



The souvenir sheet pictured above is Great Britain's Europa contribution for 2011 (actually, just the stamp in the upper left). Apparently the folks at the Royal Mail read the Europa News and took note of the "Crossover" article (in EN#399). How else to explain that the sheet bears not just the Europa logo but that of the WorldWide Fund for Nature (WWF) as well? One other possibility is that 2011 is also the 50th anniversary of the WWF. It will be interesting to see how album makers handle this. I personally hope that they include the full sheet, as it is quite striking. I expect that this one will be very popular. As I write this there is no mention of it on the [Groth AG web site](http://www.groth.com) so I can't say whether it is part of the official WWF stamp series. The sheet is scheduled for release on 22 March. ■

It's official. The ESU will hold a Unit meeting - open to all, members and non-members alike - at

The Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition (PNSE, formerly SEPAD for those with a truly long memory).

The show is being held from 1-3 April (Friday thru Sunday) at the **Greater Philadelphia Expo Center** in Oaks, PA, near Valley Forge.

The show website is <http://www.pnse.org/>.

The ESU meeting will be held on Saturday (2 April) at 1 pm.

Recommended hotel: Home-wood Suites Valley Forge Hotel.

The hotel is a short drive from the Expo Center (roughly 2 miles) so carpooling is a fun way to get there.

Let us know your plans.

ESU MEMBER OPINION POLL-EUROPA STAMPS 2010

Europa Study Unit members have voted, and the results are in—Hungary wins first place, in line with the results from a similar poll conducted by PostEurop. One significant difference between the polls, however, is that the Europa Study Unit members voted on most popular Country (i.e. set of stamps) whereas PostEurop members voted on a single stamp only.

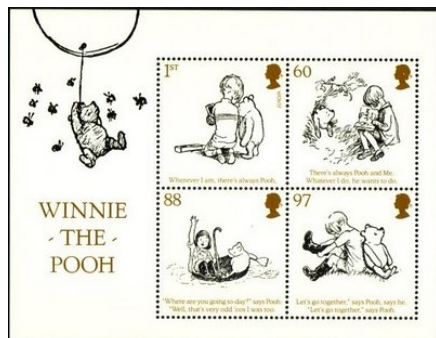
So, ESU members voted for the miniature sheet, while PostEurop voters chose just the reclining bear stamp. Second place went to Great Britain for its Winnie-the-Pooh issue, and in third place was a very colorful set from Italy featuring "Pinocchio" in his various incarnations, and the cartoon mouse "Geronimo Stilton". ■



NEW ISSUES

Below are the second and third winners in our ESU poll;

2nd place—Great Britain for its Winnie the Pooh issue



3rd place—Italy, for Pinocchio and Geronimo Stilton



Your vote results have been sent to Linn's Stamp News to share with their readers. ■



**INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF FORESTS • 2011**



Below are illustrations we have for more upcoming issues that we have not yet shown in EN. As these come in we will show them in future issues. See page 3 for a running tally of what we have so far, courtesy of "euroswiss".

JERSEY—
two stamps
from a 4-
stamp set

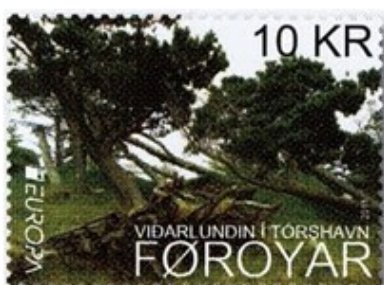


SWEDEN—
tenant pair,
presumably in a
booklet

GREENLAND—two
stamps. Issued in
sheets and booklets
(see page 9).



FAROE ISLANDS—two
stamps.



ICELAND—two
stamps.



NEW ISSUES


**INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF FORESTS • 2011**


From our friend at the [Europa blogspot](#) comes this list of anticipated new issues for the 2011 Europa series. So far, none of the Europa designs has incorporated the UN logo shown above for the International Year of Forests, although that may change as the year unfolds. I wouldn't be surprised to see it in the selvage, if not on the stamps themselves.

If you are looking at the online edition, the underlined countries are hyperlinks to further descriptions on the blog site:

- 17.01.2011 [Greenland](#) - 2 stamps (9.- & 10.- DKK)
- 08.02.2011 [Jersey](#) - 2 stamps (0.45 & 0.55 GBP) out of a set of 4 stamps
- 17.03.2011 [Iceland](#) - 2 stamps (165.- & 220.- ISK)
- 22.03.2011 [Great-Britain](#) - 1 stamp within a souvenir-sheet of 4 stamps (see page 1)
- 24.03.2011 [Sweden](#) - 2 stamps (2x 12.- SEK)
- 04.04.2011 Spain - 1 stamp (0.65 €)
- 04.04.2011 Andorra (Spanish post) - 1 stamp (0.65 €)
- 08.04.2011 Latvia - 2 stamps (0.55 & 1.20 LVL)
- 21.04.2011 Montenegro - 2 stamps (2x 0.90 €) and 1 souvenir-sheet (1.80 €)
- 23.04.2011 Lithuania - 2 stamps
- 26.04.2011 [Faroe Is.](#) - 2 stamps (10.- & 12.- DKK)
- 28.04.2011 Estonia - 2 stamps
- ??.04.2011 Belarus - 2 stamps
- ??.04.2011 Bulgaria - 2 stamps
- ??.04.2011 San Marino
- 04.05.2011 Czech rep. - 1 stamp (17.- CZK)
- 04.05.2011 Denmark - 2 stamps
- 05.05.2011 Croatia - 2 stamps
- 05.05.2011 Switzerland - 1 stamp (1.- CHF)
- 05.05.2011 Russia - 1 stamp
- 05.05.2011 Germany - 1 stamp (0.55 €)
- 05.05.2011 Ireland - 2 stamps
- 06.05.2011 Slovakia - 1 stamp (0.90 €)
- 06.05.2011 [Finland](#) - 2 stamps (2x 2nd class value)
- 09.05.2011 Hungary - 1 souvenir-sheet
- 09.05.2011 Turkey - 2 stamps (0.80 & 1.10 TRY)
- 09.05.2011 [Åland](#) - 1 stamp (EU value)
- 09.05.2011 Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 09.05.2011 Italy - 2 stamps
- 26.05.2011 Guernsey
- 27.05.2011 Slovenia - 2 stamps (0.49 & 0.92 €)
- ??.06.2011 Austria - 1 stamp
- 10.06.2011 Norway - 2 stamps
- 27.06.2011 Gibraltar
- 19.09.2011 [Belgium](#) - 1 souvenir-sheet of 2 stamps (2x EU value 3)
- ???.2011 Kazakhstan - 1 stamp
- ???.2011 Ukraine - 2 stamps
- ???.2011 Bosnia and Herzegovina (Serb post) - 2 stamps

We have added another friend in Europe to our ring of Europa enthusiasts. On our main site you will now find a link to a Europa blog at the Czech Republic. Please take a look. It's <http://www.euro-phila.blogspot.com/>.

Correction: Sharp-eyed ESU Member Glenn Roehrig writes

"Using a magnifying glass in good lighting, I discovered that the set of two Norway stamps have EUROPA in the official logo microprinted faintly on the left edge of the stamp in the center. According to the posten.no website, the stamps depict illustrations from children's books, so they are in fact EUROPA stamps."

Glenn is absolutely correct. My bad. The two Norway stamps shown below are in fact the Europa stamps for 2010, issued 15 November 2010, the same date as their Christmas issue.



The scenes are from the series of children's books "Grandma and the Eight Children" by Anne-Cath. Vestly. The stamps were illustrated by her husband Johan.

The first of the seven books in the series was published in 1957. The books are about a family who move from a tiny urban flat to a red cottage in the forest, in a Norway in which having a phone installed was an adventure. All of her books use positive storytelling to encourage good attitudes in children. ■

Member Alex Cwiekalo writes:

Ref: Europa Briefs EN 401-4.:

On the PostEurop website at the bottom of the *Brief History of Europa Stamp* article there is a picture of the logo with the mailbox and the statement "By January 2011, the new EUROPA logo, preceded by a symbolic reminder of the mailbox, will apply. So your assumptions are correct."

Thanks Alex, and my apologies for misspelling your name in the last issue. It must be my keyboard. It keeps making missteaks. ■

Comments from your membership renewals

Don Smith sent along a listing of your comments that you all kindly included with your renewals. Here-with is a distillation of what you told us.

Your observations on the individual sets, theme and the year as a whole

Many of you said "good, colorful, very nice, interesting theme" but there were some voices of concern. To wit:

"I don't collect year groups past ~1985 except for the individual countries."

"Stopped Europas in 2000 – too expensive"

"Too many issues in too many variants, also from countries outside Europe."

"I am distressed at the increase of countries/stamps. I'm hard pressed to keep up. Now I collect only a few years."

So, are the countries killing the golden goose? There's not much that PostEurop can do about the number of countries. But the collector can certainly choose not to buy stamps that are not from European countries (this was mostly just a problem with the 50th anniversary issues), or perhaps limit their collection to just EC countries. No law says you have to collect everything.

As for varieties, this does seem to be getting out of hand. Most, but by no means all, of this seems to emanate from the Eastern European countries (see related article in this issue). I've watched Lighthouse try to cope with this over the years. Their answer has been to provide spaces for major varieties (such as different sizes) but not special sheets and the like.

When the UK countries starting issuing sets for which only 2 stamps were Europa, Lighthouse at first left enough space to mount the others. They stopped doing that and now only provide space for the Europas. I understand why they did it, but since most of us have to buy the whole set anyway, it's nice to have a place to mount them. My answer - I create my own page for the remainder and—borrowing a line from the late Paul Harvey—call it "the REST of the story."

How can we make the Unit or the Europa News better?

This generated a lot of comments, many of which were along the lines of "Can't think of a thing." Still others re-affirmed how much of a hit the color made, and some of you said that the switch to the Arial font was a good move. Again, no negatives (wow!) but some good constructive suggestions:

"You've already made significant improvements with color and content this year."

Not everyone was enthralled with color, though.

"Color is good, but I really don't need it."

I like the *News* for the articles and writ-
ten word."

"More background on lesser-known areas, such as background to events or themes marked by commemorative postmarks; in other words, going beyond Scott and Michel."

Great comments. We're working on that.

"More stories." "More news about new issues." "Perhaps report on price movements of Europa Issues"

We'll definitely work on the first two. All our officers - and more and more members - are helping with articles, and getting new issue info is becoming easier thanks to the internet. As for price movements, we'll need some help with that one. Can anyone volunteer with that?

"Try to put the new issue supplements vertical on the page instead of horizontal, like the "old" handbook pages."

Your officers are having lively discussions on this subject. Please do not hesitate to send us your views. Again, email is fine.

"Possible to have the auction info on a separate sheet so I don't have to destroy the issue? Or put the auction on the website only?"

Done deal. See last issue.

"The articles are interesting and the format of 'Europa News' is extremely attractive and well done."

Message received. We won't mess with the format (at least not much).

How are we running the Unit?

We got a lot of superlatives on this one (e.g., "great", "wonderful", "Keep up the good work.") and *no* negatives, so our heads are swelling. Thank you. One thing was clear - most all of you liked the color - so we will strive to do as much of that as our budget will allow.

A number of you said that higher dues would be ok if that meant we could continue the color. One member even said that we could go up to \$30-\$35 per year. As treasurer, that is tempting, but speaking as Editor I hesitate to do that, for fear of the potential drop in membership. We need more members, not fewer.

Robin Crowley set the original Unit dues at \$1 so that this would not be a factor in deciding whether to join. For me at least, it worked. I was a teenager when I joined the Unit and have been a Europa collector ever since. So far, your donations and Don's auctions have been keeping us afloat.

Oh. A couple of you said that you would be glad to help in some way if you could. To you we say "Thank you!!!" Please send a note (email is fine) to Don or me letting us know what you have in mind. Articles (and/or suggestions) for the EN are always welcome.

How can we improve the website?

One member said "Website is great - very useful. Glad to see it up and running." but most of the comments said things like "I haven't seen it yet" or "I just found out about it". Until a few months ago it was probably a well-kept secret, but we hope the word is getting out. Please visit the website at europastudyunit.org/ and let us know what you think. We want this to be another valuable resource for our members. ■

NEW ISSUES

FRANCE European Capitals of Culture Series: Paris

Issue Date: 8 November 2010

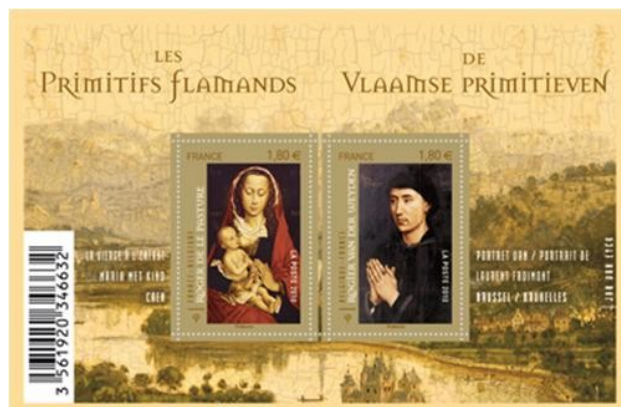
This colorful souvenir sheet is the continuation of an annual series begun in 2002. The series is quite attractive and certainly fits under the "European Heritage" umbrella. The issues thus far are:

2002 Rome	2005 Berlin	2008 Prague
2003 Luxembourg	2006 Nicosia	2009 Lisbon
2004 Athens	2007 Brussels	2010 Paris

**BELGIUM / FRANCE** The art of Rogier van der Weyden (Roger of Pasture)

Issue Date: 8 November 2010

Common design : The Virgin of the Rolin Chancellor, Louvre Museum

**MONTENEGRO** JOY of Europe

Issue Date: 21 October 2010

see the website or EN 396-14 for a background article and listing of this topic.

**GERMANY** 20th anniversary of German re-unification

Issue Date: 1 September 2010

**KAZAKHSTAN** Admission to the OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe)

Issue Date: 1 June 2010

**ESTONIA** European Figure Skating Championships

Issue Date: 1/9/2010 (not a typo)



NEW ISSUES

In the last issue of EN we reported that Bulgaria had issued a souvenir sheet for BALKANFILA 2010. It has come to our attention that **Bulgaria** issued two other souvenir sheets in 2010 with the BALKANFILA logo. The first, issued 9 June, depicted Dogs of the Balkan area and was reported in EN 401. The other sheets are as follows:

21 October; theme—fire prevention



22 December; theme—Griffon vultures



BALKANFILA was held in Plovdiv from 28-31 October. Perhaps the theme on the last sheet was unintentionally (?) ironic.

FRANCE 150th anniversary of the return of the province of Nice to France (see Scott #957 which is listed in the original handbook)
Issue Date: 14 June 2010



ESTONIA First postage stamp to show currency exclusively in Euros.
Issue Date: 1 January 2011

The post office noted that postage stamps with the face value in kroons will be valid for postage until 31 December 2013.



AZERBAIJAN Ecology of the Caspian Sea

Issue Date: 24 November 2010

The press release says this is a joint issue with Kazakhstan; no information on that as yet.



COMING UP...

NORWAY February 23rd - Nordic World Ski Championships Oslo 2011:

The Nordic World Ski Championships will be held in Oslo on 24 February - 6 March 2011. Twenty-one cross-country, Nordic combined and ski jumping events will be arranged in the course of these twelve days.



SPAIN 25th anniversary of accession to the EEC

Issue Date: 12 June 2010

Portugal also joined the EEC that same day.



Speaking of ecology...

On 1 September 2010 the Czech Republic issued a souvenir sheet to note the Lower Morava Biosphere Reserve. Why, you ask, is this Europa? The following is from a UNESCO Bulletin:

UNESCO adds 15 new sites to world network of biosphere reserves: Extension to Palava Biosphere Reserve, renamed the Lower Morava Biosphere Reserve, (Czech Republic). The original Palava site is now complemented by the corresponding lowland floodplain forests of the Rivers Dyje and Morava, the second largest area of its kind in Europe. The extension is the result of a major consultation process amongst all parties concerned. It is envisaged at a later date to create a transboundary biosphere reserve, straddling the Czech Republic, Austria and Slovakia.

Well, okay, it does say "at a later date", but the souvenir sheet is very colorful. ■



OKTOBERFEST – Richard Dick

My reliable new issue dealer and charter ESU member Richard Dick recently sent me a copy of Germany Scott #2587, issued on 9 Sept 2010 publicizing the Oktoberfest celebration, as part of my regular Europa subscription. That prompted me to ask him why he thought Oktoberfest should be included as part of Europa. His answer follows:

Oktoberfest (October festival) started on 12 October 1810 for the commemoration of the marriage of Crown Prince (later King) Ludwig and princess Theresa of Saxe-Hildburghausen. So 2010 is the 200th year of Oktoberfest celebrations.



There were many interruptions. The first was the Napoleonic Wars in 1813. Next was in 1854 due to an epidemic of cholera. In 1866 Bavaria was involved in the Austro-Prussian War, and then in 1870 with the Franco - German war. There were none from 1914-1918 (World War I), none in 1923 and 1924 due to inflation, and lastly none in 1939-1954 (WW2 and its aftermath). From 1955 to date the celebration not only grew but spread to countries that had German populations such as Luxembourg, Belgium, Netherlands, Austria and Switzerland. Today it has spread to many other countries outside of Europe, but it had its start in Germany and other European countries where German was spoken. In 1953 my wife Sarah and I celebrated Oktoberfest in Luxembourg, so it is truly a European holiday. I decided to include it in my Europa collection because of its European origin. I spent about 2 hours Googling and got lots more information about when some countries joined in the celebration and learned a lot.

I am now a believer and will include Oktoberfest in Section 3 of my collection—general cooperation. Now, I wonder whether Webster will include “Google” in future editions (e.g. “to google, vi, to perform a general search; vt, to search for a specific topic”). -ed. ■

From Glenn Roehrig, ESU member and active stamp dealer (see the links to his auctions on the main website) comes this interesting email:

Here is a scan (see right) of a couple of covers I picked up in Greece last year. I also scanned the cancellation.

The covers commemorate Greece's first time as a participant in *European Night of Museums*. The event was started in 2005 by the French Ministry of Culture, although the concept goes back at least to 1997 in Berlin, and it is sponsored across Europe by UNESCO and the Council of Europe. On this night, museums are open late and admission is free, and the intent is to show the cultural importance of museums.



Another item for the European Cultural Heritage Section! -ed. ■

TRENDS

Last year, in addition to the usual stamp sheets, plus two mini-sheets of alternating format, Romania issued two large sheets of 6 stamps each with a large vignette. They did the same this year. The complete (?) list of varieties is illustrated below.

First comes the set of 2, with each value printed in a sheetlet of 6:

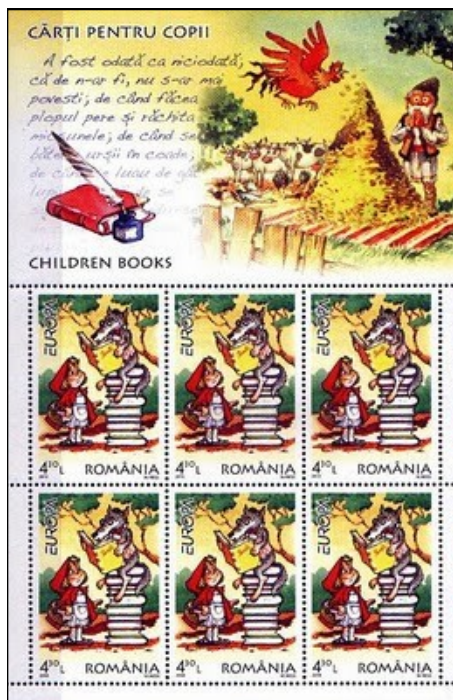


Lighthouse provides a page for one set of stamps from the sheetlets of 6, plus one example of the sheetlets shown on the next column.

Next come two mini-sheets of 4 stamps. These consist of two sets of stamps in se-tenant format. In the past these were identical except that the pattern alternated, so Lighthouse provided a space for just one example of them. This year the sheets are slightly more different, with colorful selvage added, and the upper left and lower right cartoons reversed.



The sheets shown below and in the next column are basically expansions of the sheetlets of 6, with a similar but more informative vignette. They are obviously meant to be collectible items. They were shown in a previous EN, but not in color.



Not announced yet but possible are one or two commemorative envelopes to complete the issue. Remember that this is just one country.

Let's move on to Romania's neighbor Bulgaria, another eastern bloc country with a prolific stamp issuing history. Bulgaria issued two stamps in se-tenant format, in a sheetlet of 4 sets with colorful selvage:



TRENDS cont'd

The two stamps were also printed in a booklet form. Many countries do this, but Bulgaria always makes a point of making them different. In 2008 they were different colors; in 2009 and 2010 they were different sizes. In 2010, Bulgaria added another wrinkle - the booklet stamps are separated by a non-denominated label, with four labels in all:



As mentioned in EN#401, there is also a beautiful souvenir sheet, which it is assumed that collectors will also want:



Finally, there is an item of postal stationery, reproduced below:



In the past, Lighthouse provided spaces for single stamps from the sheets and the booklets. My guess is that this year the supplement will provide a space for the souvenir sheet also.

Lest it seem that I am picking on the eastern bloc, note the announced issue for Greenland in 2011. The basic issue is two stamps, each printed in a sheetlet of 8 with a central label showing the design of the other stamp:



Additionally, the stamps will be issued in booklets of 12 self-adhesive stamps in an alternating design. Album makers will most likely provide spaces for both the regular and self-adhesive varieties, as they have done in the past. Greenland is probably trying to entice collectors into saving whole booklets as well.



So what to make of all this? One of the comments we received on the renewal form was that there are too many varieties. This certainly would support that observation. Each country seems to be vying for "shelf space" in the form of spaces on pre-printed album pages. On the other hand, album makers have to make a judgment on what to include, since each additional album page adds cost, and an implicit requirement of what to collect.

One intriguing suggestion comes from our friend "euroswiss" on the [Europa blogspot](#), where a non-scientific poll was conducted asking the following question:

if PostEurop were to produce each year a folder like the Sepac and Norden stamps folders, will you buy it?

The response was mixed:

43% YES 39% NO 16% I DON'T KNOW

Euroswiss summarized as follows:

As 16% of the answers are "I don't know", I guess many of you wait to see a product proposal of PostEurop before saying if yes they're going to buy it. In my opinion they want to produce a folder like the ones you can get with the [Norden](#) or [Sepac](#) issues or the one produced by some countries for the [International Polar Year stamps](#). I will transmit these results to PostEurop and I'll keep you informed about their answer!

On reflection, I would come down solidly in the "I don't know" column, since it would depend on how many varieties were included. Such a folder could involve a second mortgage, and countries will try for inclusion of as many varieties as possible. What do you think? ■

The Miscellaneous Box – Caroline Scannel

This small article will initiate an occasional series about a certain box in my den. The label on it reads "Miscellaneous" and it is crammed with items I will get around to going through when time permits. There is a lot of Europa stuff in there, some covers, some stamps and the ubiquitous "Europa Related" stuff. I collect other topics beside Europa and there is really quite a bit of carry over from one to another. For those of you who collect strictly the stamps, perhaps this series will encourage you to add some philatelic ephemera to your collection.

Depicted here is a nice cover, philatelically produced, but I found the cancel interesting. The cachet depicts the Council of Europe's Strasbourg Headquarters and notes that it is to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Schuman Declaration. Schuman's Declaration was made on 9 May 1950 and called for a unified Europe.

How do I know this cover never went through the mail? Addressed to the Philatelic Study Circle of United European Nations, the words "Poste Restante" instruct the "recipient" to please hold at a temporary location in the Strasbourg office for the addressee. Hundreds were probably piled on the side awaiting pickup by a representative of the Philatelic Study Circle.

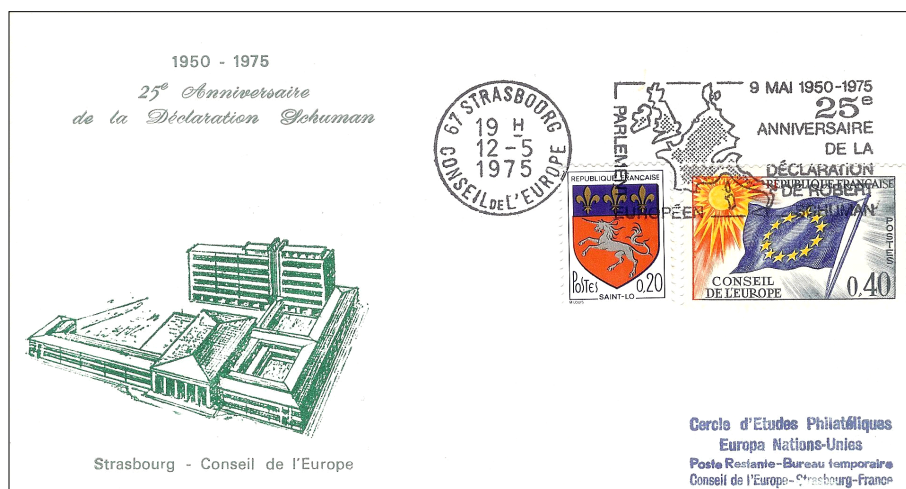
The cancel is crisp and clear, with a map of western Europe and again mentioning the 25th anniversary of the Declaration of Robert Schuman on 9 May. The date in the circular date stamp part indicates 12 May, which means 9 May could have been on a Sunday or holiday when either post offices in France or the Council of Europe building may have been closed.

The cover is franked with 2 stamps issued years before the cancel date. The Europa flag is on France 1012, issued 24 March 1968 and is among the early service stamps issued by France for the Council of Europe.

A coat of arms definitive (Scott 1143) issued in 1966 for 20 centimes brings the total franking to 60 centimes / 0.60 francs.

All official Council of Europe stamps are numbered by Scott starting with a "1", UNESCO's Paris office starts with a "2", and other service stamps follow.

That makes this cover an event cover; i.e., marking an event, in this case an anniversary. The stamp was carefully chosen to match the subject and because additional postage was necessary a definitive was used that would not take attention from the main stamp. ■



If the stamp says EUROPA, does that make it a Europa issue?

Don Smith said in a recent email: "Got my Jan 17 Linn's today with the Scott new issue section. Again, Norway has a bunch of stamps inscribed "Europa" for the postal rate to Europe. I am sure many of these will wind up in Europa collections when they have nothing to do with the topic. Should we mention them?"

My answer was "absolutely." In the last EN I showed a couple of examples of stamps with EUROPA spelled out on them. In many cases that simply means "postage to/within Europe".

While the idea of a postage rate for Europe does suggest cooperation, I fretted that collecting anything with the common rate could quickly get out of hand (some would say that the annual issues are already out of hand). Don obviously agrees. That said, Robin Crowley, the Unit founder, had an unbreakable rule that the Unit should never tell a collector what to collect. That rule still holds. What say you? The Unit exists to serve its members. ■

UPDATE
BOSNIA/SERBIA—ECY Fish Issue
reported in EN#401-3:
issue date is 23 Sept 2010

Following up on his note to me re. the 2010 Norway Europas, Glenn Roehrig writes:

I would like to suggest nominees for dubious EUROPA stamp honors:

- Greatest effort to disguise a EUROPA issue: Norway, of course
- Most stamps in a set with the fewest designated as EUROPA issues: (Tie) Great Britain and Isle of Man
- Most blatant EUROPA issue doing double duty: Isle of Man (Primarily a Girl Guide issue with the only tie-in with children's books apparently being Girl Guide handbooks)

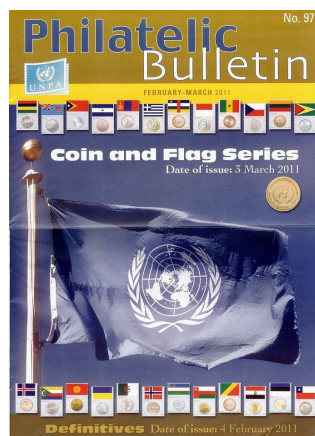
Glenn promises more suggestions to follow. This year's issue from Great Britain is certainly a contender.—ed.■

NEW ISSUES WITH SCOTT CATALOG NUMBERS - Don Smith**From Linn's January Special Edition**

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT#</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Czech Republic	3452	5-May-10	Europa 2010
Czech Republic	3457	16-Jun-10	House of Luxembourg, joint issue with Luxembourg
Estonia	651	9-Sep-10	Tallinn, European Capital of Culture
France	3877-82	1-Jul-10	Marianne of Europe
Norway	1605	24-Mar-10	Norden 2010
Norway	1613-16	18-May-10	Eurovision
San Marino	1821c	28-Jul-10	European Union Flag (Italian Soccer Championship)
San Marino	1822a-d	26-Jul-10	Rock of Gibraltar, joint issue with Gibraltar

From Linn's February Special Edition

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT#</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Cyprus	1139	10-Nov-10	Viticulture, joint issue with Romania, sheet of 2
France	1067-8	17-Sep-11	Council of Europe officials
Guernsey	1083-4	4-May-10	Europa 2010
Guernsey	1098	29-Jul-10	SEPAC (issue of 2009 reprinted with new value)
Kosovo	130	3-Oct-09	Germany Weeks in Kosovo
Kosovo	143-5	5-May-10	Europa 2010 (145 a souvenir sheet)
Kosovo	154	26-Aug-10	Mother Teresa, joint w/Albania, Macedonia
Latvia	758-9	9-Apr-10	Europa 2010
Macedonia	514	8-May-10	Chairmanship of the Council of Europe
Macedonia	515-6	8-May-10	Macedonia in the European Union
Moldova	674-5	30-Apr-10	Europa 2010



The United Nations Postal Administration has announced that, as part of its 2011 stamp programme, the long running World Heritage series will feature the Nordic Countries, and that this will be a joint issue with 8 postal administrations. Issue date is 5 May. If not a Nordic issue per se (the next NC issue is supposed to be in 2012) this will certainly qualify as an adjunct to the popular NC series. The UN announcement says that the UN issue will consist of 6 designs - 2 each for New York, Geneva and Vienna. The World Heritage issue has in the past also included a set of booklet stamps from each office; no mention is made of that in the UN philatelic bulletin. On 5 May the UN will also issue an Essen event sheet, which would be a personalized sheet of 10 stamps from the Vienna office, but it is not clear whether this is associated with the World Heritage issue. At the time of this writing (in late February) no mention is made in any of the Northern Countries' websites of this joint issue. I hope to have more information in the next issue of EN (and of course on our website).

Just as we go to press, Don Smith reports that Auction #119, which closed on 15 February, was a big success. FDCs were this auction's hot items, with over 16 bidders in all. The most bid lots, with 5 bids each, were #s 49, 128, 189, 207, 208 and 226. A full accounting of prices realized will be posted on our website under the "Auction" tab in the Members section..

Editor's Page

Treasurer's Report 1/1/2010-12/31/2010

Opening Balance	\$3,636.71
<u>Income</u>	
Auctions	\$287.97
Donations	\$1,274.50
Dues	\$1,093.20
Interest Income	\$8.06
Literature & Collectibles	\$342.60
Total Income	\$3,006.33
<u>Expenses</u>	
Bank Charges (PayPal)	\$9.17
Postage - EN	\$1,471.92
Printing Costs - EN	\$1,995.70
Website	\$57.60
Total Expenses	\$3,534.39
Income less Expenses	(\$528.06)
Closing Balance	\$3,108.65

The Unit is still healthy, primarily due to the additional income from your generous donations, which includes the \$500 contribution from the NAPEX committee. Don's auctions, plus the handbooks and collectibles, make up the rest. We don't add a big markup to lots sold so the auctions net only a modest amount—Don labors on because they are so popular. That said, we are still losing money each year. Color printing will add more strain to the treasury, but it's what members want so we'll do our best. To all those who added a donation to their dues, thank you!

Executive Secretary Report

Membership as of 12/31/2009:	157
Less non-renewals/resignations	-13
Less deaths	-2
Plus new members	9
Membership as of 12/31/2010:	151

Let your friends know about the ESU and our services to members. If we get enough new members we can get a break on postage rates (we need 200 domestic members to qualify for bulk mailing). Our plan meanwhile is to listen to your comments and keep working to improve the Unit. ■

As for donors, there are the less-easy-to-quantify-but-no-less-real contributions of members and officers who have given their time and effort to help the Unit succeed. Thank you all!!

DONORS

Speaking of donors, our thanks to all the following who have donated monetarily to the Unit. Our sincere apologies if we missed someone.

\$500

From the NAPEX committee in grateful memory of Col. Stephen Luster

\$50 and up

Elizabeth Applegate	Richard G. Huether
Diane Brunn	Michael Lamothe
Richard Dick	Albert Sun

\$20 to \$50

Alex Cwiekalo	Farley M. Snow
Gary Lightbody	Walter Stillman
Patrick Moore	Walter Taflinger
Nancy Morrow	Reid Taube
James Nissen	Tonny Van Loij
Patricia Perella	

\$10 to \$20

Mary Bacco	Joel C. Magyar
James Basler	Leo Malz
Bruno Codispoti	Glenn Roehrig
Alan B. Cohen	Joseph Running
Gregory Eurich	Kurt Schekel
Dean M. Funk	John Verhaaren
Fernando Giustini	Dennis Weiffenbach
David L. Jones	Chrys Wesdemiotis
Gary L. Jones	
Myron S. Kavalgian	

up to \$10

Piet Alderliesten	Sarah Howell
Enrique Alvarez	Mary M. Israel
Roy Baardsen	Michel Journeaux
Richard B. Barnes	Lee Kempf
Agatha Best	Kenneth Koch
Jeffrey L. Bringham	Miroslav Kotek
Joseph Bowler	Chester Kotlarz
Denis J. Donohue	Jerry Ramsey
	John L. Zsitvay

LUSTER AWARD?

Longtime member (#10) and new issue dealer Richard Dick suggests: "Why not have the Unit institute a Steve Luster memorial award for best Europa exhibit at a World Series of Philately stamp show? I'm sending you a check for \$100 as a donation to the Unit with that in mind" Great idea, Richard. The Unit currently bestows the Robin Crowley Award (named for the Unit's founder) for the best Europa exhibit in a World Series of Philately show. Perhaps the Luster award could be for Best Europa Exhibit in any non-WSP show? ■

The Europa Study Unit now has meetings planned at four major stamp shows so far this year.

First up is the **Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition** ([PNSE](http://www.pnse.org/))

(<http://www.pnse.org/>)

1-3 April near Valley Forge, PA

ESU mtg Saturday 2 Apr at 1 pm

More details are on the first page.

Next up:

NAPEX (<http://www.napex.org/>)

June 3-5 McLean (Tysons Corner)

VA; ESU meeting tbd

NTSS ([http://](http://www.americanstampassn.org/)

www.americanstampassn.org/)

June 24-26 Milwaukee WI;

ESU meeting tbd

See EN#401 for more information.

APS Stampshow ([http://](http://www.stamps.org/)

www.stamps.org/) August 11-14

Columbus OH; ESU meeting tbd

These meetings are open to all. Please make a point to stop by, and invite anyone you like.

Also, think about having an ESU meeting at your local stamp show. We'll mention it in the Europa News and on the website. It's a fun way to meet other collectors with the same interests.

Eurovision Song Contest

The [Eurovision Song Contest](#) is a competition held among active member countries of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU). Each member country submits a song to be performed on live television and then casts votes for the other countries' songs to determine the most popular song in the competition. Each country participates via one of their national EBU-member television stations, whose task it is to select a singer and a song to represent their country in the international competition.

The Contest has been broadcast every year since its inauguration in 1956 and is one of the longest-running television programmes in the world, and recent years' audience figures have been around 100 million.

Norway has participated every year since 1960, with the exception of 1970 and 2002, and so celebrated a 50th anniversary in 2010. To commemorate the event, **Norway issued a set of four stamps on 18 May 2010.**

From a position (mostly) at the bottom of the list, Norway had its first breakthrough when the singing duo *Bobbysocks* shot to the top in Gothenburg in 1985. In 13th starting posi-



tion and wearing pink-sequined jackets, they sang with everything they had and received the first foot-stamping ovation of the evening. Eight countries gave them top marks; when all the votes were cast, Norway emerged as the winner.

Secret Garden, Norway's next winner, consisted of Irish violinist Fionuala Sherry and Norwegian composer/pianist Rolf Løvland.



They came out top with Løvland's melody "Nocturne" in the Dublin final in 1995. It was the first time a predominantly instrumental piece had won the competition.

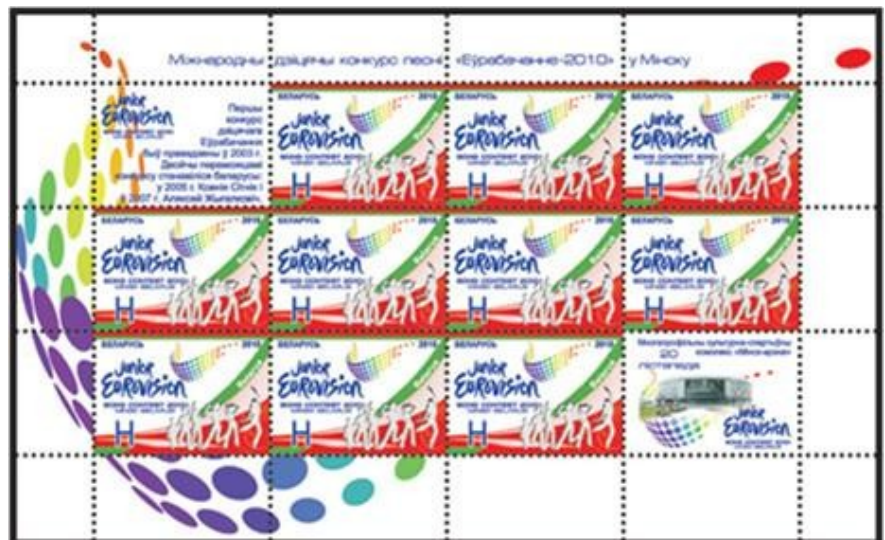
Alexander Rybak delighted Norway with his landslide victory in Moscow in 2009. Assisted by two backing singers and three acrobats from the Frikar Dance Company, he presented his own composition "Fairytale" in an exhilarating stage show and won the contest with an incredible 387 points, a new ESC record.



Jahn Teigen made his name at the final in Paris in 1978, when he sang with split jumps, braces and unshakable self-confidence - and received zero points. But ... John came out top in a popularity poll which was arranged by Norway Post and the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation to make him the 4th subject. ■



Meanwhile, a "[Junior Eurovision](#)" Song Contest has been held annually since 2003. The first was held in Copenhagen. The 2010 contest was held in the Belarus city of Minsk, To mark this occasion, **Belarus issued a stamp on 20 November** (the contest actually began on 15 November). Belarusians were the winners of the contest twice: Ksenia Sitnik in 2005 and Alexey Zhigalkovich in 2007. The winner of the 2010 contest was from Armenia, which country will also host the event in 2011. ■



The Belarus stamp was issued in panes of 10 with two labels.



The NORDEN Issues – Dana Roper

The Norden Stamp Issues—cont'd

As mentioned in the last issue, the Northern Countries (NC) had decided on a three-year cycle. Yet, after 1989, the stamps followed what obviously was a 2-year cycle.

1990 was designated the *European Year of Tourism* by the council of Europe, and a number of European countries publicized the event with stamps. (This is another nice Europa subtopic and will be addressed in a future issue of EN.) The stamps made a hit. Whether inspired by that or not, the Nordic countries decided to issue their next joint issue the following year, with the subject being Tourism in the Northern Countries. All eight countries were now issuing stamps.



Åland - kayaking

The 1991 issues ran the gamut. Åland issued a pair of stamps showing activities (kayaking & bicycling) while Sweden showed dolphins and polar bears at the Kolmården zoological Park in Östergötland. To get a bit more commonality, the next issue (in 1993, so much for the 3-year cycle) was Tourist Attractions. Most countries this year issued stamps showing towns and villages but it was still obvious that Tourism and Tourist Attractions were pretty much synonymous. The next year -1995 - was similar.



Sweden - polar bears



Nordic House Entertainers

At this point, those who followed the Northern Countries closely knew what the NC issues were—if there was any confusion, just look for the little post horn logo. The stamps weren't always advertised as part of the NC series, however, so new issue dealers were often befuddled. Case in point: in 1993, the Faroe Islands issued a set of 3 stamps plus souvenir sheet celebrating Nordic House Entertainers, just prior to its Norden issue showing the village of Gjogv. While certainly related, it was not a Norden issue per se., but at the time it was thought to be. The Scott catalog hasn't been much help either—stamps of this period are still not identified as Northern Countries issues.



Village of Gjogv



After 1995, the countries resumed (began?) what was supposed to have been a 3-year cycle. The designs for 1998 were designated as "Shipping and Boating in the Northern Countries", and so the NC issues depicted ... ships and boats ... with a purpose. For example, the stamps of Finland commemorated the 80th anniversary of the Finnish Marine Research Institute, and Sweden celebrated the cruise ship industry. The Faroe Islands sat

this one out. Denmark, however, introduced a twist - besides a se-tenant pair of two stamps, it also issued those same stamps in a little souvenir sheet. The issue - showing a harbormaster and a radar image of Copenhagen harbor - proved to be another harbinger of things to come. Perhaps the souvenir sheet turned the trick; Scott identified the Danish issue as "Nordic Stamps."



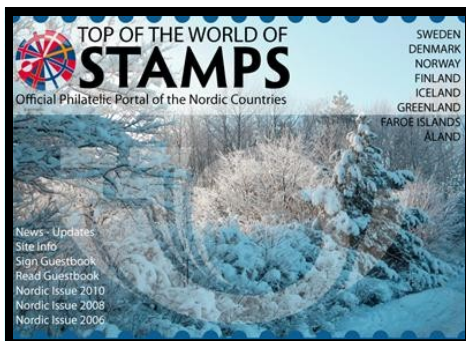
The NORDEN Issues cont'd

To continue the three year cycle, the next set of stamps would have been in 2001. That didn't happen, as the next appearance of Norden stamps slipped to 2002, to correspond with the 50th anniversary of The Northern Council. The chosen theme was Modern Art in the Northern Countries. The issue was reminiscent of the earlier issues in that it was a straightforward printing of one or two single stamps per country, and it fit on a single album page. The Lighthouse "Sympathy" page is shown below. Unfortunately, the fact that these were Northern Countries issues still escaped the notice of the Scott catalog editors, or at least wasn't mentioned, so again one had to rely on the post horn logo to identify them.



The 2002 Lighthouse "Mitläufer" (Sympathy) page.

(shown on the next and back pages). All of these moves were very successful, and the NC issues have become a popular collecting topic. To further promote these issues, a website has been developed called "[Top of the World of Stamps](#)" which features the NC issues and also serves as a portal to each countries' postal site.

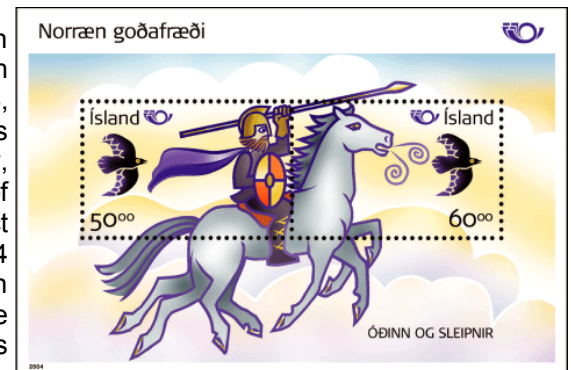


The topic for the next three cycles - 2010, 2012, 2014 - is "Life By the Sea in the Northern Countries". The first set of stamps, plus souvenir folder, is on sale now. It's been suggested that PostEurop consider this approach and offer a yearly Europa folder. That opens the door to another whole discussion, which is broached elsewhere in this issue.

Perhaps it did not go unnoticed that the Danish issue of 1998 was identified in Scott as a Nordic issue, but more realistically, the Northern countries were looking for a brand beyond just the logo. Whatever, it was decided for 2004 that henceforth the Norden issues would occur every two years, and that they would follow both a common theme and a common format. In another ground-breaking move, it was decided that the format would be a souvenir sheet of similar size, and that a theme would persist for three cycles.

The theme chosen for the first such cycle - 2004, 2006, 2008 - was Nordic Mythology, a rich source of interesting subject matter. The 2004 issue focused on Nordic legends, the 2006 issue was Mythological beings, and 2008 was Mystical Places.

The Northern countries also decided to package their biannual issues in a colorful souvenir folder



Nordic Mythology—Legends

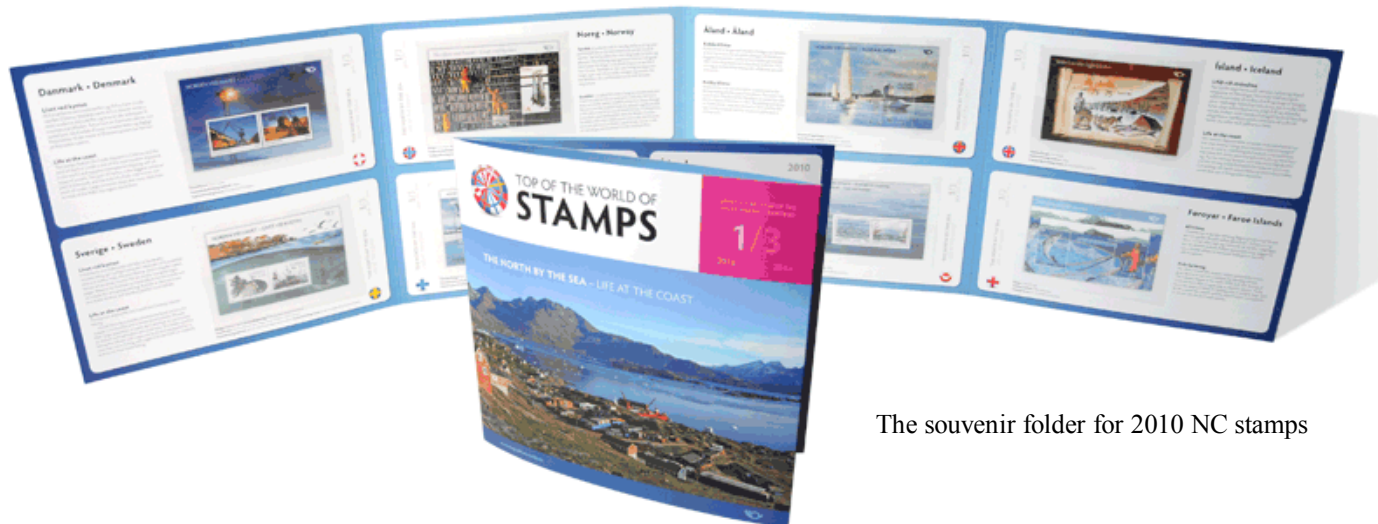


Nordic Mythology—Mythical Creatures



Nordic Mythology—Mystical Places

The NORDEN Issues cont'd



The souvenir folder for 2010 NC stamps

The question then arises, now that the “official” Nordic issues have been addressed, whether there are other, related stamp issues of a Nordic theme that would be a fit for this area. Since I already opened the door to the possibility earlier in this discussion, my answer is certainly yes.



A good example of this is the single stamp from Greenland (Scott #470), honoring the 50th anniversary of the Nordic stamp issues, in 2006. The design intentionally mimics the 5 swan design of 1956. The designer, Julie Edel Hardenberg, explained it this way:

“My inspiration for the design of the stamp was drawn from the previously issued joint Norden stamp from 1956, which then featured five swans. I decided to use the **snow bunting** as an exponent of the common Nordic theme, as the bunting is a migratory bird and especially visible in northern regions. In this way, it also acts as a parallel to the earlier stamp featuring swans, as the bunting is also represented in all eight Nordic countries.”

The Faroe Islands have produced a few issues that fit in nicely also. First up is a souvenir sheet issued in 1983 (Scott #101) to note the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Nordic House Cultural Center. The sheet shows all the Nordic flags save Greenland. Recall that the Nordic House was the common design for the 1973 NC issue. On the 20th anniversary, the Faroes issued another souvenir sheet (Scott #249a), this time featuring Nordic music.



In 1992, the Nordic Swans designed by Viggo Bang appeared on a Danish stamp, the souvenir sheet issued for NORDIA '94 in Aarhus (Scott #958). The sheet as such is a tribute to the Danish Queen Margrethe I (1353-1412) who founded the Nordic Union, and became the "Lady and Sovereign Ruler of Denmark, Norway and Sweden". Danish sovereignty over Norway lasted until 1814, whilst the sovereignty over Sweden was lost already in 1648.



But this of course raises the question of what is NORDIA? NORDIA is an annual philatelic exhibition sponsored by the original 5 Nordic countries, and whose venue rotates among them. To answer the next logical question: yes, there are a number of NORDIA stamp issues - plus many more souvenir items - for various shows.

Finally, there are several “mini-joint issues” by two, three or more countries for various events and anniversaries. A prime candidate here would be an issue of stamps in 2007 by Greenland, Iceland and the Faroes marking the 10th anniversary of their West Nordic Council, a cooperative group separate from the Northern Council.

Other more fringe possibilities exist, and Don Smith has done an awesome job preparing a handbook update of all the NC issues, many “outliers” such as those mentioned here, and a lot more. A handbook update will be included in future issues of EN (we expect it may be too many pages for just one issue). ■

TWO INTERESTING NATO COVERS – Tonny van Loij

The following first day cover shows an interesting mixed use of automated and commemorative stamps. This cover has 4 automated stamps (Michel 1) and Scott #684. The latter was issued 7 Mar 1983 for the 25th anniversary of NAMSA (NATO Maintenance and Supply Agency). It was cancelled on 4 April 1989, exactly 40 years to date from the signing of the Treaty. Headquarters are in Brussels, Belgium.



The next item is an interesting example of a Kosovo cover. It is a mailed cover from Italy with cancels and auxiliary markings from the Multi National Task Force West brigade serving in Kosovo. The MNTF West group was deployed in the Region of METOHIJA, headquartered in PEC, (Kosovo, Serbia & Montenegro), by Colonel Davide Di Bartolo (Italian Army). Contributing Nations for this Brigade are Italy (leading nation), Slovenia, Hungary and Romania, an example of NATO in action. ■



Stephen Luster (1938-2010)

The following memorial was developed by the directors of NAPEX, the National Philatelic Exhibitions of Washington DC, of which Steve was very active.

Steve was an exceptional collector, exhibitor, editor/publisher, researcher/author, plus a dedicated judge, mentor, benefactor, and society/show volunteer. He joined NAPEX in 1990 and was a Director for 14 years. The first year he was a Floor Manager, second year Deputy Show Chairman, and the third our Show Chairman, a position he held six years. He was also Exhibits Chairman (1991-2) and Judges Chairman (1996-2001). Concurrently, he was also our Corporation President five times and VP twice. Because of his health, he stepped aside after the 2003 show. In 2001 he was told he had 2-5 years to live but his courageous fight extended that to nine years. He did reduce his participation but kept active and he exhibited two exhibits at NAPEX 2010 and was the current Editor/Publisher of *Europa News* (Europa Study Unit) at his passing.

In 1995, Steve was the Co-founder, Vice President, and General Chairman (Philatelic Division) of the Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition. While separate from NAPEX, he involved all of us in this show as NAPEX took a bye and we supported the larger show. As this show had no seed money, Steve donated both his time and resources. At his urging, we also donated \$1,000 a year from 1996 to 2005 and all of us were recruited by him for most of this period.

It was difficult, if not impossible, to say no to a request Steve made. His tenure at NAPEX was during a crucial period of change. His summary for a motion was oratory of the first degree and based on moral persuasion as well as the logical interpretation of facts. He sponsored many controversial decisions and we cannot remember any not going his way. We called him Mr. NAPEX and our culture became the NAPEX WAY. Steve was a top executive; however, when there was no volunteer to do a clerical task, he did it himself. Sometimes his military background would show through and he used his authority unilaterally, two examples come to mind: (1) in 1997, NAPEX was fortunate to host the Duck Stamp FDI ceremony. The Hilton had a promotion where each room guest received a small rubber duck. The connection was too much for Steve to resist, so he purchased 100 yellow ducks from the hotel, one for each banquet setting (ours still decorate a room in our house and we think of Steve every time we notice them). (2) In 2003, two non-collector wives were helping their Director-husbands with tasks for the show. Steve made a surprise motion that passed immediately making them fulltime Directors befitting their work and contributions to our show.

In short, he gave time, devotion, and his resources to our hobby. All of us at NAPEX, ESU, his many friends, plus the entire stamp community will miss him.

Patricia & Douglas Lehmann



I attended the services for Col. Steve Luster at Arlington National Cemetery on 19 January. It was very moving and well attended. Attendees included a full busload from the community where Steve and Sue live, many of his past and present military comrades, and a few good friends from the philatelic community.

Since I don't know many of these by sight I can't say the number, but I did get to meet a few of them. E.g.

Doug Clark, of the NTSS,
Doug & Pat Lehmann, of NAPEX,
Dan & Pat Walker of the APS,
and Gordon Morrison, whose wife served as VP of the Unit in the 1970s.

The ceremony was with full military honors, beginning with a horse-drawn wagon carrying the casket, and a military salute at gravesite. Two things especially stand out for me:

- One of the well wishers was dressed in full Scots regalia and played the bagpipes. The song was "Ode to Joy", which is doubly appropriate since it is the theme of a United Europe.
- The rabbi who gave the sermon mentioned how purpose driven Steve was in everything he did. His last objective was to live for his 50th wedding anniversary. That was on 11 October. Steve died on 13 October. "He made it."

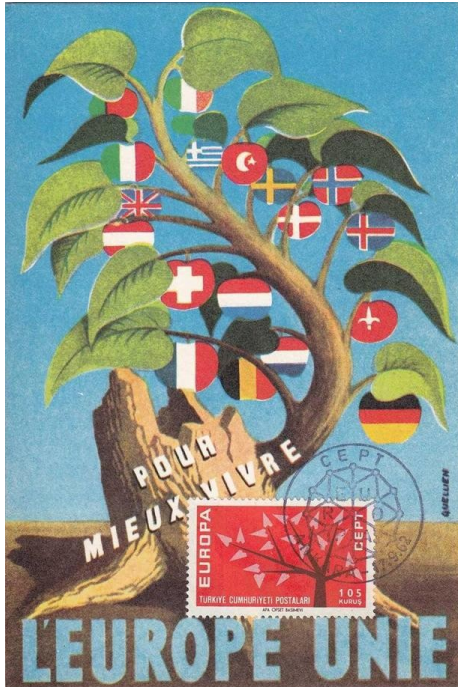
Steve was a fine person and a dedicated officer. His service to the ESU is immeasurable.

— Dana Roper

EUROPA BRIEFS

FORTUNATE FINDS:

This is a nice maximum card for the 1962 Europa issue from Turkey. I especially like it because the design is obviously inspired by the artwork for Turkey's 1958 issue (ref. EN 400-2 for the original Marshall Plan poster). The French inscription reads "for a better life." ■



From Tonny Van Loij comes this update to the item in EN 400-7:

Some interesting news from European postal services. As of January 2011, many of the individual postal services will have to give up total monopoly. So this brings us to an interesting subject: As of January, we can start looking for, let's say, Italian mail delivered by the Belgian postal service. This is only for drop mail, but still, start looking for some unusual situations.

Another little tidbit: starting 1 January 2011, Estonia will be a full member of the EURO zone. The European Commission announced on 12 May 2010, together with the European Central Bank, that Estonia had fulfilled all Euro-zone criteria and would become a full member on 1 January 2011. The exchange course from the old Esti Krone is 15,6466 Krone for 1 EURO. The last day of use for the Esti Krone is 15 January 2011. Stamps will be only in Euro denominations. The old stamps, since 2006 issued in Krone and Euro, can be used only together with the new Euro denominations. The dual denominated stamps were valid until midnight 14 January 2011 or until sold out. The Official stamps of Estonia will be used in the old form, keeping the exchange value in mind. –from "Die Brief-Marke" of the VOPH. ■

LOST ON THE CUTTING ROOM FLOOR DEPT.:

Don Smith advised me that he had supplied Steve with a listing of EFTA issues many moons ago. The listing was an update to the hardcopy handbook. I asked him to send it to me again, which he did. The file he sent is included as an insert page to this EN. It replaces page 8 of the original handbook. The last stamp listed (from Switzerland) has not had catalog numbers assigned yet. We will advise you when we have them so that you can make the appropriate pen & ink changes. ■

FORTUNATE FINDS, continued:

Occasionally something comes along that is just too good to let go by. The scan below is of the Turkey CEPT issue of 1966 (Scott #1718-19, Michel #2018-19). What makes it worthy of its own album page is that the black print is missing.

I do not have access to the latest Michel catalog but I knew that the dealer's asking price was a bargain, so I pounced.

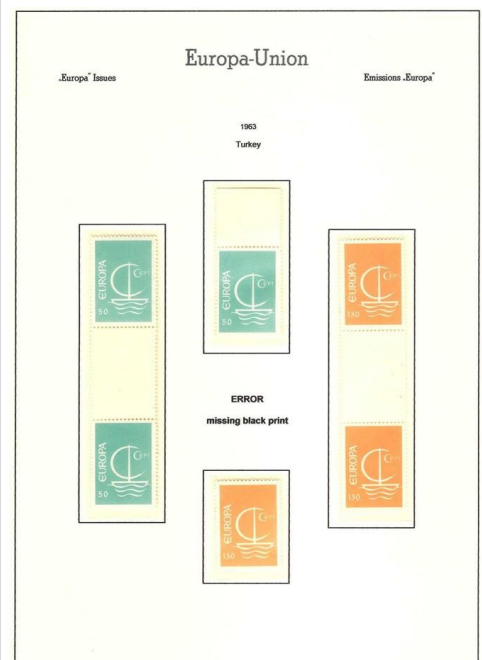
I did notice also that the color on the high value stamp is in orange rather than lilac, as noted in the CD version of the Europa handbook. They make a nice looking album page and add interest to the collection. ■

BUYER BEWARE DEPT.

For timely information, you just can't beat the Europa Blogspot (<http://www.europa-stamps.blogspot.com/>). In a recent post, he warned that fake stamps are already showing up for Europa 2011, and he doesn't mince words:

"You can already buy on the internet non-official Europa stamps from unrecognized countries as [Abkhazia](#), [South Ossetia](#) or [Transnistria](#). In my opinion those labels are made by one single company and aren't even used in those republics. They are just made to mislead Europa stamp collectors. We can't even call those pieces of paper 'stamps' as they are [cinderellas](#) or [bogus stamps](#), nothing more! Be careful and don't spend your money unconsciously! For example, an imperforate stamps set of South Ossetia is sold 40€!! They aren't even worth the paper they are printed on! Check on the internet or in official stamp catalogues (Michel for example) to know which stamps are official and which aren't ...! This blog depicts only the Europa stamps you should collect!"

Well, we won't tell you what to collect, but you do need to be careful out there. I believe the company to which he refers is in Lithuania and they are VERY prolific. Note that the mailbox icon is missing. -ed. ■



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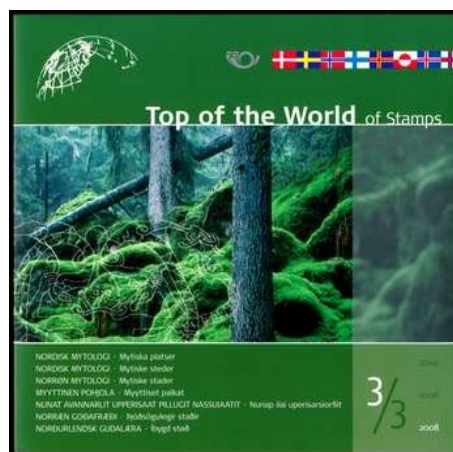
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**BULLETIN OF THE EUROPA STUDY UNIT,
AN ASSOCIATION OF PHILATELISTS DEVOTED TO
THE STUDY OF PHILA-TELIC MATERIALS
COVERING THE IDEA OF A UNITED EUROPE...
EUROPE UNITED IN A POLITICAL, ECONOMIC,
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Northern Countries Year Folders 2004-2008

Many thanks to ESU member David Canowitz for selling us \$100 worth of postage for 50% of face. Perhaps this could be a win/win proposition for other members - get some money for old unused postage, and help the Unit at the same time.

**EUROPA NEWS**

Bulletin of the Europa Study Unit

Mr. Don Smith
P.O. Box 576
Johnstown, PA 15907

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8. EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION (EFTA)

EFTA was established May 3, 1960 by Austria, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom to work toward abolition of tariffs between and among the member nations (known as the "Outer 7", as opposed to the European Economic Community, the "Inner 6"). Liechtenstein was represented by Switzerland. Finland became an associate member in 1961 and a full member in 1986, and Iceland became a member in 1970. Subsequently, all but Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Sweden joined the EEC (EU), departing from the EFTA.



<u>Country</u>	<u>Scott</u>	<u>Michel</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Date of Issue</u>	<u>Printing</u>	<u>Designer</u>	<u>Description</u>
The first issues were to call attention to the EFTA							
Denmark	431	450x	80o	Mar 02 1967	5,492,500	Nelleman	Cogwheels (plain paper)
	431	450y	80o	"	1,943,750	"	" (fluorescent paper)
Finland	444	619	40p	Feb 15 1967	2,988,135	Rahikainen	"FINEFTA", Finnish flag
Great Britain	480	444x	9p	Feb 20 1967	6,553,738	C. Abbott	Ship loading (plain paper)
	481	445x	1sh6p	"	6,363,483	"	Plane loading (plain paper)
	480	444y	9p	"	5,557,104	"	Ship loading (phosphor lines)
	481	445y	1sh6p	"	4,237,944	"	Plan loading (phosphor lines)
Liechtenstein	425	481	50rp	Sep 28 1967	1,056,907	J. Seger	"EFTA" in building blocks
Norway	500	551	60o	Jan 16 1967	3,061,000	L. Anisdahl	"EFTA" in a circle
	501	552	90o	"	1,327,500	"	"
Portugal	1011	1043	1.00e	Oct 24 1967	10,000,000	de Olivaria	Flags of the EFTA nations
	1012	1044	3.50e	"	1,000,000	"	"
	1013	1045	4.30e	"	1,000,000	"	"
Sweden	717	573C	70ö	Feb 15 1967	7,043,600	Olofsson	"EFTA and 70 (coil)
	718	573D	70ö	"	3,069,000	"	" (booklet)
Switzerland	481	852	20c	Mar 13 1967	24,369,000	Mumprecht	Flag of member nations
Commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the EFTA							
Austria	1313	1813	4s	May 10 1985	3,550,000	Adalbert Pilch	Mercury staff, flags of members
Finland	700	954	1.20m	Feb 02 1985	8,000,000	Paavo Huovinen	White circle, colored figures
Portugal	1625	1655	46e	Apr 10 1985	600,000	Acacio Santos	Flags of the 7 member nations
Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the EFTA							
Liechtenstein	1484		140rp	Jan 07 2010			Multiple flags of member nations
Switzerland			140	Sep 02 2010			EFTA in continuous design