

## ***Iceland Special***

***The Definitive  
Guide to Iceland's  
Christian X Lettercard  
Postal Stationery  
by Ellis Glatt***

# THE POST HORN

JOURNAL OF  
SCANDINAVIAN PHILATELY

1/2017



*Finlandia 2017, the largest European philatelic exhibition this year, will take place in Tampere in late May. The city is well known for its industrial history. The former textile factory's engineering works locate today the Museum Centre Vapriikki, also the new home of the Postal Museum. The postcard is from the early 1900s.*



## ***On the way to Tampere...***

- ***Preparing for Finlandia 2017***
- ***Vapriikki is the new home of the Postal Museum***
- ***The Battle for Tampere 1918 – the Civil War tragedy in picture postcards***

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## "Times Change, Stamps Remain"

The title was originally the slogan of an FIP exhibition held in Bucharest, Romania, in 2008. It referred to the huge political, economic, and social changes in that country between the first EFIRO exhibition in the 1930s, and the one which was organized five decades later.

At the moment it seems like the whole world will again be changing, and the direction is far from clear. Even in philately old structures are questioned in a way which could not have been imagined a few years ago, starting from the international philatelic federation, the FIP.

One minor change is that *The Posthorn* got a new Editor at the beginning of this year. I want to thank Wayne Youngblood for his help when I was starting this job, and I wish him the best of everything in the future.

In a way, the Scandinavian Collectors Club has returned to its roots: when the club was established in New York in 1935, its name was Finnish-American Stamp Club. "Scandinavian" was included in the new name in 1942. At that time, the technology would not have made it possible, or reasonable, to make a magazine in Finland to be delivered in America, but in our time that is just everyday life.

My intention is not only to make a magazine, the goal is to make a magazine with more philatelic content than earlier. Another important target is to reorganize the schedules to avoid such delays that we have seen during the last few years. There has been no single reason for those delays. If a magazine that should have come out in August arrives in November, the whole chain needs to be revised for better performance.

Curiously, thinking of our hobby and main interest, the most uncertain factor of this chain is shipping. While the rates are getting higher year by year, the delivery gets slower and more uncertain. When you get this No 1/2017 issue in your hands, please let me know when it arrived in your home address. That is how we learn how the system is working, and can find out how to improve it. Thank you.



Seija-Riitta Laakso, Editor  
at: seijulaakso@gmail.com

## Preparing for Finlandia 2017

The preparations for the Finlandia 2017 exhibition are ongoing in Tampere, Finland. "Finlandia will be the largest exhibition in Europe in 2017, and the most important one in Finland for decades," says Jussi Tuori, the Chairman of the Executive Team, and the Jury President.



Finnish exhibitors and judges were invited in a one-day "sparring event" in Tampere on 14 January. According to Jussi Tuori (speaking in the picture) there will be ca 400 exhibits from Europe, the USA, and Australia.

The 2,200 frames exhibition will take place in the Tampere Hall as well as in Vapriikki, where the new Postal Museum is located.

"The cooperation with the Postal Museum has worked very well, and the City of Tampere has warmly welcomed us from the very beginning," says Jussi Tuori, who wears several hats in the exhibition. He is the Chairman of the Executive Team, Vice President of the Organizing Committee, and the Jury President.

According to Jussi, the Tampere Hall turned out to be a better place for a major exhibition than the Messukeskus in Helsinki. It is located in the city centre, distances are short, and there are plenty of hotels nearby. The prices are lower than in Helsinki. "It is also easier to find the needed 200 volunteers from this region than from the Helsinki area," he notes.

Those who plan to arrive in Finland for the exhibition may be delighted to learn that late May is a much nicer period in Finland than most others. Tampere offers plenty of sight-seeing in addition to the exhibition. For further information, please take a look at <https://finlandia2017.fi/>.



"The exhibition will have a special theme each day: Agathon Fabergé, 100 years' Independence of Finland, City of Tampere, Moomins, Postal Museum and Postcrossing," tells Jukka Mäkinen, Chairman of the Organizing Committee.

### Publishing dates of *The Posthorn* 2017

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No. 3/2017	1 August	10 September
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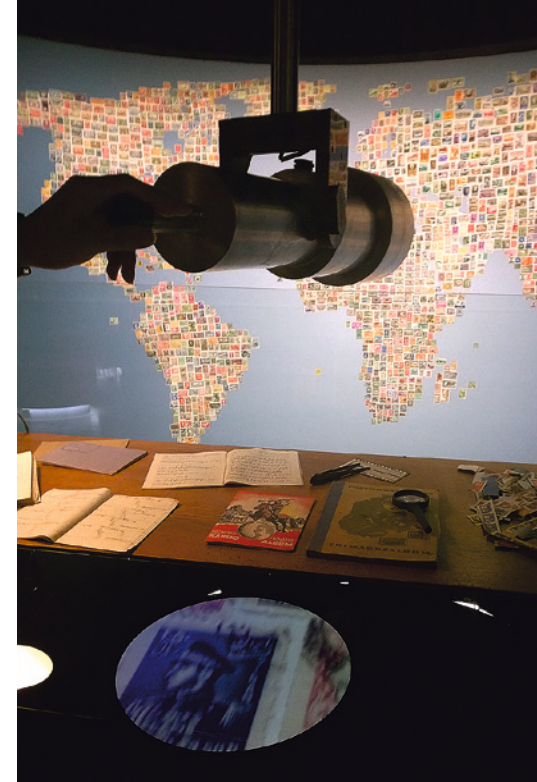
## Vapriikki is the new home of the Postal Museum

When the news came a few years ago that the Post Museum of Finland would move from its central location at the Helsinki Main Post Office to Tampere, there were many protests and plenty of mourning. For the museum it was finally a lucky change.

Locating in the former engineering works of Tampella textile mill on the banks of the Tammerkoski rapids, the new Postal Museum found its place in a vivid museum centre together with several other museums and versatile exhibitions.

“Vapriikki Museum Centre is very popular. The number of visitors reached 165,000 in 2016, and about 90 % visited also the Postal Museum,” says Kimmo Antila, Director of the Museum.

The Postal Museum will display gems from the museum’s philatelic collections of Classic Finland during Finlandia 2017, as well as rarities from the



To the left, the philatelic map of the world can be studied closer by moving the telescope. The magnified picture of the chosen stamp appears on the desk in front of you.



This picture just had to be taken for the readers of *The Posthorn*!

*Vapriikki* is an old Finnish slang word for “tehdas” (mill, factory). It comes from the Swedish word *fabrik*, which means the same.



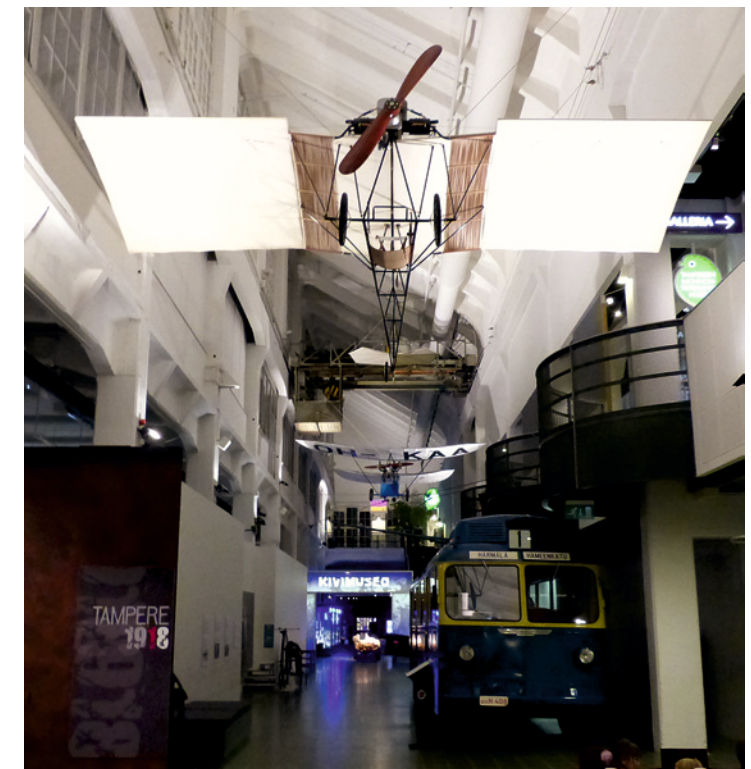
Kimmo Antila, to the right, tells about the museum’s activities to visiting philatelists.

British Queen’s collection.

There are also several other museums and permanent exhibitions in Vapriikki, including The Finnish Hockey Hall of Fame, and the Finnish Museum of Games. Two permanent exhibitions shed light on the history of Tampere: one is about the Tammerkoski rapids and the history of the city, the other concentrates on the events in Tampere during the Civil War in 1918.

You will get an idea of what happened in Tampere that year by reading Kari Salonen’s article on pages 8–15 in this magazine.

One of the new temporary exhibitions will show treasures from the Forbidden City in Beijing. This exhibition will take place during Finlandia 2017.



**SRL**

Vapriikki is the home for several museums and permanent exhibitions.



## The Battle for Tampere 1918

"The Finnish Civil War, the Tampere front, the grueling battle in and around the city, and its aftermath." That is shortly the plot of the picture postcard exhibit presented here by its collector, Kari Salonen from Tampere.

The Finnish Civil War is known by many names, depending on one's background and point of view: the War of Liberation, the Class War, the Insurgency, etc. The bloodiest battles were fought to gain control over the city of Tampere. The Red forces could have withdrawn with minor losses before the city was completely encircled by the White army, but that was out of the question. The Red defenders were for the most part inhabitants of Tampere and the surrounding areas, which meant that they would only flee in extreme circumstances. The Whites would also have been able to leave Tampere in a state of siege, and press on towards Lahti and Vyborg in pursuit of the Red

troops who were withdrawing towards St. Petersburg. If this had happened, far fewer lives would have been lost on both sides while awaiting the outcome of political decisions made in Helsinki and Vyborg.

My postcard collection depicts some 160 postcards and a few maps. The emphasis is on the places, buildings and people associated with the war events rather than on the development of the military situation. The collection is comprised of original, postally used picture postcards; however, because of the nature of the subject, it has also been necessary to include unused postcards which were kept as souvenirs.



The bolshevik revolution in Russia overthrew Czar Nicholas II in 1917. The revolutionary movement spread also to Finland. – The rare double postcard was published by V. Leikas in Raivola, Carelian Isthmus (today Russia).



Äänestyskokous 6/11-05

Emil Lyytikäisen Kirjakauppa Tampere

Tampere was the centre of the nation-wide general strike in 1905. The postcard above shows the crowds gathered at the Central Square on 6 Nov 1905. – Published by Emil Lyytikäinen's bookshop in Tampere, printed in Lübeck, Germany.

City views on postcards were published by all local bookshops, and they were mainly printed in Germany or Sweden, especially the multicolor cards. The most interesting war scenes are the real photo postcards which were published by some local photographers soon after the fighting had ceased. These are very hard to find postally used. Also group photos of people preparing to depart to the front are eagerly sought after. I have never seen a postcard depicting the struggles, and even photos of them are extremely rare.

The workers' movement was strengthening in Finland in the early 1900s, and social conflicts led to a nation-wide general strike in 1905. Tampere was the centre of it, and the famous "Red Declaration" was read to the strikers from the balcony of the City Hall on 1 Nov 1905. A general strike was declared on 6 November. Revolution was not yet on the agenda at that time. Attempts were made to address social inequities through legislation. However, the first Red Guards were already being formed to maintain order. The White side established its own civil guards.

The idea that Finland could secede from Russia was first proposed several years earlier when "Russification" threatened the Finnish legal sys-

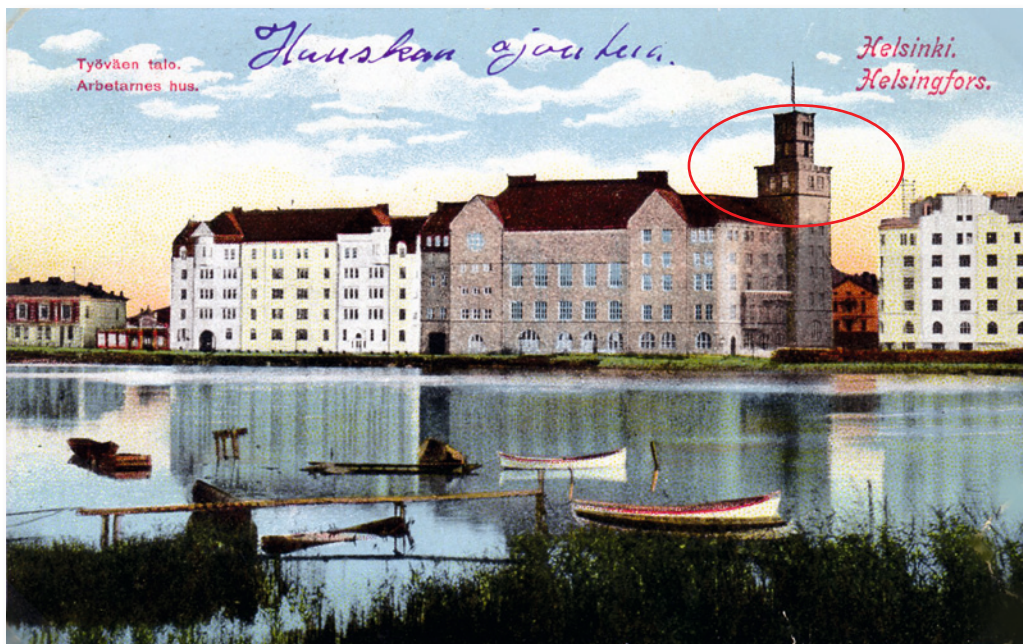
tem. About 2,000 proponents of Finnish independence emigrated to Germany in order to receive military training. A camp was established for them in the small town of Lockstedt, near Hamburg. These men would become the most elite troops of the White Army.

Finland's Senate declared independence on 6 Dec 1917, following the Bolshevik overthrow of Czar Nicholas II. The Revolutionary Council ("Soviet") of St. Peterburg sought to make Finland a full-fledged Soviet Republic. There were still some 75,000 Russian troops in Finland because of the German threat (this was still in the middle of WW1). Some 7,000–10,000 of those Russians participated the Finnish Civil War on the Red side.

The White Guards started to disarm the Russian troops in Ostrobothnia on the western coast of Finland. The country soon found itself divided into a White agricultural North Finland, and a Red industrial South. The White northern Finns were joined by the Jaegers, returning from Germany on 25 February. Scattered Reds in the north were eliminated. Tampere thus found itself the focus of the Civil War.

Fighting had begun on 28 January, but Tampere was not declared a war zone until 23 March.





In the evening of 27 February the Reds lifted up a red lantern in the tower of Helsinki Workers' House as the sign of the beginning of the revolution. – Published in Berlin, Germany, sent in Finland on 25 Dec 1919.

Tampere was an industrial city. Most of its inhabitants were factory workers, so there was no bloodshed when the Reds took over. Even female Red Guards were established in Tampere, and they would distinguish themselves during the fighting.

The Commanders of the troops defending Tampere were Ali Aaltonen, a veteran of the Russian army, and later Tuomas Hyrskymurto, from Turku. During the decisive battles the Red Commander-in-Chief was Hugo Salmela, an amateur actor from



White volunteers in Raahé, Northern Finland. – Real photo postcard, sent to Tampere on 5 Apr 1918.

To the right, General Carl Gustaf Emil Mannerheim, who had distinguished himself in the Russian Imperial Army, was appointed by the Senate as the Commander-in-Chief of the White troops in February 1918. While the Germans were landing at Porvoo on the 3rd and at Helsinki on the 14th April, Mannerheim thought it was imperative that the White Finns would take Tampere without their help, excluding Colonel Ausfeld (see page 12).

Kotka, and at the final end of the hostilities, Verner Lehtimäki, who had spent some years in the USA. Responsibility for the defense of the district of Pispala was entrusted to Aatto Koivunen.

The encirclement of Tampere tightened, and by the end of March all access to Helsinki was cut off. In the command of Eino Rahja, more weapons and troops were brought by train from St. Petersburg, but the blockade could not be broken. Tampere was heavily bombarded from the East, and over 100 wooden residential structures were leveled.

A large scale offense by the Whites came from the East through the Kalevankangas graveyard on 28 March. It was the most devastating battle of the



war – for the attackers as well as for the defenders.

Leading the White assault was Colonel Ausfeld. Focusing on Näsilinna palace, on a hill overlooking the entire battlefield, Ausfeld ordered Jaeger Lieutenant Gunnar Melin's company to attack through the city and seize the high ground from the Reds. However, the Reds seemed to hold the crucial position with the help of an armored train. One day later the Whites finally took the position. Dead bodies littered the rocks and landscape of Näsilinna, while family members came to identify and mourn their loved ones. The Reds of Tampere gave up on 6 April, and the focus of the war moved towards Vyborg in the East.

As soon as the fighting had ended, the Whites started to move Red captives to the Market Square. Some 10,000 surrenders were eventually taken to prison camps. The Red deceased were gathered to mass graves in the Kalevankangas graveyard,

The Swedish volunteer corps suffered heavy losses. One of the young casualties was Styrbjörn von Stedingk, a combat messenger (on postcard to the left).

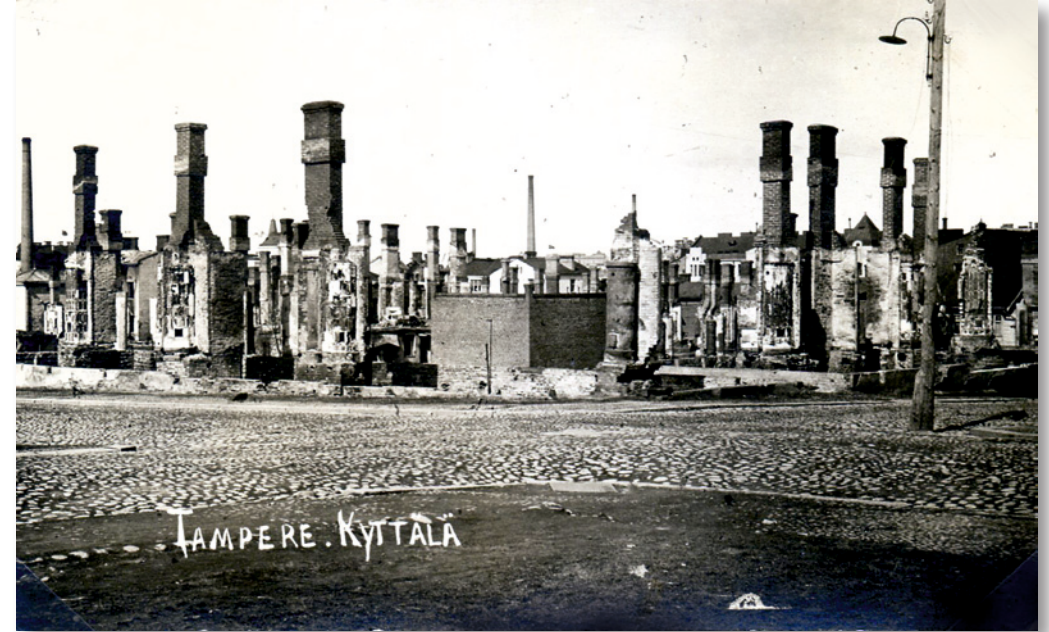




About 130 Red women died in action at the Civil War, 460 were executed, and 80 died in prison camps. Over 200 died or disappeared in unknown circumstances. Some 5,500 were taken to court, and 4,000 were found guilty. The postcard above by Uno Wahlroos is the only known.



The German Colonel Eduard Ausfeld led the conquest of Tampere. He was the man who had trained the Finnish Jaegers in Germany, and knew them best.



The devastation was huge in the wooden residential quarters of Tampere.

while the Whites were sent to the cemeteries of their home towns. The victorious Whites marched through Tampere on 6 April, and the date saw annual memorial parades for years afterwards. A victory parade to celebrate the

end of the Civil War was held in Helsinki on 16 May 1918. The nation remained bitterly divided until 30 Nov 1939 when the Soviet Union's invasion of the country united Finland for the famous Winter War.

When the fighting had ceased, there were piles of dead bodies on the rocks of Näsilinna. – This real photo postcard was sent from Tampere in 1919.



The Whites gathered over 10,000 Red captives at the Market Square. They were taken to prison camps and field court-martial. Thousands would die within the next few months, either executed or because of hunger and diseases at the prison camps.





There are very few "before and after" postcards from Tampere 1918. On this page you can see the palace of the Hällström merchant family before and after the battle. It was one of the few stone houses that was totally destroyed and had to be demolished. More than 100 wooden houses were destroyed in bombing and fires. –The postcard above was printed in Hamburg, Germany.

As can be noticed from the figures on page 15, about 30,000 soldiers were involved in the Battle of Tampere – a city with some 45,000 inhabitants in total. At the beginning of the war there were still some 75,000 Russian troops in Finland, which was why the Senate called upon Germany for help, even if Mannerheim was against it.



The real photo postcard above shows the ruins of the Hällström palace and houses around.

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### The Finnish Civil War in figures (by Wikipedia)

The Finnish Civil War (27 Jan – 15 May 1918) took place during WW1, and there were also other nationalities included. More than 36,000 people lost their lives or disappeared during the war and its aftermath.

The *White side* included the White Finns and the Finnish German-trained Jaegers, German troops, and Swedish volunteers. In figures: 80,000–90,000 Finnish, 14,000–15,000 German, and 500–1,000 Swedish soldiers.

The *Red side* included 80,000–90,000 Finnish and 7,000–10,000 Russian soldiers.

The *casualties* were as follows:

#### White Finnish:

- 3,414 died in action
- 1,424 were executed
- 46 disappeared
- 4 died at prison camp
- 7,000–8,000 were wounded.

#### Germans:

- 450–500 died in action.

#### Red Finnish:

- 5,199 died in action
- 7,370 were executed
- 1,767 disappeared
- 11,652 died at prison camp
- 10,000–12,000 were wounded.

#### Russians:

- 700–900 died in action
- 1,500 were executed.

### The Battle for Tampere (16 Mar – 6 Apr 1918):

- *White side*: 16,000 soldiers; 700–900 died in action.
- *Red side*: 14,000 soldiers; 1,000–1,500 died in action; 10,000 imprisoned (over 1,300 died).

## Greenlandic Music – new series

Music plays an important part in Greenland's culture and history. Every year, 10-15 CDs with Greenlandic music are released in Greenland. The best selling CDs are released in issues of 5,000 copies. This is rather impressive in a country of only 56,000 inhabitants.

It is therefore natural that we dedicate a whole series to Greenlandic music. Camilla Nielsen, who will be known to several of our collectors from earlier stamps, has created a total of six beautiful images reflecting the Greenlandic music through six different eras. The three first

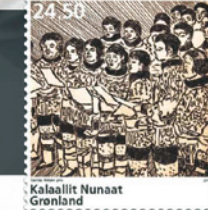
stamps, which were issued on 23rd January, depict Greenlandic music in a very long time perspective, all the way from drum singing to accordion music. The stamps were issued in sheets of 20 stamps and printed in offset.



**01103077**  
Souvenir folder – Greenlandic Music I  
**Price:** DKK 52.50  
Contains one mint copy of each of the three music stamps.



**01100599**  
Greenlandic Music I 1/3  
– Drum singing  
**Artist:** Camilla Nielsen  
**Denomination:** DKK 1.00  
**Date of issue:** 23rd January 2017  
**Typography:** Lowe-Martin Group  
**Printing method:** Offset  
**Paper:** TR4



**01100600**  
Greenlandic Music I 2/3  
– Choral singing  
**Artist:** Camilla Nielsen  
**Denomination:** DKK 24.50



**01100601**  
Greenlandic Music I 3/3  
– Accordion music  
**Artist:** Camilla Nielsen  
**Denomination:** DKK 27.00

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# Vatnajökull's First Post Office

by Mike Schumacher

*The first Post Office on Vatnajökull glacier occurred when the Swedish-Icelandic Vatnajökull Expedition spent a couple of months at the glacier to study the life and nature of it in May–June 1936. The significance of this Post Office can be best understood when realizing the enormity and importance of Vatnajökull, and what the participants of the expedition endured and accomplished.*

The idea for the 1936 Swedish-Icelandic Vatnajökull Expedition was conceived by **Hans Wilhelmsson Ahlmann**, a Swedish scientist, and **Jon Eythorsson**, an Icelandic meteorologist, in 1925 when they were working together on a glacier study in Jotunheimen, Norway.

The mission of the 1936 expedition was to “study the life and nature of the glacier” (i.e. the rate of accumulation, ablation, and movement). The timing of the expedition was perfect, as the 1934 spring eruption of the volcano Grimsvötn-Sviagigur distributed a layer of black ash over Vatnajökull. The expedition occurred due to the benevolence of the Icelandic and Swedish governments, as well as contributions from the Swedish Anthropological and Geographical Society.

The expedition involved five men obtaining scientific measurements of the glacier’s annual precipitation, melting and movement. They lived in tents at Vatnajökull for eight weeks, enduring below zero (F) temperatures at times – howling winds, rain, and snow storms. From 11 May to 17 May they endured 336 millimeters of precipitation, and were unable to move to other campsite locations.

They transported their equipment and supplies on two pulkas (sleds), one pulled by four sled dogs, the other one they pulled without help.

The everyday challenges and obstacles of a glacier expedition under extreme weather conditions required an enormous physical and psychological exertion.

The participants of the expedition were Hans Wilhelmsson Ahlmann, Jon Eythorsson, **Carl Manerfelt** (Calle) and **Sigurður Thórarinsson** (two students of geography from the Stockholm Geophysical Institute), **Mac Lilliehook** (distinguished dog sled driver and ski expert) and Jon from Laug (**Jon Jonsson**, who was an escort or “altmuligman”). The first four mentioned went on to have distinguished careers in the field of science.

The Director of the Icelandic Post Office being interested in the expedition, bestowed upon Jon Eythorsson (joint expedition leader with Hans Wilhelmsson Ahlmann) “*the duties of Postmaster and presented him with stamps, a special rubber stamp for cancellation purposes, mail-bag and satchel.*” Ahlmann states further in his book: “*...we had envelopes of our own printed in Reykjavik with*

## Vatnajökull in short:

Vatnajökull (meaning “the glacier that gives water”) is an unmistakable feature of the Icelandic landscape. The ice cap of Vatnajökull:

- is the largest glacier in Europe;
- covers about 8% of Iceland (about 8,300 kilometers);
- has an average thickness of 600–800 meters (thickest area 1,000 meters);
- sits on several active volcanoes, such as Grimsvötn (northwest area);
- has numerous rivers that distribute millions of gallons of water around Iceland, and to the Atlantic ocean; and
- is extremely important to the Icelander’s way of life.

A block of ten 1 eyr Christian X postage stamps with the earliest, Vatna-jökull 22.5.36 cancel.



*all conceivable haste, bearing the picture of the transport marching up Hoffells Jokull which we had sent down... and needless to say we, too, hoped that philatelists would be interested themselves in these unique dispatches and would give us money... towards the ever-growing expenses of the expedition.”*

An exact number of letters sent from the 1936 Vatnajökull Post Office is unknown, but few of these unique covers have come to light. The Icelandic Postal Administration indicates: “*They have no idea how many were sent.*” Scandinavian stamp

dealer **Jay Smith** (43 years in business) says that he has only seen three or four of them.

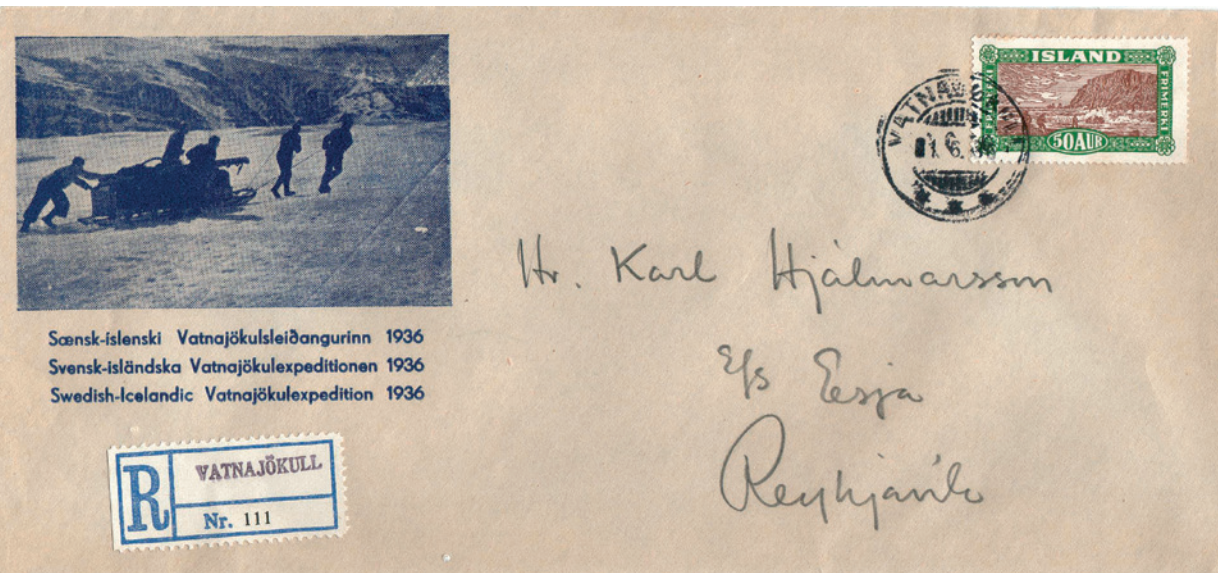
Ahlmann says in *Land of Fire and Ice* that Jon Eythorsson spent part of a day attending to his duties as Postmaster, and when he was done “*there were over a hundred of them (that had been stamped and sent off as registered mail) and when that was done we had only about 150 of our special envelopes left.*”

I am currently aware of about 30 covers and two cut corners bearing the 1936 Vatnajökull cancel. About half of the covers are on various size plain enve-



The first letters, carrying the 22.5.36 cancel, were blank covers. Registered letter to expedition ship Esja at the port of Akureyri in northern Iceland.





Expedition cover to ship *Esja* in Reykjavik, Vatnajökull 11.6.1936. Only a few registered covers are known.

lopes, and the others are on the “special expedition cachet envelopes”. All of the known “1936 Vatnajökull” cancels are from May–June, and bear one of the following dates: 22.5.36; 1.6.36; or 14.6.36.

I would speculate that the “special expedition cachet covers” may have been brought up onto the glacier during the expedition, because all known first date (22.5.36) cancels are on plain envelopes. All known covers with the latter two cancel dates are on the “special expedition cachet” covers.

Another interesting aspect of these covers are the people whom they were sent to, but that will wait

for another article. Maybe in time more will be known of these covers, but for now let us conclude with the thought that these brave men primitively equipped were busy studying “global warming” long before the term became as well-known as it is today.

The findings of the 1936 Swedish-Icelandic Vatnajökull Expedition demonstrated that Vatnajökull receives significantly more precipitation and produces more meltwater than most glaciers elsewhere in the world. This means that the water cycle on the south side of Vatnajökull is extremely rapid, and far greater than most other glacier systems in

**The scientists of the Vatnajökull expedition:**

**Hans Wilhelmsson Ahlmann (1889–1974)**

- Swedish geographer, glaciologist, and diplomat. Expeditions: 1931 to Nordaustlandet in the Svalbard archipelago, Norway; 1934 to the glaciers on Vestspitsbergen; 1936 to Vatnajökull, Iceland; 1939–1940 to glaciers in Greenland; in 1946 to the glaciers on Mount Kebnekaise in Sweden. One of the initiators of the Norwegian-British-Swedish Antarctic Expedition in 1949–1952, leader of the expedition’s Swedish committee.

**Jon Eythorsson (1895–1968)**

- Pioneer in meteorological and climatological research in Iceland; writer, translator and radio lecturer. Founder of the Iceland Glaciological Society.

**Sigurdur Thórarinnsson (1912–1983)**

- Geologist, volcanologist, glaciologist, professor and lyricist; pioneer in the field of tephrochronology (uses tephra layers to find chronology in paleoenvironmental or archeological records).

**Carl Mannerfelt (1913–2009)**

- Life-long career at the International Cartographic Association (ICA).



Expedition cover to Reykjavik on the last known date, Vatnajökull 14.6.1936.

the world. The central part of Hoffellsjökull (the glacier tongue that they went up onto Vatnajökull) was shown to achieve a sliding speed of about two meters per day.

**Sources:**

Hans Wilhelmsson Ahlmann: *Land of Fire and Ice*, 1938.



Expedition cover to Postmaster Sigurdur Baldvinsson, Vatnajökull 14.6.1936.



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## The Definitive Guide to Iceland's Christian X Lettercard Postal Stationery

by Ellis Glatt

*One of the more challenging collecting areas in the field of Icelandic postal stationery involves the Christian X lettercards. This is especially true for the postal history collector of these cards because the majority of existing postally-used specimens lack their original perforated borders. Without the imprinted border intact, differentiating between various Christian X lettercard types can be exceedingly difficult. A definitive solution to the problem is presented in this reference guide, along with a chronological history of the subject lettercards issuances.*

### Background

Lettercards or Spjaldbrief, as they are referred to in Icelandic, were first introduced into Iceland's post in 1905, with some of the later issues still in use at least through the mid 1940s. Basically, the lettercard was a postal-card variation allowing for a private message to be inscribed inside a folded card, which could then be sealed along its three open edges. To facilitate the sealing of the card by the sender as well as access to the sealed message by the recipient, the open edges were both gummed and perforated. The recipient would simply tear off the card's borders along the perforations. Instructions to that effect were printed in Icelandic below the perforations in the card's bottom border.

The printing firm of H. H. Thiele in Copenhagen was tasked with the production of all of Iceland's lettercards (except for the last issue in 1936 printed by Copenhagen firm J. Jørgensen). As noted above, lettercards first came on the scene in Iceland in 1905. The initial issues were imprinted with the Christian IX stamp design, similar to that used on the Christian IX stamps of the same period. Later, in 1907, the imprint changed over to the Two-Kings design (Frederik VIII and Christian IX), again in conformity with the Two-Kings stamps of the day. Production of the Two-Kings lettercards continued into early 1918. Lettercards through this point in time had been issued in only two denominations, 4 aur and 10 aur.

Finally, in 1920, and consistent with related changes to Iceland's stamp issues of the period,

lettercard imprints changed over to the Christian X stamp design, which remained in effect through the final lettercard printing in late 1936. Initial card productions in 1920 were limited to 8-aur and 15-aur denominations. However, 10-aur and 20-aur denominations were introduced shortly thereafter to accommodate changes in postal rates that came into effect only a few months later. The specific focus of this treatise is on the Christian X lettercards. The author's objective is to provide information that every philatelic researcher, specialized collector, and exhibitor of these cards will need to master this often challenging facet of Icelandic postal stationery.

### Introduction

Referring to the Iceland postal stationery section in the 2017 edition of the *Facit Special Classic*<sup>1</sup> catalog, the reader will find major listings for nine different Christian X lettercards issued between 1920 and 1936. Presently, varieties, even major ones, are not explicitly listed by Facit for these cards, although their existence is mentioned in broad terms in a side note. However, if one peruses some of the more specialized catalogs and handbooks dating back to Ringström's<sup>2</sup> 1985 publication covering, among other Scandinavian countries, the postal stationery of Iceland, more than sixty different Christian X lettercard types/varieties are noted within that same group of Facit listings.

Christian X lettercard varieties, in fact, stem from several different factors related to their production. Because two different color inks had to be



applied, the printing was done in two steps using two plates. One plate printed the denomination imprint (with king's-head oval insert) on the right side of the card. This was done in one of four colors (brown, violet, green, or red lilac), depending upon the denomination and postal regulations at the time. The second plate printed all of the card's text and, in the case of the initial 8-aur and 15-aur cards, also a falcon medallion on the left side of the card, all in black ink.

There is also strong evidence indicating that multiple printing-plate setups were used in parallel for all but the final 1936 lettercard issue, presumably to expedite production. Because the different plates used to print the card's text exhibited some small variations in print type, most notably in the printed line of instructions found in the card's bottom border, those characteristics have heretofore formed the basis for cataloging most lettercard varieties. Thus, in the case of at least one Facit listing, four different card types are known to exist across two consecutive deliveries of the "same" 10-aur lettercard. Three different card types are found among most other Christian X lettercards. And, with the switch to a new printing firm in 1936, a basically new type style was introduced with the final lettercard issue.

Also, for Christian X lettercards issued through 1932, watermarked card stock was used exclusively. Moreover, we also know that the printer paid little, if any, attention to how the watermarked stock was oriented in the press. Thus, virtually all watermarked lettercards are known both with normal and inverted crown watermarks. In fact, inverted watermark examples generally are no more scarce than the corresponding upright watermark variety for most of those cards.

Variations in the diameter of the pins used to perforate the borders of at least two groups of Christian X lettercards account for yet another subgroup of varieties. These hole-size variations are found within the initial printings of the 10-aur and 20-aur cards. More about this later.

So, what makes the study and collecting of Iceland's lettercards most challenging, especially with respect to postal history specimens? As the reader may have surmised by now, it is the borders or, more specifically, their absence on most

commercially-used examples. Remember, for the recipient to get at the message inside, the perforated borders were nearly always torn off and discarded. Yet, in most cases, a card's classification type (which is linked to the specific plate setup used in its production), and even its perforation-hole size, are most readily ascertained from details found in and about the card's borders. Fortunately, as a result of an extensive research project recently undertaken by the author, a set of alternative methods for differentiating and classifying Christian X lettercards has been developed for use in evaluating specimens without borders. Full details are presented later on in this guide.

### Christian X Lettercard Deliveries

The easiest way to follow the production sequence of the various Christian X lettercard issues is to track their shipments from Denmark chronologically. *Table 1* on the next page summarizes the best available data regarding delivery dates and associated quantities of Christian X lettercards shipped from Denmark to Iceland between 1920 and the final delivery in late 1936. The data were assembled by past researchers<sup>3</sup> from cargo invoices and/or related documents found in Danish state archives.

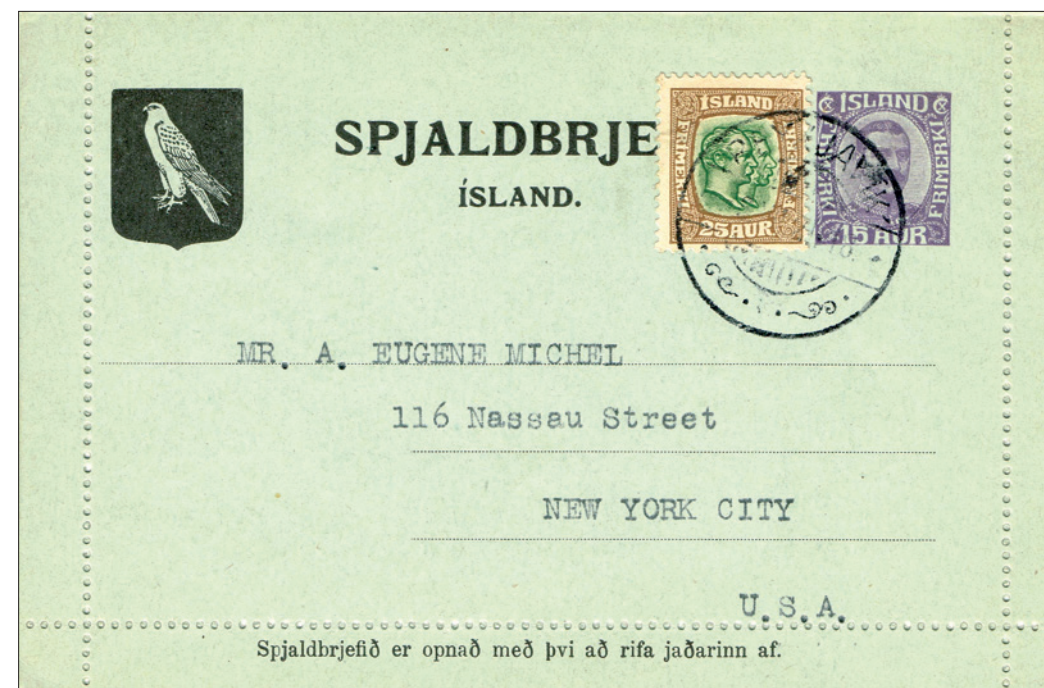
A few words of further explanation with regard to *Table 1* might be useful to the reader. Initially, the Christian X imprint on the 10-aur cards was printed in green (deliveries noted with "Gr"). However, beginning with the 1926 lettercard delivery, the imprint color was changed to brown (noted with "Br") in accordance with new postal regulations. Also shown in the table is the printer's fabrication number (FabNr) for each of the delivered batches. Most of these fabrication numbers are shown in brackets, indicating that the numbers were not printed on the lettercards themselves. However, in two instances involving deliveries of 10-aur and 20-aur cards between 1932 and 1934, these numbers were printed on the left in the bottom border. Thus, for examples with intact borders, these specific printings can be readily identified.

An example of a used Christian X lettercard from the initial 1920 delivery and posted in July of 1921 is shown on page 24. Note that, in addition to the usual denomination imprint (with Christian X oval insert) at the top right, a falcon medallion imprint

**Table 1. Deliveries of Christian X Lettercards from Denmark.**

Date	8-aur	10-aur	15-aur	20-aur	Watermark	FabNr
16 Mar 1920	10,825		5,675		Yes	(34-a)
ca 15 Jan 1922		10,525 (Gr)		6,500	Yes	(38-a)
ca 26 Jan 1924		10,075 (Gr)			Yes	(43)
17 Jun 1926		6,325 (Br)		4,175	Yes	(48)
28 Aug 1928		15,750 (Br)			Yes	(51-a)
28 Dec 1931		10,250 (Br)			Yes	(60-a)
20 Aug 1932				6,125	Yes	61-n
26 May 1934		10,350 (Br)			No	63-n
27 Nov 1936		10,125 (Br)			No	(67-a)
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,825</b>	<b>73,400</b>	<b>5,675</b>	<b>16,800</b>		

Lettercards were initially issued in denominations of 8 aur (for Local use) and 15 aur (for Inland as well as use to Denmark). As a result of rate increases, those denominations were changed to 10 aur and 20 aur beginning with the Jan 1922 lettercard Delivery. A subsequent change in postal regulations resulted also in a change in the 10-aur imprint color from green (Gr) to brown (Br) in 1926.



Typical Christian X Lettercard from the Initial 1920 Delivery, posted in July 1921 and uprated to the 40-aur International UPU rate in effect at the time.



appears at the top left of the card. Although the falcon medallion had been included on all Icelandic lettercards beginning with their introduction in 1905 and continuing through the initial Christian X delivery in 1920, it was subsequently removed from all lettercard plate setups with the 1922 delivery. Thus, all 10-aur and 20-aur Christian X lettercards have the falcon medallion omitted. Moreover, in the case of Christian X lettercards, falcon imprint characteristics were found by the author to be of little use in the classification of these cards.

Beginning with the late 1931 delivery, a significant change occurred also in the denomination imprint (more specifically, in the oval insert depicting the king's head) on both the 10-aur and 20-aur cards. The redrawn oval resulted in background lines that were more dense and complete around the king's head (lines in the original oval had wider spacing and were incomplete at the edges). This change in oval design can be used to quickly differentiate between certain 10-aur and 20-aur printings when studying used examples without borders.

### **Classification of Christian X Lettercard Printings and Sub-Varieties**

As mentioned, the easiest way to follow the evolution of Christian X lettercards between 1920 and 1936 is to correlate specific printings, plate types, and associated varieties with the recorded shipments from Denmark, as outlined in *Table 1*. To accomplish this task, the researcher needs access to an abundant supply of used lettercards with discernible dated postmarks or messages. If such used examples can be found with the bottom border intact, the task of identifying specific plate types and related varieties is greatly simplified. However, since most of the available used lettercard specimens lack original borders, some form of secondary methodology for classifying those cards often must be employed.

As previous noted, and as is evident from the different types of cards included in individual shipments, the printer clearly employed multiple plate setups in the production of nearly all of the delivered Christian X lettercard batches. From the card types repeatedly found in subsequent shipments, we know also that at least three separate text-plate

configurations were maintained and used from 1920 through 1934. The initial state of these plate setups resulted in three distinct Christian X lettercard variations. Ringström referred to these as Type I, Type II, and Type III cards.

Evidence further suggests that sometime after the 1926 delivery of 10-aur cards, a minor change was made to the Type III plate setup, resulting in Ringström's Type IV card. Thus, starting with the 1928 delivery of 10-aur cards, all subsequent Christian X lettercard deliveries through 1934 contained the Type I, II, and IV variations only.

Finally, with the last delivery of 10-aur Christian X lettercards in 1936 from new printing firm J. Jörgensen, a completely new plate setup was introduced. It employed a slightly different type style and produced lettercards hereinafter referred to as Type V cards. In this final plate arrangement, the length of the printed line in the bottom border is slightly expanded. At the same time, removed from the picture were the Type I, II, and IV plates previously used by H. H. Thiele. However, sometime during the production cycle of the 1936 batch of 10-aur cards, the new plate setup underwent a minor secondary modification, again affecting the print in the bottom border. The change involved only two characters (bold-face type was substituted for the "f" in "rifa" and "a" in "jaðarinn"), effectively creating a Type V sub-variety (Type Va).

The primary characteristics of the basic Christian X lettercards types, based on the line of print in the card's bottom border (border inscription), are presented on the next page in *Table 2*. To differentiate between the various plate setups and card types, one starts by examining the degree of cross-bar slope seen in Icelandic character "ð", which appears in the border inscription in five different words. In all but the final Type V plate setup, each cross-bar can be found in either one of two states—sloping (abbreviated "ð") or nearly level (abbreviated "d"). The fact that each of the plate setups used in the production of Christian X lettercards exhibits a unique pattern of cross-bar slopes enables one to easily associate any such card to a specific plate setup/type, as long as the bottom border is still present.

**Table 2. Basic Christian X Lettercard Types.**



Type	Border Inscription	Cross-Bar Pattern	Length mm
I	Spjaldbrejfið er opnað með því að rifa jaðarinn af.	- / - - -	69
II	Spjaldbrejfið er opnað með því að rifa jaðarinn af.	/ - - / -	69
III	Spjaldbrejfið er opnað með því að rifa jaðarinn af.	- - - - -	69
IV	Spjaldbrejfið er opnað með því að rifa jaðarinn af.	- - - - /	69
V	Spjaldbrejfið er opnað með því að rifa jaðarinn af.	- - - - -	71 ½
Va	Spjaldbrejfið er opnað með því að rifa jaðarinn af.	- - - - -	71 ½

### **Classification of Christian X Lettercards with Missing Borders**

Generally, the secondary methods presented here to classify used Christian X lettercards with missing borders are specific to each individual lettercard issue as well as to the specific shipment the cards arrived in. However, there is at least one prominent characteristic, visible on the face of each card, that can be definitive in establishing or excluding certain lettercard types. That attribute, which is not impacted by missing borders, is the

space gap between the letters "J" and "E" in the word "SPJALDBRJEF". This "JE" Gap will measure either 1.5 mm (narrow) or 2.0 mm (wide). As summarized below, if the card's "JE" Gap is wide, it is definitively a Type II lettercard. If the gap is narrow, it is definitively NOT a Type II lettercard, but could be any of the other five types described above.

**Table 3. "JE" Gap.**

"JE" Gap	Possible Card Types	Image
Narrow (1.5 mm)	I, III, IV, V, Va	
Wide (2.0 mm)	II	





Imprint Oval Forms

Another useful and broad-range Christian X classification metric is found in the oval center of the denomination imprint. As mentioned earlier, the oval was redrawn in late 1931, such that the lines around the king's head became more dense (closer together) and more complete. This change in oval design can be used to definitively distinguish between 10-aur and 20-aur borderless Christian X lettercards issued before and after 1931. High-resolution images of the two oval forms are shown above. In addition to the two basic methods for classifying borderless Christian X lettercards outlined above (which can be applied to all lettercard issues), further methodology has been developed by the author specific to individual deliveries and the card denominations contained therein. The most effective and definitive of these relies on a combination of visual comparisons and measurements.

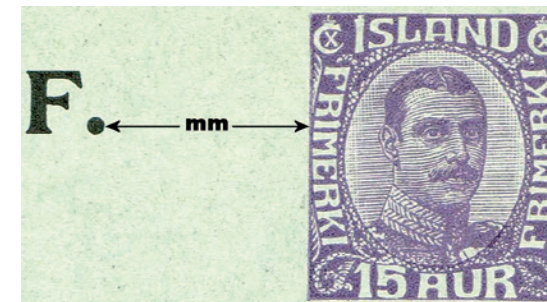
The visual component involves a comparison of the accented letter “í” that appears in the word “ÍSLAND” on the second line of every Christian X lettercard. The focus here is on the size, shape, and position of the accent relative to the underlying “I” character. From such careful comparisons, it is possible, at least in some cases, to both identify the specific delivery the card arrived in as well as further differentiate between Types I, III, IV, and V cards. For example, in the case of the 10-aur Type V card (final 1936 delivery), a completely new accent character is observed in the new type style used by the printer. In other cases, however,

the variations seen in accent characteristics among related Christian X lettercards are notably more subtle and sometimes difficult to discern. Complicating matters, tiny changes in an accent's features and position can also occur during the life cycle of a single plate setup. Such differences could be the result of this tiny piece of movable type loosening and migrating slightly during the course of use or merely the result of plate wear. Very subtle differences due to variations in inking are also possible.

Therefore, to aid in definitively classifying borderless Christian X lettercards, the author always combines the visual accent test with an equally important measurement test, which correlates extremely well with individual plate setups and those specific cards produced using them. The measured parameter, referred to as the Imprint Spacing, is the space, in mm, between the large period (dot) that follows the word “SPJALDBRJEF” and the left side of the denomination imprint, as shown on the next page.

Using this combined secondary methodology, the author has yet to encounter a situation where a used Christian X lettercard without borders could not be definitively classified. This, of course, assumes that the several attributes being examined and measured are not obscured by added adhesives or labels. However, even in such instances, use of a photographer's light box under the card often can make those hidden features sufficiently visible for study.

Imprint Spacing



Variations in perforation hole size among certain Christian X lettercard issues, sometimes even on a single card, are also known. Two different hole sizes, for example, are found within the 10-aur green and 20-aur deliveries made between 1922 and 1926 and have been regarded as distinct and separate issues by some. From a study of numerous such examples by the author, including many with dated postmarks and/or messages, one finds compelling evidence supporting that conclusion. Therefore, for the 10-aur green and 20-aur cards, each of those two hole-size variations are treated as a different issuance associated with a different delivery. However, to distinguish between such seemingly identical cards based on hole size alone often can be very difficult when borders are absent. Fortunately, the same visual accent test combined with measurement of the Imprint Spacing, as outlined above for distinguishing between Type I, III, IV, and V cards, can also be used to definitively separate out these perforation varieties.

Some minor hole-size variations on individual cards can also be found among some of the other

Christian X lettercard issues. However, they more than likely are the result of damaged perforation pins being changed out in the middle of a production run involving the same plate setup. In other cases, the apparent change in the size of some holes merely stems from pin tips becoming dull over time. The affected holes in these cases are no longer clean-cut, such that excess card-stock material remains in compressed form around the circumference of the hole (instead of being completely cut away and removed). Regardless, such apparent mixed hole-size specimens, when derived from the same plate setup, are considered relatively trivial anomalies by the author and not deemed worthy of “variety” status.

Card-stock color is another Christian X lettercard attribute that occasionally can help to distinguish between certain deliveries. However, in virtually all instances, the author found the secondary classification methods outlined above much more reliable. This is because the color shade can change over time due to fading from exposure to the sun or merely due to poor preservation.

### A Chronological Listing of Iceland's Christian X Lettercards

Presented on the following pages is a complete tabulation of all Christian X lettercards, as issued between 1920 and 1936. For each issue, usually associated with a specific delivery from the printer in Denmark, the following details are provided:

- The corresponding date of the associated delivery and general description of its contents;
- The Facit Special Classic 2017* catalog number currently assigned to the specific issue;
- A full-size image of a typical example of the issue;
- A list of the card types found within the issue and the methodology for distinguishing between those card types when the bottom border is absent;
- Major varieties, if any, associated with the specific issue and card type.

The information is presented chronologically, in the order in which the deliveries occurred.



Date of Shipment: 16 Mar 1920  
 Card Stock: Blue-Grey with Crown Watermark  
 Imprint Oval: Original

Contents: 8-aur & 15-aur Cards  
 Hole Size: 1.0 mm +/-  
 Falcon Imprint: Yes

**8-aur Brown (Facit Nr. 7)**



Card Types	Accent Detail	Imprint Spacing	JE Spacing	Other Attributes*
<i>Type I</i>		15 ½ mm	Narrow	
<i>Type II</i>		16 mm	Wide	Burr under top of small "S"
<i>Type III</i>		16 mm	Narrow	Nick at top left corner

**Notes:**

All 8-aur card types are known both with normal and inverted crown watermark.

\*These attributes show up on nearly all examples of the referenced Types, but the degree of the print anomalies can vary somewhat from card to card.

Date of Shipment: 16 Mar. 1920  
 Card Stock: Blue-Grey with Crown Watermark  
 Imprint Oval: Original

Contents: 8-aur & 15-aur Cards  
 Hole Size: 1.0 mm +/-  
 Falcon Imprint: Yes

**15-aur Violet (Facit Nr. 10)**



Card Types	Accent Detail	Imprint Spacing	JE Spacing	Other Attributes*
<i>Type I</i>		14 ¾ mm	Narrow	
<i>Type II</i>		15 mm	Wide	Burr under top of small "S"
<i>Type III</i>		15 mm	Narrow	Nick at top left corner

**Notes:**

All 15-aur card types are known both with normal and inverted crown watermark.

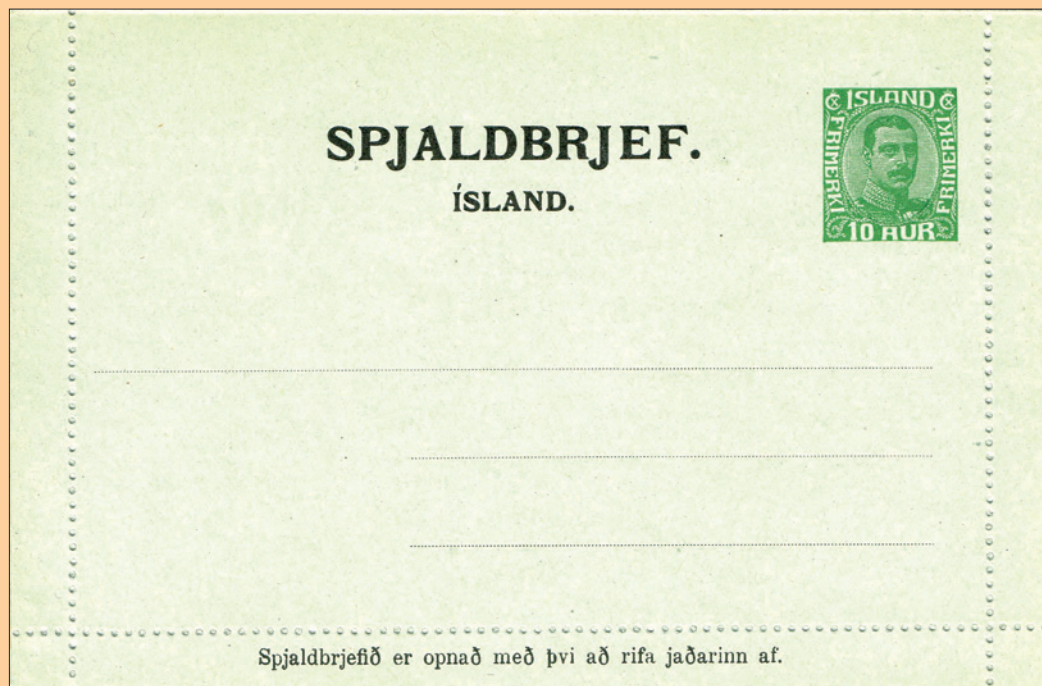
\*These attributes show up on nearly all examples of the referenced Types, but the degree of the print anomalies can vary somewhat from card to card.



Date of Shipment: ca 15 Jan 1922  
 Card Stock: Blue-Grey with Crown Watermark  
 Imprint Oval: Original

Contents: 10-aur & 20-aur Cards  
 Hole Size: 1.0 mm +/-  
 Falcon Imprint: No

**10-aur Green (Facit Nr. 8)**



Card Types	Accent Detail	Imprint Spacing	JE Spacing	Other Attributes*
<i>Type I</i>		17 mm	Narrow	
<i>Type II</i>		16 ¾ mm	Wide	Burr under top of small "S"
<i>Type III</i>		16 mm	Narrow	Nick at top left corner

**Notes:**

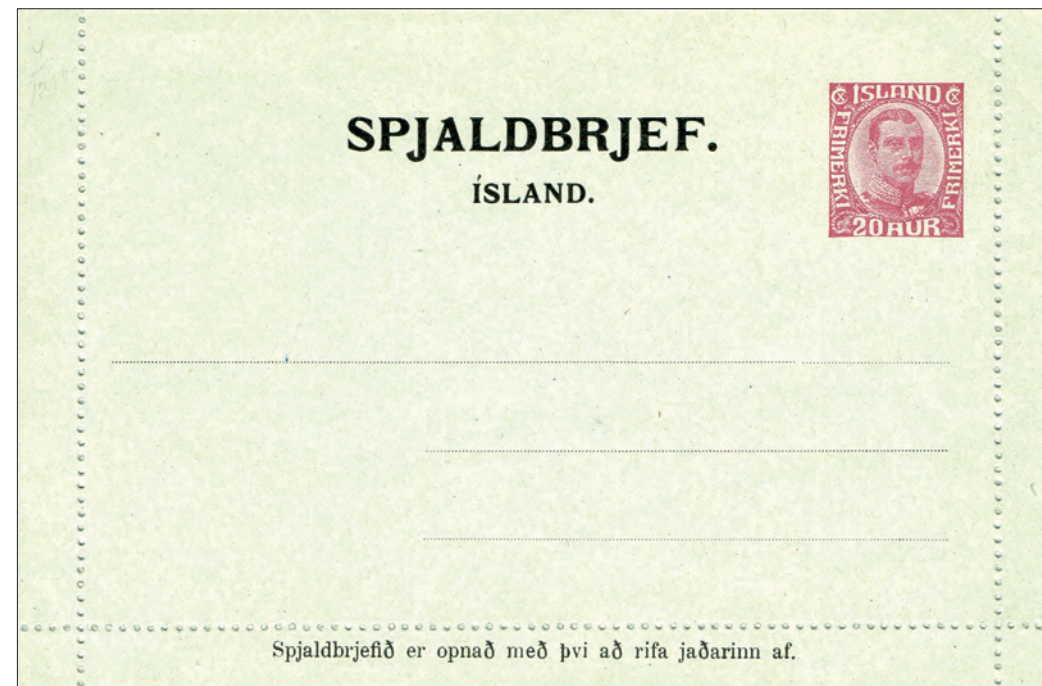
All 10-aur card types from this delivery are known both with normal and inverted crown watermark.

\*These attributes show up on nearly all examples of the referenced Types, but the degree of the print anomalies can vary somewhat from card to card.

Date of Shipment: ca 15 Jan 1922  
 Card Stock: Blue-Grey with Crown Watermark  
 Imprint Oval: Original

Contents: 10-aur & 20-aur Cards  
 Hole Size: 1.0 mm +/-  
 Falcon Imprint: No

**20-aur Red-Lilac (Facit Nr. 11)**



Card Types	Accent Detail	Imprint Spacing	JE Spacing	Other Attributes*
<i>Type I</i>		15 ½ mm	Narrow	
<i>Type II</i>		16 mm	Wide	Burr under top of small "S"
<i>Type III</i>		15 mm	Narrow	Nick at top left corner

**Notes:**

All 20-aur card types from this delivery are known both with normal and inverted crown watermark.

\*These attributes show up on nearly all examples of the referenced Types, but the degree of the print anomalies can vary somewhat from card to card.



Date of Shipment: ca 26 Jan 1924  
 Card Stock: Blue-Grey with Crown Watermark  
 Imprint Oval: Original

Contents: 10-aur Cards  
 Hole Size: 1.1 mm +/-  
 Falcon Imprint: No

**10-aur Green (Facit Nr. 8)**

The image is the same as shown on page 30 re ca 15 Jan 1922 delivery.

Card Types	Accent Detail	Imprint Spacing	JE Spacing	Other Attributes*
<i>Type I</i>		15 ½ mm	Narrow	
<i>Type II</i>		15 ½ mm	Wide	Burr under top of small "S"
<i>Type III</i>		15 ½ mm & 20 mm	Narrow	Nick at top left corner

**Notes:**

As noted above, two significantly different Imprint Spacings are found among 10-aur green Type III cards from the subject delivery, with the 15 ½ mm spacing being the most common. Moreover, the accent and other print details seen on both of these two variations are identical (and also different from the accent details exhibited by Type III cards found in the earlier ca 15 Jan 1922 delivery). Since the position of the denomination imprint on the subject cards with both spacing varieties is virtually identical, the 20 mm spacing variation most likely resulted from the card having been misaligned during its second pass through the press to print the text in black. This probably accounts for the relative scarcity of the 20 mm variation.

All 10-aur card types from this delivery are known both with normal and inverted crown watermark.

\*These attributes show up on nearly all examples of the referenced Types, but the degree of the print anomalies can vary somewhat from card to card.

Date of Shipment: 17 Jun 1926  
 Card Stock: Blue-Grey with Crown Watermark  
 Imprint Oval: Original

Contents: 10-aur & 20-aur Cards  
 Hole Size: 1.1 mm +/- (or mixed re 20-aur)  
 Falcon Imprint: No

**10-aur Brown (Facit Nr. 9)**



Card Types	Accent Detail	Imprint Spacing	JE Spacing	Other Attributes*
<i>Type I</i>		13 ½ mm	Narrow	
<i>Type II</i>		14 mm	Wide	Burr under top of small "S"
<i>Type III</i>		14 mm	Narrow	Nick at top left corner

**Notes:**

All 10-aur card types from this delivery are known both with normal and inverted crown watermark.

\*These attributes show up on nearly all examples of the referenced Types, but the degree of the print anomalies can vary somewhat from card to card.








Date of Shipment: 17 Jun 1926  
 Card Stock: Blue-Grey with Crown Watermark  
 Imprint Oval: Original

Contents: 10-aur & 20-aur Cards  
 Hole Size: 1.1 mm +/- (or mixed re 20-aur)  
 Falcon Imprint: No

**20-aur Red-Lilac (Facit Nr. 11)**

The image is the same as shown on page 31 re ca 15 Jan 1922 delivery.

Card Types	Accent Detail	Imprint Spacing	JE Spacing	Other Attributes*
<i>Type I</i>		13 ½ mm	Narrow	
<i>Type II</i>		14 ½ mm	Wide	 Burr under top of small "S"
<i>Type III</i>		14 mm	Narrow	 Nick at top left corner

**Notes:**

The size of the perforation holes, in the case of this 20-aur issue, is mixed – predominately 1.1 mm, with some smaller holes in the range of 0.9 to 1.0 mm found on the upper half of the card. This same pattern is present on each of the three 20-aur card types listed above in connection with the subject delivery.

All 20-aur card types from this delivery are known both with normal and inverted crown watermark.


\*These attributes show up on nearly all examples of the referenced Types, but the degree of the print anomalies can vary somewhat from card to card.

Date of Shipment: 28 Aug 1928  
 Card Stock: Blue-Grey with Crown Watermark  
 Imprint Oval: Original

Contents: 10-aur Cards  
 Hole Size: 1.1 mm +/-  
 Falcon Imprint: No

**10-aur Brown (Facit Nr. 9)**

The image is the same as shown on page 33 re 17 Jun 1926 delivery.

Card Types	Accent Detail	Imprint Spacing	JE Spacing	Other Attributes
<i>Type IV</i>		14 mm	Narrow	

**Notes:**

There is strong evidence suggesting that the Type IV plate first came into use in connection with the 28 Aug 1928 delivery of 10-aur brown cards. Firstly, the initial 17 Jun 1926 delivery contained both 10-aur and 20-aur cards, yet Type IV cards are unrecorded for the corresponding 20-aur cards. Moreover, Type III cards are completely absent from all subsequent deliveries of Christian X lettercards.

One possibility is that the earlier Type III plate setup may have required servicing in preparation for the upcoming delivery and, in the process, was modified slightly to produce the Type IV configuration. The resulting Type IV card exhibited a couple of new print attributes. First, the accent position, although still far to the right, is not quite as far right as seen in the previous Type III plate setup. And, the previous piece of type exhibiting the nicked "E" attribute appears to have been replaced in the new configuration, as well.

Finally, although it is possible that the subject delivery included also Type I and Type II cards, no examples have been uncovered to date with attributes different from those found on 10-aur brown Type I and Type II cards from the earlier 17 Jun 1926 delivery.

10-aur cards from this delivery are believed to exist both with normal and inverted crown watermark.



Date of Shipment: 28 Dec 1931  
 Card Stock: Grey-Green with Crown Watermark  
 Imprint Oval: Redrawn

Contents: 10-aur Cards  
 Hole Size: 1.1 mm +/-  
 Falcon Imprint: No

**10-aur Brown (Facit Nr. 12)**



Card Types	Accent Detail	Imprint Spacing	JE Spacing	Other Attributes*
Type I	<b>í</b>	15 mm	Narrow	
Type II	<b>í</b>	15 mm	Wide	<b>S</b> Burr under top of small "S"
Type IV	<b>í</b>	15 mm	Narrow	

**Notes:**

All 10-aur card types from this delivery are known both with normal and inverted crown watermark.

\*These attributes show up on nearly all examples of the referenced Types, but the degree of the print anomalies can vary somewhat from card to card.

Date of Shipment: 20 Aug 1932  
 Card Stock: Grey-Green with Crown Watermark  
 Imprint Oval: Redrawn

Contents: 20-aur Cards (61-N)  
 Hole Size: 1.1 mm +/-  
 Falcon Imprint: No

**20-aur Red-Lilac (Facit Nr. 13)**



Card Types	Accent Detail	Imprint Spacing	JE Spacing	Other Attributes*
Type I	<b>í</b>	16 mm	Narrow	
Type II	<b>í</b>	16 ½ mm	Wide	<b>S</b> Burr under top of small "S"
Type IV	<b>í</b>	16 ¼ mm	Narrow	

**Notes:**

All 20-aur card types from this delivery are known both with normal and inverted crown watermark.

\*These attributes show up on nearly all examples of the referenced Types, but the degree of the print anomalies can vary somewhat from card to card.



Date of Shipment: 26 May 1934  
 Card Stock: Grey-Green Unwatermarked  
 Imprint Oval: Redrawn

Contents: 10-aur Cards (63-N)  
 Hole Size: 1.1 mm +/-  
 Falcon Imprint: No

**10-aur Brown (Facit Nr. 14)**



Card Types	Accent Detail	Imprint Spacing	JE Spacing	Other Attributes*
Type I		15 mm	Narrow	
Type II		15 mm	Wide	Burr under top of small "S"
Type IV		15 mm	Narrow	

\*These attributes show up on nearly all examples of the referenced Types, but the degree of the print anomalies can vary somewhat from card to card.

Date of Shipment: 27 Nov 1936  
 Card Stock: Light Grey-Green Unwatermarked  
 Imprint Oval: Redrawn

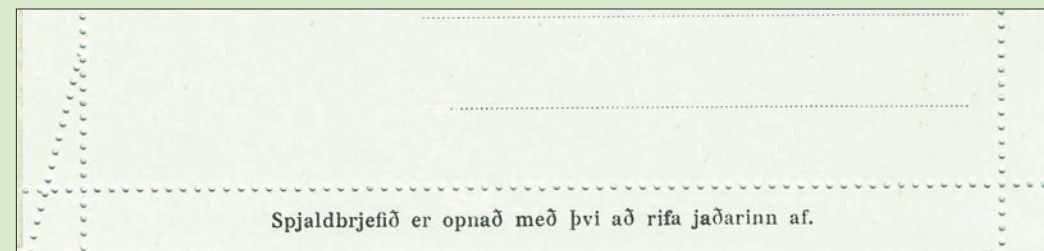
Contents: 10-aur Cards (New)  
 Hole Size: 0.9 mm +/-  
 Falcon Imprint: No

**10-aur Brown (Facit Nr. 15)**



Card Types	Accent Detail	Imprint Spacing	JE Spacing	Other Attributes*
Type V		14 ½ mm	Narrow	No nick at bottom of first "J"
Type Va		14 ½ mm	Narrow	Nick at bottom of first "J"

A perforation-error variety is also recorded for the Type Va card, as shown below.



\*These attributes show up on nearly all examples of the referenced Types, but the degree of the print anomalies can vary somewhat from card to card.



## Christian X Lettercard Postal History

With regard to postal rates, lettercards generally were treated the same as ordinary letters (under 20 grams). Four different rate categories were applicable to Christian X lettercards, depending upon destination. Included among these was a Local Rate, where a sender would deposit the mail at the local post office or collecting station, to be picked up by the recipient at the same postal location. For mail sent to destinations within Iceland, but beyond the boundary of the sender's depositing postal location, an Inland Rate applied. For destinations outside of Iceland, there were two additional rate categories. The first was a Nordic Rate, which initially covered only mail to Denmark, but was later extended also to Norway, Sweden, and Finland. For mail to all other international destinations, a standard UPU Rate applied.

A summary of postal rates in effect from 1920 through 1947 for each of the aforementioned rate

categories, and which applied to Christian X lettercards, is presented below in *Table 4*.

As noted earlier, most commercially-used lettercard examples in the hands of collectors have had the borders removed at the perforations. Used specimens with the original borders intact are scarce, therefore. As one would expect, most such intact examples were philatelic mailings, either sent unsealed or sent sealed, but never opened by the recipient. In a few rare instances, the recipient of a commercial mailing took the time to preserve the card's borders by gently cutting across the perforations from the rear of the card to access the message.

Some examples of used Christian X lettercards sent between 1920 and 1947 under each of the applicable four postal-rate categories are presented on the next few pages.

**Table 4. Applicable Lettercard Postal Rates (Aur) from 1920 through 1947\*.**

Effective Date	Local	Inland	Nordic*	UPU
1 Jan 1908				20
1 Mar 1919	8			
1 Jan 1920		15	15	
1 Jul 1920			20	
1 Apr 1921				40
15 May 1921	10	20		
1 Oct 1925				35
1 Jan 1940		25	25	45
15 Nov 1942	25**	50	50	
1 Jan 1943				60

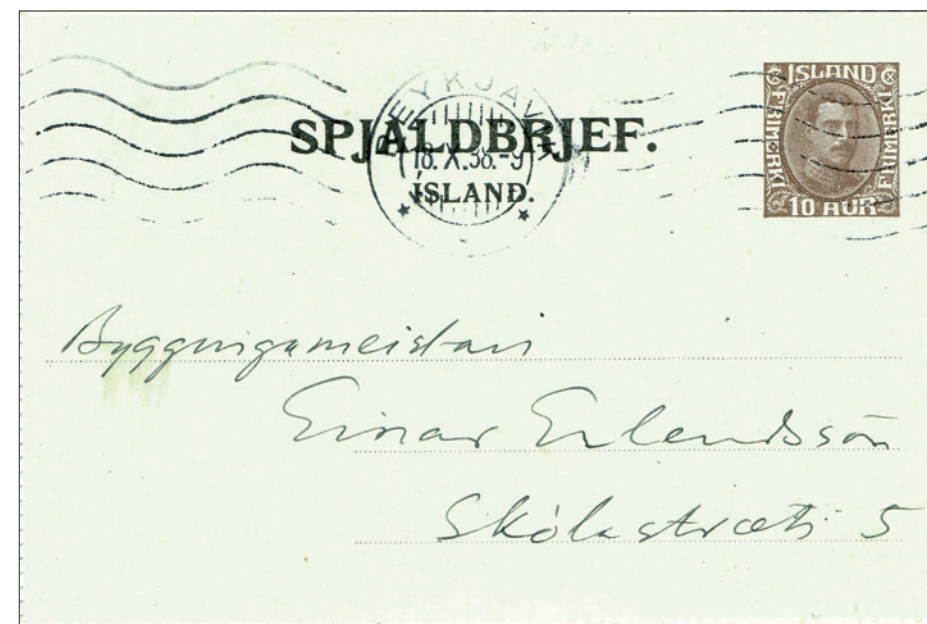
\* Nordic rate applied to the following countries beginning on the dates shown below.  
Denmark: 1 Jan 1920; Norway: 1 Sep 1922; Sweden: 1 Jun 1928; Finland: 1 Jan 1935.

\*\* Applicable through September 1947.

## Local use



Local rate 8 aur. The lettercard above was sent on 4 Feb 1921 within Reykjavik.



Local rate 10 aur was in effect from mid-May 1921 to mid-Nov 1942. The lettercard above was sent on 18 Oct. 1938 within Reykjavik.



Inland use



The inland rate 20 aur was in use from mid-May 1921 to the end of 1939. The lettercard above was sent from Reykjavik to Seyðisfjörður on 22 Oct 1925.

Nordic use



The Nordic rate first applied to lettercards to Denmark. The 20-aur lettercard above was sent from Reykjavik to Copenhagen on 24 Nov 1922 when prevailing Nordic rate and Inland rate were the same.

International UPU use



The Nordic rate first applied to Sweden on 1 Jun 1928. The lettercard above was sent on 11 Jan 1921 to Göteborg, Sweden and uprated to 20 aur, the International UPU rate at the time. On 1 Apr 1921 the UPU rate was doubled to 40 aur.



The international UPU rate was reduced to 35 aur on 1 Oct 1925. The lettercard above was sent from Reykjavik to Dresden, Germany on 11 Nov 1925 under the new 35-aur rate.



## Closing Considerations

As noted earlier, the subject investigation and classification methodology presented in this guide involved examination of numerous lettercard specimens, many of them used examples with borders removed. Since first-hand examination of some of those cards proved impractical, digital imaging technology had to be employed. First, a standardized high-resolution scan was prepared to capture all of the pertinent details of each card. Then, using readily available image-editing software, each on-screen image was carefully resized to exactly match the dimensions of the actual card. Finally, on-screen measurements were taken of the card's various spacing attributes previously described in connection with the author's lettercard classification system.

No doubt some of these same proven digital imaging techniques will be used in other Icelandic postal stationery investigations currently in progress or planned by this researcher. Moreover, the approach followed by the author of tracking the progression of changing plate characteristics throughout the production cycle has greatly facilitated a better understanding of the Christian X lettercard issues and associated varieties. Again, this chronological approach to studying and classifying Iceland's postal stationery issues will surely be useful in other areas. Iceland's Two-Kings postal cards and lettercards, also involving large

numbers of print varieties, is one that immediately comes to mind. In fact, such a project is currently underway by the author.

Finally, it should be noted that the purpose of this and similar projects undertaken by this researcher has never been to reinvent the "wheel", but merely to build on it or at least improve on it. So, it should be no surprise that a few new revelations about certain Christian X lettercard issues emerged during the subject investigation. For example, the 10-aur brown issue of late 1931 (with redrawn oval imprint) now has been confirmed in Types I, II, and IV, but not III. Earlier published literature<sup>2,5</sup> references Types I, II, and III for this card. Also, based on the findings of this investigation, the large perforation-hole varieties of the 10-aur green card (1924 delivery) and 20-aur card (1926 delivery) should more accurately be described as second-printings, involving slightly modified plate setups.

Until now, no in-depth philatelic study of Iceland's Christian X lettercards has been documented in the literature, as far as this researcher is aware. The author is therefore pleased to share the results of this latest investigation with fellow philatelists in an effort to promote a broader understanding of one of the more interesting and challenging collecting areas in the field of Icelandic postal stationery.

*(Acknowledgements: The author thanks fellow researcher and good friend Hálfdan Helgason for his help in preparing and sharing digital scans of numerous lettercard examples from his own extensive reference collection as well as for his collaboration on the subject of this reference guide.)*

*(Editor's Note: The author may be contacted at Ellis Glatt, PO Box 80628, Las Vegas, NV 89180-0628 USA or email [eglatt001@embarqmail.com](mailto:eglatt001@embarqmail.com).)*

## Endnotes:

<sup>1</sup> *Facit Special Classic 2017*, Facit Förlags AB, Malmö, Sweden, 2016.

<sup>2</sup> S. Ringström: *Danmarks, Slesvigs, Dansk Vestindiens, Islands Helsager*, Trelleborg, Sweden, 1985.

<sup>3</sup> Hálfdan Helgason and Leif Fuglsig: information from personal research files and other sources.

<sup>4</sup> Brian Flack: *Postal Rates in Iceland 1870–1997*, The Scandinavia Philatelic Society, Surrey, England, 1998.

<sup>5</sup> Heinrich Schilling: *Inland Ganssachen 1879–1941*, FG Nordische Staaten E.V, Oberreute, Germany, 1994.

## Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs Names Roger Quinby 2017 Rowland Hill Award Winner



Roger Quinby, FRPSL.

Roger Quinby moved to Georgia from New York State in 2006. "He has made tremendous contributions to the advancement of Philately in Greater Atlanta and Georgia in a short time", says Scott Mark, Chair of Southeastern Stamp Expo, in the newsletter.

Roger, as a past Vice President of the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs, served as a valued consultant to the members of the Southeastern Stamp Expo Organizing Committee, who were able to learn from his deep experience in organized philately. In 2008 he co-authored a report to the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs Board recommending that the show be moved from September to the winter. Later, Roger would be involved in the execution of this strategy where he played an integral role in finding new dates for the show, and a new hotel venue. Roger, an attorney by profession, helped negotiate the contract with the hotel. Roger has supported the Southeastern Stamp Expo as a judge, an exhibitor, and a financial contributor.

Immediately after moving to Georgia, Roger joined the Cobb County Stamp Club and served

*Roger Quinby, a former President of the SCC, has been awarded a lifetime achievement award for his contributions to philately by the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs, representing stamp clubs in Georgia, Alabama, Maryland, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, and Massachusetts (Cape Cod).*

*The award is named after Sir Rowland Hill, creator of the first postage stamp, and is awarded annually to a philatelist that has made an outstanding contribution to stamp collecting in the Southeast.*

*The award ceremony took place on 28 Jan 2017 in accordance with the annual Southeastern Stamp Expo, an APS World Series of Philately stamp show in Norcross, Georgia.*

two terms as club Secretary. He has given several presentations on his areas of expertise and shared his considerable knowledge with club members.

Roger has participated in multiple youth activities with the Fulton County Library system where he has worked with youngsters interested in stamp collecting, and the Ebony Society for Philatelic Events and Reflections (ESPER), promoting the US Black Heritage Stamp Series.

When the late William Ainsworth donated his philatelic library to the SEFSC, Roger inventoried the contents and marketed the material, with the proceeds going to the Federation to help cover show expenses.

Roger is recognized nationally and internationally as an exhibitor of the stamps and postal stationery of Finland. He has served as an expertizer of the stamps of Finland for the APS. Roger recently published a catalogue and reference manual of postal censorship in Finland during WW1. The publication was awarded a Large Vermeil at Nordia 2015 held in Sweden. In 2014, Roger was elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London (FRPSL).



## Scandinavian Area Awards

At Filatelic Fiesta in San Jose, Cal., in November, Paul Clemmensen received a gold with his “Holbøll’s Danish Christmas Seals 1904–1927.” Randy Tuuri won a vermeil and the Rosica Society award for his “Estonia: Postal Rates 1918–1941.”

Mike Schumacher won two golds at the Florex show in Orlando in December for his “Icelandic Saga: The 1972 Match of the Century” along with the ATA 3rd award, and for his “Iceland’s Commemorative Stamps and Block Issue of 1937 Honoring the Silver Jubilee of King Christian X’s Reign.”

In October the Bund Deutscher Philatelisten held a literature competition among the various spe-

cialty study and research groups in Sindelfingen, Germany. The Forschungsgemeinschaft Nordische Staaten received vermeil awards for two books, *Island: Die Verrechnung von Einfuhrzoll mit Briefmarken 1913–1938 einschliesslich der Verwendung des Tollur Stempels* (Iceland: The Clearing of Import Duties with Stamps Including Use of the Tollur Marking), and *Die Postgeschichte Finnlands, Teil 1* (The Postal History of Finland up to 1844, Part 1).

The study group also received a vermeil for its journal *Philatelistische Nachrichten*. Large vermeils were awarded to their website ([www.nordische-staaten.de](http://www.nordische-staaten.de)) as well as a section of the site devoted to a catalog of Norway’s Local Post issues.

Alan Warren

## Jussi Tuori decorated

Jussi Tuori, Chairman of the Foundation for Promoting Finnish Philately, was decorated Knight, First Class, of the Order of the Lion of Finland on 6.12., the Day of Independence. The high-level order, conferred by the President of the Republic, was presented to Jussi at the Finlandia 2017 sparring day in January. This was the first time that an order has been conferred to anyone for philatelic merits.

Jussi Tuori’s merits include high positions in national and international philately, including the RDP (Roll of Distinguished Philatelists). He is also a long-time SCC member, who has shown impressive exhibits of classic Finland and Denmark as well as Finnish revenues and postal history during the last few decades.

SRL

The following were recently elected Fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society London: Frank Gilberg of Norway; Ari Muhonen of Finland; Kjell Nilson, Roland Nordberg, and Åke Rietz of Sweden.

Alan Warren



Jussi Tuori, RDP, with his order. Behind him is Risto Pitkänen, Project Manager of Finlandia 2017.

## Transfers and Re-Entries

Bengt Bengtsson of Sweden was re-elected for another term as a member of the FIP commission for youth philately. Chris King presented the Stuart Rossiter Memorial Lecture in November at the Royal Philatelic Society London. His topic was “Challenges and Opportunities of Researching Online: Napoleonic Denmark, a Case Study.”

## Whose heads do you collect?

Have you ever thought of the persons whose heads you collect on postage stamps? What do you know about their lives – their families, their relations with other European monarchs, their achievements?

Thanks to Ellis Glatt’s article in this magazine, we obviously now know everything about Iceland’s Christian X lettercards. There are also a good number of postage stamps showing Christian X (1870–1947), the only King of Iceland, on Icelandic stamp issues of the 1920s and 1930s, including one stamp celebrating his silver jubilee as the monarch of Denmark in 1937. Iceland was a constitutional monarchy in union with Denmark from 1918 to 1944 – before that, it belonged to Denmark. Following a referendum in 1944, Iceland became a Republic.

As Christian X was also the King of Denmark (from 1912 to his death in 1947), his picture appears on several Danish stamp series between the 1910s and the mid-1940s. Christian X can be found on stamps of the Danish West Indies in 1915–1916, on the first stamps of Greenland in 1938, and on a temporary issue of the Faroes in 1919.

But who was Christian X? His father Frederick VIII (1843–1912) is known to philatelists from the postage stamps of Denmark, Iceland, and the DWI. Frederick reigned only for six years, from 1906 to 1912, having been a Crown Prince for no less than 43 years. He was married to Princess Louise (1851–1926) of Sweden. King Frederick VIII Land and Queen Louise Land in northeastern Greenland are named after them. King Christian X Land is located there, too.

Christian X was a very tall man (reportedly 6 feet 6 inches long), who became famous for his bravery during WW2. There are many legends and stories about his exploits against the German occupation, including saving Danish Jews by sending them secretly to Sweden. He was married to a German Princess, Alexandrine of Mecklenburg-Schwerin (1879–1952), a sister of Crown Princess Cecilia of Germany, daughter-in-law to William II, the last Emperor of Germany. Emperor Nicholas I of Russia was their great-grandfather.

Queen Alexandrine was the official protector of many charity organizations, as well as musical



King Christian X on postage stamps of Denmark, Iceland, DWI, and Greenland.

societies like Musikforeningen i København and Den Danske Richard Wagner-forening. During the World Wars she was loyal to Denmark instead of her native country, Germany.

Even if queen consorts were not usually shown on postage stamps at that time – unlike Queen Victoria of Great Britain and Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands, who were reigning monarchs – Queen Alexandrine is pictured on the Danish Red Cross stamps of 1939–1940, and her daughter-in-law, Crown Princess Ingrid of Sweden with her daughter Margarethe (the Queen of Denmark today) on charity stamps in 1941 and 1943.

Margarethe’s sister Anne-Marie was the Queen of Greece in the 1960s, before political events toppled the monarchy. Both Christian X’s granddaughters appear as Queens on their countries’ postage stamps. King Carl XVI Gustaf of today’s Sweden is their first cousin. Queen Alexandrine of Denmark and Queen Juliana of the Netherlands (daughter of Wilhelmina) were first cousins from their fathers’ side.





**First cousins.** From the left, King Christian X of Denmark and Iceland on a Danish 50 øre postal ferry stamp, 1922; Czar Nicholas II of Russia, Grand Duke of Finland, on a 7 kopek stamp from the Russian series issued for the 300 years jubilee of the Romanov dynasty, 1913. The stamps were valid also in Finland up to 1917/1918; King George V of the UK and the British Dominions, Emperor of India, on a British one penny stamp from the series issued on the day of the King's coronation, 22 Jun 1911.

Frederick VIII, the father of Christian X, was a brother to Queen Alexandra of England, King George I of Greece, and Empress Maria of Russia (originally Princess Dagmar of Denmark). As a consequence, King Christian X of Denmark and Iceland was a first cousin to the world's most important rulers of the period, King George V of Great Britain, and Czar Nicholas II of Russia.

Haakon VII, the first King of Norway, was a brother of Christian X. Haakon married their first

cousin, Princess Maud of Wales, who was a sister of King George V.

**If King Christian X collected stamps...**

If King Christian X collected postage stamps (maybe he did) he could have filled his albums with pictures of his relatives in numerous countries and geographic areas, from the Caribbean to East India and Australia. His aunt, Queen Alexandra of Great Britain and Ireland, was the Empress



European monarchs were closely related by marriages between the royal houses. In the middle, King Edward VII of Great Britain with his wife Alexandra, an aunt of King Christian X of Denmark, Haakon VII of Norway, and Czar Nicholas II of Russia. Above them is the future King George V, first cousin of those three sovereigns, with his wife Mary. Below is Emperor William II of Germany, a first cousin of George V from King Edward's side, with his wife Auguste Victoria. To the right is King Haakon VII of Norway, a brother of Christian X, with his wife Maud and their only child Olav, who would become King Olav V. King Harald V of today is his son. To the left is the Spanish King Alfonso XIII with his wife Victoria Eugenie von Battenberg, a first cousin of King George V, Emperor William II, Queen Maria of Romania, Crown Princess Margaret of Sweden, and Queen Maud of Norway.



King Haakon VII of Norway on a 35 øre postage stamp, 1951.



Christian IX and his son Frederick VIII on Danish 50 øre postage stamps, September 1905 and March 1907. Christian IX ruled Denmark from 1863 to 1906.

To the right, the children of King Christian IX of Denmark on a picture postcard from the early 1900s. Seated from the left, Empress Maria of Russia, King George I of Greece, Princess Thyra, and Prince Valdemar. Standing behind them Queen Alexandra of Great Britain, and King Frederick VIII of Denmark.



of India from 1901 to 1910 during the reign of her husband, Edward VII. Even if Queen Alexandra does not appear on Indian stamps, her husband King Edward VII can be found in many variations, as well as their son, King George V.

They of course also ruled over other huge overseas areas, which were dominions of Great Britain at that time, including many Caribbean Islands, Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, etc. There were in fact not many areas in the world, where the Scandinavian royal houses did not have had family members as sovereigns.

As long as the royal family members were not expected to marry anyone of lower rank, practically everybody was related to each other. It was

thought that the close relationships would keep peace in the world, but WW1 turned out to be the biggest family quarrel ever. As one of the brutal consequences, the whole family of King Christian X's cousin, Czar Nicholas II, was murdered in Yekaterinburg in 1918. The German Emperor William II, a cousin to King George V from his father's side, lost his empire, but kept his life.

**SRL**



"Use Queen Maud Stamps!" The set of charity stamps was issued on 24 Jul 1939, and the stamps were only valid until 30 Sep 1940 – and again from 1 Sep 1981.



## Collecting on a Shoestring –

# A 1942 Airmail Cover from Sweden to the USA

by Roger Cichorz

I purchased for \$3 this somewhat ragged Swedish 1942 airmail cover (without contents) from a dealer's net-priced foreign cover box at a postcard and paper ephemera show held in July 2016 in Golden, CO. What attracted me to it, besides its modest cost, were its posting to the USA, the censor tape, and the handwritten message at the top left reading "By air over the Atlantic / and from New York" that is partially covered by the censor tape. Its franking of five Swedish stamps totaling the correct 140-öre airmail rate for mail weighing 6 to 10 grams (i.e., 30 öre surface rate plus 55 öre per 5 grams airmail surcharge) might please some collectors, but I would have preferred a single stamp franking to pay the rate, though that was impossible as Sweden did not issue a stamp denominated 1.40 kr until 1948.

The cover originated from Nyland and the stamps are tied by three NYLAND March 20, 1942 c.d.s. postmarks and there are no transit or receiving marks to indicate delivery to the addressee. When I showed this cover at the show to Sergio Lugo, Editor of the Military Postal History Society Bulletin, he got excited and explained that he thought it was a flown cover of the first phase of official resumption of airmail flights out of Sweden during WWII. Sergio suggested I contact airmail expert Ken Stanford for additional information. Sergio mentioned that Ken had just submitted an article on this subject for publication in MPHSB. After he returned home, read Ken's article more thoroughly, and viewed the scan of this cover I had sent him, Sergio e-mailed me this clarification of his earlier statement:

I was mistaken after very close examination of the postmark. According to the table at the end of Ken's article, the date from Nyland, Sweden of March 20, 1942 places it within the test flight program run by the airline (after February) and before official approval was given (March 28, 1942).

I sent Ken a scan of this cover, and he promptly offered an analysis of this cover's route and shortly

thereafter added a postscript about the handwritten cachet:

The censor tape is from New York. I consulted two experts and our consensus is that it went on either the Swedish AB Aerotransport (ABA) or British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC) from Stockholm to Scotland, some unknown method to Poole, BOAC to Lisbon, and Pan Am to New York. There is also the possibility it went by ship from the UK to New York because BOAC and Pan Am were not able to accommodate all the airmail from the UK. Some mail from Sweden to the U.S. also went via Germany to Lisbon to connect to Pan Am, but in the absence of German censor markings, that isn't likely in this case. See if you have the book *Blockade Runners*, which gives the whole story of the ABA and BOAC service between Sweden and Scotland during WWII.

Look what I found on Jay Smith's Website listing of Swedish covers for sale (Item #215382 at <http://www.jaysmith.com/Lists/Sweden/Sweden-Covers-Airmail-Postal-Rates-And-Uses.html>), another cover with the identical inscription, but as a rubber-stamped cachet. So it might have been a regularly used inscription for mail to the U.S. Also, the postage is correct, 140 öre, same as your cover. The plot thickens.

I followed up with a quick Google search for the inscription "By air over the Atlantic / and from New York" and found numerous 1940 and 1941 airmail covers from Sweden to the USA, all with that identical wording, some apparently uncensored and others with U.S. censor tape. Interestingly, the wording "By air over the Atlantic / and from New York" appears on these covers either as a two-line handwritten endorsement, typewritten single line, or two-line rubber-stamped cachet in red, violet, blue, or black ink, so indeed this must have been the "standard" regularly used inscription. When offered for sale, these covers were generally priced at \$20 or \$25 at the cheapest, and some much higher, so my cover purchase for \$3

turned out to be a fortuitous bargain!

I decided enough is enough and to stop for the sake of completing this article without turning my cover into a major philatelic research project. However, I wanted to mention that the book Ken referred to is available for loan from the SCC Library as SWE B238E in case you want to learn more about this subject or further analyze this cover's routing. The SCC Library's hardbound edition is entirely in English, and its full citation is: *Blockade Runners, Sweden's Lifeline in the Second World War*, by Lars-Axel Nilsson and Leif A. Sandberg, published by the authors, Örebro, Sweden, 1996, 304 pages, ISBN 91-630-4890-6, nonphilatelic, English translation by Eva H. Nilsson of *Kurirflyg*,

*En Livlina under Andra Världskriget* (Courier Flights, a Lifeline in the Second World War) that details the history of flights between Sweden and Great Britain during WWII.

Incidentally, I found no information in my cursory Google searches for either the cover's sender, Joh (Johan or Johannes?) Widlund of Nyland, Sweden, or its recipient, Mrs. Ester (Esther?) Johnson of Seattle, Washington. In the absence of contents, this information is probably a moot point, as I considered the rate and routing to be the paramount story in this instance. Anyone wanting to pursue information about these two individuals for whatever reason is welcome to try, and hopefully may be able to add more to this cover's story.



March 20, 1942 airmail cover from Nyland, Sweden to USA during the test-flight-program period. The manuscript endorsement, "By air over the Atlantic / and from New York," at top left is standard wording that also appears on covers of this period typewritten, or as a rubber-stamped cachet. The censor tape was applied at New York City.



## Cruise Mail from Spitzbergen

by Pat Adams, Alan Totten & Peter Williams

*Spitzbergen Cruise Mail 1890-1914* by Pat Adams, Alan Totten, and Peter Williams. 90 pages, 8 ¼ by 11 ¾ inches, wire bound, card covers, Scandinavia Philatelic Society, U.K., 2015. ISBN 0-9523532-3-7, £20 (£18 for SPS members) plus shipping from Alan Totten, 3 Barrymore Crescent, Comberbach, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 6PA, United Kingdom, or a.l.totten@btinternet.com.

The first edition of this book was reviewed in the August 2006 Posthorn. The book was expanded in 2011 and updated again in 2015. The most significant change is that this third edition has 86 pages vs 60 in the first edition.

Tourist cruises to Spitzbergen were popular during the last decade of the 19th century and during the early 1900s up until the outbreak of World War I.

# Spitzbergen



## Cruise Mail 1890 - 1914

By

Pat Adams, Alan Totten & Peter Williams

The introductory chapter provides some historic background and mentions the picture postcards that were spawned by the Polar balloon flights of Andrée and Wellman. The tourist ships and the firms that operated them are summarized.

The section on stamps and etiquettes was expanded based on publication of a Norwegian local post catalog. The cachets of the various ship companies are clearly illustrated with some examples on cover as well. Cachets of the Andrée and Wellman expeditions are shown and a useful alphabetical list of cachets by place name concludes that section. A bibliography offers readers further references to consider.

An appendix lists the cruise ships with details like shipping line, gross tonnage, builder and date, and ultimate disposal. Another appendix consists of tables listing the post offices that cancelled Spitzbergen mail over the period covered by the book, the number of covers and cards recorded for each cachet, cards by destination, and the names of the tourist ships that visited Spitzbergen from 1893 to 1914.

Early cruise ships were chartered by Capt. Wilhelm Bade of Germany. In the 1890s he used such ships as the *Stettin*, *Danzig*, *Erling Jarl*, and *Kong Harald*. Several Norwegian shipping firms provided cruise service via the *Lofoten*, *Neptun*, and *Vega*. British lines employed the *Lusitania*, *Garonne*, and *Ophir*, and *St. Sunniva*. Germany's Hamburg-Amerika Line used the *Columbia*, *Auguste Victoria*, *Moltke*, and *Oceana* among others, and Norddeutscher Lloyd offered tourists passage on the *Grosser Kurfurst* and *Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm*.

The text is nicely laid out and the illustrations are of good size and in color. This book is a nice record for collectors of Spitzbergen mail during this interesting period of postal history.

Alan Warren

## On-Line Access to Nordic Stamp and Postal History Exhibits

by Roger Cichorz

**As a departure from my customary norm of presenting several topics, this column will be devoted to the single subject of access to on-line exhibits.**

My February 2016 column mentioned that Icelandic SCC member Hallur Þorsteinsson inquired if the SCC Library plans to post its E&C exhibits on the SCC website as a convenience for users. I proceeded to discuss some difficulties in implementing this feature and indicated it may be done at some time in the (hopefully near) future. However, I neglected to mention that one exhibit is already posted, Alan Warren's "Denmark Birth Certificates, Commemorative First Day Covers 1920-1949," which can be brought up for viewing by going to the SCC website (<http://www.scc-online.org>) and clicking on "Helpful Links" under the "Member Services" heading.

### Seven Additional Websites That Post Scandinavian / Nordic Exhibits

Much like the SCC, the U.K. Scandinavia Philatelic Society does not yet post members' exhibits on its website (<http://scandps.org.uk/>). My August 2016 column mentioned that the Danish Postal History Society (DPHS) website (<http://www.dphs.dk/Samlinger/>) has a link that lists 52 (primarily Danish) exhibits for viewing. This is by far the most comprehensive website that I am aware of that posts Scandinavian/Nordic exhibits. In addition to this DPHS website, there are seven other websites I know of with links to access Scandinavian/Nordic exhibits, so I will take this opportunity to mention them and what they presently have available for viewing, as follows:

- The EXPONET website (<http://www.exponet.info/index.php?lng=EN>), subtitled "Virtual International Philatelic Exhibition, is the website of the Prague House of Philately. It is worldwide in scope and posts more than 1000 exhibits, by far the largest number and most comprehensive of all the websites I am aware of, and second only to the

DPHS website in terms of the number of Scandinavian / Nordic exhibits posted. Its index divides exhibits into specific categories, including territory, subject, time period, and country of exhibitor, and the user-friendly search mechanism permits one to search for individual countries. There are 31 exhibits posted for Scandinavian and Nordic countries as follows: Denmark (9), Finland (7), Iceland (3), Norway (7), and Sweden (5).

- The Aerogramme home page (<http://www.aerogramme.com/exhibits/Exhibits.html>) is maintained by SCC member Jerome V. V. Kasper and devoted to worldwide aerogrammes, air letter sheets, and the equivalent. There are ten single-frame exhibits and five multi-frame exhibits posted, but only three pertain to Scandinavian and Nordic countries: Early Aerograms of Finland (1949–1972), Norway, The Aerogramme Issues, 1948–1988, and Aerogrammes of Iceland.

- The American Philatelic Society website (<http://stamps.org/Foreign-Exhibits>) presently has 48 exhibits posted in four categories (Air Mail, Foreign, Topical/Thematic, and United States), but only one of them (Alan Warren's "Frederick IX First Day Covers, 1948-60") is Scandinavian-related.

- The American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors website (<http://www.aape.org/exhibits.asp>) presently has 169 exhibits posted, but only one of them (John Crowley's "Norway: The Aerogram Issues, 1948-88") is Scandinavian-related.

- The STAMPCATalog Plus website, which bills itself as "the complete computing environment for stamp collecting" (<http://www.stampcat.com/weblinks.php?&np=117&x=18&q=0&t=Total&z=0&r=3487&s=0>), has 3425 access links to collectors' home pages, philatelic agencies, auctions, clubs, dealers, expertizing services, publications, shows, and societies in addition to other stamp-related subjects. Going through the index of links, I found more than a few exhibits listed. However, when I clicked on the links and tried to view some of them, they were not accessible. I presume that



these exhibits had been posted on-line and then subsequently removed, but probably there is no attempt to edit and keep current all these exhibit links after they were posted. One example is Steen Petersen's extensive Faroes exhibit that I was able to view on-line several years ago, but even though it is listed here, I was unable to access it. STAMP-CATalog Plus is indicated to be a "donationware program" where you download a copy of STAMP-CATalog Plus for a 30-day free evaluation. If you want to keep the program, you register your name and make a donation to a recognized charity of \$35 (US equivalent) or more and you receive a registration number that enables you unlimited future use.

- The Norsk Posthistorisk Selskap (Norwegian Postal History Society) website ([www.posthistorisk.no](http://www.posthistorisk.no)) posts one exhibit, Trond Schumacher's "Finmark Postal History Through 1945."
- The Krigs- og Feltpostforeningen (Norwegian War and Field Post Society) website (<http://www.warandfieldpost.com/>) posts one exhibit, Sören Eklöv's "Post Control mellan Norway och Sweden 1940–1945" ("Control of the Mails between Norway and Sweden 1940-1945").

### **Principal Scandinavian / Nordic Organizations' Websites**

From what I can tell from surveying their websites, the national philatelic organizations of the Scandinavian and Nordic countries also do not post their members' exhibits on-line. Several of them, however, provide links to members' home pages devoted to diverse Scandinavian/Nordic subject areas. While some of these home pages access members' exhibits, most do not, but instead present details on a wide range of subjects and are worth perusing for that reason, although many of them are in native foreign languages and difficult for English-only readers to navigate. I discovered that in some instances, Google will accommodate English translations if you click on "Translate this page" when that feature is provided. These organizations and their website access are as follows:

- The Philatelic Federation of Denmark (Danmarks Filatelist Forbund, DFF) website ([www.danfil.dk](http://www.danfil.dk)) offers no links to exhibits or members' home pages. Its "Links" section only provides links to several websites of other national philatelic organizations, and its "Exhibitors" section

only posts information about preparing exhibits.

- The Copenhagen Philatelist Club (Kjobenhavens Filatelist Klub, KPK) website ([kpk.dk/English](http://kpk.dk/English)) also serves as a dual website for DFF and provides links to five exhibits on Heligoland, Denmark's 1851–1864 issues, Danish Postal Law of 1851, fisheries (thematic), and Denmark's Conscience, Conflict & Camps 1932–1949.
- The Philatelic Federation of Finland (Suomen Filatelistiliitto / Finlands Filatelistförbund, SFFF) website (<https://filatelistiforum.org/>) offers links to ca 30 exhibits in various classes. About one third of the exhibits represent Nordic philately, and there are several exhibits in various thematic classes. The rest is worldwide philately. These exhibits can only be seen by members with password.
- The Helsinki Stamp Collectors Association (Helsingfors Frimärkssamlare Förening, HFF) website (<http://personal.inet.fi/surf/hff/>) provides links to members' home pages, some of which post exhibits.
- The Philatelic Federation of Norway (Norsk Filatelist Forbund, NFF) website (<http://filatelist.no/hjem-5726>) provides links to members' home pages, some of which post exhibits.
- The Oslo Philatelic Club (Oslo Filatelist Klubb, OFK) website ([www.oslofilatelistklubb.no](http://www.oslofilatelistklubb.no)) is presently down completely or possibly in the midst of redesign as I could not access it and only a screen-saver pattern of Norwegian stamps appears.
- The Swedish Philatelic Federation (Sveriges Filatelist-Forbund, SFF) website ([www.sff.nu/lan-kar/filatelist-forbund/](http://www.sff.nu/lan-kar/filatelist-forbund/)) provides links to nine home pages on Swedish-related subjects. Additionally, there are 46 "post pages" of various Swedish towns and cities, usually with illustrations provided by vintage postcards.
- The Stockholm Philatelic Association (Stockholms Filatelistförening, StFF) website (<http://sff.nu/stockholm/>) offers no links to exhibits or members' home pages.
- The Swedish Military Postal History Society (Sveriges Militärpostsällskap, SMPS) website (<http://www.smeps.se>) offers no links to exhibits or members' home pages but shows examples of covers collected by its members.
- The Society for Swedish Postal History Documentation (Sällskapet för Svensk Posthistorisk

Dokumentation, SSPD) website (<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~swesspd/>) provides links to five home pages on Danish and Swedish postal history and 21 non-Scandinavian areas (U.S. and worldwide countries) as well as links to other postal history organizations' websites.

My presentation here is not intended to be a complete listing of all the websites offering access to Scandinavian/Nordic stamp and postal history exhibits. I am sure that others, particularly exhibitors' home pages and vanity sites, can be located on the internet with time and effort taken for more thorough searches than mine. I urge readers who are aware of other websites listing and/or providing access links to Scandinavian/Nordic exhibits to send me relevant information so I can present it in a future column.

### **Plea for Catalogues and Other Donations to the SCCL**

I don't ordinarily use this column to solicit donations to the SCCL, but since it has been a while since I last did, I will take this opportunity to encourage SCC members to donate catalogues on the following "wants lists" to help fill in the missing issues in the SCCL runs:

- AFA Danmark – 2009 through 2016
- AFA Specialkatalog – 2008
- Facit Special – 2013 and 2015

### **Medal winners of the SCC in Sarasota National Stamp Expo, 3–5 February**

Three members of the Scandinavian Collectors Club participated the Sarasota National Stamp Expo in Florida with five different exhibits. The results were as follows:

- Brian Stwalley: *The Last King of Iceland – the Postal History of King Christian X, 1920-1946*, Large Vermeil, AAPE Novice Award.
- Robert Hisey: *Christmas Seals of Finland*, Vermeil; *The Franking Marks of Zimbabwe 1978-2007*, Large Silver.
- Michael Schumacher: *Iceland's Commemorative Stamps & Block Issue, 1937, Honoring the Silver Jubilee of King Christian X* (single frame), Large Vermeil, AAPE Awards of Honor; *The 1936 Swedish-Icelandic Vatnajökull Expedition/Mail* (single frame), Vermeil.

- Norgeskatalogen – 2007 through 2017 (except 2012 and 2014)
- LaPe – any except 1973 through 1976, 1982–1983, 1983–1984, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2005, and 2012
- Norma – any except 2000 and 2007.

The SCC is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, so donations to SCCL of literature and other philatelic items are deductible at their fair market value when you itemize deductions in your U.S. federal tax returns. SCCL appreciates any donated items – literature, stamps, postal history, etc. If the donated items are duplicates of present holdings or outside the scope of the SCCL collections, they are offered to SCC members through the quarterly SCCL auctions, and the sales realizations are used for new acquisitions and operating expenses. SCCL operations, as you probably know, are conducted by its unpaid volunteer committee members, so every dollar from auction sales goes directly into the SCCL checking account for its operating budget.

I encourage you to comment about the content of this column and ask questions about the SCC Library and its operations. Also, suggestions for future column topics are always welcome. Contact me via email at [rcichorz@comcast.net](mailto:rcichorz@comcast.net), USPS mail at Roger Cichorz, 3925 Longwood Ave., Boulder, CO 80305-7233, U.S.A., or telephone (303) 494-8361.

### **Closed Album – Warren H. Pearse, 1927–2015**

**Warren Harland Pearse**, a collector of Danish West Indies and former SCC officer, died November 16, 2015 at age 87. He served as SCC vice president from 1995 to 2000, and as a director 2001–2002.

Dr Pearse was a highly esteemed obstetrician/gynecologist. In 1975 he was named executive director of the American College of Ob-Gyn (ACOG) and served in that capacity until he retired in 1993. He oversaw the ACOG's relocation to Washington, D.C., where the headquarters was named the Warren H. Pearse Building in his honor. Pearse authored more than 57 published scientific papers and was recognized for his contributions to clinical research, education, and administration. He had a wonderful sense of humor and loved puns, plays on words, and limericks.

**Alan Warren**



## SCC and Scandinavian Show Calendar

**WESTPEX 2017** (SCC National Meeting) on 28–30 April, San Francisco, CA.

**Finlandia 2017** (FEPA exhibition; European, with Americans invited) on 24–28 May, Tampere, Finland. Celebrating the 100th anniversary of Finland's independence.

- There will also be an RPSL reception on 25 May at 5 p.m. at the Tampere Hall to present **Stockholmia 2019** and launch *No 1 Bulletin*. To receive your ticket, €25, for the reception, please email [birthe.king@postalthistory.net](mailto:birthe.king@postalthistory.net), or [seijulaakso@gmail.com](mailto:seijulaakso@gmail.com). Tickets can be collected and paid for at Finlandia.

**APS StampShow** (SCC booth and dinner) on 3–6 August, Richmond, VA.

**Nordia 2017** on 27–29 October, Vejle, Denmark.

### 2018

**Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition** (SCC National Meeting) on 2–4 February, Sarasota, FL.

**APS StampShow** (SCC booth and dinner) on 2–5 August, Columbus, OH.

**Nordia 2018**, Iceland.

### 2019

**Stockholmia 2019** on 29 May – 2 June, Stockholm, Sweden. Celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Royal Philatelic Society London (RPSL). For members all over the world.

**Nordia 2019**, Norway.

**Seapex** (SCC National Meeting) in 13–15 September, Seattle, WA.

## Membership Statistics for the Fourth Quarter 2016

(21 Nov 2016 – 20 Feb 2017)

### New Members

4333 Crain, Larry, PO Box 4395, Medford, OR 97501

4334 Johnson, James R, 1040 Ridgeway Road, Brookfield, WI 53045

### Change of Address

1846 Andrews, Norman, PO Box 6246, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

3832 Bendix, Richard, 180 E Pearson St, Apt 5305, Chicago, IL 60611

4249 Friedman, Martin L, 3 Morninglow Pass, Henderson, NV 89052

4265 Hällström, Jonas, Tomtebogatan 1A, SE-113 39 Stockholm, Sweden

3962 Lorentzen, Mark, 1515 – 7th St #418, Santa Monica, CA 90401

L53/1963 Roberts, Eric, 2763 Westfield Place, Claremont, CA 91711

1354 Whipple, Bryan R. R., PO Box 620, Genoa, NV 89411-0620

### Change in Membership Status

L108/3497 Martin, Frank

L107/2810 Peterson, James H.

### Lost contact

L87/2588 Carlton, Paul

H23/L36/2101 Rindone, Wayne

### Deceased

L39/2465 Helgesen, Paul

2083 Lorentzon, Lars

85GL Schoendorf, Francis

### Resigned in Good Standing

4247 Buckles, John

4236 Carlson, Eric

L40/2689 Craig, J. Eddy G., Jr.

4217 Fox, Vern

4199 Grace, Lee W

4220 Lemke, Daniel

3565 Olson, David

4228 Rosenblum, Larry

2882 Swanson, Kurt

4212 Talso, Marvin

### Donations

3687 Angus, Jerry

1921 Bell, Jonathon

3345 Cichorz, Roger

1995 Clark, Thomas

4273 Dancisin, William

2894 Eggleston, Jerry

4249 Friedman, Martin L.

4223 Grassman, Charles Lee

3907 Huebsch, Ian

4024 Laitinen, Jyrki

3473 Lund, Steve

H2888 Quinby, Roger

3502 Sprenkle, Case

H32/1087 Warren, Alan

## Meanwhile in Minnesota...

In spite of recent warmer than usual temperatures Minnesota winters can be brutal. On February 2 the temperature was only 6 F when I departed for Sarasota. Four hours later I was standing in 66 degree sunshine! SNSE is a fine WSP exhibition and a respite from northern winters can be a great relief if only for a few days. SCC will hold its annual meeting at SNSE, 2–4 Feb 2018, hosted by SCC Board Member Mike Schumacher. Mark these dates in ink on your calendar!

### Westpex 2017

This year's annual meeting will be held 28–30 Apr 2017. Board Member Matt Kewriga has done an excellent job in soliciting 64 frames as of late January exceeding our allotment and resulting in the largest SCC showing in over 10 years! Jonas Hällström will serve as visiting judge and will make a presentation about Stockholmia 2019. Information about Westpex is available at [www.westpex.org](http://www.westpex.org).

### Finlandia 2017

The international exhibition commemorating 100 years of Republic of Finland will be held at Tampere, 24–28 May 2017. Many SCCers will attend. Lots of info follows.

### Nordia 2017

NORDIA 2017 will be held 27–29 Oct 2017, Vejle, Denmark. Matt Kewriga will serve as SCC Commissioner. Exhibiting information is available at [nordia2017.dk](http://nordia2017.dk). 1 Jun 2017 is application deadline. Contact [matt@kewriga.com](mailto:matt@kewriga.com) for an application. Alan Warren will be there to serve on jury for 4th International Polar Philatelic Exhibition held concurrently. Vi ses i Vejle.

### The Posthorn

The appointment of Seija-Riitta Laakso as Editor of *The Posthorn* has led the SCC into a period of discovery about printing/ mailing costs and delivery times. Although many US societies have opted for a smaller format publication it was decided that the SCC will continue with the current format similar in size to other Scandinavian philatelic



Steve Lund, President & Executive Secretary of the Scandinavian Collectors Club.

publications (i.e. *Filatelisten*, *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*) and popular Scandinavian catalogs (i.e. *FACIT*, *LAPE* and *Norgeskatalogen*). The volumes along with Postiljonen, Gjermeten, Hellmann and other popular Scandinavian auction catalogs make a handsome shelving in any SCCer's library.

Deliveries to US and Canadian addresses will continue as previously with issues reaching US members usually in 7–10 days. Deliveries to other destinations, which previously took 4–5 weeks, are now expected to arrive within 2 weeks.

### Membership Renewal

The Catalog Incentive has resulted in over 150 new and renewing three year memberships. Renewal notices have been sent via email whenever possible. Only 15% of SCC members lack email and require postal renewal notices. At least two renewal notices have been emailed or postal mailed to every un-renewed member. A final notice will be sent to all *The Posthorn* mailing addresses of yet un-renewed members. I thank all SCC members for their support and cooperation in the renewal process and extend apologies to several already renewed members whom errantly received renewal notices.

### Steve Lund

February 24, 2017



## SCC Library Auction #46

(Closing Date April 15, 2017)

*This is the 46th auction of items being offered to SCC members. These 21 lots are excess to current SCC Library holdings. Sales 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 April 15, 2017.*

### Literature Lots

**1. Denmark / Postal History:** 49 photocopied loose-leaf 8½" x 11" pages illustrating stamps and covers from the collection of the late Donald Halpern, consisting of pre-philatelic covers (18 pages primarily of the Danish P.O. in Hamburg) and Danish postal markings (31 exhibit pages of primarily 1800s postmark types); also 7 pages of Norwegian pre-philatelic covers (1699-1850s). Useful information lot. EMV = \$5.50, Starting bid = \$2.

**2. Denmark / Periodical:** Four issues (2014 #5 and 2016 #1, 3, and 4) of DFT/Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift / Danish Philatelic Journal, slick, profusely color-illustrated, bimonthly publication of the Danish Philatelic Federation, 6½" x 9½" staple-bound paperback, in Danish, 80 pages per issue. Contains in-depth articles of pre-philatelic to modern postal history, classic to modern stamps, and a wide range of subjects related to Denmark, Danish areas, and Germany. EMV = \$16, Starting bid = \$4.

**3. Denmark / Periodical:** Seven issues (2005 #2, 2007 #3-4, 2015 #4, and 2016 #1-3) of NFT / Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift / Nordic Philatelic Journal, slick profusely color-illustrated, quarterly publication of the Copenhagen Philatelists Club, 6¾" x 9½" staple-bound paperback, in Danish, 46 pages per issue average. Contains in-depth articles on Danish and DWI stamps and postal history, and 2016 #1 has a 10-page article on fraudulent Danish stamps of the 1851 through 1862 series offered at auction. EMV = \$28, Starting bid = \$6.

**4. Norway / Postmarks:** Norske Preprimstempler / Norwegian Prephilatelic Postal Markings, in Norwegian, by Kjell Germeten and Kjell Mathiesen, Norsk Frimerkeforlag, Oslo, 1983, 80 pages, profusely illustrated, softbound, ISBN 82-90501-01-03, pristine. Postal history handbook and cata-

logue of 1845-1854 postmarks listed alphabetically by place names, followed by sections on ship markings and differentiating similar postmark types. CMV = \$25, Starting bid = \$6.

**5. Norway / Classic Stamps / Postal History:** Set of four auction catalogues for Skanfil's Modenhauer Auction #75, held in Oslo, November 11-12, 2016, in Norwegian, profusely illustrated in color. The set consists of one general sale of primarily Norwegian stamps, covers, and collections, and three specialty name sales (Finn Aune International Gold Medal Collection "The History of the Norwegian Skilling Stamps 1855-1872," highlights from the famous ship mail collection "Norwegian Ship Mail Up to 1875" formed by Pieter Ahl, and Knut J. Buskum International Gold Medal Collection "The Norwegian Skilling Issues on Postal Items"). A storehouse of important information on classic Norwegian stamps and postal history is contained within. Prices realized are available on line at <http://www.skanfil.no/LotMenu?n=101003&auctionid=EVT%2f100042>, but, because of Skanfil's extensive presentation format, are not printed out and included here. EMV = \$20, Starting bid = \$5.

**6. Norway:** Katalog over Norges Helpost / Catalogue of Norway's Postal Stationery, in Norwegian, Carl Pihl (Ed.), Norsk Filatelistforbund, Oslo, 1955, 62 pages, profusely illustrated, paperback, fair condition. Classic priced catalog with detailed listings of postage indicia envelopes, short letter envelopes, letter cards, official cards, application cards, and aérograms. CMV = \$10, Starting bid = \$2.

**7. Sweden / Postal History:** 153 photocopied loose-leaf pages (119 @ 8½" x 11" and 34 @ 8½" x 9¼") illustrating covers from the collection of the late Don Halpern, consisting of primarily pre-

philatelic and skilling banco covers on the subjects of Royal Swedish Krono Post rural mail service, from and transiting through Sweden, Swedish covers passing through Denmark, Swedish P.O.s in Stralsund, Griefswald, and Hamburg, and covers from and transiting through Sweden to Finland. Superb lot for postal history information as many are exhibit pages that include detailed write-ups and analyses of the covers' postal markings, rates, and routes, thus invaluable specialized information for postal historians and cover collectors. EMV = \$15, Starting bid = \$6.

**8. Sweden:** The Dieden/Hansen Collection of Classic Sweden, Harmers of New York auction catalogue for its December 16, 1987 Sale No. 2799, with list of prices realized, 28 pages (10 pages of black-and-white plates), paperback. Sale consisted of 175 lots of Sweden stamps and postal history. CMV = \$15, Starting bid = \$2.

**9. Sweden:** Sveriges och Norges Svarslösenmärken samt Helsaker, 1968-1978 / Sweden's and Norway's Reply Stamps and Postal Stationery, 1968-1978, in Swedish with a four-page English summary, by Lasse Liwendahl, author-published, Stockholm, 1979, 96 pages, illustrated, paperback, excellent condition. Informative handbook and priced catalogue of Sweden's licensed business-reply stamps and postal stationery; although Norway is included in the title, this book is primarily about Swedish "svarslösenmärken" as there is only a one-paragraph mention of the Norwegian "svarendningsmerker" introduced in 1974. CMV = \$14, Starting bid = \$5.

**10. Sweden:** Almanack för Året efter Frälsarens Kristi Födelse 1942 till Göteborgs Horisont... / Almanac for 1942 A.D. to Gothenburg's Horizon..., in Swedish, M. Ch. Peterson, Jönköping, Sweden, 40 pages, paperback, fair condition. Nonphilatelic ~3¾" x 5½" booklet, conversation-piece ephemera. CMV = \$4.50, Starting bid = \$1.

### Stamps, Postal Stationery, Covers, and Ephemera Lots

**S1. Faroes/Stamps:** mint new issues of April 1 and May 9, 2016, seven stamps comprising Postverk Føroya 40th Anniversary set (single + souvenir sheet of 2 stamps), Nólsoyar Páll 250 years single, Norden 2016 - Faroese food culture single, and Europa 2016 Think Green set of 2 stamps, face

value = DKK94/~\$13.21 and cost from Posta = €13.20/~\$13.79. CMV = \$21, Starting bid = \$10.

**S2. Faroes / Stamps:** mint new issues of September 26, 2016, 16 stamps comprising National Costumes set of 2, Jesus of Nazareth mini-sheet of 10, and music festivals set of 4 self-adhesive franking labels on backing, face value = DKK163/~\$22.90 and cost from Posta = €22.80/~\$23.81. CMV = \$35, Starting bid = \$17. (2 lots)

**S3. Faroes / Stamps:** Føroysk Frímerke 2016 / Faroese Stamps, 2016 official Faroese year pack containing the 14 mint stamps and three mint souvenir sheets (14 stamps) issued in 2016, plus a mint pane of 15 self-adhesive Faroese Christmas seals for 2016, pristine condition. Face value = DKK395/~\$55.49 + DKK30/~\$4.21 for the Christmas seals, cost from Posta = €59/~\$61.63. CMV = \$92, Starting bid = \$46.

**S4. Iceland / Stamps:** mint new issues of September 9, 2016, all self-adhesives with backings, five stamps and one souvenir sheet comprising Iceland's 50th Anniversary of National Television, Seabed Ecosystem set of 2, Wild Vegetation set of 2, and Pourquoi-Pas? 80th Memorial Anniversary s/s, face value ISK1455/~\$12.82 and cost from Iceland Post = €10.52/~\$10.99. CMV = \$18, Starting bid = \$9.

**S5. Iceland / Stamps:** mint new issues of November 3, 2016, all stamps with margin selvage, comprising set of four Icelandic Art VII and set of three Christmas self-adhesives with backing, face value ISK1970/~\$17.36 and cost from Iceland Post = €14.11/~\$14.74. CMV = \$22, Starting bid = \$11.

**S6. Norway / Ephemera:** five different official Norway Post horizontal format 5¾" x 4¼" matte black-and-white publicity photos, oversize illustrations for 12 stamps issued 1979-1983, distributed to the philatelic press and cataloguers, subjects include paintings, birds, ships, and King Olav (Scott #s 744-45, 759-62, 768-69, 783-85, and 827). Nice ancillary items for modern-issue and topical collectors, not generally available to collectors at the time of issuance but occasionally found aftermarket in dealers' stocks. EMV = \$10, Starting bid = \$2.50.

**S7. Sweden / Slania / Ephemera:** three different official Sweden Post vertical format 3½" x 5" glossy black-and-white publicity photos, same-



size illustrations for two stamps and two booklet panes issued 1979, distributed to the philatelic press and cataloguers, subjects include Europa History of the post and telecommunications, agriculture, and (Slania-engraved) Göta Canal (Scott #s 1278-79, 1284a, and 1290a). Nice ancillary items for modern-issue, Slania, and topical collectors, not generally available to collectors at the time of issuance but occasionally found aftermarket in dealers' stocks. EMV = \$6, Starting bid = \$3.

**S8. NORWEX 80/Ephemera:** Souvenir lot consisting of publicity flier, Norway Post press notice sheet, dummy stamp booklet, and pane of 15 (5 by 3) NORWEX self-adhesive show labels. EMV = \$5, Starting bid = \$1.

**S9. Canada / Puffins / Bird Topicals:** January 9, 1996 Birds of Canada - 1, unsigned pristine mint uncut press sheet of five panes of 12 stamps, 2012 Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps #1591-94iv @ \$175, \$27 face value, only 9000 printed and distributed, ~24" x 25" dimensions, sheet will be mailed tube rolled in Canada Post's original 31"-long triangular mailing box used for original posting of this sheet. Showpiece

item, ideal for mounting in frame for spectacular display. CMV = \$128, Starting bid = \$50.

**S10. Topical / Thematic / Smoking:** Wonderful start on a topical / thematic collection/exhibit on smoking, consisting of a 3"-wide 3-ring binder containing 64 Ultra Pro page-protector sleeves of newspaper and magazine articles, comic strips, photographs, postcards, stamps, covers, and ephemera related to famous persons (politicians, statesmen, writers, actors, artists, businessmen, cartoon/comics characters, etc.), all with cigarettes, cigars, or pipes in mouth or hand. The philatelic content - comprising 240 mint worldwide and U.S. stamps (face value of 27 mint U.S. stamps alone is \$9.34), 16 mint souvenir sheets and miniature sheetlets that contain an additional 89 stamps, and 10 first-day and commercial covers - precludes a more detailed description here, but in addition to the aforementioned ephemera and resource material, Churchill-related items are a significant portion of the total content. Donor's acquisition cost for just the philatelic items with their retail prices still noticeable was \$195, but many others within are unpriced, so \$300+ is a rea-

sonable estimate of the retail cost of the philatelic content. Caution to non-U.S. bidders: Heavy lot, shipping weight will exceed 7 pounds and postage will cost the buyer ~\$46 to Canada and ~\$66.50 to Europe. EMV = \$150, Starting bid = \$30.

**NP. Net-Price Item / Finland / Stamp Booklet:** as-issued, mint intact 1985 "Finnish Bank Note

Printing" booklet containing a mint pane of eight se-tenant stamps (Scott #706 complete booklet @ \$9 / Facit #H7, 962-69 @ SEK60/~ \$6.74), CMV = \$7.50. Six booklets are available at net price of \$4 each - specify quantity if more than one is desired and auctioneer will try to accommodate orders based on demand. Net price = \$4 each.

### Prices Realized - SCC Library Auction #45

(Closed February 1, 2017)

**Summary:** There were 13 bidders for this auction, 11 of whom were successful in winning one or more lots. 37 of 47 lots sold, with realizations totaling \$586.50 against cumulative starting bids of \$421.

#1 = \$13, #2 = \$17, #3 = \$21, #4 = \$20, #5 = \$3, #6 = \$3.50, #7 = \$8, #8 = \$4, #9 = \$32, #10 = \$2, #11 = \$130, #12 = \$2, #13 = \$12, #14 = \$3, #15 = \$3, #16 = \$10, #17 = NS, #18 = \$21, #19 = \$2, #20 = \$5, #21 = NS, #NP = \$4, #SC (#S1 through #S8) = \$230, #S9 = \$2, #S10 = \$1, #S11 = \$1, #YP1 through #YP8 = NS, #YP9 = \$4, YP10 = \$4, #YP11 = \$5, #YP12 = \$7, YP13 = \$5, and #YP14 = \$12.

NS indicates the following ten lots were unsold and are available for sale at their respective starting bids on a first-come, first-served basis: #17, #21, #YP1 through #YP8 (see auction text for prices). The NP Finland booklets are also available for \$4 each. Contact Roger Cichorz at rcichorz@comcast.net or 312-494-8361 if you are interested in purchasing any of these lots.

### 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 or other sources (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, \$50 to \$100 = \$3, and >\$100 = \$5. All nonconforming bids are rounded down to the proper bid increment. 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. E-mail bids will be confirmed by e-mail reply. Telephone bids will be recorded and confirmed at the time they are placed. Bidders should provide their SCC membership number to confirm eligibility to participate.
4. Successful bidders will be informed of their winning bids shortly after the close of the auction. Invoices will be included with the dispatched auction lots. Postage (and insurance, if applicable) will be added to the price of the successful bid(s). Payment can be made in U.S. funds by check (to the "SCC Library"), 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* and on the SCC Website. If applicable, unsold lots are noted at the end of the prices realized list, and are available at their respective starting bids on a first-come, first-served basis.



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## Visit the Club – SCC Chapter Meetings & Contacts

**1. SEATTLE/NW:** 2nd Monday, 9 a.m. at members' homes. *Contact:* Dana S. Nielsen, 13110 NE 177th P1, PMB #263, Woodinville WA 98072-5740, email: dananielsen@comcast.net.

**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; (312) 259-1094, email: collinr@americattech.net.

**7. NEW YORK:** 2nd Wednesday of February, April, June, September, and November at The Collectors Club, 26 E 35th St, NYC. *Contact:* Carl Probst, 71 Willoughby Ave, Hicksville NY 11801, email: cwp1941@aol.com.

**9. NORTH NEW JERSEY:** 3rd Wednesday at members' homes. *Contact:* John Abrahamsen, 759 Peach Tree Ln, Franklin Lakes NJ 07417, (201) 739-8589, email: john.abrahamsen.bnp@gmail.com.

**14. TWIN CITIES:** 2nd Thursday (except July and August) 7 p.m. at Danish American Center, 3030 W River Parkway S, Minneapolis MN 55406. *Contact:* Steve Lund, 383 Grand Ave Apt 5, St. Paul MN

55102; (651) 224-3122, email: steve88h@aol.com.

**17. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:** 1st Wednesday at members' homes. *Contact:* Jerry Winerman (818) 784-7277, email: gerjerry@sbcglobal.net.

**21. GOLDEN GATE:** 1st Saturday 11 a.m. at members' homes and at various shows (WESTPEX, PENPEX, etc.). *Contact:* Herb Volin (510) 522-3242, email: HRVolin@aol.com.

**24. MANITOBA:** 2nd & 4th Wednesdays September through May at Scandinavian Cultural Centre, 764 Erin St., Winnipeg, MB. *Contact:* Robert Zacharias, 808 Polson Ave, Winnipeg MB R2X 1M5, Canada, email: robertzacharias@shaw.ca, website: http://members.shaw.ca@sccmanitoba.

**27. COLORADO:** 1st Saturday September–June, 10 a.m. at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, 2038 S. Pontiac Way, Denver CO 80224. *Contact:* Roger Cichorz, 3925 Longwood Ave, Boulder CO 80305-7233, email: rcichorz@comcast.net.

**AUSTRALIA:** *Coordinator* John McKay, email: john.mckay@analysisinternational.net.au.

**NEW ZEALAND:** *Coordinator* John Campbell, email: johncampbellnz@hotmail.com.

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