

The POSTHORN

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Editor's Letter from Scandinavia

By Wayne L. Youngblood

Almost caught up

If all goes as planned, you (at least domestically) will be receiving the February issue of *The Posthorn* very near the beginning of March. What this means is that we are finally very nearly caught up! Accordingly, the May issue should be either right on time or very close to it.

I'd like to take a moment to express my profound thanks for your patience during this process, which has taken more than a year to complete. I realize that your journal is very likely your most important link with our society and sincerely hope you are consistently finding it of value.

To that end, we always need good material for our magazine. Although I have several features filed for future use, I find it very helpful in providing a balance of stamp/postal history/time period/country articles in each issue to have at least a small bank from which to choose.

One mistake many potential authors make is to think they cannot produce a feature unless they have managed to assemble the complete story. This couldn't be further from the truth!

As a scholarly journal for our specialty, *The Posthorn* provides a testing ground for information – both for proving existing information and for drawing out new facts and background for any given stamp, cover or collecting area. Please consider submitting either a piece on one of your specialties or on some mystery item in your collection. You never know what you'll find out!



René Reboh

On Page 5 we say a final goodbye to longtime member and scholar René Reboh, who died in 2009, but left us with a wonderful series of three articles on the 20/30 Tretio Swedish error. We wrap that series up this issue with his discussion of a single-known error on cover. A very special "thank you" goes to Reboh's family, who helped find and send all the necessary artwork, footnotes and references. This is a fine piece of work!



President's Message

Finally, on the opposite page you'll see incoming President Roger Quinby's first column. In that column he covers a lot of important society information, ranging from our website to our annual meeting. Please take a few minutes to read it thoroughly! ■



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President's Letter

By Roger Quinby



Welcome

It is my pleasure to welcome John Stanley of New Jersey and Geoffrey Noer of California to the Scandinavian Collectors Club board and to thank Mats Roing for his outstanding service during the past four years. It is quite remarkable that he not only guided SCC successfully (not always a walk in the park), but he found time to put together his first exhibit, *Stockholm Local Mail Delivery Postmarks, 1955-1907*, which has grown from one frame to six frames and a gold at Westpex. Mats will remain on the board and we will call upon him frequently for his valued advice. It is also reassuring that we have nine returning board members representing many different collecting interests and every corner of the country. Let me also thank them for continued service to the club – for sure I will be looking to them for guidance and support.

NORDIA 2011

Soon we will be leaving for Jyväskylä, Finland, and NORDIA 2011. Alan Warren is serving on the jury and as SCC commissioner. He will be carrying more than 60 frames, including Roger Schnell's gold-level exhibit, *Denmark – Christian X Bicolor Issues 1918-1933*, among others. Looking ahead, SCC has been invited to participate in NORDIA 2012, to be held under the sponsorship of the Kjøbenhavns Philatelist Klub, Nov. 3-5, 2012, at Roskilde, Denmark. Mark your calendars now for this important event.

Annual Meeting - Minnesota Stamp Expo

This year's annual meeting will be held at Minnesota Stamp Expo (MSE), July 15-17. The Twin Cities Chapter is hosting the traditional SCC Friday night dinner at the Turnblad Mansion. Steve Lund is making the arrangements and Mats Roing is giving us a personal guided tour. Now is the time to submit your application to exhibit and make plans to attend. For more information, the MSE website is: stampsminnesota.com/MN%20Stamp%20Expo.htm

Stampshow

In the past several years the SCC has participated at the annual American Philatelic Society StampShow by hosting a society booth. This year the show will be held at Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 11-14. We need volunteers to man the SCC booth and plan a glorious Friday night dinner for SCC members and friends. This show offers numerous "how to" programs and seminars on collecting, exhibiting and judging, which is a perfect lead into the next paragraph in this letter – the SCC needs you to consider becoming a philatelic judge.

Judging

Mats Roing, in his August *Posthorn* letter, provided all the details in getting started as an accredited philatelic judge. If you have received a vermeil or higher award at a WSP show, you are eligible to enter the APS apprentice judging program. We need you and the APS is looking for apprentices! Check out the APS website for more information (www.stamps.org). If you have any questions, call Alan Warren, Greg Frantz

***Please make it a personal goal
to recruit at least one new SCC member this year.
It helps all of us!***

or me – we have been judging for decades and have found the experience very rewarding. But we need new folks to enter the judging program.

Volunteers

We are a volunteer-driven organization – without your commitment, generosity of time and love for philately ... well you know the rest of the story. So what would a president's letter be without a call for your service? Will someone come forward to be the SCC publicist – we have only good stories and messages that the rest of the philatelic universe should hear! And let's not forget that we would appreciate your help at the SCC table at StampShow this August.

This & That

The club's balance sheet and overall financial condition is excellent. Nevertheless, we have been running operating deficits the past several years and we will need to address this at the annual meeting in July. Additional information on the operating budget for 2011 will be provided in the May *Posthorn*.

Wayne Youngblood has assured the board *The Posthorn* will return to its regular quarterly schedule this year. You may have noticed that each issue is a little closer to on time.

No promises, but I will attempt to communicate with the Internet-connected members via an occasional e-mail.

Query: Do you have any suggestions for improving the club's website? Your comments are welcome. Please send them to our Webmaster, Eric Roberts at: sccwebman@gmail.com

Our outstanding library is ready to serve you. It will ship books, journals and club programs at your request. The Stamp Mart has a wonderful staff and a wide array of material; borrowing costs are minimal. Check it out. See the SCC Member Services & Contacts listing in the journal. And lastly, the officers, both elected and appointed, are a virtual help-desk on all matters pertaining to Nordic philately. Do not hesitate to be in touch with us. ■

Stamp Mart Update: New Material Needed! Empty books offered free

The Scandinavian Collectors Club Stamp Mart needs new circuit books! Several chapters have seen most of the books I currently have at least once. And, many of you would like to get rid of those duplicates that have been hanging around for years.

Normally, we sell empty books at a nominal fee. However, because of the dire need for sales books, we will forego the fee for serious sellers. We just need to know how many regular books (192 spaces) or pocket books (16 pockets) you need.

Now, do you have to fill all 192 spaces in a book? No! A book with 50-60 – or more – stamps from the Danish West Indies, for example, would be more than welcome. The larger countries would probably fill more pages, but you still do not have to fill them all.

Duplicates? Sure! The books go to many buyers and several buyers may need those stamps.

Pricing. That is entirely up to you as a seller. Other sellers usually price stamps based on some fraction of Scott, Facit or other catalog.

We can also assist estates in the disposal of Scandinavian philatelic material.

If you have any questions, concerns or otherwise, please contact me at any of the following addresses.

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A 20/30 Tretio Error Cover

By René Reboh

In the leading pages of the 1978/79 issue of the *SFF catalogue* (SFF-78) Nils Färnström presented an abbreviated version of the *Swedish Handbook's* (SFF-62) historical account of the production, discovery and disposition of the 20/TRETIO error. The article also described several rare pieces of the error, including se-tenant pairs and covers, as well as a number of forgeries of the error. The most exciting item in the article, however, was a cover with an imperforate copy of the error. The cover must have been a surprise discovery for Färnström as no mention of it (especially not as a forgery), was made in the book on forgers and forgeries he published just two years earlier (NF-75). An English translation was included in the *SFF catalogue* and I quote exactly from that translation:

"A sensational find:

"Is there in existence a cancelled imperforate example of the 'error' stamp? If so, it is certainly the one found on a letter in England in the 50's. Robson Lowe, head of the great international auctioneers in London & Bournemouth, has related how when he was going through a bundle of correspondence he found two letters addressed to R.R. Swann, Underwriter's Room, Lloyd's. One letter had a normal ring-type perforation 13, whereas the other had an imperforate copy of 20/TRETIO. Both letters were sent from Stockholm in 1880.

"In spite of the imperforate 'error' stamp having quite large margins, said Robson Lowe, it was nevertheless unthinkable that anyone had cut away the perforations on the stamp. But, in such a case, the person who did it must have been very clever to carry out this operation without leaving any clues behind. It is scarcely credible, said Robson Lowe, that anyone should have done this and then put the stamp on the letter to England, so I believe that it is a genuine copy of the error.

René Reboh **Scandinavia Classic Specialist**

René Reboh, who died in June 2009 at the age of 65, specialized in classic Scandinavian stamps and was well known within the Scandinavian Collectors Club.

Mr. Reboh began his serious collecting as an immigrant student at Sweden's University of Uppsala, and studied his 19th-Century stamps and postal history because it pleased him. Because he never asserted his knowledge unless asked, many collectors were unaware of his expertise. He joined the SCC in 1980.

Prior to being hospitalized with his final illness, Reboh drafted a series of articles revolving around Sweden's well-known 20/30 error stamp. This article is the third and final of three published in The Posthorn.

The 1879 Swedish "Tretio" Error

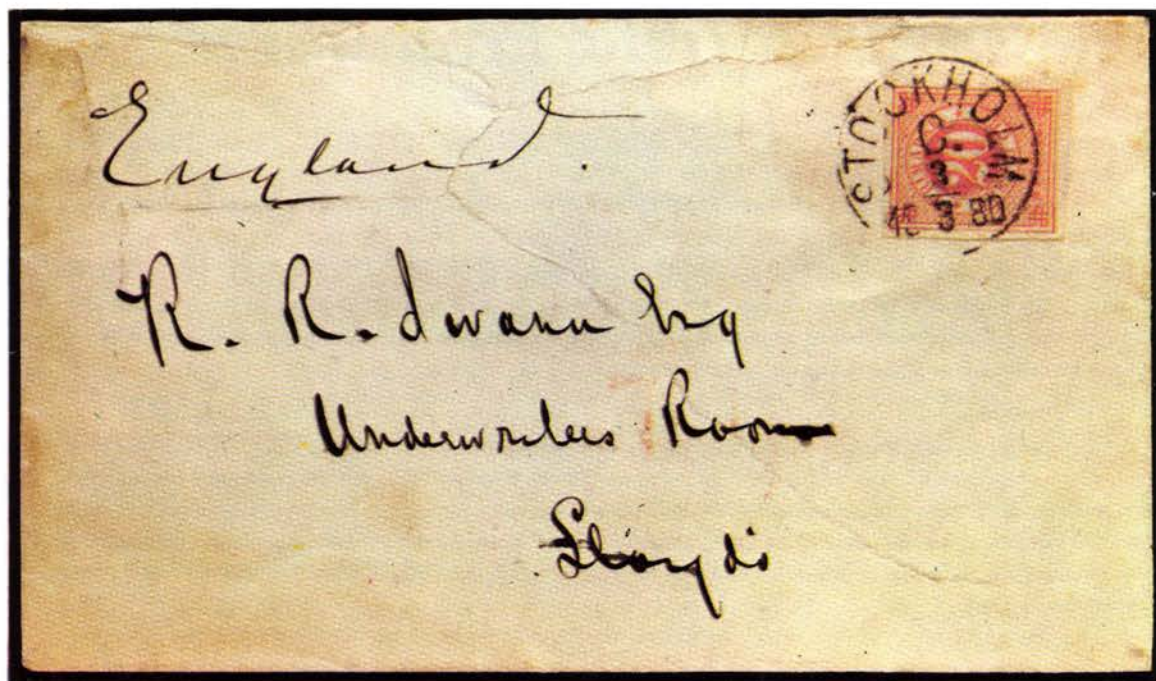
By Wayne L. Youngblood

The 1879 "Tretio" error is an extremely interesting, popular and scarce error, characterized by a 20-öre denomination within a 30-öre frame.

It is thought that the error occurred when replacing the frame cliché on a damaged plate of 20-öre stamps.

According to a feature in the July 25, 1914, *MeKeel's Stamp News* (Page 268), a Mr. Holmberg thought there had been a total of 6,000 sheets printed containing the error, of which 5,818 good sheets were saved. Although printed in 1879, the stamps were not distributed to Swedish post offices until January 1880.

Shortly afterward, in February, the error was discovered by collectors, and the Swedish postmaster general recalled all sheets of the 20-öre stamp. On March 31, 1880, 4,948 of the errors were destroyed (burned), leaving a maximum of 970 in existence. Of course, like most stamps, the use and destruction rate was high. Only a handful are now known, most having been used on postal orders.



▲ **The only known example of a 20/30 Tretio imperf error on cover.**

The letter was sold in February, 1958, and if I am not mistaken, the purchaser was Imre Vajda, the then head of Wennberg's Stamp Firm in Stockholm, and he paid 180 pounds for it. At that time it was sold without a Certificate of Genuineness – with a guarantee of genuineness it would certainly not have been sold for less than 1000 pounds.”

The quote does not rule out the possibility that the stamp could have been trimmed, but no suggestion was made that the stamp or the cover was faked. In any event, the rather poor black and white picture of the cover included in the article did not lend itself to any kind of examination of the stamp to get a better idea of its legitimacy – first as an error and then as to its imperforate status.

I was reminded anew of this cover when two years later the same article (the English version) was reprinted in the *American Philatelist* (SP79-6). Again, although the included black and white picture was larger and somewhat clearer than the original *SFF* picture, it was still useless for any kind of measurements or detailed examination of the stamp design. I rechecked the original *SFF* article to see if any new information was added in the *AP* reprint. Instead, I noticed that the Swedish caption attached to the picture was never translated in the English versions (it was also missing in the *AP* reprint). Here is the translation of the Swedish caption:

“This cover with the imperforated 20/TRETIO seems to have appeared relatively recently in a German stamp auction. I have not received any information whether it sold and at what price. The previous owner of the cover R. R. Swann did not seem to have noticed that the stamp was imperforate and neither that it said TRETIO instead of TJUGO. It is possible that the sender simply trimmed away the teeth - for some reason. Such has occurred before. Without a detailed examination one cannot determine if it is an imperforate or a trimmed copy.”

This and the *AP* article prompted me to make a few inquiries to collector friends at the local clubs who were receiving German auction catalogs. I was very soon shown the imperforate cover in full color on the cover as lot 754 of the June 2, 1973, Heinrich Salomon Sale. The date of the sale was earlier than I had expected in view of the “recently” being mentioned in the previously quoted caption, but there was no doubt it was the right cover. Furthermore, the picture was now sharp enough to clearly see the delineation

of the stamp as well as the details of the design. The typical characteristics of the error were quite easily distinguishable – in particular the somewhat defective and rust-colored outline of the numeral circle (more on this to follow). Here is the translation of the very short description of lot 754:

“1872, Error, Tretio Öre instead of 20 Öre, imperf on cover from the Lloyds correspondence. I say only: A world rarity and probably unique. 38,000,-”

Almost at the same time as I learned about the Salomon sale, in the “Letters to the Editor” section of the September 1979 issue of the *AP* (AP79-9), a reader, Ernesto Fink of Mexico City, wrote in reference to the *AP* article published three months earlier to point out that Färnström had left out “the most reliable distinguishing feature of the error: a small color spot in the lower-right field of background dots just above the corner ornament.” I was not aware of this detail at the time and Fink did not indicate where he obtained this valuable piece of information. It is no secret, however, that most experts prefer to keep a few details close to the vest if for no other reason than to not instruct potential forgers on what to avoid in their next imitation attempt. (This feature was later described in an article by Franz Obermüller in the 1982 *Posttryttaren* (PR-82). I immediately confirmed the occurrence of the red spot on the imperf cover, where it was clearly visible, as well as on as those pictures I could get my hands on from various auction catalogs.

I reread the original Färnström article several times, each time growing more convinced that not only was the stamp a genuine error and belonged to the cover, but in view of the strong circumstantial evidence in the Robson Lowe story, that it could very well be a legitimate imperforate copy as well. I was intrigued by the cover and decided to study it further. I enlisted the help of a colleague at SRI International in Menlo Park where I worked at the time. He had access to very sophisticated optical equipment and had just acquired a state-of-the-art stereo viewer where two slides could be compared, superimposed and manipulated in various ways (he was working on an automatic system for counting blood cells). I employed an unused copy of a normal 20 öre of the same printing as the error, the “bright orange-red” shade, just to be sure. The picture from the auction catalog was essentially at the 1:1 scale but nevertheless the two slides were fine tuned so the outer framelines of the two stamps would superimpose exactly. Unfortunately, although the margins of the imperforate stamp were quite wide in both directions one could not rule out that the stamp might have been trimmed.

I still could not completely give up on the possibility of the stamp being a legitimate imperf. In my own work at the time at the Artificial Intelligence Center (at SRI International), I was involved in the development of so called Expert Systems. Without going into too many technical details, I quickly whipped up a small inference network for the purpose of analyzing the imperf cover using everything I knew about this error at the time, as well as information inferred from the Robson Lowe story. I explored various “what if” scenarios. In particular, if I chose to believe with a high degree of certainty the various assumptions and statements made in that article, then my system was able to assign a very high probability that the cover is a legitimate imperf (> .87). The probabilities assigned to the genuineness of the stamp, postmark and cover were likewise even higher.

Some of the factors and reasoning encoded in the network included the following:

(1) Stamp design: All known characteristics of the genuine error were present, with none of those found on forgeries (known to me at the time). See separate section on forgeries of this stamp.

(2) Postmark: The Stockholm “C” postmark corresponds accurately to Nst 16 (with round C) known from 1877. A picture of this cancel is shown in (HB-51) but I also compared with several contemporary postmarks on other stamps of same issue.

The date, “3.3.1880,” is from the first few months when the error could have been used properly. It appears from all the surrounding circumstances that no philatelic hands were at play here. Although collectors noticed the error almost as soon as it was printed, it took quite some time before it was widely recognized as a rarity. In the historical account given in the *SFF Handbook*, the first communication on



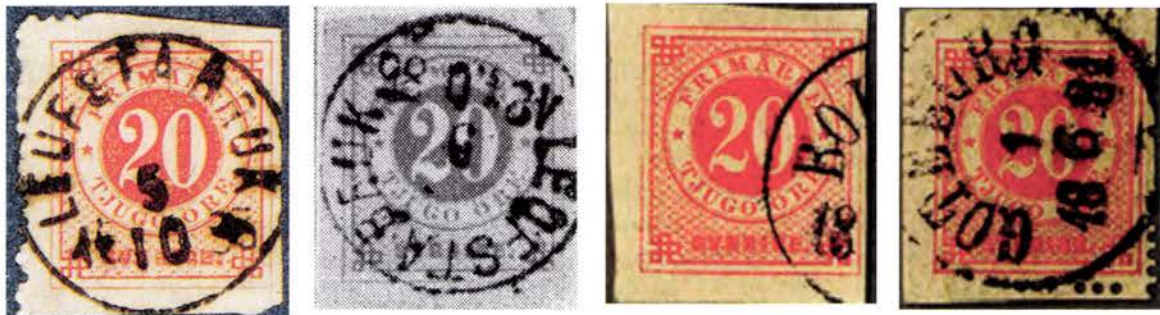
▲ An enlargement of the imperf error photographically cropped from the cover.

the discovery of the error between the postal authorities involved is dated Feb. 5, 1880. Investigations and various measures taken for recall, substitution and other issues continued until late June 1880, when the issue was resolved to everybody's satisfaction.

(3) **The cover:** A minor suspicion was raised when I noticed that the ink color of "England" at top of address appeared somewhat lighter than the rest of the address. The handwriting is probably different as well. This, however, is not unusual and the country destination could have been added later at the post office or at the mail exchange offices at the border.

(4) **The "sister" cover:** The most compelling aspect of the Robson Lowe account was the existence of the "sister" cover with the normal stamp from the same correspondence, also sent from Stockholm in 1880. Even for a philatelically inclined sender, why would he trim one stamp and not the other?

(5) **Imperforate copies of 20 öre do exist:** Late into the 1940s (HW-48) only one used imperforate



▲ Examples of imperforate and partially perforated 20 Tretio stamps.

copy and two partially imperforate were known. According to *Facit*, four of each are currently known. Of these, I have been able to find a good picture, at least two appear to be of the correct shade (g). Did the sender really think that by trimming the error he would create a greater rarity than by trimming a normal stamp when far fewer copies of imperforate normal stamps exist? At the same time, he or she would be destroying a perfectly good rarity.

(6) **Imre Vajda:** This individual, who according to Färnström first purchased the cover at the original Robson Lowe auction, definitely knew what he was doing. In addition to being manager and, later, owner of the Wennbergs stamp business (1946-57), he also was a prominent expert on Sweden at the time. He was member of the Association International des Experts en Philatelie (AIEP) 1958-68 (when he passed away). He issued certificates and you can still occasionally see some of his old certificates on auction lots in Sweden. Granted, he paid only 180 pounds for the cover, but in 1958 an experienced dealer would not spend that much on a fake.

Fast forward to recently, when "Forgeries" was the subject of our local SCC meeting at my home. We looked among other items at an eBay listing of the error, which was not described as a forgery. However, we could easily determine that all distinguishing features of the genuine error were missing and we declared it a forgery.

In one of several ensuing email exchanges between Jim Burgeson, Herb Volin and me, Burgeson included a scan of the imperf cover. He came across it as he was preparing a large shipment of philatelic publications to the SCC library. Needless to say this brought back some long-forgotten memories and I jumped out of my chair to retrieve my long-dormant file on this cover. The *SFF* article was now just a tear-out from the catalog. I communicated what I knew and did with this cover and, after many more email exchanges, Burgeson suggested I compile those writings for publication in *The Posthorn*. I reluctantly agreed because I knew I would have to research and reconfirm all information I was freely communicating from memory in my emails. Fortunately, Volin just happened to be visiting Stockholm at the time and I provided him with a long list of references to try to locate and copy at the Postmuseum. The most revealing item, however, was when I finally was able to locate at the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL)

the original Robson Lowe auction catalog from when the cover was first sold. Here is the description of lot 255a of the Bournemouth sale of February 1, 1958:

“187 20 öre vermillon with the rare “TRETIO” error, fine used on cover to London (the cover has been carelessly opened and is therefore torn); this stamp is also IMPERFORATE but the margins, although large, are insufficient to guarantee that the stamp is undoubtedly the imperforate variety (1mm. more one way and half mm. the other and one could be certain), but we believe it to be so. With B.P.A Certificate. (See Photo on front cover).

“Also a second cover to the same addressee bearing a normal 20 öre. Both these covers we discovered in an original find of correspondence and neither the imperforate condition nor the error had been recognized. L100”

There are two important revelations in this original description. First, there is no longer any doubt as to the existence of the “sister” cover, since it was included in the lot. Unfortunately, it seems to have been separated from the imperf cover when it was subsequently listed in the 1973 Salomon sale.

Second, and contrary to the *SFF* article, there was a certificate. Granted the B.P.A. opinion probably did not guarantee the imperforate status but at least this would indicate that the stamp itself was judged to be a genuine error belonging to the cover. (I believe the B.P.A maintains archives of all issued opinions so this could be researched further.)

The list of prices realized shows that the lot sold for 150 pounds (which is probably consistent with the 180 pounds mentioned in the *SFF* article if buyer’s commission is taken into account).

This new information only strengthens my belief that the error on this cover could very well be a legitimate imperforate variety.

Appeal:

I hope this article will reach the current owner or owners of these covers so they can be rejoined. If you own either one or both of the covers, or have information about them, please contact the editor of *The Posthorn*, who will be happy I am sure to write the final chapter on this intriguing cover.

The covers should then be submitted together to Helena Obermüller-Wilén. With the sophisticated equipment at her disposal she will undoubtedly be able to confirm the genuineness of the stamp, postmark and cover. She may still not be willing to bless the imperforate status of the stamp, but in view of the strong circumstantial evidence presented here she might be able to express a positive opinion not ruling out the possibility altogether. Especially if the postmark on the sister cover is close enough to that on the imperf cover, and if additional postmarks or other useful information are found on the backs of the covers.

For many years since 1979, when I first decided that the cover was likely genuine, I have been on the lookout for the sister cover at stamp shows and small auctions (specially British and German). My intent if I did find it (or possibly others from the same correspondence) was then to track the imperf cover and hopefully purchase it as a “defective” stamp and try to “make a killing” by rejoining and reselling the pair after making the case for its genuineness. Needless to say I have now given up on this project.

Expert Systems and Bayesian Techniques:

These systems attempt to encode the expertise of the top experts in a particular field into an “inference network” (or model), where tip nodes correspond to input evidence and where intermediate level nodes correspond to calculated or inferred hypotheses. The top-level nodes (often only one) will be the conclusions of the model. All nodes can contain quantitative as well as qualitative variables

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and a “certainty factor” is associated with each possible value. Internally all values are represented as probability distributions over the possible ranges of values. As inputs (evidence) are entered by the user (or from a database) they are propagated through the network by a generic (independent of the type of data in the knowledge base). A “weight” can be assigned to any link in the network to indicate the relative importance of the corresponding evidence and its effect on the associated hypotheses as compared with the other evidences. Although we employed well known probabilistic Bayesian techniques to calculate the inferred probability distributions, an entire new Algebra had to be invented to combine and propagate these distributions for several special functions that were required to encode some very intricate situations. Factors that were considered as well as weights and “a-priori” probabilities were extracted from the Expert in a series of often very painful interviews. The most difficult was to train the Expert to only consider each variable independently of anything else. That is, we ask: If all you know is the presence of evidence e1 with certainty c1, what is the likelihood of hypothesis h1 being true? How about if evidence e1 is absent, again with some certainty level? This was important because the computational formalism we employed would be invalidated if certain independence assumptions were not maintained.

The interesting thing with this type of system is that starting with uncertain and incomplete information (typically just involving prior probabilities based on general statistical information) which usually translates in a very wide range for the certainty of the conclusion, the range can be tightened as more information is supplied. These techniques have been employed in mineral exploration, medical diagnosis, equipment repair, risk assessment for insurance underwriting and loan analysis and many others. An inference network for insurance underwriting for example can contain several thousand nodes and several hundred levels.

In the small inference network I constructed to analyze the Lloyds cover I included a section to evaluate the genuineness of the stamp itself (I did not know at the time that a B.P.A certificate had been issued). For example, one rule would add “votes” because the typical defective circle was present. However, because genuine copies also exist with smooth unbroken circle no votes would be deducted if this feature was missing. Similarly for the other distinguishing features, votes are added or subtracted. For the stamp’s imperforate status votes are deducted in this section but not as to completely rule out its genuineness because it could just have been trimmed. However, in a section assessing whether or not this was a legitimate imperforate copy votes would be subtracted because of the inconclusive size but votes are added because of the existence of the “sister” cover, the existence of other imperforates of the same issue, the identity of the purchaser and such.

Acknowledgments:

Paul Albright, Herb Volin, Jim Burgeson, Roger Kuhhorn

Postmuseum: Erik Hamberg, Björn Sylwan

APRL: Ellen Peachey

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The 'Fra Danske Kolonier Og Bilande' Postal Stationery Picture Postcard Series Iceland, Faroe Islands, Danish West Indies – and – Agnus Munck

By Peter Sondhelm

As a collector with a principally Faroe Islands focus, when considering Scandinavian philately, my introduction to these postcards arises from postcards Nos. 7 and 8 in the series (Figure 1 shows the picture side of card No. 8). These cards show illustrations of a Thorshavn harbor view, and the cathedral ruins in Kirkebo,



▲ Figure 1. This card shows cathedral ruins in Kirkebo on the island of Streymoy – the 5 ore stationery postcard uprated 5 ore was sent to Philadelphia, Pa., in the United States on March 23, 1902.

both images frequently found on Faroe postcards. The postcards appeal to me, as I have always enjoyed both postcards and postal stationery – and these are the only combined examples I am aware of from the Faroes. They have a further interest, in that to my knowledge, a copy of postcard No. 8 is currently the earliest example of a picture postcard known postally used from the Faroe Islands (postmarked March 29, 1901).

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However, the series extends beyond the Faroes. The title of the series translates as “From the Danish Colonies and Dependencies” and, in addition to the two postcards already referred to, postcard Nos. 1-5 show views from Iceland and postcard Nos. 9-10 show views from the Danish West Indies – I have yet to identify the picture on the 6th card. In setting out the following notes I am conscious there are many remaining questions to be answered. So I would be most interested to hear from any readers with examples of these cards (as my records are relatively limited regarding examples from Iceland and the Danish West Indies, since my records date back principally for Faroes material). Further, information regarding Agnus Munck (more to follow) or correspondence from him would also be welcomed – my contact details appear at the end of the article.

Agnus Munck

Before going into details about the pictures in the series and the stationery cards, I will explain the apparent Agnus Munck connection (pictured in Figure 2). He appears to be closely connected with the series of cards, having written most of the cards that I am aware of, irrespective of the country pictured (the Faroe Islands card shown in Figure 1 is signed “A Munck”). Furthermore, Agnus Munck’s handstamp (Figure 3) appears on the stationery side of most cards. Additionally, cards Nos. 9 and 10 from the Danish West Indies, have the letters “A.M.” (Figure 4) printed as part of their descriptors on the picture side, after the card number.



▲ Figure 2. Agnus Munck.

Although a family member has been able to provide a little more information on Agnus Munck, he was unable to shed further light on the postcard series. Agnus Munck was born in 1874 and died in 1954. It is understood that Munck first worked as a clerk (at unknown companies) and subsequently had some shops dealing with cloth (one of them at Istedgade 87). There is no knowledge of him traveling for his work. The address on

Lundingsgade (shown in Figure 3) was his mother’s address, where he lived at the time the cards were sent, his father having died in 1899. His father, Frederik Hans Ditlev Munck, was a goldsmith, and his mother was Caroline Marie Munck. He was married to Kirsten Munck in 1906, and had five children. The Figure 2 photo dates from this later period.

Although most postcards have been written by Agnus Munck, a few have been written by others, including one to a Paul Munck, addressed to Chemnitz in Germany (who I presume might be a relative).



▲ Figure 3. Handstamp found on many of the author’s postcards.



▲ Figure 4. Part of a card descriptor showing “AM.” initials after card number (also signed “A Munck”).

The pictures, “prototype stationery” cards, “forerunner” cards and the descriptions

There appear to be 10 postcards in this series. Of these, five are on Icelandic (Aur) postal stationery showing views of Iceland (Figures 5 to 9), as I expect a sixth is, two are on Danish (Öre) postal stationery, showing views of the Faroe Islands (Figures 10 and 11) and two are on Danish West Indies (Cents) postal stationery, and show views

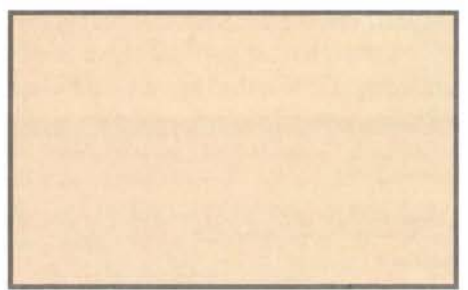
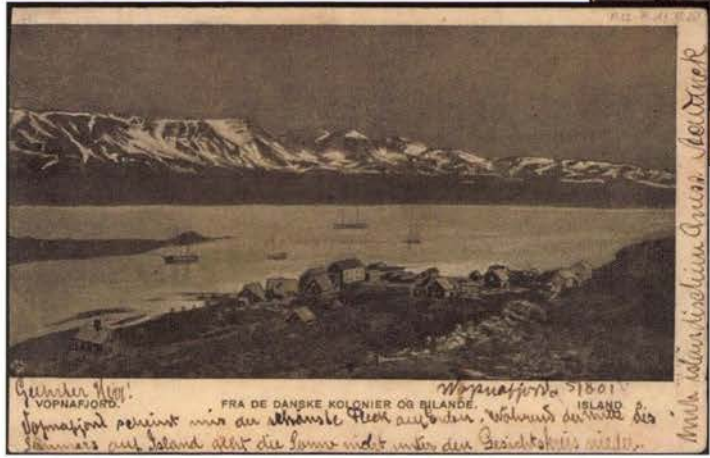
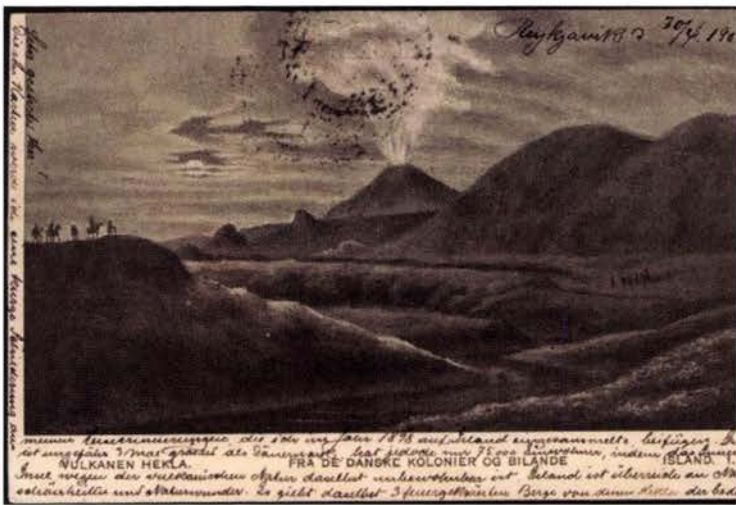


Figure 5 (top left), Card 1: Iceland, Vulkanen Helka.; Figure 6 (upper right), Card 2: Iceland, Varmakilden Geyser ("Prototype"); Figure 7 (center left), Card 3: Iceland, Reykjavik.; Figure 8 (center right), Card 4: Iceland, Althingsbygningen.; Figure 9 (above left), Card 5: Iceland, Vopnafjord.; Above right, Card 6: (missing) Details are unknown to the author.



Figure 10 (left), Card 7: Faroes, Thorshavn.; Figure 11 (center left), Card 8: Faroes, Klosterruinen.; Figure 12 (below), Card 9: Danish West Indies, St. Thomas.; Figure 13 (bottom), Card 10: Danish West Indies, St. Croix (with discrepancy noted in the text of article).



Munck in Vopnafjord on Dec. 15, 1899, from where it was sent and postmarked on Dec. 22, 1899. Unlike the other examples of this card I have seen (and indeed all other cards I have seen from the series, with the exception of another “prototype stationery card”), this card is well centered and does not have the picture location, postcard series descriptor or the number of the postcard within the series information printed on the picture side.

The only other card I have seen in “prototype stationery” format is card No. 2 – showing Varmekilden Geyser in Iceland. The earliest date I know for this card is a parallel card sent from Vopnafjord on the same date and to the same addressee (not an unusual feature for these cards – see later information).

“Forerunner” cards

In addition to the “prototype stationery” cards, I have also come across





◀ Figure 14. This 5-aur postal card, uprated by a further 5 aur (on postage side), was sent to Schwendt, Germany. The picture side of the card has no picture/series descriptor (image courtesy of Frank Banke).

an ordinary picture postcard that appears to have been printed from the same printing plate as the Figure 10 Faroe Islands No. 7 card from the series (Figure 15). This was a popular view of Thorshavn, with at least three different picture postcards from this early postcard period known showing this view, each having a slightly different aspect (and boats in the harbor etc).

Interestingly, the “Fra Danske Kolonier Og Bilande” postcard shows a truncated version of this card, with the top skyline missing – this has been done to provide greater space at the foot of the postcard. This enabled space for picture location, postcard series descriptor, and the number of the postcard within the series to be printed. This space was often used by Agnus Munk to write messages as well (usually in German). This suggests that the picture postcard is the earlier example, with its printing block being used (in part) for printing the cards for Agnus Munk. I have yet to come across “forerunner” picture postcards for any of the other cards in the series, but believe they are likely to exist.



▼ Figure 15. This early Faroe picture postal card appears to have been created from the same printing plate as Postcard No. 7 (Figure 10). It was mailed to Paris, France – date unknown (due to missing stamp) – and was not sent by Agnus Munk.

Descriptors

While researching the Danish West Indies cards, one correspondent who had lived on the islands pointed out that the view on postcard No. 10, described as being St. Croix, was in fact a scene from St. Thomas. I have subsequently seen an illustration of another postcard showing a near identical view, describing the scene as indeed being St. Thomas. Such mis-description was not uncommon on early postcards - often occurring since postcards were produced at long distances from the scenes shown. The “Fra Danske Kolonier Og Bilande” postcards give no indications as to where they were printed, but

early postcards from the Faroes were often produced in Germany (known to be the case as parcel cards accompanying heavy parcels of postcards have survived, addressed to the main book-seller/printers/stationers, H N Jacobsens, on the islands). Mis-descriptions were sometimes corrected when a subsequent printing was made of the postcard (with the same postcards known with both incorrect and correct descriptors).

The postal stationery

As well as different views from the different countries, different stationery cards have been used. Postal stationery has been used from Iceland, Denmark and the Danish west Indies. With the exception of the Danish 5- and 10-öre cards (which have the “Coat of Arms” stamp imprint design), all the cards have the “Bicolored” stamp imprint designs. Stationery imprints of which I am aware are as follows :



▲ Figures 16 (above) and 17 (above right). Examples of the Iceland 5- and 10-Aur postal cards. Illustrations courtesy of Thomas Hoiland Auctions.



▲ Figures 18 (above left), 19 (above) and 20 (above right). Examples of Faroe Islands 3-, 5- and 10-öre postal cards. Illustration of 3-öre card courtesy of Jan Andreassen.



◀ Figure 21 (far left) and 22 (left). Examples of Danish West Indies 2¢ and 3¢ stamps on picture postal cards. Illustrations courtesy of Jan Laeby.

Different stationery imprints have often been used for the same postcard in the series. For example, from the Faroe Islands, where I have most records of these postcards, the three different stationery imprint values are known for both of the Faroe Islands cards (Nos. 7 and 8), making a total of six varieties, simply from the Faroes. Similarly,

for the Danish West Indies, I have seen both 2¢ and 3¢ cards for both postcards (Nos. 9 and 10). From Iceland, I am aware of postcards with both the imprint values (5 Aur and 10 Aur) for postcard No 1, but only the 5 Aur or the 10 Aur for the other cards. However, I expect each Iceland postcard is likely to have been used with both imprint values. I have listed in the following table, for each postcard in the series, whether I have seen “forerunner” or “prototype stationery” cards and also the imprint stationery values known to me – hopefully further information will emerge.

Pictures	Iceland					?	Faroes		DWI		
	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
Postcard No. =>											
'Forerunner' card	?	?	?	?	?	?	v	?	?	?	
'Prototype stationery' card	v	v	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	
5 Aur	v	v	v	?	v	?					
10 Aur	v	?	?	v	?	?					
3 ore						?	v	v			
5 ore						?	v	v			
10 ore						?	v	v			
2 Cents						?					v
3 Cents	?			v	v						

Unusual destinations, and double sendings

Finally, a couple of unusual aspects arise concerning postcards from the series. First, the destinations these cards have been sent to are often unusual. Second, they were often sent in pairs. From Iceland, I have seen a card sent to Surinam in South America. From the Faroes I have records of cards sent to Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, United States and East Africa – all very unusual destinations for mail from the Faroes at this time. The most common destination for these cards is Germany (known from Iceland, Faroes and the Danish West Indies), and I know of no cards sent to Denmark. Although, as already mentioned, most cards have been sent by Agnus Munck, there are several that are not, including one card sent to a Paul Munck in Chemnitz, Germany. Chemnitz was the location of a major postcard manufacturer in the early 20th century – indeed it was Pickenhahn & Sohn of Chemnitz that supplied many of the early Faroese postcards sold by H N Jacobsens in Thorshavn (referred to earlier).

Concerning duplicate sendings to the same addressee on the same date, I am aware of the following :

Iceland:

Dec. 22, 1899, to Schwendt, Germany : Card 1 (Helka) with 5 Aur imprint

Card 2 (Geysir) with 5 Aur imprint

Faroe Islands:

May 24, 1901, to Ruhrirt-Rhein, Germany ; Card 7 (Thorshavn) with 10 öre imprint
Card 8 (Kirkebo) with 3 öre imprint

(both cards have been registered)

March 23, 1902, to Philadelphia, United States: Card 7 (Thorshavn) with 10 öre imprint
Card 8 (Kirkebo) with 5 öre imprint

Request for Further Information

As will be appreciated from this article, I think there is still much more to learn about this series of cards – not leastwise the identity of card No. 6. If you do have any of these cards in your collection, or other material relating to Agnus Munck or the postcard series, I would really appreciate hearing from you. I can be contacted at : faroes.information@virgin.net

I also would, if possible, appreciate scans of cards (both front and back) or other material. I would be happy to update those interested with any further information I can collate if this would be of interest. Please let me know.

Acknowledgements

My thanks also go to various collectors and dealers who have assisted with this article, including Steffen Riis, Jan Læby, Brian Hague, Jan Andreassen, Sy Wengrovitz, Arnold Sorensen, Sheldon Heckman, Frank Banke, Thomas Hoiland Auctions and also Poul Steen, who provided the information regarding Agnus Munck. ■

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 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://sec5.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.
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 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.
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- NEW ZEALAND COORDINATOR: John Campbell, email: johncampbellnz@hotmail.com.

Bruun Rasmussen Acquires Thomas Høiland

By Alan Warren

Effective Jan. 1, 2011, the Danish auction house Bruun Rasmussen took over the Thomas Høiland firm, as they join to form a comprehensive force in the stamp and coin market. The announcement was made by Claus Poulsen, managing director of Bruun Rasmussen Auctioneers.

Høiland opened his stamp shop in Copenhagen in 1980 and held his first auction in 1991. For some years his stamp auction house was the largest in Scandinavia and one of the 10 largest in the world. Høiland completes 30 years as an independent stamp dealer and moved with some of his staff to the Bruun Rasmussen firm. Accompanying Thomas Høiland in the move are Torben Ringtved and a few other employees

The combined business will hold four traditional auctions each year: two for coins and two for stamps and postal history. Top-quality items will be featured in these sales. Continuing online auctions will also be held by the company so that many sellers will have a shorter time span between consignment and payment.

In addition to stamps and coins, Bruun Rasmussen is well known in the auction field for handling fine art, furniture, porcelain, wine, and many other collectibles. ■



Nordia 2012 Announced

The Copenhagen Philatelic Club (KPK), Denmark's oldest stamp club, will mark its 125th anniversary by organizing the Nordia exhibition in 2012 with the support of Post Danmark and in collaboration with the Frimerkeforum. The location for the show is Roskilde, just outside Copenhagen. Nordia 2012 will take place from Nov. 2-4, 2012, and will fill the whole of Roskilde Congress Centre. Mark your calendars now!

Additional details regarding Nordia 2012 will appear in future issues of *The Posthorn* as they are received. ■



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A Norwegian booklet with surprises

Rolf Nordhagen

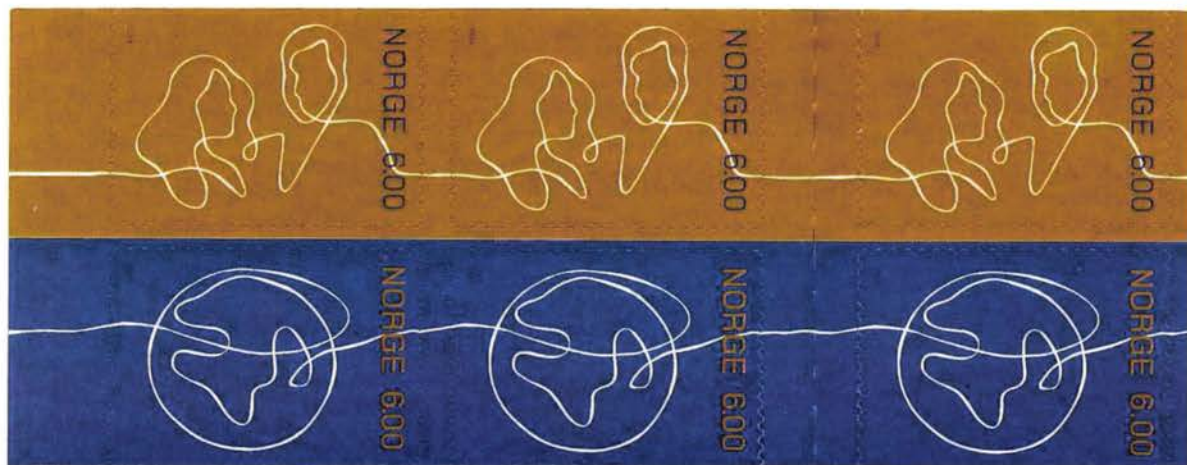
On Jan. 2, 2004, the Norwegian Postal Service released a booklet (Scott 1392-93) it called (in Norwegian) "Oss mennesker imellom." A literal translation into English would not convey the proper meaning, thus the translation "People to people" may better express the intent. It shows a white line curling on lighter and darker greenish backgrounds, on the lighter color outlining people, on the darker the globe. In my opinion the issue was quite well done. The same curls were introduced as the part of the Post's visual image decorating, among other things, its Post autos. The issue was reasonably popular, the stamps found common use and thus are not rare. As a result, these two stamps from the 2004 program represent nothing remarkable.

That is, until you start using your philatelic magnifier. Nearly all eight stamps from this booklet are different! The booklet is shown both as a user would see it (below, horizontally) and as it is viewed and counted by collectors (vertically, at right). You first may notice that the space around the decimal point in the value "6.00" is markedly wider in the top left stamp, Position 1 (when looking at the booklet upright, text reading horizontal), compared to the lower, lighter pea-green stamps. And then the second one in that column (Position 3) is also wider, but less so. Then, turning to the dark side, the second from top, Position 4, the same space again is wide, as is position 3. Using the magnifier, additional details show up, such as the way the white line crosses the "6" on the lighter stamps, near the top of the closed lower part of the "6" for positions 1 and 3, and through the middle for positions 5 and 7. Additionally, the line is closer to the first "0" on position 3 than it is on position 1.

On the dark side, only position 4 shows any obvious difference as previously mentioned (the decimal). But careful study has revealed that on position 2, the top of the curl raising up to the left of the "globe" is 0.2 mm closer to the text above. Fortunately, the same is the case for the easily identified Pos. 4, for making the careful comparison.

Thus, for this single booklet issue, we have six easily distinguished types, instead of visually different designs. But again, none is rare. So, if you have material to sort through, you can likely find all.

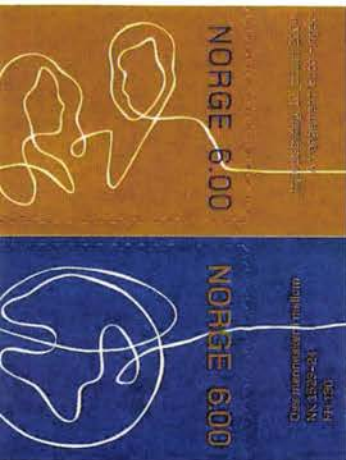
However, this is not all. There also are the shenanigans with the date of issue and the tables of postage. Above position 1 there is a text with small silvery letters, with the printed date of issue.



On the first edition you read “10. January,” even if the official day was Jan. 2. I have several booklets neatly canceled Jan. 2, 2004, sent to me as part of my subscription, each with the printed date of issue as Jan. 10! This was corrected in a later printing, so the booklet itself exists in at least two types.

Then, on the back of the booklet cover was printed a table of current postal rates. All rates for 350 gr were wrong. This was first discovered for the Norwegian rate, given as 24.00. It should have been 22.00. The Post stuck an adhesive label on booklets with the correct rates. But, before it was discovered that the other 350 gr. rates were also wrong, a second printing of the booklet had been ordered. In this second printing (listing the correct day of issue on the tab), only the Norw. 350 gr. rate was correct. And, again, self-adhesive labels were stuck on covers to correct the rates. In the third printing, the correct date of issue and all of the 350 gr rates were correct. According to an article in *NFT (Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift)*, Number 1, 2005, by Peer-Christian Aanensen, where all these antics are described, there is also an additional type with the postal rates crossed out with black ink. Thus, if you collect complete booklets, you need at least five types to complete your collection. And why were the rates wrong? Because the Post had asked for a rate change, not approved by the proper authorities, and ordered the first booklet printing while still believing the proposed rates would be approved. You would not believe it if it had not actually happened.

You may think that United States Flag booklets or United Kingdom Machin booklets take the prize for number of types and type confusion surrounding their identification. That may still be so, but at least we have a Norwegian contender. ■



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Membership

Dues renewals are still coming in this year, but there are still 103 U.S. and overseas renewals outstanding as I write this on Jan. 3. That is a lot for two months after the notices have been mailed. Everyone has been sent a renewal notice letter and will have received a reminder postcard by the time you are reading this. (I send renewal reminders after the first of the year.) I suppose some things get set aside until after New Years and then they get cleaned up. If you have set the renewal aside, please take a moment and send in your dues now. This is the last issue of *The Posthorn* you will receive if we do not get your renewal. Thank you.

This year we do not have any member enter into the Golden Life category, but there are 23 new Quarter Century members. Congratulations, 1986 was a banner year for new members! Perhaps it was a result of Ameripex '86.

Our membership decreased during the last quarter of 2010, with just a single new member joining. Unfortunately, during the same period two members passed on and we had eight resignations. That is always the quarter we receive the most resignations, as this is after the dues renewal letters go out and a few members always decide to drop out. Most members who resign include a short note explaining their reasons for leaving and most are for age or failing health. We regret losing any members, but George Kuhhorn and I really appreciate the little note that lets us know your wishes. Hopefully we will get off to a good start with the New Year.

The Posthorn Mailing

We are again having repeated problems with overseas delivery. For some strange reason, a couple of copies bound for Scandinavia are routed through New Zealand? This is one of several examples of incorrect routing by Pitney Bowes. This has been discussed before and seemed to be corrected but has cropped up again. I suspect that this is human error during the sorting process in New Jersey, but wonder how it could happen to the same address for two issues. I do not feel that is acceptable and I am concerned just how many issues are being routed through countries other than the destination. If you are an overseas member, please look at your envelope and note the meter. If it is from some country other than your address, please let me know. Once I get a bit more information I will address the issue with the representative of Pitney Bowes to find a solution. If the problem cannot be corrected, perhaps another method of distribution may be necessary. Once the issue enters the mail it is classed as periodical, so going through New Zealand or some other place can really slow the delivery.

Other Items

Last year I mentioned that the Danish Wavy-line Study Group had been inactive. I felt that it was my fault for not being more active and suggested that those interested contact me. I am still interested in working with others in this area. Please let me know if you are collecting the Danish wavy-lines, either surface printed or engraved, and I will see if we can get started up again. Enough for now. Best regards to all.

Membership Statistics for the Fourth Quarter, 2010

New Members

4166 Zelenak, Dr. Michael X.

Reinstated

3854 Noet, H. Jens

Resigned

3537 Richard W. Abel
2380 Ray L. Newburn
3974 Tony Servies
3934 R.J. Tillott
3655 Sonja H. Richards
1254 Robert W. Hamerschlag
3829 Brian Hague
4139 Arthur W. Zeitler

Deceased

4063 Keith E. Chamberlain
1939 Robert Fashingbauer

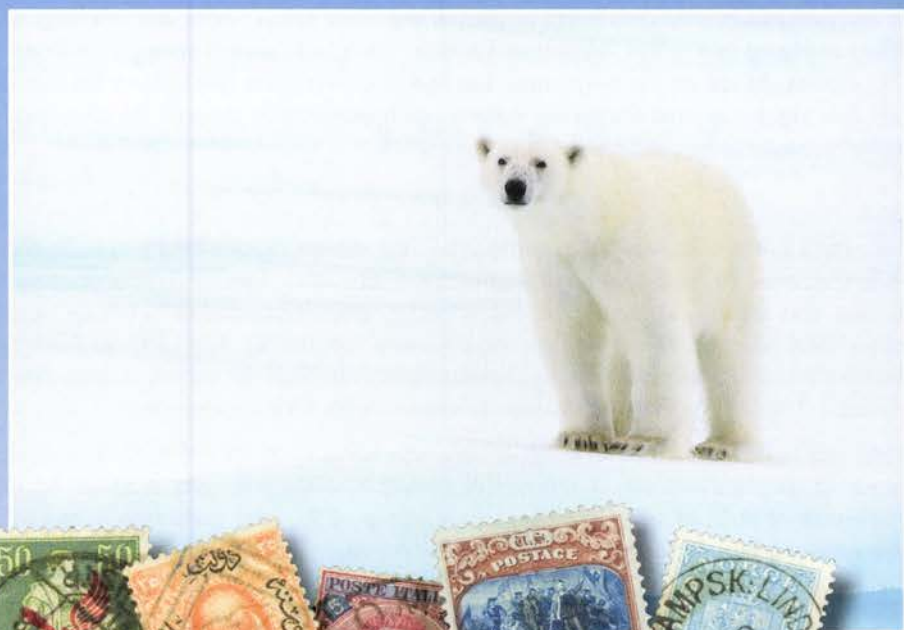
Change of Address

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Richmond, TX 77406

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3045	John D. Salminen	3397	Steve Spoerl
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3894	Brandon M. Rogers	3985	Donald G. Tollefson
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1372	John J. Christensen	2683	Anders Melberg
3226	D. Bennett	L60-2768	John Lindholm
2803	Lars Lorentzon	3814	Willy Lauth
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Iceland Í Gildi Block Confirms Rare Tête-Bêche Variety

By Ellis Glatt

A remarkable and previously unknown block of four of the 5-aur green (1898, 8th printing) with “Í Gildi” overprints appeared in a recent auction in Sweden. The block, shown enlarged in Figure 1, exhibits normal overprints in red on the top stamps, but inverted overprints in black on the bottom stamps. Although this highly unusual tête-bêche variety has been rumored to exist for some years, its status and authenticity can now be confirmed.

Background

The authorized overprinting of Iceland’s “numeral-type” aur stamps (issued between 1876 and 1901) began sometime in October 1902 and continued through mid July 1903. The Reykjavik printing firm, Fjelagsprentsmiðjan, was selected to handle the overprinting, which consisted of “Í GILDI” and “’02-’03” spaced on two lines. Sheets for overprinting initially were supplied by the G.P.O. in Reykjavik, but additional stocks later arrived from provincial post offices and even from the public at large (including dealers and collectors). Ultimately, even partial sheets were accepted for overprinting.

The overprinting was to be done either in black or red, depending upon the color of the underlying aur stamp. Since the overprint plate used could only accommodate 50 sheet positions, it had to be applied twice to overprint an entire sheet of 100. Six different variations of the plate (settings) were used during the authorized overprinting period, including some with one or more intermediate states.

One of the more common aur stamps overprinted during the authorized period was the 1898 8th and final printing of 5-aur green value, which was to receive a red overprint. However, sometime between December 1902 and February 1903, when the Setting II state of the overprint plate was in use, a handful of 5-aur sheets received the normal red overprint on the top half of the sheet, but a black overprint on the bottom half. Thus, vertical pairs extracted from the center of these sheets exhibit a red overprint on the upper stamp and a black overprint on the lower one. This scarce overprint variety has been known for many years and is currently listed by Facit as No. 51v4. At least 50 such pairs are estimated to have been produced. The elusive tête-bêche variety, however, had yet to be confirmed.

More Recent Developments

My first encounter with a possible example of the red/black tête-bêche variety came about in late 1998, when a photo of a vertical pair appeared on the cover of an auction catalog from an established auction house here in the United States. The pair was accompanied by a 1996 certificate of authenticity from a well-known expert stating it to be “genuine and without repairs,” and further stating that “the pair is partially separated,” but the “stamps belong together.”

From a study of the catalog’s relatively low-resolution photo – plus a photocopy of the photo certificate that accompanied the pair – I was able to establish the overprint plate position of each of the overprints. Unfortunately, I was less certain about the sheet positions of the underlying 5-aur stamps, at least at that time. What could be established with certainty was that the inverted black overprint on the lower stamp was from overprint plate position 45, but the normal red overprint on the top stamp was from plate position 43 and not from position 46, as expected. Both overprints appeared to be from the Setting II plate. A follow-up inquiry to the auction house yielded the additional feedback that the pair may actually have been completely severed and reattached with a hinge. Thus, considering the inconsistent plate positions of the two overprints relative to each other and the apparent separation of the pair, I assumed we were most likely dealing with an artificial construction and not a bona fide tête-bêche example.

► *Figure 1. Block of four stamps showing "Í GILDI" red/black tête-bêche overprint variety on the 1898 8th printing of the 5-aur stamp.*

Fast forward 10 years to late 2008, when I had the opportunity to review an inventory list of Í Gildi material in the famous Hals collection of Iceland, held at the National Archives of Iceland. Among the items listed was a 5-aur green perforated 12 ¾ red and black tête-bêche pair¹. A relatively high-resolution scan of the pair was subsequently made available to me for evaluation.

What caught my eye immediately in the scan of the Hals pair was a hinge affixed horizontally and stretching across nearly the entire length of the perforations between the two stamps, similar

to the one found on the example previously encountered. Signs of some perforation separation were also evident. Again, both overprints appeared to originate from the Setting II plate and the plate positions of the red and inverted black overprints were again inconsistent relative to each other. In this instance, the inverted black overprint was from plate position 43, but the normal red overprint was from position 45 and not from position 48, as normally would have been the case (assuming the inverted black overprint was properly positioned on the sheet). A cursory evaluation of the 5-aur stamps, based on the less-than-prominent cliché characteristics visible in the scan, further suggested – at least initially – that the two stamps probably did not belong together.



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Based on the foregoing initial observations, I, once again, concluded that the Hals pair was just another fabrication, most likely produced at the same time and by the same artisan who constructed the earlier pair. In each case, one of the overprints was displaced three positions relative to where the overprint should have been placed under normal application of the overprint plate.

Confirmation of Red/Black Tête-Bêche Variety

Then, in September 2010, the image of a previously unrecorded overprinted 5-aur block of four appeared in Postiljonen's web catalog for its upcoming International Auction #196 (Figure 1). It was a red/black tête-bêche block, featured as lot 251, which subsequently sold at auction Oct. 15, 2010. I have since had the opportunity to examine the block, first hand.

The first thing one observes in examining the block is that there is no support hinging between the upper and lower pairs. Although there is evidence of some previous folding at the perforations, the upper and lower pairs remain firmly attached to each other. A definitive plating analysis of the unit tells the rest of the story.

From various characteristics clearly visible, both with respect to the overprints and clichés of the underlying 5-aur stamps, the following could be determined with virtual certainty: The overprints were all produced with the Setting II plate. The inverted black overprints on the lower pair are from plate positions 42 and 41, while the normal red overprints on the top pair are from plate positions 46 and 47. The underlying 5-aur stamps plate consistently with sheet positions 39-40/49-50. Thus, the inverted black overprints align correctly with the sheet positions, at least horizontally. However, the inverted sheet must have been displaced vertically in the press, causing the black overprints to appear in sheet row 5 instead of row 6 (as normally would be the case for such a variety, assuming a full sheet was processed).

In contrast, the normal red overprints on the upper pair do not align correctly on the sheet horizontally. They are displaced three positions to the right and are further displaced up one row vertically (most probably into the top and/or right sheet margins). Unfortunately, the absence of the right sheet margin from the block makes it impossible to confirm this.

Based on these observations, there is little doubt that the subject variety must have been the creative effort of a printing office insider, perhaps with some encouragement from the individual or dealer who submitted the sheet for overprinting. The objective may have been to extract several different varieties from a single sheet. Assuming that a full sheet was processed in this manner, other possibilities include, for example, vertical pairs from sheet rows 9 and 10 with inverted black overprints in row 9, but without overprints in row 10. Similar vertical pairs, but with the inverted black overprints on the lower stamps, could have been extracted from positions in rows 4 and 5 where the red overprint was absent. Horizontal pairs, with and without normal red overprints, could have been extracted from the upper-left portion of the sheet, as well. In any event, it is fairly evident that some folding of the sheet must have been involved, hence the susceptibility of the pairs to separation.

Tying it all together

With the authenticity of the 5-aur red/black tête-bêche variety now firmly established via the block of four find, I re-examined more closely the scan of the Hals pair and the photocopy of the 1998 auction specimen. Indeed, each appears to have been extracted from rows 4 and 5 of the same sheet from which the block of four originated. I could now ascertain that the Hals example was from sheet positions 38/48 and fit nicely alongside the block of four from the adjoining positions. The earlier auction pair, albeit separated and reconstructed, proved to be from sheet positions 36/46. This accounts for four of the seven possible tête-bêche pairs that could have been extracted from the subject sheet (considering the displacement of the red overprints).

Because no other such pairs have surfaced in more than a century since the overprinting took place and,

since all of the known examples appear to originate from the same sheet, it is highly unlikely that more than seven pairs ever existed. Thus, the remaining possibilities could be a pair from sheet positions 37/47 and a block of four or two pairs from sheet positions 34-35/44-45. Unfortunately, these positions straddle the sheet positions of the known severed pair and the associated pairs may have become separated as well.

No doubt, the 5-aur red/black tête-bêche Í Gildi variety is exceedingly rare and the subject block of four could quite possibly be unique. Despite the almost certain creative efforts involved in the production of this variety, the overprinting was clearly conducted during the authorized period using the standard overprint plate under the control of the authorized printing firm. With both an unsevered block of four and reconstructed pair now recorded in private hands, the variety deserves a listing in the next edition of *Facit Special*.

(Editor's Note: The author may be contacted at Ellis Glatt, P. O. Box 80628, Las Vegas NV 89180-0628, United States, or by email: eglatt001@embarqmail.com.)

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Endnotes:

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Iceland celebrates 50th anniversary of WWF with Endangered Birds Issue

As the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) turns 50 years old this year, Iceland has become one of the first countries in the world to honor this significant anniversary. Iceland Post released four stamps Jan. 27, with endangered birds featured as their central designs. In recent years WWF stamp issues have become as popular – if not more so – than the long-running Europa and other omnibus issues.

A comprehensive survey of endangered birds in Iceland was first done in the year 2000, listing 32 bird species that account for 42% of all Icelandic breeding birds. Although endangered, not all of these species are in immediate danger of extinction. Those chosen for this year's issue represent both rare and common species, and each design is adapted from a photograph.



The **barnacle goose** (*Branta leucopsis*) migrates mainly from northern regions. These migratory birds stop over in Iceland for a few weeks every year. The breeding population has increased somewhat in the last few decades, but their numbers are limited. It is estimated that the total population of all types of barnacle geese is around 200,000.

The **white-fronted goose** (*Anser albifrons*) is a migratory bird in Iceland. The population numbers around 25,000 birds and has been steadily decreasing during the last decade.



the breeding population numbers 200–300 pairs, mainly around Mývatn. It is a migratory bird with its main winter quarters in Ireland. It is wholly protected in Iceland.

The stamps themselves were produced by well-known security printer Joh. Enschedé, and were printed by standard four-color offset lithography (cyan, magenta, yellow and black), with the addition of “Pantone silfur” (silver). Overall size of stamps is 42 by 30.45 mm



The common scoter

(*Melanitta nigra*) is one of the rarer species of ducks breeding in Iceland. It is a migratory bird and is wholly protected in Iceland. Questions about their population have been common since an oil spill of the coast of Wales in 1996 killed quite a few.

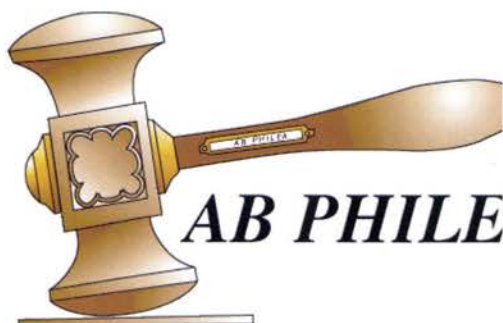
The gadwall (*Anas strepera*)

was probably first seen in Iceland during the 19th century. It is estimated that

the breeding population numbers 200–300 pairs, mainly around Mývatn. It is a migratory bird with its main winter quarters in Ireland. It is wholly protected in Iceland.



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Original essay for Sweden's first stamp at auction in Malmö

From Postiljonen

Postiljonen will hold its spring auction March 25-26 at the Savoy Hotel in Malmö, Sweden. The auction contains a large number of international rarities, as well as some impressive Scandinavian items.

One of the highlights during the auction weekend is the fabulous "Leif Ericsson" exhibition collection of classic Iceland. The collection, which was awarded several Large Gold medals, is derived in part from the famous Holger Crafoord collection and contains numerous unique and fantastic items. A very rare cover with a Bi-colored 8 Skilling and the Reykjavik numeral cancellation will be offered at a starting price of €25,000. Several other stamps, including officials, of which just one or a few copies exist on covers, are represented.

The auction also features several interesting Danish items, among them a very unusual 2 RBS Ferslew variety, the so-called "disjoined foot of 2." This stamp is the only faultless, unused copy of this variety. It is offered at a starting price of €6,000.

As has been the case for Postiljonen's last few auctions, the Swedish section is very strong, starting with a unique essay for Sweden's first stamp. Pehr Ambjörn Sparre, count and principal of the Tumba paper company, and owner of a printing company at Hötorget in Stockholm, was the one who commissioned Sweden's first stamp issue. In 1854, Sparre sent a number of sketches to the Post Agency, among them this essay for 4 Sk. Bco, which will now be offered at the auction. The starting price for this amazing original is €50,000.

Continuing in the Swedish section, a fantastic Skilling cover is for sale. The cover was sent to Germany and features a beautiful 3 Sk. Bco in the first shade, together with two copies of 6 Sk. Bco. This cover is considered the best one sent to Germany with this franking. The starting price is €35,000.

In the non-Scandinavian section, China is one of the best represented countries. For instance there is a very nice classic collection 1848-1941 at a starting price of €8,000. There are also many lots from the People's Republic of China, among them

▼ *This unique essay, created in 1854 by Pehr Ambjörn Sparre, is one of the Scandinavian rarities to be offered in the March 25-26 Postiljonen auction.*



the beautiful Peony block from 1964. This particular block comes from an award-winning thematic

collection of flowers. There is also an exciting prephilatelic cover sent from Canton with the East India Company. The ship upon which the cover was sent was called *Drottningen* (The Queen) and she only made one journey to China, as she was lost on the second one. The starting price for the cover is €1,500.

Among other interesting lots is a beautiful cover from Mauritius, with a 2-pence blue and a rare cancellation sent to Port Louis, with a starting price of €4,000. Another beautiful cover is from Schleswig-Holstein, with an interesting variety of 2 schilling pink and a superb numeral cancellation "19." The starting price is €8,000.

Finally, a number of fine collections from England, Russia, the United States and other countries will be sold, as well as large estates including Belgium, Great Britain and Sweden. ■

► **The only fault-free, unused example of the so-called "disjoined foot" of the 2 RBS of Denmark will be offered at a starting bid of €6,000.**



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in Crystal City, Minn.**

Member Advertisements

For Sale: John Campbell (4040), SCC's membership co-ordinator in New Zealand, has written a book *Czeslaw Slania - Master Engraver : 1921-2005*, published 2008. Card cover, perfect bound, 8 x 11 1/2 inches (A4) landscape, 192 pages in full color. Available for US\$75 (incl. P & P). Contact John Campbell, 1c Haumoana Road, HAUMOANA 4102, Hastings, Hawke's Bay, New Zealand. An ideal reference book of all works of this prolific Polish engraver of stamps, banknotes, cinderellas and fine engravings.



Wanted: Denmark Christian X mint blocks, hinged or unhinged. Paying more than 50% Scott. Send information to Dr. Roger G. Schnell, 4800 NE 20th Terrace, Suite 201, Ft. Lauderdale FL 33308; email, rkschoss@mindspring.com.



Wanted: Mare Balticum 1992 joint issues Sweden, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Seeking mint booklets with various plate and sheet numbers, spine marks, commercial covers, artist and engraver signatures on stamps or covers, private FDC, SOK singles, anything unusual. Mail items to F. Lutt, 9561 Daly Rd., Cincinnati OH 45231 or email frederick.lutt@zoomtown.com.



Wanted: Norway Posthorns, 1872-1929. Mint only (MNH, hinged or no gum), singles or multiples. John Stanley, 953 Green Pond Rd., Rockaway NJ 07866 (973) 983-9428.



Wanted: Short articles or longer research features of interest to Scandinavia-area collectors – any length. Wayne Youngblood, P.O. Box 111, Scandinavia WI 54977-0111, email: wystamps@gmail.com. ■

Chapter Reports

Randy Tuuri, Vice President, Chapters



Colorado Chapter 27

The November meeting was the semi-annual members' auction, which was well received. December's meeting was a show and tell by members and covered a wide variety of topics. Later in the month the annual holiday dinner was held at a member's home.

Twin Cities Chapter 14

December's meeting was a Christmas Banquet. In January the meeting reviewed mart books and studied Norway's 1967-94 phosphoresced paper stamps.

Delaware Chapter 13

November's meeting was a show and tell program, which included discussions on Arc cancels of pre-stamp Sweden, the Åland Post Road, and other topics. A post holiday luncheon for members and spouses was held in January.

Southern California Chapter 17

Members have been meeting regularly and have reviewed mart books and held show and tell sessions.

New York Chapter 7

Did not have any meetings due to schedule conflicts relating to the meeting space.

Golden Gate Chapter 21

December's meeting was held at a local show and reviewed Herb Volin's collection of used Sweden booklet panes. January saw the holiday luncheon with spouses that was enjoyed by all.

North New Jersey Chapter 9

In December a Norska Yule Feast was the main event and mart books were reviewed. January's meeting discussed the upcoming Minneapolis show in July and several members are planning to attend.

Manitoba Chapter 24

In October the election of officers for the next year was held as was talk on Sir Robert Shultz, a leading political figure of his time. A letter addressed to him has the largest-known multiple of the Norway 8 Skilling (Scott No. 5) in the Manitoba Archives. November's meeting discussed the various local shows. December was the annual holiday supper. January reviewed mart books. ■

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Scandinavian Literature Notes

By Alan Warren



News from Denmark



In the December issue of *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, Finn Nielsen writes about thematic collecting and uses the example of Danish history as reflected on the stamps and cancels of other countries. He shows examples of Denmark-themed stamps of Sweden, United States, Poland, Uganda, Finland, Norway and the Czech Republic among others.

News from Finland



Many readers are familiar with the annual yearbook of the Friends of the Postmuseum of Sweden, titled *Posttryttaren*. This hardbound book is similar to the *American Philatelic Congress Book* in that it is an anthology of high-quality philatelic articles. Similarly the Friends of the Postmuseum of Finland publish an annual called *Tabellarius*. Although softbound with card covers, the 2010 edition has some excellent articles with high-quality color illustrations.

The lead article is Hannes Saarinen's "Zeppelin: One of the Most Fascinating Innovations in Aviation History." The author gives a brief history of these airships and shows photos of some of the key players, such as *Graf Zeppelin* and Hugo Eckener. He goes on to describe the visit of the *LZ 127* to Helsinki in 1930. The article is in both English and Finnish.

The second article in this anthology, by Jarmo Ratinen and Hannu Kauppi, tells the story of the rare "1830" overprint error of this issue and how it came to be. Again the article appears in both Finnish and English. Another article by Jukka-Pekka Pietiäinen summarizes the influence of the airplane on Finland mail handling from 1920 to 2010. Events and exhibits that were held at the Postmuseum during 2009 are itemized at the end of the book.

News from Germany



In the November *Philatelic Reports*, published by the FG Nordische Staaten (research association of the Nordic countries), Rolf Dörnbach continues his long-running series on postal places in Greenland. This time he describes the post office of Attu that was established in 1989 and was known as Agto at that time. In 1990 a new CDS canceler was introduced with the office name of Attu.

News from Great Britain



In the December issue of *Scandinavian Contact*, Alan Totten describes ship mail to and from Norway via Hull during the period 1834-70. He shows various handstamp markings and mentions some of the rates. John Perry continues his series on mail from the cruise ship *Gripsholm*, this time during the prewar period 1936-39. George Kuhhorn tells about his trip last year along the Göta Canal in Sweden in the ship *Juno*. That ship is the oldest registered passenger boat in regular service. It was important for transporting mail from the 1870s and into the 20th century, and was refurbished in 1955 as a tourist boat.

Christer Brunström discusses the modern local posts of Sweden in the January *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*. Although they were allowed by Post Sweden in 1994, it was in 1997 with increased new postal rates, that towns picked up the local post incentive. The author shows examples of local post issues of Halmstad, Falköping, Kalmar, Kiruna, Lysekil, Lidköping, Karlsborg and elsewhere.

News from Iceland



Issue No. 2/2010 of *Frímerkjablaðið* illustrates the stamps planned by Iceland for release in 2011 in an article by Eðvarð T. Jónsson. Hrafn Hallgrímsson shows some postcards depicting statues of the sculptor Bertel Thorvaldsen. Sveinn Ingi Sveinsson discusses numeral cancels of Iceland.

News from Norway



Ole Hermansen points out some varieties of modern Norwegian stamps in the issue 8/2010 of *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. Irregularities of perforation, tagging, color registration and printing anomalies are illustrated. Svein H. Andersen describes the purpose of the Norwegian War and Field Post Society and shows some examples of postal history of interest to their members. The Society publishes a quarterly journal. Additional details about the group can be obtained from him by email to sveinharthor@gmail.com.

In the 1/2011 issue of *NFT*, Ole Christian Kjekshus also reports on new varieties of modern Norwegian stamps. Peer-Christian Ånensen continues his examination of steel-engraved stamps of Norway, this time with a study of the 1987 2.70 Nkr Botanical ornament stamp. He lists the various print orders and their dates of release.

In the 4/2010 issue of *NFF-Varianten*, Trygve Karlsen continues his series on the postal history of the Namdal district with a discussion of mail of Vigten-Garstad.

News from Sweden



An error of the 1918 provisional with 12-on-25-öre overprint on the medallion issue is the subject of an article in the issue 8/2010 of *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, by Fredrick Schell and Sven-Erik Holmedal. This is Facit catalog No. 100, with the overprint inverted. Used copies of the invert placed at the bottom of the stamp are known on and off cover with cancellations at Guliksberg where the stamps were sold.

In the same issue, Bo Dahlner begins a new series on the coil stamps of Sweden 1920-36 and in this first installment he examines the paper used for these issues. Christer Brunström writes about the famous Swedish author August Strindberg. The year 2010 was the 70th anniversary of one of the military stationery letters issued by Sweden, in particular the variety known as M8 in the Facit catalog. Harry Hohndorf describes this item in the same issue 8/2010 of *SFT*.

Mats Edström describes the Christmas seals issued by the Thorvaldsen Society of Iceland in the issue 2/2010 of *Bältespännaren*, journal of the Cinderella collectors based in Sweden. He shows examples of some of the seals issued between 1913-17.

News from Elsewhere

Geir Sør-Reime continues his series on the stamps of island nations in the Dec. 24 issue of *Mekeel's & Stamps Magazine*, with a discussion on Iceland and its many postage stamps. ■

**‘Check Out’
the SCC’s Library**

**Go to: www.scc-online.org
There’s a HUGE amount of information available!**

Transfers and Re-Entries

By Alan Warren

Bo Grendal, recent editor of the **Swedish Federation**'s journal, *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift*, is promoting both philately and postcards in his periodical, *Svensk Filateli*, published by Skillingtrycket. Additional details can be found at the firm's new home page: www.skillingtrycket.com.

One of the great Internet resources with exhibits from all around the world is the Exponet site, www.japhila.cz. Here one can see more than 600 different exhibits from nearly 50 countries. One of the latest additions to the site is the two-frame exhibit *The Finnish Mourning Stamp*, by SCC member **Henk Fiolet** of the Netherlands. He describes the three different printings of this interesting label, shows a first-day cover of its use, privately printed postcards with the mourning stamp imprint, double postcards and use to foreign destinations.

The specific location of Fiolet's exhibit is www.japhila.cz/hof/0618/index0618a.htm.

The February newsletter of the **Faroe Islands Study Circle** advises that a national exhibition scheduled for 2012 in Scotland will have a Scandinavian theme. In conjunction with the show the **Philatelic Congress of Great Britain** will hold its 94th meeting and the Association of British Philatelic Societies exhibition will run Oct. 19-20, 2012. Although not restricted to Scandinavian exhibits, Nordic material is invited to be entered. The venue is the Dewars Center on Glover Street in Perth, Scotland.

In the same issue of the FISC newsletter there is described an effort under study to have the Scandinavian countries unite into a federation as a single unit that would then enter the European Union. The **United Nordic Federation** would allow individual "states" to retain their national identities, but their sovereignty would be a function of the federal government established. The idea was floated about two years ago and further meetings to explore this idea are planned.

In 1886 the **Kristiana Filatelistklub** was founded and this year, as the **Oslo Filatelistklubb**, the group marks its 125th anniversary. Although the celebration will occur all year long, a highlight will be the Filos 2011 national exhibition that will be held Nov. 11-13. Opening day is also Frimerkets Dag.

The following Nordic judges were successful apprentices at the FIP show in Lisbon in October 2010: **Lars Peter Svendsen** of Denmark in traditional philately; **Patrik Larsson** of Sweden in postal history; and **Hallvard Slettebø** of Norway in thematics. At the same show **Jonas Hällström** of Sweden successfully apprenticed as a team leader for thematic philately. ■

SCC and Scandinavian Show Calendar

2011

NORDIA 2011, April 1-3, Jyväskylä, Finland.

Minnesota Stamp Expo, Crystal, Minn., July 15-17

2012

NORDIA 2012, Nov. 2-4 in Roskilde, Denmark. Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (SCC National Meeting), May, Denver, Colo.

2013

Winnipeg, June 21-23 with Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

2017

Westpex, April, San Francisco, Calif.

Vandmærke Krone I danske helsagskuverter



The crown watermark in Danish postal stationery envelopes by Willy Lauth, 3rd edition, 23 pages, 6 by 9¼ inches, in Danish. Available from Forlaget Skilling/DAKA, Rebslagervej 8-16, 2400 Copenhagen NV, Denmark. Price 50.00 Dkr.

The third edition of this specialty study of the watermarks found on the Danish postal stationery envelopes issued from 1865 to 1936 has a few more illustrations than the first edition. The introduction states that more than 3,000 postal envelopes were studied. Five different main-type watermarks used are illustrated first. The illustrations are based upon a view from the back of the envelopes. Thereafter the many varieties and flaws are profusely illustrated in six pages having a total of 61 individual pictures. The illustrations are very concise and self explanatory for readers not fluent in Danish. The Type 1 watermark has 36 illustrations, while Type 5 only has one. The dimensions are given in millimeters, and the abbreviation "H." stands for "height," while "Br." is "width." There are a few other Danish words that warrant a translation. The Cross on top is "kors," while the ball is "æble" (literally apple).

There are only two photo illustrations, and otherwise the book has three illustrations (drawings) of the machines used in adding the watermarks.

The book makes no reference to the Danish West Indies stationery, but the first four main-type watermarks are present on those issues. The only reported variety is the double watermark.

Collectors specializing in Danish postal stationery should find this to be an easy reference.

— Arnold Sorensen

Scandinavian Area Awards

Palmpex, Vapex, Chicagopex, Florex & Stamp Show awards

Large silver awards went to two Nordic area exhibits at the Palmpex 2010 national show in Palmerston North, New Zealand in November. **Harry Swanigung** received the award for *Finland: The 1875-1884 Coat of Arms Issue*, and another went to **Patricia Capill** for *Denmark: The Evolution of the Danish Postal System*. **Robert Hisey** won a gold, the APS 1900-1940 medal of excellence, the APS research award and the show reserve grand award with his *The First Definitives of the Finnish Republic* at the Vapex show in Williamsburg, Va., in November.

In the literature section of the Chicagopex show in November, the **Scandinavian Philatelic Foundation** received a vermeil for the handbook *The Maritime Postmarks of the Danish Kingdom* co-authored by **Stefan Danielski** and **Ernst Schilling**. Another vermeil went to SCC's *The Posthorn*.

Robert Hisey received a gold and the show grand award at Florex held in Orlando, Fla., in December with his *The First Definitives of the Finnish Republic*. At the York County (Pa.) Stamp Show in January, **Alan Warren** received a vermeil and an AAPE award for *Horsens Filatelistklub Cachets for Denmark's Vitus Bering Commemorative Issue*. ■

— Alan Warren

Albums Closed

George W. Sickels, 1920-2010

Scandinavian Collectors Club Chapter 9 of northern New Jersey lost long-term member and Iceland collector George Sickels of Union, N.J. He died Dec. 23, 2010, at age 90 after a long illness. George served with the U.S. forces in Iceland during World War II, where he met and wed his lovely wife Thora. After the war, he taught high school and served in the Army Reserve where he attained the rank of Colonel. He loved Iceland and its people. Iceland became his second home as he and Thora spent all their vacations there.

George was an avid collector of Icelandic stamps and was a recognized expert in the field of Icelandic APO and military postal history. He authored more than two dozen articles in *The Posthorn* on topics such as skilling covers, military mail of WW II, undercover mail to Box 506 and revenues, among many other topics. The SCC library has a copy of his gold-medal exhibit on Iceland revenues.

George joined SCC in 1971 and served as President of Chapter 9 and as Regional Representative to SCC from 1977-93. After retiring from teaching, George worked with dealer Jerry Birdsall at Northland Stamp Co. for 20 years, until he was no longer able to due to deteriorating health. The annual Christmas parties at the Sickels' (featuring Icelandic specialties) will long be remembered by those fortunate to have attended. In addition to his wife Thora, George leaves sons Dan and Eric, and two granddaughters. ■

– Warren Grosjean and Alan Warren



Henrik Pollak 1926-2011



Longtime SCC member and Scandinavian dealer Henrik Pollak died Jan. 12 at age 84. He resided in the Elmhurst section of Queens, N.Y., and for many years had his shop at 303 Fifth Avenue, near 31st Street, in Manhattan.

Following the death of Carl Pelander, Pollak became the premier Scandinavian dealer in the United States. He was in business for more than 50 years and was highly respected both here and abroad for his knowledge. He continued to serve his clientele with Scandinavian material right up until he died. He was a former associate editor of the Scott catalog and had oversight for the pricing of Switzerland and the Scandinavia area. He also performed expertizing and issued certificates. His certificates were highly regarded, since he was the most knowledgeable person in his field. The Danish West Indies expert Vic Engstrom once noted that Henrik discovered a previously unrecorded variety

of the 7¢ DWI bicolor issue. In the lower-right corner ornament one of the petals lacks a stem. Vic liked to call that variety "Pollak's Petal."

Born in Austria, Pollak escaped to Sweden, where he worked on a farm and then immigrated to the United States after World War II. Here he met a Connecticut girl and married. His wife Marion preceded him in death.

"Henry," as he was known to many of his friends, was active in SCC Chapter 7 in New York and frequently donated material for chapter auctions. In 2008 he was honored as a Golden Life Member of SCC with his 50 years of membership. ■

– Jerry Birdsall, Carl Probst, and Alan Warren

S.C.C. Library Auction #23

(Closing Date **May 15, 2011**)

This is the 23rd auction of items being offered to SCC members. These 16 lots are excess 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 **May 15, 2011**.

Editor's Note: Roger Cichorz reports this may be the last regular S.C.C. Library Auction for a while, as the library currently has no inventory of excess books and literature to place on sale. S.C.C. members are urged to donate excess and/or unwanted items to the library. Any duplicate or excess items received as donations will be offered in future auctions, with sales proceeds going to future literature acquisitions.

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 from dealers' pricelists (CMV) is included in the lot description 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 instances 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. Email 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"), USPS postal money order, bank draft or in currency (at sender's risk – auctioneer suggests certified or insured mail). Sorry, 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, catalogues and periodicals are generally used library copies in serviceable condition, unless otherwise noted in the lot descriptions.
6. Prices realized for lots are published in *The Posthorn*. Unsold lots are noted at the end of the prices realized list, and are available on a first-come, first-served basis at their starting bids.

Lot Numbers and Descriptions:

Faroes – Postverk Føroya publicity posters. The first three lots of this auction comprise posters published by Postverk Føroya to publicize new Faroese issues □ great ancillary items for a specialized Faroese collection and suitable for framing and display. Each poster lot will be posted rolled in a mailing tube.

1. 1988-89: three oversize (~16" by 23") posters showing all the Faroese stamps issued through years 1975-89 and yearbooks for 1988 and 1989. **Starting Bid = \$1.**
2. 1987-90: 11 (~11¼" by 16½") posters showing stamps with trawlers, Hafnia, flowers, Europa-CEPT (2), jolafundurin, island games, fishing industry, Merkid/flag, whales and Danielsen art. **Starting bid = \$5.**
3. 1994-98: 11 (~11¼" by 16½") posters showing stamps with Brúsajökil's poem, dogs, Europa-CEPT (2), early folk life, fish, birds/Nordic art, Hvalvík church, films and 1998 multi-issues (2). **Starting bid = \$5.**
4. **Iceland:** Iceland Cancellations and Related Materials, A Reading from the Icelandic, a compilation of 28 articles from the Philatelic Federation of Iceland's *Tímaritið Grúsk* (Iceland Collectors Journal), translated into English by the

- Scandinavian Philatelic Federation, published by the APRL, 1984, 96 loose-leaf pages in binder, illustrated. Helpful information on Icelandic postmarks and other subjects. EMV = \$10, **Starting Bid = \$3.**
5. **Åland:** *Åland Isles – Post Offices and Their Cancellations, 1812-1982*, trilingual text in English, Finnish and Swedish, by Eero J. Helkiö, Kaj Hellman Ltd., 1982, 96 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, very good condition. This was the definitive catalog of Åland postmarks until Mattsén and Hirvikovski's *Alandia* was published in 1991 □ still useful in that it has a three-page postal history introduction in English and numerous illustrations not found in *Alandia*. EMV = \$25, **Starting Bid = \$10.**
6. **Finland:** *Finnish Fieldpost, 1939-1945*, in English, by Les Freestone and Eric Keefe, The Scandinavian Philatelic Society, Surbiton, Surrey, England, 2001, 296 pages, profusely illustrated, spiral-bound paperback, ISBN 0 9523532 2 9, pristine. The authoritative reference on this subject! CMV = \$49, **Starting Bid = \$20.**
7. **Denmark:** *Danish Øre Bicolors: An Introduction*, in English, by Peter Bergh, author's 2002 preliminary draft manuscript for a soon-to-be-published reference book, 89 pages, profusely illustrated, comb-bound paperback, pristine. Much useful information here with full-color blowups of printing details and illustrations of numerous stamps, multiples, and covers from the author's collection and detailed index. EMV = \$25, **Starting Bid = \$10.**
8. **Denmark:** *Danish Øre Bicolors: An Introduction*, in English, by Peter Bergh, another 2002 preliminary draft manuscript for a soon-to-be-published reference book, 79 pages, profusely illustrated, spiral-bound paperback, pristine. Similar version of the book offered as previous Lot #7. EMV = \$25, **Starting Bid = \$10.**
9. **Denmark:** Clearance lot comprising 10 out-of-print philatelic paperbacks, primarily in Danish, in very good to excellent condition □ a veritable treasure trove with much of interest here at a giveaway starting bid for the entire lot: *AFA Danmark 1875 Ovalklicheer 16 Øre, Fra Mig til Dig i 5000 År / From Me to You in 5000 Years* by Ib Eichner-Larsen, *1919 Aarbog for Frimærkesamlere / 1919 Yearbook for Stamp Collectors*, *Katalog der Dänischen Dampfschiffpostmarken* (in German) by K. Spälti-Schiesser, *AFA 1953 Frimærke-Samlingen / AFA 1953 Stamp Collection*, *KE Special Katalog – Stjernestempler, 1973/74, 1975 KE Special Katalog – Danske Nummerstempler – Samtlige Udgaver 1851-1884, Dansk Postmuseum (1912) Guidebook, The Danish Post and Telegraph Museum (1987)*, in English) by A. Morell Nielsen, and *Tønder Det Danske Frimærke*, plus a bonus *1988 Pressemappe* (press folder) containing several illustrated press releases for Denmark stamp issues. EMV= \$90, **Starting Bid = \$10.**
10. **Denmark:** Clearance lot comprising 12 nonphilatelic, history-related paperback booklets, all in Danish, in excellent condition □ another treasure trove with much of potential interest here at a giveaway starting bid for the entire lot: *Tønder Det Danske Frimærke / Tønder The Danish Stamp*, *Vejleder for Udlands-Danske i Juridiske, Sociale og Økonomiske Spørgsmaal / Advisor for Foreign-Danish in Legal, Social and Economic Questions*, *Ti Huse på Frilandsmuseet / Ten Houses at the (Lyngby) Open Air Museum* (with four additional Frilandsmuseet guides: *Ostenfeldgården, Gården fra Sønder Sejerslev, Huset fra Ødis Bramdrup and Huset fra Dörröd*), *Lillebæltsbroen Aabningsaaet 1935 / Little Belt Bridge Opening 1935*, *Fredericias Belejring og Befrielse 1849 / Fredericia's Siege and Liberation 1849*, *Til Minde om Christian Den Tiendes Bisættelse / In Memory of Christian X's Funeral*, *Romantisk Skjønhed og Grandio Storhed / Romantic Beauty and Grandiose Splendor* and *Det Idylliske København / Historical Copenhagen*. EMV= \$120, **Starting Bid = \$10.**
11. **Denmark:** Clearance lot comprising seven nonphilatelic, history-related paperback booklets, all in English, in excellent condition □ another treasure trove with much of potential interest here at a giveaway starting bid for the entire lot: *Direct Taxation in Denmark*, *Danish Trade Problems in Wartime*, *The Museum of the Danish Resistance Movement 1940-1945*, *The Cannon Hall, Discovery – Iceland Amazing Adventure*, *Copenhagen – The Old Historical City* and *Denmark-USA – 200 years of Close Relations*. EMV= \$70, **Starting Bid = \$10.**

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12. **Denmark:** *Stjernestempler – Brevsamlingsstempler samt Deres Forløbere og Aflosere / Star Postmarks – Letter-Collection Postmarks and Their Predecessors and Successors*, in Danish, by Jerry Kern and Jan Bendix, Forlaget Skilling, Skibby, Denmark, 224 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, ISBN 87-87832-59-3, pristine. The primary authoritative catalog of the Esrom-, star I-, star II- and starless-type postmarks, alphabetically listed by place names, with recorded dates of use, information on dated side cancels, and prices for on and off cover strikes; although in Danish, easy to use because of catalogue format. EMV = \$40, **Starting Bid = \$10.**
13. **Denmark/Norway/Scandinavia:** Miscellaneous lot of nine different philatelic periodicals issued in 2010, eight of which are slick, profusely color-illustrated issues ranging from 40-64 pages each – a good sampling to familiarize you with these several journals all published in Europe, to determine which might be of exceptional interest and possibly worthwhile subscribing to or borrowing from the SCC Library. Many hours of perusal and enjoyment here, with in-depth articles on prephilatelic to modern postal history, classic stamps and their use on mail, airmail services, plating studies, topicals and many other subjects. EMV= \$30, **Starting Bid = \$5.**
14. **Norway:** *Norgeskatalogen 1983*, in Norwegian (but with an English introduction, Norwegian-to-English vocabulary list, and postal-history article), Oslo Filatelistklubb, 1982, 352 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, ISBN 82-7319-006-4, excellent condition. This catalog has an excellent lengthy “one-off” article (not in other *Norgeskatalogen* issues) in English about the postal history of Norwegian stamp issues of 1855-85, with illustrations in full color of rare covers, plus rarity data and other features useful for the Norway specialist and/or postal historian. EMV= \$10, **Starting Bid = \$2.**
15. **Sweden:** *Facit 1985 Ortstämpelkatalog / Postal History*, bilingual in English and Swedish, Frimarkshuset AB, 333 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, ISBN 91-86564-05-6, excellent condition. This Second Edition of Facit’s “Place Cancellation” Catalog is a definitive listing of Sweden’s cancels and postal markings, including prephilatelic and those of post offices by place names, postal agencies, rural mail, steamships, railways and more. Useful reference on Swedish postal markings despite the outdated prices. EMV= \$10, **Starting Bid = \$2.**
16. **Sweden:** *Frimärks Dag Memory / Stamp Day Memory*, a game comprised of 20 (1-9/16”-square) cards, each bearing a reproduction of a modern Sweden stamp on one side. Two cards of the set each picture the same stamp, so the object of the game is to match pairs from memory while taking turns turning over the cards one at a time and returning them to their backside if you do not match up a pair with the same stamp design. The player who matches the most pairs during the round wins. Nice ancillary material for the specialized modern Sweden stamp collection, plus a potential fun time of philatelic game playing. EMV= \$5, **Starting Bid = \$1.** ■

Prices Realized – SCC Library Auction #22 (Closed Feb. 15, 2011)

#1 = \$20, #2 = \$29, #3 = \$37, #4 = \$3, #5 = \$5, #6 = \$12, #7 = \$2, #8 = \$13, #9 = NS, #10 = \$10, #11 = \$11, #12 = \$8, #13 = NS, #14 = \$7, #15 = \$12, #16 = \$13, #17 = \$25, #18 = NS, #19 = \$14, and 20 = \$7.

Summary: For this auction, there were nine bidders, seven of whom were successful in winning one or more lots. A total of 17 of the 20 lots sold, with realizations totaling \$228 against starting bids of \$164. ■

Need Help? Try SCC’s Helper’s Service

SCC is one of the few collector societies to provide a standing group of expert volunteers who are capable of answering most any question you may have on Scandinavian material. The SCC’s Helper’s List now has the final translator that was needed (Norwegian) thanks to a friend, Vincent Abate, who was kind enough to volunteer.

The idea of having an information center was born several years ago. Contacts were made with known specialists from within the club. Not one person refused to join in.

The system works as follows: contact me via email (geokuhh@starfishnet.com) or at PO Box 4486, Emerald Isle NC, 28594, with your question. I will contact the appropriate specialist with your request. So far this system has worked well for everyone. There is so much knowledge available, so feel free to ask. The price is right too – it is included in your dues. So, get your money’s worth! – *George Kuhhorn, Helper/Trader list coordinator*

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