

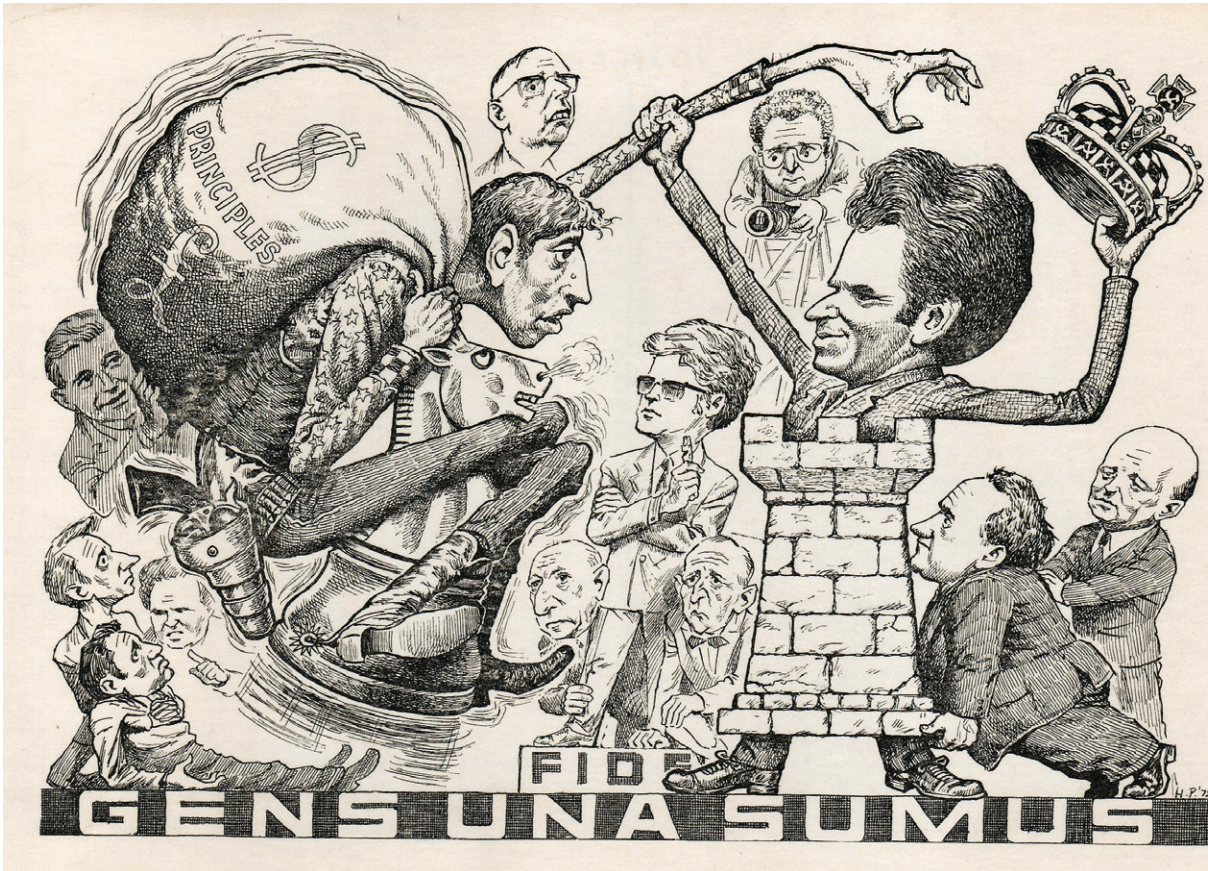
**Mike Ley's
M-30 Blue Lions
of Finland**

*Everything you probably
did not know about
hay barns (on stamps)*

THE
POST HORN

1/2018

JOURNAL OF
THE SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB



Above is Card #1 from Halldor Petursson's set of 18 caricature postcards depicting events and people involved in the World Chess Championship match in Iceland, 1972. More philatelic (or so) items commemorating the unforgettable match, won by Bob Fischer from the USA, are introduced in this Posthorn by Michael Schumacher.

SCC Convention in Sarasota, Florida

See you in Iceland! Nordia 2018 will take place on 8–10 June in Garðabær.

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Many Ways to Collect & Exhibit

People have different ways to collect, and also exhibiting the items varies between the continents. While European countries normally use the international FIP rules also as the basis of their national regulations, the American culture is totally different.

For example, Advertising, Patriotic or Event covers, FDC cachets, etc. which have their own classes in the United States, are a “no-no” in most European exhibitions. Even if they can of course be shown (assuming that they have been sent by post), and they *do* look attractive indeed, you are not expected to refer to them in your philatelic texts. There is no such class as “Cinderellas” either. Such items can be shown as non-philatelic in the Open Philately class, however. Some types of cinderella material, like Christmas seals, can even fit into Traditional Philately, if the treatment is correct.

This issue of *The Posthorn* includes two interesting articles by collectors who have chosen very different ways to collect and exhibit. Michael Schumacher’s article about the 1972 World Chess

Championship match in Iceland gives also non-American readers a clearer idea about cachet collecting, among other things.

Mike Ley’s M-30 Blue Lions could be shown in either Traditional Philately or Postal History class, depending on the treatment of the exhibit. The idea of collecting only blue-colored stamps (out of 58 different values/colors that were issued within Model-30) provides a fresh point-of-view towards traditional exhibiting.

As can be noticed from Mike’s article, a basically simple idea can lead to complex and serious philatelic studies of varying and interesting material. It also invites us to create further color-based ideas: for example, the red lions were issued for franking postcards to foreign countries, and multiples could be used for many other postal items as well.

One of the charming things in philately is that it is a never-ending project: there are always new ideas, new topics, and new challenges. As one of my philatelic friends put it: “There are always new problems waiting to be solved – and that makes it so fun!”

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

The ancient map of Iceland was published as a miniature sheet of postage stamps for the Nordia 1991 exhibition. – Engraving by Czeslaw Slania.



See you in Iceland!

The Nordia 2018 will take place in Garðabær, Iceland, on 8–10 June 2018 being the seventh Nordic exhibition organized in the country.

The first Nordic exhibition arranged by the Icelandic Philatelic Federation was Nordia 84 in 1984. Then came the Nordia 91, Nordia 96, Nordia 2003, Nordia 2009 and Nordia 2013. The exhibitions were arranged in Reykjavík, in Hafnarfjörður and in Garðabær.

The venue of Nordia 2018 will be the town of Garðabær, located just 9 km from Reykjavík city center, and about 30 min. drive from Keflavik International Airport.

There will be ca 700 frames of exhibits, and all classes will be included. More about the exhibition in *The Posthorn* 2/2018.

The ancient map of the Nordic countries was published as a miniature sheet of postage stamps for the Nordia 84 exhibition. – Engraving by Czeslaw Slania.



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No. 3/2018	1 August	10 September
No. 4/2018	1 November	10 December

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A Philatelic Look at the 1972 World Chess Championship

by Michael Schumacher

July 4th represents to Americans a day to celebrate their independence. In 2017, July 4th had an added significance for Icelanders and the World of Chess, as it marked the 45th anniversary of "The Match of the Century". The World Chess Championship match brought unprecedented attention to both Iceland and the game of chess.

The match, held in the midst of the "Cold War" between the United States and Russia, pitted the up and coming US Challenger, Robert "Bobby" Fischer against the Russian World Chess Champion Boris Spassky. Russian chess players had dominated the World Chess Championship for nearly 50 years. No American had ever won the World Chess Championship.

Iceland won the right to host the event with a bid of \$125,000. An unprecedented amount of prize money for a World Chess Championship. How-

ever, as the match was due to begin (on 4 July 1972), that amount turned out to be too small, as far as Bobby Fischer was concerned. He not only failed to show up for the opening ceremony in Reykjavik, Iceland, he was hiding out in New York. James Slater (a British businessman) agreed to double the prize money to \$250,000!

The Icelandic Chess Federation and the Icelandic Postal Administration remained hopeful that the World Chess Championship would take place and they went ahead with the Opening Ceremony and the First Day of Issue – 4 July 1972 – of their new 15 Kr. chess stamp. It was issued to commemorate the holding of the World Chess Championship in Iceland. The stamp design depicts "the globe in flat projection superimposed on a picture of a chess board. The idea behind the design is obvious: it demonstrates the news that the world chess championships are being held this year." (Hannes Petursson, *SKAK – Iceland Chess Magazine*)



Unique handmade leather FDC by Þorsteinn Sigoaldason.

FDC's are typically found with either or both the "Reykjavik" or special "Chess Match" cancel. However, FDC's are also known from the following locations: Akureyri, Boganes, Grimsey,

Hafnarfjörður, Hvammstangi, Kopavogur, Neskaupstaður, Olafsvík, Patreksfjörður, Selfoss, & Vestmannaeyjum.



The chess stamp was issued by Thomas de la Rue & Company Ltd, England, utilizing photogravure.

1A 1A 1A 1A	1B 1B 1B 1B	1C 1C 1C 1C	1D 1D 1D 1D
2A 1A 1A 1A	2B 1B 1B 1B	2C 1C 1C 1C	2D 1D 1D 1D
3A 1A 2A 1A	3B 1B 2B 1B	3C 1C 2C 1C	3D 1D 2D 1D

Additionally, of interest to the Philatelic collector, aside from the Iceland Chess stamp issued for the event – about 75 different cachet covers and 50 postcards were also created by the Icelandic Chess Federation, chess clubs, stamp dealers and private individuals. Obviously, I will not be able to cover or present all of them in this article. Some of the key World Chess Championship Match postcards are:



Perforation errors do exist, they were written about at the time by journalist Axel Miltander from Sweden. Note above the location of the perforation on the left-hand stamp.

To the left is an Iceland Chess Stamp block of four with plate number.

Two million stamps were issued in sheets of 50. Sheets can be found with 12 different plate numbers.

1. Views of modern Iceland;
 2. Contestants;
 3. Halldor Petursson's set of 18 caricature, and
 4. Set of 21 cards depicting each game's "final position of chess pieces".
- All above mentioned cards are large size except for # 2.



A registered cover sent to Axel Miltander, Sweden – maybe by himself.



To the left, one of the World Chess Championship Event Cards.

Halldor Petursson's set of 18 caricature postcards

Halldor Petursson (1916–1977) was an Icelandic artist and illustrator, who was well known for pictures of horses, santas, comics, postage stamps, and Cold War drawings. He studied art in Copenhagen, Minneapolis and New York. He was also one of the founders of the Icelandic Association of Artists. Petursson draw a set of 18 caricature postcards of the personalities involved in the match. Three of them are shown on the following page, and one on the cover of this journal.



Both postcards on this page were issued by the Icelandic Chess Federation.

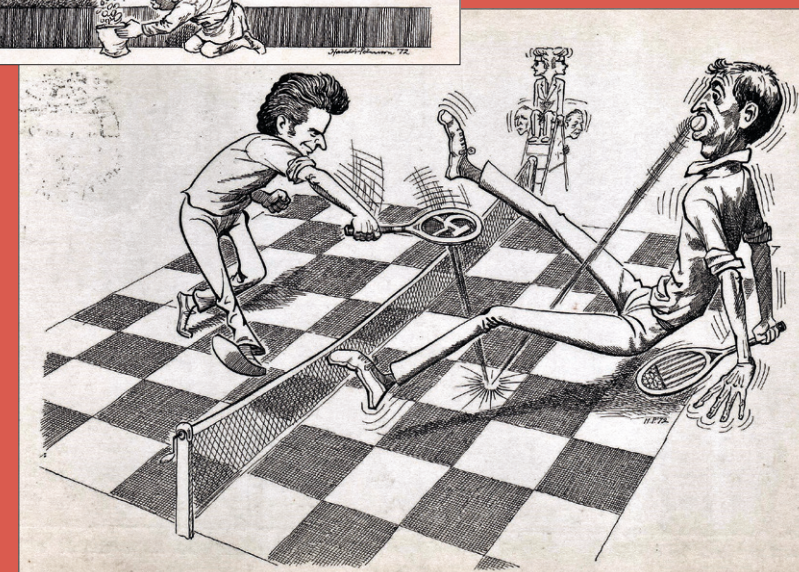
To the right: Card #10, Halldor Petursson's caricature series.

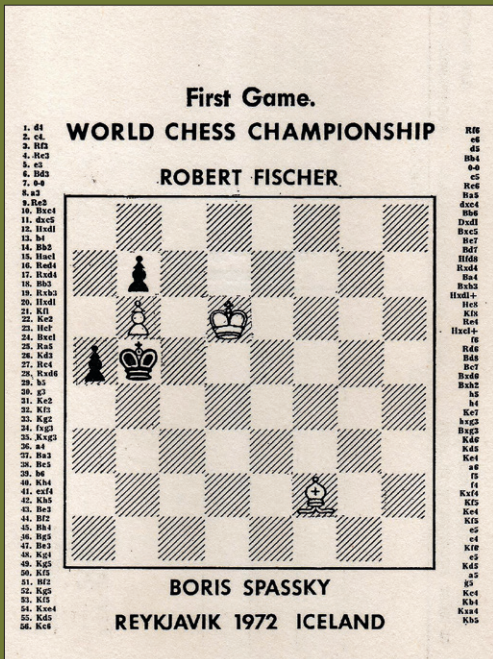


To the left: Card #18, Halldor Petursson's caricature series.



To the right: Card #8, Halldor Petursson's caricature series.





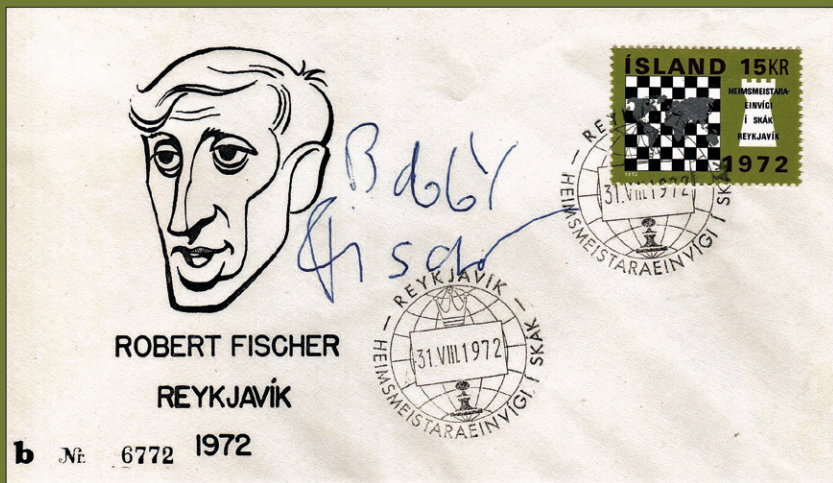
To the left, Card #1 from set of 21 depicting the final position of chess pieces for each game. Similar final position of pieces design was also used as cachets.

Collecting cachets

Not to overlook the interests of cachet cover collecting philatelists, here are a few of the high-lights from the match:



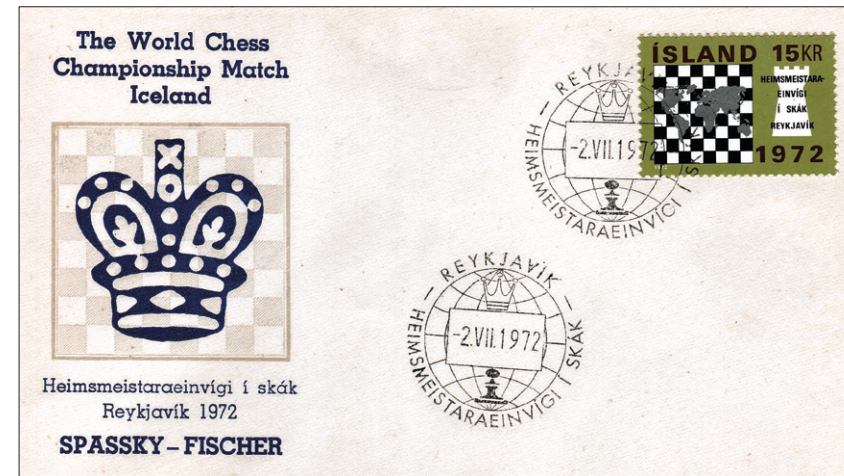
Above, a Spassky cover.



The cachet cover to the right is autographed by Bobby Fischer.

Crown on Chess Board cachet by FV

The "F V" stands for Fri-merkjaverslanir (Stamp House) used by Stamp Dealer Bolli Davidson in Reykjavik, Iceland. - These cachets were also issued in red and gold ink.



An "Error" version of the gold-colored one exists, I call it the "Gold Bar" cachet cover. (The gold bar covers up the misspelling of Fischer's name.)

King & Chess Board cachet by F M

The "F M" stands for Frimerkjmidstoin (Stamp Center) which was a stamp shop in Reykjavik,

co-owned by Magni Magnusson, Finnaur Kolbeinsson and Haraldur Saemunsson.

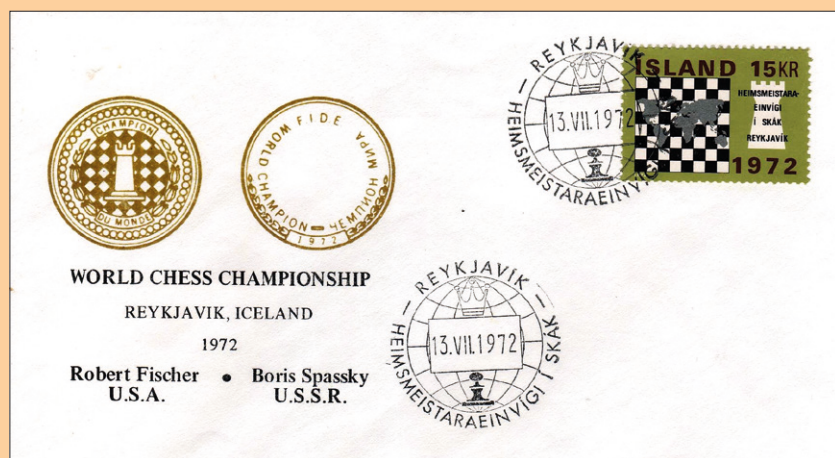


This cachet also comes in a version with blue chess board squares and a red king.



Icelandic woman in national costume—one-of-a-kind hand-drawn cachet by Sigurdur Agustsson.

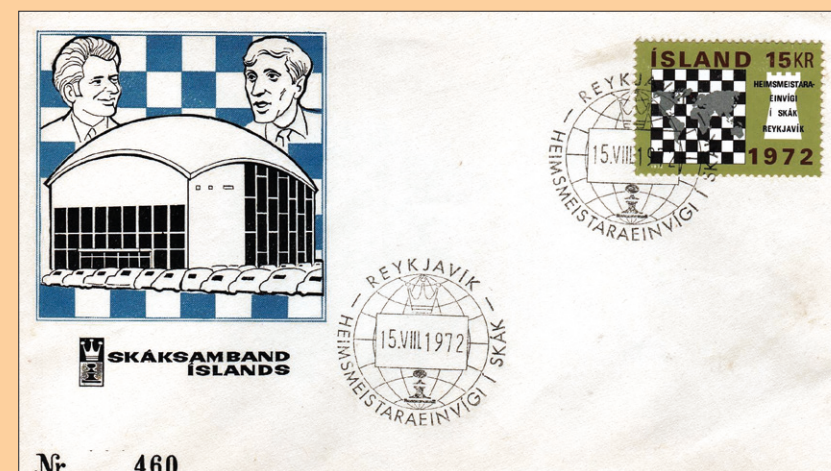
To the right, official cachet cover from FIDE (the International Chess Federation).



"Taflfelag Hreyfilla" cachet cover by the Hreyfill Chess Club, an in-house chess club for the largest taxi and car rental company in Iceland. The cachet was also issued in maroon and yellow.



To the left, Laugardal Exhibition Hall cachet issued by the Icelandic Chess Federation.



"Players at the Chess Table" cachet by the Icelandic Chess Federation. Autographed by Chester Fox, Television Producer who had purchased the rights to film the Match.

were hand-canceling the special commemorative stamps. Three other Postal employees were stoically licking each stamp and posting them to envelopes. Fans lined up for hours every day to obtain each days cancel and to seek autographs. Admission to

the games required a ticket and cost \$5. As indicated earlier there are some 75 different cachet covers that were created - far too many to include in this article. Maybe by the 50th anniversary I will have them all included in a book.

The Laugardal Exhibition Hall had seats for 3,000 people

The Laugardal Exhibition Hall, a 1,500 square foot facility, was adapted to accommodate the chess match with seating for 3,000 people in the main

room. Additional spectators could watch television transmission of the moves in a number of other rooms throughout the facility. Journalists occupied areas on both the main and second floors. On the second floor was a location for refreshments and the Post Office. Two Icelandic Postal employees



The cachet of this cover was also issued in blue ink.

At last, a section for the serious postal history philatelists showing used covers bearing the Iceland 15 Kr Chess stamp during the two months of the match (4 July through 3 September 1972).

An Inland Registered Express mail cover with

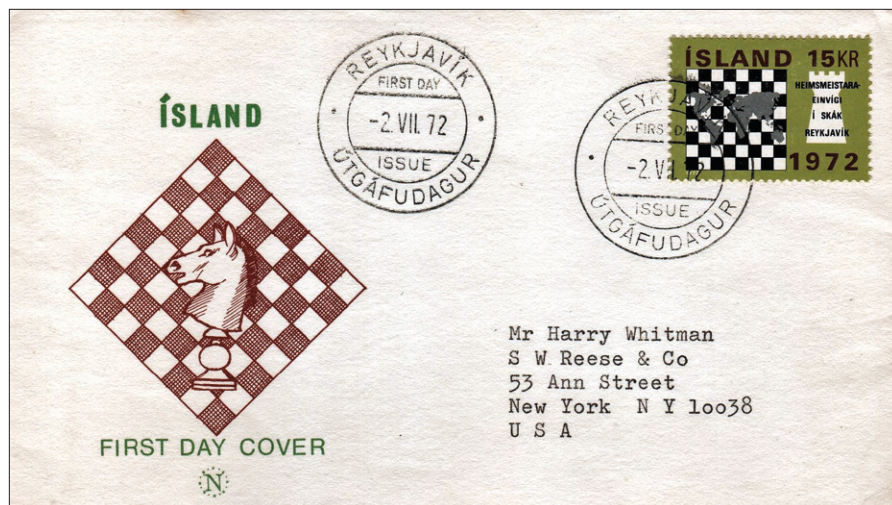
both the Reykjavik and Special Match cancels and a block of four of the 15Kr Iceland Chess stamps! (Have only see three other covers with plate blocks of four and one cover with a strip of two stamps and plate block number.)



Inland registered express letter rate 50 Kr. With this cover, I must include a special Thank you to Gestur B. who walked up to me at the Reykjavik Stamp show in 2007 and handed me this and another similar cover and said; "Here, these belong in your exhibit." He would not accept payment for them.

"Knight on Chess Board" cachet issued by N

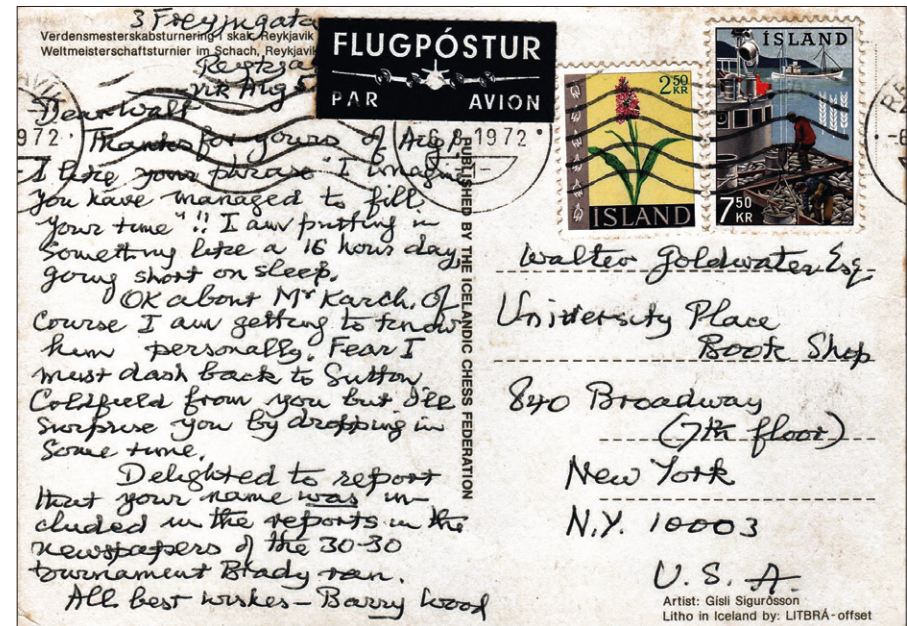
The "N" indicates Fritz Neve, the Scandinavian Stamp Company – a Danish stamp dealer.



10 Kr Iceland letter rate to all countries outside Scandinavia.



Something a bit more colorful: Airmail registered cover to the USA. Appears the mailman had to put a little extra work into it's delivery before it was returned to sender on August 10, 1972. Markings indicate "Hold on Vacation" and a couple of attempts were made to deliver. Backside receiving cancels in St. Paul, MN on July 9th and 10th, 1972. Mailed from Keflavik, Iceland.



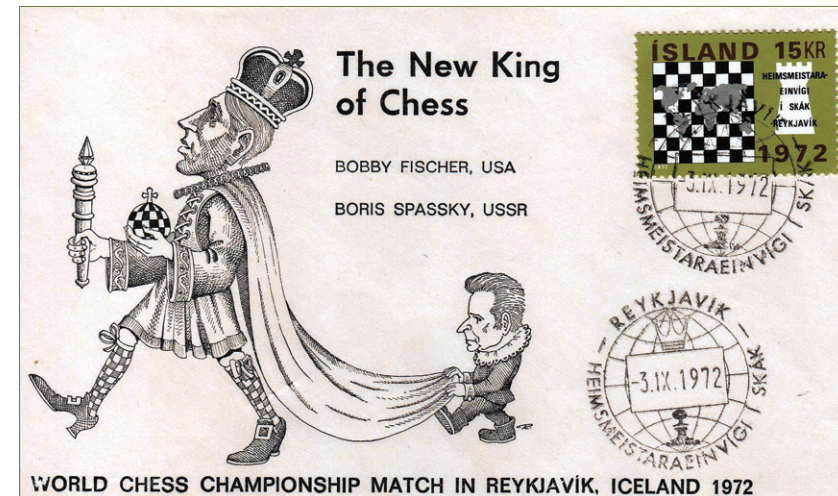
Unusual to find a match event item that didn't use the 15Kr Chess stamp and has a machine cancel.

Above is a World Chess Championship postcard mailed to Walter Goldwater, who was a tournament chess player and President of the Marshal Chess Club in New York, where Bobby Fischer

spent a great deal of time playing chess. Goldwater was also the owner of the University Place Book Shop in New York and a founding member of the Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America.



"Location, location, location!" is the name of this cachet cover. Both Spassky and Fischer had a say in deciding the location of the match. This one has been sent from one island country to another: from Iceland to New Zealand.



The cachet design to the right by artist Ragnar Lar is also known in red ink. The same design was also used on a large postcard.



A "True Gem" from the "Match of the Century" – An Iceland Surtsey volcanic eruption postcard. What makes it a "true gem" is that it was sent by Bozhidar Kazic to Mikhail Botvinnik on 11 July 1972, the day the first chess game began!*

* **Bozhidar Kazic** (1921–1996) a Yugoslavian chess player, international arbitrator, author and journalist, Chairman of the Rules of Chess Commission (1978–1982) and member of F.I.D.E. was General Secretary of the Yugoslavian Chess Union.

Mikhail Botvinnik (1911–1995) was the winner of six Soviet Chess Championships and three

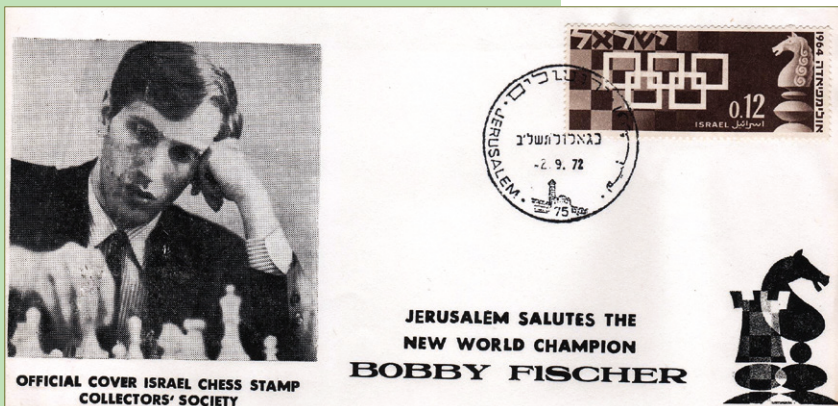
World Chess Championships. He also played on six gold medal winning Soviet Olympiad teams between 1954 and 1964. Botvinnik was considered one of the greatest chess players of all time and was a leading member of the coaching system that enabled the Soviet Union to dominate world class chess. His chess school produced such World Chess Champions as Karpov, Kasparov and Kramnik.



"Bobby Fischer's Day of Victory" cover, unknown by whom it was issued. It is also known in violet ink.

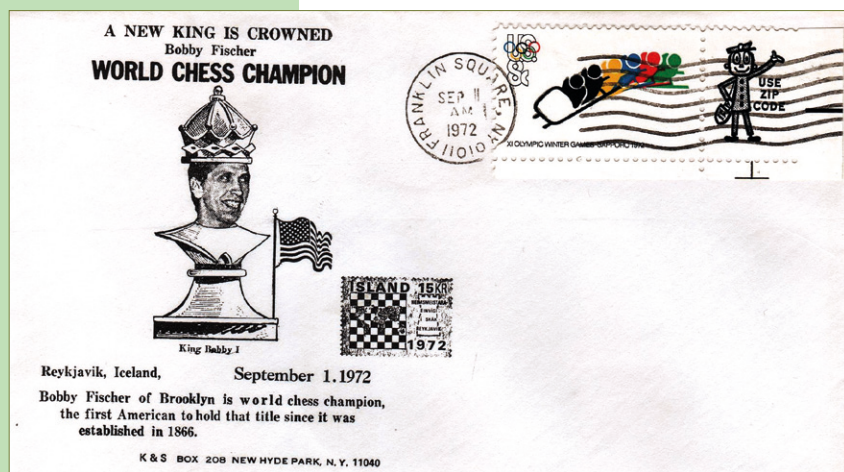


The World Chess Championship concluded with a banquet to honor the crowning of a new King! Banquet cover, issued by the Icelandic Chess Federation.

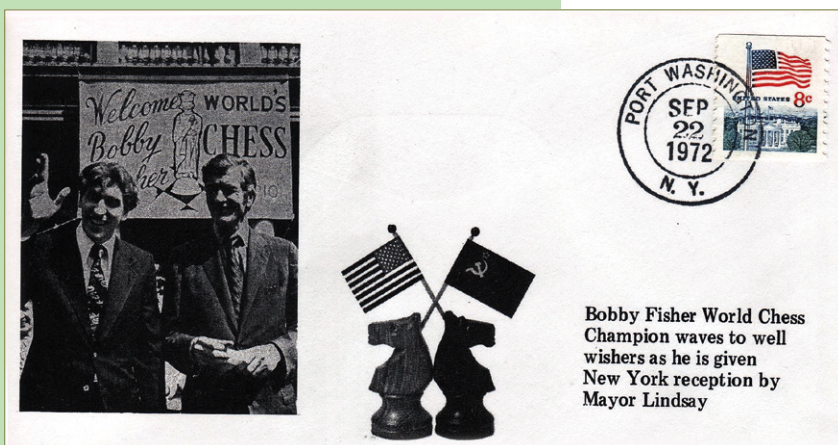


Fischer's Victory also resulted in an Official Israel Chess Stamp Collector's Society cachet. This one bearing the Israel chess stamp from 1964.

And last but not least, a couple of American covers denoting Fischer's victory and a welcome home by Mayor Lindsay of New York:



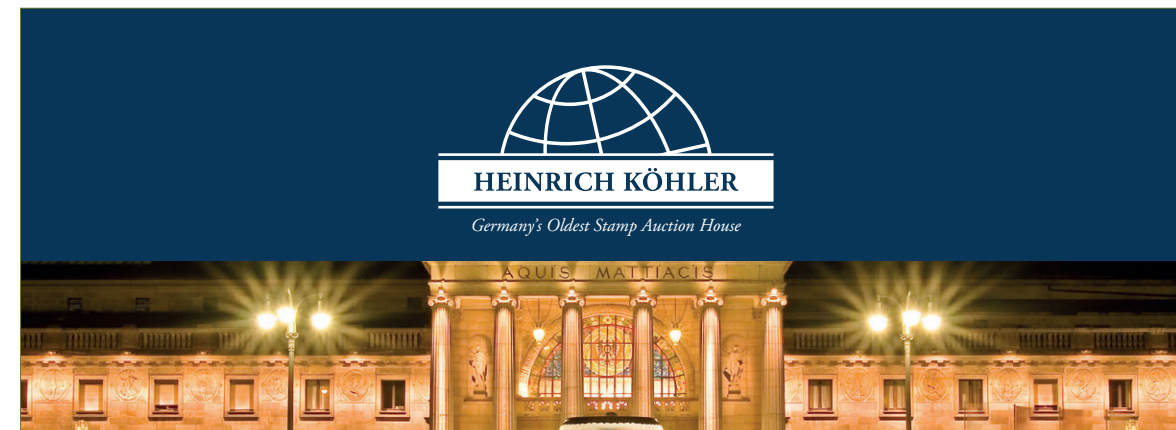
Issued by K & S New Hyde Park, NY.



"Welcome Home, Bobby" cachet.

Bobby's crowning moment occurred in Reykjavik, Iceland 1972. Currently, Bobby Fischer (1943–2008) "rests in peace" in a cemetery just outside of Selfoss, Iceland. For those wanting to

see more Philatelic World Chess Championship event items, I plan to have the exhibit at Nordia 2018 in Iceland.



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Faroe Islands – The Geoffrey Noer Collection



1919, registered rate cover with six 2/5 øre provisional stamps

1852 4 RBS on cover „via LERWICK“
– The earliest cover from the Faroes with an adhesive stamp

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Finnish blue lions were issued in 1930–1952. Due to frequent rate changes ten different denominations were needed during those years. A collection like Mike Ley's could also be formed based on another color than blue. Or take another country!

**The Definitive Stamp Issue of 1930:
The M-30 Lions**

- Followed the Saarinen model of 1917.
- LaPe lists 58 different values/colors and 8 surcharges between 1930 and 1952.
- Ten different values were printed in blue color: 2 mk, 2 ½ mk, 3 ½ mk, 4 ½ mk, 5 mk, 10 mk, 12 mk, 15 mk, 20 mk and 25 mk.
- The stamps were in use up to monetary reform in 1.1.1963.

Collecting the M-30 Blue Lions of Finland

by Mike Ley

The Model 1930 stamps of Finland were a long running series issued from 1930 until the Model 1954, and not demonetized until 31 December 1962. The series has been gaining in popularity with collectors after a slow start. Collecting everything related to the series would be a daunting task. In this article I want to discuss limiting a collection by focusing on uses of all stamps of a single color.

Finland tried to always follow the UPU color scheme when issuing stamps. Blue was the designated color for up to a 20-gram letter to a foreign destination. Figure 1 shows a 1930 cover to Germany dated 4 March franked with a 2 mk dark blue stamp paying the correct UPU rate until 11 November 1931. Due to inflation-caused rate changes, ten different blue denominations were needed between 1930 and 1954. In contrast, 3 cents paid the UPU rate from the United States during the entire period.

In seeking out an example of each denomination used for the intended purpose it is always nice to come across an unusual destination. Figure 2 shows a 20 January 1934 letter from Turku (Åbo)

to the Belgian Congo franked with a 2 ½ mk blue stamp paying the UPU rate in effect from 12 January 1931 thru 31 October 1936. It arrived in Leopoldville on 14 February 1934 and was then forwarded to Bumba arriving in March.

Based on the LaPe catalogue value the second most difficult denomination to find used as intended is the 4 ½ mark. Figure 3 shows a 27 October 1942 cover from Helsinki to New York with a 4 ½ mark stamp paying the rate in effect from 1 October 1942 thru 30 June 1945. This cover is interesting, because it was opened and censored in Finland, Berlin, and New York. Mail to the United States was not very common at this time, because Finland was at war with the Soviet Union and allied with Germany. Finland however never declared war on the USA, nor did the USA on Finland. Germany allowed Finnish mail to pass to the USA, because of the alliance even if Germany and the USA were at war.

By far the most difficult blue stamp on cover to a foreign destination is the 5 mark. The rate period only lasted from 1 July 1945 thru 31 August 1945. Since there was no surface mail out of Finland until very late July the effective date for actual use

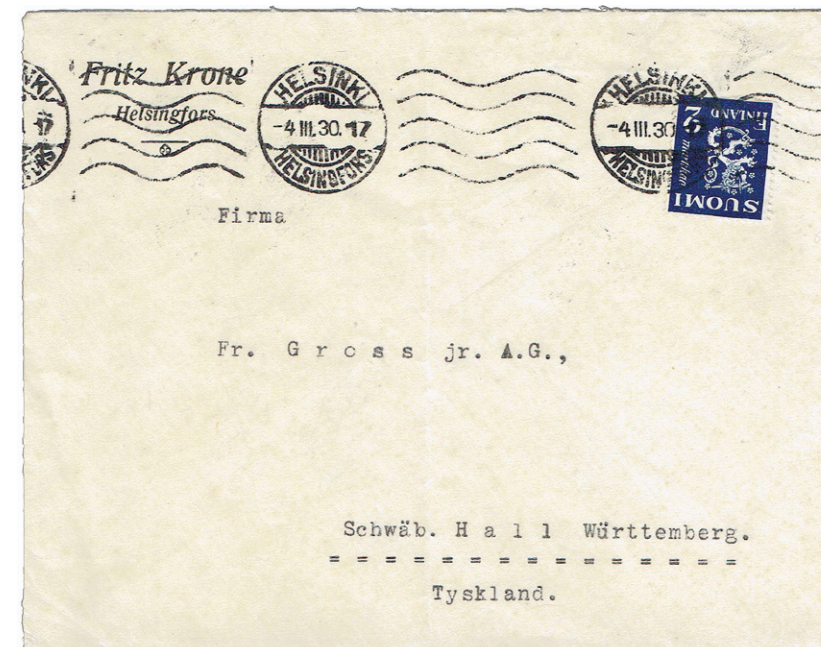


Figure 1. A business cover from Helsinki to Würtemberg, Germany on 4 March 1930 was franked with a 2 mk dark blue lion stamp paying the correct UPU rate of the period.

was very short. Specialists only know of five surviving covers and I don't have one to show you. Figure 4 shows a cover sent from Turku (Åbo) on 19 July 1945 before surface mail was possible. It

was returned to the sender who added another 5 mk stamp to pay double the airmail fee to the UK of 2.50 mk per 5 grams and it was postmarked on 21 July 1945. Hannu Kauppi, the foremost authority



Figure 2. A letter from Turku (in Swedish: Åbo) to a Captain's wife in Leopoldville, Belgian Congo, sent on 20 January 1934. Franked with a 2 ½ mk blue lion stamp paying the correct UPU rate of the period.



Figure 3. A cover from Helsinki to New York on 27 October 1942 with a 4 ½ mk stamp paying the correct UPU rate of the period. Censored in Finland, Berlin, and New York.

on the M-30 series, advises this is one of two such covers known to him.

The rate abroad from 1 November 1949 to 31 December 1951 was 20 mk per 20 grams. Often there was a lower rate to Nordic countries, but from 1 July 1950 to 31 December 1951 that rate was also 20 mk (the same as the international letter rate). Figure 5 shows a cover in that time frame

dated 23 May 1951 from the Colombian consulate in Helsinki to the Colombian consulate in Gothenburg, Sweden.

The rate abroad from 1 January 1952 to 31 May 1956 was 25 mk per 20 grams. The domestic rate (and the Nordic rate) was the same for this time period and the 25 mk foreign mail rate stamp was often used.



Figure 4. The cover to the left was sent from Turku on 19 July 1945 before surface mail was possible after the war. It was returned to the sender who added another 5 mk stamp to pay double the airmail fee to the UK of 2.50 mk per 5 grams, postmarked on 21 July 1945.



Figure 5. The cover sent on 23 May 1951 from Helsinki to Gothenburg, Sweden, with a 20 mk blue lion stamp, which was correct rate for Nordic and other foreign countries at the period. The slogan cancellation tells people to keep scrap, rag and paper for raw material. It was in use in Helsinki from late March to late May 1951.

Figure 6 shows a domestic cover from Kiikka 27 January 1953 to Helsinki. The sender attempted to reuse a used stamp but this was caught and the cover was marked double the deficiency due of 50 mk.

Solo blue lion stamps can be found paying a combination rates. Figure 7 shows a 17 December 1953 air mail postcard from Helsinki to Israel. The foreign postcard rate was 15 mk from 1 January



Figure 6. A domestic cover from Kiikka to Helsinki on 27 January 1953 was marked double the deficiency due 50 mk because of attempted reuse of stamp.

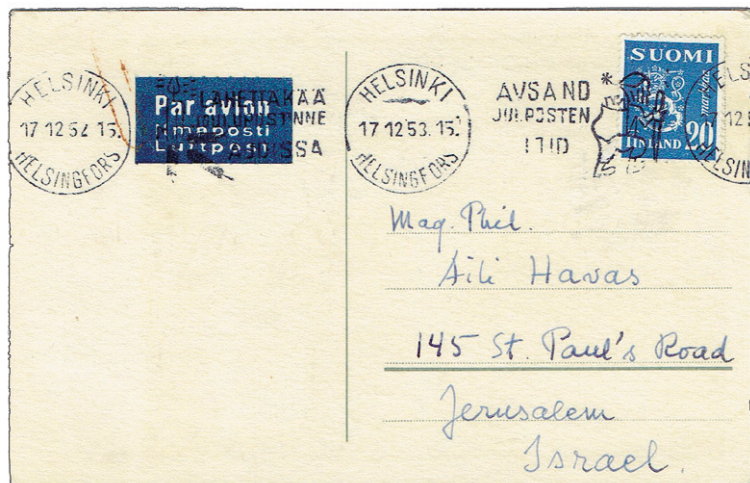


Figure 7. The Christmas postcard to the left was sent on 17 December 1953 by air mail from Helsinki to Israel. The foreign postcard rate was 15 mk, additional air fee 5 mk. The bilingual slogan cancellation tells people to send their Christmas mail early.

1952 to 30 September 1957 to 31 May 1956.

Multiple blue lions can be found paying interesting combination rates. Figure 8 from Helsinki 20 July 1940 is franked with three copies of the 15 mk paying the relatively short lived domestic rate of 20 mk for a letter 21 g to 125 g from 1 January 1948 to 30 November 1948 plus the express fee of 25 mk in effect 1 January 1940 to 31 December 1951.

I enjoy finding a cover franked with blue lion stamps of more than one denomination correctly paying the charges. Figure 9 shows a 15 February 1949 cover franked with a 15 mk paying the foreign postage rate to 20 g from 11 November 1949 until 31 December 1951. It is also franked with a pair of the 12 mk which correctly pays double the

12 mk per 5 g air fee to the USA from 12 December 1948 thru 31 October 1949.

A collection like this does not need to be limited to mail items. A variety of interesting forms can be found with blue lions paying various fees. Figure 10 shows a Tiedoksianto or notice form with four copies of the 12 mk affixed. This particular form was used at the Helsinki main post office to notify post office box holders to approach the counter to pick up something such as a registered item or take care of some other business. In this case the box holder was Kansan Pika-Arpajaiset or Peoples Raffle. It was not uncommon for raffle winners to send in winning tickets under paid. The PO collected those and a company representative came by regularly to pay the postage due on all of them



Figure 8. The express cover from Helsinki to a major hospital in Oulu was sent on 20 July 1940 with three 15 mk blue lions paying the domestic rate for over 20 grams letter and the express fee of 25 mk.

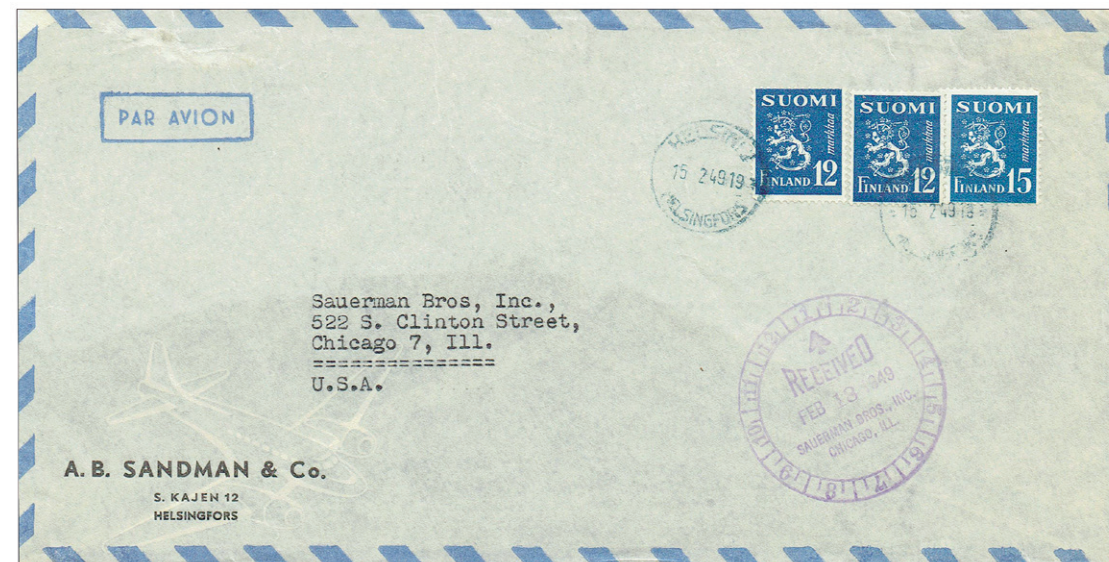


Figure 9. The airmail cover above was sent from Helsinki to Chicago, Illinois, on 15 February 1949. It is franked with a 15 mk blue lion stamp paying the foreign postage rate to 20 g, and a pair of 12 mk stamps correctly paying for double the 12 mk per 5 g air fee to the USA.

at once. In this case there were four items and postage due total came to 48 mk and the stamps indicate it was paid for on 30 November 1948.

Figure 11 shows parcel dispatch note from Canada franked with a pair of 15 mk stamps. The boxed handstamp in Finnish and Swedish indicates the item had to go through customs. The large Finnish and Swedish handstamp at the top indicates there were no custom fees due. There was still a fee for customs inspection that had to be paid. This item left Canada on 15 October 1949 and was signed for 10 November 1949. While the parcel was in transit the fee for customs inspection of package was raised to 30 mk on 1 October 1949 lasting thru 31 December 1951. Had customs duty been charged, a customs post office order form could have been used but very few, if any, survive from the 1940s.

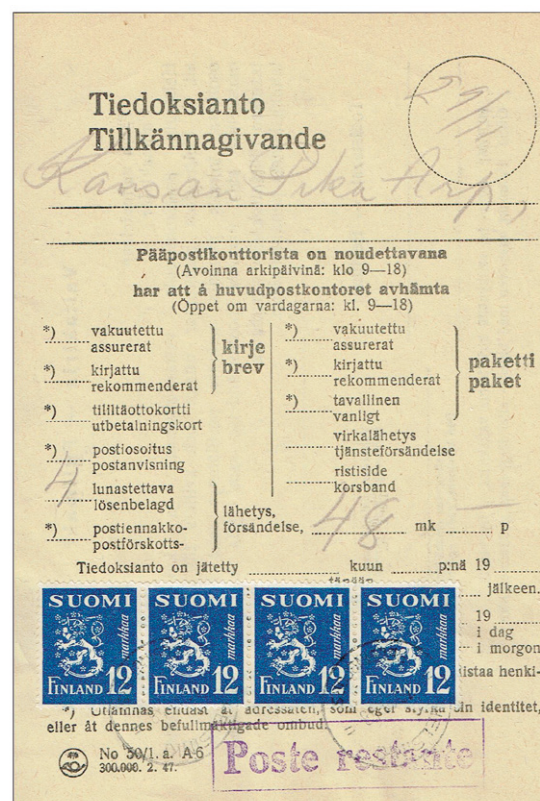


Figure 10. To the left is a notice form (Tiedoksianto) with four copies of 12 mk stamps affixed. This kind of form was used at the Helsinki main post office to notify post office box holders to approach the counter to pick up something such as a registered item or take care of some other business. The stamps are for payment of postal due for received under-paid mail.

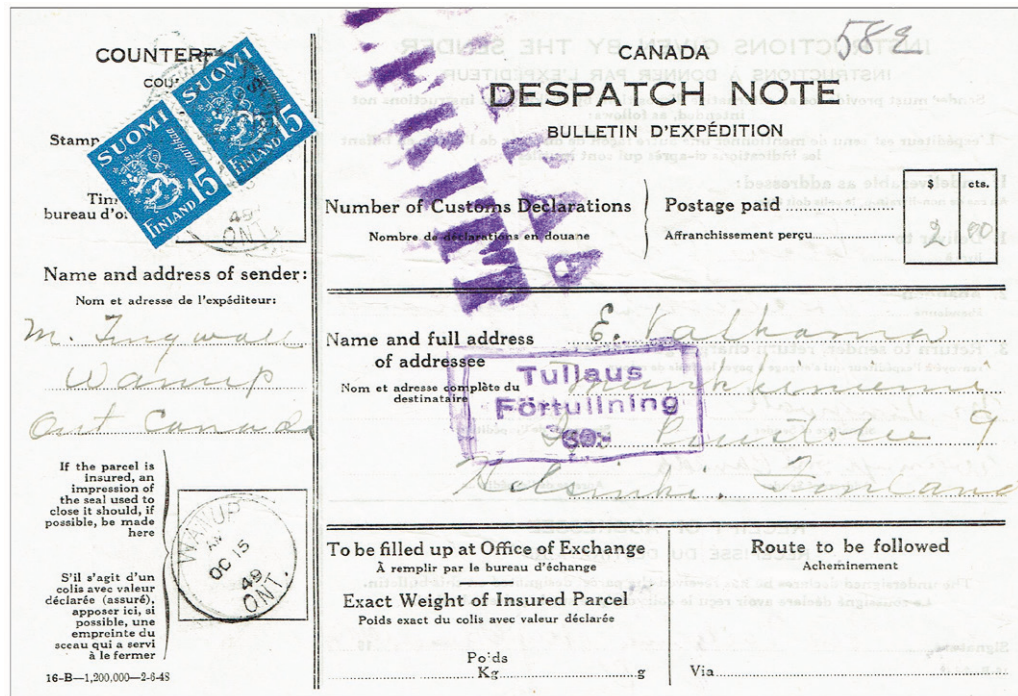


Figure 11. Above is a parcel dispatch note from Canada franked with a pair of 15 mk blue lion stamps. The item was sent from Canada on 15 October 1949 and it was received in Helsinki on 10 November 1949. The handstamps indicate that even if there were no custom fees due, a fee for customs inspection (30 mk) had to be paid.

correctly paying the charges for an air mail letter up to 10 g to Alaska. The foreign postage was 12 mk to 20 g and the air fee to the USA was 12 mk per 5 g 15 January 1947 thru 30 November 1948.

I want to thank Mikael Collan in Finland who reviewed this article for accuracy. He maintains an M-30 blog at <http://www.malli1930.fi/> and there is also a link to it on the SCC website.



Figure 12. The "Red Lion" cover from Ristiina to Alaska on 5 April 1947 was franked with four 6 mk red lion stamps covering 12 mk foreign postage rate and 12 mk air fee to the USA.

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Barns were built close to fields to get the hay quickly in shelter. –The stamp booklet with five self-adhesive postage stamps was issued in May 2016.

Commemorating a horse-drawn society

by Seija-Riitta Laakso

A booklet of five stamps depicting hay barns does not perhaps raise much enthusiasm among collectors when seeing it for the first time. But, we can of course expect anything from a postal administration that has also issued a booklet of outdoor toilets! Even greater is the surprise when the “father” of the barn stamp idea, Heikki Koljonen, tells the story about the Finnish barns, and how they entered a stamp booklet.

When I first heard that a man called Heikki Koljonen would come to Mäntyharju Stamp Club (in eastern Finland, some 200 km from Helsinki) to talk about Finnish barns, it did not – to be honest – sound very interesting. But he *had* an interesting story to tell, and here it comes.

Heikki Koljonen, a retired officer of a political party in Finland, is a barn-enthusiast whose own 100-years old barn is today a place for summer seminars visited by such persons as the Finnish Prime Minister Juha Sipilä and the former EU Commissioner Olli Rehn, among others.

While studying his own barn’s history Koljonen started to realize the importance of hay barns for the whole country during the 19th century and up to the 1960s: “The success story of Finland, once a poor agricultural country, is built on hay barns!”

Finland – sharing the same latitudes as Alaska – is one of the most northern places in the world where people cultivate the land. For that they needed horses to work on the fields until motor vehicles replaced them in the 1960s. Horses needed plenty of hay to eat, and so did the cattle, of course.

Hay was gathered into barns close to the fields in the summer and kept there until needed. It could then be brought to the farm house by horse-drawn sleigh even if there was plenty of snow.

“The hay barn was a great invention of its own time,” Koljonen says. Thanks to its form and the sparse boarding of walls, the air could circulate through it, keeping the hay dry and free of mold.

There were some 330,000 farm houses in Finland in the early 1960s before people started moving into the cities and the farms were left empty. Each farm had at least one barn, but major estates could have more than 30. It has been estimated by historians that there must have been at least a million barns in Finland at that time. In a country with some 4.4 million inhabitants!

Horses were not used for field work alone. The Finnish forest industry depended upon horse-drawn timber from the woods. For example, a saw mill demanded 30 horses for that work, and they needed several barns to store the necessary hay for them.

Wood was not just raw material for the paper and cellulose industries, but it was also needed to keep the machines running in the mills and factories. In addition to hydraulic energy, they used steam-powered machines which needed firewood – Finland did not have coal resources as many other countries.

Not only industry and farming but the whole society was horse-drawn up to WW2, and even after that. The number of automobiles started to grow only after the war reparations had been paid off in the 1950s. Most cars were used in the cities, while the countryside still relied on horses.

All means of transport (by which also mail was carried) was based on hay barns until oil replaced hay as the fuel of vehicles – not only horse-drawn coaches or sleighs, but also the railways and steamships. For example, in 1945 the Finnish railways burned 3.2 million cubic meters of firewood in the steam engines of the locomotives. One man with a horse could make some five cubic meters per day.

Most houses were heated by firewood, too. Imported coal could be used in the cities but not in the countryside, where most people lived. The long, cold winters could be survived only with the help of hay barns somewhere in the middle of the frozen fields.

Horses at war

Some 80,000 horses participated the Winter War and the Continuation War in 1939–1945. “Researchers of war history say that we could not have survived without horses. Hay was brought to them from barns all over the country,” Koljonen tells.

After the wars, barns were again needed. Finland had to find a new home for 430,000 people (11%

of the whole country’s inhabitants) who had fled from Karelia or Petsamo in Lapland when the Soviet Union took over those regions.

“Farm houses were split to give a piece of land to the refugees. Usually they got a barn and some land around it to have something to start with,” Koljonen tells.

Barns were used as hiding places for refugees or persecuted people also in the earlier years of history. And as the houses were usually crowded with large families and their servants, hay barns were also places for many romantic *rendez-vous*.

Koljonen says that the barns can today be seen as a pattern for the future: “Finland is the fourth largest country in the world measured by growth of biomass. We can learn system analysis from the use of barns, and this leads us to understand bio economy.”

Over 4,300 pictures of barns

So, what about the stamps then? This is what happened next: Heikki Koljonen was sitting with Markku Penttinen, then Director of the Finnish Post, in a summer café at Mäntyharju market square. He asked Penttinen, whether barns would not be a good topic for a postage stamp. “Yes, why not,” said Penttinen after having heard the story.

To find a good picture of a barn for the stamp, the Finnish Post and the monthly magazine *Kantri* of the countryside newspaper *Maaseudun Tulevaisuus* organized a competition. The topic appeared to be extremely popular: they received over 4,300 pictures of barns, many of which are already abandoned as people have moved from the countryside.



Five of the pictures were chosen for the booklet, four of them coming from the Ostrobothnia region. – The graphic designer was Satu Lusa, who also designed the booklet of outhouses in 2015.

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Steve Lund, President & Executive Secretary of the SCC.

Meanwhile in Minnesota...

Over 20 SCCers attended the annual meeting at *Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition on 2-4 February 2018*. With guest judge Gísli Geir Harðarson, SCC exhibitors received one Large Gold and five Gold awards. Results are reported elsewhere in this issue. SCC member dealers Jay and Bonnie Smith reported this as their most successful Florida show ever. The seafood at Barnacle Bills was great.

Membership renewal is nearing conclusion. Second notices have been sent. This renewal period has been difficult because of new rates creating three different renewal letters. Life members were also contacted to confirm their continued delivery of *The Posthorn*. Several sent donations. At this late date I am concerned about the number of expiring memberships that have not yet responded. Please submit your renewal if you have not already done so.

Three members joined the *Half Century Club* this year, having been SCC members for 50 years: George Birdsall, Carl Probst, and Neil Thompson.

New members in the *Quarter Century Club* are no less than fourteen: Jack Anderson, Kenneth Anderson, Severt Kvamme, Steve Lund, Frank Martin, Karl Norsten, W. Joe Schlitt, Peter Sondhelm, Case Sprenkle, Lynn Swanson, Alan Tuchman, Hal Vogel, David Warfel, and Viggo Warmboe.

Nominations for all officers and three directors are being accepted for terms beginning in 2019. Please consider volunteering to serve the SCC in this capacity. Willing members should contact Secretary Alan Warren (alanwar@comcast.net). Do not be embarrassed to nominate yourself.

NORDIA 2018 will be held on **8-10 June in Garðabær, Iceland**. Sweden's Islandssamlarna are hosting a 10-day tour with Alan Warren, Seiju Laakso, Cheryl Ganz, Kathy Johnson, Steve Lund and New Zealand's David Loe joining members from Sweden, Denmark and the UK. Additionally, veteran Iceland travelers Mike Schumacher and Viggo Warmboe will bring family members for their own tours of Iceland coincident with *NORDIA 2018* making it one of the largest contingents of SCCers to attend a *NORDIA* exhibition. It is not too late to make travel plans. Please join us. The more the merrier!

Ross Olson will compete in the Champion of Champions at *APS StampShow on 9-12 August 2018* in Columbus, Ohio. Ross will exhibit "Sweden: Gustav V Medallions" which received Grand Gold at Minnesota Stamp Expo on 21-23 July 2017. This will be Ross' third trip to the C of C.

The exhibit will travel to *Malmex, 31 August - 2 September*, in Sweden. Congratulations and Best Wishes to Ross.

Steve Lund
February 19, 2018

From the Stacks -

Analysis of Postal Markings on and Routing of an 1860 Stampless Cover to Stockholm

by Roger Cichorz

SCC member ODG in Georgia inquired about a Swedish folded letter (Figures 1a and 1b) that was mailed postage due from Hull, England on 14 May 1860 and arrived in London the following day. (A faint red circular “LONDON/MY 15/60” datestamp just above and to the left of the boxed Hamburg marking on the back may not be visible in the illustration.) The cover arrived in Hamburg on 17 May as indicated by the boxed “HAMBURG/K.S.P.A. (D.)/17/5. 1860” datestamp. ODG asked to decipher the underlined manuscript “Via...” (“Via Ostend”) marking top left on front aside the “108” French postage due marking and if the oval “St. P.A./17 Mai 60” datestamp on back was an arrival cancel applied in France?

A similar January 1860 cover from Hull to Stockholm (Figure 2) is illustrated and its markings are explained in the *Don Halpern Exhibit Pages* of Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish covers — a June 2016 compilation by Gordon Highmark (SCCL E&C 293). The explanation here also applies to the routing and markings on ODG’s cover: Hull → London → “via Ostend” (Belgium) → Hamburg → via Denmark → Stockholm. Treaty rate $\frac{1}{2}$ = 108 öre, British and Belgian share = 4d and Prussian share = 4d (8d = 7 Silbergroschen = 60 öre – note the blue manuscript “7” through address on front), Swedish and Danish shares = 6d = 48 öre. Consequently, neither of these covers ever touched French soil.

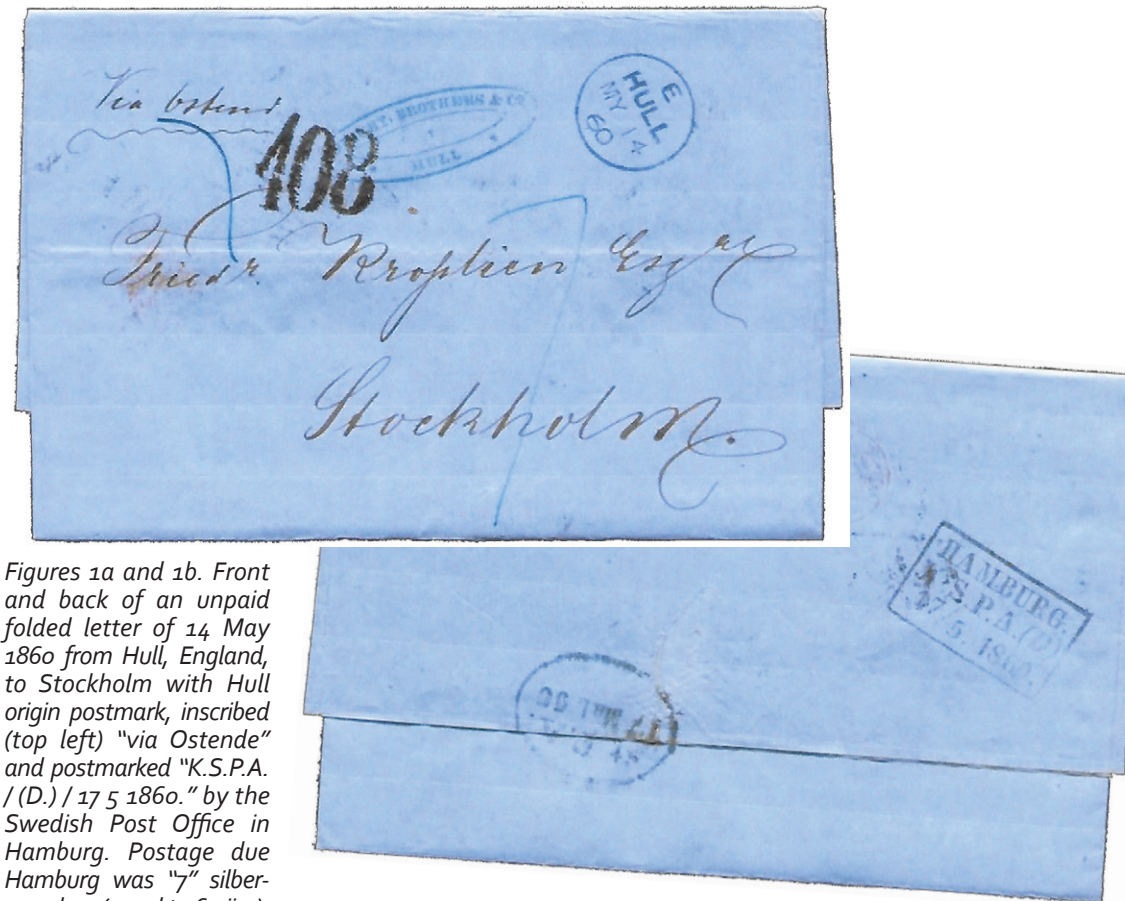
The boxed “K.S.P.A./D./20 1 1860” datestamp (No. K20) on the Halpern cover, where the “D.” represented Denmark, was used only January 1860 for letters to Sweden sent via Denmark. It was replaced with the boxed “HAMBURG/K.S.P.A. (D.)/(date)” datestamp (No. H28, type 1) seen on ODG’s cover. The oval “St. P.A./date” datestamp (No. S6) applied to both covers was used by the Hamburg Stadtpost from 1822 until October 1860 as a transit mark on letters to Scandinavian countries. The blue double elliptical “Wright Bros. & Co.” handstamp on the front of both covers was that of the Hull agent who initially handled them.

Comprehensive English-text References on Scandinavian Stampless Covers

I am not a collector of Swedish stampless covers and certainly not knowledgeable about their postal markings, rates, and routings, particularly the pre-UPU treaty rates for letters passing through several postal jurisdictions, such as the two aforementioned covers. However, other knowledgeable collectors and postal historians, fortunately, have shared their knowledge in reference books, articles, and exhibits. ODG’s cover is perhaps typical of pre-UPU stampless mail that often has several handstamped and manuscript markings, all of which can be deciphered to give a coherent explanation of how these items traveled from their origin to final destinations.

My point in writing about this cover is to make readers aware of some of the English-text references available in the SCCL that can provide “answers” to the many questions about a particular stampless cover. Information on this subject will continue from time to time in future columns, but for now let us concentrate on a series of excellent “one-of-a-kind” references related to Scandinavian-related philatelic covers as well as paid and postage-due covers of the classic postage stamp era before UPU conventions simplified the postage tariffs.

The late Donald Halpern, a stalwart SCC member and officer, was a collector and student of Scandinavian stampless covers. He studied the rates, routes, and markings of the many covers he possessed, and thankfully for us, he prepared exhibits that explained them in detail. Much of that information was incorporated into a book that he and SCC member Gordon Hughmark co-authored and published in 1999. Titled *Stampless Mail to and from Scandinavian to 1868* (SCCL SCA B91E), this reference is more than just a compilation of illustrated covers as it has 17 chapters of useful text, including the history of economic and political rivalries in Europe, French and Dutch handstamps on Scandinavian



Figures 1a and 1b. Front and back of an unpaid folded letter of 14 May 1860 from Hull, England, to Stockholm with Hull origin postmark, inscribed (top left) “via Ostende” and postmarked “K.S.P.A. / (D.) / 17 5 1860.” by the Swedish Post Office in Hamburg. Postage due Hamburg was “7” silbergroschen (equal to 62 öre), and total postage due was 108 öre.

mail, Thurn & Taxis transits, Royal mail, and the Hamburg Post Offices. Additionally included are six appendices of tabular information, 17 route maps, and an extensive index.

Since Don’s untimely death in 2007, Gordon has painstakingly chased down Don’s covers (primarily stampless Sweden and Denmark to and from foreign destination), which had been dispersed through several Scandinavian auction firms and postal history dealers. These, as well as other significant covers offered at auction, have been incorporated by Gordon into several compilations residing in the SCCL, all of which are available on loan. Instead of struggling through foreign language references on Nordic postal history (SCCL has plenty of these as well!) to interpret markings, rates, and routes of stampless covers and of early (pre-UPU) stamped covers, I suggest you consider the SCCL’s English-text

references cited in the annotated bibliography that follows. Other than the book coauthored with Halpern, these references are one-of-a-kind productions available only from the SCC Library.

SCA B49E: *Scandinavian Stampless Foreign Mail Before 1868*, Gordon A. Hughmark, author-published, Baton Rouge, LA, 1993, 485 pages, comb-bound paperback. Profusely illustrated handbook comprising 18 chapters of text interspersed with illustrations of stampless covers and explanations of routes and rates.

SCA B91E: *Stampless Mail to and from Scandinavian to 1868*, Gordon A. Hughmark and Don Halpern, Harlan F. Stone (Editor), Rosetta Stone Press, New Providence, NJ, 1999, vi + 202 pages, softbound, ISBN 0-9668882-0-0. An extensive revision of the 18 chapters in Hughmark’s 1993 *Scandinavian Stampless Foreign Mail Before 1868*, with new and corrected information added, Chapter 14 expanded to cover the period of 1692–1775, Chapters 17 (Handstamps) and 18 (Postal

Rates) broken out into six appendices, and an extensive nine-page index added. (Note: This book was a limited edition printing, now out-of-print and rarely available for sale. Philatelic literature dealer Phil Bansner's Website (<http://www.philbansner.com>) indicates this book is in stock, #15320 @ \$67.50. Also, a recently donated extraneous copy was offered in SCCL Auction #49.

SCA B136E: *A History of Scandinavian Pre-Postage Stamp Foreign Mail Before 1868*, Gordon Hughmark, author-published, Baton Rouge, LA, July 2009, PDF file on two CD-ROMs. Revision of the 1999 book, *Stampless Mail to and from Scandinavian to 1868*, with significant new and corrected information, expanded to 25 chapters and an appendix added on the Hamburg Post Offices. Hughmark indicates in the Preface that the 1999 book contained limited letter and cover illustrations and this revision provides numerous additional illustrations obtained from credited sources such as archives, collections, exhibits, and publications, and where uncredited are from his own collection.

SCA B145E: *Stampless Letters to and from Scandinavia (1562–1869)*, Gordon Hughmark, author-published, Baton Rouge, LA, April 2014, two CD-ROMs. Compilation of foreign letters to and from Scandinavia dating from December 1562 to March 1869. CD #1 = Preface, index, and Parts I through VIII (1562–1854) and CD #2 = Parts IX through XI (1855–1869). Restricted use loan:

No copies are to be made from these CDs for publication purposes as the covers illustrated herein are taken from auction catalogues and reference books, and are the properties of various owners.

SCA B146E: *A History of Scandinavian Pre-Postage Stamp Foreign Mail Before 1868*, Gordon Hughmark, author-published, Baton Rouge, LA, May 2015, two CD-ROMs. Revision of the 2009 CD-ROMs that updated the 1999 book, *Stampless Mail to and from Scandinavian to 1868*. The two CD-ROMs here still comprise 25 chapters, the primary objective of which is to illustrate and describe handstamps and their usage that appear on Scandinavian foreign mail. Main changes include additional information that has become available since 2009, for example Chapter 16 adds the Royal Brunswick Post to the prior Hannoverian text, and some of the cover illustrations are now in color.

E&C 286: *Scandinavian Stampless Foreign Mail Covers*, Gordon Hughmark, author-published, Baton Rouge, LA, 2015, CD-ROM. CD-ROM showing 715 Scandinavian stampless foreign mail covers acquired by Hughmark during 1985–2010, with the objective of this collection being research regarding the handstamps and postal-rate markings used by the post offices that had processed these covers; includes a one-page preface and a brief index related to the Denmark, Norway, and Sweden covers, which are shown chronologically by date.

E&C 293: *Don Halpern Exhibit Pages*, Gordon Hughmark, author-published, Baton Rouge, LA, June 2016, 276 pages, comb-bound paperback. Compilation of 260 of Halpern's exhibit pages of Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish covers from 1658 to 1867 primarily to foreign destinations via various Danish and Swedish post offices, includes private ship mail and Thurn & Taxis routings arranged chronologically; includes 16 additional pages provided by Frank Banke in May 2017. Also includes a CD-ROM of a December 2015 preliminary draft that is still useful in that it shows many of the covers in the June 2016 compilation.

A-V 84: *The Postal History of Denmark*, Don Halpern exhibit ca 2000, 32 slides. 32 exhibit pages, including 1648 and 1679 folded letters, Swedish mail passing through Denmark, Thurn & Taxis, Danish, and Swedish post offices in Hamburg, and the Danish post office in Altona, Germany, no narrative script but the exhibit pages provide descriptions of the 33 covers shown.

Additional Information on Rate Tables for Parcels Posted from Denmark

This A4 format booklet of 160 pages is not only a reprint of his DFT articles, but Rasmussen has added six new chapters not published previously (parcel rates to Faroes, Great Britain, France, Austria, and others, and additional rates). His handbook can be purchased on-line at DFF's sales portal www.newstamps.dk for DKK200/~\$33 plus DKK100/~\$16.50 postage to the USA, payment with PayPal or credit card.

My next column will continue on the subject of stampless covers and discuss some of the excellent references available at SCCL on Norwegian prephilatelic, stampless, and pre-UPU stamped covers. I encourage you to comment about the content of this column and ask questions about the SCC Library and its operations. Also, suggestions for future column topics are always welcome. Contact me at Roger Cichorz, 3925 Longwood Ave., Boulder, CO 80305-7233, USA, via email at rcichorz@comcast.net, or phone (303) 494-8361.

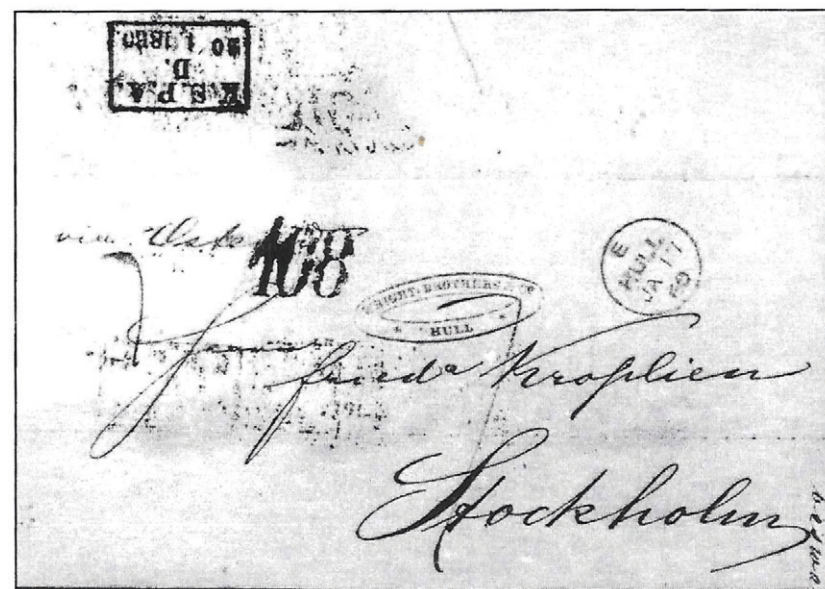


Figure 2. Unpaid folded letter of 17 January 1860 from Hull, England, to Stockholm with Hull origin post-mark, inscribed "via Ostende" and post-marked "K.S.P.A./D./20 1 1860." by the Swedish Post Office in Hamburg and "108" postage due marking. This cover appeared in and its postal markings explained in both SCA B49E and SCA B91E, thereby providing the explanation for the similar cover from Hull shown in Figure 1.



01100620
Sports in Greenland III 1/3
Inuit & Dene Games: Arm Pull
Artist: Miki Jacobsen
Denomination: DKK 0.50



01100621
Sports in Greenland III 2/3
Inuit & Dene Games: 2 Foot High Kick
Artist: Miki Jacobsen
Denomination: DKK 14.50



01100622
Sports in Greenland III 3/3
Inuit & Dene Games: Pole Push
Artist: Miki Jacobsen
Denomination: DKK 28.50

General information:

Date of issue: 22nd January 2018
Stamps per sheet: 10
Ext. dimensions: 40.00 x 28.80mm
Format: G - horizontal
Artist: Miki Jacobsen
Typography: Lowe-Martin Group
Print method: Offset
Paper: TR4

Sports in Greenland, Part III: Inuit & Dene Games

As many of our collectors will know, this stamp series was made by the creative Miki Jacobsen. The series is now being completed with the final three stamps, which will tell us a little more about some of the sports' disciplines that are particular to Greenland and the Arctic. In Miki's own words:

– Perhaps up to half of us have sedentary work. In earlier times, physical labour was a large part of each day, not least in the Arctic world. Nowadays, sports help to keep us active in our leisure time. Survival in 'the old world' required large amounts of mental and physical strength, just like sports do today. As the long winter months were a time of raging snow storms, people

invented games and sports' disciplines, not just for entertainment, but also as a physical challenge.

When I was a teenager, I encountered some of the traditional sports' games in the catch huts close to Sisimiut. There would be a friendly contest for fun and to kill time when there was time to do so. Nowadays, there is competition in many disciplines which originate from different areas. Arctic Winter Games is, inter alia, the framework for the Inuit and Dene Games' disciplines. There is a tough struggle to win gold at these international events which are held at various Arctic locations every second year. Some people call them 'the Arctic Olympics'.



01100620
Souvenir sheet
Sports in Greenland III
– Inuit & Dene Games
Price: DKK 43.50

Scandinavian Area Awards

At the 15th New Zealand Philatelic Literature Exhibition held in Christchurch in October, *The Posthorn* received a large vermeil. At the same show Brian Flack's *Iceland Philatelic Magazine* took a large silver. SCC's *The Posthorn* won a gold in the Chicagopex literature competition in November. Another gold went to Kaj Hellman and Jeffrey Stone for *Agathon Fabergé: Portrait of a Philatelist*.

Michael Schumacher won a gold, the AAPE creativity award, and the People's Choice award at the Florex show in Orlando in December for his "The Saga of the Icelandic Horse." He also captured a large vermeil for "The 1936 Swedish-

Icelandic Vatnajokull Expedition/Mail." Alan Warren received a vermeil for "Denmark: The Christian X Issues of the 1940s on First Day Covers."

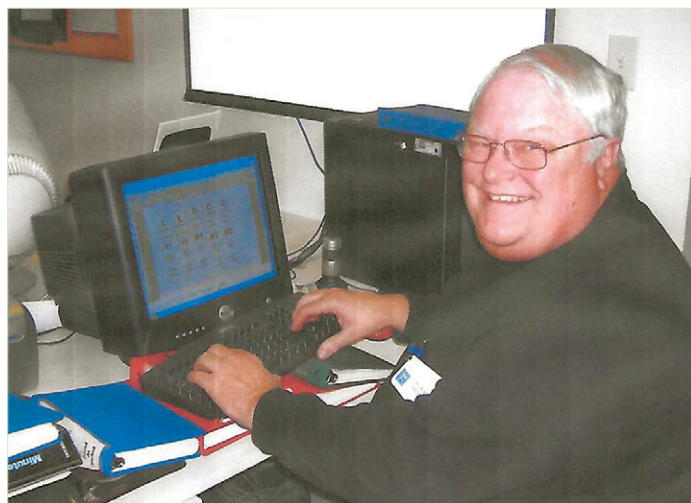
Kathy Johnson won a gold at Sandical in San Diego in January with her "Money Letters Sent by Norway's Road Administration – The Offentlig Sak Issues Era." At the Southeastern Stamp Expo in Atlanta, Ga., in January, Arnold Sorensen received a large gold for "Danish West Indies Printed Matter." Roger Quinby won a gold and the AAPE excellence award for plan and headings with his "Finnish K.P.XP Railway Cancellations."

Alan Warren

Closed Album

Howard Benson 1944–2018

The SCC lost a stalwart member on 13 January 2018 when Howard Benson passed away at his Aurora, Colorado residence at the age of 73. Howard joined SCC Chapter 27 in 2006 and attended almost every monthly meeting from that time forward. He became heavily involved with SCC Library activities by 2008 and was named a member of the SCC Library Committee. Howard



collected mint and used stamps of Danish West Indies and Scandinavian nations but primarily those of Sweden, Swedish being his ancestral heritage. He also collected stamps of Austria, Germany, and Russia. His primary philatelic interest was with stamps of the "Dead Countries" (some of which, like Estonia and Latvia came back to life after the dissolution of the USSR), but, as Howard so often emphasized, he was not interested in "Former Colonies"! Howard was a bibliophile, purchasing books and other literature lots offered in every SCC Library auction, and he also collected world coins and currency, with a fondness for post-WWI German notgeld. Howard served the Rocky Mountain Philatelic

Library in Denver as administrator of its Stamp Sales Program and most recently as Operations Manager.

Howard Benson served in the US Air Force for 15 years, including in Vietnam. After leaving the Air Force, he worked as a systems engineer for Martin Marietta, TRW, and Northrop Grumman.

Howard was a high school baseball umpire and enjoyed Major League Baseball. He was also interested in European history and science fiction. A funeral service was held on 25 January at Horan & McConaty Funeral Home, followed by a graveside military burial service at Fort Logan National Cemetery.

Roger Cichorz



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SCC Convention in Sarasota

SCC's 2018 convention was held at the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition, in Florida, 2–4 February. Sixteen SCC members signed the guest book at the Club's booth. Three new members joined during the show.

The exhibits were of very high quality. There were 17 large gold awards, 17 golds, a couple of vermeils and one silver-bronze. SCC member awards are listed nearby. The jury commented that they had not seen such an exceedingly high quality display.

The board of directors met on Friday and reviewed sites for future conventions. The 2018 budget was approved. The SCC Library has run a series of successful auctions and proceeds were very favorable. Steve Lund reported membership of 511, slightly up from 2017's figure. However, 2018 renewals are still coming in.

Chris Dahle maintains the web site, trying not to incur major expenses due to changes. Steve will appoint a Nominating Committee as this is an election year for officers and directors. Seija-Riitta Laakso emailed her Editor's report as her travel was delayed due to weather conditions. *The Posthorn* is issued on a tight and regular schedule

and advertisers are cautiously returning, as well as some new ads.

Viggo Warmboe advised that there are fewer new Mart books being entered. Discussion was held about revising the Mart's operation such as having the chapters arrange the exchanges. Twenty members attended the Friday night dinner at a seafood restaurant.

At Saturday's membership meeting, attendees introduced themselves, and Ed Fraser reminisced about his having been mentored by Carl Pelander. Steve summarized the board meeting results. Steve also announced those members who achieved 25- and 50-year membership anniversaries, and distributed their certificates.

New membership dues were instituted at the beginning of the year with foreign members picking up more of the cost of mailing the journal. An alternative is to receive the magazine digitally at a lower rate.

After adjourning the formal meeting, Gísli Geir Harðarson, who served on the show jury, presented a program about the upcoming Nordia 2018 to be held in June in Garðabær, Iceland.

Alan Warren



SCC booth at the exhibition was visited by many members and other philatelic friends.

The SCC Convention 2018 was held in Sarasota on Saturday, 3 February. Fifth from the left in the picture is Gísli Geir Harðarson from Iceland, who was the SCC-sponsored Nordic judge in the exhibition.



Exhibit Awards at Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition

Large Gold

Robert Hisey – “The First Definitives of the Finnish Republic” also SCC National award and Richter award for best classic/traditional exhibit.

Gold

Steve Lund – “Lund Postal History to 1935” also Jensen award for best postal history and Engstrom award for best research.

Michael Schumacher – “The Saga of the Icelandic Horse” also Warren award for best thematic and American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors creativity award.

Michael Schumacher – “Icelandic Saga: The 1972 Match of the Century” also American Topical Association 3rd award.

Kauko Aro – “Finland Postal Stationery with 1875 Stamp Design” also Hellman award for postal stationery and United Postal Stationery Society Marcus White award.

Alan Warren – “Denmark Birth Certificates: Commemorative First Day Covers 1920–1949”.



Robert Hisey receives the SCC's award for best Scandinavian exhibit from Steve Lund. To the right is Elizabeth Hisey, Show Chairman.

Sorensen wins 2017 Brofos Award

Arnold Sorensen received the Brofos award for the best article in the 2017 issues of *The Posthorn*. President Steve Lund announced the award at the SCC membership meeting in Sarasota in February. Arnold was recognized for his two articles on Danish West Indies printed matter.

In issue 3/2017 he wrote about the “Danish West Indies Three Cents Printed Matter from 1874 to 1901, and ‘Samples of No Value’”. He discovered there were two postal agreements affecting the printed matter rate, one of which has been overlooked for many years. The regulation for printed matter largely recognized was the 1872 postal agreement between Denmark and Germany.

However the UPU in 1877 also had printed matter rates including one for samples of no commercial value. Sorensen’s discovery reveals that many items thought to be reflecting the 1872 treaty were in effect regulated by the UPU definitions.

In issue 4/2017 of *The Posthorn*, the author corrects another false assumption regarding DWI printed matter. For years it was thought that



printed matter was smuggled to New York and then shipped to Germany at a special rate. In his article, “Danish West Indies Printed Matter Mail to New York 1865–1875”, Sorensen reveals that such items were bulk mailed to New York and then entered the US mails.

Arnold Sorensen received the Brofos award previously in 2009. It is named in honor of Frederick A. Brofos, a prolific author and former Editor of *The Posthorn*. *Alan Warren*

Transfers and Re-Entries

by Alan Warren

Peter Bech was awarded the KPK medal for his many years of service as the club’s librarian. Torben Hjørne was honored with the Denmark Medal for his research and publications on Greenland philately.

The Danish Philatelic Federation’s gold pin was awarded to Karsten Jensen for his research on Denmark’s mail to and from foreign destinations during the period 1851 to 1905. Another gold pin went to Per Friis Mortensen for his many years of

service nationally and internationally on behalf of Danish philately.

Norwegian postal history authority Harry Snarvold died at age 93. Although he moved to Sweden when he was young, he eventually established the Norwegian Postal History Society, becoming its first chairman. He self-published books and exhibits on 18th and 19th century Norwegian mail to foreign destinations. His research and publications earned him the Anderssen-Dethloff medal in 1986.

Coming events

Nordia 2018 in Garðabær, Iceland, on 8–10 June 2018.

Minnesota Stamp Expo in Crystal, Minnesota, on 20–22 July 2018.

APS Stamp Show in Columbus, Ohio, on 9–12 August 2018.

Malmex 2018 in Malmö, Sweden, on 31 August–2 September 2018.

Stockholmia 2019 in Stockholm, Sweden, on 29 May–2 June 2019.

Nordia 2019 in Sarpsborg, Norway, on 23–25 August 2019.



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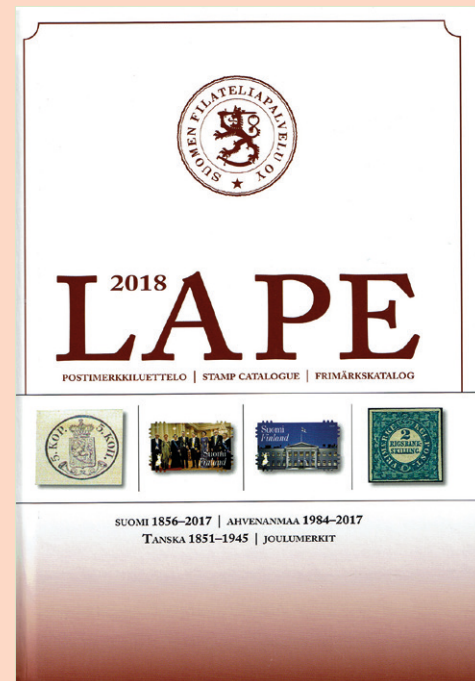
Book Reviews –

LAPE 2018

LAPE 2018: Finland 1856–2017. Philatelic Service of Finland Ltd., Naantali, Finland, 2017. Hard bound, 408 pages. Cost 19,90 euros. Available from www.stamps.fi

L APE catalogs celebrated 80 years in 2017, and *LAPE 2018* is even today the most up to date catalog for Finland. The hard cover format was updated in 2017 and includes many new features. The Collector ABC offers basic philatelic information. This year's edition contains articles on Pre-philately, Quality with sub-chapters on condition, centering and gum, Cancellations, Printing Methods and Postal Stationery. The ABC articles are written only in Finnish. However, the following section of Finland stamps from 1856–2017 contains information in English as well as Finnish and Swedish.

The catalog is not specialized but does include color illustrations of all issues and diagrams showing identification characteristics and watermark varieties. Issues are valued in mint and used condition and for first day covers. Earlier issues are priced in both normal and superb condition.



Printing quantities are listed. Because semi-postal issues are considered as commemoratives they appear chronologically along with regular issues instead of as back of the book issues in the Scott catalogs. Personal stamps from 2003–2017 are listed and illustrated. The *LAPE 2018* back of the book section includes bus parcel stamps and field post plus the territories of Karelia, North Ingermanland and Aunus.

The next section catalogs many popular Finnish collecting areas. Official year sets and year books are listed followed by a complete illustrated section of maxicards. Stamp booklets and slot machine vending booklets are included. The section concludes with a completely illustrated section of Finland Christmas seals from 1908 to 2007. The Åland stamp issues of 1984–2017 are listed similarly as the Finland issues with personal stamps, booklets, year sets and maxi-cards following. Current rates and services offered by both Finland and Åland Posts are included.

The final section of *LAPE 2018* is unique. As an encouragement for Finnish collectors to expand to other Scandinavian countries a listing of 1851–1945 Denmark regular issues is included with all issues illustrated in color. The complete palmáres listing of all exhibits at Finlandia 2017 exhibition fills the next 15 pages. A facsimile of the 32-page original 1937 LAPE catalog is reproduced. It is interesting to note how much specialization was already available then. This original was published in Finnish with catalog description translations in German. *LAPE 2018* concludes with advertisements including listings of the Dealers' Federation in Finland and certificate-issuing experts indicating their specialties. Services of the Philatelic Service of Finland are well featured in the concluding advertisements along with illustrations of highlights from recently sold auction items with prices realized.

The amount of information contained and the production quality of *LAPE 2018* make it well worth its modest cost. In companionship with *LAPE Finland Special 2012, Part 1* it provides the advanced collector complete and extensive information on all aspects of Finnish philately.

Steve Lund

The Posthorn 1/2018

Book Reviews –

Norgeskatalogen 2018

Norgeskatalogen 2018. 480 pages, 6 ½ by 9 ½ inches, card covers, perfect bound, Oslo Filatelistklubb, Oslo, Norway, 2017. ISBN 978-82-93453-02-4, 425 Nkr plus shipping from Oslo Filatelistklubb, Frydenlundgate 14, 0169 Oslo, Norway, or www.oslofilatelistklubb.no.

The normal annual edition of this catalogue of the stamps of Norway was not published last year. The 2018 edition has the same number of pages as the 2016 version. The catalogue committee introduced two changes this year. The pricing is based on very fine rather than fine quality as the collecting standard. This has resulted in some increases of values. In addition a minimum value has been set at 1 krone and designated in the listings as “M”.

For many years Norgeskatalogen has set a high standard for a single country catalog and the 2018 edition continues that tradition. In addition to the postage stamps, the back-of-the-book items include coils, vending machine booklets, officials, postage dues, returned letter stamps, personalized stamps and franking labels. Souvenir sheets, mini-blocks, and year-sets are also listed.

There are discussions of phosphorescent paper and other paper types for modern issues. These are provided in both Norwegian and English. The chapter on coil stamps has been extended and new information is provided for personal stamps. As with recent editions, two specialized articles are included in the 2018 catalogue. Bjørn Erik Rasmussen discusses the 20 mm posthorn issues (NK 49-55) in some detail.

An unsigned article describes the double-ring bridge cancels (sometimes called Swiss cancels) used

LAPE Catalogue 80 years

LAPE stamp catalogs celebrated 80 years in 2017. Originally published by Lauri Peltonen in Hanko, Finland, the catalogs have become the standard for Finland collectors. In recent years Tatu Untinen, Philatelic Service of Finland, has published the catalogs. LAPE is the acronym for Lauri Peltonen.

The Posthorn 1/2018



from 1936 to 1943, followed by a 22-page listing of these postmarks. The listing includes varieties and indicates periods of use and scarcity, the latter using a scale from 1 to 10 for very common to very rare. Both articles are in Norwegian language only.

Although the special articles are in Norwegian, many text passages throughout the catalogue are in both Norwegian and English, extending the utility of this excellent book. Another important feature is the table of postal rates from 1877 to 2017. Norgeskatalogen continues to be the key reference for Norway collectors.

Alan Warren

Membership Statistics for the Fourth Quarter 2017

(December 1 – February 28, 2018)

New Members

4349 Lund, Torstein, 240 Golden Hills Drive, Portolla Valley, CA 94028
4350 Patrick, Arthur, 2729 Cloudcroft Drive, Apopka, FL 32703
4351 Hardarson, Gisli Geir, PO Box 8028, 128 Reykjavik, Iceland
4352 Newsom, Beth, address undisclosed, Canada
4353 Shoults, Greg, 11257 Stanley Lane, Twinsburg, OH 44087

Change of Address

3499 Andersen, Jack, address undisclosed, Savoy, IL
4020 Dunken, Terry, 2203 Greenhaven Drive, Sugar Land, TX 77479
4216 Kahn, Serge, Röttelnblick 7, D-79585 Steinen, Germany
2227 Moore, Jerry, 443 Calle De La Mesa, Novato, CA 94919
L65 Ross, Robert C, 530 East 76th Street, Apt 29D, New York, NY 10021
3492 Soerensen, Morten, 1412 Calle De Las Granvas, Livermore, CA 94551

Lost Contact

4137 Galford, Hugh
L-75 Holmes, Eric

Resigned in Good Standing

4121 Armstrong, Clifford
3923 Brett, James
4344 Burney, Robert
4159 Fiolet, Henrik
L91 Haagensen, Soren
3325 Kirst, Roger
3676 MacInnes, Iain
4228 Rosenblum, Larry
2882 Swanson, Kurt
1760 Todd, Raymond
3108 Winden, Arthur
2579 Wood, Joseph

Deceased

L42 Benson, Howard
H27 Day, John R.
L95 Mason, Robert A.
GL570 Susemichel, Elmer

Donations to the SCC Library

Kauko Aro
Roger Cichorz
Ron Collin
Gordon Hughmark

Donations

Thomas S. Clark	Jerry Reinoehl
Robert DeBus	Eric Roberts
Peter Dirlam	Roger Santala
Erik Emsing	Frank Martin
Robert Hisey	Frederick Skvara
Walter Hoffmann	Frank Sequino
John Impagliazzo	David Swinford
James Johnson	David Villadsen
Robert Juceam	Alan Warren
James Peterson	

Steve Lund	Roger Quinby
Paul Nelson	Alan Warren
Geoffrey Noer	Postmuseum, Sweden

Contact the Officers

Steve Lund, President & Executive Secretary, APS Representative – steve88h@aol.com
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Randy Tuuri, Vice President, Chapters – tuurifam@comcast.net
Alan Warren, Secretary, Literature Promotion – alanwar@comcast.net
Kauko Aro, Treasurer – kiaro@roadrunner.com
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Dana Nielsen – dananielsen@comcast.net
Michael Schumacher – schumacher5154@comcast.net
Viggo Warmboe, Stamp Mart Manager – viggo62@comcast.net

Library Committee:

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

Visit the Club

1. SEATTLE/NW: 2nd Monday, 9 am 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@ameritech.net.

7. NEW YORK: *Contact:* Carl Probst, 71 Wiloughby 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 pm at Danish American Center, 3030 W River Parkway S, Minneapolis MN 55406. *Contact:* Steve Lund, email: steve88h@aol.com.

17. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: *Contact:* Erik Roberts (909) 706-5911, email: scwebman@gmail.com.

21. GOLDEN GATE: 1st Saturday 11 am 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.

27. COLORADO: 1st Saturday September–June, 10 am 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 2017 OPERATING STATEMENT

INCOME

	FY 2016	FY 2017
Membership Dues	16 746,88	14 687,60
Interest	290,21	123,51
Donations	1 715,00	2 020,00
SCC Library (Net)	1 305,04	1 234,02
Stamp-Mart Net Worth Increase	(185,27)	-137,65
Ch. 17 closing balance	-	819,91
Posthorn advertising	7 404,00	3 951,00
Other income		
Total Income	27 275,86	22 698,39

EXPENSE

<u>Posthorn</u> Editor Stipend	4 000,00	6 000,00
Printing	9 373,00	16 377,00
Domestic Mailing	1 000,00	1 000,00
Foreign Mailing	2 494,12	4 104,16
Executive Secretary stipend	2 000,00	2 000,00
Webmaster	1 015,95	1 000,00
Website	2 239,80	15,95
Foreign Judging Program	2 577,80	1 500,00
Bank fees & discounts	553,71	446,56
Membership Postage and Supplies	1 454,70	0,00
Awards	254,00	0,00
FACIT Catalogs	5 879,76	180,00
Promotion Postage and Supplies	2 617,33	1 320,94
Advertising	1 150,00	0,00
Administrative Exp	50,00	50,00
Total Expenses	36 660,17	33 994,61
Net change in Funds	-9 384,31	-11 296,22

STATEMENT OF ASSETS, 31-Dec-17

<u>Checking, Money Mkt and CD Accounts</u>	2016	2017
BB&T Checking	2 114,50	1 995,79
BB&T MMKT	10 593,20	7 630,88
BB&T CDs	53 156,56	45 916,81
Affinity Plus Bus.Partic.Checking	10 402,19	10 126,00
Affinity Plus Bus.Share a/c	10,00	10,00
Nordic catalogs	3 020,00	
SCC Library acc	7 540,35	8 774,37
USPS credit Balance	633,57	725,26
SCC equity in SCC Stamp Mart	952,67	252,12
Other Assets	88 423,04	75 431,23
Capital Adjustments (Stamp-Mart)	-211,82	(211,82)
Total Assets	88 211,22	75 219,41
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Stamp-Mart Transit Loss Fund	140,00	311,00
Total Liabilities:	140,00	311,00
Net Assets as of 12/31:	88 071,22	74 908,41

Notes: Margo Nelson Memorial Library Fund (money deposited into checki 360,00
Richter Fund has a 33.07% stake in the BB&T \$15K CD 6 785,57
SCC Library profit is after insurance and donation to RMPL

The Posthorn expenses include also the printing and shipping costs of 4/2016. Several payments for 2017 advertisements were received in January 2018, and they will be shown in 2018 figures.

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Scandinavian Literature Notes

by Alan Warren

From Denmark

Henning Mathiesen provides the second part in his series on mail to France from St. Thomas DWI in the September issue of *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift*. He shows a number of covers with transit and other postal markings. Bo Bjerre Jakobsen reviews the WW2 censor markings of Denmark in the same issue including the Copenhagen period, the Sønderborg period, and the post-war period 1945–1947.

Lasse Nielsen describes a flaw in the tenth printing of the 16-øre bicolor issue in the September *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. Peter Wittsten reviews the postal rates from DWI to Denmark during the period 1907–1909. Kurt Hansen describes and illustrates many “Retour” handstamp markings found on covers to Denmark. These include boxed marks as well as varieties of the oval Returpostkontoret København.

Editor Ib Krarup Rasmussen offers an overview of the Danish West Indies collection of G. A. Hagemann in the September *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift* that was featured in the Nordia 2017 exhibition held in Vejle, Denmark in October.

Thomas Sørensen studies the perfin designated A38 in the Danish perfin catalog in the issue 5/2017 of *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. The initials ALFA belong to the margarine manufacturer of that name located in Vejen. Some 80 different Danish stamp issues are known with that perfin. Ib Krarup Rasmussen continues his series on parcel rates from Denmark to foreign countries, with tables to the Danish West Indies. Various routes of the period 1883–1917 are covered.

Lasse Nielsen distinguishes between the 9th and 10th printings of the 100-øre bicolor issue in the November *Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. Niels Kristian Hansen notes the demise of the international reply coupon in Denmark. The worldwide service dates back to 1907. In the same issue Hansen also discusses railway station letters (endorsed Banegårdsbrev) and their fee history, beginning with introduction of the service in 1919.

Ole Maintz begins a series in the December *Posthistorisk Tidsskrift* on the handling of local and district letters in Denmark during the period

1851 to 1871. Henning Mathiesen contributes the third part of his series on mail sent to France from St. Thomas and describes some of the forwarding agents.

Steffen Madsen shows the richness of the postal history of Denmark’s local post issues in the issue 6/2017 of *Dansk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. Thomas Hilkjær illustrates essays and proofs of the copper plate printings of the Christian X krone issues of 1913.

From Finland (with thanks to Kauko Aro)

In the 5/2017 issue of *Filatelisti*, Lauri Poropudas has returned as editor after a hiatus of six years. The lead article is a summary of the Finlandia 2017 exhibition describing the various administrative challenges. The Postal Museum has digitized the post office circulars from 1812 to 1989 (in Finnish only) which can be accessed through <https://www.postimuseo.fi/fi/kirjasto/kiertokirjeet-ja-kirjelmat/kiertokirjeet>. Ovalpoint has released special tools to aid the collecting of Finnish serpentine rouletted stamps of 1860 and 1866. The tools are clear and they will assist in determining the perforations. They come in pairs with the larger tool ideal for determining the stamp via computer monitors or large tablets and the smaller identical tool to be viewed through smaller tablets. Each corner must be studied separately. The tools can be ordered for 89 €.

Messrs. Iversen, Naarstad and Quinby describe a dangerous cover forgery with 7+ kopek Charity Stamp from Kauppilanmäki in issue 6/2017 (in English). The article gives a detailed description of things to look for when trying to establish authenticity. Hannu Kauppi authors two short articles on forgeries of Zeppelin and North Ingermanland stamps originating from Taiwan. Per Gustavsson continues his series on the postal route Stockholm – Riga in 1638–1639 with the segment Helsingfors to Wiborg. Jukka Mäkinen writes about mysterious proofs of the Mannerheim stamps. These exist in two forms, profile and frontal view, and have been discussed in the philatelic press over the years. However, full sheets of these two different views on the same sheet were auctioned off last year in Denmark. The purpose of these essays is unclear though the profile is very similar to the stamp issued in 1937 when Mannerheim reached age 70.

In issue 8/2017 Jukka Mäkinen tells the readers that the so-called “Red Ghost” among the revenue

stamps of Åland Islands is not a ghost after all. Doubts have existed whether a 5,000 mk revenue stamp was ever printed as the high value of the 1956 issue (in addition to known 500, 1,000 and 2,000 mk values). Mårten Sundberg had written a definitive article on all Åland revenue stamps based on research in various archives. This research showed that 198 copies of this value had been prepared. However, no copies had been found until the fall of 2016 when one was discovered inside a collection put together in 1940–1950s.

Janne Sahlstein writes about the evolution of picture postcards viewed as postal history.

From Germany

Dirk Pestlin describes the effects of the 1 June 1918 agreement among Norway, Sweden and Denmark to increase rates for postcards and letters, and to make them the same for domestic use as well as among these Nordic countries, in the August issue of *Philatelistische Nachrichten*. This led to confusion and he shows examples of these two classes of mail going from Denmark to the other two countries with postage due and interesting combinations of franking.

In the same issue Rolf Dörnbach presents a table of Greenland postal stations from 1938 to August 2017 listing postal code, opening date and closing date (if no longer in use), and type of facility (town, village, fishery station, weather station, etc.). Matthias Hapke illustrates the special trench postal marking during the WW1 period 1915–1916, “Skyttegravarna i Stockholm”.

From Great Britain

In the September issue of *Iceland Philatelic Magazine*, Ole Svinth continues to illustrate a number of single-franking covers of Iceland issues, this time during 1981. Ole Svinth and Jakob Arrevad show examples of “Burntisland” postal markings, many on Icelandic stamps. The Scottish port is across the bay from Edinburgh. Wilbur Jonsson offers further comments on postal markings on airmail covers of the 1930s and 1940s including use of the OAT and AV 2 marks.

Russian censorship in Tornio during WW1 is the subject of Søren Chr. Jensen’s article in the September *London Philatelist*. The town is situated across the river from Haparanda, Sweden, and mail going out of Russia to other countries was

routed this way. The author’s focus is primarily on mail from Finland to Sweden, Norway, and Denmark. He shows a number of examples with a variety of censorship marks and labels.

Peter Hellberg continues his discussion of postförskott service (COD) in Sweden with an installment on domestic use during the period 1967–1975 in the September *Scandinavian Contact*. A new orange label was introduced in 1967. Some of the topics addressed in the October *Iceland Philatelic Magazine* include an 1880 postal card with a “Ship letter” handstamp marking, the 1982 installment of solo uses of Iceland stamps from 1979 to 1983 by Ole Svinth, and a review of the FRA ISLAND marking that has been used for over a hundred years and is known in two distinct types.

In the November *Iceland Philatelic Magazine*, Steinar Fridthorsson, Ron Collin, and Ólafur Eliasson comment on the lack of crown and posthorn cancels seen on the official stamps of Iceland. Ole Svinth continues his illustration of single-frankings of the 1983 stamps of Iceland.

Peter Stommendal shows the earliest known use of the Coat of Arms Type II 12-öre in the November *London Philatelist*. The stamps were to be used effective on 1 July 1858, replacing the skilling banco issue. However, the 12-öre stamp, used on a cover sent from Philipstad to the Sparbanken in Helsingborg is tied with a box cancel clearly dated June 26.

In the same issue Jonas Hällström describes a parcel post experiment conducted in Göteborg, Sweden during the period 1970–1976. Two types of package service were offered, and in both cases a special 2-part form was used – one part attached to the parcel and the other part to the address card notifying the addressee. With the first type the addressee was notified to collect the parcel at the post office. The second type (for a higher fee) allowed the parcel to be delivered the same day or the first thing the next morning. Despite early interest in the service, patrons decided it did not meet expectations and the program was discontinued after five years.

Ebbe Eldrup shows uses of the Christian X issue of Iceland during 1902, the year when the stamps were released, in the December issue of *Iceland Philatelic Magazine*. Such early uses are scarce. In the same issue Brian Stwalley describes under-cover mail sent from Iceland to PO Box 506 in

Lisbon during WW2, along with the British censor form PC 85 in Icelandic explaining the involvement of Thomas Cook and Son.

Wilbur Jonsson begins a new series on Iceland covers to unusual destinations in the January *Iceland Philatelic Magazine*. In this issue he describes an 1898 postal card to Cape Town, South Africa and a 1902 card to Hangchow, China.

From Iceland

Ólafur Elíasson reviews the REBUTS manuscript and handstamp markings in the No. 36 (2017) issue of *Frimerkjablaðið*. The marking is used on mail that is not claimed or not known and returned to the sender. He shows use of the mark on covers and parcel cards. Guðbergur Magnússon shows a number of birthday greeting cards in the form of Iceland postcards.

From the Netherlands

Continuing his overview of Finland's 100th anniversary, Henk Fiolet summarizes the country's early history using photographs, correspondence, postcards and philatelic items in the September *Het Noorderlicht*. F.C.J.K. Hertel offers the second part of his series on Finland's definitive issues during this period.

From Norway

In July 2017 the Norwegian auction firm Skanfil sold an important Polar cover for about \$23,000. The 1936 letter was related to the East Greenland expedition by French explorer Paul-Émile Victor. The letter and its cover are described by Svein Holst Andreaasen in the issue 5/2017 of *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. In the same issue Dag Henriksbø reviews the Norwegian-American heritage of the town of Opheim, Montana, near the Canadian border. Peter Williams describes the Norwegian SS *Scotland* locals of 1895.

Trond Schumacher discusses the fieldpost of the Second Mountain Company in Finnmark during the period 1944–1945 in the September issue of *Norwegian War and Field Post Journal*. He shows examples of censored mail and many contemporary photographs.

Dag Henriksbø continues his descriptions of Norwegian place names in the USA in the issue 8/2017 of *Norsk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift*. This time he focuses on Larvik, Linton, and Temvik in North Dakota. Bjørn Hafsten illustrates what might be Norway's first airmail postmark. A flood

in the Gaula River in 1918 disrupted train service between Kristiania and Trondheim. A plane was obtained from Sweden and Hjalmar Riiser-Larsen flew mail on 7–8 July. However, a card or letter with the suggested cancellation has yet to be found.

From Sweden

Mårten Sundberg describes Åland's 1923 revenue issues in the September 2017 issue of *Bältespännaren*. Peter Lorentzon discusses the rare 5-öre Oscar II issue of Sweden printed in brown instead of green in the 6/2017 issue of *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift*. He describes the error in detail and shows several examples.

Peter Nordin offers the 32nd (!) installment of his series on etiquettes used on Swedish covers in the 7/2017 *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift*. He shows examples of insured and registered labels bearing the imprints of major users such as banks and manufacturing firms. In the same issue Kjell Nilson mentions a special study group within the Swedish postal history society that is developing a census of single frankings of the Tre Kronor (Three Crowns) issues.

Sven Lindell describes the use of Russian stamps of Finland in the early 20th century in issue 8/2017 of *Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift*.

From the United States

Christer Brunström presents an overview of the Danish West Indies in the 18 September *Linn's Stamp News*. 2017 marks 100 years since the United States acquired the islands, now known as the Virgin Islands. Matt Heller and Dan Ring, in separate articles in the third quarter 2017 issue of *Possessions*, published by the *United States Possessions Philatelic Society*, show examples of the Danish West Indies 4¢ bisect used in 1903.

Sergio Sismondo dwells on the postal reforms in Denmark in the 16 October *Linn's Stamp News*, especially during the 1840s, leading up to that country's first postage stamps issued in 1851.

Christer Brunström describes the Stockholm City Post that operated during 1887–1888 in that city in the 20 November *Linn's Stamp News*. Collectors seek the 16 varieties of these local post issues. Covers with these stamps are very desirable. The Stockholm City Post lasted only a short time. While it was efficient, it competed with the country's postal system and eventually was closed down.

The Posthorn 1/2018

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