



The Bay Phil

A publication of Friends of the Western Philatelic Library, Inc.,
 an organization of philatelists assisting in the growth and maintenance of the
 Western Philatelic Library, 3004 Spring Street, Redwood City, CA
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VOLUNTEER WORK AT LIBRARY!

Due to popular demand one Saturday each month will be set aside for volunteers to visit the library and put in a few hours helping to work through our many tasks and piles of literature. The third Saturday of each month will be Volunteer Day. Here are the dates for 2016

July 16
 August 20
 September 17
 October 15
 November 19
 December 17

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Deceased

None

Moved

None

New

David Abrahams (CA) Life Member
George B. Weiss (TX) Life Member
Ronald L. Biell (CA)

Book Returns

The WPL exists as a resource for everyone. The lending policy is very lenient for anyone borrowing books or other items. Most members appreciate this service and use it well, including returning the items in a timely manner. However, a few overextend their borrowing time and stretch it to the limit. It makes more work and problems to the few volunteers that we have who need to chase down delinquent borrowers and call them for returns that are sometimes **years** old. Please check any of your borrowed books and return them so others might benefit from them. The alternative is one we don't like: the limiting of borrowers who are chronic extenders, by denying their borrowing privilege.

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Friends of the Western Philatelic Library, Inc.
APS Chapter 836

Preserving Philatelic History for the Future



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| Library Hours: | Tuesday | Noon to 5 PM |
| | Wednesday | 1PM to 4PM and 5PM to 7PM |
| | Friday | 10AM to 5PM |
| | Saturday | Noon to 5PM |
| | Web Site | www.fwpl.org |
| | Tear Sheet listing at Leonard Hartmann's Internet Web Site | www.pbbooks.com |

Editor's Corner

Well, the two big shows (WESTPEX and NY2016) are both over and both were, I think, huge successes.

NY was simple wonderful - world wide dealers, fantastic exhibits, great meetings.

For those of you who didn't attend either because you don't like the hustle and bustle of NY (especially the traffic - always terrible), your next opportunity to see an International Exhibition in the USA will be in 2026 in Boston. A web site exists for that show. Boston is somewhat tamer than NY - smaller city, less congestion and less hustle. It isn't too early to start thinking about attending - you'd be surprised at how fast the time will pass.

Of course, WESTPEX 2017 will soon be here. Are you making plans yet? I am.

This is your publication, not mine, and I am always open to suggestions for improvement. I may not implement all suggestions, but I will always read and evaluate them.

Tear Sheets return next issue.

Richard M. Hanchett, Editor

BOARD MEETINGS

Regular Board Meetings are open to all FWPL members. Meetings begin at 4PM the fourth Wednesday of each month at the WPL at the Redwood City location. Feel free to drop in and see what is going on. You might call President Stuart Leven, (408) 978-0193 beforehand to confirm details of location, time and date.

Mission Statement

The Western Philatelic Library exists to enhance the preservation and dissemination of philatelic knowledge by acquiring, organizing, interpreting and distributing information resources in a globally networked community.

WPL Vision Statement

We will be known as setting the standard for providing a responsive, convenient gateway to philatelic knowledge.

Our Commitments:

- To build and conserve a world-class collection of printed, electronic and other media;
- To support, extend and enrich the pursuit of knowledge and enjoyment through stamp collecting;
- To provide access and support for beginners, hobbyists, specialists, writers and postal historians;
- To promote knowledge through public educational events and displays; and
- To collaborate and cooperate with other libraries.

THE BAY PHIL

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

David McManee (CA) various philatelic handbooks
Stuart Levin (CA) various philatelic journals and stock books with stamps
Ed Laveroni (CA) philatelic publications and albums with stamps
Hugh Lawrence (CA) various philatelic books and catalogues
Douglas Gary (CA) Scott catalogues
Peter Hausknecht (CA) various philatelic periodicals and albums with stamps
John Warren (DC) cash, various philatelic periodicals and auction catalogues
Al Zulueta (CA) various philatelic periodicals, albums, stamps and auction catalogues
Richard Cleaver (CA) various philatelic books and auction catalogues
Erensto Cuesta (MD) various philatelic articles and tear sheets
Gary Mirsky (CA) various philatelic periodicals and auction catalogues
Michael S. Hart (CA) stamps and auction catalogues
Charles Drucker (CA) auction catalogues
James Oerding (CA) philatelic periodicals and auction catalogues
Matt Hedley () cash
Leo Martyn (CA) stamps, various philatelic publications and auction catalogues
Bill Balson () philatelic periodicals and auction catalogues
Wayne Menuz (CA) various philatelic periodicals and books and auction catalogues

CONGRATULATIONS

Alan Warren who has done an outstanding job over the years as our Book Reviewer has been selected as the APS' 2016 Distinguished Philatelist – an honor richly deserved!

Book Review: First Day Catalogue of US Stamps to Puerto Rico reviewed by Alan Warren

First Day Catalogue of US Stamps Related to Puerto Rico, 2nd edition, by Ronald H. González. 220 pages, 8 ½ by 11 inches, wire bound, card covers, self-published by author, 2015. \$50 postpaid in the U.S. from Ronald H. González, rongon17@comast.net.

The first edition of this catalog appeared in 2004 and contained 110 pages. The author has expanded those listings and added FDCs of new stamps that have issued since.

The catalog indicates the value for each cachet based on recent retail and auction pricing. Each entry begins with a page of data on the stamps like date and city of issue, denomination, color, printing method and format, number of stamps and FDCs issued, plate numbers, and some indication of scarcity of hand vs machine cancelling for both first and second day postmarks as well as unofficial cancels.

Each cachet is illustrated, identified with the author's own numbering system but cross-referenced to Mellone/Planty numbers where appropriate, and with major varieties noted. Second day cancels follow the first day listings. Unknown cachet designs are also noted. The listing for the 1937 Territorial Puerto Rico issue itemizes over 380 designs.

Additional stamps include the 1949 first gubernatorial election, 1971 450th anniversary of San Juan, the 1979 50-cent oil lamp stamp, the 1982 Juan Ponce de Leon, 1990 Luis Muñoz Marin stamp, the two 1989 pre-Columbian America issues, and the 1989 500th anniversary of Columbus' landing.

The 1998 set of four tropical birds stamps and a postal card issued in Ponce, P.R., and were

followed by the 2000 Roberto Clemente stamp and postal card. Also in 2000 the souvenir sheet of six values of the Probing the Vastness of Space appeared. The Literary Arts series in 2010 honored the poet Julia de Burgos, and in 2011 the Latin Music Legends featured Tito Puente.

In 2011 the Puerto Rico flag stamp was released in the Flags of Our Nations series, in 2012 the Distinguished American José Ferrer stamp appeared, and in 2012 the 20th century poet William Carlos Williams. In addition to FDCs the listings include ceremony programs, souvenir pages, postal service invitations, deck cards, and other associated items.

Most images are in color although a few black and white items derive from secondary sources. Some listings also indicate limited editions like 80 or 100 made. Some oddities are shown like a wood post card (misidentified as a "postal" card), double strike of a cancellation, autographed covers, and at least one pre-date.

A useful addition would be a cachet makers index.

However, for a type of thematic FDC catalog the work is nicely presented.



Western Philatelic Library Auction — Saturday July 30, 2016 — 1:00 PM

Lot Number Description Starting Price

1. Aden and So. Arabia— 1966-67, 5 souv. sheets, 44 mint and used stamps \$5.00
2. Asia— small box, 500+ of China (1900-1960), current Japan/Korea, off paper \$15.00
3. Australia—#1024a-e, #1027a-e; 2016 cat. \$7 used and mtd. on collector cards \$2.00
4. Australia—envelope full of mint sets, singles, blocks; 2016 cat. \$54.45 \$8.00
5. Bahawalpur/Pak— 72 mint mostly NH, 2016 cat. \$248.95 \$35.00
6. Canada—1969-78 mint blocks, Face \$74.09, est. cat. \$150+ \$20.00
7. China—100++ mint/used, 1880-1966, 2016 cat. \$86.65 \$7.00
8. Cuba—50 stamps m/u, 1855-1917, nice group, 2016 cat. \$87.60 \$15.00
9. Czechoslovakia—#1475-1480 mint set, Judaic treasures mtd for framing \$1.00
10. “ “ “ —1939-1944, 230 m/u, 2016 cat 128.60, near complete \$11.00
11. Denmark—102 used, 2016 cat \$37.85, small clean group \$4.50
12. DDR—1968 E. German (Abria) album w/400-600 m/u, 1948-1998, nice! \$20.00
13. Germany—1919-1939, 1000's m/u in Scott album, 2013 cat. \$1800++, (No DDR!) \$75.00
14. Great Brit—165+ used, 1960-80, cancels ,perfins, etc., cat \$60-80 \$8.00
- 14A. “ “ —1980-90 mint assortment, Guernsey booklets, etc., 2016 cat \$46.70 \$6.50
- 14B. “ “ —mint group of Elizabeth issues/booklets, 2016 cat \$20.60 \$5.00
15. Grenada—400+ m/u, 1860-1970, 2016 cat \$350-450 \$25.00
16. “ —#1540, mint NH sheet of 9 diff., cat. \$4.50 \$1.00
17. Guyana— 100+ m/u, 1960's, 2016 cat \$15.25 \$3.00
18. Hong Kong—#72/88, 2ct Edward fine used w/“D.P.” HK Daily Press (Yang \$50+) \$15.00
19. “ “ —200+ m/u, 1880-1970, 2016 cat \$450-550 \$50.00
20. India—#203-205 Ghandi set, mint, adhered to First Day folder, 2016 cat \$307.25 \$120.00
21. Indonesia—500+ used on piece in baggie \$3.00
22. Ireland—1922-79 used mtd.collection, incl regs/dues, 2016 cat \$669.65 \$100.00
23. Italy—collection to 1984, 520 m/u, 2015 est cat \$1500.00 \$90.00
24. Iraq—2050 m/u, 1920-70, 2016 cat \$1400-1600 \$90.00
25. Korea—mostly used lot of 100's, multiples, etc.; 2016 cat \$370+ \$25.00
- 25A. “ —105 m/u, 1959-1970, 2016 cat. \$295 \$40.00
26. “ —#804a, #805a mint NH(1971), 2016 cat \$50 \$14.00
27. Leeward Is.—430 m/u, 1890-1954, 2016 cat \$600-700 \$40.00
28. Malawi—120 m/u, 1964-69, 2016 cat est \$15-25 \$2.00
29. Maldives—111m/u, 1909-71, 2016 cat \$80-100 \$8.00
30. Mauritius—750 m/u, 2016 cat \$500-600 \$40.00
31. Montserrat— 180 m/u, 1904-71, 2016 cat \$40-60 \$4.00
32. Natal—230+ m/u, 1863-1908, cat \$800-900 \$90.00
33. Nepal—300+ m/u, 1907-66, 2016 cat \$150-200 \$15.00
34. Nigeria—380+ m/u, 1930-77, 2016 cat. \$250-300 \$25.00
35. No. Borneo—#35//MR1, 275-300 m/u, + 70 forgeries, 2016 cat \$215+ \$30.00
36. Norway—500+ used on piece in baggie \$3.00
37. Nyasaland—#2//112, 1908-63, 200+ m/u, 2016 cat \$89.20 \$15.00
38. Pakistan—550+ m/u, 1947-70, 2016 cat \$750-850 \$100.00
39. Philippines—500-1000 used on piece in a baggie \$10.00
40. Qatar—120+ m/u, 1957-74, 2016 cat \$175-225 \$18.00
41. Rhodesia—360+ m/u, 1890-1960's, 2016 cat \$300-375 \$22.00
42. “ —240+ m/u, “ “ , 2016 cat \$300+ \$20.00
43. Russia—envelope full of mint set,souv sheets, whole sheets, etc., 2016 cat \$58

44. Saar—420+ mint, 1922-59, 2016 cat \$400-450 \$40.00
45. St. Helena—180+ m/u, 1880-1970, 2016 cat \$225-250 \$20.00
46. St. Kitts-Nevis—330+ m/u, 1880-60's, 2016 cat \$200-250 \$22.00
47. St. Lucia—300+ m/u, 1880-71, 2016 cat \$100-150 \$12.00
48. St. Vincent—310+ m/u, 1902-1970's, 2016 cat \$90-110 \$8.00
49. Samoa—100-125 m/u, 2016 cat \$60.15 \$6.00
50. Sarawak—#8//208, several 100's m/u, 2016 cat \$125.30 \$15.00
51. Seychelles—#77//234, 200+m/u, 1938-56, 2016 cat \$81.65 \$10.00
52. Sierra Leone—700+ m/u, 1883-1967, 2016 cat \$412.05 \$20.00
53. Sharjah—100+ m/u, cat value \$187.60 (Scott 2016 and Michel) \$12.00
54. Singapore— 300+ m/u, 1950-80, #9a//346, 2016 cat \$158.80 \$18.00
55. Slovakia—150+ m/u, 1939-44 almost complete, 2016 cat \$203.44 \$20.00
56. Br. Somaliland—60 m/u, 1930-50, 2016 cat \$28.95 \$3.00
57. S.W. Africa— 78 m/u, 1923-73, #18a//J82, 2016 cat \$55.40 \$6.00
58. So. Rhodesia, etc.—300-400 m/u, 1924-70, 2016 cat \$352.80 \$25.00
59. Spain & Fernando Po—70 mint, 1967-70, 2016 cat \$27, sets and blocks \$4.00
60. Straits Settl—#93//258, 200-250 used, 2016 cat \$219.25 \$12.00
61. Swaziland—#10//160, 150-200 m/u, 2016 cat \$116.10 \$14.00
62. Tanzania— 1000-1200 m/u, postally used, 2016 cat \$200-250 \$10.00
63. Transvaal—#122//J3, m/u, 225+ stamps & 250+ forgeries, reprints, cancels; cat \$205 \$15.00
64. Trinidad & Tob—500-6— m/u, Trin #69//T&T #394, 2016 cat \$210.65 \$25.00
65. Uganda—#79//120 m/u, 1962-69, 2016 cat \$44.90 \$3.00
66. Yugoslavia— 450-500 m/u, cat est \$140-160 \$4.00
67. Zambia— 800-1000 m/u, cat est \$158+ \$10.00
68. WW—35 souv. sheets, nice group, list encl., 2016 cat \$100.70 \$10.00
69. WW—Several 100's on pages, all foreign, examine \$6.00
70. WW—box of several 1000's foreign, on/off paper, good mix \$12.00
71. WW—Misc. album pages w/ stamps, 2016 cat. \$287.45, examine \$15.00
72. WW—1000-1200 foreign used on piece in two baggies \$5.00
73. WW—1000+ foreign used on piece in two baggies \$5.00
74. WW— 4 albums with several 100's m/u stamps \$3.00
75. WW—New Ideal album (1936), Scott cat \$582++ \$60.00
76. WW—Two albums, 1000's of stamps, US mint cat \$15-20, examine! \$35.00
77. WW—Academy World album, green binder, 325 used stamps \$1.50
78. WW—Statesman Album, 3000+ stamps incl US, mostly used \$15.00
79. WW—65 Golden replicas, US stamps on FDC's, + 13 event and FDC's \$10.00
80. WW—7 old albums w/stamps, EXAMINE! \$4.00
81. WW—2 youth albums (1940-45 era) with stamps, cute! \$1.00
82. WW—English Tea tin replica with 100's m/u foreign \$2.00
83. WW—Europe, 1000-2000 stamps on album pages, plus some misc.—examine \$15.00
84. WW—9 pages of m/u stamps, foreign/US, better Neth and British \$3.00
85. WW— Old approval book w/100's of WW, 1890's-1950 \$5.00
86. WW—12 old approval/stock books/albums—examine \$35.00
87. WW—213 stamps, cat. \$209.05, Sudan, Siam, Vietnam, Antigua/Bahamas, etc \$30.00
88. US, Grenada/Gren.—mint in album, cat. \$6.85 \$2.00
89. US— 77 Souv. pages, #SP711-SP875, USPS binders/pgs, cat \$295, +some P.C.'s \$30.00
90. US—Souv. pages (1988-92), 106 total, 2016 cat \$482.75, list attached \$30.00

91. US— “ “ (1988-89), 40 total, 2016 cat \$174.25, USPS album/pages \$15.00
92. US—Celebrate the Century, USPS album w/#3182-85sheets + comm set (Face \$25) \$16.00
93. US— “ “ “ “ “ w/#3182-91sheets, cat \$123, face \$49 \$30.00
94. US— Scott Amer. Album, few 100’s m/u, 2016 cat \$607++, examine \$25.00
95. US—Liberty Album to 1981, cat est \$300++, Face \$66++ \$25.00
96. US—Scott Amer. Album to1980, m/u, cat est \$1300+, face after 1945 = \$62 \$115.00
97. US—State birds/flowers (#1953-2002) complete, nice album, cat \$62.50 \$4.00
98. US— “ “ “ “ , 26 of 50 on beaut pgs, Post. Comm. Soc., face \$5.20, cat \$14.30 \$4.00
99. US—20 pounds/on/off paper mix in large plastic container \$30.00
100. US—shoebox full, 1000’s mostly off paper, sorted 1960-1980’s \$2.00
101. US—#147,158,207, etc—lot of 500+ used, examine, cat \$500+ \$15.00
102. US—“StampShow” produced cards, 11 from 1980-90 era \$1.00
103. US covers—Postal Comm Soc FDC album w/200 cached FDC’s \$12.00
104. Covers—Fleetwood facsimiles of rare covers in color, 46 diff (1977) \$4.00
105. “— 8 USPS FDC’s still Agency wrapped, 2 sheets, 2 souv. sheets, +++, cat \$51 \$6.00
106. “— File box, 1000+ covers, cancels, precancels, postage dues, cert., (1950-80) \$25.00
107. “—Read. Digest FDC’s, 36 US, 12 UN unaddr., 1958-84 \$3.00
108. “— States of the Union album, 50 unaddr., cat \$75,#1633-86 \$6.00
109. “— 75-100 world covers- Philatelic mail, etc. \$7.00
110. “— Netherlands—9 postcards w/ Dutch themes, 1908-1917 + (1) 1964 card \$2.50
111. “— Germany, ad card w/ 4 fac. stamps & German post scene, Emerson piano \$4.00
112. “— Gr. Brit., 2 RMS Queen Mary 1st trip covers, 5/20 & 5/27/36, cach. cat est \$70 \$15.00
- 113 “— 41 Brit Col official/OHMS/etc. world covers, postal stationary, etc. \$9.00
- 114 “— Brit used stationary (8), + 3 stamped items, 1887-1940’s, examine, Nice! \$7.00
115. “— Br. Empire, 20 covers, OHMS censor, Nepal, India, Ceylon,Burma, etc. \$2.00
- 116 “— Netherlands, 34 covers, postal cards, etc.—1900-1960 \$12.00
- 117 “— 300+ foreign covers, 1890-2010, nice material \$20.00
118. “— US, 250+covers 1930-1960, great cancels & cachets, business, etc. \$15.00
119. “— 200 assorted US covers 1920-1950 \$6.00
120. “— Oregon cancels, meters, etc. 1900-1960 several 1,000’s, 2 small boxes \$10.00
121. “— Oregon covers, 300-400 business, cachets, etc. 1940-1960, nice group! \$15.00
122. “— US covers, 500+ 1920-1960, Cert.,Reg, cancels, etc. Interesting group \$20.00
123. “— US, 1840(?) stampless NY to Mt. View, CA \$5.00
- 124 “— US, 75 older, better Special Event, mostly 1930’s; est. cat. \$100+ \$15.00
125. “— US AAMS, 72 listed covers, AAMS cat \$492 \$40.00
126. “— US 38 diff.,Antarctica, Alaska, Guam, P.R., C.Z., ship & APO, est. cat. \$60-70 \$8.00
127. “— US 32 postcards/covers, 1900-1913. Better items; est. cat. \$40+ \$6.00
128. “— US, 39 CA related covers, FDC’s, events, towns, Air Mail Wk, est. \$80-100 \$20.00
129. “— US, 96 state covers, events, FDC’s, etc. Cat. est. \$100-120 \$16.00
130. “— US, 53 APO/WWII covers, Nice APO cancels, cat. est. \$120-150 \$25.00
131. “— US, 86 train & RPO covers, 1906-1958, all F-VF, cat. est. \$120 \$25.00
132. “— US, 28 Naval covers 1930-1960’s, launches, port cancels, voyages, cat. est \$100 \$20.00
133. “— US, 10 Flag cancels, 1902-1918; cat. est. \$25 \$6.00
134. “— US, 54 FDC’s: (15) 1934-1948, (39)1945-1978; cat. est. \$100 \$15.00
135. “— US- 17 1st Flt/special flight covers,1930-1940’s,some AAMS unlisted; cat.est.\$50- \$10.00
136. “— US- 69 1st Flt., Hawaii, So.Pacif.,AAMS cat. est. \$1090; Beautiful group! \$200.00
138. “— US- 30 better items, 1860-1880’s, early CA & IL, etc; nice cancels; cat est \$120 \$30.00

140. "— US- 62 covers, some better, 1890-1930; cat. est. \$55 \$10.00
141. "— US- 82 stamped env. + wrap.; P.C., FDC; mostly mint, some cat. \$20+each \$40.00
142. Misc.- box of old albums, no stamps, 2 nice spring-back album covers \$3.00
143. Misc.- box of stamp & postcard albums, US albums, etc. \$6.00
144. Acces. - box of empty albums/Scott Int'l Part III (1928-35); almost new; \$3.00
145. Acces.- 8 US special collectors books/albums, used; FDC and others \$5.00
146. Acces. - 6 empty albums; one is for mint mini sheets \$2.0
147. Acces. - 9 empty albums; 2 w/ plastic stock pgs.; 3 w/ slip cases; 2 Lighthouse binders \$10.00
148. Acces. - Scott album pgs. for US Revenues (yellow envelope) \$5.00
149. Acces. - New Scott album w/ dust cover; pages to 1995; Russia & Republics; Nice! \$10.00
150. Acces. - Scott Specialty album cover w/ slip case; New!! \$15.00
151. Acces. - Scott Specialty- Portugal & colonies; Part I & II; pages to 1995 w/ slip cvr. New! \$20.00
152. Acces. - New Scott Liechtenstein album, slip case, Part I pages 1912-96 \$20.00
153. Acces. - New Scott Falkland Is., slip case, pages up to 1996 \$20.00
154. Acces. - New Scott France album, slip case, pages to 1994, Part I-IV \$40.00
155. Acces. - New Scott Luxembourg album, slip case, pages to 1996. Part I-IV \$25.00
156. Acces. - New Scott album Belgium, slip case, pages to 1995, Part I-III \$40.00
157. Acces. - Two Scott Spec. album binders, used in VF condition \$10.00
158. Acces. - Scott Spec. album w/ slip cover in VF cond. \$15.00
159. Acces. - Scott Spec. album binder w/ slip cover in VF cond. \$15.00
160. Acces. - Scott Spec. album covers (5), classic brown, never used; square posts \$40.00
161. Acces. - Scott Nat'l album, slightly used; cover worn; + spare spec series cvr. (1.5") \$6.00
162. Acces. - Scott Spec. album cover; 3 ring binder type; new condition! \$8.00
163. Acces. - Stanley Gibbons, red Simplex Blank Album, new and unused \$8.00
164. Acces. - Box of stamp mounts- Harco, Marlate, Crystal - black & clear, 14 pkgs. \$10.00
165. Acces. - Box of pages, quadrille, 3 hole + other types; must examine \$2.00
166. Acces. - 2 cartons of 3-ring binders \$1.00
167. Acces. - 2 cartons of 3-ring binders \$1.00
168. Acces. - 2 cartons of 3 ring binders \$1.00
169. Acces. - 2 cartons of 3-ring binders \$1.00

Note: Auction will be held at the Western Philatelic Library, 3004 Spring Street, Redwood City, CA

**** Mail Bids should be sent to FWPL, P.O. Box 2219, Sunnyvale, CA 94087-2219.**

Send mail bids in early!

Auction will start promptly at 1PM, July 30th

[Tear Sheets will resume in the next issue of *The Bay Phil* - ed.]

Book Review: Die Postgeschichte Finnlands, Teil 1 reviewed by Alan Warren

Die Postgeschichte Finnlands, Teil 1 (The Postal History of Finland, Part 1), by Wolf Hess. 96 pages, 8 ½ by 11 ¾ inches, hard cover, in German, FG Nordische Staaten, Oranienburg, Germany, 2015. €22.50 plus postage; ordering details from Roland Daebel, Stolzenhagener Weg 4, 16515 Oranienburg, Germany, or info@nordische-staaten.de.

The Forschungsgemeinschaft Nordische Staaten (Nordic Countries Study Group) in Germany publishes a journal with reports of research on the stamps and postal history of this area. An added benefit for members is receipt of the occasional monograph issued by the organization. The latest of these is Wolf Hess's first part on the postal history of Finland, from the beginning until the end of 1844.

The first section covers the handling of mail during the Swedish occupation for the period 1638 to 1809. The first method was the courier post or private delivery of mail by runners or horse rider, followed by sexton mail or correspondence by church officials. Paralleling these systems was the Crown Post whereby royal notices and other communications were carried and delivered by peasants.



Crown Post mail is often marked with manuscript drawing of “crown” symbol markings, and later used feathers affixed with wax to denote express or urgent delivery. Thus these systems in Finland reflect similar ones that were being used in Sweden at the same time. In the mid-17th century the General Post was established with a more formal system that included the delivery numbers in the upper right corner of the cover, and the establishment of set rates.

The author provides wonderful rate tables at this point, for which postal history collectors will be indebted. These include rates between Stockholm and major Finnish destinations during the period 1638 to 1786, and Finland domestic rates from 1705 to 1747. This section ends with an 1807 Swedish rate table for internal delivery between various Finnish towns.

The second section of this monograph discusses the handling of mail from 1809 when Finland became a Grand Duchy of Russia. Straight line and boxed cancels were introduced. Again, important rate tables are provided beginning with domestic rates for the period 1810 to 1816, followed by new ones covering the period 1816 to 1840. The importance of Åland in the routing of mail between Sweden and Finland is discussed in some detail.

A table of straight line cancellations with their periods of use is reproduced from the *Norma* catalog. Another domestic rate table covers the period 1841-1844, and a final table lists rates to European cities for the period 1822 to 1843. The book ends with a bibliography and an index.

This work is especially important for the rate information that is not easily found elsewhere. Thus the postal history significance of Hess's book cannot be overstressed. Pre-stamp mail in Finland is well served with this book.

Book Review: Die Postgeschichte Finnlands, Teil 1 reviewed by Alan Warren

Murmansk Konvoiene 1941-1945 by Erik Lørdahl. 60 pages, 8 ¼ by 11 ¾ inches, saddle stitched, in Norwegian, Tårnåsen, Norway, 2015. ISBN 978-82-92826-05-8, ordering details at www.warandfieldpost.com.

The Arctic Convoys serving Murmansk and Archangel, Russia, during WW II, brought lend-lease materiel to the Soviet Union. This is their story using historic photos and postal history. The vessels plied the North Atlantic and Barents Sea, with constant threat from German submarines.

The first convoy sailed in 1941 from England via Iceland to Russia and was code-named *Dervish*. After that the sailings were given code numbers beginning with QP or PQ depending on whether they were going to or from Russia. The code prefix changed for each year of the war.

The author summarizes some of the key events that occurred during the war involving the convoys, taking them chronologically with each passing year. The Norwegian merchant fleet played a key role in these operations. Mail is shown from Russian, American, British, and German participants with many of the items censored depending on origin, destination, and routing.

Photographs and picture postcards of various marine craft, both transport supply vessels as well as escort ships, bring a sense of immediacy to the reader and supplement the examples of mail to help tell the story. The massive supply effort succeeded despite the loss of some ships. About 7.5% of the supply tonnage was lost over the 5-year period of the convoys. 1943 was a fortunate year with all vessels making it through.

A brief list of literature sources is provided, and credit is given to a number of collectors who provided some of the covers for illustration. One appendix lists the Norwegian ships in the convoys and the London ship cachet numbers. Another appendix lists the convoy numbers by year, their point of origin, the total number of ships and the number sunk. A list is provided of the U-boats that were sunk during the convoys, and a final appendix gives the letter codes for all Allied convoys during the war.

Author Lørdahl was hospitalized with terminal cancer as the publishing arrangements for his book were being finalized. He was able to help with last minute changes and corrections. The printer delivered the books the day that Erik died. He has left an important document for the benefit of postal historians.



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