

SCANDINAVIAN COLLECTORS CLUB COLORADO CHAPTER 27 NEWSLETTER

NOTIFICATION OF THE SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2024 MEETING AT 10:00 AM AT THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN PHILATELIC LIBRARY (RMPL)

Our regular monthly meeting will take place this Saturday at RMPL. Steve Nadler will give the feature presentation on "Maps on Stamps" and because of the topical interest of his subject, we are inviting members of Topic (**Topical Philatelists in Colorado**) to attend. This meeting will also be on ZOOM if you cannot attend in person, with the link from Even Brande being included in the e-mail distribution of this Newsletter. We will have our usual "Show-and-Tell" session with the subject matter being up to you. Members are reminded to ASAP submit scans of your items to Even (evenbrande@gmail.com) who will prepare them for presentation on RMPL's large screen. Breakfast sweets will be provided.

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SCC Chapter 27 June 1, 2024 Meeting Summary

The June 1 meeting was called to order at 10 AM by President Harry Pedersen with seven members in attendance. Roger Cichorz gave the Treasurer's report (\$290.79 cash on hand + \$856.13 in a CD). **New Business:** Pages for the SCC Chapter's one-frame exhibit in the Club competition at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show were returned at the meeting. (The Youth exhibit was awarded the best Club exhibit at RMSS.) Sergio Lugo had Covid and sent regrets that he'd miss the meeting. Even was absent as he was attending NORDIA 2024 in Langesund, Norway. **Show-and-Tell Session:** • Roger showed a document franked with Iceland stimpelmerki (documentary revenue stamps). • Eric Carlson showed mint and postally used sets of three of Iceland's 1952 mountain views airmail stamps (*Scott #s 27-29*). • Jeff Modesitt showed a selection of Danish Christmas seals that he purchased as a lot from the SCCL auction. • Steve Nadler showed a Norwegian July 7, 1943 registered cover from Oslo addressed to a member of the British Liberation Army. **Program:** Jim Kilbane gave a presentation on "Introduction to Denmark Locals" that encompassed its land posts and by posts. He showed representative examples of these stamps from his collection and noted SCCL has several authoritative reference handbooks on the subject. The meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM.

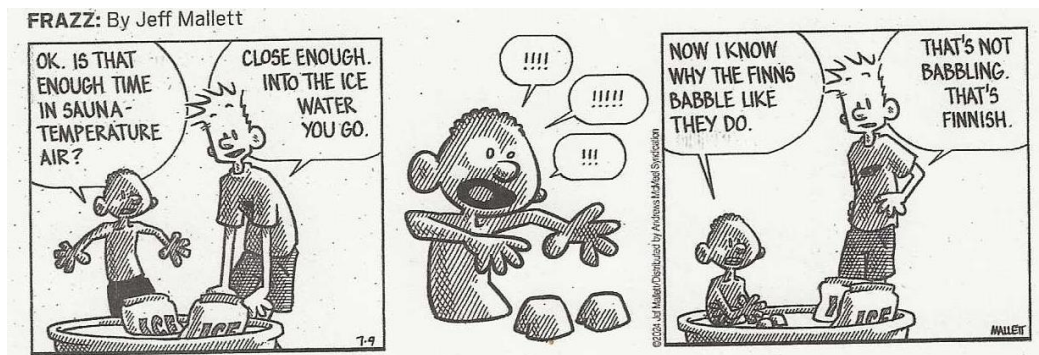
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S.C.C. Chapter 27 Treasurer's Report

\$1174.81	Previous Treasury Balance (5/7/24)
-\$26.29	breakfast sweets and bagels for June meeting
-\$1.60	printing costs for June 2024 Newsletters
\$1146.92	Current Treasury Balance (6/1/24)
\$290.79	Cash on Hand (6/1/24)
\$856.13	seven-month Certificate of Deposit at Elevations Credit Union, Boulder, CO (ECUBC) valued at \$856.13 was reinvested on 2/12/24 at 5.00% APY for seven months (maturity date of 9/12/24).

Prepared by Roger Cichorz, 6/1/24

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SCC Chapter 27 October 6, 2024 Meeting – Auction Lot Submissions Reminder

This meeting will be our popular semi-annual members' auction and Roger reminds everyone to e-mail your lot descriptions and starting bids to him by Thursday, September 26 so he has time to include them in the auction text portion of the October 6 Newsletter. This is not essential and members can always submit their lots the morning of the meeting.

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**Closed Album: Eugene S. "Geno" Brink
March 7, 1937 – May 25, 2024**



Eugene S. "Geno" Brink, (husband of Shirley) age 87 of Watertown, SD, formerly of Branson, MO passed away Saturday, May 25, 2024 surrounded by his family at Prairie Lakes Hospital in Watertown. A Celebration of Life service was held June 7, 2024 at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Watertown.

Eugene Stanley Brink "Geno" was born March 7, 1937 in Denver to Stanley and Gertrude Brink. Geno grew up and was raised in the Denver area. He graduated from Adams City High School, Commerce City, in 1955. While attending school, Geno met and fell in love with his high school sweetheart, Shirley McCracken. They were married at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Denver on June 22, 1957. Together they had three children.

Geno worked as a mail carrier for ten years while living in Colorado and also had his own lawn-care business. In 1975, Geno started his career as an insurance sales representative for AAL, which led him to move his family to Columbus, NE. He served as president of the National Association of Life Underwriters and also held many other positions in the insurance field.

For over 20 years, Geno and his wife, Shirley lived in Branson, MO where they enjoyed many adventures together. Geno enjoyed numerous hobbies throughout his lifetime, including gardening, stamp collecting, and classic cars. He had a love for clowns (meeting Red Skelton was a highlight of his). He was an avid sports fan, especially rooting for the Denver Broncos and the Nebraska Huskers. Geno loved music, singing and dancing. He loved singing in church and to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Geno was a true family man. He cherished his wife and treasured all the time he spent with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He enjoyed attending many of their activities. Above all, he had steadfast faith and was a true disciple of Jesus, always sharing his love for Christ with others. His family and friends will miss Geno's sense of humor, his contagious smile, and presence that would light up a room, but mostly the way he fiercely loved and cared for his family.

Geno is survived by his wife of nearly 67 years, Shirley; his daughter, Tammy Rohde (Dan McHugh); his son, Kurt (Heidi) Brink; eight grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; his brother Richard Brink, sisters-in-law, Patricia (Gene) Callahan and Audrey Mudd; along and many other special family and friends. He is preceded in death by his son, Andrew Brink, and his parents. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Editor's note: Geno was a long-time member of our Chapter, who did not attend our meetings because of driving distance (from Branson and Waterton). But he participated both as a buyer and seller in some of our Chapter auctions. I met him in person some years back when he was in Denver visiting his elderly mother. We met at RMPL and I gave him the Cook's tour of the SCCL and we then went on to Woody's for beer and burgers. Geno's collecting interests were primarily Denmark, Iceland, Greenland, and other Scandinavian areas. He specialized in Ålborg, Denmark, home of his ancestors – his collection of which included postal history, postmarks on stamps, and Ålborg's bypost and railway stamps. Over the past 20 years, we spent many hours on the phone and with e-mails discussing our respective philatelic interests, and I was always on the lookout for Ålborg items, which Geno would avidly pursue when I brought them to his attention. –RSC

News of Chapter 27 Members and GASS 2024

Sergio Lugo is the author of a 20-page illustrated feature article titled "Domestic Relations in a British Wartime Unit During the Napoleonic Wars" appearing in the Second Quarter 2024 issue of *Philatelic Literature Review*.

In that same *PLR* issue, Roger Cichorz contributed a summary of the activities over the past several months of the Scandinavian Collectors Club Library for the "Library News" column edited by Marian Mills, APRL Librarian. Roger regularly contributes to this column as it provides publicity for SCCL.

Congratulations to Steve McGill for his outstanding showing at the Great American Stamp Show (GASS 2024) held August 15-18 in Hartford, Connecticut. Read on for details of Steve's achievement.

McGill wins Champion of Champions award for his Marvelous Machins exhibit

BY JAY BIGALKE

Steve McGill was named the Benjamin and Naomi Wisnietsky World Series Champion of Champions award winner at the 2024 Great American Stamp Show Aug. 15-18 in Hartford, Conn.

The prestigious award recognizes McGill's 20th- and 21st-century exhibit "Britain's Marvelous Machins" as the top national exhibit of the past year.

McGill's exhibit was one of 21 qualifying exhibits in the Champion of Champions competition.

Each exhibit in the competition qualified by claiming a grand award at an American Philatelic Society-sponsored stamp show during the past exhibiting cycle, which ran from July 2023 through June 2024. These shows are called World Series of Philately shows.

All the exhibits entered into the competition were on display at Great American Stamp Show.

McGill's exhibit qualified after winning the grand award at the 2023 Indypex Show, part of the World Series of Philately, held Oct. 6-8 in Noblesville, Ind.

He received his Champion of Champions award at the Great American Stamp Show's annual celebration banquet on Aug. 17.

McGill's exhibit, as explained in its introduction, expounds on the significance of Britain's Machin series:



Steve McGill's exhibit "Britain's Marvelous Machins" won the top exhibit prize in the Champion of Champions competition at the 2024 Great American Stamp Show in Hartford, Conn. Photographs by Jay Bigalke.

"In 1967, the Machin definitive stamp series was introduced as the successor to the Queen Elizabeth II Wilding stamps and continues in print today. The Machin series is named for the artist, Arnold Machin, RA, OBE, who produced the bas-reliefs used as the basis for the stamp's image artwork. The series has become iconic not only for its long-running nature but also for its 7,000+ cataloged varieties. These varieties and their origins are the subject of this exhibit whose storyline is presented using predominately source-level stamps."

Among the many other top exhibiting awards presented at

Great American Stamp Show were the 2024 youth Champion of Champions award to Tabitha Fox for her "Blarney Castle" exhibit, the open competition grand award to Roger Brody for his exhibit "America's Embossed Revenue Stamped Paper," the single-frame grand award to Yavuz Corapcioglu for the exhibit "Postal Stationery of Russian Levant Post Office," and the literature grand award to Nicholas Miles Kirke for *New York City Foreign Mail 1845-1878* (Volumes 1-2).

Karl Winkelmann's exhibit "The Dublin Censor Office 1939-1945" was chosen as the most popular exhibit at the show.

Dawn Hamman won the grand award in the American Topical Association's National Topical Stamp Show for "All Aboard! A Grand Tour — American Style, 1915."

The ATA was a co-host of the Great American Stamp Show, and its National Topical Stamp Show was part of the event.

The American First Day Cover Society also was a co-host, and its Americover multiframe grand award went to James Hering for his exhibit "The Two Cent Hardings."

For additional information and the complete list of exhibit and literature award winners, visit <https://stamps.org/great-american-stamp-show>. 📧

In other GASS news, Tonny van Loij and Eddie Hackstaff manned the RMPL booth that was shared with SCC manned by Armagan Ozdinc. In the philatelic literature competition, Editor Tony Bard was awarded a Large Gold for SCC's *The Posthorn*. Only two Scandinavian-related stamp exhibits were entered in the show, both by SCC member Michael Schumacher: His "Iceland Stamps Printed by Courvoisier Printers – Color Proofs to Usage 1970-1979" was awarded a Large Vermeil and "The Match of the Century – A Philatelic Extravaganza" (about the 1972 World Chess Championship match between Boris Spassky (USSR) and Robert "Bobby" Fischer (USA) held in Reykjavík, Iceland, was awarded a Vermeil and received the NTSS "Most Popular Award."

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Chapter 27 Members' Classified Advertisements

As a no-cost service to all Chapter 27 members, your "buy, sell, or trade" classified ads can appear in future Meeting Notifications. Submit your copy to Roger at rcichorz@comcast.net. Also, take a look at the listing of Chapter members' collecting interests on the next page as you may have unwanted items others may be interested in!

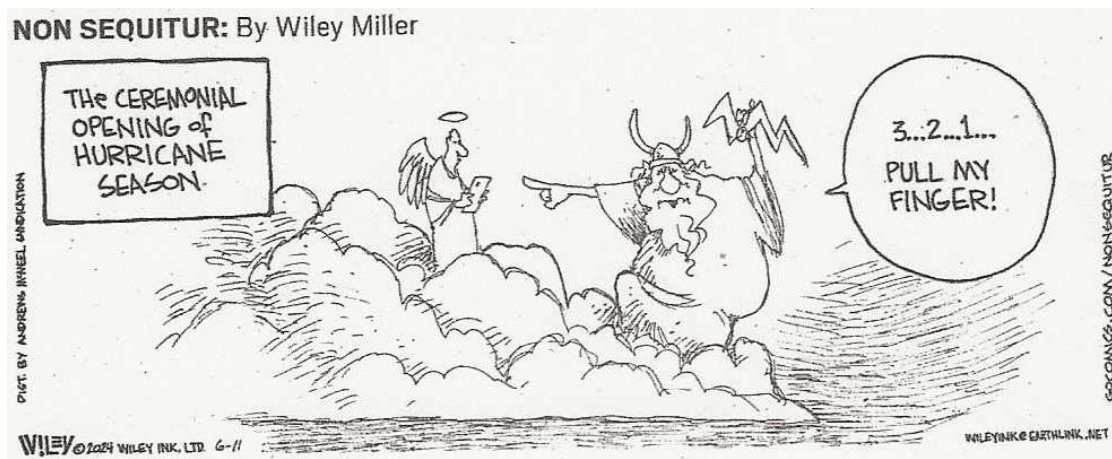
For Sale: My entire holdings of worldwide stamps and postal history (countries include Åland, Danish West Indies, Denmark with emphasis on star cancels & postmarks, Faroes, Finland with emphasis on village cancels, Greenland, Iceland, Sweden with emphasis on postmarks – also many non-Nordic countries) – worldwide postal history of various specialties and topics (including advertising, airmail & zeppelins, auxiliary markings, censored, consular, DOX, maps, military, perfin, pneumatic, postage dues, propaganda, RPOs/TPOs, ship mail) – U.S. postal history (including advertising, Colorado towns and RPOS, Doane cancels, expositions, foreign destinations, machine cancels with emphasis on flags, overrun nations, postal stationery, registered/insured, RFD, special delivers and town cancels by State) – miscellaneous (used and unused postcards, trade cards, "Dear Doctor" cards). I probably have some of the items you are looking for! Contact me to arrange for an appointment at my home. Steve Nadler, 9730 East 32nd Avenue, Denver, CO 80238, 303-638-3755 (cell phone), or schlomoX@msn.com.

For Sale: Roger Cichorz conducts regular quarterly auctions for the SCC Library, and all Chapter 27 members are on his auction distribution list. Roger will gladly accept literature and stamp donations to SCCL – SCCL is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit entity that will formally acknowledge donations, which may be to your tax advantage. SCCL Auction #73 closed July 31, 2024 with 20 bidders participating, 17 of whom were successful at winning one or more lots. 100 lots were offered at cumulative starting bids of \$2811.50, and 97 sold, realizing \$3197 versus their cumulative starting bids of \$2811.50. SCCL Auction #74 will occur in October with a closing date of October 31, 2024 and offer another 100 lots (50 literature and 50 stamps and covers).

Free Offer: Jay Smith sends via e-mail distribution a weekly Philatelic E-News that is chock full of stamp, cover, and literature offers available from his extensive stock. Also included in each issue is a "Behind the Scenes" Commentary, several of which have been reprinted in our SCC Chapter 27 Newsletters. Jay reminds members that these are available to you free upon request, so contact Jay at js@jaysmith.com and give him your name and e-mail address to start receiving issues of these weekly Philatelic E-News.

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Scandinavian Humor: Just another day in Valhalla...



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This space is available. Why not consider submitting something for next time?

Wanted: Contributions for future *Scandinavian Collectors Club Chapter 27 Newsletters* so that your Editor can continue to incorporate additional pages of items of interest each issue. Anything is welcome: brief articles, collection and exhibit pages, scans or color photocopies of your favorite stamps or covers (preferably with explanatory captions), Scandinavian humor, items for a "Questions and Answers" feature, etc. Submissions to rcichorz@comcast.net.

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Chapter 27 Members' Philatelic-Related Collecting Interests

List your collecting interests (all, not just Scandinavian) here for members to be aware of what you collect and possibly help with or bring attention to items of interest! **Contact Roger at rcichorz@comcast.net to amend your listing.**

- **Paul Albright:** Greenland and runs of worldwide correspondence to use as historical research material
- **Peter Bergh:** Denmark (in particular the bi-colors and 1882-1905 coat-of-arms series), Malmö and Lund locals, Ireland, and Great Britain QE2 predecimals and KGV Silver Jubilee
- **Even Brande:** Norway 1855 to the present cancelled & mint stamps, airmail covers to the U.S., FDCs, and U.S.A. 1847 to the present canceled & mint stamps, airmail covers, first-flight covers, FDCs, and Wyoming & Colorado covers
- **Eric Carlson:** United States, certain Great Britain (Wildings, Machins, and earlier sets of British Royalty), Sweden, Finland mint Wasa/Vasa issue (*Scott #111-18*), various sets of Denmark, Finland, and Norway, and lighthouses, golf, and baseball as topicals/thematics
- **Roger Cichorz:** Åland and Faroes postal history and revenue stamps, Iceland stamps and revenues, Denmark and Danish West Indies stamps, Lundy and Herm Island (stamps, postal history, and postcards), Abbott Pentothal "Dear Doctor" ad postcards, *HMS Montagu* postcards, and bonsai and puffin items as topicals/thematics
- **Jerry Eggleston:** primary interests = used Denmark, Danish West Indies, Greenland, Iceland, and Norway; secondary interests = Austria, Canada, Estonia, Finland, Great Britain, Greece, Hong Kong, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, and Sweden; postal history interests = Jo Daviess County, Illinois, and Summit County, Colorado
- **Jim Fredlund:** early Finland used stamps & 1980 to the present, and used Scandinavian & worldwide stamps 1985 to the present
- **Jim Kilbane:** Iowa and Colorado postal history, registered package envelopes, United States Post Office Department envelopes, revenues, cinderellas, and other miscellaneous
- **Severt Kvamme:** post-2002 used stamps of Åland, Faroes, Greenland, Iceland, and Norway
- **Sergio Lugo:** Danish West Indies, Iceland, Greenland, and many other non-Scandinavian topics and subjects beginning with South America, Puerto Rico, Cuba, and continuing throughout the world, including stampless Papal State covers, Lombardy Venezia, and extending to military postal history
- **Clark Lyda:** Norway, United States, Canada, and Europa
- **Steve McGill:** Great Britain Machins and GB postal mechanization (specialist level) and Antarctic, Austria, China (Republic and PCR), Faroes, Germany, Greenland, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Monaco, Sweden, and United States (fun-to-collect level)
- **Jeff Modesitt:** Denmark (general, postal stationery, and booklets, primary), Åland, Danish West Indies, Faroes, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden (secondary), Great Britain (general, postal stationery), New Zealand (general, penny universals, QEII, 1960 and 1980 definitives), and United States postal stationery
- **Steve Nadler:** all Scandinavian postal history (covers and postmarks), Colorado postal history, U.S.A. States (streetcar postmarks and covers, flag machine cancels, and advertising covers), worldwide (airmails, perfins on and off cover, pneumatic mail, overrun nations covers, and military mail), Afghanistan, France, Israel, Monaco, and Palestine
- **Randy Nilson:** WWII German SS and police mail, Finnish military mail, Colorado POW/internment camps, and WWII censored airmail/suspended service covers
- **Harry Pedersen:** United States (including revenues), U.S. Possessions, and 1840-1940 worldwide (including Scandinavia)
- **David Petersen:** Danish West Indies and Hawaii
- **Jay Smith:** France Merson issue – bicolored high-denomination stamps used in the 1900-1930 era and North Carolina postal history and postmarks from the beginning until the day after tomorrow.
- **Tonny van Loij:** Colorado, Colorado Territory, and Kansas Territory postal history, classical music (Bach, Beethoven, Mozart), opera buildings (stamps and postcards), European Union, NATO, European Security Council (KSZE), Thurn & Taxis European postal service from 1499 to 1864 (specializing in foreign destinations), and Scandinavian destinations handled by Thurn & Taxis during 1854-1867

A "Cover" Does Not Always Look Like a Cover

Source: Jay Smith's "Behind the Scenes" commentary in his June 6, 2024 edition of *Philatelic E-News*.

In my understanding of American-English philatelic terminology, a cover is a now broad term that originated from a very specific type of situation, but which has come to mean any postally related item (or its outer covering) that has gone through the mail. The key is that the "cover" is where one would find stamps (if any were used) and postal markings, etc. It is the outside "cover"ing of the mailpiece. [*Editor's note: Wictionary defines "mailpiece" (chiefly Canada and U.S.) as a piece of mail, that is, an item of (physical) mail; especially, an item of flat-envelope form as contrasted with an item of package form. Its etymology is mail + piece; part of the business jargon of postal services and mail marketers for more than a century, but not common among the general public until the 21st century. -RSC*]

The origin of the term "cover" comes from the days before envelopes were used. The sender of a letter would write the letter on a sheet of paper, then fold up the paper in such a way that the content was not visible from the exterior, and finally write the address on the outside of that folded letter. Often, paper was costly or in short supply, thus the message content and the mailing address were on opposite sides of the same sheet of paper. However, for people who could afford to use more paper and/or as machine-made paper became more available and less costly, a larger piece of paper or even two pieces of paper were used, thus the part bearing the mailing address was not directly on the backside of the message and thus the mailing part could be torn off or removed from the message part (depending upon how the folding had been done). The purpose of having more layers of paper between the outside and the message was for the privacy of the correspondents. For recipients of quantities of mail, storage space soon became a problem, thus removing the outer covering -- bearing the mailing address, postmarks, and potentially stamps when they were used -- from the actual message often resulted in a significant saving of storage space. Thus, the message (letter) and the "cover" became two separate items.

By the 1860s, pre-made envelopes became more available and affordable; by the end of the 1870s envelopes predominated. However, for the same reason of storage space, most recipients kept the messages (letters) and discarded the envelopes, or saved the envelopes for collecting purposes. However, the envelope was still considered to be the "cover".

While there were always other forms of mailed items, such as package wrappings, postal stationery cards and postal stationery envelopes were already in use in the 1850s and quickly became increasingly popular. Then by the 1890s private postcards (to which one would apply a stamp) were in use. In the fourth quarter of the 1800s, parcel mail became an increasingly used service, especially as "mail-order" purchasing developed. In the U.S., most parcels bore the mailing address and the stamps directly on the parcel. However, in many other parts of the world, including most of Europe, "parcel cards" were used. In those situations, the address would also have been written on the parcel wrapping, but the address, postal service information, and the stamps were all on a parcel card. Typically, the parcel card bore a serial number (often a numbered label) which was also written on or applied to the parcel itself. This system also allowed one parcel card to be the "control document" for a mailing consisting of multiple parcels all to the same address. Upon delivery, the recipient typically signed the parcel card and the post office kept that card as proof of delivery. [In some countries, after a few years, the post office would cut the stamps from the cards (and from other types of items such as postal money orders) and sell them as what we today call "kiloware".]

The question of "what is a cover?" comes up because, while we can probably all agree that all these forms of items that have gone through the mail are evidence of postal service, many collectors seem to assume that "covers" mean "envelopes" and they often ignore the "cover collecting" possibilities of items that are not envelopes.

Ignoring other types of (non-envelope) mail items is very unfortunate because many stamps and many categories of stamps were specifically intended to be used on mailpieces other than envelopes. In many cases, it is simply not possible to obtain certain stamps, or whole categories of stamps, affixed to envelopes -- they may have been rarely or never used on envelopes!

A great example of this situation is the parcel card. Some high denomination stamps were mostly used for parcel mail. Or special parcel post stamps were issued that were only used on parcel cards.

Here are some examples of modern Danish Parcel Cards:

[**https://www.JaySmith.com/Lists/Denmark/Denmark-Covers-Parcel-Post.html**](https://www.JaySmith.com/Lists/Denmark/Denmark-Covers-Parcel-Post.html)

[**https://www.JaySmith.com/Lists/Denmark/Denmark-Covers-1913-1928-Christian-X.html**](https://www.JaySmith.com/Lists/Denmark/Denmark-Covers-1913-1928-Christian-X.html)

[Note: To view these items, cut-and-paste the boldfaced-italicized text into your browser. -RSC]

Jay's Commentary concludes on the following page.

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Here are some Belgian parcel cards (they are actually on paper, not card stock), bearing their well-known railway parcel stamps, which were only used on such cards:

<https://www.JaySmith.com/Specials/World/World-Europe-Belgium-Covers-Railway-Parcel-Cards.html>

Parcel cards could be privately printed or obtained from the post office. They can include mailings with additional services, such as insurance or cash on delivery, etc., and one card can sometimes represent and bear the postage for multiple packages. There are different versions of cards over time. One can collect the stamps on the cards, in the same way as one would collect stamps on envelopes, or one can collect the different versions of the cards themselves. Also, certain postmarks/cancellations may only exist on such cards!



Frontside of a Danish Postonkrævnings Adressekort (Mail Delivery Address Card) for a package posted April 2, 1924 by Tjaldur Pharmacy in Thorshavn, Faroes, to Nordskalle, a small settlement on Eysturoy (aka Østerø, hence the "pr. Øre." on the bottom address line). [From the Editor's Faroes collection.]

Other forms of "covers" deserve just as much attention as the traditional envelope; they all represent evidence of the operation of the postal system (and usually the use of stamps). Don't overlook postcards (including picture postcards); postal stationery (postal cards, stamps envelopes, wrappers, aerograms, etc.); and other interesting items such as tags (that were tied onto items on which it would have been difficult to apply the stamps, etc.) In the "tag" category, there are bank tags (often bearing high-value postage for registered mail sending of large amounts of cash), film box tags/labels for films sent to/from theaters, sample and bulky-items tags which were tied onto bags, such as containing mining ore, or to items themselves such as skis, bags of seed, or machine parts, etc. And then there are parcel wrappings themselves which can actually be quite "rare" since they were usually discarded. The possibilities are probably endless.

In some other languages there are more applicable words for what we are discussing, along the lines of "mailpiece" or "item of mail", etc. In English, it would be nice to have a better, and less-limiting, less-specific, word than "cover". In Danish there is "postforsendelse". In Swedish there is "försändelse". In German there is "postsendung". Perhaps we have our English all-encompassing word already – "mailpiece" – but it has not come into common *philatelic* use to replace "cover". What do you suggest?

Collecting covers can be an extension of collecting stamps or a separate endeavor entirely. However you approach cover (or "mailpiece") collecting, you will be greatly rewarded!

Free Offer: Jay Smith sends via e-mail distribution a weekly Philatelic E-News that is chock full of stamp, cover, and literature offers available from his extensive stock. Also included in each issue is a "Behind the Scenes" Commentary, several of which have been reprinted in our SCC Chapter 27 Newsletters. Jay reminds members that these are available to you free upon request, so contact Jay at js@jaysmith.com and give him your name and e-mail address to start receiving issues of his weekly *Philatelic E-News*.

Iceland's 'unparalleled' volcanic activity could continue for decades

Source: Article by Laura Baisas, *Popular Science* June 26, 2024 on-line posting JUN 26, 2024

The eruptions on the Reykjanes Peninsula are 'an amazing opportunity for a volcano researcher.'

The volcanic activity that has rocked Iceland's Reykjanes Peninsula recently could be here to stay. An international team of geologists and volcanologists predict that recurring, similar, moderately sized eruptions will continue in the next several years and could last for decades. The findings are described in a study published June 26 in the journal *Terra Nova*

"After over 780 years of dormancy, volcanic activity has now led to eight individual eruptions on the Reykjanes peninsula over the last three years, which is associated with frequent earthquakes and plate boundary dislocations," Valentin Troll, a study co-author and volcanologist at Uppsala University in Sweden, tells *Popular Science*.



Left: *An aerial view of the lava flows from the Sundhnúkur volcano on June 3, 2024 on the Reykjanes peninsula near Grindavík, Iceland. The volcano has erupted five times since December 2023.*

Right: *A close-up of the lava from the 2024 Sundhnúkur eruption.*

Historically, Iceland sees volcanic eruptions about every three to five years. The most recent eruptions suggest that there is a potentially extended period of activity on the Reykjanes Peninsula, home to roughly 22,000 people, Keflavík International Airport, several geothermal power plants, and popular tourist destinations like the Blue Lagoon spa.

In the study, Troll and a team of researchers from six universities examined eruptions that began in 2021 in the Svartsengi-Fagradalsfjall-Krýsuvík area. The region has seen seven fissure eruptions since 2021. Instead of the eruption coming up from a central vent in a volcano, fissure eruptions occur when underground dikes filled with magma intersect the surface. They can then feed lava flows that can travel for miles, as it has in the area. The nearby fishing town of Grindavík has been completely evacuated several times since late 2023 due to the dangerous conditions.

The team used earthquake data and geochemical analysis of lava and samples of rock fragments ejected by the volcanoes called tephra. Based on previous eruptive behavior, they believe that this pattern is likely to continue. They also found an interconnected magma plumbing system beneath the peninsula. The geochemical and seismic data indicates that there is a magma reservoir about 5.5 to 7.4 miles beneath the Fagradalsfjall volcanic system. "It seems we are dealing with a main reservoir under the Fagradalsfjall volcanic system that has now also supplied the Svartsengi/Sundhnúkur volcanic system via a set of shallower magma pockets," says Troll.

This shared reservoir system instead of a larger peninsula-wide reservoir is why the team believes the eruptions will continue. "The latter [Svartsengi/Sundhnúkur volcanic system] is also the main heat source for the Svartsengi geothermal power plant that delivers electricity and hot water to Keflavik International Airport, and is a vital element of infrastructure that is now at risk," says Troll.

A previous study suggested that magma on the Reykjanes peninsula was fed directly from the mantle. This does not appear to be the case, since this new study found a series of smaller magma reservoirs in the Icelandic crust that can store magma before eruptions. "The good news is that the probability of many simultaneous eruptions on the peninsula is a little lower than would be the case if they were directly fed from the mantle," says Troll.

Article concludes on the following page.



The main cone from the 2024 Sundhnúkur eruption.

The team urges preparedness, largely due to the risk to some of the country's critical infrastructure. However, scientists are also able to study these forces in real time. "The current eruption episode is unparalleled in that we had now real opportunity to understand how Icelandic lava fields build up and how they assemble large flood basalt areas," says Troll. "Now we have the opportunity to witness processes, timescales and supply mechanisms firsthand – an amazing opportunity for a volcano researcher."

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Huge Rare Earths Discovery is Gamechanger in Americas Trade War with China

Source: Editor, *OilPrice.com*, June 20, 2024, submitted by Jay Smith.

At the height of the American war machine's realization that China controls nearly all of its raw materials, two new developments in Europe now suggest that the West has a fighting chance to secure critical metals for the future – a major discovery in Norway and a potentially game-changing acquisition in Greenland.

In mid-June, Norwegian mining company Rare Earths Norway unveiled one of the largest deposits of rare earth elements in Europe in the Fen Carbonatite Complex in the country's south. That discovery followed a vote in Norwegian parliament that paved the way for offshore, deep-sea mining of rare minerals in the country's remote northern waters, *Fortune Magazine* reported, making this the first country in Europe to allow such seabed mining activities.

At the same time, Critical Metals Corp (NASDAQ:CRML) announced an acquisition deal for what it believes is the largest critical metals deposit in the world, in Greenland. On June 10, Critical Metals Corp signed an agreement to acquire a controlling interest in Greenland's Tanbreez project, which it says is the largest rare-earth deposit in the world. Once operational, CRML expects it to supply Europe and North America. And on June 18 the company announced it had completed its initial investment for the Tanbreez acquisition, lending more confidence to the deal and further de-risking the transaction, according to a company press release.

Tanbreez is said to have over 28 million tonnes (*Note: tonne is a metric measurement where 1 tonne = 1000 kilograms = ~2200 pounds*) of total rare earth oxides, the company estimates internally, and nearly 30% of that is the most coveted "heavy" rare earth elements (HREE). Given the success of MP Materials (NYSE:MP), a \$2.2 billion market cap issuer that has a known resource of just under 3 million tonnes that is almost entirely light rare earth elements (LREE), CRML could be set for a significant valuation re-rate.

"Tanbreez is a game-changing rare earth mine for the West and a key step in positioning Critical Metals Corp as the leading supplier of critical minerals, CEO Tony Sage said in a press release. Rare earths metals are used in our everyday electronics, but without them, there will be no clean energy transition, and the U.S. will find itself at a weapons disadvantage – a fearful thought at a time of geopolitical upheaval spreading across Europe and the Middle East.

With Russia and NATO constantly dipping their toes over their respective "red lines" on Ukraine, Russia making flanking movements in northern Africa and the Israel-Hamas conflict causing shifting global alliances and calculations, rare earths metals draw a line in the sand in the next global conflict.

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