



Best EUROPA stamps of 2012

Philatelic Jury Winner—Russia

The coveted **Jury Prize**, instituted last year, was awarded to Russia. Issued on 4 May in sheets 9 stamps, the winning stamp is shown below. The picture did not make our cutoff for the last EN.



Seven philately experts were invited to join the jury and judge the Europa stamps based on their expert opinion. Once again our friend “euroswiss” was part of the panel, which was headed by Mr. David Failor, chief of the United Nations Postal Administration. The jury used closed ballots, followed by a round of voting and discussion.

“Ultimately the jury selected the entry from the Russian Federation because of its inviting theme, high quality production and superior iconic image. The stamp did a wonderful job of celebrating the ‘Visit...’ theme.”

The prizes for both the Jury and public voting competitions will be handed out during the Belgian Philatelic Grand Prix to be held in the Brussels City Hall on 22 September 2012.

— from the [Europa blogspot](#) ■

Online Winner—Hungary

Hungary is the winner of this year's **Best Europa stamp** contest organized by PostEurop. It is part of a souvenir sheet of 4 stamps (see below) which was reported in EN #409-4.



The Hungary stamp garnered 1602 votes, more than both runners up combined (Turkey was second, with 832 votes; Croatia was in 3rd place with 444 votes.) Both issues are pictured, along with other Europa 2012 stamps, in the New Issues section).



This year, over 8063 online votes were recorded, a 45% increase over last year. This is the fourth time in the last 5 years that Hungary has won the contest, a tribute to the energetic “get out the vote” activity in that country.

Europa Study Unit Poll —TBD

For those of you not conversant with “government-speak”, “TBD” is an acronym for “to be determined.” Obviously, our members have not yet voted. Our day will come! ■

Europa Sport



For some time now we have been getting the question of whether an up

to date checklist has been prepared for European Sporting events (aka “Europa Sport”). The issue came up again at the recent ESU meeting at NAPEX (see article on page 10) and so we decided to give such a listing a sporting try, as it were.

The result is posted on our website in the [Checklists section](#). The file is in pdf format, from a source file in Excel 97. With just a dash of humility, we believe that this is the most comprehensive listing of the Europa Sport topic currently available. It consists of 17 single-spaced pages of listings, starting with the First Balkan Games issue of 1931.

For those who would like a hard copy mailed to you, that's no problem. Just drop a line to Tonny VanLoij or me and we'll post it right away. Please send \$5 to cover shipping and handling. ■

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European Football Championship—Poland/Ukraine

GERMANY 1v Issue date 12 April part of a 3-stamp set “For Sports—2012”

HUNGARY 1v Issued 8 June

PORTUGAL 1v Issued 4 June



The 2012 UEFA European Football Championship, commonly referred to as Euro 2012, will be the 14th European Championship for national football teams sanctioned by UEFA. The final tournament will be hosted by Poland and Ukraine between 8 June and 1 July 2012. It is the first time that either nation has hosted the tournament. This bid was chosen by UEFA's Executive Committee back in 2007.

The final tournament features sixteen nations, and will be the last European Championship to do so (from Euro 2016 onward, there will be 24 finalists). The winner of the tournament gains automatic entry to the 2013 FIFA Confederations Cup hosted by Brazil.

— Information supplied by [StampLand](#) and [Wikipedia](#). ■

New Issues

SLOVAKIA souvenir sheet

SERBIA 1v

Issue date 13 April 2012

Ján Koniarek, 1878-1952

Joint Issue



Ján Koniarek was an important Slovak sculptor of the first half of the 20th century and the founder of Slovak modern sculpture. From 1894

– 1906 he completed art studies at academies of arts in Prague, Budapest and Munich; from 1906 – 1914 he worked in Serbia as a teacher at schools in Čačak and Belgrade.

He actively participated in exhibition events of Serbia. He focused mostly on reliefs and portraits, as well as portraits of important Serbian celebrities. During World War I he was wounded and Koniarek returned to his sister and his hometown of Voderady. In 1924 he relocated to Trnava where he stayed until his death.

The *Gallery of Ján Koniarek* in Trnava (shown at right) carries a permanent exposition of his works.

He wrote that the mission of an artist is to “become the conscience of the nation”. ■

— Information supplied by [StampLand](#)

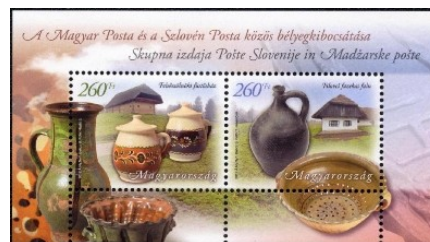
HUNGARY souvenir sheet

SLOVENIA souvenir sheet

Issue date 25 May

Folk Art—European Culture

Joint Issue with identical designs



The subject of the joint Hungarian-Slovenian issue is pottery objects from the shared folk art of the two countries. The stamp issue ceremony took place at the international stamp exhibition *Maribofilas2012* in Maribor as part of the events of the European Capital of Culture.

The stamp on the left shows objects and a building typically associated with Szentgotthárd and its surroundings, an area of Hungary with ethnic Slovenians. The stamp on the right shows local objects and historic buildings from the Mura area, which lies beyond Hungary's present day borders. ■ — from [Magyar Posta](#)

Better late than never (?) dept.:

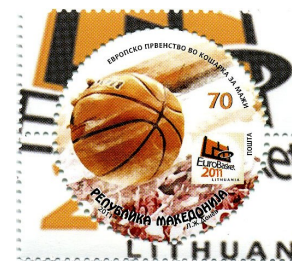
MACEDONIA 1v

European Basketball Championship—Lithuania

Issue date 31 August 2011

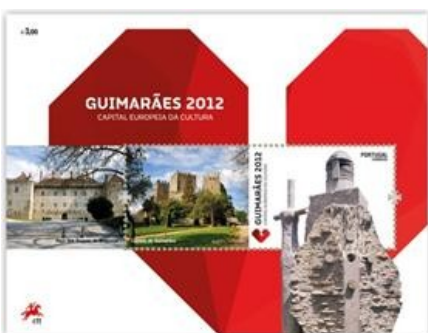
Macedonia lost the bronze to Russia in the final seconds of their game. Spain finally won the gold (for the second straight year) in what was generally reported as the most exciting *EuroBasket* ever.

— from [Wikipedia](#) ■



New Issues, cont'd.

PORTUGAL 4v + souvenir sheet for **Guimarães – European Capital of Culture 2012**.



The origin of the city of Guimarães goes back to the tenth century since it was here, in 1128, that the Portuguese nation was founded and D. Afonso Henriques was recognized as the first king of Portugal. The importance of its cultural worth and investment in its heritage resulted in a network of high quality infrastructures and renovation of the historical center, recognized in 2001 by UNESCO as a World Heritage site.

— from the [Portugal ctt](http://Portugal.ctt) website ■



As noted previously (see EN#400-10) collecting European Culture issues can be a very interesting sidelight for a Europa collection. ■

GERMANY
LIECHTENSTEIN

Issue date 14 June 2012
Pfälzer Hütte (Palatine Hut)
Joint Issue; identical designs



For many of Liechtenstein's inhabitants, paying at least an annual visit to the rough brick-built rest station *Pfälzer Hütte* is part of a cherished tradition.

In May 1925 the Federation of Palatine Sections within the German and Austrian Alpine Association decided to erect a mountain hut in the Rätikon range. The site chosen was the Bettlerjoch, a mountain saddle on Liechtenstein territory between Augstenberg and Naafkopf, on the border with Austria and Switzerland. The Government of Liechtenstein, granted permission to build the hut in 1926.

On 5th August 1928 the Pfälzerhütte was officially inaugurated after a building period of 113 days. In 1950, after the lodge had remained uninhabited for many years — and looted more than once — it was acquired by the Liechtenstein Alpine Association (LAV). Today the shelter, now enlarged by the addition of an annex building, is open for business continuously from June to October.

—from the Deutsche Post website ■

BELARUS—KAZAKHSTAN

Issue date 22 June 2012
Joint Issue; hedgehogs

This is where we draw the line. —ed. ■

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
FORESTS • 2011

Perhaps someone needs a calendar, or perhaps someone just has a grudge against printed album makers. The land of **MOUNTAINOUS KARABAKH** began issuing Europa stamps a few years ago, and Lighthouse started providing spaces in 2008. No issues were forthcoming in 2010 or 2011 but 2012 saw a Europa offering that was reported in EN#408-2. Now here comes a set for **2011**, issued on 16 May 2012.



The 2v were issued in mini-sheets of 9 stamps each plus a corner label. Also available is a mini-sheet of 4v each plus 2 labels. The labels on this sheet are of course different from those in the individual sheets. If Lighthouse is able to include these in the upcoming supplements I'll be incredified; more likely we won't see this covered until next year. Question: should we even be bothering with these? As noted in the [Europa blogspot](http://Europa.blogspot), the stamps issued by the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic aren't recognized by the UPU or by PostEurop. They are, however, listed in most stamp catalogues (Gibbons, Yvert & Tellier, Michel) and most Europa collectors collect those stamps even if they aren't official stamp issues. ■

The 1956 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (Part 5)

The Luster monograph installment continues with a discussion of the Italy issue for 1956.

Again, note that there are gaps in the figure numbers. This is because this article is excerpted from an even more exhaustive monograph.

The complete monograph will be posted on the ESU website in the near future, where it can also be downloaded and printed.

Italy also issued a set of two Europa stamps in 1956. Here are the technical details of those stamps. They were designed by Daniel Gonzague. Both stamps were printed on (star) watermarked paper; they are perforated 14 x 14; rotogravure printed by the Istituto Poligrafico Stato, Off. Carta Valori, Roma, in sheets of 50 stamps. D'Urso assigned the numbers 7 and 8 to these stamps. Four varieties on the 25 L stamp are known (D'Urso numbers 7A - 7D) and three varieties are known for the 60 L stamp (D'Urso numbers 8A - 8C). A first day cover with a Rome cancel and maximum cards are known. An official bulletin, (#7/8E), was prepared for the issue. Figure 60 shows an abbreviated version of the publicity release which was four pages long. Specimen stamps are known. They were created by perforating the word "SAGGIO" into each stamp (#7/8F). A first day cover (#7/8G) and a maximum card are also listed for these stamps (#7/8H).

Official Bulletin - Since July, 1954, the Italian Postal Administration issued with every postage stamp or set of stamps, an official bulletin on cardboard, the size of which is 250 x 175 mm. Normally in 4 pages, the bulletins give the technical description of the stamps and explanatory notes of the issue. They are written in Italian and in another language, usually in French. Bulletins also bear the imprint, directly from the embossing die, of the stamps in their "as issued" colors and actual size. Bulletins are on sale to the public at the philatelic counters of all Post Offices, at the price shown at the bottom of their last page. Cuttings of the bulletins imprints are sometimes found cancelled on covers. This is due to insufficient control by postal officers, as these imprints were not valid for postage." Imprints plus the actual stamps have also been seen canceled on covers.



Figure 77. Italy's 1956 Europa stamps as issued.¹²

Italy's two 1956 Europa stamps were issued in light green & dark green for the 25 L stamp and in light blue and dark blue for the 60 L stamp.



MINISTERO DELLE POSTE
E DELLE TELECOMUNICAZIONI



PRIMA EMISSIONE DI FRANCOBOLLI DELLA COMUNITÀ EUROPEA

Le Amministrazioni Postali del Belgio, della Francia, della Germania (Repubblica Federale), dell'Italia, del Lussemburgo e dei Paesi Bassi hanno convenuto di emettere contemporaneamente il 15 settembre 1956 una serie di francobolli a soggetto unico ispirato all'idea europea.

La vignetta comune dei valori di cui trattasi è stata disegnata dall'artista francese Gonzague, riuscito vincitore dell'apposito concorso bandito fra gli artisti dei Paesi interessati.

L'Amministrazione delle Poste e delle Telecomunicazioni d'Italia partecipa a questa concreta manifestazione di solidarietà internazionale con una serie di due valori: uno da lire 25 ed uno da lire 60.

Il primo è di colore verde; il secondo, invece, destinato all'affrancatura per l'estero, è di colore bleu, così come convenuto dalle sei predette Nazioni.

I valori in parola sono stampati in rotocalco, su carta bianca, liscia; formato stampa: 37 x 21; formato carta: 40 x 24; filigrana: stelle; dentellatura: 14, e saranno validi per l'affrancatura a tutto il 31 dicembre 1957.

Roma, 15 settembre 1956.

Quando, il 9 maggio 1950, Robert Schuman lanciò il suo appello tendente a porre l'insieme della produzione franco-tedesca di carbone e di acciaio sotto un'alta autorità comune, in un'organizzazione aperta alla partecipazione degli altri paesi europei, gli spiriti più lungimiranti compresero che era stato posto un seme fecondo non soltanto per superare secolari dissidii ed incomprensioni fra due grandi Paesi, ma anche per realizzare quell'unità europea auspicata dai popoli del nostro continente.

Il Governo italiano che sotto la guida di De Gasperi aveva fatto dell'unità europea il fulcro della propria politica, accolse l'invito ed assieme ai governi degli altri cinque paesi amici collaborò attivamente alla stesura del Trattato istitutivo della prima comu-

Figure 76. Official new issue bulletin for Italy's 1956 Europa stamps. The bulletin was available to the public at a cost of 100 L.⁴

The 1956 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (cont'd)

The most notable of the D'Urso-listed varieties are those called the "broken grate." Both the L.25 and L.60 stamps are known with the same variety. The arrows point to the upper-left vertical grating on each stamp at figure 62. There you will to see a break in the scaffold line. These varieties are D'Urso numbers 7/8A.



Figure 78. Used set of Italian 1956 Europa stamps with each stamp displaying the "broken grate" variety.¹²

The blocks of 4 at figure 79 are used to illustrate the other D'Urso-listed varieties. None of these stamps has the specific variety I will discuss, but I use these stamps to point them out so that you can look for them.

The three other varieties known for the L.25 green stamp are: D'Urso 7B - a white line will be above the letter "L" in L.25 due to a crease in the paper, e.g., a paper fold, see arrow #1; D'Urso 7C - a retouch between the letters "T" and "E" in the word postes, see arrow #2; D'Urso 7D - the green color has been significantly misplaced to the right, see arrow #3.

The two other varieties known for the L.60 blue stamp are: D'Urso number 8A* - A color dot to the left of the letter "E," in the word Europa; D'Urso 8B - a color dot over the letter "O," see arrow #5 (again, D'Urso does not mention if this variety is over the letter "O" in the word "EUROPA" or in the word "POSTE"); in variety 8C the blue color has been significantly misplaced to the right, see arrow #6.

The 1956 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (cont'd)



Figure 79. Locations where the D'Urso-listed varieties would likely appear on the L.25 and L.60 Italian 1956 Europa stamps.¹²

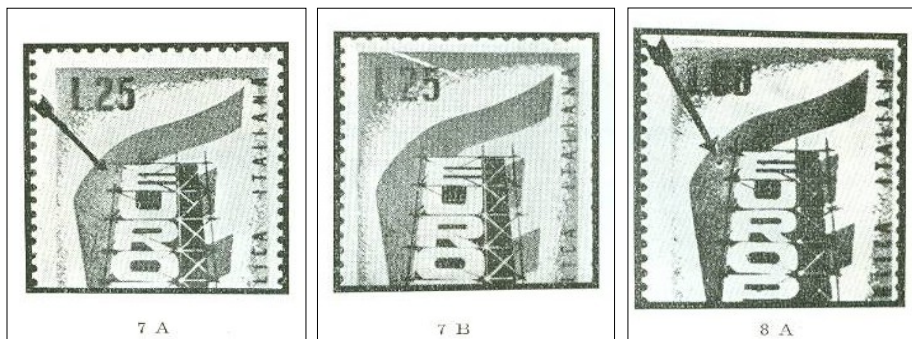


Figure 79a. Locations and types of some of the varieties on Italian 1956 Europa stamps. These illustrations are from the 1962 D'Urso Catalogue.⁸

The Italian 1956 Europa stamps were printed in panes of 200 stamps and then cut into sheets of 50 stamps. Depending on how a pane was severed into sheets, it was possible to create horizontal, vertical or cross gutters. Gutter pairs (or blocks) are not listed by D'Urso. They are however, listed in the Domfil Catalogue.



Figure 80. Vertical gutter pairs of the L.25 and L.60 Italian 1956 Europa stamps.¹³

The 1956 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (cont'd)

D'Urso lists Italian first day covers as numbers 7/8G. As with the other ECSC countries, we know that there are many types of cacheted first day covers. I have to conclude that D'Urso, in listing FDCs only meant to document their existence, rather than to list a specific FDC as the "official" one. Next are a series of differently cacheted first day covers.

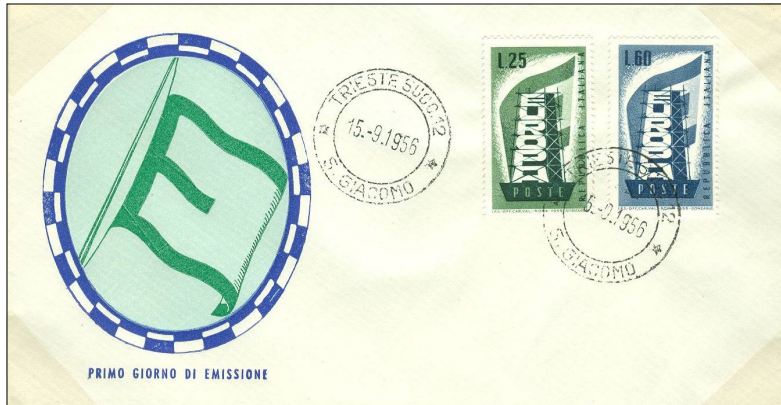


Figure 81. Unaddressed first day cover postmarked from Trieste, franked with both values of Italy's 1956 Europa set.¹²

Here are more first day covers for Italy's 1956 Europa stamps. I continue to be amazed at the cachet designs, each of which tries to convey the thought of European Unity in their designs.



I have seen other cachets on an Italian 1956 Europa first day covers that. Their designs were used in other countries. This means to me that sets of cacheted covers were prepared either commercially, privately or both. The cover below is such an example.



Figure 85. First day cover with cachet that is illustrated in the D'Urso Catalogue.¹²

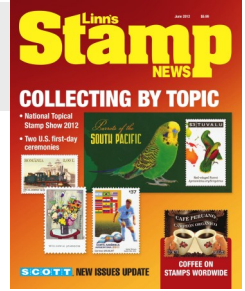


Figure 86. Cacheted first day cover with a cancel September 15, 1956, postmarked from the city of Trieste.¹²



NEW ISSUES WITH SCOTT CATALOG NUMBERS - Don Smith

* = position in proposed new HB outline (ref. EN# 404-12)



From Linn's **May** & **June** Special Editions

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT #</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>*</u>
Azores	536a	9-May-11	Europa 2011, booklet pane of 1 (536)	1
Azores	536b	9-May-11	Europa 2011, booklet pane of 2 (537, 537a)	1
Cyprus (Turkish)	709-10	16-May-11	Europa 2011	1
France	4079-87	30-Sep-11	Marianne of Europe (4083 a coil, 4084-7 self-adhesive)	3b
Italy	3096	4-Oct-11	European Year of Volunteering	3a
Italy	3110	10-Dec-11	Year of Culture (joint with Russia 7326)	3a
Kazakhstan	657	10-Nov-11	Commonwealth of Independent States	3b
Kazakhstan	646	22-Sep-11	Customs Union of European Economic Community	2a
Liechtenstein	1539	5-Mar-12	Europa 2012	1
Luxembourg	1330	13-Mar-12	Euro Tenth Anniversary	2a
Macedonia	474-5	6-May-09	Europa 2009	1
Madeira	292a	9-May-11	Europa 2011, booklet pane of 1 (292)	1
Madeira	292b	9-May-11	Europa 2011, booklet pane of 2 (292, 293a)	1
Moldova	728-9a	11-Oct-11	Diplomatic Relations with Romania, joint issue (729a a souvenir sheet)	3b
Montenegro	276-8	21-Apr-11	Europa 2011 (278 a souvenir sheet)	1
Norway	1669	21-Mar-12	Nordic (souvenir sheet)	1b
Norway	1674-6	13-Apr-12	Europa 2012	1
Romania	5301-2	11-Oct-11	Diplomatic relations with Moldova (728-9)	3b
Romania	5309	25-Oct-11	European Day of Civil Justice	3a
Russia	7318	3-Nov-11	Commonwealth of Independent States	3b
Russia	7326	10-Dec-11	Year of Culture, joint issue with Italy 3110	3a
San Marino	1855	11-Oct-11	European Year of Volunteering	3a
Serbia	544-5	5-May-11	Europa 2011	1
Serbia	553-4	13-Jun-11	European Nature Protection	3a
Serbia	555	21-Jun-11	Liszt, joint issue with Hungary	3b
Serbia	566	20-Sep-11	European Women's Basketball Championships	3c
Serbia	567	30-Sep-11	Joy of Europe	3b
Serbia	RA7	2-Jan-07	European Judo Championships	3c
Serbia	RA8	16-Apr-10	European Water Polo Championships	3c
Slovakia	617	6-May-11	Europa 2011	1
Slovenia	889-90	27-May-11	Europa 2011	1
Slovenia	891	27-May-11	Johann Gersnter, joint issue with Czech Republic	3b
Slovenia	939-40	30-Mar-12	Europa 2012	1
Turkey	3240	18-Oct-10	Alliance of Civilizations, joint issue with Spain	3b
Turkey	3254-5	9-May-11	Europa 2011	1
Turkey	3265-8	23-Jul-11	European Youth Summer Olympics Festival	3c
United Nations	507g	3-Feb-12	Euro coin	2a
Vatican City	1495-8	1-Mar-12	Sistine Madonna, joint issue with Germany	3b



ERASMUS 25th Anniversary — Dana Roper

Recently in these pages (ref. EN#397-17) we highlighted one of the early proponents of a united Europe—the Dutch philosopher and educator Desiderius Erasmus of Rotterdam, known as an opponent of dogmatism, who lived and worked in many places in Europe to expand his knowledge and gain new insights. In 1987, a student mobility program was instituted across the EU to encourage information and cultural exchange across the continent and appropriately named after the man who embodied that viewpoint.

Today the European Commission website says that “ERASMUS is the EU's flagship education and training program, enabling 200,000 students to study and work abroad each year. In addition, it funds co-operation between higher education institutions across Europe. The program not only supports students, but also professors and business staff who want to teach abroad, as well as helping university staff to receive training.”



Logo of the Erasmus program.

In 2008 France issued a souvenir sheet publicizing four “Grand Projects of Europe” - the EU itself, the Euro (uh oh), the Galileo project, and the ERASMUS program. ERASMUS is a backronym meaning **European Region Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students**.

2012 marks ERASMUS' 25th anniversary, and **PORTUGAL** has noted the event with a stamp and souvenir sheet. They embody a whimsical depiction of typical students in various states of mobility—walking, biking, scooting—crisscrossing Europe with their learning materials.

Students who join the Erasmus Program of study do an internship for a period of at least 3 months to an academic year in another European country. The ERASMUS Program guarantees that the period spent abroad is recognized by their university when they come back.

The ERASMUS Program, together with a number of other independent Programs, was incorporated into the **Socrates program** established by the European Commission in 1994. The Socrates program was in turn replaced by the **Lifelong Learning Programme 2007–2013** on 1 January 2007.

The EU proudly states that “Few, if any, programs launched by the European Union have had a similar Europe-wide reach as the ERASMUS Programme.” Over 20 million students have participated as of 2011.



Report from NAPEX and NTSS — Dana Roper

NAPEX, 1-3 June, McLean, VA

I didn't know that we would be given a room until weeks after the last EN went to press, and so could only update the web site and get out a last minute email. I was joined by members Alan Cohen and Bob Locke, and we had an enjoyable time comparing notes on our respective collections.

One big thing that emerged from the meeting: someone asked if we had a list of Europa Sports stamp issues. We didn't but I was able to mine my personal database to create one fairly easily. I ran the output past our own 'Oracle at Johnstown' Don Smith, and he added more from his own notes.

The result: what I humbly believe is the most comprehensive listing of Europa Sport to be found anywhere (see page 1). It is now posted in the [Checklists section](#) of the Members Only web page.



Dana Roper, Alana Cohen, Bob Locke

NTSS, 22-24 June, Lancaster, PA

The picture below says it all. We broke records with the attendance at this one. We also added two — possibly three — new members!

NTSS keeps getting better and better. There was a diverse group of dealers with plenty to offer the topical collector (Tonny and I both did very well at Henry Gitner's table), and a nice mix of programs, including two first day ceremonies by the USPS.

Our Unit meeting ran an unprecedented 1-1/2 hrs and could have gone longer. Come to think of it, it did, since we had a 1 hour buffer before the next meeting and people hung around.

The highlight of the meeting was an outstanding presentation by Tonny VanLoij illustrating some of the many options available to the Europa collector besides just the annual issues. Tonny's captivating style—a mix of personal anecdotes and humor—was applauded by all the attendees and may have been instrumental in our signing up new members. My plan is to post it to the website as part of the meeting minutes, and possibly serialize it in future ENs.

Don Smith also brought two—yes, two!—large shoeboxes of auction material donated to the club that didn't sell the first time around. My take is that much of this material is still quite good, and deserves another shot in the future. I've watched similar events on eBay: a lot will just sit there, and then get multiple bids when it is relisted. As the saying goes, timing is everything. Don's auctions—and donations from members who attend our meetings and can recognize a bargain—are what help keep us in the black.

[Full disclosure—In one shoebox I came across another instance of the cancellation that Caroline beat me to in a previous auction (see EN#407-5). I am a happy man. Don, I owe you a donation!]

Two other items of note;

- 1) Fred Skvara was feted at the Awards banquet as the latest Distinguished Topical Philatelist (see related story in this issue)
- 2) Caroline Scannell told us that she would prefer to step down as President because of her many other pursuits. She would, however, like to stay on as a Director, which we will recommend, along with an interim slate of officers, by the next issue. ■



ESU Members pictured (l to r): Roy Baardsen, Beth Kase (prospective new member), Sue Rosenberg, Dottie Smith (ATA Board Member, but not ESU), Fred Skvara* (also ATA Director), Caroline Scannell*, Don Smith*, Dana Roper, Gary Lightbody, Alex Cwiekalo, Steve Chun, Tonny VanLoij (also ATA Director of Chapters)

Not pictured: August Bouquet (new member), Alan Cohen, Maria Rodriguez, Christine Stitt (guest), Joe Sullivan (new member)

*Distinguished Topical Philatelists

Editors Page

Handbook Update

Attached to this issue is an update to our printed handbook for the Europa common theme of 2011, thanks to Handbook HHHIC (Head High Honcho in Charge) Alex Cwiekalo. Our members have spoken—get the updates out in a more timely manner, even if it means some data may be incomplete. Our timing should coincide with the issuance of many album supplements, and as we get in the groove we should be able to get these out earlier each year.

You can contact Alex at ac.esu.handbook@ohiohills.com with any questions, comments, corrections, additions, etc ■

Member Johanna (Jopie) Bruno writes:

Thanks for your very informative 'lessons' on how to make your own pages; I have been doing it for some time. I received in my very early collecting days a stack of KaBe pages for the mitläufers ("Sympathy" issues—ed.) and so continued it. But for the many pages I don't have I use (a great big box full for \$60!) Safe pages; just have to do a little tweaking with the holes; still a lot cheaper than Lighthouse pages. Also, I have an 'essay' for the Balkan Ententes; I will try to email you for some critique. I am now doing a piece on "the breakup of Germany and the reunification" -- geez, that's a lot of work! But interesting!

Agreed, Jopie! I hope to print your essay in a future issue. ■

Member Myron Kavaljian (see his article in EN# 405-5) reports that his collection of FDCs for the 1960 Europa issues has reached 182. Myron, I can safely say that you are not finished. Actually, it's safe to say that you will never be finished unless you just declare victory and stop. ■

From Don Smith, the Final Accounting for Auction #122:

RECEIPTS:

<i>Sales of Members' Material</i>	\$499.15
<i>Postage from Buyers</i>	<u>20.05</u>
	\$519.20

EXPENDITURES:

<i>To Sellers for Material</i>	\$424.28
<i>Postage to Buyers</i>	\$20.05
<i>Additional Postage Expense</i>	\$1.50
<i>Miscellaneous Expense</i>	<u>\$4.90</u>
	\$450.73

PROFIT \$ 68.47

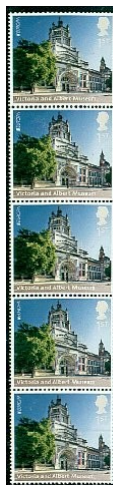
Thanks Don. Your efforts paid for almost 7 pages of color! - ed. ■

Member Ed Lamoreaux had this comment on EN # 409-16:

I received the EN May-June issue few days ago, and noticed the UK A-Z set on the back cover. I subscribe to UK stamps and now have the entire A-Z on FDC and will receive the Part 2 set in the 2012 Annual Pack at year's end. BUT early on, I was made aware by Royal Mail that each INDIVIDUAL STAMP is also available in a vertical strip of 5!

I just ordered 2 strips of the Victoria & Albert Museum stamp with the Europa logo (so I purchased 10 of the V&A Europa stamps only @ 60p each+ £ 2.15 ship+handling charge). The strip is not readily available online, so I called Royal Mail (Talent House in Edinburgh) to buy them. The Royal Mail phone number from the USA and for calls from overseas is 011-44-131-316-7483. Its easy to order by phone but be ready for a thick Scottish accent. Talent House is located in Scotland after all! The shipping & handling charge is pricey which is why I picked up 10 of them to share or trade. My email is elamour102@aol.com.

Interested members are advised to contact Ed directly. ■



Supplement News

I have received my Lighthouse supplement for Europa 2011. It weighs in at a whopping 24 pages, with a retail price of \$155.95 for the hingeless (SF) version. There are a few dealers who will discount even the supplements.

Some quick highlights:

- Two of the 24 pages are supplemental:

- *Last year's page for Albania has been replaced with a page that includes Mountainous Karabakh

- *A page has been provided for the alternate pattern of the Romania miniature sheets of 2 sets. It is identified as "page 15A" so the idea is that you can leave it out if you don't collect both versions. This is the first year that Lighthouse has provided a page for the alternate version.

- No space is provided for the booklet version of Great Britain's souvenir sheet, and the space provided accommodates only the regular sheet. If you have the booklet you will need to create your own page.

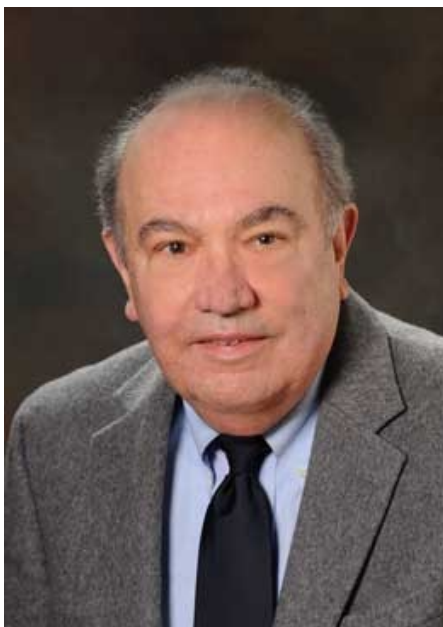
- Lighthouse follows its usual custom of grouping related countries whenever possible. E.g., this year the Baltic countries get their own page. One interesting grouping is that again Greece, Turkey, Cyprus and Turkish Cyprus share a page. Is this a political statement; a gesture toward a rapprochement perhaps?

These comments should apply to KaBe as well, since Lighthouse now publishes both.

In the Did-They-Or-Didn't-They Dept., we heard that White Ace has stopped issuing Europa supplements, effective with 2006. That's too bad, especially since they recently promised to keep publishing (ref. EN#403-11). We are chasing this down and will report in the next issue. ■

Fred Skvara—Distinguished Topical Philatelist

The following is adapted from the write-up on the [ATA Members' web-site](#):



Physician and philatelist Frederick C. Skvara of Bridgewater, New Jersey, has been selected as the American Topical Association's 2012 Distinguished Topical Philatelist, according to DTP committee chair Donald W. Smith. (Editor's note: our own Don Smith is himself a DTP, and a member of the ATA for over 50 years. Our President, Caroline Scannell, was named a DTP in 2010). The award was presented during NTSS at the ATA annual banquet.

Dr. Skvara has been a member of the ATA Board of Directors since 2006 and ATA Director of Chapters including author of the *Topical Time* "Chapter Chatter" column from 2006-2011. He has served since 2004 as editor of *Scalpel & Tongs*, quarterly journal of the ATA Medical Subjects Unit, as well as editor since January 2010 of the *Americana Philatelic News*, quarterly journal of the ATA Americana Unit. During the past several years, he has also edited and published several programs for the National Topical Stamp Show and won awards for his work.

In 2008 Dr. Skvara published an article in *Topical Time* based on his many years' experience promoting ATA at the ASDA "Mega" Shows in New York City. This became the genesis of the ATA Ambassadors program. Dr. Skvara's other contributions as an author include writing a column (since 1998) entitled "Philatelic Sketches in Medicine" for the newsletter of the Medical History Society of New Jersey, and as editor since 2008 of the Westfield, New Jersey, Stamp Club's *Westfield Philatelist*.

Dr. Skvara received an M.D. degree in 1970 from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. He began to practice as an attending pathologist at the JFK Medical Center in Edison, New Jersey, and as associate professor of pathology at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in Piscataway. He retired from both positions in 2005, but continues to serve as the medical director of the Department of Medical Laboratory Technology at the Middlesex County College in Edison, New Jersey.

Dr. Skvara has collected worldwide stamps since childhood. As he developed an interest in a wide variety of topics, he joined more than a dozen different ATA study units, including the ESU. Like Tonny VanLoij, he is an avid gardener and gives talks before garden clubs, some illustrated with stamp images. His interest in photography has evolved into a medical photomicrography business with his images used in books, magazines, and wall decor.

The ATA Distinguished Topical Philatelist Award was established in 1952 by ATA founder Jerome Husak to recognize notable service to topical philately. This award has been presented so far to 119 persons, including residents of Canada, Great Britain, and Italy. ■

EUROPA NEWS

**BULLETIN OF THE
EUROPA STUDY UNIT,
AN ASSOCIATION OF PHILATELISTS
DEVOTED TO THE STUDY OF PHILATELIC
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UNITED EUROPE... UNITED IN A POLITICAL,
ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL SENSE.**

www.europastudyunit.org

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* Dues must be received by 31 January to ensure continued membership, including uninterrupted receipt of the EN.

Europa 2012: Visit



French ANDORRA souvenir sheet

Issue date 4 May The center of the blank frame is empty, so that you can create your own favorite scene.



BELARUS

2v

Issue date
12 March

Issued in
sheets of 16
stamps (8 of
each) and in
a mini-sheet of 6 stamps (3 of each)



GREECE 2v se-tenant sheet stamp and booklet pane form

Issue date 10 May



TURKEY 2v Issue date 9 May

SECOND PLACE WINNER



FRANCE 1v regular and self-adhesive versions

Issue date 21 May



PORTUGAL, AZORES, MADEIRA 1v each, plus souvenir sheet for each

Issue date 9 May



Upcoming Europa Themes:

2013: Postal Vehicles
(20th anniversary of PostEurop)

2014: National musical
Instruments

2015: Ecology ("Go
Green")

2016: Old Toys

Europa 2012: Visit



visit MALTA



VisitFinland



VisitBritain

MALTA 2v

Issue date 9 May

**VATICAN** 2v Issue date 11 May**ESTONIA** 2v

Issue date 3 May

**NORWAY** 2v Issue date 13 April

Two self-adhesive stamps from a set of three.

Issued in a mini-sheet of 6 stamps (3 stamps of each) printed tete-beche.

**CYPRUS** 2v Issue date 2 May

Also issued in booklets of 4 sets

**POLAND**

1v

Issue date 22 May

**SERBIA** 2v Issue date 30 May

Printed in mini-sheets of 8 stamps + center label

**CROATIA**

2v

Issue date 9 May

THIRD PLACE WINNER**SAN MARINO** 1v

Issue date 13 June



Europa 2012: Visit



BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA (Serb post)

2v issued in sheets, and in booklets of 8 stamps each plus center label Issue date 26 April
(Lighthouse has in the past allowed space for both stamps and booklet panes since the perfs are different in the booklet)



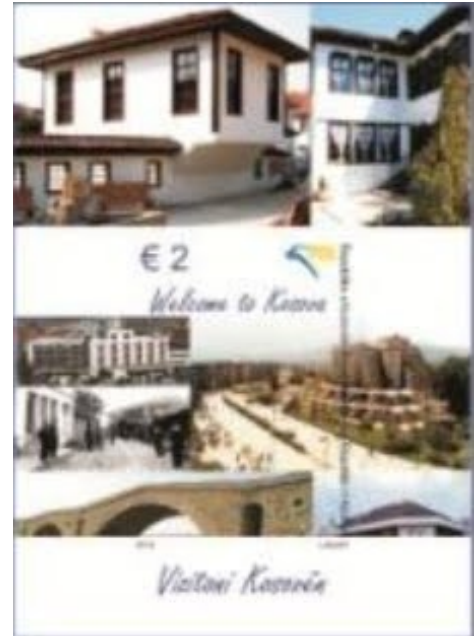
MACEDONIA 2v + souvenir sheet

Issue date 13 April



KOSOVO 2v + souvenir sheet

The stamps do not have the EUROPA logo but album makers have been including them



KAZAKHSTAN 1v

Issue date 11 April



BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA 2v issued

separately, and in a souvenir sheet (shown) Issue date 29 May



CYPRUS (Turkish Post) 2v se-tenant Issue date 8 May

Note these stamps do not have the mailbox icon, as Turkish Cyprus is not a PostEurop (or UPU) member



Europa 2012: Visit Moldova



MOLDOVA 2v

Issue date 18 April 2012

The stamps of Moldova are issued in sheets of 10 stamps, and also in booklets of 2 miniature sheets of 3 stamps and 1 label.



EUROPA NEWS

Bulletin of the Europa Study Unit

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