clearly visible by either gently lifting a portion of the flap or by examining the cover using a good light table.

The cover arrived back in New York City on September 12, as shown by the largely obscured double ring oval registry postmark (arrow). It received yet another such cancel on September 15. Perhaps it was censored during the intervening three days. Chronologically, the next postmark is a purple double-ring date stamp (fully hidden) for the New York, NY, Tremont Station on September 16, 1944. Here the letter was forwarded a second time, as shown by the penciled address and purple "Forwarded" hand stamp. The last cancel is a purple double-ring registered date stamp (fully hidden) at the New York City Fordham Station on September 18.

Triple Censored Cover

Censorship is a final interesting aspect of the cover. Seldom have I seen a cover with triple censorship. All three censors' handstamps are grouped in the upper left corner, as shown in Figure 1. Since these are undated, we can only guess at the sequence. However, the first is undoubtedly the base censorship in Greenland. This is shown by the single ring "Passed by U S Base Army Examiner 1205." The second was probably done in St. Pierre, as indicated by the scarce double ring "Controle Postal Iles Saint Pierre et Miquelon" handstamp. The third was probably done in the United States when the letter was forwarded back to New York City. This is indicated by the single ring "U.S. Censorship -* - Examined by 20005."

As a final comment, the author is mystified by the one-line handstamp "5680¢ at the bottom in Figure 2. This is in colored ink, the typical "Post Office purple." ■

(Editor's Note: The writer would be most interested in comments from others regarding any aspect of this cover: Email him at wylecotejs@earthlink.net. Those wishing to learn more about the philatelic and postal history of France's remaining "foothold in North America" may want to check the St. Pierre & Miquelon Philatelic Society, Attn: David J. Allen, 2159 West 47th Ave., Vancouver, BC V6M 2M6, Canada, or email dallen@axionet.com.)

¹ *GF 5 Grønland Frimærker* (Postage Stamps Greenland), 16th Edition, DAKA Forlag, Tervuren, Belgium, 1998.

² K Widén & B. Knudsen, *Grønlandske posttakster 1851-1999* (Postal Rates in Greenland 1851-1999), Viking Frimærker, Søndersø, Denmark, 2001.

³ *GF6 Grønland Poststempler efter 1938* (Postmarks after 1938 Greenland), 16th Edition, DAKA Forlag, Tervuren, Belgium, 1997.

⁴ *Ibid.*

Chapter Reports

Arnold Sorensen, Vice President

With the coming of autumn, most chapters have resumed meetings and the members have a chance to show new acquisitions. Chapter members are the unofficial SCC ombudsmen at local and regional stamp shows, and they are instrumental in introducing and promoting Scandinavian stamps and postal history to prospective members. The SCC members collect a wide variety of countries and topics, and show-and-tell meetings provide other members the opportunity to see specialized material not often seen otherwise. If you live near a chapter, please attend a few meetings and perhaps become active in sharing your collecting interests and organizational skills.



Edward Bode of Missouri, left, is taking over from Arnold Sorensen of Indiana as SCC Vice President for Chapters. Meanwhile, Sorensen becomes the new Vice President of SCC. Bode was the creator and coordinator of Cyber Chapter 28.

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER 5

Longtime Chapter 5 member Paul Carlson has given up his position as local newsletter editor/publisher but remains the chapter's secretary. For the time being, the president will be responsible for the newsletter. The chapter continues to use the SCC audio-visual programs (available for chapter programs through the SCC Library), with occasional "show & tell" nights. The membership remains stable for the year.

DELAWARE CHAPTER 13

There were no meetings during the summer. The September meeting was a show-and-tell session at Bob Lang's home. The club's auction was in October with many lots available for viewing and bidding at the SCC National Show near Philadelphia.

TWIN CITIES CHAPTER 14

The fall season started with a club auction. The chapter treasury benefited from a number of donated lots and the 10 percent commission. As usual, circuit books were available. The chapter membership remains stable with losses balanced by new members.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER 17

Jerry Winerman is the new chapter representative after Paul Nelson relocated to Tucson, Arizona. Seven members convened recently to hear a program by Mark Lorentzen on his platinum award exhibit showing classic covers from the German states and Danish duchies illustrating rates based on the rayon system of figuring distances. Member Jerome V. V. Kasper is spearheading aerogramme philately on the Internet at www.aerogramme.com. The Web site is dedicated to the study and enjoyment of worldwide aerogrammes, air letter sheets, and the equivalent.

GOLDEN GATE CHAPTER 21

Herb Volin is a passionate long-distance driver, having attended Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition in October. Chapter meetings continued during the summer. Dick Carlson showed items from his collection in July. Alan Warren was a guest in August and discussed his single frame exhibit, "Denmark: Cachet Varieties of the *Horsens Filatelisklub* for the Vitus Bering Issue" that he exhibited at the APS show in Sacramento. The chapter hopes that some visitors at the Sacramento meeting will join. Jerry Moore presented his perfin exhibit in September. All meetings continue to include a selection of circuit books from APS and SCC. On the financial side, it was necessary to increase annual dues to \$10 to cover mailing costs.

PAULSON-SEAMAN CHAPTER 23

Please note the chapter's name change. In June, chapter members voted to add the name of its second founding member, Charlie Seaman, who just celebrated his 99th birthday. The chapter continues monthly noon meetings, but the meeting spot is a new restaurant, Kally-K's, at 1600 Main St., Dunedin, FL.



MANITOBA CHAPTER 24

Meetings resumed in September after a summer hiatus. The first meeting was informal but plans have been made for more activities and programs in subsequent months.

TIDEWATER CHAPTER 26

The Tidewater Chapter continues to meet the third Saturday of the month. Two new members have joined to boost the total to 14. Typically, the meetings are informal with someone showing something of interest. Mike Falls attended the NAPEX national show and reported it had a special program about Howard Schloss, former SCC treasurer who closed his albums in May.

COLORADO CHAPTER 27

The chapter continues to meet at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library on the first Saturday of each month. In September, Roger Cichorz presented a program on Lundy ("Isle of Puffins" in old Norse), and his collection of stamps showing puffins. Cichorz also showed coins with the same motif and provided entertaining stories about them. Peter Bergh displayed several Denmark bicolor stamps in imperforate pairs and blocks, some with inverted frames. His discussion included how these errors entered the marketplace via post office counter sales. Most SCC members only get to see pictures of these in catalogues.

CYBER CHAPTER 28

Electronic newsletters are now being emailed to 47 members. Participation is open to SCC members who have an email address and ask to be included. In return, you will be exposed to whatever anyone wishes to share, and you may contribute any material you please. For example, Issue #59 included a photo of the earliest recorded Frederiksted cancel on a Danish West Indies bisect 4-cent cover, and the Cyber Chapters members were the first to learn, via Alan Warren, of the change of the Scandinavian judge for the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition. ■

NORDIA 2005 Frames Overflow

More than 250 exhibitors will fill almost 1,200 frames at NORDIA 2005, which is set for May 26-29 in Göteborg, Sweden. The acceptance committee had to reject some entries because of space limitations. Exhibits placed on a reserve list might find a spot if some of the accepted exhibitors decline to participate.

There will be 15 categories of judging at NORDIA 2005 with 259 exhibitors given preliminary approval to fill 1,199 frames. All applications were accepted in the one-frame category. A number of SCC members received preliminary acceptance to exhibit at this all-Nordic show. They include (in random order):

Roger Schnell, "Iceland 1788-1902;" **James Burgeson**, "Sweden Ringtype 1872-1891;" and "Combination Covers of Sweden;" **Erik Hamberg**, "Sweden's Ringtype Covers 1877-1886;" **Per Erik Nilsson**, "Västerbottenspost;" **William Benfield**, "Denmark Essays and Proofs: The First 100 Years;" **James Gaudet**, "Danish Advertising Booklets 1927-34;" **Rolf Johansson**, "DWI 1855-1905;" **Ross V. Olson**, "The Definitive Stamps of Sweden 1920-1938;" **Leif Nilsson**, "Nummerstämplor på Island 1903-1970;" **Arne Thune-Larsen**, "Postal Communication Between Norway-France 1745-1945;" **Bör Porsteins**, "Icelandic Revenues and Collecting Stamps and Meters;" **Jussi Tuori**, "The Rouletted Revenue Stamps of Finland;" and "The Usage Abroad of the Vassa Model 1918;" **Sven Arne Hansen**, "Ballon Monté Ville D'Orleans;" and **Mark Lorentzen**, "Denmark to the Old German States: The Rayon System," and "From and Through Great Britain to Denmark 1840-80."

The complete list of exhibitors and further information on NORDIA 2005 is available at www.nordia2005.com, or contact SCC's Commissioner to NORDIA, **Greg Frantz**, 18314 East Geddes Pl., Foxfield, CO 80016; email, gfcaptain@aol.com. ■



Norway Challenges Text Messaging with ☺ Stamps

Can Scandinavia's youth be lured away from their "text messaging" mobile telephones and back to writing cards and letters to their friends? With more and more of Scandinavia's young people communicating via mobile telephones, Norway is making an attempt to do just that. On September 17, Norway Post issued two stamps bearing well-known telephonic text message symbols to see if young people will use them on traditional mail forms.

The NOK 6.00 stamp shows a smiley face, ☺, that mobile phone users often use with their text messages. A NOK 9.00 stamp is decorated with lapel buttons on a faded pair of denim jeans, both of which are popular among Norway's youth. One button carries the message abbreviation "GID," which stands for "Glad i deg," ("Fond of you.")



Brigitte Lund Nakken of Norway Post, was quoted by the Associated Press as saying, "We think these (stamps) will appeal to children and youth." Rune Øyen of the philatelic service told *The Posthorn* that the stamps, with a printing of one million each, were selling as expected. "It is, of course, hard to tell whether they actually have been used more by youngsters than other customers of Norway Post," he said.

Norway and other Nordic countries have experienced an explosion in the use of mobile telephones, especially among teen-agers and even pre-teens.



— Paul Albright

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Scandinavian Literature Notes

By Alan Warren



News from Denmark

The June issue of *Dansk Posthistorisk Tidsskrift* shows some examples of special soldiers' post cards and letter cards issued by Denmark for use in World War I. The same issue has the third part of Carl E. Jorgensen's series on the *gebyr* (special service) fees of Denmark, illustrating labels and markings used in the early years before *gebyr* stamps were issued. Also, E. Menne Larsen continues his extensive series on postal conditions in Slesvig during the period 1848-1851 with his 14th installment. It would be wonderful if Larsen's collected articles on this subject were published as a book. The September issue of the same journal carries articles on World War II-censored mail by Poul Hviid and E. Menne Larsen. In the same issue, Vilhelm Schmidt continues his series on postal history of Brørup.

In the August issue of *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, Rolf Johansson illustrates a cover sent from Santa Martha, Colombia via St. Thomas, DWI, to Boston and then New York. The cover bears a transit mark at St. Thomas with the year (1855) but no day or month entered. In the same issue, Svend Seitzberg describes varieties of the DWI Verdenspostforeningen postal cards. The October issue features an article by Lars Engelbrecht on the rare 4-øre stamped envelope of Denmark with the open figure "4."

Bruno Nordam continues his series on designs of Danish stamps with the 1976 issues in the August *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. In the September issue, John Sabin continues his series that looks at the hand-written plate numbers that appear in the margins of the DWI Frederik VIII issues of 1907 and 1914.

News from Finland (with thanks to Kauko Aro)

Filatelisti 3/2004 discusses Finland's personalized photo stamps. An editorial suggests that future catalogs will only carry those issued by the postal service, and all else will be considered private issues. There appear to be some guidelines for these private or self-portrait stamps but they have not been shared with the public, leading to potential complexities of politics and censorship. (See Editor's Notes on page 21.)

Issue 4/2004 of *Filatelisti* carries another installment in Alpo Lehtonen's series on the 1963 issue with a focus on those printed on fluorescent paper. Tribute is paid to Göran Nykvist who presented a lecture before the Royal Philatelic Society London. He was only the third Finn to do so. In the same issue is an article by Iceland's Sigurður Þorsteinsson on the cooperation among Nordic countries in offering joint issues.

Issue 5/2004 of *Filatelisti* offers a new service to members and readers by including an extensive auction catalog. The auction house helps fund this effort. The journal is carrying an ongoing series of articles on the 1930 issue that details some of the short periods of rates, resulting in challenges to find properly franked covers.

The 6/2004 issue carries an interview with Soile Siltala, the head librarian of the Finnish Postal Museum. Matti Sipari continues his series on the registration labels of Finland, and a short item describes what appears to be the largest multiple known, a strip of five, of the 5-pen green 1911 issue with the B perforations, canceled November, 1916.

News from Germany

Rolf Dörmach illustrates some of Iceland's stamps and cancels that depict birds in the May issue of *Philatelistische Nachrichten*. Reinhard Schmidt, who serves on the FIP Commission for the Fight Against Forgeries, writes about an auction catalog that offered quite a few nicely canceled Swedish stamps with very similar Stockholm cancels. These turned out to be questionable and the firm withdrew the stamps.

News from Great Britain

The newsletter of the Faroe Islands Study Circle for August has an extended article about the island of Stóra Dímun, which has been inhabited since the Middle Ages. Today it is basically one large farm. The September issue of *Scandinavian Contact* carries an article on early Faeroese airmails by Brian Flack, one on the cruises and cachets associated with Spitzbergen in the period 1895-1914 by Alan Totten, and the second part of an article about Danish mail flown over the frozen belts by Torben Sørensen.



News from Iceland

Issue number 10 of *Frimerkjablaðið* has appeared with a look at the new issues expected in 2005. In another article, Þór Þorsteins discusses the handling of parcel mail in Iceland. Ólafur Elfásson presents a listing of major "name" auctions of Icelandic material from 1951 to 2003, with the name of the auction house and the dates and place of each sale.

News from the Netherlands

In the July issue of *Het Noorderlicht*, Albert Ruyne describes a scenic cruise on Norway's famous Hurtig Route, and Henk van Meeningen discusses the gutter pairs of Åland.

News from Norway

In the 3/2004 issue of Oslo Filatelistklubb's *Info*, Sven Andersen shows a number of underpaid covers sent to Norway after the UPU in 1875, and analyzes the amounts that were due. Another interesting article by Wilfred Wasenden in this issue examines Norwegian stamps bearing cancels of England, and English stamps with Norway cancels.

Arvid Jørgensen writes in issue 5-2004 of *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift* about the Norwegian steamship "Nor" and shows a cover with a special cancel applied onboard. Sven Andersen discusses postage due on covers to Norway in issue 6-2004. In the September issue of *Tidsskrift for Krigs-og Feltpost*, Staffan Karlsson and John Torstad continue their series on postal conditions between the United States and Norway during World War II.

News from Sweden

The major article in the July issue of *Bältespännaren*, the Swedish Cinderella publication, is by Åke Torkelstam and is devoted to Barnens Dag, the popular Swedish event of Children's Day that spawns so many special cancels, labels, and other non-postal items. The author is also the latest recipient of the Strandell Medal for his philatelic achievements. Harry Hohndorf discusses the military letters without reply stamps in the August *filatelisten*. In the September issue, Lennart Ivarsson writes about the 19th Century boxed arrival marks in Stockholm that appear in black, red, and blue ink. And in the October issue, Rolf Johansson analyzes a 4-cent letter from St. Thomas to Vera Cruz that also bears a French 5-centimes stamp with a Guadeloupe cancel.

Sweden will mark the 150th anniversary of its stamps in 2005. As part of the observance, the 2005 yearbook of the Swedish Postal Museum, *Postryttaren*, plans to include 11 articles on the Skilling Banco issue. In addition, every article will be summarized in English (and perhaps in future year books), according to *Postryttaren* Editor Jan Billgren.

News from Elsewhere

In the April-June issue of *Close-Up*, published by the Czeslaw Slania Study Group, illustrations are shown of a set of essays for Denmark's 1981 aviation history set. The designs were probably made by Bo Bonfils and were engraved by Slania. The July-September issue shows the new Elvis Presley stamp issued by Sweden in October that was engraved by Slania.

In the summer issue of the *Military Postal History Society Bulletin*, Roger Quinby asks about a boxed ENEMY OCCUPIED handstamp in violet, dating from 1918. It has been found on several covers from Björnborg sent to the same addressee in Pittsburgh, PA. He seeks any details on the origin of the marking (it is not Finnish) and its period of use.

Swedish author Christer Brunström often writes about Nordic philately in the monthly journal *Global Stamp News*. In the August issue, he writes about the overprinted Finnish stamp issued in 1930 for the Graf Zeppelin flight in the Baltic area. In September, he wrote about a small border enclave on the Swedish-Norwegian border called Morokulien. Cinderellas and mixed Sweden-Norway frankings are found from Morokulien. In the October issue, Brunström writes about the engraver Martin Mörck, a Norwegian who moved to Sweden when he was invited by the Swedish postal service to engrave some stamps. Mörck has since engraved stamp issues for several other countries.

Brunström also is editor of the Cinderella magazine *Atalaya*. Although the journal looks at the non-postal stamps and labels of many countries, it often contains Nordic Cinderella material. The winter 2004-2005 issue mentions a presumed "local" stamp of Ivigtut, Greenland, dated 1922, but apparently produced by someone with imagination in the 1960s in the United States.

The early postal history of Finland is the subject of an article by John Dunn and Paul Jackson in the October 22 issue of *Meekel's and Stamps Magazine*. Another Iceland travelogue, illustrated with stamps, was presented by Geir Sør-Reime in the October 1 issue of *Meekel's*. ■

Scandinavian Area Awards

Among U.S. exhibitors at the FIP World Stamp Championship in Singapore in August, Mark Lorentzen won a gold in the single frame class with his "Denmark to the German States: The Rayon System," and William Benfield and Bruno Nørdam of Denmark received a vermeil for *The Handbook of Danish Essays, Volume 2, 1920-1939*. *The Posthorn* took a silver. Other major winners at this show were as follows: gold awards to Olavi Koponen for "Finland 1856-1884," and to Tore Gjelsvik for his two books (entered as one exhibit), *Norway Number One* and *Norway: The Skilling Oscar Stamps*.

At the same show, large vermeils went to Hans von Strokirch for "Danish West Indies Postal History," Svend Seitzberg for "Danish West Indies Postal Stationery," Arne J. Bay for "Postal History of Svalbard from 1896," the Oslo Filatelistklubb for their *Norgeskatalogen 2004*, and to Facit Forlag for two of their catalogs, *Facit Special 2004* and *Facit Postal VII*.

At the Lakeshore Stamp Club show held in Dorval, Quebec, in April, O. Podymow won a gold and the best foreign exhibit award with his "Finland 1860-1917: Serpentine to Double-Headed Eagle." At the same show, C. Rasmussen received a silver for "Collection Office Cancels on the Danish and Faroese Caravel Issues," and a silver-bronze for "Danish Caravel Issues."

Roger Quinby won a gold and the APS 1900-1940 medal of excellence at the Omaha Stamp Show in September for his "First Postal Cards of the Republic of Finland 1917-1930." At the same show, Alan Warren won a vermeil with his "Denmark: The Christian X Issues on First Day Covers." At Milwaukee's Milcopex in September, Ronald Collin received a silver for "Portrait of King Christian IX on Iceland Stamps and Stationery."

Jeffrey Crown received a vermeil for "Faroe Island Post 1769-1946" at the Airpex show in Dayton, OH in September. At the SESCOAL show in Los Angeles in October, vermeil awards went to James Burgeson for "Single Postal Cards of Sweden 1872-1950," and to Jerome Kasper for "Aerogrammes of Iceland" along with an AAPE award of honor.

— Alan Warren



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Transfers and Re-Entries

Alan Warren

Since 1998 a series of six volumes has appeared with the title *Fakes Forgeries Experts*. They are published in cooperation with the AIEP or International Association of Philatelic Experts. Each issue contains 20+ articles about stamps and covers that are fakes or counterfeits, usually written by experts for a particular country. In addition there are articles on the general subject of forgeries as well as book reviews in this field.

The first six issues were edited and published by Paolo Vollmeier of Switzerland, but the journal has now been taken over by FIP past president Knud Mohr of Denmark and the Swedish auction firm of Postiljonen under the leadership of Claes Arnrup. Volume 7 of *FFE* was released in May and contains two articles of interest to collectors of Nordic material.

Recognized Danish expert Hans Ehlern Jessen re-examines an unusual DWI cover bearing the 14-cent bicolor issue. He examined it over 30 years ago and felt it was genuine although there were some unusual characteristics about the stamp. Other "experts" declared it a forgery in the intervening years. Based on the latest instrumental analyses, Jessen continues to believe that the stamp and cover are genuine.

The other article of interest is by expert Carl Aage Møller concerning the rare Í GILDI overprint, Iceland *Facit* 56. The intrigues concerning this issue include possible "Ferrarities" or items made specifically for this renowned collector. Some back issues of *FFE* are out of print but a few literature dealers have what is still available, or possibly even complete runs. The current issue is also available directly from the publisher at www.ffejournal.com.

The Norwegian journal *Tidsskrift for Krigs-og Feltpost* 3/2004 reports that a grant of NOK 5,000 from the Richter Fund has been presented to the Norwegian War and Fieldpost Society. This is the first time a grant has been made to a society rather than an individual. The fund encourages philatelic research and writing. Key writers named by the society who will benefit from this donation include Torbjørn Larsson-Fedde, John Erik Tegler, and John Torstad. The fund was established by the late SCC president Jared H. Richter who built outstanding Norway collections and exhibits.

Members of the Swedish postal history society (Sällskapet för Svensk Posthistorisk Dokumentation or SSPD) and the Danish postal history society (Dansk Posthistorisk Selskab or DPHS) convened in April in Helsingborg. In many cases the postal history of the two countries overlap and the two groups are looking toward future mutual meetings, including one planned for NORDIA 2005 in Göteborg, Sweden, next May. The SSPD elected new officers for 2004. Erik Hamberg is chairman, Lennart Ivarsson, vice chairman; and Helena Obermüller Wilén, secretary.

Philatelic Names in the News

Peter Berry, the librarian of the Scandinavia Philatelic Society in Great Britain, died October 7 after a short illness. Berry and his wife Jane handled the SPS library for 15 years. However, she will be unable to continue on her own and the society is seeking a new librarian.

SCC's Ross Olson received his 25-year-membership certificate and pin at the American Philatelic Society show in Sacramento in August.

Morton Lintrup steps down as editor of KPK's *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift* after five years. He is replaced by Søren Jessen of Hundested. Jessen was a former editor of the Danish Postal History Society's journal *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift*

A veteran postal history collector of Sweden, Mogens Riboldt, died July 9. One of his specialty collecting and exhibiting areas was home region philately.

Göran Nykvist gave a talk at the Royal Philatelic Society London last May on Finland postal stationery 1845-1862. He focused on the scarce early material and presented census figures on the extremely rare examples, of which only a few exist outside museums. ■

SCC Library Auction #3 (Closing Date February 7, 2005)

This is the third auction of items being offered to SCC members. For the most part, these 40 lots duplicate current SCC Library holdings. Realizations will help the SCC Library, especially for literature acquisitions. Place bids with Roger Cichorz, 3925 Longwood Avenue, Boulder, CO 80305-7233, USA; telephone 303-494-8361, or e-mail rcichorz@comcast.net. This auction closes on February 7, 2005.

Terms of the sale are identical to those published in the May 2004 issue of *The Posthorn* (page 26). To conserve space, the Terms of Sale are not repeated here. The highest successful bid will be placed at one bidding increment over the second-place bid. Bidding increments are: \$0.50 to \$5 = \$0.50, \$5 to \$25 = \$1, \$25 to \$50 = \$2, and >\$50 = \$3.

Lot Numbers and Descriptions:

- Denmark:** *Dansk Ringstempler 1851-1863 Nummerafstemplinger*, by Th. Hegelund, in Danish, 2nd Issue, November 1942, 27 pages, paperback, like-new condition. Monograph on the first issues and a nine-page catalogue listing. EMV = \$5, Starting Bid = \$1.
- Denmark/Faroes/Greenland:** *SAVA Stålstik Katalog over Samleværdige Varianter*, in Danish, 1986, 340 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, like-new condition. Specialized catalogue listing plate flaws/varieties for Denmark from 1933, Greenland from 1938, and Faroes from 1975. EMV = \$25, Starting Bid = \$5.
- Denmark:** *1969 Special Katalog—Danmarks Fluorescerende Frimærker*, by Jorgen Rasmussen, in Danish, 92 pages, softbound. Pioneer catalogue on Denmark's fluorescent stamp issues, valuable explanatory information, though prices outdated. EMV = \$10, Starting Bid = \$2.
- Denmark:** *AFA (Aarhus Frimærkehandel)* grouping of seven (five different) specialized paperback catalogues, in Danish: *Marginalnummerkatalog* 1964 and 1970 (2), and *Danmark Fireblokke* 1975 (2), 1977, and 1986-87. EMV = \$14, Starting Bid = \$3.
- Denmark:** *Filatelistiske og Posthistoriske artikler*, by Toke Nørby, in Danish, 1993, 118 pages, softbound, new condition. Compilation of 16 specialist articles about Danish stamps and postal history, profusely illustrated. EMV = \$20, Starting Bid = \$7.
- Denmark/Danish Areas:** *AFA (Aarhus Frimærkehandel) Specialkatalog* 1966 (232 pages) and 1976 (280 pages), in Danish. Specialized references detailing die varieties, retouches, etc., though prices outdated. EMV = \$20, Starting Bid = \$4.
- Denmark:** *PFC-Journalen* from Denmark Post, 1988-1996, good run of 53 issues; also 5 annual catalogues and 10 notices, etc., all in English. Excellent archival material, also of interest/value to topical collectors. EMV = \$12, Starting Bid = \$2.
- Denmark/Danish Areas/Norway:** *DK 87-88 Special Katalog—Stamps & Coins*, in Danish, 1988, 283 pages, softbound. Specialized priced catalogue for Denmark, Greenland, Faroes, DWI, Iceland 1873-1944, and Norway 1855-78, useful reference illustrating major stamp type differences, listing Christmas seals, numerical canceler concordance, Denmark stamps' se-tenant advertising labels, also coin valuations. EMV = \$15, Starting Bid = \$3.
- Faroes/Greenland/Iceland:** 12 different issues of *North Atlantic Philately*, edited by K. Hopballe, English text editions, No. 1 1987 through No. 1 1993 (1988-92 complete run), useful postal history articles. EMV = \$12, Starting Bid = \$3.
- Faroes/Greenland/Iceland:** Nine different issues of *North Atlantic Philately*, edited by K. Hopballe, English text editions, No. 1 1989 through No. 1 1993 (complete run), EMV = \$9, Starting Bid = \$2.
- Greenland:** 11 different unused postcards, published by Grønlands Postvæsen 1985-88, six depicting native birds, pristine condition. EMV = \$5, Starting Bid = \$1.
- Iceland:** *Frimerkjablaðið*, seven issues (#3 through #9), in Icelandic. A4-size, slick magazine of Iceland postal history articles, illustrated in color. EMV = \$14, Starting Bid = \$3.
- Iceland:** *Frimerkjablaðið*, five issues (#s 4-8), in Icelandic. EMV = \$10, Starting Bid = \$2.
- Iceland:** *Iceland Philatelic Journal*, issues #1-12 (1975-76 complete), in English, 55 loose-leaf pages (printed on both sides, 3-hole punched). U.S. publication of general Iceland philatelic articles useful for beginning and intermediate collectors, not specialist oriented. EMV = \$11, Starting Bid = \$2.
- Denmark/DWI/Iceland/Slesvig:** *Helsager*, by S. Ringström, in Danish, 1967, 191 pages, softbound. Detailed specialized catalogue of Danish area postcards and postal stationery that goes well beyond the treatment in general Scandinavian catalogues in listing varieties. EMV = \$20, Starting Bid = \$4.
- Denmark:** *The 60 Years' Work of the Christmas Seal Committee, The Christmas Seal 1904-1963*, in English, published by The D catalogue listings of the seals, important work for Cinderella and seal collectors. EMV = \$5, Starting Bid = \$1.
- Scandinavian/Nordic:** *Julemærkekatalog*, No. 16, April 1976, in Danish, 59 pages, paperback. Illustrated Nordic Christmas seal catalogue, prices outdated, but still a useful reference for Cinderella and seal collectors. EMV = \$5, Starting Bid = \$1.
- Polar/Norway:** 1980 Arctic exhibit by Russian artist Wladimir Goichman at FRAM Museum, Oslo. Specialist/topical grouping comp Land), EMV = \$20, Starting Bid = \$4.
- Norway:** *Norge Postveier og Sensus under den Annen Verdenskrig*, by Svein Andreassen, in Norwegian, English introduction, published by Norske Filatelistforbund og Filatelistisk Forlag, Bergen, 1995, 262 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, like-new condition. Treatise on Norwegian WWII-era Red Cross-related postal history, authoritative reference. CMV = \$94, Starting Bid = \$24.
- Norway:** *PFT Info* and *Frimerkeposten* from Norway Post, 1988-1993, run of 22 issues; also 3 miscellaneous bulletins, all in English. Excellent archival material, also of interest/value to topical collectors. EMV = \$52, Starting Bid = \$1.



21. **Sweden:** *Priskatalog över Svenska Post—och Makuleringsstämplat 1971*, in Swedish, 112 pages, softbound. Priced catalogue of Sweden town postmarks, useful postal history reference. EMV = \$5, Starting Bid = \$1.
22. **Sweden:** *Contenta Katalog över Svenska Ortstämplat 1819-1975* (158 pages) and *1819-1978* (262 pages), in Swedish, softbound. Priced catalogue of Swedish town postmarks on the first five Sweden stamp issues, useful postal history reference just for the alphabetical listing of Swedish towns/post offices. EMV = \$20, Starting Bid = \$4.
23. **Sweden:** *Posttrytaren Årsbok för Postmuseum 2000*, in Swedish, 187 pages, hardbound. The 2000 Swedish Post Museum Yearbook contains articles about Swedish postal history, Swedish stamp production, and the ill-fated *Titanic*, illustrated in color, new condition. EMV = \$30, Starting Bid = \$10.
24. **Sweden/Slania:** 235 official new-stamp-issue publicity photographs issued by Sweden Post with press releases; several Czeslaw Slania-engraved issues, many multicolored. Marvelous lot for the Sweden modern collector or Slania topicalist/specialist; many postcard size, so with cardstock backing, would make excellent personalized postcards. Lot contains a booklet, *Eye, Burin, Hand—a presentation of Swedish P.O. engravers*, including Slania. EMV = \$25, Starting Bid = \$6.
25. **Sweden:** 22 different unused postcards: 16 issued by Sweden Post (Postens tryckeri), 1976-1983, and six reprints by Centers Tygelsjö for national Flag Day. EMV = \$6, Starting Bid = \$1.50.
26. **Sweden:** *Sweden Post Information* (new-issue loose-leaf bulletins), 1969-1983, complete run of 271 issues, in English. Excellent archival reference material, also of interest/value to topical collectors. EMV = \$27, Starting Bid = \$5.
27. **Sweden:** *Sweden Post Bulletins*, 1983-2002, fairly complete run of 122 issues (lacking three); also 21 annual catalogues (1970-2004) and 8 pamphlets, all in English. Excellent archival reference material, also of interest/value to topical collectors. EMV = \$27, Starting Bid = \$5.
28. **Sweden:** *Sweden Post Bulletins*, 1983-2002, 88 issues (decent run to 1995, spotty thereafter); also 14 annual catalogues (1970-2001) and 4 pamphlets, all in English. EMV = \$21, Starting Bid = \$3.
29. **Sweden:** *Sweden Post Bulletins*, 1983-1992, 53 issues (fairly complete run to 1989, spotty thereafter); also 5 annual catalogues and pamphlets, all in English. EMV = \$12, Starting Bid = \$1.50.
30. **Sweden:** Scandinavian philatelic wall calendar for 1973, consisting of thirteen multi-colored 8.5" x 6" postcards depicting great classic Sweden covers; captions in Swedish but includes English translations on gummed-paper for paste-over, pristine condition.
31. **Finland:** 87 official new-stamp-issue publicity photographs issued by Finland Post for illustrations with press releases and five color panels; and 112 new-issue notices and 33 issues of *Info* (Finland Post bulletins) dated 1974-89. Marvelous lot for the Finland modern collector; many postcard size. EMV = \$21, Starting Bid = \$4.
32. **General/United States:** The three exhibition catalogues for Interphila 76, Ameripex 86, and Pacific 97 (the latter combines the *1997 Congress Book* as half the publication). All are in good condition and include intact all the inserts (1976 BEP Independence Hall sheetlet, scarce People's Republic of China S/S, etc.). Two are softbound; Pacific 97 is hardbound. EMV = \$50, Starting Bid = \$10.
- HAFNIA 76 Hoard:** Lots 33-40 were owned by the (now-deceased) U.S. Commissioner to HAFNIA 76 and were donated to the SCC. All items are in the original mailing envelopes and in pristine condition. These items are rarely seen on the market today, so we offer collectors the opportunity to obtain some specialty material that was previously available only to attendees at HAFNIA 76.
33. **Danish West Indies:** Complete set of six reproductions of DWI bicolor-stamps in sheets of 100 subjects printed from archival holdings in the Dansk Post- & Telegrafmuseum; includes 1¢ 2nd and 4th printings, 3¢ 3rd printing, 4¢ 4th printing, 5¢ 2nd printing, and 10¢ 3rd printing; explanations of all plate-position varieties are given in bottom margin selvage (excellent study/plating tool for DWI specialists, marvelous display items); also a special presentation sheet with pasted-down official reproductions of the DWI 1866 3¢ and 1873 4¢ issues. EMV = \$50, Starting Bid = \$12.50.
34. **Faroes:** Reproductions/reprints of the 10-page softbound booklet *Beiledning for Postforerne* (April 1892), ancient map of the Faroes, and two Post Office bulletins, and a special presentation sheet with two Faroes first definitives cancelled 1/30/75. EMV = \$15, Starting Bid = \$3.
35. **Faroes:** Same packet as lot #34 but lacks the presentation sheet. EMV = \$10, Starting Bid = \$2.
36. **Greenland:** Packet includes reproductions/reprints for the postal historian, including Eric Wowerm's *Postal Rates in Greenland*, two 1873 letters and translations of 1873 regulations, sheetlet of 16 labels depicting Greenland P.O. cancels and scenes, black print proof of the 2/19/76 polar bear and cubs stamp, special presentation sheet with two 1974 Greenland commemorative stamps cancelled 2/29/76. EMV = \$25, Starting Bid = \$5.
37. **Greenland:** Same packet as lot #37 but lacks the black print proof. EMV = \$15, Starting Bid = \$3.
38. **Denmark:** Packet #1 comprises reprint 16-page postal history booklet, reproductions (two with wax seals) of four 1808 pre-philatelic letters (with additional printed Danish text and English translation), and presentation sheet of Danish commemoratives cancelled 10/9/74. EMV = \$10, Starting Bid = \$2.
38. **Denmark:** Packet #2 comprises reprint 12-page postal history booklet, reproductions of three pages of postal history information, three different special presentation sheetlets showing the essays of Martinus William Ferslew, and explanatory brochure. EMV = \$10, Starting Bid = \$2.
39. **Denmark/Slania:** Packet #3 comprises complete set of six reproductions of Denmark stamps in sheets of 100 subjects printed from archival holdings in the Dansk Post- & Telegrafmuseum; includes the 4 sk no. 1, imperforate color proof of 4sk no. 1, 1854 4 sk plate I, 1854 4sk plate 2, 1870 4sk bicolor 13th printing/plate B, and 1875 4sk bicolor 1st printing/plate A (captions given in bottom margin selvage, excellent study/plating tool, marvelous display items); also 14-page booklet *Overgangen fra Skilling til Ore den 1. Januar 1875* by W. B. Moller, three reprint brochures about postal history, color plate of postal carriers, and special presentation sheetlet of Denmark's first painting stamp (engraved by Czeslaw Slania) cancelled by special exhibit cachet, with explanatory brochure. Magnificent lot for Denmark classic-stamp or Slania specialist. EMV = \$70, Starting Bid = \$18.
40. **Denmark:** Same Packet #3 as lot 39, but lacking the Czeslaw Slania presentation sheet. EMV = \$50, Starting Bid = \$12.50. ■

Awards Highlight SCC Annual Meeting

Turnout at SCC's annual meeting during the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition (PNSE) was excellent, with more than 25 SCC members attending for the exhibits, a special club dinner, and membership meeting.

There were seven exhibits by SCC members in the competition at PNSE, including four single frames. SCC members came away with outstanding awards: four gold, two silvers, and a platinum. A complete report on the exhibit and awards can be found on page 38.

The social dinner was arranged by **Alan Warren** at Kildares, an Irish pub near the show. Although the main part of the pub was packed by an enthusiastic (and loud!) Friday night crowd, we had a private room and enjoyed great food and a chance for members to mix and talk. **Jim Burgeson** of Southern California won the door prize, contributed by **Roger Schnell**, for having traveled the farthest distance in the U.S. to the show.

The annual members' meeting was highlighted by the service awards. **Eric Roberts** was awarded the Pelander Award for operating the Scandinavian Stamp Mart for more than a decade. The mart books have become one of the most dependable and attractive benefits of membership in the SCC due, in no small part, to Roberts' dedicated management.

The Brofos award for best article in *The Posthorn* during 2003 went to **Bjørn Kristian Wang** for his two-part series, "Norway's Coarse Perforation Varieties of 1892-1893" in the February and May, 2003 issues. His articles prompted changes and new entries in the 2004 edition of *Norgeskatalogen*.

A special President's Award went to **Frederick A. Brofos** in recognition of his prolific career of more than 50 years of philatelic writing. Brofos has been creating interesting stories and articles for longer than many of us have even been collecting and continues to do so to the present day, with material often appearing in *The Posthorn*, which he edited at one time. A 50-year membership certificate was awarded to **Arthur Lind**.



Visiting Nordic judge Toke Nørby.

Toke Nørby was this year's Scandinavian judge on the regular show jury panel. Following his introduction to the members, Nørby presented the SCC Library with a collection of books: *Dansk-Engelsk Ordbog* (Danish English Dictionary), *Danish Stamps, 150 Years*, and *Dansk Posthistoriske Circulaerer, 1848-1868* (circulars produced by the Danish Government for postal matters, 1848-1868).

The philatelic program was given by **George Kuhhorn** on "Ångbåt Markings on Swedish Covers Carried Over Waterways, Canals, and Lakes." Kuhhorn's extensive collection of covers with these special cancels was augmented by fascinating photographs of the actual vessels associated with each mark and their routes.

—John DuBois



Warren Grosjean, left, and Mark Lorentzen enjoy SCC's national meeting. (Photos by Don Halpern.)

Grid Pattern Changed on Norway Reprints

Norway Post has announced that reprints of two of its posthorn definitives have a different grille pattern than the originals. The 1-øre and 2-øre reprints of *Facit* 1416-1417 have both a horizontal and vertical grille pattern while the originals from 2003 have a diagonal grid. The difference can be seen under magnification. In addition, the Post said the original printing (with the diagonal pattern) is sold out and only the reprints are available through the philatelic service. ■

SCC Board of Directors Meeting: A Review

The annual meeting of the board of directors of the SCC was held October 2 during the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition. Full minutes of the meeting are available on the SCC Web site www.scc-online.org. Some highlights follow.

Election of Officers

Since no additional nominations for the biennial election were received by the Secretary through September 1, the Secretary cast one vote to elect the slate of officers and directors as reported in the May *Posthorn*. Effective January 1, those officers are:

President, John DuBois of Massachusetts; **Vice President, Arnold Sorensen** of Indiana; **Vice President for Chapters, Edward Bode** of Missouri; **Secretary, Donald Halpern** of New Jersey; **Treasurer, Mats Roing** of Massachusetts; **Directors** (for terms expiring in 2008), **Viggo Warmboe** of Minnesota, **Warren Grosjean** of New Jersey, and **Eric Roberts** of Texas.

Finances

The treasurer and board discussed the ongoing deficit nature of our operation over the last several years. It was recommended that the annual membership dues be raised \$5 to bring the yearly budget into approximate balance. It was noted that this increase is not enough to allow any increase in expenditures, and that strict cost controls will be necessary to balance the budget, even with the change in dues.

The work of the Library Committee over the past year was strongly praised, and a budget line item of \$500 was established for general library expenses.

Awards and Memorials

The board established a memorial fund in memory of **Paul Jensen**, the distinguished Norwegian postal historian who recently passed away. The fund has already received donations of \$300 and members who wish to honor Paul Jensen are encouraged to contribute. Application of interest from this fund was discussed, but a decision deferred until a larger balance exists. Several directors suggested allowing multiple names to be associated with the fund; this will be considered.

The subject of changing our award practice for SCC medals was discussed at some length. The basic problem is that multiple medals along with the present award criteria have resulted in silver or bronze medals being awarded to exhibits that receive higher levels in regular competition. A number of suggestions were made, including matching of SCC medals to regular award levels or removing our levels altogether and giving them names of distinguished philatelists and SCC leaders, such as "Richter," "Jensen," "Engstrom." As this is a rather complex issue, a committee will be formed for additional study.

Future Meetings

Several future annual meeting dates and locations were reviewed and approved: Annual 2005, Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (formerly ROMPEX); Regional 2005, NORDIA 2005, Göteborg, Sweden; Annual 2006, Washington 2006; Regional 2006, SANDICAL; Annual 2007, NAPEX; Annual 2008, CHICAGOPEX, and Annual 2012, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Posthorn Developments

A discussion was held on developing some form of electronic publishing for the entire *Posthorn*, not as a replacement for the printed version, but as an augmentation where color could be used throughout. President John DuBois and Editor Paul Albright were appointed to study the issue further.

A few requests have been received for paid "display" advertising on our Web site. There was no objection as a matter of policy, and implementation was assigned to the Webmaster and *Posthorn* Business Manager. ■

— John DuBois and Don Halpern

SCC's Stamp Mart Boosts Member Collections

The Scandinavian Stamp Mart is alive and providing Mart books to our members. We do not have as much material as some times in the past, but we do have a nice selection of Scandinavian material — especially for Finland and Norway.

Members residing in the United States may receive selections through the Stamp Mart circuits. A circuit consists of 12-16 Mart books with a total sales value of around \$3,000 circulating to a series of 4-9 SCC members with similar collecting interests. Circuit categories are listed below along with the frequency a member on that circuit might expect to receive shipments. One should be aware that if they request books from more than one category, they may see some books twice. Frequency of shipments is limited by the availability of Mart books.

We encourage all members who might wish to participate in the circuits to write the Mart Manager, Eric Roberts, P.O. Box 460201, Houston, TX 77056, or email eric.roberts@halliburton.com.

Categories and frequency of circulation

Scandinavian mint: Includes all books in the Mart where half or more of the stamps are unused of all eras. It has both MNH and hinged. This circuit also includes booklets. Four shipments a year.

Scandinavian used: Includes all books in the Mart where half or more of the stamps are used of all eras. Four shipments a year.

Scandinavian railroads & revenues: 1 or 2 shipments a year.

Country circuits: The country circuits include everything listed above plus specialized materials, stationery, covers, seals, cancels, etc. Country circuits are:

Denmark and DWI: 3-4 shipments a year.

Finland: 2-3 shipments a year.

Greenland, Faroes, Åland: 1 shipment a year.

Iceland: 2-3 shipments a year.

Norway: 3-4 shipments a year.

Sweden: 3-4 shipments a year. ■

— Eric Roberts

Stephen Kaplan Wins SCC Bowl at National Show



Stephen Kaplan, left, accepts award from SCC President John DuBois. (Photo by Michelle DuBois.)

SCC Director **Stephen Kaplan** won the Joanna Sliski Taylor Memorial Bowl for the best Scandinavian exhibit at the SCC convention held in conjunction with the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition in King of Prussia, PA, October 1-3. His exhibit on the "Usage of the Ring Stationery of Finland" also took a show gold, a SCC gold, and the United Postal Stationery Society's Marcus White award.

Mark Lorentzen received platinum in the single-frame category along with the SCC's John Siverts Memorial plaque for the best single-frame entry with his "Denmark to the Old German States: The Rayon System." Other gold awards went to **Geoffrey Noer** (and a SCC gold) for "Faroe Islands Mail 1870-1947," to **Mark Lorentzen** for "From and Through Great Britain to Denmark 1840-1880," and to **Alan Warren** for "Denmark: Cachet Varieties of the Horsens Filatelistklub for the Vitus Bering Issue."

A show silver and a SCC silver went to **Robert Lang** for "Early Finland Commemoratives," and another silver went to **James Burgeson** for "Combination Covers of Sweden."

SCC past president **Roger Schnell** was Chief Judge and **Toke Nørby** of Aarhus, Denmark, served as the guest Nordic judge.

— Alan Warren

Publicity Slot Filled by New Member

SCC's new Publicity Chairman is an enthusiastic newcomer to Scandinavian philately who will work to promote our club and expand its membership. SCC President John DuBois announced that Frederick Lutt of Cincinnati, Ohio, will become Publicity Chairman effective January 1, 2005.

Lutt, who joined SCC a few months ago, is a 46-year-old landscape architect and city planner. He was collecting stamps and postal history of Fiji and the Leeward Islands when a trip to Scandinavia this past summer sparked his interest in philately of that area. Of special interest to him are the post-World War II definitives of Denmark. ■

SCC and Scandinavian Calendar

2005

Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (SCC National Meeting), May 13-15, Denver, CO. Contact John DuBois, SCC President, or www.rockymountainstampshow.com.

Nordia 2005, May 26-29, Göteborg, Sweden. Contact Greg Frantz, 18314 E. Geddes Pl., Foxfield, CO 80016 (gfcaptain@aol.com) or www.nordia2005.com.

Mare Balticum, August 26-28, Mariehamn, Åland. Contact www.posten.aland.fi, or Mikael Erickson, PO Box 122, AX-22101, Mariehamn, Åland, (m.erickson.frimarksaml@aland.net).

Oslo 2005, November 17-20, national exhibition in Oslo. Contact Gunnar Melbøe, Oslo2005, Frydenlundgate 14, Oslo, Norway (gmelboee@online.no).

2006

Sandical (SCC Regional Meeting), January 27-29, San Diego, CA. Contact John DuBois, SCC President, or Don Brent, SCC Executive Secretary.

Washington 2006 (SCC National Meeting), May 27-June 3, Washington, DC. Contact John DuBois, SCC President, or Washington 2006, Box 2006, Ashburn, VA. 20146-2006; www.washington-2006.org.

Nordia 2006, October 26-29, Helsinki, Finland. Contact Kari Rahiala, organizing committee chairman, or John DuBois (jld@thlogic.com).

2007

NAPEX (SCC National Meeting), June 1-3, Tysons Corner, VA. Contact John DuBois, SCC President.

2008

CHICAGOPEX (SCC National Meeting), November 18-20, Contact www.chicagopex.com

2012

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada (SCC National Meeting). ■

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

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Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: Donald B. Brent, Executive Secretary, 9/27/04		

Library Sale of Scandinavian Catalogues

The SCC Library has excess catalogues for sale to **members of the SCC**. Proceeds will go toward improving the library's research collection. All catalogues are either softbound (perfect bound) or paperback (staple bound) editions with original covers. They may have some cover or page wear, and/or page markings but are generally in sound condition. There are multiple copies of many of the catalogues.

Terms of Sale: All will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis to **members of the SCC**. Specify the names and years of catalogues desired and send orders to SCC Library, c/o RMPL, 2038 South Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224, USA. Do not send payment with your order. You will be invoiced the cost of the publication plus postage and packaging.

Catalogues Now Available:

Facit Specialkatalog (in Swedish, English introduction and articles, covers all Scandinavian and Nordic areas; beginning about 1963 each catalogue contains one or more specialized articles or monographs on Scandinavian or Nordic stamps and/or postal history, which are particular to a given catalogue edition and are not repeated in other catalogues) – \$2 each: 1960 and 1962 through 1973; \$3 each: 1974, 1974-75 through 1979-80; \$4 each: 1981-82, 1983 through 1990; \$5 each: 1991 and 1993; \$6 each: 1993-94, 1995-96, and 1996-97.

Facit Ortstämpelkatalog (in Swedish, Sweden postal history only, highly specialized reference) – \$3: 1982; \$4: 1985; \$5: 1989.

Norgeskatalogen (Oslo Filatelistklubb) (in Norwegian, Norway only with English Introduction) – \$2 each: 1965, 1967, 1971, and 1972; \$3 each: 1976 and 1977; \$4 each: 1982, 1985, 1987/88, and 1988/89; \$5 each: 1990 and 1991.

AFA Skandinavien Frimærkekatalog – (in Danish, covers all Danish areas) – \$1 each: 1962, 1965 through 1969; \$2 each: 1972 through 1974, and 1977.

SFF Specialkatalog (Sveriges Filatelist Förbund) – (in Swedish, Sweden only) – \$2 each: 1971 through 1973; \$3 each: 1974-75, 1977-78, and 1979-80; \$4 each: 1985-86 through 1986-87.

Miscellaneous Catalogues:

\$1 each: *Lilla Facit 1968*; *Danmark Kataloget 1972* (J. Rasmussen); *GF-10 Faroes 1976*; *Minkus Scandinavia/Baltic Countries 1960 and 1961*, and *Stanley Gibbons Scandinavia 1971*.

\$2 each: *Norma Finland 1980*; *Minkus Scandinavia/Baltic Countries 1960, 1961*; and *Stanley Gibbons Part 11 Scandinavia, 4th Edition (1994)*.

\$5: *Catalog of Scandinavian Revenue Stamps, Volume 2, Denmark*, by Paul Nelson. ■

Book Reviews

Handbook of Danish Essays: Volume Two 1920-1939 [*Håndbog om danske essays: Bind to 1920-1939*] by William R. Benfield and Bruno Nørdam. 8¾ by 11½ inches, 370+ xviii pages, hardbound, bilingual (English and Danish), Jay Smith & Associates, Snow Camp NC, 2004, ISBN 0-9656592-6-7 (Dansk ISBN 87-990237-0-9). \$69 plus shipping from Jay Smith & Associates, PO Box 650, Snow Camp NC 27349 USA. Email: js@JaySmith.com.

This book is an example that sets a standard for philatelic handbooks. The typography, black and white illustration quality, bilingual text, approach to cataloging, research, references, and detailed text all come together to provide an excellent resource for collectors and students of the stamp essays of Denmark. This volume is the second of a projected four-volume series but is the first one to be published, as the information for this time period was assembled first.

The interesting prefaces of the co-authors and publisher reveal how they started in philately and were drawn together to prepare this study. Other contributors to the work are acknowledged. ➤

The introduction defines “essays” as used in this handbook, explains the catalog numbering system, discusses color, paper, measurement, printing, the artists involved in the essay designs, and provides a rarity scale ranging from R1 for extremely common to R7 for unique, with dollar ranges indicated. Two types of catalog numbers are used. For issued stamps, the number begins with the Scandinavian *Facit* catalog number followed by suffixes that distinguish color and paper types. In the case of essays for which no stamp was issued, the catalog number begins with the year date preceded by an asterisk, and followed by suffixes for the varieties.

Co-author Benfield collects essays, proofs, specimens, unissued stamps, reprints, and test stamps (collectively known as EPSURTs). However, this study focuses on essays only so the listings contain an “E” followed by an abbreviation to indicate the physical state: RCD or rough concept drawing, DCM or detailed concept model, FAW or final artwork, PM or photographic model, and E for printed essays.

The catalog begins with nine pages devoted to the Slesvig Reunion set of 1920, attesting to the degree of research and detail involved. The essays prepared by two artists are described, including discussions of paper thickness, dimensions, and color of the artwork as well as the printed essays. The rarity values are shown and for extremely rare examples (one or two known), the authors indicate where they reside, such as in the postal museum or private collections. The level of detail is typical of that used throughout the book.

The illustrations are quite good and are often derived from original materials. In some cases, auction catalogs or other sources are used, but the quality is still more than acceptable. The text is occasionally enhanced with reproductions of journal articles announcing design competitions, and even a philatelically inspired cover on which essays were used. The last Danish stamps for which essays are shown in this volume is the Bertel Thorvaldsen set of 1938.

An annotated bibliography for each issue comprises over 40 pages. An appendix gives brief biographical sketches of all the artists mentioned, in alphabetical order. A second appendix lists unidentified essays for which more detail is sought, and a third appendix shows test stamps that appeared during the 1920-1938 period with brief summaries of why they were made.

Co-authors Benfield and Nørdam, along with publisher Jay Smith, recognize that additional essays and details will turn up. They have left room in the catalog numbering system to accommodate these new discoveries as they come to light. The on-demand publication system that is used permits updated editions to be easily arranged.

This volume is an important and welcome addition to the philatelic literature of Denmark. Some of the information appeared previously in articles by Bruno Nørdam in *Skilling* and then *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. However, the expanded details in the new handbook have brought our knowledge of this material to new heights.

— Alan Warren



An Introduction to the Postal History of Denmark 1624-1950, David Cornelius, 344 pages in English, 12 by 8½ inches, hardbound. Weight 3lbs. 10oz. Published by the Stuart Rossiter Trust Fund, Bristol, Great Britain ISBN 0-9545207-0-X. \$87.50 post paid within the U.S. from Philatelic Bibliopole, PO Box 36006, Louisville, KY 40233, or www.pbbooks.com.

David Cornelius makes clear the need for this book in his own very useful bibliography, where almost all of the literature listed on Danish postal history is in Danish or German. This is not a catalogue. There are no prices, and the author modestly describes his book as an introduction to the subject. But this book is the finest overview of Danish postal history in English and a “must buy” for any keen student of Danish postal history.

This truly excellent book is divided into six main sections. The first part includes background and general information on Denmark, its geography, history, language, and postal service in 35 pages. The second surveys the inland post from 1625, 44 pages. The third presents 56 pages on the foreign mails including shipping routes and rates. Part four (52 pages) deals with transporting the mail, including railways and by air, and the 30 pages of part five are concerned with military mail from 1625 through



World War II and the United Nations. Part six offers 52 pages on routes and rates and provides tables and charts from the records of the Danish Post museum. These are followed with additional notes including a bibliography, a selective index and a list of Danish abbreviations translated into English.

Drawing on the very extensive literature on postal history available in Denmark, and bringing in the knowledge of many fine postal historians, David Cornelius has provided a great treat to his fellow collectors in the English-speaking world.

This is a smorgasbord of a book with more than 180 illustrations and covering many interesting byways, such as the ferry post, Napoleonic wars, internment in WWII, private local posts, labels and parcels, currency and inflation, field post, tables of rates and routes, and the propaganda balloon mail sent to Sweden in the early 1800s.

It's an ideal birthday or Christmas present. If you can't find someone to buy it for you, order it now. You won't be disappointed. ■

— *Chris King*

Albums Closed

Chicago Leader Fred Bloedow

Fred Bloedow of Evanston, IL, a longtime leader among collectors in the Chicago area, closed his albums on September 29 at the age of 69. He held a variety of offices in conjunction with the COMPLEX exhibition in the 1960s and 1970s, and was honorary chairman of COMPLEX for the past 30 years.

A life member of SCC, Bloedow was national secretary of SCC from 1974-77 and a vice president from 1978-80. He was president of SCC's Chapter 4 in 1967-68 and served as Chapter 4 vice president both before and after those years. For six years, he was treasurer of the United Nations Collectors of Chicagoland.

Bloedow exhibited Danish and Greenland material, including the 1918 27-öre provisionals, U.S. APOs in Greenland, the Frederik IX issues, Danish advertising labels, and Greenland after 1938.

— *Information from Ben Cohen*

Danish Philatelist Tom Plovst, 1924-2004

One of the remarkable personalities in Danish philately is no longer with us. My friend and mentor since 1970, Tom Plovst, died October 14. He left his mark on many aspects of Danish philately during his 80-year lifetime.

Tom will especially be remembered not only for his outstanding articles on Denmark's Postal Ferry stamps, but also for his endless writings on Denmark's steel-engraved stamps. For many years, he worked with J. E. Tanggaard, Chr. Larsen, and P. Mortensen to produce several important books on these issues.

From 1962 to 1978, Plovst served as treasurer of Danmarks Filatelist-Union (now Danmarks Filatelist Forbund), and from 1972 to 1979 he was the editor of *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. He was also a member of the Danske Filatelisters Fællesfond, founded around 1964 and providing a place for Plovst to work for Danish philately.

Tom Plovst was awarded the "Denmark Medal" in 1976 and "Robert Bechsgaard's Memorial Cup" in 1995 for his outstanding work in the field of Danish philately. He is survived by his three children, Inger, Keld, and Henrik, who is the current president of the Danish Postal History Society.

— *Toke Nørby*

SCC Chapter Meeting & Contacts

1. SEATTLE/NW: 2nd Mon. at Maple Leaf Evangelical Church, 1059 NE 96th, 7:30 p.m. 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. For meeting locations & other information CONTACT: Ronald Collin, email: collinr@ameritech.net.
5. NEW ENGLAND: 1st Wed. at the Scandinavian Living Center, 206 Waltham St., West Newton, MA at 7:30 p.m. in the private dining room. <http://scc5.thlogic.com>. CONTACT: John L. DuBois, c/o Thermalogic Corp., 22 Kane Industrial Dr., Hudson, MA 01749, email: jld@thlogic.com.
7. NEW YORK: 2nd Wed. (except Jul. & Aug.) at The Collectors Club, 26 E. 35th St. CONTACT: Carl Probst, 71 Willoughby Ave., Hicksville, NY 11801, email: carl_probst@gardencitygroup.com.
9. N. NEW JERSEY: 3rd Wed. at members' homes. CONTACT: Warren J. Grosjean, 32 Juniper Rd., Wayne, NJ 07470-6156, email: grosjean@optonline.net.
11. REYKJAVÍK: 2nd Mon., 19:00, program 20:00, at Siðmúli 11, The Center of the Icelandic Philatelic Federation. Junior meeting every Tue., 17:00 in the Seljakirkja in Breiðholt, Reykjavík. CONTACT: Sigurður H. Þorsteinsson, Postbox 26, IS-222 Hafnarfjörður, Iceland, email: sholm@tv.is.
12. WASHINGTON DC: 3rd Thu. at the McLean Community Center, 7:30 p.m., 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: Alan Warren, alanwar@worldnet.att.net.
14. TWIN CITIES: 2nd Thu. (except Jul. & Aug.) at Lynnhurst Community Center, 50th St., & West Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN. CONTACT: Rossmar 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 email: gerjerry@earthlink.net.
21. GOLDEN GATE: Meets monthly on 1st Sat., 11 a.m. at members' houses & at various shows (WESTPEX, COALPEX, PENPEX, etc.). CONTACT: Herb Volin, sec./treas., (510) 523-3727, HRVolin@aol.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. PAULSON-SEAMAN: 1st Tues., noon, at Kally-K's Restaurant, 1600 Main St., Dunedin, FL. CONTACT: Doris Wendling, 4673 Devonshire Blvd., Palm Harbor, FL 34685; email: JudyNelson.island1@gte.net.
24. MANITOBA: 2nd & 4th Wed. at Scandinavian Cultural Centre, 764 Erin St., Winnipeg, MB. CONTACT: Robert Zacharias, 808 Polson Ave., Winnipeg, MB R2X 1M5, Canada, email: robertzacharias@shaw.ca.
25. TUCSON: 4th Tue. (except Jul. & Aug.) at members' homes. CONTACT: Jack F. Schmidt, phone: (520) 648-0034, or email: jackschmidt@cox.net.
26. TIDEWATER: 3rd Sat., 3 p.m. 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 a.m. at the Rocky Mtn. Philatelic Library, 2038 S. Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224. CONTACT: Roger Cichorz, 3925 Longwood Ave., Boulder, CO 80305-7233, email: rcichorz@comcast.net.
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.

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Founded November 25, 1935

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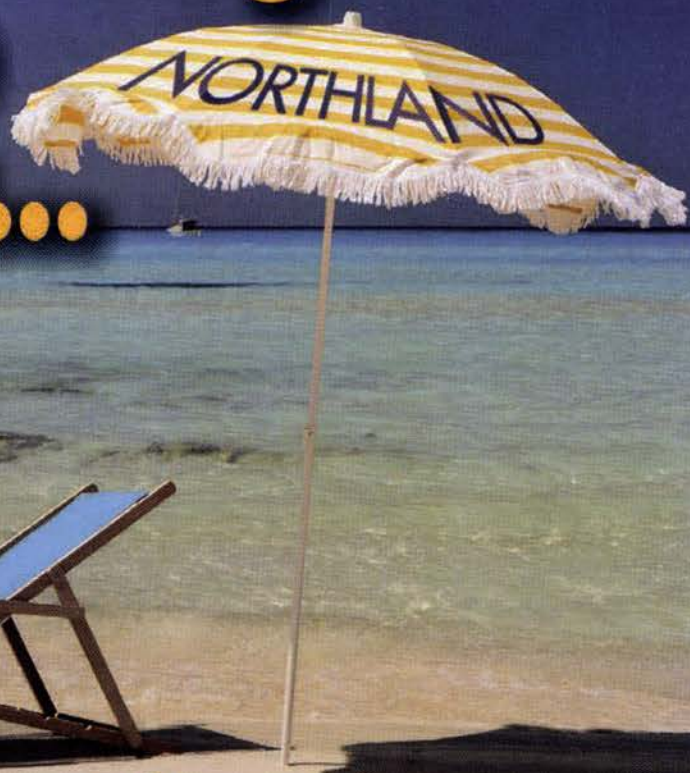
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