

SCC in Westpex 2017

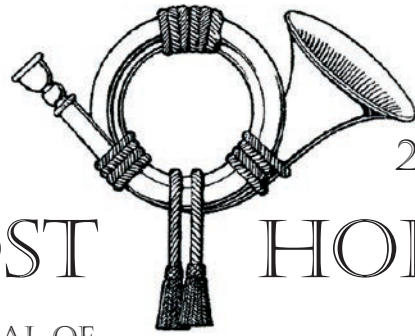
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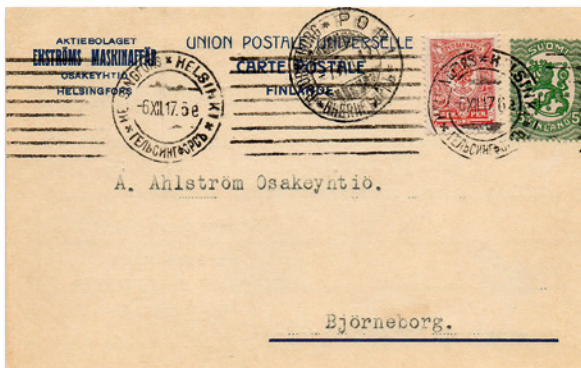
POST HORN

2/2017

JOURNAL OF
THE SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB



What is going on? The winners of the highest awards at Finlandia 2017 are photographed while receiving their medals. Several SCC members were included, see pages 5–7 and 29.



Celebrating Independent Finland – Saarinen model 100 years

The postcard to the left has a mixed franking: a 5-penni stamp designed by Eliel Saarinen, and a Russian-style 10-penni stamp to cover the postcard rate, 15 penni. It was sent from Helsinki to Pori (Björneborg) on 6 December 1917 – the day when Finland declared its independence. (From Ari Muhonen's collection.)

Frimerkeauksjon
Nr. 75

11. og 12. november 2016
Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel
Sonja Henies Plass 3, 0134 Oslo



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Highlights from
the famous ship mail
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Pieter Ahl
"Norwegian ship mail up to 1875"



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The Post of Today

A century ago, when fast transmission of mail was crucial, a letter could be sent from North America to Europe within a week or two. Crossing the Atlantic by mail steamer took usually about six days, and the train to the final destination a few more days, depending on the country in question.

Today things are very different. While communications by the Internet, Skype, mobile phone, etc. are instantaneous and real time, shipping of material by the post has become slow and unpredictable. And expensive, too.

Even though a digital version of *The Posthorn* is available, most people prefer to read a “hard” paper copy. Sending the journal by ordinary mail takes 4–6 weeks, about three times longer than it did a century ago. The great “communication hub” of New York seems to cause a major part of the delays.

The Posthorn No 1/2017 was sent in a different way. The non-American copies, excluding Canada, were brought directly to the Editor in Finland in a single package by FedEx. They arrived in two days, and they were posted on the same day to their final destinations. That was a Friday.

On Monday the copies were delivered in Finland, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. On Tuesday they arrived in Norway and the Netherlands, and on Wednesday in Denmark and France. In eight more days, still less than two weeks from printing, *The Posthorn* was received in Australia.

I received more than 30 reports on deliveries from readers in various countries. Thank you very much for your contribution! We will continue our efforts to deliver a fresh journal to all of you.

As another example of how the post of today has changed from the one that transported letters and postcards a century ago: no one is expected to use its services any more. I purchased ten picture postcards in the Maritime National Historical Park museum shop in San Francisco to be sent home to friends in Europe. The shop had no stamps to sell.

In fact, there were no stamps in any other shop that I visited either. And there were no stamps at San Francisco airport. Or JFK. I still have those postcards – written and addressed, but never be sent to the intended recipients. They do not use the Internet – perhaps I should next time call them by telephone instead.

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Celebrating Finland's 100th anniversary – At Finlandia 2017 exhibition in Tampere



This crowd was on its way to the award ceremony. SCC members Chris & Birthe King and Richard Bodin can be seen in the picture, as well as Gisli Geir Harðarson, the President of the Icelandic Philatelic Federation.

The international (FEPA) exhibition Finlandia 2017, held in Tampere on 24–28 May, was strong in Finnish philately but also exhibits of other Scandinavian countries were well represented. For SCC members the exhibition was a major success with three Large Gold medals and three Golds.

Gregory Frantz from the United States received a Large Gold medal for his “World Steamship Companies and Their Stamps”, which includes also a major section of rare Finnish steamship mail with private stamps from the 19th century.

Jeffrey C. Stone from Scotland received his Large Gold for “Finland: The Arms Type of 1875”, a study of the 83 printings of the eight denominations, together with postal usages. Jeffrey Stone’s book about Agathon Fabergé was also published during Finlandia 2017, see literature awards.

Hannu Kauppi from Finland was the third SCC member who received a Large Gold. His exhibit “Finland, M-1930 Definitive Series” tells about Model 1930, the largest Finnish stamp issue ever.

Hannu Kauppi is an expert on that issue, and he published an excellent book about it a few years ago. All three Large Gold exhibits received 95 points.

Roger Quinby from the United States displayed Finnish postal history in “Finnish Railway to St. Petersburg 1870–1918”, which traced the development of the railway between Helsinki and St. Petersburg during those years. He received a Large Vermeil with 85 points.

Kauko Aro, from the United States, showed “Finland Postal Stationery with 1875 Stamp Design”, receiving a Vermeil with 81 points.

SCC members Jussi Tuori and Ari Muhonen both were on the jury. Their exhibits of the Saarinen stamps were placed among other invited exhibits



Gregory Frantz from the United States received Large Gold for his "World Steamship Companies and Stamps" in Finlandia 2017.

to celebrate the centennial of the issue.

Strong Swedish postal history

Swedish postal history was also strong in Finlandia 2017, with Richard Bodin from Sweden participating in the FEPA Grand Prix Class with his "Swedish Militaries & Volunteers in War, Campaigns or in Active Service Abroad 1543–1905".

Another Swedish SCC member, Jonas Hällström, exhibited "Swedish Postal History 1951–1972". This period in Swedish postal history introduced a greatly expanded variety of postal services. "198 items for 198 different reasons", as Jonas puts it. Despite the relatively modern material, he was awarded a Gold medal with 91 points.

Kjell Nilson from Sweden showed Swedish Postal History of 1939–1948, "The Swedish Mail and the War". He was awarded a Large Vermeil with 88 points.

Wayne Donaldson from Australia displayed "Sweden & Great Britain: Mail Connections till U.P.U.", receiving a Large Vermeil with 86 points. After some confusion in Australia, all frames safely found their way to Finland in time to get evaluated. A great relief – no one wants his or her exhibit's first (or any other) frame to disappear on the way to the exhibition! This is exactly what happened.

Norway and DWI

Norwegian Tom Komnæs joined fellow SCC member Richard Bodin in the FEPA Grand Prix Class with his "Norwegian Skilling Covers – domestic and abroad". Both exhibits received a Large Gold for participating in the Grand Prix Class. The FEPA Grand Prix was won by Jean Voruz from Switzerland showing "Geneva Postal Services 1839–1862".

Eigil Trondsen from Norway received a Large Vermeil with 88 points for his "Norwegian Registered Mail 1800–1950's".

Matthew Kewriga, SCC Board Member from the United States, showed "Danish West Indies Foreign Mail: 1748–UPU" illustrating the importance of St. Thomas as an international transit hub. He received a Gold medal with 93 points.

Aerophilately and traditional from Iceland

Arni Gustafsson from Iceland exhibited "Zeppelin Mail to and from Iceland" in the Aerophilately Class, with good results, a Large Vermeil and 86 points.

Sigurdur R. Petursson from Iceland showed "The Two Kings" in Traditional Philately Class, receiving a Vermeil and 82 points.

Additionally, Seija-Riitta Laakso from Finland received Gold with 93 points in the Picture Postcard Class for "Paris by Night".

Malcolm Price received 88 points for his one-frame exhibit "Australia – The B.C.O.F. Japan 1946–1949 Overprint Issues"

Agathon Fabergé book and FACIT well received in the Literature Class

Jeffrey Stone's *Agathon Fabergé, Portrait of a Philatelist* was the best in the Philatelic Literature Class, winning a Large Gold medal with 96 points. The book was published by the Philatelic Service of Finland Ltd.

Another new book from Finland, *Suomen postitaksat, Finnish postage rates 1875–2001*, was listed in the Philatelic Literature Class but was not evaluated, obviously because the publisher, the Postal Museum of Finland, was one of the main organizers of the exhibition. You will find a review of the book on page 35 in this journal.

Jeffrey C. Stone (sitting on the left) from Scotland was the most successful SCC member in Finlandia 2017 with two Large Gold medals. To the right is Kai Toivakka, the son of Erkki Toivakka, who won the Grand Prix National (a piece of Finnish Glass Art, the blue one on the table in the picture) but was unable to receive it personally.



Gunnar Lithén from Sweden received a Large Gold for *FACIT Special Classic 2017* with 96 points, and Gold by *FACIT Norden 2017* with 93 points in the Philatelic Literature, Catalogues Class.

Finally, the Scandinavian Collectors Club received a Large Silver medal for the issues of 2016 of *The Posthorn* in the Philatelic Literature, Periodicals Class.

SRL



The participants of the FEPA Grand Prix Class received Large Gold medals before the final jury vote result was announced. From the left, Jury members Brian Trotter and Peter McCann, Alfred Schmidt, Tom Komnæs, Richard Bodin, Vittorio Morani, Jean Voruz, who was the Grand Prix winner, George Kramer, and Jussi Tuori, the Jury President.

Saarinen model 1917

The first stamp issue of independent Finland celebrates its 100th anniversary

The first stamp issue of independent Finland is named after its designer, architect Eliel Saarinen, and it is today one of the most popular stamp series of Finnish philately.

“This series is intensely interesting from the philatelic point of view,” says Jussi Tuori, a renowned exhibitor of the issue. “There are essays, proofs, paper, perforation and watermark varieties – as well as colors and shades, clichés and Type varieties. There are also more exotic specialized items, like double perforations, paper folds, printing offsets – and then of course rare usages and postal history – almost anything a philatelist could dream of.”

According to Tuori, the pursuit of Saarinen's can range from the big-time hunts for exhibit-quality rarities at auction houses and dealers – for those who can afford it – to the meticulous search through the almost endless stocks of readily available material by eager enthusiasts who collect them for sheer fun.

Independence followed the first stamps of the Republic – not vice versa

After the February (March by Gregorian calendar) Revolution, the Russian provisional government cancelled Finland's “oppression laws” on 20 March 1917, including the Postal Manifesto of 1890. The Finnish Post was thus given back its former right to issue stamps. The Finnish Senate discussed the issue already on 5 April. The decision was made on 27 April 1917, and a committee was set to prepare a proposal. The chairman of the committee was Dr Harald Lindberg, and the renowned architect Eliel Saarinen was one of the members. The committee made the proposal fast, and already on 21 June the Senate decided on the model, values and colors of the new postage stamps, and postal stationery.

Formally, the introduction of the new issue needed the approval of the Russian Governor General, and he had no objections to the introduction of the stamps in Finland on 1 October 1917. He added later that the stamps could also be used in mail to Russia and foreign countries. The UPU gave its permission to foreign usage several months later,

to start from 12 March 1918. This happened only after the declaration of Finland's independence, and its official recognition by several countries.

Essays and proofs

The Senate committee, however, had two different essays for the first stamps on the table—one by Harald Lindberg, the Chairman, and another by Saarinen. Saarinen's winning proposal was slightly wider and taller than the older Russian-type stamps. “Due to the old type of perforation machines on hand, the stamps had to be changed to the same size as the old ones,” Tuori explains.

According to him, proofs are rare. “Single ones are easier to find, but even they are very scarce.



Figure 1. The blue-color proof of the Saarinen and Lindberg models above is the only known.

Figure 2. Agathon Fabergé referred to these two color proofs as Number 2 and Number 3. Number one is still unknown. Fabergé acquired the proofs in a philatelic club meeting.



Three green-color proofs with two Lindberg- and two Saarinen-designed stamps are known, as well as one blue-color proof with one Lindberg and one Saarinen model stamp,” he says. (See Figure 1)

Various colors were also tested, and there are two examples known of these proofs outside the Postal Museum archives. The renowned collector Agathon Fabergé acquired them in a meeting of a philatelic club, Frimärkssamlare-Föreningen i

Finland, in 1936. He referred to them as numbers 2 and 3. (See Figure 2.) “But where is number one?” asks Jussi Tuori. There has been no answer to this question so far.

On 5 September 1917, the Senate decided to change the rates. The original values were thus no longer needed! “This is the reason why you can find proofs of unissued stamps in the market,” Jussi Tuori explains.



Agathon Fabergé was born in St. Petersburg in 1876, and he died in Helsinki in 1951. Having started to collect stamps in 1885, he specialized in Finnish and Russian philately, and eventually owned the largest collection of Finnish stamps so far. The stamp booklet above shows some of the rarities from his collection. The general public knows the name Fabergé better from jewelry. Gustav Fabergé, Agathon's grandfather, established a jeweler's shop in St. Petersburg in 1842. The shop became renowned in the time of Carl Fabergé, Agathon's father, when the famous Easter eggs were created to the czar's family. Also the royal houses of Europe and the princes of Asia belonged to the clients of the shop, in which many of the workers were Finns. Agathon Fabergé was, in addition to his other duties, the gemologist of the shop. (Source: The stamp booklet above, published for Finlandia 88 in May 1988.)



Figure 3. The postcard above was sent from Helsinki on 1 Oct 1917 – a First Day Card.

Introduction of the model

According to the decision made by the Senate, the stamps were to be introduced on 1 October 1917. But only the 5 penni green stamp was

produced in time. About ten First Day Covers or Postcards are known to exist. (See Figure 3.)

Figure 4 shows the picture side of the post-



Figure 4. The picture side of the postcard advertises in Swedish language candidates in the parliamentary elections. The list "21" is interesting.



Figure 5. Mixed franking of Saarienen and Russian stamps to Sweden 4 October 1917. Saarienen stamps were not valid abroad.

card above. The parliamentary elections took place on the same day, and the constitutional labor movement campaigned in the advertisement for full sovereignty, and eight-hour working day.

The candidates mentioned on the card as "List 21" were not workers, however. They represented the Swedish People's Party. Arthur Söderholm was a lawyer, and Eirik Hornborg was a schoolmaster, as well as an MP. "Miss Annie Furuhielm" was a journalist, feminist activist, and writer. She was also an MP of the Finnish Parliament, even if she was born in Alaska. The explanation is that Alaska belonged at that time to Russia, and was thus part of the same country as Finland during the time she was born.

All values of the first issue were distributed in 1917, except the yellow 20 penni, which was issued in April 1918. "A great challenge for a collector is to find all the first-issue stamps used in 1917," Tuori says.

Mixed frankings and early mail to foreign countries

After the Saarienen stamps had entered the market, there were three different types of stamps used in

Finland simultaneously. In addition to Saarienen, there were the "Eagle stamps", i.e. the Russian-model stamps in Finnish currency, as well as Russian stamps in Russian currency. This was also the case in postal stationery. Even more interesting and rare mixed frankings appeared, when the stamps in Russian currency were forbidden in Finnish domestic use from 29 November 1917, and Saarienen stamps could be used in foreign mail only from 12 March 1918. Saarienen stamps combined with Eagle stamps are a very common mixed franking.

Even though Saarienen stamps were valid in mail to Russia, only five covers or postcards are known from 1917. All mail to Russia is rare also in 1918.

Even if the Saarienen model stamps were not valid abroad, they were still used. The postcard in Figure 5 was sent to Sweden on 4 October 1917. The currency rate had changed on the same day, but the postcard was sent using the old rate, 8 kop. The postcard shows also a rare mixed franking of Saarienen model and Russian stamps.

Figure 6 (see next page) shows a Saarienen stamp used domestically on a Russian postal stationery



Figure 6. The mixed franking, a Saarinen stamp on a Russian postal stationery, was sent according to regulations.

card. Four items are known with this mixed franking. The one shown here is the only item with postage due. The currency rate is correct, 1 kop = 1.25 penni. As 6.25 penni

is missing, the correct postage due 15 penni has been added. The use of Russian postal stationeries was forbidden two days after this posting!



Figure 7. Kaltimo postmaster bisected a 10 penni stamp for a 5 penni as there was no better option – the 5 penni stamps had run out weeks earlier. The rate was 15 penni.

The Civil War in January–May 1918 influenced the use of Saarinen stamps in many ways.

When the country was divided into two parts (White in the north, Red in the south), also two postal administrations were born. The stock of postage stamps was in Helsinki, the capital of the Red side. The stamps ran out rapidly on the White side.

A good example of the shortage was the situation in Kaltimo, Northern Karelia. When 5 penni stamps had run out in December, they had ordered new ones. However, the stamps had not been delivered before the war, and the new Vaasa design 5 penni stamps were issued as late as on 5 March 1918. The postmaster therefore bisected the 10 penni stamp against the rules on 26 February 1918 to be able to forward the postcard from the post office. (See Figure 7.)



Figure 8. A large-size essay for the Vaasa model by architect Matti Björklund (Visanti).



Figure 9. The parcel from Outokumpu on 28 January 1918 was kept in Joensuu and Mikkeli, and it arrived in Helsinki on 13 May 1918; white side.



Figure 10. The former prison camp of Tammisaari became a labor camp for political prisoners in the 1920s. The postcard above was sent on 23 June 1925 to Axel Mannila, who was imprisoned in 1925 for 7.5 years because of distributing communist literature. The sender of the postcard was Valdemar Liljeström, a trade union activist and future Chairman of the Metal Workers' Union, MP, and Minister of Social Affairs in the 1940s and 1950s. Paradoxically, the postcard to the labor camp has got in Helsinki the slogan cancellation "Suosi kotimaista työtä", i.e. "Favor domestic work".

When the white government moved to Vaasa, they had to design immediately a provisional issue, the so called Vaasa issue, see Figure 8. These stamps were valid after the war up to 1923. In foreign mail they could not be used after 24 Jun 1918.

The rates varied substantially in White and Red Finland. The Reds raised their rates on 1 March 1918, and the Whites on 15 April 1918. Interestingly, only a few usages to foreign countries are known from the Reds, with the exception of Russia. In these cases, Russian currency stamps have been used for postage.

Mail through the front line is hard to find. In practice, the post offices on both sides kept the mail until the sender and the receiver were on the same side of the front line. (See Figure 9.)

One of the worst consequences of the Civil war were the prison camps for reds after the war. A total of 80,000 prisoners were taken to those camps, and about 13,000 of them perished.

After mass amnesties in the early 1920s, the rest of the prisoners were concentrated into Tammisaari prison camp, which was turned into a labor camp for political prisoners, i.e. the activists of the banned Communist Party, etc. (See Figure 10.)

Back to the normal

After peace, the postal system was quickly re-established. Postal transfers worked effectively both domestically and to foreign destinations. There was one exception. Finland's peace agreement with Russia was not signed until on 14 October 1920, and the postal agreement between the countries was delayed up to 1922. But many people had contacts to – for example Petrograd (St. Petersburg) to be reached by post. The border from Finland was only 30 km from the city centre of Petrograd. Both countries nominated "border commandants" with extensive powers, which also included transfer of mail at the border. This would be a great surprise to the Finnish Post, when they later learnt about it.

The paper

Saarinen stamps were printed on the same Tervakoski paper with margin watermarks as the Eagle stamps. The idea was originally that each value should have its own watermark. This happened in the beginning but as it was difficult to keep the order, the watermarks were mixed. The stamp sheets might also have parts of SUOMEN LEIMAKONTTORI watermark, which should have been outside the sheets. After 1918, the paper was somewhat thinner for two years, but from order 44, the thickness was normally 0.06–0.075 mm. However, both thicker and thinner paper quality can be found. The first emissions were basically produced without watermark.

A major change took place in 1925, when – starting from order 99 (20 penni brown) – the new paper had a swastika watermark. There is one exception, the 1 mk (=markka) orange, in order 104. Even if it was mainly printed on paper with swastika watermark, the old paper without watermark was used for a small part of the order. "It is relatively difficult to find postal items printed on paper without watermark," Jussi Tuori says.

The swastika paper could go to the printing machine in two ways, making two different watermarks. Adding to this the different perforations, the collector finds even more challenges, but also a fascinating collecting area!

The posthorn watermark paper was taken into use from order 127 (3 mk) onwards, This paper could go to the printing machine in four different ways. Together with the different perforations there are plenty of varieties.

In the fall of 1929, starting from order 162 (1 ½ mk), the stamps were again printed on paper without watermark. The paper was now whiter than earlier, and in fact it was originally meant for Model 1930 stamps. The period of Saarinen stamps printed on this paper was short, and as there were still plenty of earlier stamps available, some values printed on this paper are real rarities. Especially 1 mk and 10 mk values correctly used and especially on postal items are rare, very few are known from each value. On the other hand, unused stamps were sold from by the Post's Philatelic section up to 1950s, so they are very common. This has also led to many forgeries.

The perforations

The perforation machine initially used for the old Eagle stamps was again pressed into service for the Saarinen stamps. The perforation was most often 14 ¼ x 14. However, for three values the printer temporarily used also 14 ¼ x 14 ¾. The most common of these values is 40 penni lilac, order 37, although some years ago the same perforation was found also in order 26. To date, four copies have been found. The other two values are 10 penni green, order 42, and 50 penni blue, order 38. The rarest one is 10 penni, of which only three postal items have been found so far. The 50 penni blue has not been found on postal items so far.

When a new perforation machine was purchased in the fall of 1926, the perforation was 14 ¼ x 14 ¾. Both machines were used simultaneously, however. These random mixtures of perforations and watermarks have caused some very rare combinations.

The handbook knows imperforated stamps of four values: order 10 (10 penni red), order 46 (1 ½ mk/50 penni blue), order 83 (60 penni lilac), and order 128 (1 mk orange). From these the 10 penni red is the rarest and sought after, especially used copies from Helsinki or Hämeenlinna. After printing of the handbook, two more imperforated stamps have been found, order 49 (30/10 penni green) and order 57.

Reference:

Suomen postimerkkien käsikirja V; Handbook of Finnish Stamps, Fifth Volume; Julkaisut 1917 ja 1918; Issues of 1917 and 1918. (2nd edition, 1986)

The article is based on text and material by **Jussi Tuori**, RDP, FRPSL.

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Perforation Varieties in the Saarinen Issues

by Bob Hisey

There are a number of perforation varieties mentioned in LaPe and the handbook, and some that are not. In fact, there are more varieties than there are names. Many are not clearly defined. This causes difficulties for collectors/exhibitors, and sometimes even judges. Examples will be shown and explained.

1. Rosohammaste, or Rough perforation.

Rosohammaste refers to a situation where the punching itself is rough, and not caused by the act of separating the stamp. Rough perforation occurs when the perforating die and pin are badly worn, so that the little circles are not punched out cleanly but rather torn out. Easily identified by the little 'hairs' or fibers on the hole edges. The hole itself is often irregular.



2. Terävä hammaste, or Sharp teeth/perforation.



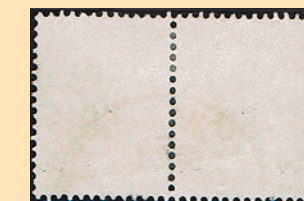
Sharp teeth.



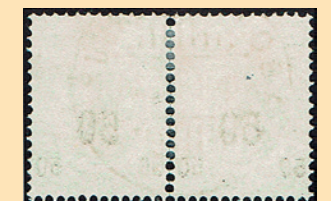
0.7 mm



0.8 mm



0.9 mm



1.0 mm

The normal occurrence of 'sharp teeth' or 'pointed perforations' is related to the practice of refurbishing of worn die/pin sets. When badly worn, the die was rebored slightly larger, and the pins were replaced with new larger pins. The pins range from 0.7 mm to 1.0 mm, as shown below. The 1.0 mm pins almost touch one another, causing the sharp teeth. These occur on all four sides (except for double perforations). The large pins were only in use from April 1919 to January 1921, and probably stopped as they were making the sheets liable to fall apart.

3. Terävä (piikkimäinen) rosohammaste, or Pointed rough perforation.

The pointed rough perforation occurs when a large pin was used. Literature mentions 10 penni red and 25 penni blue of 1917 as examples. It is not clear whether it means both 0.9 and 1.0 mm pins. The example shown here has 0.9 mm pins. Rough perforations with 1.0 mm pins have not been found.



4. *Hammastamon*, Imperforate or partly Imperforate.

Self-explanatory. The 20 penni partly imperforate is also a tall stamp.



5. *Paperilaskoksen aiheuttama hammaste-erikoisuus*, or Paper fold with perforation.

Occurs when the corner of the paper is folded over going into the perforator.



6. *Siirtymä*, or Misperforation.

Occurs when the paper is misfed into the perforator enough to intrude on the design or cause a wrong size stamp. See also page 19.



7. *Double/Multiple Perforations*.

Grossly misplaced extra strike of the perforator. Occurs when sheet is misfed into the perforator.



Misperforation, wide stamp left, narrow stamp right (see page 18).



8. *Slightly misplaced 2nd strike showing peg teeth*.

Occurs when the 2nd strike is a bit misplaced sideways and down. Note narrow teeth.



9. *Slightly misplaced 2nd strike showing long teeth and sharp/diamond on sides*.

Shows on the top of this example which also shows long teeth on bottom. Not seen in Model 1917, but must exist. Shows long teeth on the bottom of this example which also caused an erratic toothless edge, similar to a poor small diamond perforation.



10. *Misplaced further, and with a 3rd strike*, causing an erratic toothless edge, similar to a poor small diamond perforation.

The example is actually five strikes of the perforator, four in one direction and one in the other. The last strike was with the sheet turned around. The result is a toothless bottom side from three strikes and long peg tooth top from two strikes.



Combinations of above.

The Saarinen issue reflects Finland's history – the model and its uses after 1918 Civil War

by Ari Muhonen

Once the Civil War was over, Finnish volunteers fought in eastern Karelia, Inkeri, Petsamo, and Estonia on several occasions between 1918 and 1922. These raids were part of the newborn state's efforts to secure its borders. One aim was to liberate ethnic Finno-Ugrian areas from the Soviet Union, and to help them to become Finnish territories, or independent nations. Mail from these expeditions were sent by Saarinen stamps, of which one example is shown below.

During the Civil War, thousands of Reds had fled from the White Guards area to Russia. They gathered at the Murmansk railroad area intending

to attack from there with the help of the British troops of the North Russian Expedition. The Finnish Karelian Expeditionary Force was created to stop their actions. After some fighting they had to return to Finland. (See *Figure 1.*)

Another expeditionary force went to help the Finno-Ugrians in Karelia. They expected that the locals would rise up against the Bolsheviks, and free their country together with the Finns. This turned out to be wishful thinking. The resultant fighting was a stalemate. Neither side could gain land from the other. The Karelians – caught in the middle – wanted to be neutral, and just live their own lives.



Figure 1. The letter above was sent from the Karelian Expedition in Suomussalmi on 18 June 1918 to Rovaniemi, Lapland. The handstamp "Karjalan Retkikunnan" (Karelian Expedition) read originally "Karjalan Retkikunnan III komppania". The second line (3rd Company) was removed after the Companies had been merged.



Figure 2. The postcard to Sweden was mistaken to be underpaid, as the domestic rate was 40 p, then changed, as 20 p was correct. Sent from Wasa on 14 May 1920.

The Aunus expedition consisted of volunteers who wanted to help the Aunus (or Olonets) area to drive the Bolsheviks away. The military set up their own post office in Rajakontu with their own stamps, and a special oval cancellation. These were in use from 7 July to 15 October, 1919.

Inflation

Finland suffered heavy inflation during the first years of its independence, and WW1 had caused shortage of many basic goods. Russia had paid for its large import from Finland with increasably unstable rubles, and Finland was forced to accept a considerably low exchange rate. When the value of ruble totally collapsed, the Bank of Finland suffered great losses.

The government was soon forced to borrow money from the Bank of Finland, and the country soon found itself on the slippery slope of inflation: plenty of money, but little to buy. There was not much to offer in exchange for credit from foreign countries. The value of markka plummeted more than 50 % between February and September, 1921.

International regulations prevented Finland from increasing the postal rates even though the need was great in the early 1920s. Thus from 12 April

1920 to 31 January 1921 it was actually less expensive to send letters and postcards to foreign destinations than it was within the country. For example, the postage for a first-rate letter abroad was 50 penni compared to the domestic rate 80 penni. The rates for postcards were 20 penni and 40 penni respectively (see *Figure 2.*)

New international rates were agreed upon in the UPU congress in Madrid on 30 November 1920. Finland used the opportunity immediately, and raised the letter rate from 50 penni to 1.50 mk, and the postcard rate from 20 penni to 90 penni! (See *Figure 3.*)

Several new issues

Changing postage rates caused great headaches at the General Post Office. Additionally, the UPU had ordered specific colors to be used on certain types of stamps: blue for letters, red for postcards, and green for printed matter. When the Finnish government decided on the usage of Saarinen stamps for foreign mail there were no properly-colored stamps available. Instead, 50 penni brown, 20 penni yellow, and 10 penni red stamps were used for letters, postcards, and printed matters respectively.

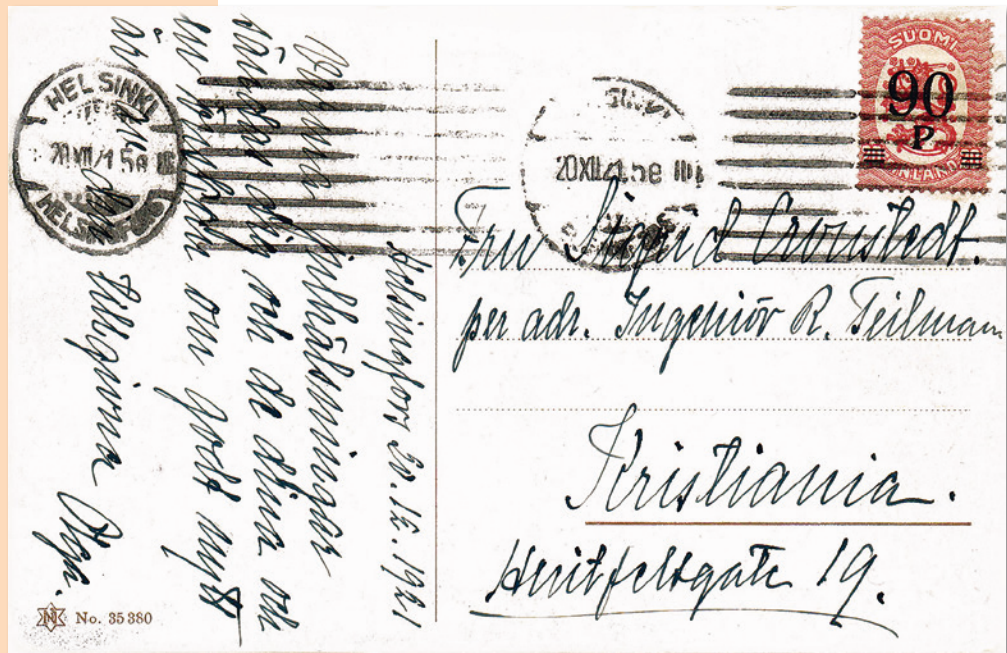


Figure 3. After the new rates had been taken into use, the postcard from Helsinki to Kristiania (Oslo), Norway, on 20 December 1921 needed a 90 penni stamp instead of the earlier 20 penni.

It was not until November 1919 that the General Post Office started to comply with the international regulations. In order to save money, they decided to overprint the existing stamps. Corresponding new stamps with the proper colors were issued somewhat later.

Some of the first issues were demonetized after they were replaced with new ones. The 50 penni brown, 25 penni blue, 20 penni yellow, and 10 penni red stamps (including stationeries) became invalid after 1 June 1920.

Cancellations

Many different types of cancellations were used during the period of the Saarinen stamps' validity, giving wide range and creating great interest for collectors. Various provisional cancellations were also used during the Civil war.

The General Post Office wrote in their Circular on 7 June 1918 that the post offices should send their handstamps to Helsinki in order to remove the Russian language. Meanwhile, provisional cancellations were to be used. (See Figure 4.)

The idea of “talking cancellations” – slogan postmarks – was borrowed from other countries and came to Finland in the spring of 1925. The first

slogan postmark was “Suosikaa kotimaista työtä – Främja inhemsk arbete” (“Favor domestic work”), see an example on page 14.

One of the cancellation specialties in the 1920s was the “reversed Helsingfors – Helsinki” cds. Collectors have recorded their usage from 19 March 1925 to 13 September 1925.

Helsinki cancellations used to have the city-name first in Finnish and then in Swedish. However, the order of the languages was reversed in Helsinki, for unknown reason. Mr. Olla Teräsvuori jokingly suggested in his column in *Suomen Postimerkkilehti* that this had been done to commemorate the visit of the king of Sweden in summer 1925. This legend continued for a long time, even though it could not be true.

The General Post Office offered another reason for the change. It declared that an earlier, old handstamp had been pressed into provisional use while the original one was being repaired. Again, this could hardly be the reason – there had never been a Helsingfors–Helsinki cancellation before. But, similar cancellations were used in Swedish-speaking regions. The General Post Office may have erroneously ordered one also for Helsinki.



Figure 4. The post offices had to send their handstamps to Helsinki for removal of the Russian language in June 1918. Meanwhile, provisional cancellations had to be used. The money order above was sent from Merijärvi to Helsinki on 18 June 1918. It was handstamped by a provisional seal canceler, the date was added by hand.

Nordic Postal Union

Sweden, Norway, and Denmark had formed the Nordic Postal Union in 1869. Finland did not get its chance to join until the beginning of the 1920s.

Finland signed separate agreements with the Nordic countries in May 1922, and they came into force on 1 June 1922. The letter rate was set at 1.50 mk – between the domestic (1 mk) and foreign (2 mk) rates. When the domestic rate was raised on 15 January 1926, it coincided with the letter rate to the Nordic countries. This parity existed up to the 1990s, when the Union was finally dissolved.

Airmail

The General Post Office was not originally interested in this new means of transportation in the beginning of the 1920s, believing the new airplane

technology too primitive. Air flight depended too much on the notoriously unpredictable weather conditions. Additionally, the first planes used in Finland were seaplanes, which used water or ice for take-off and landing. The thin ice found in the spring and fall were not suitable, and flights had to be cancelled or halted for long periods of time. The G.P.O. needed a more reliable form of transportation.

The G.P.O. finally got interested when Aero Oy, the first Finnish airline company, introduced its routes to Tallinn and Stockholm. The company was founded in 1923, and the flights commenced in the spring of 1924. The first airmail regulations were issued on 30 May 1924, just in time for the first flying season. These regulations introduced special cancels, slips, and other markings which were to be used for airmail.



Figure 5. The airmail letter above, sent from Turku on 17 March 1926 to Copenhagen, Denmark, was carried on an ice-flight during the first season. Only three covers are known to exist.

The winter operation season was short – usually the ice was thick enough only from the beginning of February till the end of March. This meant that not much mail was sent by air, and only a few items have survived today. Mail carried between Turku (Åbo) and Stockholm is especially interesting for the airmail enthusiasts: the route was flown only for a short period during two winters: from 2 to 23 March 1926, and from 25 February to 16 March 1929. (See Figure 5.)

The famous airship *Graf Zeppelin* commenced a Baltic tour on 23–25 September 1930. It visited also Helsinki on 24 September 1930 taking aboard 3,709 letters and 4,760 postcards. A special postage stamp was produced for this occasion, and it had to be used to frank the items. However, Saarinen stamps were used for the airmail fee. (See Figure 6.)

The *Graf Zeppelin* left Friedrichshafen on 23 September 1930 at 5.07 p.m. heading for the route Berlin–Riga–Tallinn–Helsinki–Stockholm–Berlin–Friedrichshafen. The airship was supposed to

land on the fields of Viikki, a northern suburb of Helsinki. However, a heavy wind prevented this. The incoming mail had to be dropped, and outgoing mailbags lifted with a rope to the airship. Passengers waiting in Helsinki could not be taken onboard.

The end of the model

The first model Saarinen issue was greeted with joy in 1917. However, by the mid-1920s many had tired for it, and the stamps started to receive more and more criticism. For example the newspaper *Iltalehti* wrote on 22 November 1927: “The philatelists consider this current issue [Saarinen] impossible as well as the ugliest stamp in the world...”. There was a general desire for some design variety and postage stamps with landscapes.

The government called for a totally new design in 1928. The commission was granted to artist (Mrs.) Signe Hammarsten-Jansson. The sketches apparently did not please Jalmar Castrén, the Secretary of Transportation. He drew his own version based



Figure 6. A letter from Helsinki to Germany by the Graf Zeppelin on 24 September 1930.

on a Norwegian postal issue. Hammarsten-Jansson used this sketch in the final design, and it was approved on 4 April 1929, followed by the value and color approval on 9 August 1929. The

date of issue was set for 1 January 1930. Saarinen stamps remained in use concurrently with the new 1930 issues for one year, before being demonetized on 31 December 1930.



Figure 7. Second-rate insured letter 1,100 mk from Salo on 1 November 1930, mixed franking.

Elie Saarinen was not only a stamp designer...

Philatelists know Elie Saarinen (1873–1950) mainly as a stamp designer but in fact he was a famous architect, whose best known works included the Pavilion of Finland in Paris 1900 World Exposition, Helsinki Central Railway Station, National Museum of Finland, as well as several buildings in the United States together with his son Eero Saarinen.

A visitor can hardly spend a day in Helsinki without seeing the work of architect Elie Saarinen and his colleagues Herman Gesellius and Armas Lindgren. As young men, the trio had established an architectural firm after completing their studies at the University of Technology in Helsinki in the late 1890s.

Their first great achievement was the Pavilion of Finland for the Paris 1900 World Exposition, which became the inspiration for the growth of

Finnish nationalism during the period of Russian oppression.

Gesellius–Lindgren–Saarinen designed the great romantic-style Pohjola Insurance building in Helsinki (Aleksanterinkatu 44) which includes figures from Finnish mythology. It was built in 1899–1901, and definitely worth visiting if you get the chance. They also designed a number of houses in Katajanokka, Helsinki, which are today considered as the *jugend* (art nouveau) pearls of the city.

Their studio home Hvitträsk in Kirkkonummi – later the residence of Saarinen family and today a museum – was a centre of design and handicraft during that time, inspiring visitors like the Russian writer Maksim Gorki, Marshal Carl Gustaf Mannerheim, and composer Jean Sibelius.

The cooperation between the three architects became very complicated and ended by 1905. Their families had become a little too close to each other: Elie Saarinen divorced his wife Mathilde, who then married Herman Gesellius, while Saarinen married sculptor Louise Gesellius, Herman's younger sister. Architect Eero Saarinen was the son of this marriage.



All designs were not implemented. Behind Elie Saarinen in the stamp image is his winning proposal for the Finnish Parliament House, which never came true.

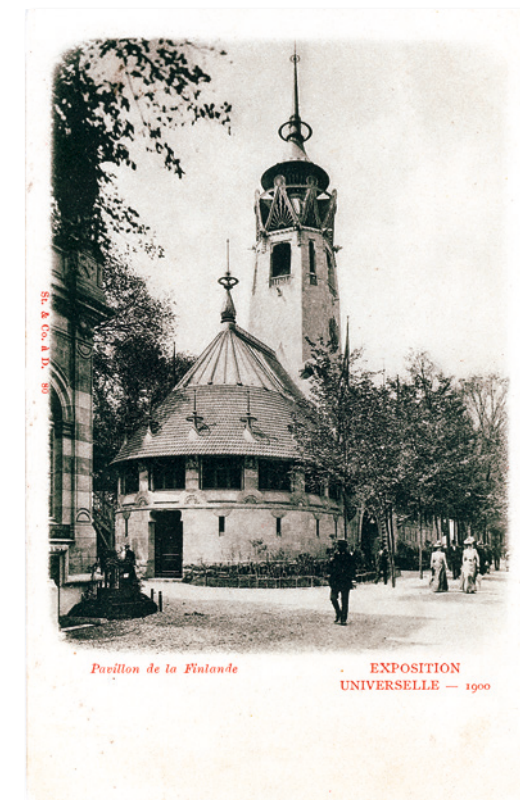
National Museum of Finland, architect Elie Saarinen. – The stamp was issued in 1973.



After the collaboration ended, Elie Saarinen continued alone and designed the National Museum of Finland. It was built in 1905–1910, and opened to the public in 1916.

Another great building in Helsinki that Saarinen designed is the Central Railway Station. The building process took years, and the station served as a military hospital during WW1 before it was finally inaugurated in 1919. It was ranked as one of the ten most beautiful railway stations in the world by Flavorwire.com and Lonely Planet in 2012, and by the BBC in 2014.

Elie Saarinen emigrated to the United States in the early 1920s and, together with his son Eero, became renowned for designing such buildings as Kleinhans Music Hall in Buffalo, the Cranbrook Educational Community, and the Technical Centre of General Motors in Detroit, Michigan. Eero also designed the great American landmark the “Gate-



The Pavilion of Finland in Paris 1900 World Exposition was one of Gesellius–Lindgren–Saarinen's major design works. – French postcard, 1900.

way Arch” in St. Louis.

Elie Saarinen died at Bloomfield Hills in Michigan, 1950. He is buried at Hvitträsk in Kirkkonummi. **SRL**



Elie Saarinen designed also two series of Finnish banknotes, in 1909 and 1922. Six of these notes were included in the stamp sheet celebrating 100 years of printing banknotes in Finland, 1985. Stamps depicting banknotes designed by Saarinen include (from the left) 50 mk, 20 mk, 500 mk and 1000 mk from the 1909 series, as well as 500 mk and 1000 mk from the 1922 series.



Helsinki Central Railway Station on stamps issued in Finland, Hungary, and the Republic of Mali. The imperforated Olympics stamp series issued in Mali, Western Africa, is obviously produced for collectors' needs only.

Scandinavian Area Awards

Roger Quinby received a Large Gold, the AAPE Plan and headings award, and the Rossica Society award at Southeastern Stamp Expo in Atlanta in January for his “Finnish Railway to St. Petersburg 1870–1918.” He also had a non-competitive display at the show, “Finland’s Short Line Narrow Gauge Jokioinen Private Railway 1898–1963.”

Eigil Trondsen won a Large Gold and the show Grand Award at Sandical, held in San Diego in January, for his “Norway Registered Mail 1800–1950.” Don Brent received a Gold and the American Philatelic Society’s 1900–1940 Medal of Excellence with his “Denmark’s Wavy Line Design: The Surface Printed Issues.”

At the Spring Stampex in London in February, Chris King won a Gold for his “Denmark and

the Napoleonic Wars.” Don Brent received a Prix d’honneur at AmeriStamp Expo in Reno, Nevada, in March. His exhibit “Denmark’s 1902 Design Contest” was in the single frame Champion-of-Champions competition. In the open competition Matt Kewriga took a Large Gold for his “Danish West Indies Mail to Denmark 1842–1877.”

James Hill received a Gold at the March Party in Cleveland for his “Graf Zeppelin Iceland Flight.” At the FIAP international exhibition Melbourne 2017 held in Australia in April, Wayne Donaldson earned a Gold for “Sweden and Great Britain: Mail Connections till UPU,” and Raymond Todd won a Large Vermeil for “Sweden: Postal Stationery 1872–1918.”

Alan Warren

Transfers, Re-Entries, and Other News in Short

The Swedish Philatelic Federation named Peter Lorentzon as a new member of the Expert Committee, replacing the late Roland Frahm. Other members of the committee are Chairman Helena Obermüller Wilén, Göran Heijtz, Robert Mattson, and Olle Pettersson.

Following the FIP Board of Directors meeting at Philatapei last October, the members of the bureaus of the commissions were revised and confirmed. Lars Engelbrecht is chair of the Postal Stationery Commission, Jukka Mäkinen is secretary for Revenues, Lars Peter Svendsen chairs Traditional Philately, and Bengt Bengtsson is a member of the commission for Youth Philately.

This year over 40 members of the Swedish Philatelic Federation of clubs achieved 50 years membership, including Claes Arnrup, and Bengt Bengtsson.

Denmark’s Post and Tele Museum

Denmark’s Post and Tele Museum has moved to the Østerbro area of Copenhagen. It now resides in an old post office at Øster Alle 1, and has been renamed Enigma, Museum for Post, Tele, and

Communications. Only one part of the planned museum opened in January. There are rotating exhibits, a small restaurant, a museum shop, and special events from time to time. More details can be seen at www.enigma.dk.

Swedish Philately at the Collectors Club New York in September

Guest speaker at the 13 September 2017 meeting of the Collectors Club of New York will be Gustaf Douglas who will talk about “Sweden Forwarding Address or Transit Destination for Mail up to 1900.”

The London Philatelist

The *Posthorn* Editor Seija-Riitta Laakso has landed another major editorial position. As of 1 July 2017 she will be also the Editor of *The London Philatelist* published by the Royal Philatelic Society London.

Alan Warren

Meanwhile in Minnesota...

Finlandia 2017 in Tampere ended only yesterday. It was a wonderful 5 days. My original intention was to attend the Opening Ceremony only briefly to take a photo. Instead I chose to stay when I saw the Pirkanmaan Music Institute Symphony Orchestra on stage which provided interludes between the philatelic introductions. The ceremony closed with a performance of Jean Sibelius’ *Finlandia*. I was particularly moved as I had been introduced to the piece as a 16 year-old youth orchestra trombonist in Minnesota, and the performers on stage were of similar age. My eyes teared up. I was embarrassed to be crying at a philatelic exhibition until I realized that everyone else in the auditorium had been similarly affected. Wow!

Scottish physician and SCC member Jeffrey C. Stone played a very prominent role at Finlandia 2017. Beginning in 2012 Jeffrey joined Kaj Hellman in researching and writing a philatelic biography of Agathon Fabergé based on previously unseen correspondence and records. *Agathon Fabergé: Portrait of a Philatelist* was released at Finlandia 2017 and dedicated to the memory of Kaj Hellman. An Agathon Fabergé Seminar was held on 24 May concurrent with the release of the book which was awarded Large Gold and a Special Award for Research. Jeffrey also received a Large Gold for “Finland: The Arms Type of 1875”. Congratulations!

Results of all SCC member exhibitors are reported in this issue. Special congratulations go to Gregory Frantz, who received the only Large Gold awarded to an American exhibitor for “Steamship Companies and Their Stamps”. The SCC “Bible” *FACIT Special Classic* merited a Large Gold to Editor in Chief, Gunnar Lithén.

The contributions made by Seija-Riitta Laakso to Finlandia 2017 were enormous. *The Posthorn* 2/2017 will be delivered to the printer just two days after the exhibition closed. Each day during Finlandia 2017 she hosted 2–4 exhibitor presentations at the Event Stage of Tampere Hall including Roger Quinby’s “Finnish Railway to St. Petersburg 1870–1918” and Kauko Aro’s “Finland Postal Stationery with 1875 Stamp Design”, the latter was presented in Finnish. The Royal Philatelic Society London reception was hosted by Seiju on



Steve Lund, President & Executive Secretary of the SCC, at: steve88h@aol.com.

25 May followed by her FEPA Seminar of Deltiology on 26 May. Finally, she was an exhibitor and received Gold for “Paris By Night”. Bravo, Seiju! Thanks for all of your contributions.

Frimærkets Dag, 20 July 2017, will be held from 10am–3pm, at Northern Philatelic Library, 1110 Lowry Av. N, Minneapolis, MN 55411. Ross Olson, Alan Warren, Mike Schumacher, Norman Andrews and Steve Lund will make presentations. Viggo Warmboe will have an offering of SCC Mart Books available, and a club auction will take place at 2pm. Finnish pastries, coffee and sandwiches will be provided by Chapter 14. The event precedes **Minnesota Stamp Expo**, 21–23 July, where 30+ frames of SCC exhibitors will be shown. Välkommen till Minnesota!

Nordia 2018 will be held at Garðabær, Iceland, 8–10 June 2018. Mike Schumacher will serve as SCC Commissioner. Additionally, Mike will host the 2018 SCC Annual Meeting at **Sarasota National Stamp Show** 2–4 February 2018, with Icelandic Federation President, Gisli Geir Harðarson, attending as Visiting Scandinavian Judge. For more information on Nordia, Sarasota or Icelandic philately contact Mike at: schumacher5154@comcast.net.

Steve Lund
May 29, 2017

Collecting on a Shoestring –

An "International Gift of the Month Club" Posting from Sweden Circa 1957

by Roger Cichorz



“... of the Month Clubs” seem to be proliferating these days. I am familiar with the long-standing “Book-of-the-Month Club” founded in 1926 as I was a member for several decades dating back to the mid-1960s. And we all probably have seen advertisements in various magazines for several different “wines of the month clubs” offering fabulous extras (three to six additional free bottles on the occasion of your order of an initial case of 12) – no doubt, an added enticement to hurry up and join.

What surprised me is when I went on line to do some research for this article, I found “... of the Month Clubs” for just about every conceivable foodstuff, beginning with bacon, bagels, BBQ sauce, beer, and breakfast for the Bs and proceeding through the alphabet to wine, and, if you are uncertain what specific food or drink item to choose, there is the “Variety of the Month Club” where a surprise edible arrives each time.

The subject of this feature is the illustrated somewhat rumpled 6” x 3⁵/₈” manila packet envelope (Figure 1) that I purchased for \$5 at the CHERPEX 2016 show held in Golden, Colorado in September. This envelope was from the International Gift of the Month Club, Stadsgarden 14–16, Stockholm, Sweden, addressed to Butte, Montana, and, judging from printed information on the front left side, contained four silver-plate spoons valued at 3 Swedish Kroner.

The Stockholm postmark is too faint a strike to decipher the date, but the King Gustav V profile 50 öre definitive was issued 28 April 1941. The 50-öre postage was an insufficient franking, however, and beneath the Swedish stamp is a three-line ca-

chet “Small Packet Collect 15¢ / Post Office, Chicago, Ill. / Foreign Section” stamped in purple.

Three U.S. 5¢ postage-due stamps, likely removed from a handy precanceled pane, were duly applied over a portion the green Swedish “Duoane – Tull” (customs) label at top center to indicate the fee due the U.S. Postal Service. Running perpendicular to the left of the address label is another three-line cachet in purple “PASSED FROM / U.S. CUSTOMS / BUTTE FALLS, MONT.” applied when the packet arrived at the addressee’s local post office.

Unfortunately, there is no receiving postmark on the blank backside of the envelope to indicate the arrival date. A lightly penciled “left note / 7–16 / JS” on the lower right portion of the address label indicates that at the time of the delivery, nobody was at home to accept the item and pay the postage due, so the postman left a “postage due note” for the addressee and returned the packet to the local post office.

“World famous Swedish Cutlery House”

The packet measures six inches in length to the fold at right, so it could not accommodate dinner spoons that usually measure 6¹/₄” to 6¹/₂” in length. Luckily, for the sake of this story, the envelope still contained the bi-lingual folded card that described and accompanied its contents. Indeed, the contents turned out to be a set of four silver-plate demitasse spoons, which measure about 4” in length. The card is illustrated in Figure 2, and its pertinent text describing the spoons is as follows:

The coffe [sic] spoons enclosed herewith are the product of the J. AXEL JANSSON COMPANY, world famous Swedish cutlery house. The pattern (GOTHENBURG) is a traditional Swedish design long popular with the titled families of the old Swedish Court.



Figure 1. Circa 1957? International Gift of the Month packet from Sweden to the U.S. that contained four demitasse spoons. This cover was assessed 15¢ postage due on its arrival, possibly because of a change in the Swedish small packet rate shortly before the time of its posting.

My Google search failed to find either the “International Gift of the Month Club” (hereafter, referred to simply as the Club) or anything related to such an enterprise at the Stockholm mailing address, so I presume that the Club no longer exists. However, from some present day on-line vendors offering items for sale related to this Club, I was able to come up with the following information.

The Club enabled you to “receive directly from exotic foreign lands gifts of extraordinary value and beauty every month with membership” – meaning that the monthly gifts were posted to its members from their countries of origin. Thereby, one also received a nice contemporary postal history item as well – but I wonder how many of these covers were actually saved and still survive today? The Club advertised that it guaranteed you would be completely satisfied or your money back.

From Club merchandise and its advertising ephemera presently offered on-line, I determined that the Club operated from at least 1904 into 1959. The earliest item from the Club that I spotted on the secondary market was a set of six Belgian-manufactured hand-blown, hand-painted, small liquor glasses in the original mailing container posted December 1904 from Belgium to a U.S. addressee. The latest item from the Club that I noticed was an envelope postmarked 27 April 1959 from Paris to the U.S. Who knows, maybe some long-

time SCC members gave or received monthly gifts through this Club, or may recall that their parents or other relatives were involved?

Back to the demitasse spoons in this envelope. I was able to find several sellers of the J. Axel Jansson Company’s “Gothenburg” pattern, and it turns out from the inscriptions on the spoon handle’s backside that they were initially manufactured in 1947, measure 4” in length, weigh an estimated 45 grams each, and have a simple ribbed pattern on the handles (Figure 3). Several on-line sellers in the U.S. and Sweden have these spoons available for sale in used condition, and a set of four presently ranges in cost from \$25 to \$40, undoubtedly significantly higher than the original cost from the Club.

The Rate Change may be the Clue of Timing

The question is when was this packet mailed? It appears to be sometime between when the spoons were first made in 1947 and 1959 when the Club seems to have ceased? The indication that the 50-öre stamp franking was insufficient postage paid may offer a clue. *Postala Meddelanden No. 1* 1961 indicates that the rate from 1 January 1935 through 31 May 1957 for a small packet weighing 150 to 250 g (grams) to a foreign destination was 50 öre, but it increased to 75 öre starting 1 June 1957.

The estimated weight of this packet is approxi-

mately 200 g (190 g for the four spoons, 7 g for the envelope and card, and perhaps 3 g for a fastening clip), which would place it right at the midpoint of the 150 to 250 g packet rate, so rate rather than weight would be the faction. Thus, it appears that this packet was posted after 1 June 1957 when the rate change occurred and perhaps soon enough to that date that the mailer was not yet aware of the new increased rate.

Amazingly, according to the internet source http://fx.sauder.ubc.ca/etc/USD_pages.pdf = **PACIFIC Exchange Rate Service** http://fx.sauder.ubc.ca/Foreign_Currency_Units_per_1_U.S._Dollar,_1948-2015, the SEK remained at a constant exchange rate from 1950 through 1970 with respect to the U.S. dollar (\$1.00 = SEK 5.1732, or 1 SEK = 19.33¢). Consequently, a 25-öre postage shortage after 1 June 1957 would have amounted to ~4.83¢ and I'd expect a double-assessment postage due rounded up to 10¢.

Explanations welcome!

So, we have a bit of a mystery here of why an assessment of 15¢ due instead of 10¢? (Explanations



Figure 3. Picture of the International Gift of the Month packet's contents – a set of four "Gothenburg" pattern demitasse spoons initially manufactured by J. Axel Jansson Company in 1947.

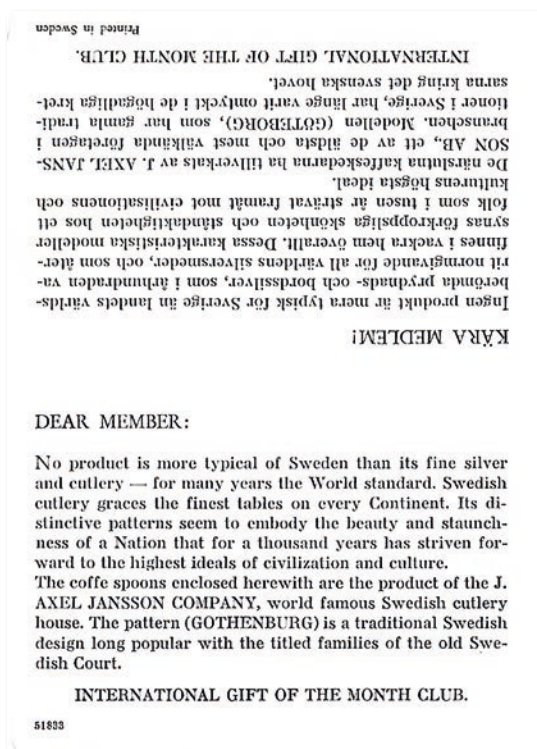
welcome!) Incidentally, the next 50 öre definitive stamp to appear was the King and 3-Crown type Gustaf VI Adolf issued in 1952, so if this packet was posted in 1957 we might expect the latter issued stamp for this posting – although the 1941 definitive may have been a "workhorse" still in service some 16 years later.

You now have the story associated with my \$5 cover! I hope that some readers may be able to provide additional information about the International Gift of the Month Club, better pinpoint the year sent from the rate information and postage-due assessment, and/or explain why the assessment was 15¢.

Reference:

Postagifterna, Åren 1916–1961, Postala Meddelanden Utgivna av Kungl. General Poststyrelsen Årg. 31, No. 1, 1961 / Postal Rates, Years 1916–1961, Postal Notices Issued by the Government General Post Board Vol. 31, No. 1, 1961 (SWE B73S available on loan request from the SCC Library)

Figure 2. The descriptive bilingual card that accompanied the packet contents comprising four demitasse spoons.



Closed Album – Erik Menne Larsen, 1930–2017

Danish postal historian **Erik Menne Larsen** died on 12 February 2017 in Tønder at age 86. He was a co-founder of the Dansk Posthistorisk Selskab (Danish Postal History Society), and the first editor of its journal *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift*. He was a prolific author of articles and monographs on military mail, censorship, maritime mail, and Schleswig postal history. Some of Larsen's work was published by his Posthistorisk Forlag.

In 1990 he was named honorary member of DPHS and in 2011 was awarded a scholarship by the Danske Filatelisters Fællesfond. Larsen received Denmark's highest philatelic honor in 2013 when the Danmarks-medaille was bestowed on him. He was generous with his knowledge and mentored many collectors over the years.


Alan Warren

Closed Album – John R. Day, 1921–2017

Jack Day, 96 years old, died in March of cancer after a relatively short decline. He was an active member of the Golden Gate Scandinavian Collectors' Club (Chapter 21) for 15 years, and of the Delaware chapter before that. He had also handled advertising and publicity for the SCC for a number of years.

He was a modest man who preferred to hide his light under a bushel except when asked a question, and then he lit the room with his extensive knowledge of facts and factoids about Scandinavian stamps, especially those of Iceland, and most especially of its numeral cancellations. He was a friendly, fine man. I'll miss him, as will the rest of us in the club.

Herb Volin



Scandinavia

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Book Review –

Postbåtforlis

by Egil H. Thomassen

Postbåtforlis 1691-1907 (Mailboats Lost) by Egil H. Thomassen. 128 pages, 6 ¾ by 9 ¾ inches, hardbound, in Norwegian, Skanfil, Haugesund, Norway, 2016. ISBN 978-82-93535-21-9, 250 NOK (\$30) plus postage from Skanfil AS, Box 2020, Haugesund 5504, Norway, or www.skanfil.no.

During the 18th and 19th centuries, over 80 open mail boats crashed along the Norwegian coast. Mail, much of it damaged, was salvaged from half of these wrecks. Author Egil Thomassen is usually associated with aerophilately. However, in this book he now records chronologically the details of these mail boat losses.

For each event he identifies the locale, the route, and details of the tragedy. Minor incidents have a brief paragraph while major events can run one

or more pages. Notes indicate if mail was lost and whether there was also loss of postal personnel or any survivors. The names of those working in the postal service that were involved with the event are mentioned.

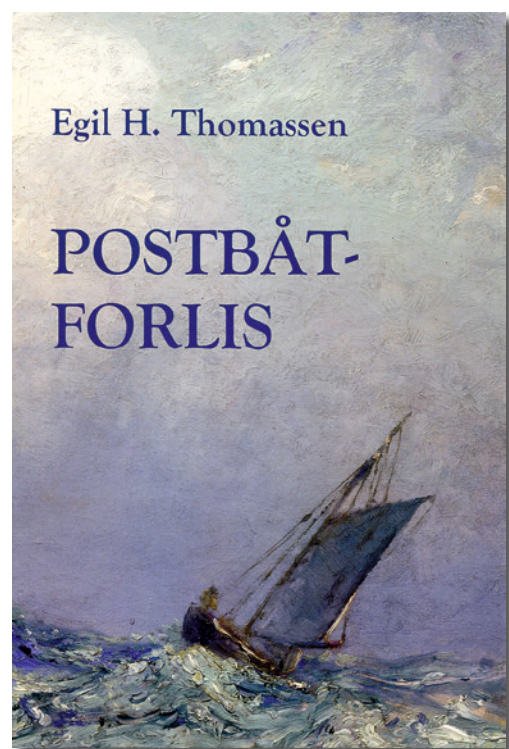
In most cases unnamed small mail boats were involved and there has not been a central record of these tragedies until now. Practically no examples of letters are shown. Illustrations consist primarily of maps, old prints, and photos. Thomassen has thoroughly researched the events using government archives, museum records, postal history sources, knowledgeable collectors, and special libraries.

One table lists the instances where mail was salvaged showing the route, the place of departure, and the date and place where the loss occurred. A name index lists those involved with the incident, whether or not they died as a result, and whether or not they were a member of the postal service. The list includes those who were boat rowers, sailors, passengers, postal inspectors, or others together with their occupations.

Thomassen provides sources for each incident including church records and newspaper articles. This book will be especially useful for those who have “home” collections and seek to identify salvaged mail. The layout is pleasing to the eye and the illustrations bring us closer to each of these sad events.

Nordia 2017 in Vejle, Denmark

The following major Scandinavian stamp show will be Nordia 2017 in Vejle, Denmark, on 27–29 October 2017. Steve Lund (steve88h@aol.com) will serve as the SCC commissioner instead of Matt Kewriga, who cannot attend due to family reasons. There will also be a Polar Philately exhibition organized simultaneously. Alan Warren (alanwar@comcast.net) will serve as jury and Commissioner.



Book Review –

Suomen Postitaksat Finnish Postage Rates 1875–2001

by Harri Ala-Honkola, Hannu Kauppi, Juhani Kerppola, Ari Muhonen, Esko Seitsonen

Suomen Postitaksat – Finnish Postage Rates 1875–2001 by Harri Ala-Honkola, Hannu Kauppi, Juhani Kerppola, Ari Muhonen & Esko Seitsonen. 400 pages, 7 by 9.8 inches, hardbound, in Finnish and English, The Postal Museum of Finland, 2016. ISBN 978-952-5249-32-3, 35 euros plus postage from the Postal Museum at <http://webshop.trafikki.fi/>

Have you ever thought that the Finnish postal rates are complicated (especially the air fees, etc.) and that it is difficult to find information about them – excluding the most typical ones, which are published in general catalogs? For me and many others the rates have often been a headache. This new book, covering the period from the UPU to the end of the markka period, is therefore a warmly welcomed addition to the bookshelf.

Suomen Postitaksat Finnish Postage Rates 1875–2001 is a great book in many ways. In addition to the rates, there are also explanations to various regulations, their historical reasons, general information related to them, etc. which makes collecting more understandable, and even more interesting than earlier. International collectors will also find the book very useful, as it is bilingual from the beginning to the end.

The book is divided into four time periods, i.e. From UPU to the Finnish independence (1875–1918); From independence to monetary reform (1918–1962); From monetary reform to state-owned company (1962–1990); and From state-owned enterprise to euro (1990–2001).

The periods are clearly distinguished from each other, which makes it easy to find information from the period you are interested in. The rates have been collected into logical entities within each period. Air fees and “Other fees” like field post and POW mail, have their own chapters in the end of the book.



Dozens of good, full-size color pictures are also included to show examples of how the rates have been formed.

All writers of the book – of whom Juhani Kerppola sadly past away without seeing the final result of their work – are experts in Finnish postal history. In addition to collect all available knowledge from the postal regulations, documents, and earlier studies that can be found in the libraries, they have been able to add the results of their own long-time research into the book.

According to the writers, had they understood in the beginning how much work the book would cause them, they would hardly have begun at all. Collectors of Finland can be nothing but happy that they did it anyway.

SRL

Book Review –

Die ausländische Hilfsvereine in Stockholm während des Ersten Weltkrieges

by Burkhard Koop

Die ausländische Hilfsvereine in Stockholm während des Ersten Weltkrieges (The Foreign Relief Societies in Stockholm during the First World War) by Burkhard Koop. 106 pages, 6 ¾ by 9 ½ inches, perfect bound, in German, self-published by the author, Oldenburg, Germany, 2016. €10 plus postage from Burkhard Koop, Ziegelhofstrasse 7, 26121 Oldenburg, Germany, or by email to burkhardkoop@t-online.de.

During the First World War several relief or "benevolent" societies offered help to the families of detainees, prisoners of war, and internees. Since Sweden was neutral during the war, these organizations were based in Stockholm. The primary one was the German Relief Society whose roots in Sweden go back to the last quarter of the 19th century. Its activity increased drastically during WW I when various offices were established in

Stockholm through which donations and mail were conveyed, and research was undertaken to locate civil and military personnel.

Koop's book dwells largely on the support of Germans seeking information about POWs held in Russia. A variety of preprinted postal cards were available to relatives and a number of these, postally used, are shown. Some of them bear censorship markings. A few covers are also illustrated from Africa, South America, and elsewhere. Some mail originated from detained ships like the German vessel *Parma* that sailed to Chile to pick up salt-peter (potassium nitrate) used to make gunpowder. Preprinted value letters were also used for remittance of funds, often bearing wax seals on the reverse.

In addition to the German aid society there were similar ones established by Austro-Hungary, Poland, and Russia in Stockholm, seeking connection to POWs held in Germany. Some used examples of their specially printed stationery are also shown. A brief mention of the Swedish Red Cross Help Committee for POWs concludes the text. A bibliography provides some of the sources used by the author.

The color scans are a little on the light side so that some of the markings are not completely discernible, nor are they explained. However, for military postal historians and postal stationery collectors seeking a fascinating niche of material, this book offers something off the beaten track.

Alan Warren

SCC Library Auctions

Due to limited space in *The Posthorn*, the SCC Library Auctions as well as the results will be published on the SCC website only. Please see www.scc-online.org.

Book Review –

FACIT Sverige 2017

by Gunnar Lithén (Ed.)

FACIT Sverige 2017. Gunnar Lithén, Editor in Chief. Facit Förlags AB, Malmö, Sweden, 2017. Softbound, 352 pages. 300 SKr plus shipping cost from www.facit.se.

Facit Förlags AB describes *FACIT Sverige 2017* as the publisher's smallest and simplest stamp catalogue which is issued every two years. Like all other FACIT catalogues regular issues are bilingual in Swedish and English. German and French users are aided with a glossary translating Swedish terms into those languages.

The catalog includes all stamps from Sweden to 31 December 2016, but not specialized. Stamps issued up to 1936 are catalogued in mint never hinged, mint hinged and used condition with FACIT numbering system and values consistent with commonest values listed in *FACIT Norden 2017*. Beginning with 1938 stamps are valued in only mint never hinged and used condition. The third column is now replaced with small boxes serving as a checklist for the collector. All prices are recommended retail prices for very fine quality. Stamps on cover are not priced. Diagrams showing types, perforations and watermarks appear in a section at the beginning rather than with the issues. All regular issues, officials, postage dues, franking/tourist labels and military reply stamps are depicted in full color. Postal stationery is not included.

Complete listings with catalog values and checklists for first day covers, souvenir booklets/cards, hand-made and machine-made booklets, self-adhesive sheets, souvenir sheets, slot-machine booklets, booklet year sets, year sets and official year books conclude the first 193 pages providing a comprehensive catalog for the non-specialized Sweden collector.

The remaining 159 pages contain information not included in other FACIT catalogs. A 46 page section of private local post issues to 1947 includes listings and values including varieties, postal stationery and booklets again with color depictions.



Modern local posts 1991–2016 occupy an additional 43 pages. All of these issues are numbered and illustrated but no values are assigned. These sections make *FACIT Sverige 2017* a must for the collector of Sweden local post issues.

Official Maximum Cards issued beginning in 1981 have become a popular collecting area in Sweden. The maximum card is a postcard bearing a photograph or art image from which the stamp design is derived. The actual stamp with a first day cancel is affixed to the face of the card. For the first time ever *FACIT Sverige 2017* contains depictions of the entire series of 550 different maximum cards! Retail values along with original Post Office prices are listed. This edition even includes a free 2016 official maximum card compliments of PostNord. The catalog ends with illustrations of freight tickets and an illustrated listing of Höstsols poster stamps 1955–2004 including complete pane information. Sweden collecting interests are diverse.

Specialized collectors of Sweden classics will continue to be best served by *FACIT Special Classic 2017* and *Postal IX*. General collectors of Sweden and collectors of local post, official maximum cards, labels and cinderellas will want to add *FACIT Sverige 2017* to their libraries.

Steve Lund

Analysis of How Iceland Lots Fared in Two Postiljonen Auctions ...and What a Difference a "Name Sale" Makes – Part 2

by Roger Cichorz

Postiljonen Auction House International conducted four major auctions, #212 through #215, in Malmö, Sweden on 30 September and 1 October 2016. #212 was a general sale of worldwide material held over both days. The first day's session included lots comprising non-Scandinavian countries in alphabetical order, German and Northern European ship mail (with the covers to Nordic countries interspersed among the individual country lots), Denmark, and Danish areas (Slesvig, Faroes, Greenland, and DWI). The #212 Danish lots were followed by a name sale — "The Wolfgang Large Gold Medal Collection of Classic Denmark" — that had its own separate #215 catalogue.

The second day's session of #212 included lots comprising Sweden, Finland, and Iceland. The #212 Finland lots were followed by a second name sale — "The Gummesson Grand Prix d' Honneur Collection of Classic Finland, Part 1" — that had its own separate #214 catalogue. The #212 Iceland lots were followed by a third name sale — "The Indriði Pálsson Large Gold Medal Collection of Classic Iceland, Part 2" — that had its own separate #213 catalogue.

This article is exclusively about the Iceland material offered in #212 and #213, an analysis of how the Iceland lots fared in both auctions, and ultimately the difference a name sale makes. I had previously compared the Iceland lots in Postiljonen's #210 general sale with those in Postiljonen's #211 "Pálsson Part 1" sale in an article published in the August 2016 issue of *The Posthorn* (pages 8–11). My conclusion there, based on the ratio of realizations to starting bids of the lots sold in both auctions (95.74% for the general lots vs. 227.98% for the Pálsson lots), was that a name sale performs superiorly. Toward the end of my previous article, I mentioned "stay tuned!" because after the "Pálsson Part 2" sale occurred I intended to summarize the results and compare them to "Pálsson Part 1." As previously, Postiljonen preceded "Pálsson Part 2" with Iceland lots in its #212 general sale, and this permitted me to do another analogous comparison and analysis — so here goes...

General Auction #212 Iceland Lots

The Iceland section in the general auction #212 was smaller in scale than #213 in that only 111 lots were offered compared to 283 for the #213 Pálsson sale. The realizations in the text and four summary tables that follow are given in euros and do not include the 20% or 25% buyer's premiums inclusive of Swedish V.A.T. as applicable. On the date of these two auctions, 1 October 2016, 1.00 euro (€) closed at an exchange rate of US\$ 1.1232. For the sake of accuracy in reporting the results of both sales, I will mention that Postiljonen indicates "Bid" rather than specifying starting bid amounts for some less-expensive lots, indicating any bids for these lots are acceptable. For a "Bid" lot, I arbitrarily used the lot realization as its starting bid amount in the four summary tables that follow. For #212 there were 13 "bid" lots, all of which sold, that realized €790, or a mean realization of ~€61 per lot. For #213 there were 39 "bid" lots, all of which sold, that realized €4790, or a mean realization of ~€123 per lot.

For the general auction #212, of the 111 Iceland lots offered at cumulative starting bids of €30,390 (\$34,134), 111 (79.2%) sold, realizing €39,670 (\$44,557) against their cumulative starting bids of €25,540 (\$28,686), an impressive 155.3% ratio of realizations to starting bids. The fact that the 79.2% of sold lots represented 84.0% of the cumulative starting bids indicates that slightly more of the pricier items sold than the less expensive lots. A detailed summary of the Iceland lots in this general sale #212, listed by category, is given in *Table 1*.

For general sale #212, the 74 stamp, proof, and essay lots outperformed the 37 postal history lots, both in the percentage of lots sold (82.4% vs. 72.9%) and in the ratio of realizations to starting bids (167.1% vs. 126.9%). The summary of stamp versus postal history lots in #212 is given in *Table 2*. These results represent a reversal from the #213 Pálsson sale in which postal history lots outperformed stamp lots, indicating the postal

TABLE 1. Summary of Iceland Lots in Postiljonen's #212 General Auction, October 1, 2016

Category	# Lots	Start Bids (€)	# Sold	Start Bids (€)	Realizations (€)	%R:SB
prephilately	3	700	3	700	880	125.7
skilling issues	10	3,890	10	3,890	4,390	112.9
aurar issues	19	4,110	14	2,360	2,780	117.8
Þrir surcharges	1	200	1	200	410	205.0
Í GILDI						
overprints	9	1,800	9	1,800	3,420	190.0
KCIX issue	4	350	3	250	330	132.0
two kings issue	7	1,700	4	900	1,820	202.2
silhouette issues	4	1,400	2	1,100	1,000	90.9
KCX issues	3	550	2	400	520	130.0
later issues	20	2,970	14	1,770	2,660	150.3
officials	10	1,470	8	1,220	1,310	107.4
postal stationery	2	200	—	—	—	—
collections	3	3,900	3	3,900	7,500	192.3
mixed lots & accumulations	16	7,150	15	7,050	12,650	179.4
Totals	111	30,390	88	25,540	39,670	155.3

Note: %R:SB is the percentage ratio of the total realizations to cumulative starting bids before the buyer's premium and applicable V.A.T. are added to the final costs of the lots.

history lots in the general #212 sale were not of as high quality as the Pálsson postal history lots. Indeed covers in the general sale had mean starting bids of ~€256 while those in the #213 auction had mean starting bids of ~€1,319, or even if the four superlative covers (discussed two paragraphs down) are subtracted from these totals, the other 77 Pálsson postal history lots had mean starting bids of ~€446, still ~174% greater than those in the general sale.

Three stamp lots and one postal history lot in #212 fared exceptionally well and merit mentioning as the "outstanding performers" in the general sale. An unused upper right corner block of four of the 16 skilling yellow with inverted watermark (*Facit* #7v1) realized €800 against its €300 start-

ing bid, an unused perforated 14 x 13½ 16 aurar brown with black "Í GILDI" overprint (*Facit* #40c) fetched €750 against its €200 starting bid, and an unused perforated 14 x 13½ 5-aurar brown with red "Í GILDI" overprint (*Facit* #45c) sold for €800 against its €250 starting bid. A 5-aurar postal stationery card with an added franking two kings 5-aurar definitive, cancelled "REYKJAVÍK 25.IV.19," sent to Russia with a framed "SERVICE SUPENDED" handstamp and returned to Reykjavik (written in black crayon), was described as "extremely rare" and bore that out as it realized €1,200 against its €500 starting bid.

Auction #213, Indriði Pálsson Part 2 Iceland Lots Now let's examine how the lots fared in the Indriði Pálsson #213 auction, the "Name Sale" of the title

TABLE 2. Iceland Postal History Lots vs. Stamp Lots in Postiljonen's #212 General Auction

Category	# Lots	Start Bids (€)	# Sold	Start Bids (€)	Realizations (€)	%R:SB
postal history	37	9,480	27	7,480	9,490	126.9
stamps, proofs, & essays	74	20,910	61	18,060	30,180	167.1
Totals	111	30,390	88	25,540	39,670	155.3

Note: %R:SB is the percentage ratio of the total realizations to cumulative starting bids before the buyer's premium and applicable V.A.T. are added to the final costs of the lots.

of this article. 283 lots were offered at cumulative starting bids of €174,490 (\$195,987), and 273 (96.5%) at cumulative starting bids of €171,240 (\$192,337) sold, realizing €356,760 (\$400,713) for a superlative 208.3% ratio of realizations to starting bids, or slightly more than double their cumulative starting bids! The ten lots that did not sell represented only 3.53% of the 283 lots offered and 1.86% of the cumulative starting bids, indicating these lots were set at lower starting bids than the lots that sold. These results compare favorably to Postiljonen #211, the Indriði Pálsson Part 1 auction held on 19 March 2016 when 206 of 207 lots sold at a superlative 228.0% ratio of realizations to starting bids.

A summary of the Pálsson lots in name sale #213 is given in Table 3. Akin to the breakdown of lots given in Table 1 for #212, the #213 lots have been categorized for ease of comparison. Four superlative covers (lots #2014, 2020, 2043, and 2070) with cumulative starting bids of €72,500 (\$81,432), which sold for €141,500 (\$158,933), managed to represent a significant 61.8% of the postal history realizations. These four covers, however, only sold for 203.4% ratio of realizations to starting bids, actually less than the 219.3% for the entire postal history category. Because these covers were

the most expensive Pálsson lots and only a few stamp lots had realizations of €4,000 or more, a summary of how the lots of “stamps and proofs” compared with the “postal history” (covers and used postal stationery lots) is given in Table 4. In actuality, stamp lots fared quite favorably against comparably priced postal history lots.

So many of the lots in Pálsson #213 sold for double or even greater multiples of their starting bids that any attempt to list all that fared exceptionally well would require another full-length article. Consequently, I will limit mention here to only a few “outstanding performers” among the stamp and postal history lots. An unused block of four of the perforated 14 x 13½ 16 skilling (*Facit* #4) fetched €3,300 against its €1,000 starting bid despite described as having “one short perf. and an improved corner perf.” A well-centered unused perforated 14 x 13½ 20-aurar ultramarine 1882 first printing with red “Í GILDI” overprint (*Facit* #47a) sold for €4800 against its €2,000 starting bid.

On the postal history side, one of the five recorded covers franked with a 100-aurar stamp realized €8,000 against its €2,500 starting bid — specifically this was a domestic parcel cover to Reykjavik with a franking of 100a +20a + 10a definitives (*Facit* #s 12d, 15c, and 19, respectively), the

stamps pen cancelled than again cancelled with two “REYKJAVÍK 12.2.97” arrival postmarks — and it still managed that much despite a rounded corner on the coveted 100-aurar stamp. A small cover to Reykjavik franked with a 10-aurar definitive (*Facit* #26) postmarked “VOLLUR 11.12” (described as a “very rare cancellation on cover”) fetched €1,550 against its modest €300 starting bid.

Worth mentioning among the superlative performers in this auction are the two lots of Type C3 crown cancels. The first is a strip of three 5-aurar green definitives (*Facit* #24) on piece tied by two very fine strikes of “BRÚ” (*Facit* = SEK4,000/~€419) that sold for a whopping €4,600 against its €300 starting bid. The second is a pair of 3-aurar yellow (large 3) (*Facit* #21) with a “STAÐUR” strike (described as “exceptionally beautiful and extremely rare” and “unpriced in *Facit*”) that realized €5,600 against its €500 starting bid. By contrast, two Type C1 crown cancels that are also unpriced in *Facit* sold for only four times their starting bids — a “FOFABÆR” on a 10-aurar red (*Facit* #26), described as “extremely rare,” realized €850 against its €200 starting bid, and a “ÚLFLJÓTSVATN” on another 10-aurar red (*Facit* #26), described as an “extremely rare and beautiful,” sold for €1,150 against its €300 starting bid.

I confess that I know nothing about the Type C3 crown cancels and assume they are difficult items to come across; however, why was there such a disparity between Postiljonen’s starting bids and realizations? The “STAÐUR” lot may be understandable in that it is unpriced in *Facit*, suggesting it is exceptionally rare or enough are not traded to list a price, but the “BRÚ” lot sold for more than ten times its *Facit* valuation! Readers who are knowledgeable about the crown cancellations are invited to send me their comments as I would like to better understand and follow-up on these items, perhaps in a future “From the Stacks” column.

Interestingly, there were four “ex-Crafoord” lots offered in the general sale #212 and one as a Pálsson lot in #213. The four offered in the general sale sold for €1,230 against a €750 cumulative starting bid, or a 164% ratio of realizations to starting bids, just slightly greater than the 155.3% ratio experienced for the entire general sale Iceland lots. The sole “ex-Crafoord” lot in the Pálsson sale sold for €3,300 against a €1,000 starting bid, a significantly larger 330% ratio than the 208.3% ratio experienced

for the entire Pálsson sale. Of course, this is not a statistically valid comparison because of the small sample size, but still points out how the performance of an item of previous provenance appears to be enhanced in a name sale!

Here is a great example that reinforces the premise of what a difference a name sale makes when compared to a general sale. Lot 2269 in the Pálsson sale — a very fine strike of the rare “Stórinúpur” Type C2 crown cancel on a pair of 4-aurar KCIX definitives (*Facit* = SEK4,000/~€419) — sold for €1,300 (\$1,460), 650% greater than its €200 starting bid. By contrast, another pair of 4-aurar KCIX definitives with an identical “Stórinúpur” crown cancel, described as superb and arguably an even finer (stronger and more centered) strike, sold on the eBay auction site by a seller in Denmark on 29 January 2017 for \$730 (~€682 on that date), only half the amount of the Pálsson pair!

Reasons for Superior Performances of “Name Sales”

Based upon the ratios of realizations to starting bids for both auctions, the outcome of sale #213 compared to the Iceland lots in sale #212 leads to the conclusion of “What a difference a ‘name sale’ makes!” At this point, with the help of a friend, I offer reasons of why name sales will generally fare better than general sales, even if the quality of the material offered is comparable.

After my previous auction report appeared in the August 2016 *Posthorn* comparing the Postiljonen #210 general sale with the Postiljonen #211 “Pálsson Part 1” sale, I received comments from two SCC members. The first, who requested to remain anonymous, chastised me for comparing “apples with oranges” indicating the result differences were in his words solely due to “items of exceptional quality and/or rarity” offered in the “name sale.” I disagreed with him and in my e-mail rebuttal pointed out that both auctions had a mix of pricier and cheaper lots and that a general sale is not necessarily devoid of exceptional material as he suggested. I had even presented in that account an analysis of adjusted figures after subtracting out five exceptionally pricey Pálsson postal history lots, and the Pálsson sale still greatly outperformed the general sale.

The second responder is a longtime Iceland collector, Ron Collin, who agreed with my premise

TABLE 3. Summary of Iceland Lots in Postiljonen’s #213 “Name Sale” of October 1, 2016 Part 2 of the “Indriði Pálsson Large Gold Medal Collection of Classic Iceland”

Category	# Lots	Start bids (€)	# Sold	Start bids (€)	Realizations (€)	%R:SB
prephilately	4	2,700	3	1,950	3,960	203.0
Danish period	1	150	1	150	180	120.0
skilling issues	32	73,640	31	73,540	124,790	169.7
aurar issues	69	30,980	67	30,430	80,980	266.1
Þrir surcharges	13	4,700	12	3,700	6,570	177.6
Í GILDI overprints	25	19,280	25	19,280	28,370	147.1
Berne reprints	2	650	2	650	730	112.3
KCIX issues	14	2,950	12	2,500	5,600	224.0
later issues	11	1,830	10	1,730	2,080	120.2
officials	10	2,640	9	2,540	2,830	111.4
postal stationery	6	1,300	6	1,300	1,760	135.4
Crown canc. Type C1	69	15,000	68	14,800	45,190	305.3
Crown canc. Type C2	17	3,370	17	3,370	7,870	233.5
Crown canc. Type C3	2	800	2	800	10,200	1,275.0
collections & large lots	8	14,500	8	14,500	35,650	245.9
Totals	283	174,490	273	171,240	356,760	208.3

Note: %R:SB is the percentage ratio of the total realizations to cumulative starting bids before the buyer’s premium and applicable V.A.T. are added to the final costs of the lots.

TABLE 4. Iceland Postal History Lots vs. Stamp Lots in Postiljonen's #213 "Name Sale" Part 2 of the "Indriði Pálsson Large Gold Medal Collection of Classic Iceland"

Category	# Lots	Start Bids (€)	# Sold	Start Bids (€)	Realizations (€)	%R:SB
Postal history	81	106,810	75	104,330	228,830	219.3
Stamps & proofs	202	68,310	198	66,910	127,930	191.2
Totals	283	174,490	273	171,240	356,760	208.3

Note: %R:SB is the percentage ratio of the total realizations to cumulative starting bids before the buyer's premium and applicable V.A.T. are added to the final costs of the lots.

that a name sale will outperform a general sale even for comparable material. Ron and I subsequently got into a discussion about the factors that led to my conclusion, and he consented that I could share some of his insights as to why this is generally, if not always, the case. The following explanation by Ron, made before sales #212 and #213 took place, is one that I totally agree with, and it seems to be reinforced by the comparative outcomes of sales #212 and #213.

Of course there will be differences between the name sale and the general sale material. But that should not preclude those sales from being compared, objectively. In most instances I believe total gross realizations will be higher, not necessarily because of rarity, but perhaps because of the pure volume of material sold in a name sale. So for that reason, I believe your method of calculating an apples to apples comparison, is the only way to reach a conclusion.

First of all, I do not want anyone to think that this phenomenon should only be centered on these two Postiljonen sales. As I believe I mentioned to you previously, I began noticing this disparity between auction results starting back in the 1970s when I started attending and bidding in the sales of Danam Stamp Company in Pennsylvania and later on in the Northland auctions in New Jersey. More often than not, the prices realized in name sale material was higher than prices realized for comparable material in the general sale. I think you were more than fair and objective, by pulling out the five pieces of postal history from your calculations, even though that would have bolstered your position. This kind of material, items of economically higher value, would tend to not show up in a general sale, and therefore should be eliminated from the comparison.

Your critic said that in a name sale "one expects to find items of exceptional quality and/or rar-

ity." Though this is primarily true, that does not assume that the material in general sales couldn't be of similar quality and rarity. There might just be less of it in quantity. To assume that material in a general sale is inferior in quality, and therefore should not be compared to the material in a named sale, is unfair.

One observation I have made over the years is that the named sale draws the attention of a bigger crowd of onlookers (myself included). These onlookers are interested in the named sale for two reasons that are not necessarily mutually exclusive. One group of them is genuinely interested in knowing about the material acquired by the Named Collector and seeing how well that material is/was received by the still-active collectors. The other part of that crowd comprises collectors who will try to acquire some of the named sale material to act as provenance. This may seem to have a portion of their ego attached to the transaction, but over the years I have seen many times (ex-So-and-so's collection) noted on exhibit pages. There is no question that the psyche of bidders in a named sale is different than that in a general sale. I sincerely feel that, in not a small way, helps to drive up the prices of material in a named sale. I feel that there are various reasons that cause this result, but I totally agree with your premise.

Readers are invited to further comment on my comparison of these two auctions and conclusions I drew from their respective performances. Readers are also invited to comment on Ron's explanations. Contact me at (303) 494-8361 or e-mail at reichorz@comcast.net.

Acknowledgment: The author is grateful to Ron Collin for providing a review of and suggestions for this article, bringing my attention to the "Stórinúpur" Type C2 crown cancel sold on eBay, and especially for letting me include his insights on why name sales outperform general sales.

Scandinavian Literature Notes

By Alan Warren

From Denmark

Lasse Nielsen illustrates flaws in the C-I-S overprints of the Schleswig 1920 issues in the November *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. Jan Læby discusses the first voyage of the cruiser corvette *Valkyrien* to the Danish West Indies in 1901–1902, showing historic photos and some examples of crew mail. Niels Kristian Hansen explores some of the postal fees paid with the 27-øre provisional stamps.

Birthe King reports in the December *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift* that the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA) shows now have guidelines for judging picture postcard exhibits. The new regulations are appended to her descriptive article. In the same issue Hans Birkholm shows some varieties (plate and printing flaws) of modern Danish stamps.

In the "Philatelic Basic Knowledge" section of this issue, Bruno Nørdam writes about Danish first day covers, especially the Vitus Bering issue which had specific wording in the postmarks to indicate they were FDCs. He mentions some of the early cachet makers before the postal service took on the sale of first day covers.

Erling Berger writes about the handling of mail between London and the island of Anholt during the Napoleonic Wars in the December *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift*. Niels Erik Thunbo Pedersen provides the second part of his series on the ice air mail of 1922. He tabulates data by date and time and mentions personnel including the pilots involved. Oskar Sørensen describes the use of planes and helicopters during the 1960s to move mail over the winter months between the east and west coasts of Greenland.

Oskar Sørensen describes the whaling station at Tovussaq, Greenland in the 1950s and shows some examples of mail in the February issue of *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. Allan Brink illustrates a single franking of the 1954 2.45 Kr Hannes Hafstein issue of Iceland correctly used on an airmail letter to England. In the philatelic basics column Nelly Kristensen and Torben Lethrabort illustrate some plate flaws of Denmark's Frederik IX issue.

Søren Chr. Jensen elaborates on the watermarked paper of Denmark's oval bicolor stamps in the March issue of *KPK's Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. In the same issue Lasse Nielsen studies the golden-yellow shade of the 3 aur oval issue of Iceland, in relation to perforation, paper, and printing.

From the Faroes

Flemming Petersen provides background and details on the 20/15-øre provisional Faroes issue of 1940 in the *Posta Stamps* September issue No. 29. Proofs of the overprint without the horizontal bar found their way onto letters and examples are shown. Differences between the first and second impressions are noted.

In issue 30 of *Posta Stamps* Anker Eli Petersen provides background for some of the new stamp issues. The February release of the natural dye stamps reflects the extraction of natural dyes for clothing that has been practiced for many centuries. Typically they were obtained by boiling various flowers.

From Finland

(with thanks to Kauko Aro, catching up with back issues)

In *Filatelisti* 1/2016, Marcus Olli corrects his earlier article on Helsinki local post as his research has shown that the printing of the first stamps was done in a print shop known as Polén & Kumpp. It is known with fair certainty that the later stamps were printed by Tilgmann's printing works. Peter Eklund and Lauri Vääänen provide details on differentiating the printings of the One Euro stamp of 2002. The easiest distinction is found around the Euro symbol where the original appears less in focus than the reprint.

Heikki Heino writes a nice history of the mail from the Lapland War of 1944–1945 in *Filatelisti* 2/2016. While early mail can be labeled "Kenttäposti/Fältpost" this was discontinued at the end of November 1944. Starting then the mail destined to the front was to use regular stamps and only mail from the front used fieldpost issues. Also, the mail now had to be addressed to Oulu which served as the mailing center for the troops. The last Ger-

man troops left Finnish territory on 27 April 1945, which has been celebrated as Veterans Day since 1978. There is also a book review of Juhani Kerpola's *Finland's Postal Rates 1930–1962*, through Definitive Stamps of the 1930 issue. This book is part two of a series on significant exhibits about Finland's postal history, published by the Finnish Postal History Society.

Seija-Riitta Laakso, in issue 3/2016, wrote two articles on postcard exhibits – how to develop one, and ten hints on improving the exhibit. The philatelist in focus is Cyril Schwenson who is known as the Finnish Federation's expert on classic Finnish stamps. However, his collecting interests include all of Finland, postal stationery as well as associated areas. Jon Iversen and Roger Quinby describe a Viborg sensor tape CT2 which has been found on cover. The Quinby book on WW1 censor tapes shows CT2 without a Russian text which was not logical since all three languages were official into late 1917. This find proved that the complete re-sealing tape included Russian text as well.

In *Filatelisti 4/2016* Reijo Tanner writes about the arrival cancels used during WW1 in Finnish cities which held censors. During this period all mail received arrival markings whether foreign or domestic. Tanner also lists all cancellation devices used in the ten cities. Mr. Sune Backlund gives us the history of the Bergensbana (railway) in Norway which celebrated its 100 years of operation in 2009.

Esko Seitsonen tells us, in *Filatelisti 5/2016*, how the mail started moving in late 1944 after Finland signed a peace treaty with the Soviet Union. Initially mail could only be sent to neutral countries such as Sweden and Switzerland. The first inbound foreign mail arrived by train from the Soviet Union on 4 December 1944. In general, the mail service on ground resumed in early March 1945.

With *Filatelisti 6/2016* Lasse Nortuesuo answers a reader's question about slogan cancel nr. 7 (Helsinki Olympics 1940). He explains that this cancellation was used in four offices in Helsinki from 19 June 1939, through the Winter War and for one month after the peace, i.e. 11 April 1940. Cyril Schwenson writes about Finnish serpentine rouletted stamps where the Finnish money values celebrated 150 years. His article concentrates on the perforations of the penni values.

From Germany

Arthur Gübell offers a history of Denmark's Christmas stamps and their use for charity purposes in the November *Philatelistische Nachrichten*. The idea was planted by Einar Holbøll when he was employed at the postal service. In the same issue Manfred Schäfer shows some Norway perfins for government facilities. Claus-Dieter Marzoll and Robert Phillips advise that Åland Post adopted a new logo in 2016 and also re-designed its place-name postmarks.

Rolf Dörnbach continues his series on the profiles of the Faroe Islands with the first installment on Tórshavn in the February issue of *Philatelistische Nachrichten*. He shows many of the Faroes stamps that depict scenes of the city or its location on map stamps. His series on postal places of Greenland also continues with a look at Føringehavn. His article shows historic photos of the area as well as examples of postmarks and covers.

In the same issue Matthias Hapke presents an interesting 1949 cover sent from Oslo to San Francisco that has reference to three service organizations. It was sent to an officer in the American Salvation Army from someone in the Norwegian Salvation Army (Frelses Armeen), and it is cancelled with a Red Cross slogan postmark in Oslo.

From Great Britain

Jakob Arrevad continues his listing of Edinburgh registered mail markings on Iceland mail in issue 13 of Brian Flack's *Iceland Philatelic Magazine*. David Loe offers another installment of his series on an Iceland Gazetteer with descriptions of nine mail handling stations in the county of Dalasýsla. Mike Schumacher discusses Vatnajökull's first post office.

John McKay tells about the Åland Detachment of Sweden in 1918, sent to the islands to remove some Russian units, in the December *Scandinavian Contact*. Due to concern of Finnish and German forces that Sweden might be taking over the area, negotiations were undertaken to withdraw the Swedes and to remove fortifications that had been built by others. The author shows some examples of *militärbrev* associated with the actions. In the same issue Peter Hellberg continues his series on Sweden's COD service, this time documenting domestic use in 1948–1959.

In the *Iceland Philatelic Magazine* issue 14 (January), Jakob Arrevad presents the first part of a series on the oval marking "VARÐSKIPIÐ ÞÓR," thought by some to be a favor marking. He shows a number of uses that relate to the Iceland Coast Guard. In the same issue another installment appears showing slogan cancellations used at Copenhagen's OMK (Sorting) office.

Writing in the February *Iceland Philatelic Magazine*, Wilbur Jónsson and Jørgen Steen Larsen discuss what could be two different Mýrar crown cancellations—one from Mýrar Í Vestur Skafatellssýla and one from Mýrar Í Ísafjarðarsýsla. Their findings indicate that the two hammers are indistinguishable. Any perceived differences are likely due to the stress on the rubber face over time. In the same issue Jakob Arrevad describes the double oval markings that probably appeared on the mail of the Coast Guard vessel Varðskipið Þór II. The ship designated "T" was grounded in 1929 and the second one was purchased from Germany in 1930.

The March issue of the same journal carries the 8th installment of David Loe's series on "Iceland Gazetteer," with a focus on the fjord communities in the northwestern part of the country. There is the first installment of a series on censored first day covers of Iceland during the WW2 period by Alan Warren.

Staffan Ferdén discusses the routing of Swedish mail to the Society Islands (French Polynesia) in the late 19th century in the March issue of *The London Philatelist*. He shows two covers sent from Stockholm in 1884 to Tahiti. They left Sweden in March and traveled via New York and San Francisco. They were then placed aboard the *City of Papeete* and arrived in Tahiti after 26 days in transit.

John Perry shows cachets used in the early 1960s on mail from Camp Century, located 138 miles east of Thule, Greenland, in the March *Scandinavian Contact*. The "camp" was a cover operation of the Polar Research and Development Center on the surface, to conceal Project Iceworm below ground. This Cold War program was to build a city under the ice consisting of a network of nuclear missile launch sites.

Construction of the sites was completed in 1960. However, the glacier moved faster than expected with the result that the underground "city" had to

be abandoned in 1965 and evacuated the following year. In the same issue John McKay continues his series on Swedish neutrality with illustrations of military letters sent from the Åland islands in 1918–1919 when Sweden sent troops there to remove Russian units.

In the same issue David Macdonald shows two examples of Danish *banegårdsbreve* or station letters. For a fee, in addition to the normal domestic letter rate, a letter could be mailed at one railway station to someone or some business located at another rail station. The examples he shows were sent from Horsens station to Fredericia station, where they would be claimed by the recipient either at the station office or the station's post office if it had one. The front of the envelope also required three lines drawn across the cover so it would be easily seen by mail clerks.

From Iceland

Hrafn Hallgrímsson writes about Norway's 1941 Snorre Sturlason issue and its Iceland connections in issue No. 18 of *Frímerkjablaðið*. In another article Hallgrímsson recalls the Nordic Day issues with a Swans design released by Iceland, Finland, Denmark, Sweden, and Norway in 1956. Eiður Árnason shows some examples of Icelandic meter stamps on covers, and Edvard Jónsson previews the stamps to be released by Iceland during 2017.

From the Netherlands

The story of the first postal bus in Sweden, introduced in 1923, is told by Henk van Meeningen in the December *Het Noorderlicht*. The rear wheels were fitted with tractor treads and the front ones with ski-type runners so they could operate in the snow. Ton Steenbakkers gives a brief overview of the island of Hopen, Norway, which is in the Svalbard archipelago. He mentions visitors to the island at the end of the 16th century and also the island's role during WW2. He shows a cover marking the 1985 Polar expedition to Spitzbergen.

Rieneke and John Kuin continue their study of Ludwig Hesshaimer and his designs for Iceland's Parliament series issues. They illustrate archival material, plate flaws, and some uses on covers.

Ton Steenbakkers writes about the Faroes ballad Ormurin Langi and its relationship to the Heim-

skringla saga in the March issue of *Het Noorderlicht*. He uses pertinent Faroe stamps to illustrate his text. In another article Steenbakkers gives us a glimpse of the conflict in Schleswig-Holstein by analyzing the route and rate of a cover sent from Amsterdam to Drammen, Norway in 1849.

From Norway

Dag Henriksbø describes the early Norwegian settlement in Bosque County, Texas in the 19th century in the issue 7/2016 of *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, along with mail postmarked Norse, Tex. This issue focuses also on Iceland and includes an interview with Vilhjalmur Sigurdsson, head of Iceland Post (PostPhil). Gunnar Melbøe shows mail of Narvik during WW2 including fieldpost covers. Ivar Sundsbø offers the second part of his series describing highlights of the legendary collection of Paul H. Jensen.

An overview of the use of meter stamps in Trondheim, Norway, is the subject of an article by Ian W. Reed in the December *NFF-Varianten*. In the same issue Knut Glasø continues his series on the railway parcel stamps with more information on the Norges Statsbaner issues.

Finn Aune discusses the first two Norwegian Christmas seals of 1906 and 1907 in issue 8/2016 of *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. Ingvar Elgesem illustrates early postcards of Carl Normann showing views in and around Kristiania from 1909 to 1916. Øyvind Midtliid continues his series on the so-called miniature cancels used in Norway, this time as receipt stamps on various postal forms.

John Torstad studies a particular censorship marking used in Norway during 1945 in issue 1/2017 of *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. These markings consist of a small circle, with and without numerals, and were applied on mail to/from foreign destinations. He tabulates 40 varieties showing period of use and relative scarcity. Øyvind Midtliid provides another instalment of his study of the so-called miniature postmarks, this time as receipt markings on parcel post forms.

Sveinung Svendsen discusses correspondence relating to Operation Doomsday in the December issue of *Norwegian War and Field Post Journal*. The British furnished a temporary occupation unit in Norway until Force 134 arrived. Some examples of correspondence during the period between

May and August 1945 sent from the Oslo area to England are shown.

From Sweden

Peter Lorentzon discusses the 10-öre standing lion coil stamps that are tête-bêche in issue 7/2016 of *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, and illustrates examples of forgeries. In the issue 2/2016 of the Cinderella journal *Bältespännaren*, Peter Nordin shows some registered mail etiquettes from temporary postal stations during the period 1920–1940, and Christer Wahlbom describes “milk tickets” used on the Wexio/Tingsryds railway.

Peter Lorentzon notes the 110th anniversary of Sweden’s Postmuseum in the issue 8/2016 of *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, and mentions some of the key donors of material over the years. There are also illustrations of unusual items in the collection.

In issue 1/2017 of *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*, Peter Lorentzon shows many examples of freaks and errors in cancellations on Swedish stamps – day or year upside down, missing entirely, numerals missing, manuscript corrections, and other oddities. Peter Nordin’s contribution in this issue on registration etiquettes shows examples of labels printed for special occasions or events.

With issue 2/2017 Bo Dahlner continues his 1920–1936 stamp series with an article on the UPU 50th anniversary set of 1924. Peter Lorentzon delves into the 9-öre Arms type issue of 1858 with a discussion of printing, plate flaws, paper, shades and other aspects. John Fritz’s column on picture postcards shows photo cards of Swedish railway stations.

From the United States

Ken Sanford describes the crash of a British BOAC Lodestar piloted by Norwegians after it left Bromma airport in Sweden headed for Leuchars on August 29, 1944, in the Fall 2016 issue of the *Military Postal History Society Bulletin*. The crew and passengers were rescued and much of the mail was salvaged. Some pieces of that mail are shown in the article.

Kathleen Wunderly tells the story of Denmark’s 1938 Freedom Statue stamp in the December 19 *Linn’s Stamp News*. It marked the 150th anniversary of the decree that eventually abolished serfdom in the country. The winning design by Aage Johansen was one of 186 submitted to the postal ad-

ministration as part of a contest open to the public.

In the same issue of *Linn’s*, Janet Klug explores the stamps of Greenland, suggesting they might offer new ideas for collectors. She gives a brief history of the country and illustrates some of its stamps.

Wayne Chen reviews the special Scandinavian countries joint issue folders in the 9 January *Linn’s*. These are the stamps issued by the Nordic countries jointly with a common theme. The 2016 theme was Nordic cuisine and the participating countries were Denmark, Greenland, Faroes, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and Åland Islands. Some of the countries also issue an annual Yearbook or Year Pack containing one of each of the stamps and souvenir sheets issued that year. More details about these souvenir folders can be found at www.topoftheworld.nu.

Christer Brunström views Norway’s involvement in WW2 through many of its stamps in the January 16 *Linn’s Stamp News*. Some of the issues include the Quisling stamps, the Norwegian Legion issue, and the so-called “London” issue among others. Due to the use of the “V” for Victory sign, the Germans overprinted many Norwegian definitives

with the letter “V,” meant to stand for the word “Verlierer” or “loser.”

Christer Brunström relates the unusual story behind the printing of Iceland’s Althing millennium stamps released in 1930 in the 20 March *Linn’s Stamp News*. The idea for the set came from an organization in Austria and Ludwig Hesshaimer designed them and brought them to Iceland. The stamps were provided free by the Society of the Friends of Iceland in Vienna which kept some of the printing in order to recover their design and printing costs.

From Elsewhere

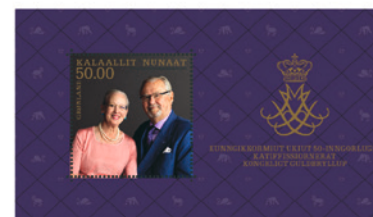
Richard Logan describes the two important stamp series issued by Sweden in 1924, in the March/April issue of *The Canadian Philatelist*. Both sets consist of 15 values. One recognizes the 8th Universal Postal Congress which convened in Stockholm that year, and the other commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Universal Postal Union. Logan describes the printing of the stamps, quantities issued, and come of the special cancellations used in connection with the two sets.

Royal Golden Wedding Anniversary 1967 – 2017 – joint issue

On 10th June 2017, our highly beloved royal couple will be able to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary. POST Greenland, Posta Faroe Islands and PostNord Danmark are happy to be able to mark this royal golden wedding anniversary with this joint issue in the Realm.

Thus, each of the three postal services will issue a beautiful souvenir sheet with the same portrait photo of the royal couple. The souvenir sheet is made by the artist Jakob Monefeldt after a photo taken by Torben Eskerod.

In Greenland, we are also looking forward to the celebration of our beloved royal couple’s golden wedding anniversary on 10th June 2017. Long live Her Majesty and His Royal Highness!



01106613
Souvenir sheet
Royal golden wedding anniversary
Price: DKK 50.00
Format: 130.00 x 75.00 mm
Printing house: Cartor
Security Printing, France



01303079
Souvenir folder
Royal golden wedding anniversary
Price: 150.00
Contains one mint copy of the three souvenir sheets from POST Greenland, Posta Faroe Islands and PostNord Danmark respectively.



01100613
Royal golden wedding anniversary
Denomination: DKK 50.00
Date of issue: 15th May 2017
20 stamps per sheet
Outer dimensions: 40.00 x 40.00 mm
Format: K - horizontal
Artists: Torben Eskerod and Jakob Monefeldt
Printing method: Offset

SCC Exhibitors Successful in Westpex 2017

SCC exhibitors received ten Gold medals in Westpex 2017 in San Francisco, four of which were Large Golds. The total number of frames shown by SCC exhibitors was 69.

The results were as follows:

Kauko Aro: "Finland Postal Stationery with 1875 Stamp Design" – Large Vermeil
Paul Clemmensen: "Holboll's Danish Christmas Seals: 1904–1927" – Large Gold
Paul Clemmensen: "Denmark's Third Issue: 2 Skilling" (one frame) – Gold
Larry Crain: "Iceland's First Day Town Cancels 1947–1976" – Silver Bronze
Wayne Donaldson: "Sweden & Great Britain: Mail Connection till UPU" – Gold
Warren J. Grosjean: "The Life Story of the First Postage Stamp of Norway" (one frame) – Gold
Robert W. Hisey: "The First Definitives of the Finnish Republic" – Large Gold
Seija-Riitta Laakso: "Glamour in Finland" – Large Gold
Steve Lund: "Lund, Sweden, Postal History to 1935" – Gold
Roger Quinby: "Classic Postal Cards of Finland 1871-1884" – Large Gold
Arnold Sorensen: "Danish West Indies Printed Matter" – Gold
Randy Tuuri: "Estonia – Postal Rates 1918–1941" – Gold
Alan Warren: "Early Mail and Stampless Letter Markings of Sweden" – Large Vermeil

Matt Kewriga's "DWI Foreign Mail to UPU" could not be shown in the exhibition due to an unexpected shipping problem.



Wayne Donaldson from Australia received a Gold medal for his "Sweden & Great Britain: Mail Connection till UPU". The pre-philatelic section of his exhibit starts from a letter signed in Stockholm on 8 June 1581 (top-left in the picture).



Paul Clemmensen was awarded both John S. Siverts Best One Frame Award for "Denmark's Third Issue: 2 Skilling" and The Best Scandinavian Exhibit for "Hoboll's Danish Christmas Seals: 1904–1927".



A traditional SCC dinner took place in a fish restaurant in San Francisco during Westpex 2017. Over 20 persons participated. Front left, Ingela Elofsson and Jonas Hällström, who was the visiting judge sponsored by the SCC, on the other side of the table Roger Quinby, as well as Kathryn Johnson, who was also judging.

Scandinavian Collectors Club –

Summary of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Westpex, San Francisco, 29 April 2017

The SCC board of directors met with a quorum present. The board minutes from Chicagopex 2016 were approved. Kauko Aro submitted a 2016 Treasurer's report showing only three issues of *The Posthorn* were billed due to timing of the printings. Advertising income was down because of the resignation of the business manager and the lateness of the journal. Motions were carried to accept the report and also the 2017 budget.

The following reports were all reviewed and approved at the meeting. The Executive Secretary's report showed a slight decline in membership to 501. The catalog promotions with 3-year new or renewal memberships continue to be effective. The library reported continuing income generated by the auction of duplicates.

The Stamp Mart continues at a slight loss due to the high cost of mailing the circuits. More books are needed to increase circulation. The Webmaster is trying to obtain PDF copies of *The Posthorn* issues for 2004 to 2016, from the printer or the previous editor, so the files can be made available on the

web site. Issue 1/2017 is on the site and members can apply for a password to see it online.

The new Editor Seija-Riitta Laakso set a firm schedule for publishing *The Posthorn* in 2017. Positive changes were seen with the more scholarly appearance of issue 1/2017. Efforts are under way to restore and expand advertising based on timely publication. Copies mailed to members outside North America are now handled with a new procedure that saves time and costs.

Steve Lund advised SCC's participation in upcoming events including Finlandia in May, APS Stampshow in August, Nordia 2017 in October, and for SCC's 2018 annual meeting at the Sarasota show in February next year. Plans continue also for Nordia in Iceland in June 2018, and for the annual conventions over the next five years.

Dues income vs expenses were analyzed and an increase in SCC dues will take place effective on 1 January 2018.

Alan Warren, Secretary



Steve Lund presented the figures of 2016 to the Membership Meeting on the same day.

Contact the Officers

Steve Lund, President & Executive Secretary, APS Representative – steve88h@aol.com
Chris Dahle, Vice President, Website Coordinator – cdahle8@gmail.com
Randy Tuuri, Vice President, Chapters – tuurifam@comcast.net
Alan Warren, Secretary, Literature Promotion – alanwar@comcast.net
Kauko Aro, Treasurer – kiaro@roadrunner.com
Mats Roing, Immediate Past President – mr22841@gmail.com

Directors:

Hugh Galford – hgalford@verizon.net
Matt Kewriga, Exhibition Coordinator – matt@kewriga.com
George A. Kuhhorn, Memberships – geostamps@hotmail.com
Dana Nielsen – dananielsen@comcast.net
Michael Schumacher – schumacher5154@comcast.net
Viggo Warmboe, Stamp Mart Manager – viggo62@comcast.net

Canadian Mart Manager:

Roger Fontaine – stampman9@gmail.com

Library Committee:

Paul Albright, Howard Benson, Roger Cichorz, Gregory Frantz, Jim Kilbane.
Contact: palbright@wiche.edu; rcichorz@comcast.net

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@americat-echnet.

7. NEW YORK: 2nd Wednesday of February, April, June, September, and November at The Collectors Club, 22 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.

SCC 2016, Operating Statement and Budget

Income	FY 2016	2016 budget
Membership Dues	16 746,88	12 000,00
Interest	290,21	1 000,00
Donations	1 715,00	2 000,00
Stamp-Mart Net Worth Increase	140,00	0,00
Misc	0,00	0,00
Posthorn advertising	7 404,00	12 000,00
Total Income	26 296,09	27 000,00
Expense		
Posthorn	FY 2016	2016 budget
Editor Stipend	4 000,00	4 000,00
Printing	9 373,00	13 000,00
Domestic Mailing	1 000,00	1 000,00
Other PH Mailing	0,00	0,00
Foreign Mailing	2 494,12	3 200,00
Posthorn Supplies	0,00	600,00
Executive Secretary stipend	2 000,00	2 000,00
Webmaster	1 015,95	1 000,00
Website	2 239,80	0,00
Donation, RMPL	0,00	1 000,00
Library Supplies	0,00	1 000,00
Foreign Judging Program	2 577,80	1 800,00
Bank fees & discounts	553,71	200,00
Membership Postage and Supplies	1 454,70	750,00
Awards	254,00	1 500,00
FACIT Catalogs	5 879,76	0,00
Promotion Postage and Supplies	2 617,33	150,00
Advertising	1 150,00	100,00
Administrative Exp	50,00	50,00
Total Expenses	36 660,17	31 350,00
Net change in Funds	-10 438,50	-4 350,00

Statement of Assets – December 31, 2016

	2015	2016
Checking, Money Mkt and CD Accounts		
BB&T Checking	1 941,71	2 114,50
BB&T MMKT	5 389,21	10 593,20
BB&T CDs	68 130,14	53 156,56
Affinity Plus Bus.Partic.Checking	11 553,22	10 402,19
Affinity Plus Bus.Share a/c	10,00	10,00
Nordic catalogs	0,00	3 020,00
SCC Library acc	6 235,31	7 540,35
USPS credit Balance		633,57
SCC equity in SCC Stamp Mart	1 137,94	
Other Assets		
Capital Adjustments (Stamp-Mart)	-212,56	-211,82
Total Assets	94 184,97	87 258,55
Liabilities		
Stamp-Mart Transit Loss Fund	0,00	140,00
Total Liabilities	0,00	140,00
Net Assets, December 31	94 184,97	87 118,55
Net change		2 388,74

Membership Statistics for the First and Second Quarter 2017

(February 20 – May 31, 2017)

New Members

4335	Guffain, Carlos A, 1449 Amaryllis Circle, Orlando, FL 32825
4336	Boatwright, Fred, address undisclosed, MO
4337	Brown, Mike, address undisclosed, CA
4338	Hemming, Gregory, 151 Pfeiffer St, San Francisco, CA 94133
4339	Nilsestuen, Kenneth R, 1000 Kingswood Dr, Akron, OH 44313
4340	Peterson, David, 320 Prospect Ave, San Francisco, CA 94110
4341	Topper, Jonathon, 11210 Steeplecrest Dr, Ste 120, Dallas, TX 77065
4342	Heinzl, Glen, Box 499, Necedah, WI 54646

Change of Address

4137	Galford, Hugh, 4 Finance Drive, Ste 100, Danbury, CT 06810-4192
4244	Johnson, Kathryn, 10 Obadiah Drive, Galena, IL 61036
4319	Schwenn, John, 16311 SE 2nd St, Bellevue, WA 98008
3032	Thomlinson, John, 143 Clober Road, Milngavie, Glasow G62 7LS, Scotland, UK

Reinstated

2908	Swinford, David
Deceased	
L57	Bjorgo, Brian
2403	Bjorklund, Herbert
2021	Boyle, Richard H
3943	Hanson, John D
2926	Sutherland, John

Resigned in good standing

4117	Bednarek, Michael G.
3615	Boatman, B.B.
4203	Christensen, Edwin
4231	DeLude, Anthony
4238	Faust, Bernard
4272	Fredriksen, Robert
4219	Hempel, Paul
4224	Leissner, Edgar
4269	McGroarty, Melodye
4155	Stoner, Bob
3019	Svensson, Benny
4258	Weatherl, Wayne
4261	Westerling, R F
3348	Zacharias, Robert

Suspended for non-payment of dues

4253	Aarnes, Gustav
4048	Anderson, Robert L.
4283	Daun, Lennart
3419	Druble, William
3551	Dunwiddie, Walter C.
3988	Faralli, Ugo
4261	Fredricksen, Jens Karl
4250	Goude, Eric
3936	Hagstrom, Neal
4251	Harris, Roy
4211	Hicks, Edgar
1782	Jangaard, Peter M.
3314	Jonsson, Magnus
1660	Kasper, Jerome V. V.
4263	Lalla, John A.
4090	Larsen, Freddy
4109	Lavender, Thomas
3017	Lobenstine, Clark
3963	Lord, Daniel
3926	Nelson, Mark P.
1611	Ostergaard, Paul B.
3741	Quiquenpois, Christian
3627	Stoleson, Daniel W.

Donations

4253	Sunderlage, Sean
4029	Wyman, Richard V.
4230	Coulbourne, Joe
4110	Partain, Sam
3739	Kreshek, David
L101	Banke, Frank
3345	Cichorz, Roger
4294	Christensen, Peter
1247	Kuhhorn, George
4162	Peterson, Charles
H31	Quinby, Roger
H32	Warren, Alan
	Henning, Neil
	(former member)
	Koop, Burkhard (friend)
	Thomassen, Egil (friend)

Notes to previous page table:

Margo Nelson Memorial Library Fund (money deposited into checking account)	360,00
Richter Fund has a 33.07% stake in the BB&T \$15K CD	7 762,47
Credit balance with USPS-Spokane	826,74

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