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## Iceland to Invalidate More Than 100 Stamps

Iceland Post is invalidating all of the stamps that were issued from 1973 through 1982. Effective October 1, more than 100 stamps issued during those high-inflation years will no longer be valid. These stamps also were issued before a currency reform in which 100 old krónur became 1 new króna.

The reason for invalidating the stamps is that they do not show any aurar designation and the denominations could be confused for króna. For example, a 1974 stamp with a printed value of " 10 " could be mistakenly interpreted as 10 krónur when its true value is 10 "aurar" in today's currency. "People unfamiliar with these stamps could easily misunderstand the correct value of the stamps," said Vilhjálmur Sigurð̊sson of Iceland Post. The 1973-1982 stamps may be exchanged (until October 1) for new stamps equivalent to their value in krónur.
 Beginning this year, only krónur are shown on Iceland's stamps.

Rules forbid favor cancels on the exchanged stamps. "If a collector brings or sends us stamps issued before the end of 1982, we do not cancel them," said Sigurðsson. "We have never done this; it is a rule here."

Iceland's stamps issued before 1973 were invalidated at the time of the currency reform, which occurred in 1981. The stamps being invalidated in October are Facit 508-628. It is not known how many of these stamps still are in circulation.

- Paul Albright

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# From Ugly to Desirable: Poorly Centered or Perforation Error? 

By John R. Sabin

Many collectors, looking for something more to focus on, or specialize in, as their collection becomes more complete, turn to the collection of errors. Some errors are well-known and eminently collectable and thus are listed in the AFA, AFA specialized, ${ }^{1}$ Facit, ${ }^{2}$ and other catalogs. Among the best-known errors for Danish stamps, the subject of this article, are the well-known pearl error, inverted frame, and Carøe's cut errors of the bicolored issues of 1870-1905; the stone under the plough and break in the left wing of the old airmail issue (AFA 144x and 144y); and the bomb and the Round Tower issue (AFA 273x). All of these errors (and many others) are plentiful, standardized, and documented.

A somewhat less standardized error is the partly-without-hearts error on the 1905, 2-øre red, wavy line issue (AFA 43y), where there are several levels at which the hearts are left out.

In all of the cases mentioned above, the error commands a premium price over the normal issue. For example, the AFA 2006 catalog ${ }^{3}$ lists the 2 -øre red where the hearts are missing completely (AFA 43x) at 500 DKr , the error with partially missing hearts (AFA 43y) at 180 DKr , and the normal issue at 100 DKr .

Things become a little murkier when one deals with perforation errors. Apart from the obvious errors where perforations run diagonally through the design, one must first consider centering, which is intimately tied to perforation errors. Clearly, the gold standard is the perfectly centered design with "Four visually equal margins and outstanding eye appeal: a 'boxed' stamp." ${ }^{44}$ The firm Professional Stamp Experts (PSE) has developed a numerical grading scale for stamps that includes centering, among other qualities. Their rating scale for centering runs from 100 points for the "gem" centering described above, to 30 points for a "good" specimen in which, "The perforations cut into the design on one or two sides. Also referred to as 'average'," ${ }^{4}$ The scale has 10 adjectival descriptions describing centering, as well as the numerical grades.

A similar grading scheme is given in the Facit catalog, ${ }^{5}$ and rates centering according to six categories, which run from perfect at x 5 x , to x 1 x , where the perforations invade the design. In addition, Facit adds a category x 0 x for perforation errors. Recently, Scott issued the seventh edition of its U.S. Valuing Supplement, ${ }^{6}$ with seven grades of centering, running from Superb (98) down to Very Good (50), where the perforations can begin to invade the design. (One might wonder why, on a scale of $0-100$, a pretty badly centered stamp is given a grade of $50 / 100$, and described as Very Good.)

For the most part, there is no question of grading at the extreme ends of the scale. For example, Figure 1 shows two examples from the 1918 Chr. X series that are perfectly centered and would bring a premium at auction. Similarly, Figure 2 shows two examples where collectors would also agree that there has been a perforation error, for which some collectors would also pay a premium.

Things get more complicated as the perforations get close to the design edge and begin to invade it. At what point is the stamp simply poorly centered and only average, or $x 1 x$, according to the Facit grading scheme, and thus brings a poor price at auction, and at what point is it a perforation error that may bring a premium? As the PSE points out: " "Stamps with exceptionally poor


Figure 1. Perfectly centered examples of stamps from the 1918 Chr . X series (AFA 105a, and AFA 106) ${ }^{7}$


Figure 2.
Perforation errors on AFA 223 and AFA $745 .{ }^{8}$

centering, where a significant portion of the design is lost and the perforations cut deeply into the stamp cross into the 'freaks and oddities' area, and may actually begin to enjoy increased demand and value from collectors who value such anomalies."

Consider Figure 3. Of these stamps, the 1919 King Christian X 25 -øre (AFA 101) is described as being "almost" a perforation error, the 1905 Christian IX 100-øre (AFA 51) has no comment concerning its centering, and the 1919 Christian X 1-kr. postal ferry overprint (AFA Postfærgemærke 4) are all classified as poorly centered. One would presume that they have a value much less than well-centered copies, because of the poor centering. Note that, in all of these cases, although the perforations cut into the printed design, at least some, but not much, of the unprinted white space is visible on the ends of the perforations.

The illustrations in Figure 4 show fourblocks of the 1992 and 1997 Queen Margrethe 3.75 -kr. issues (AFA 1017 and AFA 1033). Although the perforations cut into the design, there are traces of white at the tips of the perforations, and the stamps are in ostensibly the same condition as those in Figure 3. However, both of the Figure 4 blocks are described as having a perforation error and would be expected to bring a premium. For example, AFA 1133 has a catalog price of 8 kr . in unused condition, while the minimum price at auction for this block is 400 kr .

Finally, Figure 5 shows two stamps. One is an example of the 1864,3 -sk. crown-sceptersword issue (AFA 12). Is it badly centered, or a perforation error? The auction catalog describes it as a strong perforation error with a certificate from Nielson. But its starting price at auction is only


Figure 4. Four-blocks of AFA 1017 and AFA 1133. ${ }^{10}$


Figure 5. AFA $12^{11}$ and AFA $1374^{12}$
about one-half of the catalog price for an unused example. On the other hand, the 2004 Queen issue (AFA 1374) just a bit more off centered, is also described as a perforation error, and the auction starting price is 25 times the catalog value. Consistency seems to be lacking.

It appears that stamp values decrease as centering departs more and more from the perfectly centered, gem example. At some point, however, after the perforations have
begun to invade the stamp design, the stamp becomes a perforation error and then begins to gain in value. There is no standard in place for determining the borderline between "poorly centered" and "perforation error." I would like to propose one:

## A stamp is poorly centered if there is trace of the unprinted area of the stamp on the ends of the perforations, and a perforation error if not.

This criterion seems to work well for the earlier issues, but it becomes more problematical for modern issues where the design borders are less well defined, e.g., the 1998 fossils issue (AFA 1191-1194), or the issue honoring Queen Margrethe's $60^{\text {th }}$ birthday in 2000 (AFA 1239-1240).
(Acknowledgments: Thanks to Thomas Hoiland Auktions, Copenhagen, for permission to use the illustrations from their auction catalogs in this article.)

## Endnotes

${ }^{1}$ AFA Specialkatalog, AFA-Forlaget, 5450 Otterup, Denmark.
${ }^{2}$ Facit Förlags AB, Box 321, 721 07, Västerås, Sweden.
${ }^{3}$ AFA Danmark Frimarkekatalog, AFA-Forlaget, Otterup, Denmark, 2006.
${ }^{4}$ A Guide to the Grading of United States Postage Stamps, Professional Stamp Experts (PSE), Newport Beach, CA, 2002.
${ }^{5}$ Facit 2000 Special, Facit Förlags AB, Västerås, Sweden, 2000.
6 "2007 United States Specialized Valuing Supplement," Scott Publishing Co., Sidney, Ohio, 2006. The new classification scheme is described in the June, 2006 issue of the Scott Stamp Monthly, p. 10.
${ }^{7}$ These illustrations are taken from recent online auctions from Thomas Høiland Auktions A/S, lots 320177, 320182 , and 320184 , respectively.
${ }^{8}$ These illustrations are taken from the $90^{\text {th }}$ auction (November 24-26, 2005) by Thomas Høiland Auktions A/S, lots 561 and 571 , respectively.
${ }^{9}$ These illustrations are taken from recent online auctions from Thomas Høiland Auktions A/S, lots 315450, 319935 , and 320519 , respectively.
${ }^{10}$ These illustrations are taken from recent online auctions from Thomas Høiland Auktions A/S, lots 308002 , and 232252 , respectively.
${ }^{11}$ This illustration is taken from a recent online auction from Thomas Høiland Auktions A/S, lot 264850 .
${ }^{12}$ This illustration is taken from a recent online auction from Thomas Høiland Auktions A/S, lot 323399.

## New Reprints of Norway's Posthorn Design

Norway Post reports two new reprints of the classic (and longstanding) posthorn design definitives. The NOK 1 posthorn offset design (Norsekatalogen 1421) was reprinted on January 16 on a different paper supplied by Tullis Russell. "The burelage is right-angled as before, but the green on the stamp may be perceived as somewhat softer than the last time," said Norway Post. The NOK 5 offset design (NK 1454) was reprinted October 21, 2005, on new paper from Tullis Russell with right-angled burelage. The previous burelage was diagonal. Norway Post advises: "To see the difference, study the area around the royal crown under a good magnifying glass."

The NOK 20 King Harald definitive was reprinted August 1, 2005, but no announcement was made until March, 2006. "The printing dye on the stamps in the new issue is somewhat darker than on the stamps previously issued," said the Post. This reprint was not included in a study of the King Harald series published recently in The Posthorn (February, 2006, pages 7-8).

# Modern Diamond Perforations on Norwegian Stamps 

By Bjorn Kristian Wang

From November, 1987 through at least early 1995, Norges Bank utilized a perforation machine that occasionally - at times regularly - produced stamps with partial diamond (doubled) perforations.

This perforating machine is known in Norwegian stamp literature as the P4 perforator. Stamp sheets made from this perforator have a distinct appearance that differs from those made by the P3 machine, which was the other perforator in operation at the same time. Figures 1 and 2 show examples of $N K 620 \mathrm{z} 3$ printed on the same day but perforated by the two different machines. This switch of machines is known to have happened on more than one occasion during a production day. Possible reasons for this are discussed later.


Figure 1.

One needs to understand the significant differences between the two perforators to discover how the so-called diamondperforated stamps were produced. Both machines use a "comb" type process that perforates 2 rows of stamps at a time. The main differences between them are the number of pins in the vertical and horizontal directions. Figure 3 illustrates the form that P3 perforations would look like should only one pass of the perforator be made.

Figure 4 shows that the format used on the original P4 machine, which differs slightly from that used on P3. The selvage of the sheet had a total of two holes beyond the joint between each stamp. The vertical


Figure 3.


Figure 4.
direction also has two extra pins that extend above the first horizontal row. These are the pins that cause the diamond-perforation varieties.

From 1987 to late March, 1994, the stamps made from P4 could be distinguished by these two holes in the selvage on each side of the sheet at every row. In early April, 1994 one of the extra pins at each side was removed, causing the sheets to look like those made from P3 with only one hole in the margin. I call this newly modified perforator P4a. Stamps made from P4a can only be differentiated from P3 stamps by the stamps that bear diamond perforations. Despite the removal of these pins the vertical extra pins were retained and continued to produce diamond perforated stamps.

While the whole production process is difficult to explain without significant visual imagery, it should be said that the printing and perforating for either of the perforators is done on the same machine. The perforator would cut two rows of holes and then the paper would be automatically fed to the next position to have the next two rows of stamps perforated. This is done in a process immediately after the stamps are printed from a large continuous roll of paper.

## Double Perfs Cause Varieties

The actual perforation varieties appear as variably sized elongated perforation holes in two holes on opposite sides of a stamp. This was caused by the two extra pins at the end of the perforator overlapping with holes cut immediately prior. The variety itself was caused when the feeding process of the perforator caused the paper to be fed an incorrect distance. The diamond perforations can appear as very strong doubling on some stamps and as only very slight doubling on others. Strength of doubling can vary within the same sheet of stamps and from one row to another. The variety can occur as often as every other row in a sheet

Examples of very lightly doubled perforations can sometimes be seen by examining the small paper remnants in the perforation holes that were not completely removed by the secondary perforating in that hole. An example of $N K 620 \mathrm{y} 3$ with this phenomenon is shown as Figure 5. These perforation varieties only occur on the two smallest formats of stamps. This includes posthorn-sized small stamps and high denomination (mostly definitive) type stamps.


Figure 5.


Figure 6. NK645z2, NK644z3, NK1129y1

A couple of the more visible versions of these varieties are shown in Figure 6. Note the very elongated perforation holes at the left side at the top and bottom of the 10-kroner Olav stamp. Note also the very narrow perforation points in the same area. The 5-kroner Olav stamp exhibits the variety at the right side of the stamp (top and bottom), but it also is shown with selvage attached to exhibit how the variety appears before the stamps are separated. The 8-kroner posthorn stamp exhibits the same feature on the smaller format stamp. Note the elongated holes are now on the sides at the upper portion of the stamp.

For small-format stamps, the diamond perforations can occur at either the upper or lower portion of the vertically oriented stamps. The error is also known on two different horizontally oriented stamps but only on the right end of these stamps. Examples of each format are shown in Figure 7.

Similarly the larger format stamps can occur at either the left or right end of the stamp. Examples of these can be seen in Figure 6 and Figure 8. If a variety appears at the upper portion of a stamp, e.g., the posthorn stamp in Figures 6 and the building stamp in Figure 7, it was perforated from the bottom of the sheet upward. If the variety appears at the right end of the stamp, it was perforated from left to right.

The production of stamps on P 4 began with the printing of $N K 645 \mathrm{z2}$ on November 19, 1987. Stamps from this printing are on the


Figure 7. NK904x2, NK1135, NK1012y


Figure 8. NK1065, NK1180 ly1 Left, NK1180 ly1 Right same paper as previous printings and can only be differentiated from prior printings by having marginal examples or stamps with diamond perforations. It was while examining examples of this stamp that I first discovered these varieties.

The last usage of the P4 machine was to produce NK 1181 Iy 1 on March 21, 1994. Soon thereafter (April 8, 1994) the P4 production started again but with the modified P4a machine. The stamps made that week were $N K 1180$ Iy1. The final production period from P4a is a little unclear. It is certain that $N K 1247$ was produced on this machine as late as January 10, 1995, but NK 1180 Iyl may have been produced on this machine as late as October 18, 1995 and $N K 1129 \mathrm{yl}$ may have been produced as late as February 19, 1997. An examination of stamps produced in these printings would be required to be certain.

It is possible that the P4/P4a perforator was modified again after January, 1995, in such a way as to make it identical to the P3 machine in format. If so, there is no way to determine the difference on stamps perforated by these machines after this change.

## Two Formats for Varieties

The varieties can occur in two different formats. These are the result of whether the paper in the perforator was fed too far or not far enough. I have not investigated the relative rarity between the two formats:

- The first format is a stamp that is too long. It can be identified by one narrow perforation tip between the elongated holes. The tips on either side of the elongated holes are normal width.
- The second format is a stamp that is too short. It can be identified by three narrow perforation tips, which are at either side of the elongated holes, as well as the tip between the holes.
The stamps can vary in size by as much as one-half millimeter or possibly even more on extremely strong doubled stamps. Both formats can occur in the same sheet. One example from each format is shown in Figure 9 for $N K$ 1129x.

The accompanying table includes all of the stamps in the appropriate formats produced on P4 and the nine different stamps known to have been produced by P4a. Many of the stamps listed in the table were printed for only one or two days on the P4 perforator and can be very difficult to locate. Many of the listed printing dates are unverified, as well as whether these printings were ever for sale by the Norway Post. In addition, three of these stamps are rather rare to find with or without the variations.


Figure 9.

Catalog of P4 Diamond Perforations

| Norgeskatalogen Number | Location of Variety | Notes | Rarity |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 618z3 | Upper | 2-VII-92 to 3-VII-92 | Rare |
| 620z3 | Upper |  | Scarce |
| 63123 | Right |  | Common |
| $644 z 3$ | Right | Possibly the most commonly seen diamond perforation | Common |
| $645 z 2$ | Left | The first stamp produced with this variety | Scarce |
| $645 z 3$ | Right |  | Common |
| 806 y 2 | Upper | 6-VII-92 | Rare |
| 814 y 2 | Right | 31-VIII-89 (very rare) and 22-XI-90 to 23-XI-90 | Rare |
| $904 \times 2$ | Upper |  | Rare |
| $904 \times 3$ | Unverified (Upper) | The host stamp is not commonly seen | Very Rare |
| 941 y | Right | Only noted on 1 stamp out of 30 or more examined. The host stamp is rare without the variation | Rare |
| 1012y | Right | Stamp occurs in two different shades of the background color | Scarce |
| 1058 | Upper |  | Scarce |
| 1059 | Upper |  | Scarce |
| 1060 | Upper |  | Scarce |
| 1064 | Right |  | Common |
| 1065 | Right |  | Common |
| 1070 | Right |  | Scarce |
| 1071 | Right |  | Scarce |
| 1086 | Upper |  | Common |
| 1087 | Lower | Only minor examples seen | Rare |
| 1104 | Right |  | Scarce |
| 1108 | Upper |  | Rare |
| 1109 | Lower |  | Rare |
| 1127x | Upper |  | Scarce |
| 1127 y 1 | Upper | 5-V-94 to 9-V-94 P4a | Rare |
| 1128x | Upper |  | Scarce |
| 1128 y 1 | Upper | 10-V-94 and 11-V-94 P4a | Scarce |
| 1129x | Upper |  | Scarce |
| 1129 y 1 | Upper | 21-II-95 and 22-II-95? P4a | Rare |
| 1129 y 1 | Lower | 17-II-97 to 19-II-97? P4a | Rare |
| 1130 | Upper |  | Rare |
| 1133 | Upper |  | Very Rare |
| 1134 | Upper | 6-XII-91 and 9-XII-91 | Very Rare |
| 1135 | Upper | 2-XI-92 to 3-XI-92 | Very Rare |
| 1135 | Lower |  | Rare |
| 1136 | Lower | 20-XI-91 to 21-XI-91 | Rare |
| 1149 Ix | Right |  | Scarce |
| 1149 ly | Right | 27-IV-94 to 16-VI-94 P4a | Rare |
| 1156x | Upper |  | Rare |
| 1157x | Upper |  | Scarce |
| 1158x | Lower |  | Very Rare |
| 1158 y 1 | Lower | 3-V-94 to 4-V-94 P4a | Very Rare |
| 1159x | Upper |  | Rare |
| 1160 | Upper |  | Very Rare |
| 1165x | Upper |  | Rare |
| 1166x1 | Upper |  | Very Rare |
| 1166x1 | Lower |  | Very Rare |
| $1166 \times 2$ | Lower | 24-XI-93 to 25-XI-93. <br> The host stamp is very rare | Very Rare |
| 1166y | Upper |  | Scarce |
| 1167x | Upper |  | Scarce |
| 1180 Ix | Left |  | Common |
| 1180 ly1 | Left | 4-X-95 to 18-X-95? P4a | Scarce |
| 1180 ly 1 | Right | 8-IV-94 to 14-IV-94? P4a | Rare |
| 1181 ly1 | Left |  | Scarce |
| 1181 ly1 | Right |  | Rare |
| 1218 | Left |  | Common |
| 1247 | Lower | 3-I-95 to 10-I-95 P4a | Rare |

Overall, many more Norwegian stamps were produced by P3 than by P4. In my opinion, many of the stamps produced by the P4 machine proved to be less than satisfactory in perforation quality. If you examine the P4 stamps in Figure 2, you will note that a number of the holes along the right edge of one of the stamps are less than completely punched. This occurs on every other stamp along the edge of this sheet. The illustrated stamps are from March 23, 1990, but stamps were also made on March 22 from the P4 machine. Stamps from early in the day of March 22 exhibit only one incompletely punched hole, while the later part of the production of March 22,1990 , as well as the only verified sheet from the production of March 23, have a number of holes that are not punched well. The P4 machine was removed from service on March 23, which led to the Figure 1 P3 stamps being produced that same day. The P4 machine was not returned to service until April 20 for a short printing period, and then not again until later in the year. I have encountered a number of P4 stamps that seem to be less than perfectly perforated. Examples of NK814y2 printed on August 31, 1989, are usually quite poorly perforated as well.

## Conclusion

The topic of modern diamond perforations has not previously been discussed at length and there are likely a number of incomplete details listed here. This article is designed to promote discussion of the topic and to foster further research and sharing of information.

## Sources

Norgeskatalogen, 1990 through 2004
Personal correspondence with Bjørn Thore Storesund and a Web site he operates, http://home.online. no/~tstoresu/

## Corrections

There were typographical errors in "The Real Story of Iceland's "Missing í" í Gildi Overprint Varieties: Part I, in the November, 2005 issue, and in Part II in the February, 2006 issue.

In Table 3 on Page 19 of the February, 2006 issue:

- The sixth line, first column should read, 40 aur (1891 $4^{\text {th }}$ printing) instead of 40 aur (1891-99
$4^{\text {th }}$ printing);
- The eighth line, first column should read, Official Service - Perf $123 / 4$ instead of Official

Service-Perf $14 \times 13^{3 / 4}$;

- The ninth line, first column should read, 3 aur (1898-99 $4^{\text {th }}$ printing) instead of 3 aur (1895 $2^{\text {nd }}$ printing).

In Table 1 on Page 5 of the November, 2005 issue, the rarity designation of the "Normal" variety of the 3 aur (large) in the section labeled Postage - Perf 12 $3 / 4$ should read R4 and not R5.

## *

Eugene G. Lesney was erroneously listed among the SCC Quarter Century Club members in the February, 2006 issue of The Posthorn (Page 38).

## *

There was a mistranslation in the article, "A Dead Country's Contribution to Philately: The Stamps of North Ingermanland" in the February, 2006, issue. On Page 4, the words "Pohjois Inkeri" correctly translate to "North Ingermanland" in English.

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# A Fourth Danish West Indies Perforation Error: 3-cent 1873 Left-side Imperforate 

By Arnold Sorensen

The first two Danish West Indies stamps issued in 1856 and 1866 were imperforate. In 1873, however, the 3 -cent stamp was reissued together with a new 4 -cent value, both of which were line-perforated $12 \frac{1}{2}$. This perforation had been used briefly with Danish stamps in 1870. The perforation method was slow and labor intensive and mistakes occurred. Perforations were omitted on both the 3- and 4-cent stamps.

This brief article will discuss and document information concerning a poorly understood perforation error that so far has been recognized by only one stamp catalog. This stamp, which lacks perforations in the left margin, is shown in Figure 1 together with the long-known right margin imperforate variety. The left side imperforate error has never been widely published, and has so far been virtually unknown except to a few specialty collectors. There are four documented copies. The right side perforation error is believed to result from a single sheet. So, only 10 copies can exist, and all are mint/unused.


Figure 1. 3-cent 1873 perforation error. The right-margin imperforate stamp, which is believed to have come from a single sheet, has been listed in catalogs for many years. The left side imperforate error has been virtually unknown except to a few specialty collectors. There are four documented copies, all used.

## Cumbersome Perforation Process

Today's perforation machines will perforate a complete sheet in one operation, but a line-perforation method was much more complicated and cumbersome. Therein lies the reason for the newly recognized error. The line perforation method consisted of 22 individual perforation operations on each sheet of 100 stamps, with each operation only adding a single line of perforation holes. Line perforation results in uneven corner perforations and stamps of irregular width and height.

In this operation, the sheet of stamps was carefully aligned with the perforation device so the holes were punched in the 2 -millimeter space between the rows of stamps. The sheet then was advanced so the next row of holes could be punched. The first row of holes was punched next to the stamps in the margin, and after 10 individual advancements of the sheet the last row of holes had been punched in the opposite margin. The sheet then was turned 90 degrees and the operation was repeated, adding 11 rows of holes that were perpendicular to the first "set" of holes. Only then were all 100 stamps perforated. Thus, the perforations on the four sides of a stamp are the result of four separate operations and explain why wellcentered stamps with full margins are uncommon. The 2-millimeter stamp-to-stamp margin required very careful alignment.

Each stamp ( 3 and 4 cents) had an issue of 2,500 sheets (though only 500 sheets of each were sent to the islands), so the perforation process was extremely time-consuming. The mathematics show that a total of 110,000 rows of perforations were made; this repetition may explain why errors occurred. The 3-cent stamp was issued first, and its perforation holes are visibly smaller than those on the 4-cent stamp. The perforations were of mixed quality with the worst examples retained in Copenhagen and later destroyed.

The 4-cent stamp has two known perforation errors (shown in Figure 2). I believe these errors were limited to one sheet each, but documentation on this point is not available. One sheet was totally imperforate, and a second sheet was without vertical perforations. None of these are known used, and they are typically collected in pairs, blocks, or margin copies. The stamps are watermarked and gummed. The 4 -cent errors are much more readily available since 100 stamps of each are available.

The perforation machines that were used have an interesting history documented by John Agerup in 1967, and it is here that we learn why the two stamps have different diameter perforation holes. ${ }^{1}$ Denmark introduced perforations on its stamps in 1863, but a crude rouletting machine was used only once. Denmark introduced new larger size stamps in 1864, and a comb perforation machine was used for these. The comb perforator only required 11 operations per sheet since a complete horizontal line was punched at the same time the vertical holes were punched for the row of stamps just below the line.

Comb perforators can only be used with a single-size stamp. The perforator had to be modified when Denmark introduced the new size bicolored stamps in 1870. During this transition period the printer, Thiele, had to resort to using line perforators for a short time. This occurred from September to December, 1870, when the new comb perforator became available.

Agerup claimed four machines having different-size needles were in use. He measured the holes as being $0.9,0.75,0.65$ and 0.5 mm in diameter. His point was the printer could not possibly have provided the quantity of stamps needed with a single machine. He does not allude to when or how the line perforation machines were obtained.

Lasse Nielsen, ${ }^{2}$ on the other hand, believes that at least two different machines were used but considers the use of four different machines "rather uncertain since the sizes of the perforation holes might depend upon how deep the needles had been stuck through the paper." For example, Figure 3 shows a poorly perforated stamp, raising the suspicion that a machine operator attempted to perforate multiple sheets at the same time.

However, the Danish comb perforator was the wrong size for the 1873 DWI issue, so two-line perforators from 1870 were used. The DWI Post Office had an immediate need for the 4-cent stamps. (It had a mail contract for foreign mail to


Figure 3. Extremely poor perforated copy. be carried at a 7-cent rate on German steamers.) So, two different line perforators were used simultaneously to expedite the process. That would explain the different size holes.

## Error Is Little Known

The perforation error described here is a postally used copy, so it obviously had been sold through a DWI post office. The left margin has been partially trimmed and extends 5 millimeters from the stamp design. It was first illustrated in SCC's Danish West Indies Study Unit Newsletter in December, 2000. ${ }^{3}$ The discussion included the statement that the study group had photocopies of three stamps missing the left side perforation. The stamp in Figure 1 is the fourth copy recorded. It is not known if all are from a single sheet or if more than one sheet had this error. The DWI post offices sold the individual stamps at three cents each, but a discount was offered when large stamp quantities were purchased, so the left imperforate errors may have been sold in a full sheet. The 3-cent stamp was only on sale and valid for nine months, so post office sales resulting in used copies was rather limited. Mint copies are much more common than used.

The error was not known - or at least not well enough documented - for inclusion in the second volume of The Danish West Indies Mails: The Postal Emissions, published in 1981. ${ }^{4}$ The 1973 Facit Specialcatalog had a listing for "imperforate at left or right" both for both mint and used copies. By 1978,
the catalog had a listing for "Imperforate at left" with the notation 1K, meaning one known copy. The 1987 edition lists the left imperforate variety as No. 3 V 2 with the notations "-" for mint and " 2 K " for used. It also has both mint and used listings for the right side imperforate stamps that is only known unused. ${ }^{5}$ There never has been a listing in either the Danish AFA Special catalogs or the 1997 DAKA catalog.

The DWI Study Group newsletter, which circulates to only a small group of collectors, may have been the first time the error was illustrated. It gained wider exposure when a copy was placed on sale on eBay in 2004. The seller, who said he acquired the stamp in the 1970s, was interested since he knew a greater price was listed for stamps having "marginal letter watermarks." Being a U.S. collector, he "assumed the imperf side was a normal straight-edge so common to U.S. flat plate printed issues."

The 3-cent stamp's margin in Figure 1 has been trimmed (contrasting with margins of the right-side variety shown in Figures 1 and 2), and only parts of the marginal watermarks are visible. The DWI classic issues were printed on so-called "FIRE-RBS" paper used in Denmark starting in 1851 with the FIRE RBS stamp. Each of the four margins was inscribed "KGL - POSTFRIMERKE". The corners had either a crown or a posthorn (two each per sheet). Figure 4 shows a drawing of the watermarks with the lines indicating the stamp location. It is fortunate the watermarks include the Danish letter " $Æ$ " that only appears once on the left side. With respect to this letter, it can only have come from the third row, making it position 21.

It is reasonable to assume that at least 10 copies would have existed at one time, and it may be possible to discover more. With publication in this journal, it should also be reasonable for the various stamp catalogs to recognize its existence and list it.

The collector needs to be warned about possible doctored copies of perforation errors. A 3-cent right side imperforate copy should have a margin approaching 20 millimeters for it to have been part of the original sheet of 10 , but I have seen copies listed on the Internet without any significant margin. Left-sided imperforate copies should also have a "significant" margin, with "significant" being a relative term. This copy was trimmed and others may also be.
(Acknowledgments: Thanks to Roger Cichorz for searching the Facit catalogs at the SCC Library to see how this stamp was listed over the years.)


Figure 4. Drawing of the left side watermark with the letter "Æ" showing it can only come from position 21 in the third row.

## Endnotes:

${ }^{\prime}$ Agerup, John, "Denmark: The Year 1870 - A Year of Transition," The London Philatelist, January, 1967.
${ }^{2}$ Nielsen, Lasse, The Bicoloured Stamps of Denmark, 1870-1905, Vol. I, Kjøbenhavns Philatelist Klub, 2001.
${ }^{3}$ Danish West Indies Study Unit Newsletter, No. 23, Scandinavian Collectors Club, December, 2002. ${ }^{4}$ Engstrom, Victor E., Editor, The Danish West Indies Mails, 1754-1917, Vol. 2: The Postal Emissions, Scandinavian Philatelic Printing and Publishing Co., 1981.
${ }^{5}$ Facit 2001Special (and earlier editions), Facit Förlags AB, Västerås, Sweden

## Member Advertisements

DANISH - NORWEGIAN - SWEDISH STAMPLESS COVERS available at reasonable prices.
Contact Don Halpern, 303-464-9038, or don2halpern@yahoo.com.
ASSISTANCE SOUGHT for a census to be published on usage of Sweden's 4 skilling gray coat-ofarms (Facit \# $2 \mathrm{i}, 2 \mathrm{j}^{1}, 2 \mathrm{j}^{2}, 2 \mathrm{j}^{3}, 2 \mathrm{k}^{1}, 2 \mathrm{k}^{2}$ and $2 \mathrm{k}^{3}$ ). Contact Scott Starling, 8 Newton St., North Epping, NSW, 2121, Australia, or dr.starling@optusnet.com.au.

# Danish West Indies Stamped Revenue Paper from the Early 1800s 

By Claus Rafner and Paul Nelson


#### Abstract

(Editor's Note: As part of a philatelic estate that recently came to Paul Nelson for evaluation and disposal, there were two clippings of stamped revenue paper. These two clippings are illustrated nearby. Claus Rafner of Copenhagen received photocopies of these clippings with a request for identification and other information. The following text is based on his information.)


Stamp duty and stamped paper were introduced in the Danish West Indies (DWI) according to the law of September 30, 1773, effective in 1774. Two classes of papers existed, just as was the case in Denmark-Norway. One class was for the more important and highly taxed documents (deeds, bonds etc) and one for less important and lower taxed documents (receipts etc). Class 1 included 32 kinds of papers, numbered from 1 to 32; Class 2 had 18 kinds of papers, numbered from 33 to 50 .

For instance, the price of paper of Class 2, number 37, was 1 rigsdaler. This duty is printed on these two clippings, as
 shown.

The duty was abolished on the islands of St . Thomas and St. Jan in 1784, but the duty continued on the island of St. Croix. One of the clippings (1807/1810) has the handwritten (later) inscription "Island of St. Croix," in pencil and in English.

This paper is rather special as it has the stamp of King Gustav III of Sweden (1771-1792), surcharged in 1807 with the stamp of King Christian VII of Denmark, and further surcharged in 1810 to make the paper valid for this year. The paper was meant to be renewed every year and shipped from Denmark to DWI. In situations of shortage, however, apparently such surcharges were invented. It is most likely that shortages occurred during Napoleonic War years.

To be valid at that time, the paper ought to have a signature, in most cases two signatures, so that these, together with the stamp, make up the complete inscription when delivered from the stamp duty authorities to the public. A clipping that is missing signatures is worth less as a collectible. Fortunately, at least parts of the signatures are found on the clippings above.

In 1907 the stamp duty of DWI was again required, including all three islands. The familiar adhesive revenue stamps of the Danish West Indies came from that period.

## Âland's Demilitarization Commemorated

The ruins of war are being used to symbolize quite a different condition in Aland. On March 29, Aland issued a $1.50 €$ commemorative marking the $150^{\text {th }}$ anniversary of the demilitarization of the Baltic islands between Finland and Sweden. The motif shows some ruins from the Bomarsund fortress that was destroyed by French and British forces during the Crimean War.

A treaty ending the war in 1856 declared $\AA$ land as a demilitarized zone and the League of Nations added it as neutral territory in 1921. Military forces and equipment are not permitted to remain in $\AA$ land. A portion of the 1856
 demilitarization treaty is shown as a background on the ruins of the fortress.

# Finland and Âland Coordinate Personalized Stamp Programs 

Finland and $\AA$ land are coordinating their personalized stamp services and tweaking the program to attract new customers. On May 26, Aland introduced its personalized stamps in the form of first-class stamps printed in booklets of eight self-adhesive stamps (minimum order of three booklets). The stamps can be ordered at www.posten.aland.fi, although $\AA$ Aland Post made arrangements for orders to be accepted at the Washington 2006 International Philatelic Exhibition in May-June.

Aland is applying the technical process developed by Finland Post, which introduced its personalized stamp program in 2003. Finland offered the program first to businesses and expanded it to private customers in 2004, adding eight-stamp booklets on May 4, 2006. Finland Post reported in April that 1.6 million personalized stamps have been ordered with approximately 15,000 different images printed.

Cartor Security Printing of France pre-prints the standard frames with IFI Oy printing the personalized stamps for Finland and Mariehamns Tyckeri those for $\AA$ land. The gum on the stamps is not water-soluble. When asked about this, Marja Pihlman of Finland Posti told The Posthorn: "All of the personalized stamps have this special paper and glue, which have been developed to bear the laser printing system so that the glue will not melt in the heat and jam the printer. I believe there were no other options."

She said collectors have not provided any negative feedback because the stamps cannot be soaked from their backings. "I think they understand the reasons behind our actions," said Ms. Pihlman.


Finland Post released its latest "personalized stamp" template on May 4. Customers can have their own images inserted in place of the postman's badge.

## Sweden-U.S. Capture Top Joint Issue Honors



Sweden issued two stamps - a portrait and a caricature -- as part of the Greta Garbo series, as well as a limited four-stamp sheet issue. The U.S. released just the engraved portrait as a 37-cent stamp on September 23, 2005.

The Greta Garbo joint issue of Sweden and the United States has been selected as the best joint issue for 2005 by the International Philatelic Society of Joint Issues Collectors (IPSJSIC). The issue, which was released September 23, 2005, was designed by Gustav Malmfors of Sweden and Carl T. Herrman of the U.S. and engraved by Piotr Naszarkowski (portrait of the Swedish-born actress) and Lars Sjööblom (caricature, issued by Sweden only).

The selection, which was announced April 30, was made among 31 joint issues released in 2005 by 48 postal administrations representing 40 countries for a total 124 stamps and 14 souvenir sheets. Omnibus and territorial issues were excluded from the contest. Further information on the joint issues society is available on the Internet at http://rzimmerm.club. fr/index.htm.

# New Perforation Found; Booklets Renumbered 

By Jay Smith

Sweden's springtime flowers issue of March 10, 2005, was released with die-cut perforations gauging 10. A lucky person soaking kiloware discovered stamps with a gauge of approximately 6.5 . To stamp collectors, the different "perforations" makes them different stamps. However, to the Swedish post office, they are a "mistake."

The Sweden Post's public relations staff had this to say: "We have not issued different kinds of perforations for the Signs of Spring stamps in any formal sense - thus we have not made any announcement about it. There has been a printing with a gauge of approximately 6.5 , which was made by mistake. The original perforation gauge - 10 - is the one that we used for the first printing of the Signs of Spring. That one is the correct one. The stamps were only printed as booklets (unfolded). The printing of the 6.5 stamps started [at the] end of April, 2005 (though the printing date says nothing about when the stamps reach the public - that depends on how much is sold and when new orders come in)."


One of Sweden's 2005 spring flower stamps, perf 10.

No information was available on how many of the self-adhesive stamps were printed with the 10 gauge vs. 6.5 gauge. I am told that the Michel catalog will show an issue date of September 6,2005 , for these perforations, but it seems that they simply appeared and were not "issued" in any formal sense. Regardless, collectors of Swedish stamps can expect to see the 6.5 perforation stamps appear in stamp catalogs and albums.

Booklets of these same stamps also have been found with differing back covers. The first printing has a chart that includes the postal rate for 1,500 grams. A second printing (still perf 10) and the third printing (perf 6.5 variety), do not list that rate. Initial reports are that the second printing is scarce.

## Booklets renumbered

In a related development, Facit editors have renumbered booklets from Sweden and Iceland. In regard to Iceland, the Facit catalog editors have broken the Iceland "prestige" booklet listings (2002 Fish and 2004 Geothermal) into their own "GM" number series, forcing the renumbering of booklets from 2002 to date.

Facit editors have put Sweden's self-adhesive booklets (printed and issued flat) into a new "SH" number series. The first of these issues was the "Signs in the Sky," i.e. clouds, issue of 2000. This forced the renumbering of all booklets H522 (in 2000) to the present.

## Norway's Coastal Ships Again Canceling Mail

Collectors are once again able to obtain ship cancels from all 14 hurtigruten ships that ply the Norwegian coastline. Effective December 7, 2005, the 14 ships were provided new cancellers that are identical except for the ship's name. (See illustration of the "MS Nordkapp" canceller.)


The Harstad post office is coordinating favor cancels for collectors. Collectors may send their covers to Harstad postkontor, NO-9481, Harstad, Norway, and indicate which ship cancel is desired. The post office delivers the covers to the indicated ship(s) where they are canceled and dropped off at ports of call to enter Norway's mail stream.

In recent years, hurtigruten ships had souvenir cancels but pursers were not permitted to use them to cancel stamps. The ships are popular with tourists along Norway's west coast.

- Paul Albright


## President's Letter

## John DuBois

## SCC Annual Meeting at Washington 2006

The SCC annual meeting and board of directors meeting were held during Washington 2006, the international postal exhibition held in Washington, DC over the week of May 27-June 3. Larger philatelic exhibitions, such as the just-completed
 Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition and the annual NORDIA shows, always provide gratifying evidence of the international character and benefits of our society. The meetings and interaction at Washington 2006 extended far beyond anything in my previous experience with the Scandinavian Collectors Club. The number, depth, and sheer pleasure of our interactions with the SCC members who came from all over the U.S. and the Nordic countries were unprecedented.

More than 65 members signed in at the SCC table, and attended the SCC annual meeting - a number surpassing our gathering at the still-talked-about NORDIA 2001. Well over one-third of those at Washington 2006 were from overseas. It was another first and a special pleasure to have such a large and enthusiastic proportion of our Nordic members present in person.

By far, the social highlight of the week was our dinner held in a private room at Clyde's of Gallery Place, a wonderful restaurant close to the exhibition. Altogether, 79 members, spouses, and friends gathered for good food, drink, and philatelic fellowship. The SCC annual exhibition awards, as well as an important special award to Frederick A. Brofos from the Norway Philatelic Federation, were announced at the dinner and are fully covered on pages 20 and 41.

If NORDIA 2001 is any guide, friendships and philatelic collaborations that developed during the week at Washington 2006 will endure for many years.

## Board of Directors Meeting

The SCC Board of Directors meeting was unusual in that most "housekeeping" and formalities had been disposed of during the previous meeting in January. Thus, it was possible in Washington to take up a matter requiring more time and thought than is normally available.


SCC leaders convened at Washington 2006 at a Board of Directors meeting. Left to right, front row: Alan Warren, Kauko Aro, Wayne Rindone, John DuBois, Roger Quinby; second row, Steve Kaplan, Rindone, John DuBois, Roger Quinby; second row, Steve Kaplan,
George Kuhhorn, Warren Grosjean, Viggo Warmboe, Don Halpern; back row, Mark Lorentzen, Herbert Volin, Arnold Sorensen. (Photo by Paul Albright.)

The main topic was something
that has come on us slowly over about the last 10 years, but has now reached a level of substantial concern among many SCC members. This is a fundamental trend in the demographics of our membership and the way in which we interact with each other. We have fewer concentrations of very active collectors in fewer places than decades ago when the SCC structure was organized. Instead, we have a much broader, and generally older, distribution of members drawing on a much wider variety of resources for information and material.

A visible result of this trend is that the present SCC chapter structure seems to be much less useful than in times past, and in some locations,
failing completely. In the extreme cases, there are no SCC members left to constitute a chapter, or too few to hold practical meetings.

Not all chapters reach this extreme, of course, and it is to our benefit to support and encourage the traditional chapter meeting mechanism indefinitely. However, something else is clearly needed, and the board discussed this at some length.

Some club innovations, initiated recently, have been helpful in addressing the broader problem. The "Cyber Chapter's" email newsletter moderated by Ed Bode has certainly created a way for members outside the normal chapter reach to communicate and to interact with a broader membership. Also, the member-to-member contact facilitation of the Helpers List, coordinated by George Kuhhorn, has worked similarly, but in a more focused way. And, the SCC Web site on the Internet has begun providing more resources and information that, in earlier days, came through person-to-person meetings. We have recently tried to advertise these services by highlighting contact and access information within a "Member Services" box in The Posthorn.

Nevertheless, there seems to be more that should be done to develop and improve the benefits of belonging to the SCC. This is clearly not a situation that will be fixed by one or two simple actions; the board did, however, reach a consensus on beginning a program to address the problems.

First, the existing Chapter structure will be left in place, but the formal requirements for reports and newsletters will be phased out and replaced by publication of news and notices voluntarily submitted. Chapters without meetings, SCC members, or accessible contacts will be listed in The Posthorn as inactive unless and until they notify the editor or an officer that the situation has changed.

Second, a concept was formed to create some kind of regional system to provide communication, member services, information, meetings coordination, and so forth, under the leadership of willing individuals. The emphasis of this regional system would be on human contact to help SCC members distributed geographically in any practical ways to further the general goal of promoting Scandinavian philately.

Many details need to be worked out to develop this idea. Two board members, George Kuhhorn and Warren Grosjean, will work as a committee to begin the process. Clearly, the usefulness and success of this concept will benefit enormously from SCC member input, ideas, and suggestions. Please contact George or Warren with anything you would like to say; their addresses are on page 48.

## SCC's Web Site Update

The SCC Web site (www.scc-online.org) is well worth a frequent look these days. New content is added regularly: not only news, but genuinely interesting and useful editorial material.

Web publications can be much longer than is practical in The Posthorn and, usually, all illustrations are in full color. For example, Ed Fraser's fantastic new work "Finland: The Oval Issues and the Problem of Forgeries" appears under "On-Line Publications" and contains 74 images, most in color. It can be read online or downloaded in Adobe PDF format. A philatelic benefit of downloading the PDF is that any illustration can be enlarged to as much as 1000 percent for examining tiny details!

Another feature you may have overlooked is Alan Warren's "Philatelic Book [and catalog] Reviews." Although these also appear in the Posthorn when space is available, here they are published immediately after Alan writes them and the entire archive (from 2001) appears together in one location. There are currently over 43 book and 16 catalog reviews in this section.

There is a comprehensive Posthorn index from 1943 to the present (see the top link at www.scconline.org/pharchives.htm). But the really big news is that complete scans of archived Posthorns, starting with Vol. 1, No. 1 in 1943 are now beginning to appear! These can be accessed through a link at the bottom of the archive page (same URL as above) or directly at http://www.scc-online.org/OldArchives/ OldArchiveIndex.htm. Each issue is a complete PDF file for downloading and/or printing at high resolution. At present, volumes 1 through 7 (1950) are available and more are added every week or so.

Finally, don't forget the "Member Exhibits" section, where scans of our members' award-winning exhibits are presented in full and in color. The latest addition is Mark Lorentzen's outstanding Denmark postal history material.

# Nordic Exhibits Capture Awards at Washington 2006 

By Alan Warren

Exhibits seen at Washington 2006 in the competitive classes were already top winners of their respective national competitions. Some 640 competitive exhibits were on display, totaling more than 60,000 pages of philatelic material. Even with that massive display, about one-half of the exhibition applications were turned away.

Competition, of course, was keen in all of the various classes. Results of interest to Scandinavia collectors are shown below by medal level ( $\mathrm{SP}=$ Special Prize). The literature entries are shown in italics.

There were two Scandinavia exhibits among the two dozen in the FIP Championship Class, all of which had won three large gold medals in previous international exhibitions. Those two were: Pieter Ahl: Norwegian Adhesive Covers to Foreign Destinations 1855-1877, and Lennart Daun: Swedish Postal Stationery 1872-1897. The Championship Class exhibits competed for the Grand Prix d'Honneur, which was won by an exhibitor of Guadeloupe postal history.

## Large Gold

Gunnar Nilsson: Swedish Letter Mail to Foreign Destinations from the $18^{\text {th }}$ Century up to UPU (SP)
Henrik Mouritsen: Danish Postal Rates 1875-1906 (SP)
Johannes Weidlich: Schleswig-Holstein 1848-1867

## Gold

Birthe King: Denmark - Conscience, Conflict and Camps 1932-1949 (and SCC's Joanna Sliski Taylor Memorial Bowl)
Gregory Frantz: Steamship Companies (SP)
Bernt J. Fossum: On Postal Service
Mark Lorentzen: Across the Danish Border
Lars Engelbrecht: Bicolored Postal Stationery of Denmark 1871-1905 (SP)
Douglas Storckenfeldt: Iceland Until 1901
Arne Thune-Larsen: Postal Communication between Norway and France 1740-1880 (and SCC's Victor Engstrom award)
William Benfield: Denmark Essays and Proofs - the First 100 Years Olavi Koponen: Finland 1856-1884
Willy Lauth: Postal Stationery of Denmark 1865-1896
Karsten Hagsten: The Newspaper Stamps of Denmark (and SCC's Jed Richter award)
Hannu Kauppi: Finland M-1930 Definitive Series (and SCC's Jed Richter award)
Heikki Pahlman: Finland 1558-1856 (and SCC's Paul Jensen award)

## Large Vermeil

Juichiro Nishimura: Sweden 1855-1872
Magnus Gartrup: King Oscar II 1885-1911
Daniel Ruiz Anguiano: Sweden Covers Foreign Destinations until UPU
Arvid Gulvik Lie: Norway Classics 1855-1883
Börje Wallberg: Swedish Banderols
Kurt Hansen: Ship Mail to and from Denmark
Tore Gjelsvik: Norway - the Skilling Oscar Stamps
Hjalti Johannesson: Icelandic Cancellations of Antiqua and Lapidar Types
Harry Snarvold: Norwegian Mail Sent Abroad up to 1885
Oslo Filatelistklubb: Nogeskatalogen 2006
Facit Förlags: Facit Special 2006


A Washington 2006 gold medal and SCC's top exhibition award went to Birthe King of England.


Norway's Arne
Thune-Larsen captured gold and a SCC award at Washington 2006.

Facit Förlags: Facit Postal VII<br>Daniel Malmgren: Sweden, Oscar II 1885-1911, Gustaf V 1910-1936<br>Vermeil<br>Richard Bodin: Swedish Military \& Volunteers in Campaigns or in Active Service Abroad 1630-1945<br>Wilfred Wasenden: Letters in the 1700s Handled by Norwegian Post or Forwarded by Courier (and SCC's John S. Siverts Memorial Plaque)<br>Tore Gjelsvik: The Nordland Post Office - On Land and at Sea<br>William Benfield: Handbook of Danish Essays - Vol. II<br>Kjøbenhavns Philatelist Klub: Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift<br>Lars Jorgensen: The Newspaper Stamps of Denmark<br>Large Silver<br>James Gaudet: Danish Advertising Panes<br>Kurt Hansen: Lokal-og distriksforsendelser i provinsen 1800 tallet<br>Silver<br>Valter Ratner: The Swedish Coil Definitive Stamps 1920-1936<br>Otto Kjærgaard: Posthistorisk Tidsskrift<br>Otto Kjærgaard: Censuren i Danmark 1940-1947<br>Ib Krarup Rasmussen: Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift<br>Paul Albright: The Posthorn<br>Kim Widen: The Airmail Surcharge between Greenland and Denmark<br>Silver-Bronze<br>Paul Wijnants: Bibliography of Danish West Indies Philately<br>Niels H. Bungaard: The Ugly Duckling: Hans Christian Andersen and Danish Stamps




## Scandinavia Collectors Come Together at Washington 2006



## (Photos by Paul Albright and Geoff Noer)



Almost 80 turned out for SCC's awards and social dinner.


Meeting Iceland's Siguôur Pétursson, center, at the SCC table were Roger P. Quinby, left, immediate past president of SCC, and John L. DuBois, right, SCC's current president.


Enjoying remarks from Warren Grosjean (back to camera) are, left to right, Casper Moldenhauer, Frank Banke, Grazyna Banke, and Mark Lorentzen.


Birthe King is surprised by the announcement that she won the Taylor Memorial Bowl, SCC's top exhibiting award. Looking on is her husband, Chris, who is an exhibitor and an official in the Scandinavian Philatelic Society of Great Britain.


The SCC Taylor Memorial Bowl was awarded to Birthe King of England, center. She is flanked here by her husband, Chris, right, and John L. DuBois, SCC president, left.


Philatelic librarians from many countries met at the National Postal Museum to compare notes and exchange ideas. Representing Scandinavian interests were, left to right, Paul Albright of the SCC, Kjell Åge Johansen of the Oslo philatelic society, and Peter Bech of the Copenhagen philatelic society. The three are backed by a portrait of Owney, the renowned mascot of the U.S. railway postal service.


Disussing Nordic philately were Jussi Tuori of Finland, left, and Knud Mohr of Denmark.


SCC President John DuBois, left, and NORDIA 2006 President Kari Rahiala of Finland engaged in animated conversation.


Former FIP president Knud Mohr of Denmark, left, chats with SCC member Greg Frantz of Colorado, who received a gold medal for his exhibit on steamship mail.

## News from the Home Office

## Don Brent

Spring has arrived and dues renewals are wrapped up for the year. Now there is some time to get back at my personal stamp collecting. I recently bought a large Scandinavian collection from the estate of a local collector. I will sort through it and pull out some items to upgrade my own collections and consider selling the rest.
 Starting as a Danish collector, it was several years with SCC before I branched into other Nordic countries. It is exciting to explore an area new to me. An added plus is that it keeps me off the streets at night. The SCC and The Posthorn led me to collecting Finland, Sweden, and Norway.

Unfortunately, I missed the Washington 2006 international exhibition in May as I was in Europe. I am confident that those who were able to attend had a great time. It only happens every 10 years that we get the opportunity to visit a huge international show here in the USA. They are really something special.

## Membership

Our membership rolls on at a steady pace with 14 new members and a reinstatement in the previous quarter. Many of our new members find us through the Internet at www.scc-online.org. I am processing more and more new members that come to us from the online application. We welcome our new members and hope to meet many of you in person at one of our future meetings.

In addition to our quarterly journal, membership benefits include the SCC Library, which has an outstanding collection of Scandinavian-related material, and use of the Stamp Mart. Use of the Library is very user-friendly. If you haven't tried it yet, you are missing a great opportunity. Other member services include the Helpers' and Traders' lists. Each Posthorn lists the member services and the contact person. It can be found on page 37 of this issue.

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## From the Editor's Stamp Den

## Paul Albright

Post offices continue to be closed in the Faroe Islands. The Faroes Islands Study Circle (FISC) reports that the post office at Viðareiði was terminated by Postverk Føroya on March 31, 2006, which was exactly 92 years after it opened. The office served a village of about 340 persons on the island of Viöoy. The nearest post office
 now is 18 kilometers (and two tunnels) away at Klaksvik on the island of Borðoy.

Several post offices have been closed in the Faroes in recent years. Postverk Føroya lists 29 remaining post offices with their own cancellers. Viðareiði had been a contender for the northernmost post office in the Faroes, but FISC reports that distinction now passes to Kirkja on the island of Fugloy.

Meanwhile, the very active FISC reports it now has 133 members. Information concerning the study circle is available at www.faroeislandssc.org, or by contacting FISC Secretary-Editor Norman Hudson, 28 Enfield Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, CH65 8BY, England; email, jntropics@hotmail.com.

Finland Post reports great success with its "message in a bottle" program, which has been underway since 2003. Posti sells the small plastic bottles for $€ 2.60$. A message can be rolled up and inserted into the bottle, which is capped with a cork stopper and pre-franked with first class postage. Posti reports that tens of thousands of the bottles have been sold through a variety of venues, but it is not known how many actually have been mailed. Previously, Posti sold


## 1925 Ekspres Post Lykönskning Envelope



# Frank Banke Philatelists 

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## - Denmark

- Danish West Indies
- Faroe Islands
- Greenland
- Iceland
- Schleswig-Holstein
- Auction agent

"mailable" scrapers for removing ice from car windows. I would be interested in seeing photos of either or both of these items that actually show evidence of passing through the mails.

Greenland and Iceland are alone among Scandinavian postal authorities in issuing some special Europa commemoratives this year. The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications administrations (CEPT) proposed a project to mark the $50^{\text {th }}$ anniversary of the first Europa stamps in 1956.

CEPT sought to have 50 countries issue commemoratives with a stamp-on-stamp motif that illustrated the project's theme of European philatelic cooperation. Greenland liked its prize-winning Europa design from 2004 so much that it was reissued January 16 on a new DKK 26.50 stamp. Iceland issued a two-stamp sheetlet on February 2 containing its Europa stamps from 1968 and 1969. The values of both stamps were increased to ISK 150 each.

## *

New SCC member John Campbell has been spreading the word through New Zealand's philatelic publications about a connection between Denmark and the annual health stamps issued by New Zealand.

Kristine Nielsen, a native of Denmark who emigrated to New Zealand in 1908, was a moving force in creating the health stamps in 1929. She became acquainted with Denmark's charity stamps during a visit to her homeland and returned to New Zealand to lead a program that resulted in establishing a charity stamp program that today helps finance seven children's health camps in New Zealand. Mrs. Nielsen died in 1938.

Sweden's postal system is racking up billion-krona profits despite a decline in what it calls its core business - the delivery of letters and newspapers. Posten reported net financial income for 2005 was 1.3 billion kronor compared with 1.1 billion kronor the year before. One of the reasons for the income boost was that Posten's work force declined by more than 2,000 to 33,520 . Income from the delivery of letters and newspapers dipped about 1 percent in 2005.

Posten's stamp bureau would not reveal stamp sales for the year but did say more Christmas greeting cards were mailed in 2005 - 43.6 million vs. 42.2 million in 2004, down from a peak of 48.5 million in 2002. There are about 100,000 subscribers to Sweden's stamps, a figure largely unchanged for the past 2-3 years. There has been no reduction in staff in the stamp bureau where about 120 are employed.

## Scandinavian Literature Notes

## Alan Warren

## News from Denmark

Torben Hjørne gives a brief review of Greenland's parcel stamps, the Polar Bears, marking the centenary since their introduction in 1905, in the December Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift. A special supplement accompanies this issue and is devoted to
 descriptions of the major exhibiting disciplines. In the February issue of DFT, Henrik Mouritsen shows several parcel address cards sent from Denmark to the U.S. in the late $19^{\text {th }}$ Century. In the same issue Thomas Moshauge illustrates some military mail markings from the fieldpost in Aabenraa during World War I.

Petter J. Taraldsen discusses the postal history of Aalborg in the first part of a new series in the March issue of Posthistorisk Tidsskrift, covering the period from the middle of the $17^{\text {th }}$ Century to near the end of the $18^{\text {th }}$ Century. E. Menne Larsen concludes his long series on the postal history of Slesvig 1848-1851 with the $20^{\text {lh }}$ installment. He also provides a bibliography and an overview of the entire series that began six years ago.

Henrik Mouritsen also writes about a mysterious 48 -øre rate cover from Denmark to the Danish West Indies in the 1870s in the March issue of Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift. In the same issue, Ole Steen Jacobsen discusses the 1937 Dybbøl Mill issue of Denmark.

## News from Finland (with thanks to Kauko Aro)

Issue No. 9/2005 of Filatelisti carries an article by Leena Könönen about Finland's picture post cards. An illustrated article shows some pre-stamp express letters, including the earliest recorded registered express cover from Stockholm to Borgå. Reijo Nummela discusses the late printings of the 10 -mark eagle stamp of 1915 in the same issue. Issue 10/2005 continues the series by Jari Forsblom on Estonian philately. Matti Sipari also continues his series on the registry labels of Finland, this time covering 1920-1970.

## News from Germany

Günter Wahl continues his series on international mails of Denmark with postage due in the November issue of Philatelistische Nachrichten, published by the Nordic countries study group in Germany. This issue also illustrates the pictorial cancels designed by Denmark's Karlo Lindskog that commemorate Hans Christian Andersen. In the same issue Cyril Schwenson describes plate flaws of some of Finland's 1872/73 postal cards as well as the 10-penni card of 1885. Jürgen Tiemer continues his series on Norway's field post offices with a profile of No. 21 at Oscarsborg.

## News from Great Britain

Rolf Scharning continues with part 3 in his series on Scandinavian Air Systems and philately in the March issue of Scandinavian Contact. Olga Ellis contributes part 2 on Norway's London issues during World War II, and Alan Totten (with Hal Vogel) provides more information on the 1935 Thor Solberg flight. Anthony Sheehan presents an overview of Finland's 1930 Zeppelin overprint.

Lauri Poropudas writes about the $150^{\text {th }}$ anniversary of Finland's first issue in the March issue of Gibbons Stamp Monthly. He describes certain Finland issues as landmarks over the century and a half of postal activity.

## News from Holland

P. A. J. de Groot provides some background on the 1889 emissions of Finland in the December issue of Het Noorderlicht. In the March issue de Groot continues with Part II of this study, showing some interesting usages.

## News from Norway

Marius Gabrielsen, editor of Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift of Norway, furnishes part 5 of a series on preparing exhibits in issue 1-2006. Also in this issue is a report of the recent meeting of the Norwegian Ship Mail Postal History Society (Norsk Skipsposthistorisk Forening). For more information on this group, contact Odd Arve Kvinnesland, Box 87, 4575 Lyngdal, Norway. In issue 2-2006, Gabrielsen writes about machine cancels of Norway.

Finn Leiang discusses the privatpost and discount stamps of Sweden in the 1-2006 issue of Frimerke Forum. Tor Odd Braseth shows some of the cancels used at Fossemvatnet over the years in the March issue of NFF Varianten.

The Norwegian War and Fieldpost Journal for March has an article by Ole Loftaas and Erik Lørdahl showing a post card related to General Douglas MacArthur's foremost engineer, the Norwegian-American Leif Johan Sverdrup. The postcard was sent by Sverdrup's wife from St. Louis, MO to her mother-in-law in Oslo in June, 1945.

## News from Sweden

Bo Grendal continues his series on interesting folded letters of Sweden in the issue 1-2006 of Skillingtrycket. He notes that such letters may have been turned and used for subsequent communication. For Cinderella collectors, the journal Bältespännaren carries some articles about unusual collectibles. In issue $2 / 2005$, Anders Emmerfors describes in detail the freight stamps of the Gårds Härads rail line. In the same issue Hans Obermüller illustrates the special "stamps" issued each year from 1916 to 1946 for the annual meeting of the special youth group, Sveriges Studerande Ungdoms Helnykterhetsförbund or SSUH.

The February issue of filatelisten started a new series by postal historian Jan Billgren about mail to and from well-known Swedes. His first column focuses on the famous Swedish philatelist Nils Strandell. In the March filatelisten, Bjarne Fohlmann observes the $80^{\text {th }}$ anniversary of the use of meter stamps in Sweden, and Sigge Anders looks at the handstamps used for local posts, showing some markings of Alingsås.

## News from the United States

The May, 2006 issue of The Finnish Philatelist, published by SCC's Finnish Study Group, features three articles on Russian stamps used in Finland. Two articles deal with charity stamps of 1905 and 1914-1915. The third article is a preliminary overview of "Russian Franking from Finland to Foreign Destinations, 1900-1918." Roger Quinby is the lead author on all three articles. Also in the issue, Ed Fraser discusses an unusual cork cancel on a 20 -penni, 1885-type stamp.

Lars Engelbrecht begins a series of articles on Danish postal stationery in the January-February issue of Postal Stationery, published by the United Postal Stationery Society. In this first article he describes seven distinct essays of the 1888 letter cards. This is four more than reported in Ringström's book. In the January 27 Mekeel's \& Stamps Magazine, Christer Brunström describes Denmark's Dybbøl Mill stamps of 1937. He provides some background history on these stamps and discusses their appearance with wavyline value definitives in booklets.

The January-March issue of Close-Up, published by the Czeslaw Slania Study Group, reports on the Slania memorial exhibition held at the Post and Telecommunication Museum in Wroclaw, Poland.

# Transfers and Re-Entries 

By Alan Warren

- After 16 years, Roger Partridge has stepped aside as secretary of the Scandinavian Philatelic Society (SPS) based in Great Britain. Taking up the reins is Brian Hague, who is an active collector of the Faroe Islands and the chair of the Faroe Islands Study Circle. In other changes at SPS, Olga Ellis stepped down from the society's council while two members, Malcolm Batty and Alan Totten, were added.
- Two Nordic philately websites are undergoing change. Paul Herber resigned as Webmaster for both the Scandinavian Philatelic Society (SPS) and the Faroe Islands Study Circle. New SCC member David Caabeiro was selected as Webmaster for the Faroes' group, which has relocated its home page to www. faroeislandscc.org. Per Rønberg of Denmark is the new Webmaster for SPS, which retains its Web site at www.scandps.org.uk
- Postiljonen AB , the Swedish auction house, is moving to new quarters in Malmö. The new offices at Hans Michelsensgatan 9 are about 300 meters from the central station and the Hotel Savoy. Postiljonen also is changing its postal mailing address, which is listed on the inside back cover of The Posthorn.
- Sweden Post has been awarded a prize for the most outstanding print quality of its stamps during the past two years. "Le Grand Prix de l'Art Philatélique Européen" was established by French president Jacques Chirac. Sweden Post was the first winner of the award, which was announced at an exhibition last November.
- Gordon C. Morison, SCC member and exhibitor of Iceland postal cards, was honored with the John G. Ross award by the American Stamp Dealers Association, in recognition of his distinguished service to the hobby. The award was presented May 29 at a special dinner during Washington 2006. Morison was chief executive of Washington 2006 and also was president of NORDIA 2001, the only NORDIA to be held in the U.S.
- A book about the history of Denmark's picture post cards by Steffen Riis was recently published. It is in the Danish language only but describes the history of these cards from 1871 to the present. Details about ordering the book are available from author Riis at Bringetoften 16, 3500 Værlose, Denmark, or by email: steffenriis@privat.dk.
- Roger P. Quinby, SCC's immediate past president, received the Pro Philatelia medal from the Finnish Postal History Society for "work done in promoting Finnish postal history" and for "excellent work as editor of Finnish Philatelist." Also in Finland, Martti Vihanto was honored with the Fieandt Medal for his contributions to furthering Finnish philately. He has written more than 150 articles in the past 20 years.
- One of the benefits of being a member of the Nordic Countries Study Group of the German philatelic federation is the occasional release of a monograph at no additional cost. Members receive these publications in addition to the regular journal. The last booklet released late in 2005 is "Danish Postal History 1851-1905." It is basically a display of the collection and exhibit of Wilhelm Lambrecht showing covers with descriptions, in German, of the routing and franking. Beginning with prestamp and footpost mail the book goes on to usage of the early stamp issues of Denmark including foreign destinations. Information about the study group can be obtained from Dieter Fullrich, Postfach 1404, 21414 Winsen/Luhe, Germany. The Website is www.nordische-staaten.de.
- Noted postal historian David Cornelius died September 2, 2005 at the age of 70 in the United Kingdom. He became interested in Danish postal history when he began a tour of duty for NATO at the Karup airbase in Denmark in 1970. His devotion to this field culminated in his book An Introduction to the Postal History of Denmark 1624-1950, published in 2004. He also authored a work on British field post offices in Scandinavia, published in Denmark in 1981.
- Roger P. Quinby, former president of SCC, is serving on the jury at NORDIA 2006 to be held in Helsinki October 27-29. General Chairman of the organizing committee is Kari Rahiala. Commissioners are Jussi Murtosaari of Finland, Jonas Hallström of Sweden, Arne Thune Larsen of Norway, Per Friis Mortensen of Denmark, Siguður Pétursson of Iceland, and John DuBois for SCC and the U.S.
- Susan Oliver, known for her collecting and writing about Norwegian philately, was appointed to chair the awards committee of the Association of British Philatelic Societies.
- Carl Jørgensen was awarded Denmark's great honor of the Danmark Medal. He was instrumental in establishing Denmark's postal history society. He not only has exhibited many times but also writes about exhibiting regulations and many other topics.


## Auction Marketplace

## Frank Banke

## Postiljonen, March 25 (Auction 187)

In Postiljonen's Swedish section, a rare multiple of 10 one-krona ring-type perf. 13 stamps in superb MNH condition (Facit 38d) sold for $\$ 13,500$. Rarely are stamps found with such perfect centering. Although a mint copy of the 20-øre TRETTIO error
 (Facit 33) was withdrawn, a used copy (\#549) with ship cancellation "Fra Sverige" sold for $\$ 5,000$. A piece with two pairs of 3-sk. banco (Facit 1b) did not sell for the estimate of $\$ 11,200$ (\#473). A collection of used Sweden stamps (\#637) sold for $\$ 11,000$, some $\$ 6,500$ more than the estimate. A dealer's stock containing official and postage due stamps (\#693) started at \$11,200 and sold for \$16,400.

The always popular Finland Zeppelin "1830" overprint error was represented by a mint single, a block of 30 stamps, and on-cover. The MNH copy (\#289) sold for $\$ 1,800$, the large multiple ( $\# 290$ ) for $\$ 4,000$, and the postcard for $\$ 18,000$ - an average about 20 percent more than the estimate. In the Danish section, a 2-RBS Thiele printing MNH in beautiful condition (\#16) sold for $\$ 6,600$. A finely centered block of four of the scarce 2 sk bicolor with line perf. $12 \frac{1}{2}$ (Facit 25 ) went for $\$ 6,300$ (\#103). In the Slesvig-Holsteit section, five essays for the 1850 postschillinge (\#929-933) sold for the $\$ 6,000$ estimate each.

## Hellman Auctions, February 25

Hellman's offer of the fantastic find of the tête-bêche, 10-kopek 1856 oval issue


An 1850 SlesvigHolstein essay (Postiljonen Lot 930) with Helsingfors Postmaster Langolain "L" manuscript (\#675) sold for the estimated $\$ 35,000$. Another 1856 oval tête-bêche pair of 5-kopek in mint condition did not sell fcr its $\$ 35,000$ estimate. (See The Posthorn, February, 2006, page 36).

About 200 covers (\#278) from a Finnish colonel fighting in the Russian army in the Turkish War in Bulgaria in 1877-78 sold for $\$ 6,500$, one increment above the estimate. A letter to London (\#785), franked with $1-\mathrm{mk}$ and 20-p 1866-rouletted issue and with all the perfs. intact, went for $\$ 12,6 \mathrm{C} 0$. A lovely mint block of nine 20 -p blue 1875 -issue with one stamp inverted (\#824) sold for nearly $\$ 5$, 000 . The scarce 32 -p Copenhagen printing on cover (\#834) began at $\$ 10,500$ and sold for $\$ 13,000$. A 5 -p gieen, 1885 -issue, used tête-bêche pair on a small piece ( $\# 856$ ) sold for its estimate of $\$ 9,000$. A mint copy of the $31 / 2$-ruble ring stamp issue, a truly rare stamp (Norma 54v), went for $\$ 8,700$ after starting at $\$ 4,500$.


Block of five brings \$125,000 (Høiland Lot 1755)

## Thomas Heiland, March 9-11 (Auction 94)

Some important early multiples from Sweden went und er the hammer. The largest used multiple, an unused block of four of the 3-öre, local 1856 issue (Facit 6 a 3 ), sold for $\$ 23,000$, more than double the estimate (\#1746). Even better, a 12stamp block of 50-öre rose Arms type 1858 (Facit 12h) star ed at $\$ 5,000$ but sold for \$42,000 (\#1750). A 3-öre lying lion (Facit 14Ac), mint slock of 12 (\#1751) sold for nearly $\$ 42,000$, which was double the estimate. The same issue, but a used block of eight (Facit 14Be), went for $\$ 23,000$, or mor : than four times the estimate.

A stunning price of $\$ 125,000$ (six times more than the estimate) was paid for a block of five stamps of the 17-öre lying lion 1866 (Facit 15c) - the largest used multiple known (\#1755). The largest known used strip of $f$ ve of the 20 -øre lying lion (Facit 16b2) went for $\$ 23,000$, more than four times the estimate (\#1756).

An Icelandic skilling letter mailed to England that has been seen occasionally at Høiland auctions for the last six years (\#1466), franked with 2-sk. and 8-sk. (with the 8 -sk. somewhat defective) sold for $\$ 50,000$, just reaching the estimate.

## Kjell Germeten, April 28.-29 (Auction 70)

Germeten presented close to 3,000 Norwegian lots. Worth mentioning was a scarce letter to Sweden (\#1129) bearing two pairs of the 4 -sk., 1855 Arms issue, one of only two known covers. It went for $\$ 20,500$ after starting at $\$ 9,200$. A scarce 30 -sk. letter to Holland (\#1211), franked with six 4 -sk. and two 3 -sk. Oscar issues and canceled with the grid postmark, did not sell for its $\$ 18,500$ estimate. A letter (\#1639) sent from Sweden to the "Swedish Nathortska Polar Expedition" in 1898 - the only letter known - sold for $\$ 2,200$, double the estimate. A nice selection of the posthorn-type, 12-øre dull green (NK 44) used went for prices ranging from $\$ 170$ to $\$ 600$.


Rare cover sold for $\$ 20,500$ (Germeten Lot 1129)

## Chapter Reports

Edward Bode, Vice President, Chapters

A discussion of chapter status, reporting, and other requirements, as well as the duties of the Vice President, Chapters, was on the agenda for the Board of Directors' meeting at Washington 2006. See the President's Letter on pages 18-19 for a report.


## CHICAGO CHAPTER 4

A stockpile of the first $40+$ years of The Posthorn was found in storage at the residence of the late Fred Bloedow, who handled distribution of SCC's journal into the 1980s. Chapter members Ben Cohen, Ron Collin, and Norm Andrews sorted the old issues and shipped several sets to SCC's Library where they will be on sale to other SCC members. Three sets were set aside for sale at this summer's combined COMPEXAPS show.

## COLORADO CHAPTER 27

SCC Secretary Don Halpern reported that NORDIA 2007 has been canceled after the Danish Post Office dropped its sponsorship and the Copenhagen Collectors Club had insufficient manpower and resources to carry out the show's obligations. He suggested that Chapter 27 might host a future NORDIA in conjunction with the annual Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (RMSS) in Denver. The consensus of the ensuing discussion was that members would be willing to work toward the show's success if the opportunity arose and the RMSS Committee would approve.

Chapter meetings in the spring featured show-and-tell items and a forum on collecting in one's retirement years. Don Halpern gave a program on stampless mail from Denmark. Of the 54 lots offered at the annual chapter auction, 53 sold for $\$ 1,056$. Since 42 lots were donated, the chapter treasury benefited by $\$ 598$ and the SCC Library by $\$ 354$.

## CYBER WORLD CHAPTER 28

Members have shared postal history and kept informed about the details of the Washington 2006 international exhibition.

## DELAWARE CHAPTER 13

Several meetings this spring were devoted to show-and-tell items beginning with letters such as $\AA, \ddot{A}$, and $\emptyset$. This exercise covered many different aspects of Nordic philately.

## GOLDEN GATE CHAPTER 21

The chapter, which counts 19 active members, had a nice meeting at Westpex at which Randy Tuuri gave a well-illustrated presentation of his Finland-expansion covers that were generated after World War I and during WWII. George Valby, a serious collector of $19^{\text {th }}$ Century Danish material, briefly showed one of his albums with custom-
 made pages that display his shade and plate varieties.

Mark Lorentzen visited from southern California as he was at Westpex with his two one-page exhibits of mid-19th-Century in- and out-bound covers between the UK and Denmark, and in-bound circulars from the UK to Denmark from the same time period.

## MANITOBA CHAPTER 24

A recent guest presented a program on "Scandinavian Icebreakers in the Antarctic: 1950-1980s." He showed many covers and information sheets about the seven countries that claim the continent. The Norwegians and the Danes built many of the ships used as icebreakers and leased them to other countries to supply their bases. A French catalog called Dalley lists early covers, which range up to $€ 3,000$.

Members discussed collectors who write catalog numbers on the back of stamps. Views were mixed but most disapproved. Small "private" inked markings can sometimes point to an interesting variety or special cancel. The chapter received 19 Thomas Høiland catalogs for the chapter's reference library. The chapter has 20 active (paid) members this year.

## TWIN CITIES MINNESOTA CHAPTER 14

Members are continuing their show-and-tell series touching in successive months on Norway, Sweden, and miscellaneous Scandinavia (Greenland, DWI, Åland, etc.). Members joined with four other Twin Cities clubs for a combined meeting featuring an auction.

## Denmark \& Iceland Issue Their First Self-Adhesive Stamps



Denmark and Iceland have cautiously moved into issuing self-adhesive stamps. Iceland's first self-adhesives were issued May 18 as part of the annual Europa series, which this year has the theme of immigrant adaptation seen through the eyes of young people. The self-adhesives are confined to booklets of the two Iceland designs, according to the Iceland Post.
On June 7, Denmark began testing self-adhesive franking labels at self-service vending machines at five locations still to be determined. Customers will indicate the amount of postage to be printed on the new labels, as is now the case with the wateractivated "postage labels" sold by Post Danmark. Danish scenes will be the motif on the three varieties of self-adhesive stamps.

## More Finds by Sweden Rings Study Group

By George Kuhhorn

The Sweden Rings Study Group continues to uncover early usages and color varieties among these ring-type stamps from the late $19^{\text {th }}$ Century. There are a couple recent finds to report.

Member Jiri Kocman of the Czech Republic has a 12-öre ring-type stamp (Sweden Facit 32) with color printed in the top and right-side margins. The stamp is from the top, upper right side of a sheet. This adds to the inventory of ring-type stamps with color lines in the margins, both listed and unlisted.

Also, I found another early use of a genuine 6-öre ring stamp (Facit 44). The stamp was canceled December 8,1888 , one day after the earliest recorded use of this stamp. This stamp is known forged. You can tell the forgery by the angle of the mouthpiece stem of the blue posthorn printed on the back. The mouthpiece end of the posthorn on the forgery is straight while the mouthpiece curves upward on the genuine stamp.

To get involved with the study of these Swedish ring-type stamps, contact George Kuhhorn at P.O. Box 4486, Emerald Isle, NC 28594; email, geokuhh@starfishnet.com.

## Fantastic prices in our last sales!



Estimate: USD 100
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Buying and selling Norwegian stamps has been our specialty for more than 30 years. We have two auctions every year and several of the "gems" in Norwegian philately have been sold through our firm.

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## Cover Corner

# An Unusual Routing for an 1846 Letter to Sweden 

By Gordon Hughmark

The first regularly scheduled packet service for mail conveyance between the United States and Europe was with the British Cunard Line that began service July 1, 1840, from Liverpool to Boston. The usual routing for letters from the United States addressed to Scandinavia was to also address the letter to a forwarding agent in England, usually London, and prepay the postage to England. Alternatively, letters could be paid to Boston and then sent unpaid to England. The agent paid any postage due on arrival plus the packet postage from England to Hamburg. The letter then was sent unpaid to the recipient who paid the Hamburg Stadtpost share of the EnglandHamburg postage and the postage from Hamburg to the destination.

Letters exist from routings that eliminated the interim agent, but these are rare. In 1846, letters could be sent unpaid from the United States by Cunard Line steamship from Boston to England and then by either of two routes to Hamburg for further conveyance to Scandinavia without the British agent. U.S. postage to Boston was required to be paid to the departing Cunard Line steamship or the letter had to be posted on the ship at Boston so that there was no unpaid postage on receipt by the Cunard steamship at Boston. The two routes from London to Hamburg were in accordance with the following:

1. An "Additional Agreement between the General Post Office of London and the Post Office of Hamburgh" that was in effect on April 6, 1841. An article of this agreement provided for unpaid letters to be sent from the Boston terminus of the Cunard Line to the Stadtpost office in Hamburg. The Stadtpost could then send these unpaid letters beyond Hamburg for payment of the entire postage from Boston by the recipient.
2. The Franco-Thurn \& Taxis convention of 1844 provided that T\&T would credit the French postal service 6 francs per 30 grams for unpaid letters conveyed by British vessels to Great Britain and transferred from the British to the French post. T\&T then provided conveyance to the T\&T post office in Hamburg.
A United States postal rate table did not list a routing for mail to Scandinavian countries until March, 1848 after the 1847 United States-Bremen Arrangement was in effect. Letters addressed to Scandinavian destinations could be sent to Bremen with payment of U.S. internal postage plus 24 cents per one-half ounce for U.S. steamship conveyance to Bremen. The letter then was sent unpaid to the Scandinavian destination.

## An Unusual Routing

A letter of July 30, 1846, from New York to Carlskrona, Sweden is the first letter from the U.S. to Scandinavia that I have recorded that was sent by the route via France in accordance with the Franco-T\&T convention of 1844. The letter was inscribed "Per Boston Stmr" and "Paid." It was postmarked with a New York date stamp on July 30 showing that five cents postage to Boston had been paid. It was conveyed from Boston by the Cunard Line "Cambria" departing on August 1 and arriving at Liverpool on August 12, 1846. The London post office postmarked the letter on August 13 and marked " $2 / 8$ " for 2 shillings 8 pence postage due. This apparently represented 1 shilling for sea postage to London and $1 / 8 \mathrm{~d}$ for the British share of postage to Hamburg for conveyance by a British packet in accordance with the 1841 "Additional Agreement" with the Hamburg Stadtpost.

The letter was not sent to Hamburg by British packet as it was postmarked with the COLONIES/\&c.


ART. 13 stamp in London for conveyance via France. It was postmarked at Lille on August 16, by the T\&T post office in Hamburg on August 20, and by the Swedish and Norwegian post office in Hamburg on August 21.

## Calculating the Postage Due

The postal rate to exchange with the T\&T post was six francs per 30 grams in accordance with the 1844 convention. The T\&T postal rate for the exchange with the French post to Hamburg was two francs per 30 grams for a total of eight francs or 80 decimes per 30 grams. Total postage due at Hamburg was 30 decimes for a $71 / 2-$ gram letter. The French postal service marked " 10 " as the postal share of 10 decimes due to Britain. The T\&T post office in Hamburg inscribed " 24 " in red crayon as the Swedish post office debit of 24 schillings.

The letter was transferred from the Swedish post office to the Prussian post office in Hamburg as the Swedish postal service had an agreement with the Prussian postal service for conveyance via Stralsund and Ystad. It was postmarked STRALSUND by the Prussian post and " $231 / 2$ " was inscribed in the upper left corner in violet ink as the Swedish debit to Prussia. This represented 24 schillings as equal to $201 / 2$ silbergroschen (sgr.) for postage to Hamburg and 3 sgr. for postage from Hamburg to Stralsund. This was equal to $701 / 2$ skilling banco (sk.bco.). The single-weight postage from Stralsund to Ystad was 16 sk.bco. for a letter less than one-half lod, or 6.65 grams. This letter weighed between 6.65 grams and 7.50 grams and was treated as a double-weight letter.

Swedish domestic postage was based on a weight unit known as the lod. Postage of 32 sk.bco. was charged for a one-half to three-fourths lod letter.' The postage from Ystad to Carlskrona was 5 sk.bco. Total postage due was then $701 / 2+32+5$ sk.bco., or a total of $1071 / 2$ sk.bco. It was marked in crayon as 2 riksdaler 11 sk.bco. and 6 rundstycken. ${ }^{2}$

The 16 sk.bco. postage from Stralsund to Ystad included two sgr. due to Prussia. Thus, the Swedish credit to the Prussian post was $231 / 2+2 \times 2=271 / 2$ sgr.

## Endnotes

${ }^{1}$ One lod equaled 13.3 grams. Single weight postage was for one-half lod, or 6.65 grams.
${ }^{2}$ In the Swedish currency, 1 skilling banco equaled 12 rundstycken. Therefore, 6 rundstycken equaled one half sk.bco.

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# U.S. Censor Marks Rare on WWI Iceland Mail 

By Mike Tuttle

In my research on censorship of Iceland mail during World War I, I learned of only three items bearing American censor marks. One of those is shown here. The typewritten message on this picture postcard, however, states that it is one of three being dispatched. What happened to the other two, I wonder?

The card is dated January 6, 1919, and postmarked January 7 on a pair of 5-aur Two Kings stamps on the picture side. That might appear to be after the war was concluded. However, only the Armistice was signed on November 11, 1918 while the Peace Treaty was not completed until June 28, 1919. The card carries a U.S. censor mark of 165 .

The other items seen were: (1) a card on eBay addressed to Iceland from the U.S. dated in early 1919 and with the same censor number; and (2) another card from Iceland to the U.S. dated 1919 with a very clear " 165 " mark.

(Editor's Note: See the author's article in Scandinavian Contact, June, 2005, pages 134-137.

# Plane Crash Cover Connected to Swedish Royalty 

By Bo Terling



Sweden's royal family was on hand when children orphaned by the 2004 Asian tsunami touched down at the Stockholm airport. In remarks at the time, King Carl XVI Gustav told the children whose parents had died that even though he had been reared in special circumstances, he knew what it meant to grow up without a father.

The king was nine months old when his 40 -year-old father, Gustav Adolf, the duke of Västerbotten, was killed in a plane crash during takeoff at Copenhagen's Kastrup airport on January 26, 1947. All 16 passengers and the six-member crew aboard the Dutch KLM flight en route to Stockholm and later Helsinki were killed. The prince, who was returning to Sweden from a royal hunting trip in the Netherlands, was second in line to the throne at the time of his death. Other passengers on the aircraft included the prince's adjutant, the American opera and movie singer Grace Moore, and Danish actress and singer Gerda Neumann. The cause of the accident was determined to be a forgotten rudder lock that the ground crew failed to remove before takeoff.

The mail aboard the crashed plane included this partially burned commercial cover mailed in Jumet (Charleroi), Belgium, and addressed to Helsinki, Finland. I purchased the cover several years ago in a Harmer's auction. It came with a certificate in Danish from air crash cover expert Henri Nierinck that it was a "postal transport damaged letter."

The present King Carl XVI Gustaf ascended to the Swedish throne in 1973 at the age of 27.


This MNH copy of the Zeppelin "1830" error stamp sold for $\$ 1,800$ at Postiljonen's March 25 auction. DuBois.

## Zeppelin Card Recalls Finnish Error

A postal card that brings to mind one of Finland's best known rarities is helping to call attention to the forthcoming NORDIA 2006 exhibition. Finland Post is issuing a series of six postal stationery cards in connection with the $150^{\text {th }}$ anniversary of the country's first stamp.

The fourth card in the series, which was released March 31, shows the lighter-than-air airship, "Graf Zeppelin," when it visited Helsinki in 1930 and carried mail to and from Germany. A red overprint, "Zeppelin 1930," was printed on a 10-markka Lake Saimaa stamp (Facit 160I) to commemorate the visit. However, position 86 on the sheet contained an error, "Zeppelin 1830." More than one-half of the 500 sheets were distributed before the error was discovered. The overprinted stamp (without the error) is reproduced on the new card. (See "Auction Marketplace" on page 29.)

The last in the series of postal cards is to be released at NORDIA 2006, which will be held October 27-29 in Helsinki. A contingent of SCC members will be attending. Those interested in joining the group should contact SCC President John

## SCC Member Services \& Contacts

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## Roger Schnell to Sign RDP

Past SCC president Roger G. Schnell of Florida has been invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in Glasgow in July. He is being honored for his many contributions to philately. Schnell served as secretary to the FIP's traditional philately bureau and also as president of the American Philatelic Congress. He is a former vice president of the American Philatelic Society and is the current secretary of the American Philatelic Research Library.


For many years, Schnell chaired SCC's Danish West Indies Study Group and edited its newsletter. He is an accredited international judge and has received many high awards for his exhibits both in the United States and abroad. He was a director and judge at the Washington 2006 international philatelic exhibition this year.

The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists was established by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain in 1921 with King George V as its first signatory. An invitation to sign the roll is considered as the world's most distinguished philatelic honor. More than 300 honorees from about 50 different countries have been so recognized since the award was established.

- Alan Warren


## SCC and Scandinavian Calendar

## 2006

Nordia 2006, October 27-29, Helsinki, Finland. Contact www.nordia2006.fi/, John DuBois (jld@thlogic.com), or Roger Quinby, (rpquinby@aol.com).
2007
NAPEX (SCC National Meeting), June 1-3, Tysons Corner, (McLean), VA. Contact John DuBois, SCC
President, and www.napex.org.
2008
CHICAGOPEX (SCC National Meeting), November 18-20, Contact www.chicagopex.com.
Nordia 2008, Norway.
2009
St. Louis Stamp Expo (SCC National Meeting), February 27-March 1; www.stlstampexpo.org.
2010
WESTPEX (SCC National Meeting), April 23-25, San Francisco area; www.westpex.com.

## Prices Realized - SCC Library Auctions \#5 \& \#6

## \#5 (Closed February 27, 2006)

$\# 2=\$ 6, \# 3=\$ 6, \# 4=\$ 6, \# 5=\$ 6, \# 6=\$ 6, \# 7=\$ 11, \# 8=\$ 6, \# 9=\$ 6, \# 11=\$ 10, \# 12=\$ 10, \# 13=\$ 4$, $\# 14=\$ 17, \# 15=\$ 6, \# 16=\$ 9, \# 17=\$ 30, \# 18=\$ 17, \# 19=\$ 35, \# 22=\$ 30, \# 23=\$ 31, \# 24=\$ 13, \# 25=$ $\$ 16, \# 26=\$ 3, \# 27=\$ 3, \# 28=\$ 11, \# 29=\$ 21, \# 30=\$ 21, \# 31=\$ 9, \# 32=\$ 6, \# 33=\$ 13, \# 34=\$ 31, \# 35$ $=\$ 8$, and $\# 36=\$ 31$. Thirty-two of the 36 lots sold, with realizations totaling $\$ 438$. The four unsold lots (\#s 1, 10, 20, and 21) are available at their starting bids on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Roger Cichorz at rcichorz@comcast.net or 303-494-8361 to purchase any unsold lots.

## \#6 (Closed May 15, 2006)

$\# 1=\$ 17, \# 2=\$ 9, \# 3=\$ 10, \# 4=\$ 22, \# 5=\$ 13, \# 6=\$ 9, \# 7=\$ 13, \# 8=\$ 2.50, \# 9=\$ 16, \# 10=\$ 4, \# 11=$ $\$ 1, \# 12=\$ 15, \# 13=\$ 12, \# 14=\$ 2, \# 15=\$ 10, \# 16=\$ 7, \# 17=\$ 3, \# 18=\$ 5, \# 19=\$ 3, \# 20=\$ 4.50, \# 21=$ $\$ 2, \# 22=\$ 1, \# 23=\$ 6, \# 24=\$ 4$, and $\# 25=\$ 16$. All 25 lots in this auction sold, with realizations totaling \$207.

# S.C.C. Library Auction \#7 (Closing Date August 14, 2006) 

This is the seventh auction of items being offered to SCC members. These 23 lots are duplicates of current SCC Library holdings. Realizations will go to 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 email rcichorz@comcast.net. This auction closes on August 14, 2006.

The Terms of Sale are identical to those published on Page 26, May, 2004, issue of The Posthorn. To conserve space, the Terms are not repeated here (please refer to the May, 2004, issue).

The minimum bid accepted for a lot is the starting bid. When possible, the auctioneer's estimated market value (EMV) or actual current market value from dealers' pricelists (CMV) for the lot is included in the description as a guideline for bidders. 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 $>\$ 50=\$ 3$. Bids are in U.S. currency.

## Lot Numbers and Descriptions:

1. Finland: Posten i Västnyland Intill 1918, by Bror-Erik Sahlstedt, in Swedish, Ekenäs Tryckeri Aktiebolag, 1979, 115 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, good condition. Essential handbook about the postal history and mail of the Finnish Province of West Nyland to 1918. EMV $=\$ 25$, Starting Bid $=\$ 6$.
2. Norway: Posten Pả Ringerike, by Tor Ostlund, in Norwegian, Norsk Filatelistforbund, Oslo, 1985, 81 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, excellent condition. Essential handbook about the postal history, town cancels, military, and railways of the Ringerike area. $C M V=\$ 23$, Starting Bid $=\$ 6$.
3. Norway: Norges Frimerker 1855-1914, by Justus Anderssen and Henrik Dethloff, in Norwegian, Kirste \& Sieberth, Kristiania, 1915, 89 pages, profusely illustrated, original softbound edition without the reprints, fair condition. The first major handbook on Norway's classic stamp issues. $\mathrm{EMV}=\$ 75$, Starting Bid $=\$ 20$.
4. Norway: The Stamps of Norway: Part I. A Contribution Towards the Study of the Issues of 1877-78 (Shaded Posthorn), by Justus Anderssen, and Part II. The Stamps of Norway 1894-1900 Issues, by Justus Anderssen and Gunnar Kjos (English translation by Benjamin Goodfellow); from The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain Series of Studies in Philately, 1923, 37 pages ( $8.5 \times 11$-inch loose-leaf photocopied pages, including four plates of illustrations). Two excellent monographs on these Norwegian stamp issues. EMV $=\$ 4$, Starting Bid $=\$ 1$.
5. Norway: Dampskipet Prinds Gustav og postgangen til Nord-Norge for 150 år siden, by Gunnar Melboe, in Norwegian, Filatelisk Forlag, Bergen, 1988, 117 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, good condition. Excellent handbook on the postal history, postmarks, and ship history of the early mail ship "Prinds Gustav." CMV $=\$ 42$, Starting Bid $=\$ 10$.
6. Norway: Norges Byposter og annen norsk lokalpost, by Carl A. Pihl, in Norwegian, Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift, Bergen, 1963, 71 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, good condition. Still the essential catalog of Norway's bypost and other local post stamps. $\mathrm{CMV}=\$ 48$, Starting Bid $=\$ 12$.
7. Norway: Håndskrevne poststednavn på norske brev, by Kjell Mathiesen and E. C. Hannevig, in Norwegian, Norsk Filatelistforbund, Oslo, 1986, 70 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, new condition. Primary reference work on 1600 s through 1900 covers bearing handwritten town name when canceling devices either were not available or did not exist. CMV $=\$ 29$, Starting Bid $=\$ 7$.
8. Norway: Norges sportel-, juster- og stempelmerker, by T. Soot-Ryen, in Norwegian, Oslo Filatelistklubb, 1975, 50 pages, softbound, profusely illustrated, softbound, new condition. Primary handbook of early Norwegian revenue stamps. $\mathrm{CMV}=\$ 21$, Starting $\operatorname{Bid}=\$ 5$.
9. Norway: 1867-1868 Issue Coat of Arms Typographed, in English, Scandinavian Philatelic Foundation, 1983, 11 pages, illustrated, staple-bound paperback, fair condition (cover damage). Authorized English translation by Jared H. Richter of a 1963 article by D. Thune-Larsen originally published in Norwegian Handbok over Norges Frimerker; Volume I, 1855-1888. CMV = \$6, Starting Bid $=\$ 1$.
10. Norway: The Maritime Postal History of Norwegian Steamships, by F. C. Moldenhauer, in English, Robson Lowe Ltd., London, 1971, 32 pages, illustrated, photocopy/paperback. CMV $=\$ 4$, Starting Bid $=\$ 1$.
11. Sweden: 50 àrs svensk postal documentation/50 Years of Swedish Postal History and Rates, by Palle Laursen and B. E. Stavenow, in Swedish, Sveriges-Filatelist Forbund, 1977, 86 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, new
condition. Excellent handbook covering 1885-1935 postal rates and usages, includes rate tables and lists of stamp issues with intended use and dates of normal usage. $C M V=\$ 21$, Starting Bid $=\$ 5$.
12. Sweden: Bargain miscellany literature lot comprised of 14 different paperback books/publications in English and/or Swedish, mixed condition from pristine to damaged. Most are originals (two photocopies indicated as pc); very low starting bid. Items include: Swedish Letter Rates to Australia and Pacific Islands 1855-1895,50 Jubilee of the Swedish Postal Administration's Post Office Stamp Printing Works, Carl Von Linne (1707-1778) and Swedish Postage Stamps (Swedish Post Office publications), Motiv på Svenska Frimärkshäften 1904-1979/Cover Illustrations of Swedish Stamp Booklets, Militärbrev och Militära Portofrihetsmärken, Svenska Frimärket 125 Är/Swedish Stamps 125 Years, Swedish Stamps 1920-1926, Svenska Automäthaften 1954-1967, Svenska Skyddsperforeringa/Swedish Perfins, Strålstämplarnas Historia, A Catalogue of Swedish Local Postage Stamps Issued from 1941 to 1947 (pc.), Tidiga Svenska Datumstamplar ( 2 volumes by Karl Erik Stenberg, pc), and Handbok över Sveriges Frankotecken 1855-1936. EMV $=\$ 100+$, Starting Bid $=\$ 14$.
13. Sweden: Vad kostade brevet?/What Did Letters Cost?, by Sven Carlin, in Swedish, AB Kopia Stockholm, 1975, 137 pages, illustrated, hardbound, good condition (cover markings). Handbook of Swedish postal rates and services from 1636 to 1975 , includes several easy-to-use rate charts. $C M V=\$ 19$, Starting Bid $=\$ 5$.
14. Sweden: Handbok över Sveriges Frankotecken 1855-1946, 1975 Reprint Edition, in Swedish, Sveriges FilatelistForening, Stockholm, 1946, 360 pages, illustrated, softbound, new condition. Excellent, extensive handbook of Swedish postage stamps through 1945. EMV $=\$ 25$, Starting Bid $=\$ 7$.
15. Sweden: Sveriges Frankotecken Handbok, Del I - 1961, Del II - 1962, Del III - 1964, the three-volume set in Swedish, Sveriges Filatelist-Forbund, Stockholm, $\sim 256+221+357$ pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, good condition. These are excellent, extensive handbooks comprised of series of detailed monographs that cover a wide range of Swedish stamps and philately. Volume III has the 1963 Nytryck (reprints) of Sweden's 1858 set of six Coat-of-Arms issue (Facit 7-12) glued onto the last page; a set that catalogs 750 SEK ( $\$ 10$ ) in Facit, but adds a $\$ 50$ premium to the retail price of the set of books! CMV $=\$ 125$, Starting Bid $=\$ 32$.
16. Sweden: Sveriges Frankotecken Handbok, Del II - 1962 only, in Swedish, Sveriges Filatelist-Forbund, 221 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, good condition (cover markings and wear). Contains nine monographs on the various stamp issues between the 1862 local provisional (Facit 13) and 1862-72 lion through the 1920 small coat-ofarms. $\mathrm{CMV}=\$ 25$, Starting Bid $=\$ 7$.
17. Sweden: Skilling Banco 1855-1858 + Black Local Post and 1862 Provisional of Local Stamp Type, by Georg Menzinsky, in English, Scandinavian Philatelic Foundation, 1985, 132 pages, illustrated, softbound, new condition. Authorized English translation by Sven $\AA$ hman from the Swedish Philatelic Federation's Handbook Volumes II \& III (see Lot \#15). CMV $=\$ 18$, Starting Bid $=\$ 5$.
18. Sweden: Coat of Arms Öre Values 1858-1872, by Per Sjöman, Erik Helmers, and Einer Wockatz, in English, Scandinavian Philatelic Foundation, 1984, 113 pages, illustrated, softbound, good condition. Authorized English translation by Sven Åhman from the Swedish Philatelic Federation's Handbook Volume I (see Lot \#15). CMV = \$18, Starting Bid $=\$ 5$.
19. Sweden: Lion Type Stamps 1862-1872 + Ring Type Stamps 1872-1892, by Georg Menzinsky and Erik Blomberg, in English, Scandinavian Philatelic Foundation, 1985, 123 pages, illustrated, softbound, new condition. Authorized English translation by Sven Åhman from the Swedish Philatelic Federation's Handbook Volume II (see Lots \#15-16). $\mathrm{CMV}=\$ 18$, Starting Bid $=\$ 5$.
20. Sweden: Skilling Banco Stamps of Coat of Arms Type, Postal Museum Communication No. 30, by Hugo Olsson, English translation by Eric Hallar, Postverkets Tryckeri, 1955, 158 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, good condition. A definitive monograph on this classic issue. CMV $=\$ 20$, Starting Bid $=\$ 5$.
21. Sweden: Svensk Losen/Swedish Postage Dues, by Curt Haij, in Swedish, Special Handbook \#1 by Sveriges Filatelist-Forbund, 1973, 51 pages, profusely illustrated, staple-bound paperback, good condition. Useful monograph on various aspects of Swedish postage-due history, postal markings, handstamps, and labels, but not regular postage due stamps themselves. CMV $=\$ 16$, Starting Bid $=\$ 4$.
22. Sweden: En Studie av de Svenska Lösenstämplarna 1843-1874, by Ulf Ivarsson, in Swedish, Special Handbook \#4 by Sveriges Filatelist-Forbund, 1974, 136 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, good condition. Monograph on Swedish postal rates, postal markings, and handstamps of Swedish covers addressed to foreign countries. EMV $=\$ 30$, Starting Bid $=\$ 7$.
23. Sweden: Svenska Postverkets Frankotecken, Del III - Konung Oscar IIs Portrattfrimarken... and Del IV - 19101920 Ars Vanliga Frimarken..., by Hugo Olsson and F. Benzinger, in Swedish, Fahlcrantz Boktryckeri, Stockholm; Del III, 1947, 115 pages, Del IV, 1948, 196 pages; profusely illustrated, softbound. Vol. III is shabby and IV is in new condition, so estimate is for IV by itself. Useful monographs on these issues. EMV $=\$ 25$, Starting Bid $=\$ 6$.

# Norwegian Society Honors Frederick Brofos 



Frederick A. Brofos in his stamp den.

Highly regarded philatelist Frederick A. Brofos has been awarded the prestigious "Silver Lion" award by the Norwegian Philatelic Federation - only the second American ever to receive this award. The medal was awarded to Brofos (in absentia) during SCC's awards dinner at Washington 2006 by Ivar Sundsbø, the Norway commissioner to the international philatelic exhibition.

Brofos, who alternates between his homes in New Hampshire and Florida, has built specialized collections of Norwegian material and is widely published in American and Norwegian journals. He has written a number of monographs centered on Norwegian philately.

The silver medal is based on the standing lion design found on Norway's first stamp issued in 1855. The late Jared Richter is the only other American ever to be awarded this medal by the Norwegian federation.

- Paul Nelson


## New Tunnel Shifts Faroese Mail from Ferry to Truck

The opening of a new undersea tunnel has changed transportation methods and the handling of the mails in the Faroe Islands. The 6.3 km Norooya Tunnel opened April 29 to connect the island of Eysturoy with the island of Borðoy. It was reported that $3,000-4,000$ people walked through the tunnel on opening day before cars were allowed inside. Some 12,000 cars drove to Klaksvik for festivities on the opening weekend.

The next day, Faroese postal officials shifted from transporting mail via ferry between Leirvik (on Eysturoy) and Klaksvik (on Borðoy) to using trucks via the tunnel, which goes as far as 150 meters beneath the sea. No special cancels or other
 activities were conducted to mark the end of ferry mail service on April 29.

Two 5.50 kr . stamps (local rate postage) and a booklet marking the new tunnel will be released June 12. The tunnel was opened about a month earlier than anticipated, resulting in a gap between release of the stamps and the tunnel's debut.

The Faroes Island Study Circle (FISC), which is based in Great Britain, is printing a souvenir postcard showing the ferry ship, "MV Dúgvan," leaving Klaksvik harbor and is working with Postverk Føroya to arrange a commemorative date stamp, said FISC Secretary Norman Hudson.

- Paul Albright


## Finnish Philatelist Available on CDs

The Finnish Philatelist, which is published quarterly by SCC's Finnish Study Group, is now available in an electronic version, as well as in the traditional printed format. Numbers 7 to 39, an eight-year run, of the newsletter is contained on two CDs, along with an up-to-date index. Cost is $\$ 25$ postpaid.

A study of Finnish World War I censorship marks was published on CDs by the study group last year. It has now been updated and revised. Those receiving the original $C D$ will receive the latest version at no charge. New orders are $\$ 15$ postpaid to cover production and mailing costs.

Orders should be sent to TFP Editor Roger P. Quinby, PO Box 738, Clifton Park, NY 12065-0738; email, rpquinby@aol.com.

## Albums Closed

## Three Philatelic Giants Are Gone in Finland


#### Abstract

Three giants of philately in Finland closed their albums in the early months of 2006. Herbert Oesch, who died April 13, 2006, wrote the authoritative work on the 1875 issue of Finland. His work was translated into English by Kauko I. Aro and published in a two-volume edition in 1994 by the Scandinavian Philatelic Foundation. Volume I of The Color and Printing Identification of the 1875 Issues: A New Approach describes these stamps in detail with respect to paper, perforations, colors, the various printings and other production data. Volume II consists of tables that provide quantities and dates of production and delivery from the printer to the postal service to the cities and towns in Finland. The work was expanded and updated from the original Finnish version.

Oesch was a member of the Finnish Philatelic Federation's Expert Committee, the Finnish Philatelic Federation's board, and earlier chaired the largest philatelic club in Finland (Suomen Filatelistiseura in Helsinki).

Well-known philatelist Göran Nykvist, who was an economist, died February 12 at the age of 73, apparently while skiing in the Lapland town of Äkäslompolo above the Arctic Circle.

He won a large gold at Philexfrance 99 for his "Finland Postal Stationery 1845-1884." He was a chairman of Finnish Philatelic Federation's Expert Committee and chaired the largest Swedish-speaking philatelic club in Finland (Helsingfors Frimärkssamlareföreningen). Earlier, he was on the board of the Finnish Philatelic Federation. Nykvist received all of Finland's major medals in philately: Pro Philatelia in gold 2003, the Philatelist of the Year 1999, Leo Linder trophy 2001.

Arnold Nyman, another economist, died March 14 in Helsinki at the age of 89. He received a large gold at Pacific 97 for his "Finland 1856-1885." At London 2000, his Finnish classics' exhibit was a candidate for the Grand Prix d'Honneur. Nyman was also a former member of the Finland Philatelic Federation's Expert Committee. He had large gold collections of classical Finland, Norway, and France. His Canada collection was said to one of the best in Europe. During his life, he won more than 100 gold medals in exhibitions, with at least nine of them large gold.


- Alan Warren and Lauri Poropudas


## Hobby Advocate Severin Barstad

SCC member Severin Barstad of Tempe, AZ, who introduced others to the pleasures of stamp collecting, closed his own albums on November 12 at the age of 89 . As a career manager for Motorola, he helped found Motorola's chess club and its stamp club in Scottsdale. With the Motorola graphics department and a Scottsdale artist, he arranged many first day covers of space exploration and science stamps.

Barstad was an advisor for the stamp collecting merit badge for the Boy Scouts. Starting in 1978, he taught a non-credit course in stamp collecting at Scottsdale Community College. He was active in the Norsemen's Federation and a member of the American Philatelic Society.

While he collected United Nations and United States stamps, Barstad's passion was collecting Scandinavia, especially Norway where his parents were born. He displayed his Norwegian heritage at home where his bright blue mail box was decorated with a large Norwegian posthorn design.

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## Book Reviews

## Iceland's $19^{\text {th }}$ and $20^{\text {th }}$ Century Postal History

Postsaga Íslands 1873-1935 by Heimir borleifsson, 424 pages in Icelandic, published by Íslandspóstur, 2004, approximately $\$ 65$ plus shipping; email orders to sogufelag@solufelag.is.

Here is an additional book on Icelandic postal history. A previous volume by the same author covered the period 1776-1872. This second volume deals with the period 1873-1935. The book contains detailed descriptions on the development of the independent postal service in Iceland and its modification. The financing and transport of postal materials throughout Iceland when few roads existed is fully dealt with in detail.

Described are the periods from walking country postmen through horse wagons, cars from 1915, and airplanes after 1928. The book also contains several very good maps of postal routes from different years. In addition, a chapter on sea postal transport between countries, along the Iceland coastline and in-fjord is very detailed. It is doubtful if anything more can be added. Very exact postal information is provided. To fully benefit from the book, it is necessary to be able to read the Icelandic language. As such, it is highly recommended.

- Bór Porsteins

Norgeskatalogen 2006. $6 \times 81 / 2$ inches, 458 pages, perfect bound, soft covers, Oslo Filatelistklubb, Oslo, Norway, 2005. ISBN 82-7319-197-4. Approximately $\$ 60$ (plus shipping) from philatelic literature dealers.

This $58^{\text {th }}$ edition of the catalog of Norway's postage stamps maintains the excellent quality established by its recent predecessors. Sections of the text are in both Norwegian and English and a glossary in Norwegian, English, and German helps in understanding the descriptions.

Illustrations are in excellent color throughout. Explanatory text precedes many sections such as those on franking labels, booklets, official stamps, vending machine issues, the legendary posthorn stamps, and marginal markings. Rate tables add considerably to the utility of this catalog.

As usual, there are two special articles found only in this year's edition (in Norwegian only). One details varieties of Norwegian stamps, and the other focuses on the manuscript town and other markings found on $19^{\text {th }}$ Century stamps and covers. This is the tool for students of Norway philately.

- Alan Warren

Mail Censorship and Postal History 1935-48 by Peter M. Jangaard. $81 / 2 \times 11$ inches, 168 pages, comb bound, self-published, Halifax, Nova Scotia 2005. ISBN 0-9689965-2-3, \$60 U.S. in color, \$20 in black and white, $\$ 20$ in color on CD plus postage from Peter M. Jangaard, 278 Milsom Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3N 2B9, Canada, email jangaard@eastlink.ca.

Although the title of this book is misleading, it is amplified by the subtitle, "With Personal Notes on Wartime Experiences in Aalesund, Norway: Letters and Post Cards from Norway, Portugal, Spain, United States, Canada and Other Countries." The author has reproduced the fronts and backs of envelopes used in correspondence, principally with his father. Intended as a record of family history, the book will also be a delight for postal historians.

Peter Jangaard's father spent several years before World War II in Spain and Portugal on business. During the war he became Norwegian Vice Consul in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and finally was named Commercial Counselor at the Norwegian Embassy in Washington, DC.

The book is a treasure chest that not only reflects family history but also provides raw material for postal history study. Although the author indicates the locations where censorship markings were applied, the handstamps and resealing tapes are not identified using standard reference works. However, students of military and civil censorship will find wonderful examples of censorship devices used on mail to and from Ethiopia, Spain, Greece, Portugal, Norway, Canada, and the United States.

The book is a visual delight not only for the franking and censorship markings but also with the added effects of the view side of picture post cards and a number of photographs related to war activities. Some 1941 letters from Aalesund to Halifax went via the Norwegian Seamen's Church in Brooklyn.

Later in the war, letters from Norway were sent to the "secret" Norwegian Legation in Lisbon where they were readdressed to Halifax. Some related events are depicted with photographs or covers, including the sabotage at Telemark, Little Norway in Toronto, and the London series stamps on ship mail. A brief bibliography concludes the book.

- Alan Warren


#### Abstract

* A Revised Handbook on Iceland's Numeral Cancels 

Handbok över İsländsk Nummerstämplar, published by Föreningen Íslandssamlarna, Sweden, May, 2005, SEK 150 plus postage. Contact Leif Nilsson, Södersvik 9074, S-76194 Norrtälje, Sweden; email leif.a.nilsson@ telia.com.

This 112-page, loose-leaf handbook is a greatly revised version of a 1992 publication. Since then, a considerable amount of new information on the use of the numeral cancels has been found in official records. Several collectors have combined to make this a very good handbook on the cancels and their use by post offices in Iceland.

Included is new information on numeral cancels used on boats and ships, false numerals, and the hard ones - Nos. 31 and 39. In addition, there are several color photos showing different types of the numerals and fake ones. This publication is a must for all collectors interested in the Icelandic numerals.


- pór porsteins


## Book on Danish Post Offices Available Again

Post- og Telekommunikations Hus 1880-1930 (Postal and Telecommunications buildings 1880-1930) by Elisabeth Buchwald.

In 2002, the National Cultural Trust of Denmark published a short book (37 pages) concerning the protected (fredede) early post office buildings in Denmark. The book, consisting of text by Elisabeth Buchwald and some nice pictures by Søren Nørgård Madsen and Søren Saugstrup Nielsen, was produced in 25 copies, and is available as a .pdf file at www.kuas.dk/tjenester/publikationer/emneopdelt/bygninger/ tema/posthuse/index.jsp.

The book consists of three parts. The first is a short general history of the post office buildings in Denmark. This is followed by a listing, with color pictures, of the eight post office buildings that already are protected. Finally, there is a section with color pictures and descriptions of 22 of the other particularly nice post office buildings in Denmark. The book is a record of some of the most interesting public architecture in Denmark at the turn of the $20^{\text {th }}$ Century.

A few copies were reproduced with the permission of the Ministry of Culture of Denmark, with the understanding that it would not be sold. A loan copy is available to SCC members through the SCC Library in Denver.

- John R. Sabin


# Three Monographs Trace Norway's Wartime Mail 

By Alan Warren

The Norwegian War and Field Post Society recently released three monographs related to Norway and Word War II activities. In order to reach a wider audience, the booklets have been published in English.

1. Norwegian Officers in German Captivity 1940-1945 and their Prisoner Mail by Erik Lørdahl. $6^{3 / 4} \times 91 / 2$ inches, soft covers, perfect bound, 40 pages, in English, War and Philabooks Ltd., Tårnåsen, Norway, 2004. ISBN 82-995588-6-7, \$16 plus \$10 shipping to USA from the publisher, Gydas v. 52, 1413 Tårnåsen, Norway.

Key Norwegian officers are discussed, the circumstances of their capture, and the camps where they were relocated. These include Schokken, Grune bei Lissa, and Schildberg, and eventually Luckenwalde near Berlin. Following liberation, the officers were returned via the Russian zone, American zone, and then by ship from Denmark to Oslo.

The text is nicely illustrated with photos, drawings, and mail, such as Red Cross forms and other stationery. The prisoner mail is described with details on camp origin, number of prisoners, number of letters, rarity values, and camp location dates. A major table lists the censor markings found on mail to and from POW officers, and illustrates each marking. A brief list of literature sources is presented.
2. Polizeihäftlingslager (Police Prisoner Camp) Grini 1941-1945 and the Prisoner Mail by Erik Lørdahl. $63 / 4 \times 91 / 2$ inches, soft covers, perfect bound, 48 pages, in English, War and Philabooks Ltd., Tårnåsen, Norway, 2004. ISBN 82-995588-7-5, \$16 plus $\$ 10$ shipping to USA from the publisher, Gydas v. 52, 1413 Tårnåsen, Norway.

Norwegian resistance fighters, saboteurs, and other political prisoners who worked on resistance or civil disturbances were imprisoned by the Germans in several camps in Norway. The largest was Grini near Oslo. Women and young boys were segregated in their own departments.

The author describes briefly the German camp organization and the prisoners' internal organization at Grini. Some of the other camps around Norway are mentioned. Immediately after the war, Grini became Ilebu Prison and housed traitors and those that had cooperated with the Germans.

Lordahl discusses the handling of mail and parcels at Grini and presents an extensive table that categorizes various forms and stationery used in the camp with details of dimensions, paper color, period of use, and a rarity scale. Examples of each form are shown.

Administrative cachets, censor markings and other special labels and cachets are also listed. A few literature sources are given but many of the examples mentioned are from private collections. Text and illustrations are clear and nicely laid out.
3. Deutsches Dienstpostamt Oslo 1942-1945 by Bjørn E. Bunæs. $63 / 4$ by $91 / 2$ inches, soft covers, perfect bound, 72 pages, in English and Norwegian, War and Philabooks Ltd., Tårnåsen, Norway, 2004. ISBN $82-$ $995588-8-3$, $\$ 26$ plus $\$ 10$ shipping to USA from the publisher, Gydas v. 52, 1413 Tårnåsen, Norway.

This booklet is an expanded version of Bunæs' articles that appeared in the Norwegian War and Field Post Society journal. In order to handle official mail during WWII in occupied territories, the German Service Mail Offices were established (Deutsches Dienstpostamt). Such mail included mostly free-franked items related to party offices, field hospitals, material supply departments, reserve and training units and their staff. Private mail from these organizations had to be franked.

The handling of this official mail at the Oslo office is described. A special rate table shows the postage required by relatives and employees for mail sent to the DDP - letters, post cards, registered matter, and parcels. Examples of official mail and private mail handled by this office are shown with many in color.

Branch offices in Drontheim, Narvik, and Tromsö are mentioned. A scheme of post box numbers
for official mail coming into Oslo was developed for mail going to specific agencies, thus helping the DDP to sort the large volume of inbound items. A list of sources and a list of German abbreviations and terms translated into English are useful tools. The English text is then repeated in Norwegian without the illustrations.

An elaborate table lists cancels, administrative cachets, and labels and stationery with size, rarity, period of use and illustrations. Appendices reproduce German postal communications that bear on this mail. The War and Field Post Society recognizes that this monograph is a starting point for compiling this data, and requests additional information from others who may be able to expand the work.

## *

## Danish-German Border Mail

Granse-Forsendelser/Grenz-Sendungen: Denmark/Germany by Jørgen Kluge, $81 / 4 \times 113 / 8$ inches, soft covers, perfect bound, 104 pages, in Danish and German with English summary, Fløng Hedehusene Stamp Society, Denmark 2004. \$35 postpaid from the author, Charlottegaardsveg 139, 2640 Hedehusene, Denmark.

This is the story of local mail in the border district between Denmark and Germany from 1865 to 1980 where special rates prevailed to specific area post offices. Several revised agreements were signed over the years, altering the conditions for this border mail.

The mails covered include letters and post cards, printed matter, product samples, commercial papers, and services such as registered, express, and insured mail. The book consists mostly of rate tables with periods of usage, weight steps, and post offices served. The data is useful to postal history collectors to explain rates between two towns at any time during the period covered.

The tables are arranged alphabetically by name of the town of origin in either Denmark or Germany. A few color illustrations of mail are shown and copies of some pertinent postal agreements are reproduced. The list of sources that concludes the book is not specific for journal articles but rather mentions the title with no record of date, author, or article.

- Alan Warren


## Finland's Philatelic Office Loses 20 Jobs; Danes Readjust

By Paul Albright

Declining revenue from the mailing of letters is reported in several Scandinavian countries with the greatest impact in Finland, where 20 positions were eliminated from the Philatelic Center at the beginning of June. Finland Post said earnings from the mailing of letters lagged personnel costs last fiscal year.

In a press release, Finland Post said: "Because of rising production costs, growth in electronic communications and cost pressure on services, Finland Post will be forced to adjust and to reorganize its operations." Some 65 jobs were trimmed in Finland Post with 20 of the positions in the philatelic section.

Markku Penttinen, director of the Philatelic Center, said despite the job losses, the philatelic center plans to maintain its services to customers. There was early speculation that Finland might cut back on the number of shows it participates in and might not be able to provide specialized canceling services to collectors.

Meanwhile, Denmark Post reported a continuing decline in the volume of letters that it delivers. This revenue loss was offset by an 11 percent jump in parcel deliveries and growth from distribution of newspapers, periodicals, and "unaddressed items."

In late May, Denmark Post announced an agreement to distribute a free daily newspaper, Nyhedsavisen, throughout the country. "We look forward to using our experience in a new market," said Helge Israelsen, CEO of Post Danmark. "And - with the new company - we look forward to ensuring that the Danes obtain delivery of Nyhedsavisen, direct to their door."

## SCC Chapter Meeting \& Contacts

1. SEATTLE/NW: 2nd Mon. at Maple Leaf Evangelical Church, 1059 NE $96^{\text {th }}, 7: 30$ p.m. CONTACT: Ken Elliott, P.O. Box 22808, Seattle, WA 98122-0808, email: ScandiaW@aol.com.
2. CHICAGO: 4th Thurs. of Jan.-June and Sept., Oct.; Ist Thurs. of Dec., Des Plaines Public Library, 1501 Ellinwood St., Des Plaines, IL 60016. CONTACT: Ron Collin, PO Box 63, River Grove, IL 60171-0063; (773) 907-8633, email: collinr@ameritech.net.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. N. NEW JERSEY: 3rd Wed. at members' homes. CONTACT: Warren J. Grosjean, 32 Juniper Rd., Wayne, NJ 07470-6156, email: grosjean@optonline.net.
6. REYKJAVÍK: 2nd Mon., 19:00, program 20:00, at Siðúmúli 11, The Center of the Icelandic Philatelic Federation. Junior meeting every Tue., 17:00 in the Seljakirkja in Breiðholt, Reykjavik. CONTACT: Sigurður H. Porsteinsson, Postbox 26, IS-222 Hafnarfjörður, Iceland, email: sigurdur_thorsteinsson@yahoo.com.
7. WASHINGTON DC: CONTACT: Peter Alten, 9300 Main St., Manassas, VA 22110.
8. DELAWARE: Last Tue. at members' homes. CONTACT: Alan Warren, alanwar@worldnet.att.net.
9. TWIN CITIES: 2nd Thu. (except Jul. \& Aug.) at Lynnhurst Community Center, 50th St., \& West Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN. CONTACT: Rossmer V. Olson, P.O. Box 23377, Richfield, MN 55423, email:
RossVOle@aol.com.
10. ROCHESTER: CONTACT: Robert Gustafson, 877 Helendale Road, Rochester, NY 14609-2908.
11. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: 1st Wed. at members' homes. CONTACT: Jerry Winerman (818) 784-7277, or email: gerjer@adelphia.net.
12. GOLDEN GATE: Meets monthly on 1st Sat., 11 a.m. at members' houses \& at various shows (WESTPEX, COALPEX, PENPEX, etc.).CONTACT: Herb Volin, (510) 522-3242, HRVolin@aol.com.
13. 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.
14. PAULSON-SEAMAN: For meeting dates and places, CONTACT: Roy C. Scott, 2346 Druid Rd., \#235, Clearwater, FL 33764; rayfran@aol.com.
15. 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.
16. TUCSON: CONTACT: Jack F. Schmidt, phone: (520) 648-0034, or email: jackschmidt@cox.net.
17. 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.
18. 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.
19. CYBER: Members connected by email to exchange ideas \& scans, plus an electronic newsletter. CONTACT:

Edward L. Bode, email: edbode@juno.com.
AUSTRALIAN COORDINATOR: Roger Byrne, email: byrnefam@internode.on.net

# The Scandinavian Collectors Club 

Founded November 25, 1935

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