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Ink Fades on Iceland's Global Warming Stamps

Iceland has produced a miniature sheet with red coloring that fades when heat is applied and returns when there is cooling. Iceland Post released the two-stamp sheet January 29 containing single ISK 100 and ISK 130 stamps. The sheet represented Iceland's participation in the multi-national Polar Regions and Glaciers issue described previously in *The Posthorn* (November, 2008, page 2).

The sheet is printed with thermochromatic ink that absorbs heat. Red lines are printed on a map to show Iceland, Greenland, and the polar icecap as it currently exists. When the sheet is heated to 81 degrees Fahrenheit, the lines are supposed to disappear. This will demonstrate, according to Iceland Post, "the immense shrinkage of glaciers and the sea ice covering the Arctic Ocean in 2100 based on the latest scientific predictions."



As issued.



After heat is applied.

An official of the printer, Österreichische Staatsdruckerei, said the ink is "set" at a temperature of 27 degrees Centigrade (81 Fahrenheit). Those holding the stamp between their fingers might be disappointed. "The fading effect very much depends on the individual's body heat," said a spokesman for the printing company. "It may sometimes need some effort to show the influence of heat on the ink." Iceland's philatelic office reported success in seeing the red lines fade when the sheet was placed on a warm radiator. ■

— Paul Albright



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Stamps and the Sámi People

By Geir Sor-Reime

Some 90,000 Sámi people live in Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Russia today. The Sámi are recognized as an indigenous people in Norway and Sweden and enjoy special rights in Finland. The Sámi previously were known as the Lappish people and their lands as Lapland. Lapland is still used in Finland and Sweden in tourism promotion for their northernmost areas. Otherwise, the area populated by the Sámi people is known as Sabmi or Sapmi — the land of the Sámi, or Samiland.

Approximately 60,000 Sámi now live in Norway, 20,000 in Sweden, 8,000 in Finland, and 2,000 in Russia.

In Norway, the Sámi Parliament, an elected assembly established in 1989, regulates matters relating to Sámi language and culture, including school curriculum, heritage management, and support for the Sámi-language media. There are also Sámi parliaments in Sweden (established 1993) and Finland (established 1973, reorganized 1996). The Sámi also

elect representatives to a Nordic Sámi Parliamentary Committee (established 2000). Sámi non-governmental organizations in the Nordic countries and in Russia have a co-operative body called the Sámi Council, established 1956.

There is a daily Sámi language news program on Scandinavian television stations, co-produced by the Nordic TV channels. In Sweden, Sámi has been recognized as an official language since 2000. In Norway and the other countries, much effort has been taken to record and preserve Sámi place names.

For many years, the Sámi people participated in the World Council of Indigenous Peoples (WCIP) but withdrew in 1990. WCIP was dissolved in 1996.

Sámi history, culture, and language have not been too frequently featured on Scandinavian stamps. Only recently have Sweden and Norway issued stamps with Sámi connections.

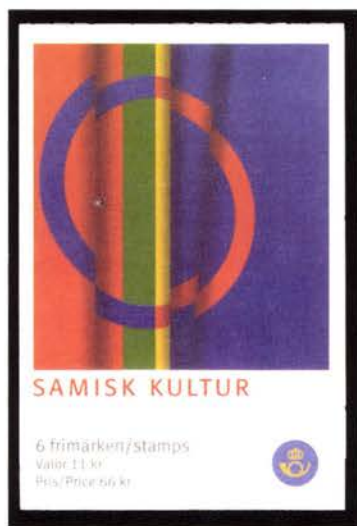
The Swedish stamps issued November 8, 2007, were entitled 'Sámi Culture' and were issued in booklets of six, containing two each of three different 11-kronor stamps. The booklet cover featured the pan-Scandinavian Sámi flag, now recognized as an official flag in Norway

and having its own flag day (February 6) celebrated in all Sámi areas. The flag was adopted in 1986.

The Swedish stamps feature elements intimately related to Sámi culture: the traditional Run drum, woven textile



Sámi woman in traditional dress. A 1989 Nordic cooperation stamp (Norway Scott 941).



Booklet cover showing Sámi flag.



A souvenir booklet from Sweden's 2007 Sámi culture issue.



Norway's 1999 tourism stamps featured Sámi man (*Scott 1221*).

related.

An important episode of Norwegian-Sámi relations is linked to the first king of united Norway, Harold Fairhair. This episode is the theme of Norway's contribution to the 2008 Nordic mythology series (released March 27, 2008) and relates to King Harold's affair/marriage with the Sámi girl Snøfrid. Snorri tells about this in his Sagas of the Norse Kings. Snøfrid was the daughter of the Sámi leader Svåse



Norway 2008 souvenir sheet showing King Harold Fairhair and Snøfrid.

who invited Harold to a feast at his estate. When Harold entered Svåse's home, the king's eyes immediately fell on Snøfrid, and he wanted to possess her at once. Svåse objected and suggested that the King marry Snøfrid, which he did. Harold was so in love that, according to Snorri, he neglected his kingdom. The king mourned for three years after Snøfrid died.

Later, the grandson of Harold and Snøfrid became Norwegian King Harold Hardraade (Harsh-rule) (lived 1015-66, king 1046-66). Harold Hardraade, who is credited with founding Oslo, fell at Stamford Bridge in 1066 in an attempt to take the English throne. He was featured on the three 1950 stamps celebrating the 900th anniversary of Oslo (*Scott 304-06*).

The link between Harold Fairhair and Snøfrid and their grandson secured a link between the Norwegian royal house and the Sámi people throughout medieval times.

The first Norwegian stamp with a direct Sámi connection was a 1963 stamp commemorating the tercentenary of regular postal services between northern and southern Norway. The stamp showed a Sámi river boat with two Sámi men as the crew (*Scott 437*).

In 1973, three stamps were issued to promote Sámi handicrafts. These carried a bilingual inscription: Sámi Duoddji/Samisk hånverkk (Sámi handicrafts). The stamps depicted decoration details from a horn knife sheath, a textile pattern, and a tin embroidery (*Scott 623-25*). In 1976, a Sámi



1963 stamp showing Sámi river boat and two boatmen (Norway *Scott 437*).

ornaments, silver works, and glass work represented by a contemporary glass bowl.

The Run drum stamp was also issued in a souvenir sheet of four identical stamps, with a sheet background of silver embroidery. The souvenir sheet stamps differ from the booklet stamps because they are perforated on four sides whereas the booklet stamps are partly imperforate. Elements from the Sámi flag appear on all stamps of this set.

A special feature of these stamps is that the country name Sweden also appears in Sámi: Ruotta. The country name previously had appeared in Finnish – Ruotsi – on the 1967 pair honoring Finnish immigrants to Sweden (*Scott 731-32*). The Sámi and Finnish languages are



Carl Von Linné in Sámi costume (Sweden Scott 1247).



Primitive Lapland warrior shown on Sweden's 1986 provincial arms booklet stamp (Sweden Scott 1595).

spoon made from an elk horn was depicted on one of Sweden's Europa stamps (Scott 1159)

A Sámi male costume was depicted on one of the 1989 Nordic co-operation stamps (Scott 941). This was a costume from Kautokeino, the Sámi "capital" of Norway where the Norwegian Sámi Parliament meets. A male Sámi costume also appears on one of the 1999 tourism stamps (Scott 1221).

The 1978 Travels of Linné booklet stamps of Sweden show Linné in Sámi costume and holding a Run drum (Scott 1247). Run drums were traditionally used by the Sámi "noaides" (shamans) in their rituals. The booklet cover includes two sketches Linné made during his travels in Lapland and shows the construction of traditional Sámi tent and the loading of a reindeer.

Sámi costumes have also been the motif of Swedish stamps, including the two 1989 Nordic co-operation stamps

(Scott 1733-34). The 2.30-kr. value depicted details from a female costume, whereas the 3.30-kr. stamp featured details from a male costume. The first Swedish vending machine labels of 1991 also featured a male Sámi in traditional costume along with a woman in a traditional costume of Scania in Southern Sweden.

A traditional Sámi cottage was depicted on one of the Swedish 1970 booklet stamps showing Arctic scenery, as was a Sámi tending a reindeer herd (Scott 855-56). A Swedish 2004 booklet was dedicated to the newly established World Heritage area called "Laponia." One stamp shows a Sámi summer camp with traditional tents. The cover of this booklet shows a Sámi reindeer herder's cottage.

There also are Finnish stamps with Sámi motifs. Traditionally, Lapland has been a province of Finland, and the 1943 provincial arms semi-postal series depicted a rather primitive-looking, half-naked male figure holding a wooden club (Scott B54).

A city in the south of Finland is called "Lappeenranta" in Finnish, which means Lap or Sámi beach, and in Swedish as "Villmanstrand" (wild man beach). The



Sámi handicrafts on 1989 Nordic cooperation stamps (Sweden Scott 1733-1734).



Arctic scenes in Sámi country (Sweden Scott 855-856).



Lapland scenes on Finnish semi-postals (Scott B157-158).

300th anniversary of this city was celebrated with a Finnish 1949 stamp (*Scott 265*). In historic times, no Sámi people have lived there, but it is assumed that the Sámi people in former times populated a larger part of Finland. The current area of primarily Sámi-speaking communities in Finland was shown on the 1976 single for the centenary of research into the Finnish language (*Scott 585*).

Sámi daily life was the theme of three semi-postal stamps from 1960. One stamp depicted a reindeer herd, the other a Sámi man with a lasso, and the third a typical landscape of the Lapland area of Finland (*Scott B157-59*).

The 1973 National Costumes series included a stamp showing a Sámi couple from the Enare area in traditional costumes (*Scott 522*). The 1990 Europa stamps from Finland included one stamp showing the old postal station in Nuvvus, with a Sámi man in traditional costume outside it (*Scott 817*).

In Finland, there is also a strong connection between the Sámi/Lapland and Father Christmas. In 1973, the Christmas stamp (*Scott 539*) showed Father Christmas in a Sámi sledge pulled by a reindeer. A similar scene, with a Sámi in the sledge, appeared on the 1986 joint issue with France for the 250th anniversary



Sámi couple from the Enare area in traditional costume (Finland *Scott 522*).



Drawing from 1673 (Sweden *Scott 751B*).

of the French Academy expedition to Lapland to measure the arc meridian (*Scott 741*). A drawing of a similar scene, made by J Schefferus in 1673, was reproduced on a Swedish 1972 stamp (*Scott 751B*). Also in Norway and Sweden, the Sámi people have been associated with Christmas and Father Christmas with a number of Christmas seals of these countries featuring Sámi people.

A Sámi folk tale was the theme of Finland's two Europa stamps in 1997 (*Scott 1037-1038*). The tale is called, "The girl who turned into a golden smew (duck)." The 3.20-mk. value



Europa stamps tell a Sámi folk tale (see text) (Finland *Scott 1037-1038*).

shows the prince looking for his bride, who has been turned into a smew by her neighbor. The 3.40-mk. value shows the punishment of the neighbor when the bride has been liberated. ■

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Mysteries Posed by Denmark-to-Germany War Cover

By Paul Albright

A roughly treated cover mailed from Denmark in 1942 helps us to better understand the use of laborers inside Nazi-controlled Germany during World War II. The cover was submitted to *The Posthorn* by SCC member Frank Correl, who asked anyone familiar with World War II mail to provide more information about where this letter was directed.

Was the letter mailed to a concentration camp? A German military installation? Perhaps a youth camp? Or a camp for forced laborers or voluntary workers? *Posthorn* readers are encouraged to provide further information, but some findings already have been provided by philatelists who are familiar with World War II mail and with the history and geography of Germany.

The Cover

The cover was mailed in March (?), 1942, from Nordborg, Als, Denmark, to a Yosef Pangan, which does not appear to be either a Danish or German name. One key to unlocking the cover's destination is in the second line of the address: "DAF Lager Barak 3, Stub 5." This translates as a German labor front camp (DAF = Deutsche Arbeitsfront), building 3, room 5.

The specialists agreed that this was not likely a concentration camp or a military barracks since those were not under the control of the DAF. Instead, the DAF handled labor camps in Germany. Most likely, they concluded, the camp was for foreign civilian laborers brought in from German-occupied countries.

"I'm inclined to think it was a civilian labor camp, not necessarily a forced laborers' camp (which wouldn't have been a DAF charge either)," emailed Rolf Dörnbach, who lives in Hamburg, Germany, where this camp was located.

"During the war, many commercial construction firms from German-occupied countries, such as the Netherlands, Belgium, or Denmark, were active in Germany," recalled Dörnbach, who grew up in Hamburg during the war.

Added Erik Lørdahl of the Norwegian War and Field Post Society: "There were about 100,000 Danes working more or less voluntarily in Germany during the war. In Denmark there was a huge unemployment and also in Norway. Many of them went to work for the Germans." Myron Fox of the German Philatelic Society opined that the camp most likely was for civilian workers.

Lørdahl has another example of a censored camp letter. This one was mailed January 20, 1943, from German-occupied Norway to Denmark. The addressee was a "Bager," or baker, who probably was working



The cover in question.

in the canteen of an aluminum factory and assigned to a camp "barak" in the Stavanger area of southwest Norway.

Dörnbach provided a personal example concerning the use of foreign labor in Hamburg in the war. "I remember from my own boyhood days, when our house had been heavily damaged in an air raid, that it was restored by a Dutch construction firm with a team of salaried Dutch laborers over a period of two years (We were living elsewhere during that time.) The men were working under their own (Dutch) foreman and were supervised by a German architect who turned up only occasionally.

"We often found them happily sleeping in the beds of our air raid shelter in the basement of our home during working hours, hardly giving the impression of forced labor, but somehow understandable, because in their view they were working for the enemy! In view of the housing shortage at the time, foreign laborers were quite likely to be accommodated in 'camps' consisting of wooden 'Baracken.'" Dörnbach added that the German word 'baracke' has no particular military connotation like the English 'barracks,' which in German would be 'kaserne.'

Dörnbach also noted the sender "reveals a somewhat shaky command of the German language, else he would have made it 'Baracke 3 Stube 5' instead of 'Barak 3 Stub 5' in the address."

Correl found censor marks on both front and back of the cover. Randy Nilson, who specializes in World War II military mail, said a "heavily censored" cover might indicate that it was going to a person "not necessarily trusted." Dörnbach, however, said all mail entering Germany from abroad, including from German-occupied countries, was censored as a matter of routine. "Hence, the fact that the letter was censored would not in itself indicate that the addressee was suspect in the eyes of the authorities."

The Location

The next lines on the address are: "Alsterdorf Stadtpark, Hindenburgstr(asse) 39, Hamburg, Deutschland (Germany)." While there are listings for some 90 concentration sub-camps (Aussenlager) scattered across Northwest Germany under the control of Neuengamme KL, neither Nilson nor Dörnbach could find such a camp listed for Hamburg's Alsterdorf or Stadtpark. Lördahl said DAF-Lager camps were more for civilian workers while Neuengamme camps were for political prisoners.

According to Dörnbach, the town district of Alsterdorf and the Stadtpark are adjacent and some distance from downtown Hamburg. Hindenburgstrasse runs through Stadtpark (a large recreational park now as then) and continues north through Alsterdorf.

"A glance at a town map of Hamburg reveals that No. 39 (on Hindenburgstrasse) is part of a large



1943 censored cover from Norway to Denmark.



Back of cover from a resident of a "Barak" in Stavanger, Norway.

piece of real estate taken up by former military barracks (Hindenburg Kaserne),” said Dörnbach. “Before and during World War II these were the home of a motorized ordnance unit of the Wehrmacht. (Since the end of the war they have been housing mobile units of the Hamburg police.) Apparently, the labor camp in question was located on the same premises as the military barracks.”

Correl noted the second 20-øre Danish stamp (Denmark *Facit* 230) on the cover appears to have been cut from another cover “or scraped or soaked off another paper, possibly found in a pile of papers or debris in a desk.” He said it is difficult to determine why the postmark is “so faded or washed out on that second stamp.” He verified details of the cover by comparing it with another from March, 1942, to the same addressee at the same address.

After reviewing the responses to his inquiry, Correl suggested that the camp in Hamburg might possibly have been “a residence for people who went to Germany to work on their own accord.” Dörnbach supports Correl’s opinion.

While this camp may have housed civilian laborers from German-occupied countries, its exact nature remains somewhat clouded. Perhaps others can help unravel the lingering mysteries. ■

(Editor’s Note: Readers are encouraged to help unravel the unknowns about this and similar covers. Contact the Editor of The Posthorn, for forwarding to Frank Correl, who put forward this intriguing cover.)

(Acknowledgments: Contributing their expertise were Frank Correl, Rolf Dörnbach, Myron Fox, Erik Lördahl, Randy Nilson, and Alan Warren. Those interested in the philately and history of this period may wish to consider the Norwegian War and Field Post Society or the Germany Philatelic Society. For information on the war and field post society, check www.warandfieldpost.com or contact Erik Lördahl, erik.Lordahl@gmail.com. Contact Myron Fox, myronfox1@aol.com, or check the GPS Web site at www.gps.nu concerning the Germany Philatelic Society, which has a Third Reich Study Group.)



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Norway Official Stamp TM67

By Bjørn Kristian Wang

For many years I have been intrigued by this stamp. *Norgeskatalogen* number TM 67 is a provisional overprint stamp produced in 1949 to provide stamps in accordance with the postage rate change from 20 øre to 25 øre for domestic, first-class letters that originally took place in 1946. A large number of 20-øre stamps were in stock but not being used. The overprinted stamp, along with a similar regular postage stamp, was issued on March 15, 1949, and is the most commonly found First Day Cover among the Official Business stamps.

The focus of this article is the fact that this stamp occurs in at least two different colors with additional variations within one of these colors. The fact that this stamp existed in two colors was previously mentioned in *Norgeskatalogen* as a small note for many years. In the 1995 and 1996 editions these were actually separated into individual listings with identical prices. A specific statement was made that TM67 exists overprinted on TM43 plates I and II. Unfortunately, subsequent editions make no mention of the different colors and state that all are printed on plate II of the underlying stamp.

I have been able to examine several hundred examples of TM67 over the years, and I have noted a few interesting facts. The results of my research are that:

- The vast majority (more than 95 percent) of the overprinted stamps actually come from the first plate of TM43. These are identified by their light orange-red color with a light background color in the shield. Hereafter, this is identified as TM67 I.
- A much smaller percentage of the stamps (less than 5 percent) are from the second plate of TM43. These are identified by their brownish-red color with a darker background color in the shield. Hereafter identified as TM67 II.

To date, I have been unable to verify any examples of TM67 II in mint condition. I have, through the years, specifically requested this stamp from most of the stamp dealers in Norway and have searched at numerous shows and continually search on eBay.

I have been able to acquire a total of 39 examples of TM67 II in used condition in my searches. A possibly unique block-of-four is included in the stamps I have identified. This was purchased at a small stamp and antique store in Tønsberg, Norway, in the late 1980s.

According to the 2008 edition of *Norgeskatalogen*, there were a total of five printings of TM43 I and eight printings of TM43 II. In examinations of the 39 TM67 II stamps in my possession, I have encountered two stamps that stand out from the rest. All have a very similar main color to the stamp, which indicates they are in fact TM67 II. However, there is a significant difference in the shield color for two stamps. One has a quite light shield color while the other is very dark. It is my contention that these stamps come



TM67 I

TM67 II



The 4 Block of TM67 II



from different printings of the base stamp TM43 II. The stamps are shown here along with a normal TM67 II, which is in the middle.

Three Different Printings

Places of usage for TM67 II do not appear to have any geographical bias. Locations include usages as far apart as Flekkefjord, Vardo, Halden, and an undetermined location in Hordaland. Usage dates also do not seem to be specifically narrowed from the normal usage period of the stamp. I have encountered cancellation dates from August, 1949, through February, 1951.

This leads me to believe that the host stamps were included at random among the sheets that were being overprinted in early 1949. Possibly superfluous older stamps were turned in after 1946 from government offices. These were then overprinted, in addition to the overprinting of what appears to be a large holding of the 1939 first plate that probably never left the postal service vaults before the overprinting.

I have examples from both colors with an identical plate flaw in the overprint. The stamps shown in the first photo (above) are examples from both plates with the *Norgeskatalogen* variety o2. Both exhibit a missing stem on the left 5 in the overprinted denomination and are from position 47 in the sheet.

Overall, it would appear that the majority of the stamps known as TM67 must have come from the last couple of printings of TM43 I that were produced in January and May, 1942. These were likely still in storage as a result of being replaced by the issue of the Nazi "Sol Kors" (sun cross) stamps that were issued in the fall of 1942 (NK T48-T58).

The minority of the overprinted stamps appear to have been produced by using sheets of stamps that may have been in the regular stock at the postal authorities at the time. These were from the more recent printings, which had taken place in May, 1945, through April, 1946. These overprinted stamps would have included multiple printings that resulted in a variety of colors on the overprinted stamps. It is likely that most came from the April, 1946, printing.

I know of no current price guides that specifically separate this stamp into two color groups. I believe that they should be listed individually just as the host stamp has been for many years. I would recommend that the catalog committee for *Norgeskatalogen* alter their listings to reflect this information. They should also take into account the relative rarities of the two colors when assigning prices. After more research, perhaps there should even be multiple colors listed of the rarer TM67 II.

My personal recommendation would be that the used examples of TM67 II be listed at roughly 20 times the price of the more common TM67 I. As for the prices of mint examples, I would say that I would personally pay in the neighborhood of \$50 for a hinged example and \$100 for a never hinged example of TM67 II. ■

Bicentennial Marked by Finland, Sweden, and Åland

By Paul Albright

The years 1808 and 1809 were historically momentous for Finland. As summarized by Finland's bicentennial committee, "Delegation for the Year 1809":

- on February 21, 1808, the Russian Army crossed into Finland without declaring war, and that was the beginning of the end of the centuries-long union between Sweden and Finland;
- the Diet of Finland assembled in the town of Porvoo on March 28, 1809;
- the Treaty of Hamina (Fredrikshamn) was signed on September 17, 1809, handing over nearly 650 years of Swedish control of Finland and Åland to Russia;
- less than a month later, Finland obtained its own central administration (October 2, 1809), establishing the semi-autonomous duchy of Finland within the Russian Empire.



A year-long “1809 Building a Nation” bicentennial observance is underway in Finland with the posts in Finland, Sweden, and Åland all participating with related stamp issues. Finland Posti issued a miniature sheet on January 22 containing four, 0.80€ stamps marking Finland’s becoming an autonomous duchy of the Russian empire in 1809. The backdrop for the four stamps reproduces a painting showing the opening of the Diet of Porvoo at which Tsar Alexander I of Russia gave assurances that Finland would retain its constitution and form of government as a “nation among nations.”

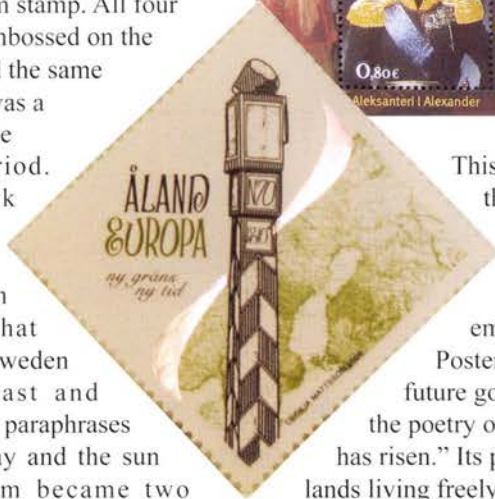
The tsar is depicted on one of the stamps with the other images showing George Magnus Sprengtporten, a onetime Swedish military officer who became the first governor-general of an autonomous Finland; Carl Erik Mannerheim, a legislative and executive political leader of Finland; and Gustaf Mauritz Armfelt, a soldier, courtier, and diplomat who was a confidant of both Tsar Alexander and Swedish King Gustav III.

Some 250,000 miniature sheets were printed by Cartor Security Printing of France plus a numbered set of 4,000 sheets printed on special paper with 24-carat gold foil clearly visible on the epaulets of the three men shown in military uniform. There is no gold foil on the Mannerheim stamp. All four images were embossed on the paper. Released the same day by Åland was a stamp noting the historical period. 1810 to mark The single by Southern

On March coil stamps that and Finland. Sweden notice” of past and Swedish stamp paraphrases for the new day and the sun “One kingdom became two coils were printed in Swedish and international postage rates.

In addition, Sweden’s riksbank is minting a new 1-krona coin that replaces the standard image of the Swedish royal crown with a symbolic depiction of the sea as a link connecting Sweden and Finland. The edge of the coin is inscribed with a quotation from author Johan Ludvig Runeberg: “The wonderful tale of a land beyond the sea.”

More information on the bicentennial activities in both Finland and Sweden is available at www.1809.fi/lyhyesti/en.jsp and www.markesaret1809.se. ■



This design shows a boundary post placed in the new border between Sweden and Russia. embossed stamp was printed with silver foil Colour Print of New Zealand.

26, Sweden Posten will release two SEK 12 emphasize the close relations between Sweden Posten said the intent of the stamps was to “give future good relations with Finland. The text of one the poetry of August Strindberg: “Together we are a song has risen.” Its partner stamp bears another historic quotation: lands living freely and in peace.” A Posten spokesman said the English (but not Finnish) because they are denominated to fulfill



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A Faroes Cover Worth a Second Look

By Gerald H. Strauss

Faroe Islands 1930s and 1940s domestic covers franked with a Danish 15-øre ship definitive and canceled Thorshavn are so common that most collectors set them aside without a second look. Sometimes, however, it is worth pausing over such a cover, even the oversized and slightly stained one shown here.

It went from a Copenhagen sender via the "SS Tjaldur" to an addressee in Sandevaag. So, why a Thorshavn, April 5, 1940, postmark? What is the significance of the "SKIBSPAPIRER" inscription? What is the source of the "-5 MRS. 1940" rubber stamp strike, and how can one reconcile its date with a postmark and backstamp of a month later? Finally, why is there a British Consulate backstamp?

With the assistance of two fellow Faroe specialists, Steen Petersen in Denmark and the late Arthur Quarles in Canada, I offer some answers and the story of what turns out to be a plain looking but interesting cover.

Its sender, Christian Nielsen, a merchant in Copenhagen, was sending goods to Faroese merchant Hjalmar Nielsen via the "SS Tjaldur," which departed Denmark's capital on April 1, 1940. He gave the envelope with its "SKIBSPAPIRER" or "ship's papers" (invoices) to the captain. When the vessel reached Thorshavn on April 4, 1940, the goods were unloaded and received by Valdemar Lutzen, whose firm was (and remains) a major Faroes' importer and exporter.

The captain gave the envelope with its invoices to Lutzen, who mailed it the next day to Hjalmar Nielsen in Sandevaag, thereby notifying him to retrieve his merchandise. Why the backstamp? Valdemar Lutzen was the British consul at the time, and he used the dated strike as his return address. Why the rubber stamp "-5 MRS. 1940"? A fair quantity of commercial mail to Hjalmar Nielsen survives, and all of it has a similar dated rubber stamp receiving strike. But why March and not April? Nielsen probably forgot to change the month a few days earlier.

The cover also is of interest because of its date. The German army marched into Denmark on the morning of April 9, 1940, beginning an occupation that lasted five years until the end of World War II. To prevent a German takeover of the Faroes, the British military arrived on the islands as an occupying force on April 13, 1940, and direct mail service to and from Denmark was suspended within a couple of days. Frederick Mason came from England the same day as the troops to become the new British consul, and asked Valdemar Lutzen to continue to serve at the Consulate.

What about the circular Consulate datestamp? During the occupation it was used sparingly as a censor strike. There are only six known covers, five to Iceland and one to Denmark, which is dated April 15, 1940, the day on which service was suspended for the duration of the war.

Clearly, this seemingly commonplace cover is well worth a second look. ■



Consulate datestamp used as a censor strike across the back flap of the cover.

Åland Stamps Sold on Swedish Ferry

Personalized stamps from Åland will continue to be used aboard the ferry “M/S Eckerö” despite the fact that the ship now sails under a Swedish flag. Eckerö Line, a Finnish shipping company, re-flagged its ferries to Sweden in January over the sale of snuff.

The sale of snuff has been banned in Finland as part of its participation in the European Union. But there is an exemption allowing snuff sales in Sweden. By changing the flag, snuff can now be sold on board the ferry between Åland and Sweden.

At the same time, stamps prepared under Åland’s stamp program (pictured on page 20 of the February, 2008, issue of *The Posthorn*) will still be sold on the ferry. Almost 90 percent of the passengers are Swedes, according to the ferry company. ■

– Paul Albright

Printing Fault Wrinkles Faroese Stamp

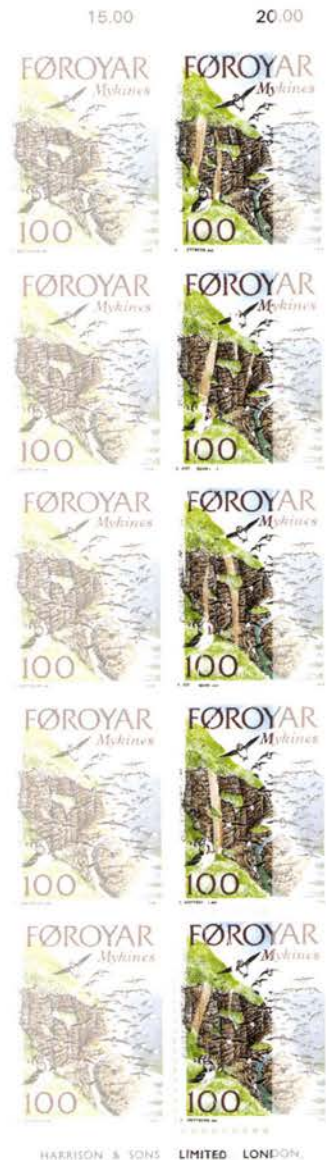
By Guillermo Perdomo, Jr.

Shown here is a block of 10 of the Faroes 100-oyru Mykines issue of 1978 (Faroes *Facit* 33) that reflects a printing fault that resulted in wrinkling of the paper as it passed through the press. The wrinkled paper, which is a block from the right side of a sheet of 20, resulted in a waterfall effect by shifting the red color to the right and other displacements. The stamp shows nesting Puffins on the northern coast of the island of Mykines.

I have had this block since the early 1980s when I was residing in the Faroes. I have not heard of any other examples of this non-constant variety, and one wonders if the left side of this sheet showed any significant changes.

Gerald Strauss of Lizabeth Stamp Co. has reviewed Eric Wowerm’s mail sale catalogs from 1985 and 1997 and did not find any similar flaws being offered on the 100-oyru stamp. The March, 1991, Wowerm catalog listed a 150-oyru value among the five Mykines stamps as having a “vertical paper fold,” but the stamp was not pictured. There was a similar lot in the April, 1993, catalog with the description “vertical natural paper fold.” In the March, 1994 sale there was a 150-oyru with this description: “[V]ertical paper fold through the stamp, created before the stamp was printed.” And in the October, 1994, catalog, there again was a 150-oyru with “natural fold vertically through the stamp.” Since none of these lots is shown, they could be either the same stamp (repetition of an unsold lot), or individual stamps from a sheet.

If others have seen similar examples, I would appreciate hearing from them at jrmemo1@yahoo.com. ■



Greenland's Kamik Post Still Lives

"Kamik post," or kayak mail, is a distinctive feature of Greenland's postal history. According to the Post Greenland, "Kamik post was the way for the Greenlandic hunters to deliver letters in ancient times."

The letter was folded in a particular manner so that it would fit into a kamik, or sealskin boot, and remain dry until the hunter was able to deliver it to the recipient.

A decade or more ago, Post Greenland came up with an entertaining way for collectors to fold paper to emulate kamik mail. This modern-day kamik post is usually featured at Post Greenland's booths at various exhibitions, most recently at Frimærkerforum '08 held in Denmark last November. ■



Shown here is a completed kamik letter backed by some of the directions on how to fold the paper to create such a letter.

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President's Letter

Mats Roing



New Website Coordinator – Eric Roberts

There are several new things about our Web site. After many years of flawless service, our immediate past president, John DuBois, has stepped down as Webmaster and will be replaced by Eric Roberts. Eric will have the title Website Coordinator since we also are moving the physical location of our server to Cheyenne, WY, where a professional website developer, Jeff Ross, will take care of the technical aspects of the site. Members should always contact

Eric Roberts (eric.roberts@kbr.com) with issues and updates regarding the Web site. Through the efforts of John DuBois, the site contains a lot of interesting and useful information. We plan to add additional features to make it more useful for our members. I always encourage members to take a look at our Web site: <http://www.scc-online.org/>.



New Stamp Mart Manager – Jerry Eggleston

SCC director Jerry Eggleston has taken over as Stamp Mart Manager from Eric Roberts. See Jerry's contact information on Page 25. We look forward to working with both of these veteran philatelists as they continue to help provide SCC services to our membership.

Chicagopex 2008 and our annual meeting

There is a separate article about Chicagopex in this issue (page 32), and I hope you will refer to that article for further details. What I like most about these shows are the wonderful people you meet in conjunction with our great hobby. Sometimes, I wish there was an extra day at these events to have more time to look at the exhibits. The local SCC chapter in Chicago with our new SCC director Ron Collin and his wife were spearheading the efforts. The overall question we had was: How soon can we come back to Chicagopex again?

Electronic SCC Newsletter via e-mail

On a more or less monthly basis since May, 2007, I have been sending out a newsletter to our members who provide a current e-mail address. About 500 members have provided us email addresses, but about 100 e-letters are being returned. It is important that you provide us with a current e-mail. The best thing is to e-mail me your e-mail address at mr22841@gmail.com. That way, I know it's a working address. And make sure to let us know if you change e-mail. It doesn't cost anything extra to receive these and it is a good way to receive more timely information about SCC. Our executive secretary, Don Brent, added some language to the membership renewal notices reminding members about providing correct e-mail addresses.

Frederick Brofos in memoriam

One of the greatest contributors to Scandinavian Philately and to our organization passed away on November 18. You will find his Closed Album article on page 39. I just want to mention that our Web site has more than 400 pages of his essays (volumes 1 and 2) in pdf-format available online. I have read some of it recently; treat yourself to a couple of hours reading his essays. He wrote philatelic articles and books for more than 50 years, and he was once was editor of our *Posthorn*.

NORDIA in Iceland in 2009 and in Sweden in 2010

Both are being held the last weekend of May, which is prime time for traveling to those countries. There are many reasons that the NORDIA shows are important for our organization. It is the premier annual meeting ground for Scandinavian philatelists. This also means that it is the optimal place to be for making invaluable contacts and building goodwill with our fellow Scandinavia collectors. The Web site for Iceland is <http://www.nordia2009.is/>. Sweden doesn't have a website at this time, but we will inform you when



it becomes available. NORDIA 2010 will be held in the city of Borås, which is also the home of Lennart Daun, the chairman of the Swedish Philatelic Federation. If you want to read more about the history of Borås go to Wikipedia.org. ■

News from the Home Office

Don Brent



Membership

Dues renewals are just about wrapped up for the year. At the start of 2009, about 80 renewals were outstanding with a few renewals trickling in each week. If for some reason you have missed the renewal notice or the reminder postcard, send in your renewal now. It is your last chance. **This is the last copy of *The Posthorn* sent to members who have not renewed.**

This year we will only have one member enter into the Golden Life category, but there are five new Quarter Century members. William C. Scheetz has been a member of SCC since 1959. Marking their 25th year of membership are Ole L. Brandal, Ellis Glatt, James Larsen, Jay Smith, and Robert Voss.

Overall, our membership decreased slightly last quarter with four new members joining plus one reinstatement. We welcome our new members and hope to meet many of you in person at one of our future meetings. Unfortunately, four members passed on and we had 11 resignations during the same period. I have noted that in many cases the resignations are for age or failing health. We regret losing any members, but I really appreciate the little note that lets us know your wishes.

The Posthorn Mailing

New USPS regulations now require that we run the mailing data through an address verification database. This means that all U.S. addresses are checked against the change records kept by the USPS. I provide the label data about two or three weeks before the issue is printed and mailed so we are trying to keep the database information as current as possible. There should be fewer missed copies due to someone moving and the address change not getting to me before the labels are printed.

I still receive one or two inquiries each issue concerning delivery time overseas. I have examined the mechanics of our air forwarding system in the past and will review it again. Our mailing house in Colorado prints and stuffs the envelopes along with the domestic mailings. The overseas issues are separated and boxed for shipment to New York. After arrival in New York they are mixed by Pitney Bowes (PB) into shipments going to foreign countries. Our agreement with PB allows co-mingling with other shipments in New York. This may take a week. Then they are shipped by air to various overseas terminals. They are then entered into the local mail system as class B mail. This takes about three weeks to a month, with the November issue running closer to a full month.

We want our journal to get to all members in a timely – but still cost-effective – manner. There are other methods of mailing we could use, but the expense would require a large increase in overseas dues to recover the cost. We now have 131 overseas members or organizations with a third of those Life members or receiving free journals. This would leave 87 dues-paying members to absorb any cost increase. I believe that is not fair to ask. *The Posthorn* is not a news magazine but a philatelic journal that is published four times a year. We hope it is a pleasant read whenever it arrives. I would be interested in your comments or suggestions on this. Please write or email me at scc@sprynet.com.

Spring Cleaning

I have started to clean up the office again and notice that there are still quite a few *Posthorn* copies left. There are no more complete runs and most are in the last few years but some go back to the 1970s. I would be happy to clear them out for 25¢ each plus mailing.

Best regards to all. ■

Membership Statistics for the Fourth Quarter, 2008

New Members

4126 Felts, Vera, 1102 Mockingbird Ln., Cartersville, IL 62918-1618
4127 Sandeen, Jay, 1615 Ford Pky #5, St Paul, MN 55116
4128 Olson, Gary R., 250 Havenwood Dr., Round Lake, IL 60073-9555
4129 Ley, Mike, 330 Sonja Drive, Doniphan, NE 68832

Reinstated

3753 Henderson, George, 354 Myrtle St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060-4942

Deceased

2191 Larry D. Peterson
H11/497 Frederick A. Brofos
0840 Gerald M. Knudsen
0242GL Kai H. Hansen

Resigned

2081 Howard L. Arnould	4065 Philip Boatright
4082 Ronda Gillette	3931 H. Gardiner Barmum
2299 William T. McCaw	3649 Bruce Hanson
3569 Gerhard S. Wolff	0995 Henry Kuipers
4028 Albert Aldham	2915 Paul A. Larsen
3755 Quality Stamps	

Change of Address

3963 Lord, Daniel, 242-8th Avenue, Lachine, QC, Canada H8S 3B3
3861 Griffiths, Frank, Cherry Tree Cottage, Waterside Drive,
Chichester, PO19 9RN, UK
2658 Martin, Jeffrey B., 1700 W 7th St., Waterloo, IA 50702-3349
L53/1963 Eric Roberts, 2763 No. Westfield Pl., Claremont, CA 91711

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

3345 Roger Cichorz	4034 J.D. Eklund
2345 Robert Peterson	3687 Jerry E. Angus
3886 Lawrence A. Schei	3897 Guillermo Perdomo Jr.
1604 Norman C. Seastedt	1995 Thomas S. Clark
1545 George W. Sickels	2339 Ross Olson
3294 Ernest D. Svensson	3168 Gerhard Mueller
2870 Michael Cusanovich	2403 Herbert L. Bjorklund
3912 Michael Perlman	1764 Ole L. Brandal
3397 No Limits Stamps	0242GL Kai H. Hansen estate
3971 Paul Negline	2816 Roger Schnell
3053 Karl P. Klaus	3598 Paul Albright
3835 Ray W. Lawrence	1087 Alan Warren
1611 Paul B. Ostergaard	3473 Steve Lund

From the Editor's Stamp Den

Paul Albright



Sharing knowledge can significantly enhance the enjoyment of our hobby. That's the lesson I have taken from recent experiences while preparing this issue of *The Posthorn*. There are several examples in this issue, but a prime one is found on page 8 where we present an article dealing with an unremarkable Danish cover to Hamburg, Germany, during World War II.

The story began when well-known collector and writer Frank Correl sent me a color photocopy of the cover asking if other members of SCC might be able to corroborate some of his guesses regarding the cover. I emailed his inquiries to a handful of specialists in Scandinavia, Germany, and the U.S.; they are acknowledged by name at the end of the article.

Their thorough analysis of the cover and the background they provided resulted in an absorbing article that I believe engages the reader and adds to the storehouse of useful philatelic and historical information. In their hands, this otherwise nondescript cover opened a window on a compelling period in history. Often, it is what lies "behind the stamp" that sustains the appeal of collecting for me.

post Is "dot-post" in your collecting future? A slow-developing initiative by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) related to the Internet could have implications for stamp collectors in the future. The undertaking, which launched in 2004, is to establish ".post" (dot-post) as an Internet domain that postal agencies could adopt with the possibility of creating "a universal electronic postal service that fulfills the expectations of citizens and governments worldwide in terms of security and stability."

For one thing, the dot-post domain would allow the UPU to create an electronic network potentially involving hundreds of thousands of post offices into a single network. One endorsement of dot-post comes from Stefan Lindholm of Sweden Post who is quoted on the UPU Web site as saying that ".post moves postal services beyond the letterbox, into every household and onto every professional desktop, making postal services available to every person, everyday, everywhere at any time."

Of interest to stamp collectors is that, "People who access a .post site will immediately recognize it as belonging to a valid postal service or provider of postal services," according to the UPU. That might help to reduce the amount of fraud in philatelic transactions conducted over the Internet.



A working group from among the 191 countries belonging to the UPU is developing the concept and gathering views from postal agencies, suppliers, customers, and others. If you want to learn more about dot-post, check the UPU Web site (www.upu.int/), or read the article I wrote for *Linn's Stamp News* (January 12, 2009, issue). Thanks for John Sabin for bringing this UPU initiative to my attention.

Postally inaccurate movie. The opening scene of a recent movie musical, "Mamma Mia," has a bride-to-be depositing three wedding invitations into a post box on a Greek island where she lives. But the scene has a decidedly Swedish flavor to it. The yellow post box appears to be one used by Sweden's Posten. A hint of the die-stamped crown and post horn logo used by Sweden Posten can be seen on the box. Although on the screen only momentarily, the three covers appear to be franked with Swedish rather than Greek stamps. The musical's closing credits acknowledge that some filming was done in Sweden, the home base of ABBA, the group that provided the music.



More unusual designs from Finland. On January 22, Finland released a glossy, silver-foil miniature sheet showing five, first class nondenominated stamps designed for use on Valentine's Day cards and letters. The tear-drop-shaped stamps are arranged as though they were petals of a flower. Finland also released a nature stamp that bears Braille text giving the denomination and the name of the national park in Lapland that is illustrated.



Keeping abreast of the extraordinary. StampNews.com, an Internet site for news and features of interest to collectors, recently selected its top 10 "extraordinary" and intriguing stamps for 2008. Three of the 10 were from Scandinavia (Finland, Iceland, and Åland), and all three received feature treatment during the past year in *The Posthorn*.



Anniversaries Featured. Centennial and bicentennial anniversaries are a feature of Åland's 2009 stamp program. On January 22, a miniature sheet marked the 100th anniversary of electricity arriving in the archipelago in 1909. Released the same day was a stamp noting the events of 1809 that led to Åland and Finland moving toward autonomy from Sweden. A stamp commemorating the 100th anniversary of movies in Åland – no doubt made possible by the earlier arrival of electricity – will be released on April 6. The first movie was shown in 1909 at a spa hotel in Mariehamn.

Holiday leftovers. One of Finland's Christmas stamps was a first class (0.80€) stamp showing a snowflake on a frosty Finnish winter night. Finland's Posti, the postal agency, said this stamp is printed on special film and it believes it to be the world's first transparent stamp. That is, until we hear from some other country that produced transparent stamps previously. ■



Nobel Winner to Design Åland Stamp

Nobel peace prize winner Martti Ahtisaari of Finland is now designing postage stamps. Well, at least one. Finland's former president agreed to design a stamp for Åland as a part of its "My Åland" series, which has engaged well-known personalities in expressing their personal view of Åland.

Ahtisaari, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2008, has emphasized the Åland example as a non-violent, political solution to serious and long-lasting conflicts. Posten Åland said a graphic designer would work closely with Ahtisaari on the stamp, which is planned for release in the autumn of 2009. Finland already has honored the political leader on his Nobel award (see *The Posthorn*, November, 2008, page 44). ■

The Scandinavian Collectors Club

Founded November 25, 1935

SCC Website: www.scc-online.org

Elected Officers

- President:** Mats Roing, 39 Englewood Ave., Apt. 6, Brighton, MA 02135-7864; mr22841@gmail.com
Vice President: Mark Lorentzen, 2910 Nelson Way, #603, Santa Monica, CA 90405; pumamarco@roadrunner.com
Vice President, Chapters: Randy Tuuri, 29 Cambridge Way, Piedmont, CA 94611; tuurifam@comcast.net
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Danish Way Line: Donald B. Brent, PO Box 13196, El Cajon, CA 92022; dbrent47@sprynet.com
Scandinavian Revenues: Paul Nelson, Tucson, AZ; pnels@att.net

SCC on the Web: www.scc-online.org

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SCC Chapter Meeting & Contacts

1. SEATTLE/NW: 2nd Monday, 9 a.m. at members' homes. CONTACT: Dana S. Nielsen, 17428 SR9, PMB#105, Snohomish, WA 98296.
 4. CHICAGO: 4th Thursday of January-June and September, October; 1st Thursday of December, 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.
 5. NEW ENGLAND: 1st Wednesday 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: Mats Roing, (781) 424-2183; 39 Englewood Ave., Apt. 6, Brighton, MA 02135; email: mr22841@gmail.com.
 7. NEW YORK: 2nd Wednesday (except July & August) at The Collectors Club, 26 E. 35th St. CONTACT: Carl Probst, 71 Willoughby Ave., Hicksville, NY 11801, email: cwp1941@aol.com.
 9. NORTH NEW JERSEY: 3rd Wednesday at members' homes. CONTACT: Warren J. Grosjean, 32 Juniper Rd., Wayne, NJ 07470-6156, email: warren@Derma-Safe.com.
 12. WASHINGTON DC: CONTACT: Peter Alten, 9300 Main St., Manassas, VA 22110.
 13. DELAWARE: Last Tuesday at members' homes. CONTACT: Alan Warren, alanwar@att.net.
 14. TWIN CITIES: 2nd Thursday (except July & August) 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.
 17. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: 1st Wednesday at members' homes. CONTACT: Jerry Winerman (818) 784-7277, or email: gerjerry@sbcglobal.net.
 21. GOLDEN GATE: 1st Saturday, 11 a.m., at members' homes and at various shows (WESTPEX, COALPEX, PENPEX, etc.). CONTACT: Herb Volin, (510) 522-3242, HRVolin@aol.com.
 22. HOUSTON: Varied meeting times and places. CONTACT: Eric Roberts, PO Box 460201, Houston, TX 77056; email eric.roberts @ kbr.com.
 24. MANITOBA: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays September through May at Scandinavian Cultural Centre, 764 Erin St., Winnipeg, MB. CONTACT: Robert Zacharias, 808 Polson Ave., Winnipeg, MB R2X 1M5, Canada, email: robertzacharias@shaw.ca.
 26. TIDEWATER: 3rd Saturday, 3 p.m., at Larchmont Branch of the Norfolk Public Library System, 6525 Hampton Blvd., Norfolk, VA 23508, (757) 441-5335, fax: (757) 441-1451, email: gwalker@npl.lib.va.us. CONTACT: Michael Falls, 575 Virginian Dr., Norfolk, VA 23505-4242, email: Mfallsice@aol.com.
 27. COLORADO: 1st Saturday September-June, 10 a.m., at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, 2038 S. Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224. CONTACT: Roger Cichorz, 3925 Longwood Ave., Boulder, CO 80305-7233, email: rcichorz@comcast.net.
 28. CYBER: Members connected by email to exchange ideas and scans, plus an electronic newsletter. CONTACT: Edward L. Bode, email: edobed@embarqmail.com.
- AUSTRALIAN COORDINATOR: Roger Byrne, email: byrnefam@internode.on.net.
- NEW ZEALAND COORDINATOR: John Campbell, email: johncampbellnz@hotmail.com

Help Sought for Swedish Railroad Catalog

A collector in Sweden is seeking assistance from SCC members to create a long-needed catalog of railroad cards issued by both state and private railroads in Sweden. Hans Eriksson is asking for either photocopies or scans (preferably the latter) of both sides of any cards in collections in the U.S.

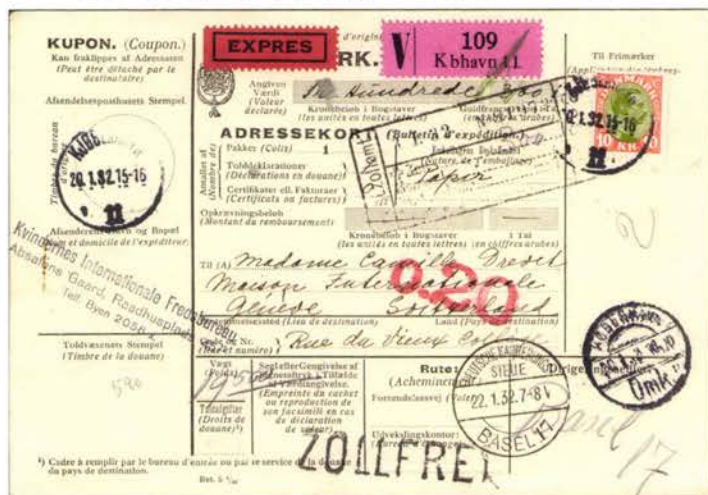
These cards looked like postal cards of the period, but instead of the postal text, the name of the railroad was located at the top center of the card. Instead of a frank on the upper right, there usually was the logo of the rail line. These cards were used for communication between rail stations on the line, for the most part, and moved outside the mails. There were a large number of small, privately owned rail lines in addition to Statens Järnväg, the state railroad.

Eriksson can be contacted at Storrjetsvägen 141, SE-16347 Spånga, Sweden, or email hans_eriksson00@hotmail.com. ■



— Paul Nelson

10 Kr. King Chr. X - Denmark The scarcest King's Issue on letter



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FRANK BANKE PHILATELISTS



SCC Member Services & Contacts

Stamp Mart (USA)	Jerry F. Eggleston, PO Box 829, Breckenridge, CO 80424	jfe3@mindspring.com
Stamp Mart (Canada)	Roger Fontaine, 177 Crestwood Cres., Winnipeg, MB, R2J 1H9, Canada	stampman@mts.net
Website (www.scc-online.org)	Eric Roberts, 2763 No. Westfield Pl., Claremont, CA 91711	eric.roberts@kbr.com
Membership Inquiries	Don Brent, PO Box 13196, El Cajon, CA 92022	scc@sprynet.com
Local Chapters	See list in <i>The Posthorn</i>	See list in <i>The Posthorn</i>
Helpers' List/ Traders' List	George Kuhhorn, PO Box 4486, Emerald Isle, NC 28594	geokuhh@starfishnet.com
Complimentary Classified Ads	Paul Albright, 4615 Hampshire St., Boulder, CO 80301-4210	palbright@wiche.edu
Library Services	Paul Albright, 4615 Hampshire St., Boulder, CO 80301-4210	palbright@wiche.edu
Cyber Chapter	Ed Bode, 829 Western Air Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65109-0615	edobed@embarqmail.com
Study Groups	See list in <i>The Posthorn</i>	See list in <i>The Posthorn</i>

SCC and Scandinavian Calendar

2009

NORDIA 2009, May 29-30, Hafnarfjörður, Iceland; contact Greg Frantz, gfcaptain@aol.com.

2010

WESTPEX (SCC National Meeting), April 23-25, San Francisco Airport Marriott; www.westpex.com.

NORDIA 2010, Borås, Sweden, May 27-30.

2011

NORDIA 2011, Tentatively in Turku, Finland, May.

Minnesota Stamp Expo (SCC National Meeting), July, Minneapolis, MN.

2012

NORDIA 2012, Copenhagen, Denmark, late Fall.

Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (SCC National Meeting), May, Denver, CO.

Member Advertisements

For Sale: I have acquired all rights to the last books published by the late Henry Regeling. Available are *Service Stamps of Denmark 1871-1923*; *Denmark's Provisionals 1904-1912-1915*; *Stamps of Iceland I – 1872-1904*; and *Stamps of Iceland II – 1902-1909*. For prices and shipping costs, contact Henk Burgman, Spechtstraat 70, NL-1021 VW Amsterdam, Nederland; email, henk.burgman@gmail.com.

Wanted: Denmark Christian X issue material. Covers, mint blocks, interesting items. Contact Roger G. Schnell, 4800 NE 20th Terrace, Suite 201, Ft Lauderdale, Florida 33308; email, rkschoss@mindspring.com

Posthorns Available: I have started to clean up the SCC office and find a number of extra copies of *The Posthorn*. There are no complete runs and most are from recent years, but there are some going back into the 1970s. Available for 25¢ each plus postage with proceeds to the SCC treasury. Contact SCC Executive Secretary Don Brent at scc@sprynet.com.

Norway Translator: A volunteer(s) is needed to translate Norwegian into English as part of SCC's Helpers' List, which makes expertise available to assist fellow members with their philatelic projects. Contact George Kuhhorn, Helpers' List coordinator, at PO Box 4486, Emerald Isle, NC 28594; email, geokuhh@starfishnet.com.

Chapter Reports

Randy Tuuri, Vice President, Chapters



There is only one chapter that I have not heard from since I took over this position. Will someone please contact me from the Washington, DC, Chapter 12.

New England Chapter 5.

The winter snowstorms have the year off to a quiet start.

New York Chapter 7.

Mart books were reviewed at the most recent meeting.

North New Jersey Chapter 9.

A general meeting was held in December and a discussion of the 1800's Norwegian posthorns was delayed until more copies for comparison would be available.

Delaware Chapter 13.

Members and spouses held a holiday luncheon and plans were made for the spring meetings.

Twin Cities Chapter 14.

Review of circuit books and a show-and-tell was held in January. The November meeting featured the donation auction.

Southern California Chapter 17.

The regular meetings enjoyed viewing mart books and general fellowship.

Golden Gate Chapter 21.

The December meeting was held at a local show, and in January the holiday lunch was held for members and spouses. A talk on the "Postal History of the USGS" by Mike Clynne was enjoyed by all of the members.

Manitoba Chapter 24.

Various topics were discussed at the regular meetings including one on "Stamps: An American Journey," by Michael Zacharias. The Winnipeg Philatelic Society annual auction was held in November.

Tidewater Chapter 26.

Continues to hold regular meetings.

Colorado Chapter 27.

The November meeting featured the slide show, "Finland, The Struggle for Freedom through Philately" developed by the Delaware Chapter. The December meeting included a slide show and also show-and-tell of items. Chapter President Jeff Modesitt hosted the holiday party at his home later in December. Chapter members helped sort philatelic articles for filing in the SCC Library at the January meeting. ■

Correction

The first Faroes franking labels (reported on page 9 of the November, 2008 issue of *The Posthorn*) were released October 9 in Tórshavn rather than October 6 in Gøta as previously announced by Postverk Føroya. ■

Auction Marketplace

Frank Banke



Moldenhauer, November 14-15, 2008

The Pieter Ahl collection of “Norwegian Ship Mail Services up to 1875” highlighted this sale. Some of the most striking pieces, including the famous “Jupiter” cover, “Prinds Carl,” “Dampskibet Bergen,” and nine other significant covers, were offered through private treaty only. While many items sold for around their estimates, there was competition for certain items. For example, a 4-sk. Oscar canceled with an excellent strike “JUPITER” (#102) sold for \$7,300, double its estimate. A manuscript “Damp. Moss 2/7-1864” on 3-sk.



UK franked letter sold for \$9,400.

Oscar 4-strip (#121) sold for \$6,600. The most expensive item was a UK franked letter stamped with “Dampskibet Bergen” on the front (#80). It sold for \$9,400, 10 percent below estimate. This catalog surely will find a place in many libraries as a reference for future collectors.

The general sale included Geir Kaasa’s collection of Norwegian railroad and ship mail on Mjøsa with a large franking of 4-sk. arms type (NK14) canceled with ink crosses (#789), selling for near the estimate of \$7,800. One of only two recorded numeral 235, “D/S Strømmen,” sold for \$3,200 against the estimate of \$700 (#823).

Sold also was Bjørn Schøyen’s collection of Norwegian local mail with nearly 70 lots, the most expensive of which was a sheet reconstruction of the Horten local stamp #4, 5-øre that sold for \$6,800, twice the estimate. A 12-øre, 21mm (NK41) mint, never hinged (considered among the finest examples in existence) sold for \$6,900 (#1338). From the classic part of the general sale, an excellent 1855 4-sk. in mint condition (#1805), sold for \$6,650, an outstanding purchase for this price.

Many unsold lots from the previous Ahl collection were re-offered, but most of the high value items did not sell. The largest used multiple of 2-sk. posthorn (NK17cX), sold for nearly double the estimate or \$12,500 (#2292).

Frimärkshuset Skandinavisk Filateli, December 6, 2008

The highlight was the sale of a Swedish skilling banco insured letter sent from Nyköping to Finland bearing 4-, 8-, and 24-sk., one of only four known insured letters to a foreign country (#204). This letter had never been offered for sale. It sold for \$24,000 against the estimate of \$15,000. An early dated military letter from 1585 (#49) sold for \$3,900, or five times its estimate. A colorful letter (#244), with 24- 12- and 9-öre arms issue (Facit 8b, 9h, 10d1) tied as payment for postage due, sold for \$7,000.



Insured letter goes for \$24,000 in first sale.

AB Philea, December 13, 2008

With more than 1,200 Scandinavian lots (of which 900 were Swedish), this sale offered one of the scarcest stamps in Icelandic philately. Though never actually been put into circulation, the 5-aur arms type Official stamp with perforation $12\frac{3}{4}$ sold for \$14,500 after starting at \$11,000 (#1124).

Thomas Høiland, November 26-38, 2008

Two separate catalogs were dedicated to the third part of the Jens Olesen collection. Lot 1 was a 1641 letter signed by the founder of the Danish postal system, King Christian IV. It sold for \$5,500, some 20 percent above the estimate. A 2-sk. 1855 issue stamped with a Norwegian grid cancel (#73) brought \$2,500, double the estimate. A striking example of the bicolored 5-øre inverted frame (#204), reached an astonishing \$11,800, exceeding the estimate by more than five-fold. A copy of the famous "Søllested" imperforate sold for just under the estimate of \$9,800, while a pair (#261) was unsold at \$26,000.

More lots than normal went unsold during the 4-day auction. A double overprint "Postfærge" on the 1-kr. King's issue (the only one recorded), sold for \$4,900, some 10 percent lower than the starting price (#451). Among 200 lots of Danish West Indies, a registered letter (#1137) with the scarcely seen 50-cent on a letter, sold for \$8,700, the same price as when sold a few years ago. A surprisingly high price was paid for a 3-cent, ninth printing normal frame position 50 in combination with the 5-cent coat-of-arms issue (#1061). It took off from \$550 and the hammer fell at \$3,500, a worthy price for an extremely scarce letter.

From the general catalog with main focus on Denmark and possessions, one of the scarcest Danish errors, the 70-øre King Chr. X with wide "0" (#2721, AFA 108x), in used condition sold for about \$3,300. Some 113 lots were sold from Kurt Hansen's collection of Danish ship mail with the highest price for a Swedish letter (#2955) franked with 5- and 12-öre arms type, tied by Danish "1" numeral in blue and date stamped "FRA SVERRIG." It reached \$5,250. A Finnish color error on the 3.5 ruble (#3549) with black/yellow instead of black/gray (Facit 46v), in hinged condition with lower sheet margin, sold for \$10,000, some 10 percent below the estimate.

Hellman Auctions, October 4, 2008 (Thanks to Kauko Aro for this report)

Hellman held another record-setting auction in October with 1,935 lots of which 31 percent were foreign material with 216 lots of Russian material. The total exceeded 820,000€ including commissions. The Russian lots went for an average of four times their starting prices while the Finnish material sold for nearly double their starts. Ninety-two percent of all lots were sold at the auction and the after-sale raised sales to 95 percent.



Icelandic Official goes for \$14,500.



Danish bicolor sold for five times its estimate.



Double overprint brings \$4,900.





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Auctioneer Kaj Hellman felt that many Finnish oval stamps were left unsold at the auction as bidders waited for the later 1875 issue which had several blocks of four with inverts and mixed perforations. However, all ovals were sold soon afterwards as the unsuccessful bidders from the 1875 lots came back and bought the ovals in the after-sale.

One collection of Kherson Zemstvo proofs, essays, etc. (#360) had a starting bid of 400€ but sold for 33,000€ (about \$45,000). The second highest price was paid for a plating collection of Norway number 1 with 400 stamps (#228), including a strip of four and two strips of three. The lot sold for 28,500€ (\$37,000) after an active contest among Norway collectors.

While the only known tête-bêche block of four of the 1875, 25-pen. stamp (#1123) brought 15,000€, it was not the highest price paid for a lot of Finnish material. This honor went to lot 1394, Helsinki City Local Mail, which was sold to a Helsinki collector for 17,000€ (\$22,000). This lot came from the estate of Jacobus Sundman, the most highly regarded collector and exhibitor of Finnish private stamp issues. Another lot (#1395) comprised his collection of STAB shipping company stamps that sold for 12,000€ (\$15,500). ■



Only known tête-bêche block of four of the 1875, 25-pen. is auctioned.

Norway Post Gives Away Valid Sheetlet

Norway Post gave away up to 275,000 sheetlets containing two valid stamps to help promote its “re-branding” strategy aimed at Norwegian and Nordic business markets. The sheetlets, one of which is shown here, were given away at NORDIA 2008, at post offices, and in other public places to introduce Posten’s new logo and a similar logo of Bring, the part of the group that serves the business sector primarily.

The promotional item is regarded as part of Norway’s personalized stamp program and may not be listed in catalogs. The two stamps are valid for domestic (A priority) postage. They were given away and not sold by the Post, which reported to *The Posthorn* that the free supply had been exhausted.

One observant collector was passing along Oslo’s main thoroughfare, King Johan, during the giveaway. He went through trash bins along the street and found a good supply of the sheetlets that had been thrown away by passersby. One of the two free stamps appears identical to an official issue, but differences in the background behind the “A” denomination are apparent under magnification. Recently, some of the sheetlets have shown up on eBay with at least one selling for \$12.00. ■



A cover with the giveaway sheetlet mailed by Ton Steenbakkens, the editor of the Dutch journal *Het Noorderlicht*, to himself from NORDIA 2008 held in Stavanger, Norway.

— Information from Chuck Schmidt and Rolf Nordhalen

SCC News

The Kings are Royalty among SCC Exhibits

SCC members **Christopher** and **Birthe King** from England won a mountain of awards at the CHICAGOPEX show in Arlington Heights, IL, in November. Taking top honors was Chris King with his exhibit, "Slesvig: From Danish Duchy to Prussian Province 1587-1867." He not only captured the show grand award but also a gold, the Joanna Sliski Taylor Memorial Bowl, the SCC Paul Jensen award, and the Postal History Society medal.

King was surprised to learn that his outstanding exhibit will compete next August as part of the Champion-of-Champions competition at the American Philatelic Society's annual StampShow, which will be held in Pittsburgh, PA. His partner in winning honors was wife Birthe King, who received a show gold, the SCC Jed Richter award, the American Philatelic Society 1940-1980 medal of excellence, and the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors creativity medal for her "Denmark: Conscience, Conflict, and Camps 1932-1949."



TOP EXHIBITORS: Gathered at SCC's annual meeting in Chicago were the winners of the last four outstanding exhibit awards: Christopher King, left, the 2008 winner; his wife, Birthe King, who won in 2006; and Mark Lorentzen, who received the award in 2005 and 2007. (Photo by Jan Ødegaard.)

Christian X 1940s Series on First Day Covers." A silver was taken by **Ronald Collin** for "Iceland: King Christian IX Issue."

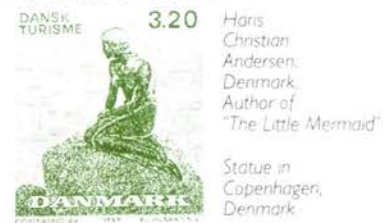
In the Chicagoland stamp club one frame competition, **SCC Chapter 4** won a gold and the SCC Chapter award. Gracing the Court of Honor was "Danish West Indies Mail: 1748-1879" from **John DuBois**.

The Posthorn received a gold in the literature section. A vermeil award went to **Kurt Hansen** and **John Sabin** for *The Return Post of the Danish Postal System*, and a silver was won by **John Campbell** for *Czeslaw Slania: Master Engraver, 1921-2005*. ■

CHICAGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

122nd Annual National Exhibition

November 21-23, 2008



ENJOY SCANDINAVIAN CULTURE

Edvard Grieg, Norway, Composer
Selma Lagerlöf, Sweden, Nobel Author

A show gold and the SCC Victor Engstrom award for research went to **Roger Quinby** for "Finnish Railway to St. Petersburg 1870-1918." Another gold and the United Postal Stationery Society Marcus White medal was presented to **Stephen Kaplan** for "Usage of the Ring Stationery of Finland 1891-1911." **Ross Olson** received a gold and the APS 1900-1940 medal of excellence for "Sweden: The Medallion Definitives 1910-1919." **Mark Lorentzen** took a show gold along with the single frame grand award for his "Mail between Norway and Denmark." Rounding out the gold-award-winning honors was **Jan Ødegaard** with his "The Three Skilling Posthorn."

Vermeil awards went to **Warren Grosjean** for "The First Postage Stamps of Scandinavia: Denmark, Norway, Sweden" and his second exhibit of "The Local Stamps of Sweden 1856-1872." Also winning vermeils were **Steve Lund** for "Canceled Lund" and **Alan Warren** for "Denmark: The

— Alan Warren

SCC Annual Convention at Chicagopex

By Alan Warren

The SCC convention in Arlington Heights, IL, November 21-23, drew members from abroad as well as from around the U.S. and Canada. Christopher and Birthe King of England captured so many exhibiting awards that they had to buy another suitcase to hold them all (see awards article on page ____).

About 30 members attended a social affair and dinner. Featured speaker was SCC President Mats Roing who told of the death-defying trek he and his fellow mountain climbers undertook earlier in the year to Alaska's Denali (Mt. McKinley), the highest peak in North America. He showed exciting stills and videos of the climb. Door prizes were won by Robert Fashingbauer and Chris King. The prizes were copies of the beautifully illustrated book by Lars Fimmerstad, *The Treskilling Yellow*.

Board of Directors Meeting

All officers and directors but one attended the annual board meeting. Reports submitted by officers and committee chairs were reviewed and accepted. Current membership is about 700. One upcoming change in 2009 will be the transfer of the SCC Stamp Mart from Eric Roberts in Texas to Jerry Eggleston in Colorado. Another change is shifting the SCC Webmaster duties from John DuBois to Eric Roberts with technical assistance from Jeff Ross in Wyoming.

Herbert R. Volin resigned as vice president and Mark Lorentzen was appointed to fill the vacancy. Since Lorentzen was a director, Jerry Eggleston was appointed to replace Lorentzen on the board.

Future conventions are set for the St. Louis Stamp Expo February 27-March 1, 2009 and WESTPEX in San Francisco on April 23-25, 2010. Subsequent to the Chicago meeting, the Board decided on the Minnesota Stamp Expo in Minneapolis for the 2011 meeting (in July) and the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show in Denver for 2012 (May). One vacancy is that of Convention Coordinator. John DuBois has prepared a manual with the duties required.

Membership Meeting

Approximately 30 members and guests convened for the membership meeting with Chicago's Chapter 4 furnishing refreshments. President Mats Roing introduced the officers and directors and summarized the decisions made at the previous board meeting. Several 25-year members were announced and the one 50-year member in 2008 was Henrik Pollak, the Scandinavian dealer in New York City.

One of SCC's leading awards, the Carl E. Pelander Award for outstanding service to the club, was presented to John DuBois for his many years of service as president and past president, Webmaster, chairman of the DWI study group, Chapter 5 president, and a leading exhibitor. The Earl Grant Jacobsen award for an outstanding monograph exhibiting research went to Heikki Reinikainen for the CD-ROM of *Finland Type 1875*. Other contributors to the work included Jussi Murtosaari and Jeffrey Stone. The Frederick A. Brofos award for the best article in the 2007 issues of *The Posthorn* was won by John Sabin and Peter Schweizer for their co-authored article, "Handwritten Plate Numbers on Danish & DWI Stamps."

The SCC Chapter award for a single frame exhibit went to Chicago Chapter 4. The award was accepted by Norm Andrews. A piece of postal history was presented to Ivar Sundsbø of Norway for having traveled the farthest to this meeting. He was the Nordic area judge on the jury and the featured speaker at the meeting where he described many fascinating aspects of collecting the posthorn issues of Norway.

There was an informal Sunday morning get-together organized by SCC Chapter 4. Ron Collin and his wife, Marlene, outdid themselves by furnishing Swedish bakery delights for all to enjoy. ■



John DuBois, right, receives the Pelander service award from SCC President Mats Roing. (Photo by Alan Warren.)

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NORDIA 2009 Emphasizes Cultural Content of Collecting



The historic and picturesque seaside town of Hafnarfjörður, located near Iceland's capital city Reykjavík, will be the setting for NORDIA 2009, this year's Nordic philatelic exhibition. Hafnarfjörður is celebrating its 100th year anniversary as a town although the history of the place extends back to its early settlement in the Ninth Century.

The three-day exhibition will open May 29, one day later than previously announced. Exhibition chairman Sigurður R. Pétursson said the hope was for exhibits that would allow visitors to "view the widely interesting cultural content of the collecting of stamps."

"On behalf of the exhibition committee of NORDIA 2009, I sincerely welcome all guests to this great Nordic philatelic feast," said Pétursson in a Web-based welcome message (www.nordia2009.is).

The bulk of the exhibits are expected from the Nordic countries, of course, but there will be entries from the U.S., England, and New Zealand, as well. Greg Frantz of Colorado is the U.S. Commissioner representing SCC at NORDIA 2009. ■

The Finnish Philatelist and Close Up Cease Publication

After a 12-year run, *The Finnish Philatelist (TFP)*, has ceased publication. Editor Roger P. Quinby, a former president of SCC, ended publication with the November, 2008 edition, which was a cumulative index for Volumes 1-13 of the quarterly publication.

TFP was conceived in 1996 by members of the Finnish Study Group of the Scandinavian Collectors Club to publish articles translated from Finnish philatelic publications and make them accessible to English readers. Over time, original research articles also were published. In recent years, the periodical was printed in color and digital versions made available online through SCC's Website at www.scc-online.org. The entire run of *TFP* is available both online and through SCC's Library.

The president of the Czeslaw Slania Study Group announced in February that its newsletter, *Close Up*, would cease publication following the death of its longtime editor, Harold Short, who died February 2 at the age of 69.

Eugene Wolosiewicz, the study group president, said it had been decided earlier that the newsletter would end with one issue in 2009, but that Short's death meant the 2008 issues would conclude the publication's run. ■

Venerable Greenland Stamp Designer Dies

Greenlandic artist and stamp designer Jens Rosing died May 24, 2008, at the age of 82. In the course of 50 years he designed more than 130 stamps for the country. He was born July 28, 1925, in Ilulissat (Jakobshavn), Greenland.

Rosing studied art at two major academies during 1947-1950. The first postage stamp he designed for the Greenland postal administration appeared in 1957. It was the first in a series devoted to folk legends. His final stamp for Greenland (shown here) appeared in May, 2007, and depicted sledge dogs.

Many of his stamps were created in collaboration with famed stamp engraver Czeslaw Slania. Rosing also wrote several books about the Vikings that settled in Greenland. ■



Scandinavian Literature Notes

By Alan Warren



News from Denmark

Oskar Sørensen illustrates mail from North Slesvig prisoners in England during World War I in the September *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift*, published by the Danish Postal History Society. In the December issue, Poul Hviid shows some examples of mail sent from Japan and China to Denmark with “via Siberia” markings.

Søren Hvejsel provides a nice introduction to collecting Danish railway mail in the October *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. He shows examples of railway stamps, labels, cancels, express labels, parcel cards, and other aspects. Bruno Nørdam continues his series on essays of Danish stamps with some of the 1986 issues.

In the December issue Mogens Lethrørg describes some of the new changes to Denmark stamp production for 2009 including new printing machines and self-adhesive stamps. In the same issue, Editor Ib Krarup Rasmussen shows examples of counterfeits of modern Swedish stamps from 2003-2005. Søren Chr. Jensen recounts the 1912 fire that struck the stamp printing firm of H. H. Thiele, and Chris King discusses the Holbøll family in Greenland and Denmark with examples of mail.

Svend Seitzberg shows examples of proofs of the “bit” postage due stamps of Danish West Indies in the September *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. In the December issue Bent Keith Hansen illustrates plate flaws and plate reconstruction of the second edition of the 10-øre arms type issue of Denmark in a detailed 50-page article.

For many years Denmark’s Post & Tele Museum has published a quarterly periodical highlighting exhibits and resources to be found in the museum. The November, 2008, issue of *Museums Posten* was the last print version. It will be found in the future on the museum’s Web site, www.ptt-museum.dk.

News from the Faroes

The 3/2008 periodical of this name, published by Postverk Føroya, features an article by Dávur Winther describing a visit by Faroese postal authorities to the printing plant in Vienna, Austria where some of the Faroes stamps are printed.

News from Finland (with thanks to Kauko Aro)

In *Abophil* 3-2008, Reinhard Weber describes another Turku figure cancel, number 81A, with known usage in the summer of 1877. A short news item relates that in a Postiljonen auction in April, 2008, a 20-kopek red “Porto Stempel” entire of 1845 was sold for a bout \$24,000. Approximately 10 copies of this entire are known, one-half of which are in the Postal Museum.

Abophil 4-2008 reports that the cooperation between the stamp journal *Keräilyuutiset* and Suomen Filateliapalvelu Oy, publisher of the LaPe catalog and several auctions, will increase in 2009. The responsibility for the publication and its auctions will be transferred to the company with article content remaining with the Ossa family, which has been publishing the magazine for 20 years.

In issue 5-2008 of *Abophil*, the editorial talks about the financial condition of the Finnish Federation which has been in the red for 2008. This is complicating the final decision on NORDIA 2011 tentatively scheduled for Turku in early May. The local stamp club fears the financial burden it will incur in organizing this NORDIA and recognizes the need for help from Finnish and Åland posts. Reinhard Weber shows another Turku figure cancel, No. 10, with a known period of use 1889-1890.

In *Filatelisti* 7-2008 the editor reports on the reopening on September 5 of the Postal Museum, which had been under renovations for most of 2008. The space has been enlarged and the book and periodical collections moved to the second floor of the Main Post Office.

Another article, based on an exhibit by Jukka Sarkki, covers the use of liquor control cards that were required after 1944. The cards were intended to prevent misuse of alcohol and re-sales of alcoholic beverages. All purchases had to be made at a certain store and were recorded on the person’s card. The general revenue stamps were initially overprinted “ALKO” to be used on these cards as a tax had to be paid when a new card was issued or later renewed annually. In 1957 a new revenue stamp was designed strictly for use on these cards.

Filatelisti 8-2008 gives a short history of the Helsingfors Frimärkssamlareförening (Helsinki Stamp Collectors Club), which celebrated its 115-year anniversary in early 2008. This issue also begins a two-part article on the Swedish parallel posts by Göran Linderöth and published previously by the Swedish postal history society. The second part appears in *Filatelisti* 9/10-2008. ➤

News from Germany

In the August issue of *Philatelistische Nachrichten* from the German Nordic Country study group, Rolf Dörnbach continues his lengthy series on post offices of Greenland, this time describing Narsaq Kujalleq. In the same issue Dörnbach presents a table of the postal facilities that were open in Iceland as of July, 2008. His table includes post code, city, street address, and the type of office.

News from Great Britain

Peter Hellberg presents the second part of his series on TPO markings of Stockholm 1883-1996 in the December *Scandinavian Contact*. In the same issue, Ivor Smith analyzes the use of the "Posten Norge" cancels in Norway. He tabulates many of them, trying to identify the letters and numbers that appear in the single ring handstamps and double ring machine markings.

Rolf Dörnbach describes the major changes undertaken by Postverk Føroya with respect to closing many of its post offices, in the November issue of 238, journal of the Faroe Islands Study Circle. He also sees declining profits in the postal service's annual reports. In the same issue Norman Hudson writes about the "black-prints" of Faroese stamps, of which there seem to be only two issued. They appeared in the 1987 and 1988 year-books.

News from Iceland

Issue 18 of *Frímerkjablaðið* shows some examples of 1870s letters from the archives of Iceland's National Museum. In the early days someone removed the stamps by cutting them off the envelopes, often leaving the perforations behind! Intact covers would be worth a fortune today.

News from the Netherlands

In the December issue of *Het Noorderlicht*, H. Fiolet discusses the Christmas seals of Finland, providing their history and showing examples on and off cover. Janny ter Haar reviews the series of Nordic mythology stamps issued by the Nordic countries.

News from Norway

Arne Thune-Larsen begins a new series in issue 4/2008 of *INFO*, published by the Oslo Filatelistklubb, in which he reviews the first 20 years of the club's predecessor, the Kristiania Filatelistklub, using souvenirs and historic photos. In the same issue Knut Arveng provides a lengthy overview of rocket mail, citing examples from France, Polynesia, Austria, Germany, England, Trieste, Netherlands, India, Australia, the U.S., and elsewhere.

Knut Glasø continues his series on advertising seals of Trondheim in the October *NFF-Varianten*. In the December issue, Trygve Karlsen continues his series on Outer Namdal with descriptions of Kolvereid and Salsbruget, showing cancels from the 19th Century to the present. In the 8/2008 issue of *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, Harry Snarvold describes a 17th Century letter sent from Larvik to Copenhagen and provides some historic background at the time.

Using examples from an extensive correspondence, Egil Thomassen illustrates the use of blackened cancels on mail from Scotland to Norway during World War II in the December issue of *Norwegian War and Field Post Journal*. This was done on mail that went from Leuchars to Stockholm by air. In the event it was seized by the enemy, the cancels would not reveal the source of the mail.

News from Sweden

Harry Hohndorf discusses the 1808-1809 war in Finland in issue 6-2008 of *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. He shows maps of the various campaigns and royal decrees and examples of letters issued at the time. In 8-2008 Peter Lorentzon describes plate varieties of several values of Sweden's postage due stamps, perf 13. In the same issue Sven-Eric Beckeman and Arne Olsson identify many of the hand stamps on Swedish mail that read RETOUR, RETUR, and OBESTÄLLBART (returned or undelivered).

News from the United States

In his continuing series on island communities, Geir Sør-Reime writes about the Danish West Indies in the December 19 issue of *Mekeel's & Stamps Magazine*. He gives a brief history of the country and discusses its stamps while under Danish control. The July-September issue of *Close-Up*, published by the Czeslaw Slania Study Group, presents an appreciation of the Greenland engraver Jens Rosing who died last year. Rosing and Slania collaborated on more than 30 stamps.



News from Elsewhere

The Postal Gazette, published in Italy, covers a broad spectrum of philately and occasionally includes an item of Nordic interest. The October, 2008, issue carries an article on Norway published in Italian. The article by Benito Carobene is primarily a brief history of Norway but includes illustrations of two skilling ship covers. In the December 9, 2008, issue of *Canadian Stamp News*, Ian Robertson describes the life of Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg and illustrates stamps that honored him. ■

Scandinavian Area Awards

At the SANDICAL show in San Diego in January, Don Brent won a gold with his "Denmark's Wavy-line Design: The Surface Printed Issues" and Charles LaBlonde received a vermeil and the Military Postal History Society award for "World War II Censorship of Denmark Mail."

At the SESCAL/Americas show held in Los Angeles in October, the court of honor featured Mark Lorentzen's "Across the Danish Border." The competitive exhibits were judged according to both FIP rules as well as national APS guidelines. Robert Hisey received an FIP large vermeil and a SESCAL gold for "The First Definitives of the Finnish Republic."

The FIP show Praga 2008 held in the Czech Republic in September had quite a number of Nordic exhibits. Only the top awards are reported here. Douglas Storckenfeldt received a large gold and special prize for "Iceland Until 1901." Gold award winners were Olavi Koponen for "Finland 1856-1884," Bertil Larsson (also special prize) for "Sweden: Postage Due Mail before 1892," and Lars Engelbrecht for "Denmark Postal Stationery Essays 1871-1904."

Other gold award winners at Praga 2008 were Erkki Toivakka for "Finland Definitive Series 1875 and 1885," Reinhard Weber for "The Finnish Figure Cancellations," Wilhelm Lambrecht for "The Classic Stamps of Denmark 1851-1863," and Masafumi Shigaki for "Ship Mail around Sweden." ■

— Alan Warren



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Leading Norway Philatelist Frederick A. Brofos

Frederick A. Brofos, a leading Norway philatelist and writer, died after a long illness in Vero Beach, FL, November 28, 2008, at the age of 80. He was born in London in 1927. His family moved to Norway just before World War II where he developed his collecting interests.

He came to the United States in 1946 and earned a degree in fine arts at Washington University in St. Louis, MO. A master of many languages, he worked for the Allied Psychological Warfare Group as a translator. He was employed later in the public relations department of International Telephone & Telegraph Co. It was about this time that he began his prolific writing for philatelic journals. Over the years he wrote hundreds of articles and several books. Two volumes of his collected articles are posted on the web site of the Scandinavian Collectors Club, www.scc-online.org.

Fred joined the SCC in 1947 and served as secretary, librarian, and editor. He received many honors from SCC including the Carl E. Pelander award for service to the club, the Earl Grant Jacobsen award for philatelic research, and Honorary Membership for his philatelic achievements. In 2000, SCC established the Frederick A. Brofos Award in his name for the best article to appear in *The Posthorn* each year. In 2004, he was presented a special SCC President's Award in recognition of his prolific career of more than 50 years of philatelic writing.

He was recognized in Norway with the gold medal of the Norwegian Postal Museum, the Order of the Silver Lion of the Norwegian Philatelic Federation, and Norway's highest philatelic honor, the Anderssen-Dethloff Medal of the Oslo Filatelistklubb. He was elected to the American Philatelic Society's Writers Hall of Fame in 1998.

In addition to his many journal articles, Fred contributed four chapters in the Billig handbook series, two articles in the American Philatelic Congress Book, and wrote several catalogs on Norwegian revenue, postal stationery, and railway, bus, and steamship parcel stamps. The *New Brofos Catalogue of Railway and Steamship Carrier Stamps of Norway* is also posted on the SCC Web site.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Scandinavian Collectors Club. ■

– Alan Warren & Alex Brofos



Greenland-Faroes Collector Chris McGregor

Longtime Greenland and Faroes collector Chris McGregor died December 29, 2008, on his 86th birthday. He was an SCC director-at-large (1991-1994) and a past chairman of the Bylaws Committee. He served on *The Posthorn* editorial board as associate editor for Greenland (1984-1985). McGregor was secretary of the British North America Philatelic Society from 1989-1992.

The strength of his award-winning exhibits is revealed in two items in the SCC Library: a Faroes slide program (A-V 29), a Greenland slide program (A-V 59), his Faroes exhibit (E&C7), and his Greenland exhibit (E&C 28). His Greenland collection was eventually sold by the Swedish auction house of Postiljonen in 1988 and his Faroes collection by Paradise Valley Stamp Company and the Danish auction house of Thomas Hoiland in 1995. McGregor also wrote several articles on Greenland in *The Posthorn*.

Chris was a lifelong resident of Vancouver, British Columbia. An electrical engineer, he spent his career as a partner in a consulting engineering firm. He began collecting at the age of 10 when his first purchase appeared to be a 1919 Danish cover bearing two stamps, one of which was bisected. However, he could find no town in Denmark named "Tórshavn" and he was about to return the cover when he learned it was canceled in the Faroe Islands. His Faroes and Greenland exhibits went on to garner gold medals in national and international exhibitions. ■

– Alan Warren & Roger Cichorz



S.C.C. Library Auction #15

(Closing Date April 20, 2009)

This is the 15th auction of items being **offered to SCC members**. These 24 lots are either duplicates of or items superfluous to current SCC Library holdings. Auction realizations will be used to purchase future literature acquisitions for the SCC Library. Place bids with Roger Cichorz, 3925 Longwood Ave., Boulder, CO 80305-7233, USA; telephone 303-494-8361, or e-mail rcichorz@comcast.net. This auction closes on April 20, 2009.

Terms of the Sale:

1. The minimum bid accepted for a lot is the starting bid. Wherever possible, the auctioneer's estimated market value (EMV) or actual current market value (CMV) from dealers' pricelists is included in the lot descriptions as a guideline for bidders.
2. 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. In an instance of tied high bids, the lot sells to the earliest bidder.
3. Mail, telephone, or e-mail bids are acceptable. Please include your name, address, and telephone number. E-mail bids will be confirmed by e-mail reply. Telephone bids will be recorded and confirmed at the time they are placed. Bidders should provide their SCC membership number to confirm eligibility to participate.
4. Successful bidders will be informed of their winning bids shortly after the close of the auction. Invoices will be included with the dispatched auction lots. Postage (and insurance, if applicable) will be added to the price of the successful bid(s). Payment can be made in U.S. funds by check (to the "SCC Library"), bank draft, or in currency (at sender's risk, auctioneer suggests registered, certified, or insured mail). Credit-card payments are not accepted, although payments via PayPal can be arranged (inquire with the auctioneer).
5. Lots may be returned for a refund if grossly misdescribed. Lots consisting of multiple non-book items are only approximately described, so slight inaccuracies in the item counts and description of the lots are not cause for return. Books and catalogs are used copies in serviceable condition, unless otherwise noted.
6. Prices realized for lots are published in *The Posthorn*. Unsold lots are available on a first-come, first-served basis at their starting bids after the auction closes, and these lots are noted in the published prices-realized list.

Lot Numbers and Descriptions:

1. **Forgeries/Norway/Sweden/Worldwide:** *Fakes Forgeries Experts, No. 9 – May 2006*, in English, K. Mohr (Editor), Postiljonen A/S, Copenhagen, 2006, 194 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, pristine. The ninth book in this annual series, produced in collaboration with the FIP and AIEP, contains 25 feature articles on various postal and philatelic forgeries, two of which are Scandinavian-specific: Roland Frahm's "Fakes with Swedish Cancellation Marks and the Use of Normal Swedish Cancellations for Manipulative Purposes" and Finn Aune's "The Helsingør Letter with NK #1, 3, and 5 Is Manipulated." CMV = \$100, Starting bid = \$35.
2. **Scandinavia/Nordic/Periodical:** *Scandinavian Contact*, in English, quarterly publication of the Scandinavia Philatelic Society (U.K.), incomplete run of five issues, Vol. 20, No. 8 (Sept. 2006) to Vol. 21, No. 3 (Dec. 2008), outstanding journals of about 52 pages each with useful research articles on all phases of Scandinavian/Nordic philately and postal history. EMV = \$20, Starting Bid = \$5.
3. **Denmark:** *Haandbog over Danmarks Staalstukne Frimaerker, 1933-1948/Handbook of Denmark's Engraved Postage Stamps, 1933-1948*, in Danish, by Mogens Juhl, J. H. Schultz A/S, Copenhagen, 1948, profusely illustrated, 136 pages, softbound, excellent condition. The definitive handbook of the Denmark, Faroes, and Greenland stamps issued during this period includes detailed information on the printing, plating, overprints, varieties, etc. and a (albeit outdated) 24-page catalogue valuation summary. Although in Danish, this handbook has an excellent two-page summary in English and because of its chronological arrangement and detailed illustrations can be used by English-only readers. Note: Also included in this lot is *Tillæg 1951 til Haandbog over Danmarks Staalstukne Frimaerker 1933-1948* (the 1951 Supplement, in Danish, by A. Tholl and Mogens Juhl, Stella Forlag A/S, Copenhagen, 1951, 28 pages, including a one-page summary in English). EMV = \$60, Starting Bid = \$15.
4. **Denmark:** *Spezialkatalog over Danmarks Staalstukne Frimaerker – Bølgelinieudgaven 1933-65/Specialized Catalogue of Denmark's Recess-Printed Stamps – Wavy-Line Issues of 1933-65*, in Danish, four handbooks (Volume 2, Books I-IV), by Tom Plovst, Horsens, Denmark, 1965, 184 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, good condition. The definitive reference on these stamp issues, with enlarged comparative illustrations and descriptions of all types and plate-flaw varieties. Although in Danish, these four handbooks can be used by English-only readers because of their tabular information and detailed illustrations. EMV = \$60, Starting Bid = \$15.
5. **Denmark:** *Danmarks Bogtrykte Bølgeliniemærker/Danish Typographed Wavy-Line Stamps*, by N. F. Olsen, Aarhus Frimærkehandel, Frederiksberg, Denmark, 1965, 192 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, good

- condition. Essential reference on the 1905-30 stamp issues, with enlarged comparative illustrations and descriptions of plate-flaw varieties of the "wavy-line" stamp issues. EMV = \$40, Starting Bid = \$10.
6. **Denmark:** *Brevsamlingsstempler – Tidelinger i Arene 1860-1874/Letter-Collection Markings – Assignments in the Years 1860-1874*, in Danish, by A. Tholl, Axel Nielsen, Copenhagen, no date, 26 pages, staple-bound paperback, good condition. Monograph on the Danish mail-collection offices and small-circle cancels. EMV = \$5, Starting Bid = \$1.
 7. **Denmark:** *The Railway Post Offices of Denmark*, in English, by Anthony M. Goodbody, Mobile Post Office Society, Holmdel, NJ, 1979, illustrated, 27 pages, paperback, good condition. Useful guide that includes the history, postmark types, and alphabetical listing of railway post offices, and a map of Denmark's railway post office routes. CMV = \$14, Starting Bid = \$5.
 8. **Denmark:** *Denmark Stamp Booklets Catalogue*, in English, by Rob Boom, Zwolle, Netherlands, 1994, 32 pages, illustrated, paperback, good condition. Primary and best catalog to date with listings of the booklets of Denmark, Faroes, and Greenland; includes booklet panes, advertising booklets, slot-machine booklets, etc. CMV = \$38, Starting Bid = \$10.
 9. **Denmark/Clearance Lot:** This lot comprises four softbound books in excellent condition: *Filatelistisk Bibliografii/Philatelic Bibliography* (in Danish, by Pierre Terrisse, AFA, 1986, 224 pages, Danish philatelic references with separate author index), *The Danish Post and Telegraph Museum* (in English, by A. Morrell Nielsen, Danish P&T Museum, 1987, 47 pages, slick multi-color illustrated primer about the PTM), *Danske Frimaerker i Stålstik 50 År/50 Years of Danish Stamps and Recess Printing* (in Danish, Post- og Telegrafvæsenet, 1987, 40 pages, profusely illustrated with useful information about stamp production), and *Danish Postal Booklets 1934-1950/Danmarks Frimærkehefter 1934-1950* (in English and Danish, by A. Tholl and Mogens Juhl, Stella Forlag A/S, Copenhagen, 1951?, 23 pages). EMV = \$50, Starting Bid = \$5.
 10. **Norway:** *Håndbok over Norske Særstempler/Handbook of Norwegian Commemorative and Special Event Postmarks*, in Norwegian, by Odd H. Johannessen, Norsk Filatelistforbund, Oslo, 1985, 231 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, excellent condition. The postmarks are listed chronologically, with towns and dates of use. Although in Norwegian, this handbook includes a four-page introduction and a 40-page summary of text in English, so it is readily usable by English-only readers. CMV = \$28, Starting Bid = \$8.
 11. **Norway:** *Norsk Dampskipspost/Norwegian Steamship Posts*, in Norwegian, by Sigurd Løkeberg, Frimerke Forum, Oslo, 1977, 58 pages, profusely illustrated, paperback, excellent condition. This handbook deals with early ship mail postal history, timetables, cancels, and official notices. EMV = \$10, Starting Bid = \$2.
 12. **Norway:** *Tysk Postsensur i Norge under 2. Verdenskrig 1940-45/German Postal Censorship in Norway during World War II, 1940-45*, in Norwegian, by Bjarne J. Fjeld., Frimerke Forum, Oslo, 1977, 30 pages, profusely illustrated, paperback, pristine. This handbook deals with German censor markings on Norwegian mail during the Nazi occupation. EMV = \$10, Starting Bid = \$2.
 13. **Norway:** Three profusely illustrated, staple-bound paperback booklets published by the Norway Post Museum, in good to pristine condition: *De Norske Posthorn Frimerke-100 År/Norway Posthorn Stamps-100 Years* (bilingual in Norwegian and English, by Carl H. Werenskiold, 1972, 34 pages), *Sandosund Posthistorisk Studie/Sandosund Postal History Study* (in Norwegian, by E. C. Hannevig, 1972, 20 pages), and *Nordland Postkontor/Nordland Post Office* (in Norwegian, by E. C. Hannevig, 1974, 27 pages, profusely illustrated). CMV = \$32, Starting Bid = \$6.
 14. **Norway/Polar/Arctic/Postal History:** *Über Die Eismeerfahrt Roald Amundsens von 1918 bis 1925 Und Ihre Philatelistischen Belege (Polkarten)/Concerning Roald Amundsen's Ocean Journey from 1918 to 1925 and Its Philatelic Validation (Postcards)*, in German, by Jürgen Tiemer, Forschungsgemeinschaft Nordische Staaten E.V., Altwittenbek, Germany, 1982, 21 pages, profusely illustrated, paperback, pristine. Interesting philatelic monograph on Amundsen's "Maud" polar expedition; essential reading for polar philatelists, and/or Arctic postal historians. EMV = \$5, Starting Bid = \$1.
 15. **Norway/Archive:** 23 official publicity cards for 1953-59 new stamp issues from Norway Post, illustrating the actual stamp-sized images with simulated perforations; also 24 official publicity-release photographs from Norway Post for stamp issues primarily of the 1970s (most are oversized glossy "bromide-proof" images). Specialist lot of interesting and difficult-to-obtain ancillary material for collectors of topicals or modern Norwegian stamps. EMV = \$45, Starting Bid = \$10.
 16. **Norway/Archive:** 78 official publicity photographs (oversized black-and-white images) from Norway Post for new stamp issues of 1978-87, accompanied by an excellent run of 70 Norway Post press releases and new-issue announcements (about 75% complete for the period). Note: No duplication from the previous lot (#15). Marvelous specialist material for the collector of modern Norwegian stamps or topicals (motifs = flora, fauna, architecture, transportation, famous people, Europa, Slania, etc.). EMV = \$85, Starting Bid = \$20.

17. **Norway/Archive:** Similar to previous lot, consisting of 30 official publicity photographs (oversized black-and-white images) from Norway Post for new stamp issues of 1978-87, accompanied by 19 Norway Post new-issue announcements. Note: Duplicates all items in previous lot (#16). EMV = \$30, Starting Bid = \$6.
18. **Sweden:** *Oscars-Katalogen, Förteckning över Ortstämplar under Oscarsperioden 1885-1911/"Oscars" Catalogue, List of Postmarks for the Oscar Period 1885-1911*, in Swedish, Sveriges Filatelist-Förbund, Stockholm, 1974, 119 pages, illustrated, good condition. Indispensable reference for the postmark collector, lists town postmarks, district assignments, and rarity factors. EMV = \$10, Starting Bid = \$2.

The next three lots comprise hardbound editions of *Postryttaren, Årsbok för Postmuseum*, the annual publication of the Swedish Postmuseum akin to the U.S. *Congress Books*. Each edition is profusely illustrated in color and contains scholarly articles by experts on a variety of philatelic subjects. The 2002 edition is entirely in Swedish, but the 2006 and 2007 editions are bilingual (articles are in Swedish, with the English summaries immediately following and usually having additional completely different illustrations). These books are indispensable to the avid Sweden collector or postal historian, or to any philatelic bibliophile.

19. **Sweden:** *Postryttaren 2002 (Årgång 52)*, in Swedish, 158 pages, pristine except for small repair on lower spine. This edition has five major articles about Swedish postage-due markings from 1897 to 1965, Swedish and Norwegian steamships, stamp exhibiting, Sweden's Post Office in Hamburg, and Swedish pioneer airmails. CMV = \$35, Starting bid = \$9.
20. **Sweden:** *Postryttaren 2006 (Årgång 56)*, bilingual, 200 pages, pristine. This edition celebrates the 100th anniversary of the Postmuseum and has six major articles on the museum's primarily Swedish postal-history-related holdings: its archive of old photographs of post-office activities, objects that tell interesting stories, postal uniforms, rare stamps and covers, the "20/TRETIO" error stamp, and 1856 black local stamp (*Facit* #6). CMV = \$35, Starting bid = \$12.
21. **Sweden:** *Postryttaren 2007 (Årgång 57)*, bilingual, 200 pages, pristine. This edition has five major articles on mail by airship to Sweden and Finland 1919-30, Carl Linnaeus as a letter writer, fight against abuse of post-free letters, Heinrich Lichtenstein and the unique three-skilling-banco yellow error stamp, and Majvor Franzén, one of Sweden's foremost stamp engravers. CMV = \$35, Starting bid = \$12.
22. **Postal History/Rates/Worldwide:** *De Pariteit van Munten in de Postgeschiedenis, 1700-1875/Parity of Currencies in Postal History, 1700-1875*, in Dutch (with six-page Introductions in English, French, and German), by Leonard H. J. Janssen, published by the author, Bocholt, Belgium, 2001, 501 pages, profusely illustrated, hardbound, pristine. Although written in Dutch, this book is replete with rate tables and monetary conversions, along with illustrations of prephilatelic covers and detailed explanations of their postal markings, so it will be readily utilizable by English-only readers. A thoroughly documented and footnoted research treatise on pre-U.P.U. postal rates for all mails, this book is probably the most thorough "all-in-one-place" compilation of postal-rates and currency-conversion information ever published. A magnificently produced, oversized (12"x8") "coffee-table"-style book, this publication appears indispensable for the serious postal historian, prephilatelic-cover specialist, or philatelic bibliophile. CMV = \$66, Starting Bid = \$25.
23. **Philately/Stamp Collecting:** *The World's Greatest Stamp Collectors*, by Stanley M. Bierman, Frederick Fell Publishers, New York City, 1981, xv + 296 pages, illustrated, hardbound with dust jacket, pristine. Original (pre-*Linn's*) edition of Bierman's memorable book. CMV = \$28, Starting bid = \$9.
24. **United States/Forgeries/Expertization:** *The Expert's Book, A Practical Guide to the Authentication of United States Stamps, Washington/Franklin Issues 1908-1923*, by Paul W. Schmid, Palm Press, Huntington, New York, 1990, xii + 210 pages, profusely illustrated, hardbound, pristine. This is the essential handbook for differentiating, identifying, and authenticating the Washington/Franklin issues that account for almost 200 major *Scott* catalog listings. CMV = \$75, Starting Bid = \$25. ■

Prices Realized – SCC Library Auction #14 (Closed January 19, 2009)

#1 = \$8, #2 = \$10, #3 = \$12, #4 = \$2, #5 = \$4, #6 = \$22, #7 = \$6, #8 = \$16, #9 = \$8, and #10 = \$8.

Summary: There were five bidders, all of whom were successful in winning one or more lots. All 10 lots sold with realizations totaling \$96 against cumulative starting bids of \$89.

Under Review

More Homage for Engraver Slania

Czeslaw Slania: Master Engraver 1921-2005 by John Campbell. 192 pages, 8x11½ inches, card covers, perfect bound, Radway Press, Hawkes Bay, New Zealand, 2008. \$75 postpaid in the U.S. USA orders should be sent to Stephen D. Warner, 10140 Heather Sound Drive, Tampa, FL 33647-2900. For shipment elsewhere contact John Campbell, 1c Haumoana Road, Haumoana, Hastings 4250, Hawkes Bay, New Zealand; email johncampbellnz@hotmail.com.

This wonderfully illustrated book captures the 20-year collecting effort of author John Campbell to accumulate many examples of the art of the master engraver Czeslaw Slania. The author first noticed the fine work of Slania on the stamps found on first day covers that he had accumulated. This attraction spurred him to find as much of the master's work as he could.

Campbell is also an engraver and has been employed in the printing trades for many years, developing a great appreciation for his idol. As a consequence of Slania's great output of Nordic country stamps, Campbell began exhibiting his collection at NORDIA shows. His book is a wonderful pictorial display of his exhibit pages and a fitting tribute to Slania's genius and creativity.

An introductory page provides some background on the Polish-born Slania. Succeeding pages are devoted to stamps and labels executed for Poland, Sweden, Denmark, Åland, Iceland, the Faroe Islands, and Greenland, followed by Monaco, Great Britain, the United States, and other countries. Additional pages include engravings, book plates, and a number of banknotes. The book is limited to an edition of 200 copies.

Most of the material is shown in color. A few items not in the author's collection are shown as photocopies. The end result is a beautiful printed monument to the lifetime achievements of the famous engraver. ■

– Alan Warren

The Engraving Art of Czeslaw Slania: Life Work of the World's Finest Engraver, 5th revision, by Harold Ashby Short. 138 pages, 8½x11, card covers, Cerlox bound, Czeslaw Slania Study Group, Milwaukee, WI, 2008. ISBN 978-0-9652516-2-4, \$15 postpaid to USA and Canada, \$20 elsewhere, Czeslaw Slania Study Group, PO Box 1382, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

What began as a checklist in 1984 has now reached its fifth revision bringing it forward to May, 2008. Despite the passing of the famous engraver in 2005, new discoveries of his art continue to surface.

The introduction provides some measure of the breadth of Slania's productivity that included not only stamps but also banknotes, coins, medals, labels, bookplates, portraits, and many other types of engravings. A short primer on the intaglio process is followed by Slania's approach to the art of engraving and his ability to achieve fine detail. A brief biography of Slania and a discussion of collectibles conclude the introduction.

The bulk of the text is a catalog listing of Slania's work. Slania produced postage stamps for more than 30 countries with his greatest output for Sweden, Denmark, his native Poland, and Monaco. Tables cross-references numbers from the *Michel*, *Facit*, and *Scott* catalogs; issue date; description; face value; color; and adds special comments. The author purposely avoids assigning values to each entry, leaving that to catalog publishers and dealers. ➤

CZESLAW SLANIA - MASTER ENGRAVER



1921 - 2005

Nearly one-half of the book is devoted to ancillary topics that reveal the enormous breadth of Slania's influence. Pictorial postmarks honoring the engraver are illustrated. Even postage meters and registry labels carry Slania references. The next major catalog listing is the banknotes he engraved for 10 countries and includes un-adopted designs. Poster stamps or perforated labels are listed.

Slania's fascination with the sport of boxing resulted in his engraving nearly two dozen champions. Some of the boxing labels were issued in special folders, all of which are described. Another list records his fine art engravings and portraits. Newly discovered working sketches came to light in 2008 and are illustrated.

Some 25 special post cards designed by Slania are shown. A final list itemizes the "stamp cards" showing illustrations of stamp designs and printed as post cards, most from the Scandinavian countries.

A reference bibliography, Internet resources, biographical references, and lists of philatelic souvenirs and commemorative folders complete this thorough compilation of Slania's work. Black and white illustrations throughout the book are excellent.

This remarkable handbook is a wonderful record of the life works of the master engraver who practiced his art into his 80's. It is a "must" resource for Slania collectors and as complete a listing as they will find. This may be the last revision of this Slania compilation because its author, Harold Short, died on February 2. Eugene Wolosiewicz, president of the Slania Study Group, called the 138-page book the cornerstone for Slania collectors and Short's proudest philatelic legacy. ■

– Alan Warren



Master Engraver Slania

Postmarks of Oslo

Poststeder i Oslo, by Kjell Åge Johansen, 334 pages, 6¾x9½ inches, perfect bound, stiff covers, in Norwegian, with Preface, Introduction, and Types of Postmarks in English and Norwegian. Privately published in 2006 by Kjell Åge Johansen, Nils Huus Gate 6, 0482 Oslo, Norway, kj-aagj@online.no; approximately \$60.

Users of the *Norgeskatalogen* are familiar with Kjell Åge Johansen, who has served as an editor for several years. *Poststeder i Oslo* is the first attempt to compile a handbook on the postmarks used in Oslo from their introduction in 1845 through 2005.

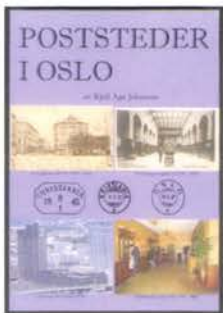
The book is organized into four main sections. The first section, Oslo before 1925, includes cancels used only at Christiania and later Oslo Central Post Office beginning with hand held cancelers and machine cancels and ending with special cancels, including Christiania City Post, parcel post, and delivery cancels. All postmarks are shown in reduced size, usually 86 percent.

Oslo before 1948, the second section, contains postmarks from 19 other post offices operating in Oslo such as Elisenberg, Grünerløkka, Homansbyen, and Torshov. The cancels are organized as in the first section within each post office.

On January 1, 1948, several post offices of Aker Kommune became annexed to Oslo Post Office. The third section, Aker Kommune, deals with 52 of these substations from their beginnings prior to annexation with Oslo. Section four, Oslo after 1948, shows 88 new post stations such as Egertorget, Etterstad, Kalbakken, and Oslo Postterminal. Postal counters in stores have now replaced many of these smaller locations.

The book concludes with a listing of commemorative cancels used in Oslo, including several which are known but not illustrated. The author seeks examples of these cancels. An index of all Oslo post offices is included as well as an alphabetized listing of texts used in machine cancels. ■

– Steve Lund



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