

BULLETIN OF THE EUROPA STUDY UNIT http://www.europastudyunit.org/

1v



**NOVEMBER** DECEMBER 2012 #412

## 40 Years of the European Youth Centre

The European Youth Centre is an educational establishment of the Council of Europe. The European Youth Centres (plural) are two structures hosting part of the Council of Europe. The two structures are run by the Directorate of Youth and Sport.

The European Youth Centres are residential educational, training and meeting centers. The European Youth Centre Strasbourg (EYCS) was established in 1972 for the implementation of the Council of Europe youth policy. The building of the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg is also house of the secretariat of the Directorate of Youth and Sport, including the European Youth Foundation and the Solidarity Fund for Youth Mobility.

## FRANCE FRANCE Issue date 3 Oct 2012 Official stamp for the Council of Europe



0.89€

The building of the European Youth Centre Strasbourg (shown opposite) is located in the European district of Strasbourg, a few hundred metres from the European Court of Human Rights and the European Parliament. The building is officially considered part of the protected architectonical heritage of the world.

#### Nordic Contemporary Art—a Double Paraphrase

The idea for these two **FAROES** stamps comes from Niels Halm, director of the Nordic House in Tórshavn (capital of the Faroes). Normally, only stamps by Faroese artists are released in the Faroe Islands. This time, however, the two new stamps feature a Swede's paraphrase of a Faroese artist's work and vice versa, making this a groundbreaking joint Nordic project. Issue date 25 Sept. 2012.



The 13 kr. stamp is entitled "Mr. Walker on the Faroe Island", and was created by the Swedish artist, Jan Hafström. The comic figure faces a typical Faroese landscape, which in fact is a section of "Favorite Campingspot", a 2008 painting by Faroese colleague Edward Fuglø.

The 21kr stamp features Mr.Fuglø's Composition titled "Egg Procession". The large egg is carried by a monk in a cowl, who leads a procession of three other monks in cowls. The stamp motif is also a paraphrase of a work by his Swedish colleague Jan Hafström. More information may be found on the Faroes website.

The European Youth Centre Budapest (EYCB) was established in 1995 in a building originally designed as the house of the young communists, later converted into an international hotel. The premises are currently owned by the Hungarian government. The building is located in the Buda side of the city, relatively close to the castle and a few hundred metres from the river Danube. The EYCB underwent major refurbishing of its external structure during summer 2005.



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#### It's Dues time.

Send in your renewal now and beat the holiday rush. See the Insert.

#### **ARMENIA** 1v Issue date 7 Sept 20th anniversary of the participation of the Republic of Armenia in the OSCE



The stamp depicts the Hofburg Conference Center in Vienna, which is the central office for political debates and meetings of the OSCE, as well as the flags of the Republic of Armenia and the OSCE.

**ESTONIA** 1v Issue date 10 Aug Publicity issue for the Euro



On 1 January 2011 the euro was taken into use in Estonia and the postage stamp issued to mark the event was the first Estonian euroonly stamp with the face value of  $\notin$ 1. The present stamp has the same design but is of different color. —from the Estonia Post website

**CYPRUS** 1v+ss Issue date 8 Aug Cyprus' presidency of the Council of the European Union



Single stamp of same design has value of  $\in$  0,51.

#### New Issues All dates 2012 unless otherwise noted

VATICAN CITY souvenir sheet ITALY souvenir sheet Issue date 13 Sept

1700th Anniversary of the Battle of Ponte Milvio (Milvian Bridge) *Joint issue* 



Just before the famous Battle of the Milvian Bridge in 312, the emperor Constantine witnessed a sign in the sky, a cross with next to it written "In this sign, you shall conquer". The vision appeared before his final fight with the rival emperor Maxentius.

The vision left a deep impression on Constantine; he had the shields of his soldiers marked with the Christian monogram XP, representing the two letters chi (X) and rho (P) of the Greek alphabet, the first

two letters of the Greek word Christos ( $\chi \rho \iota \sigma \tau \delta \varsigma$ ), m e a n i n g "anointed", an epithet attributed to Jesus.



The next day he confronted the enemy army and defeated it. This marked the beginning of a new chapter in the Roman Empire and the victory of Christian faith over paganism. A year later, he issued the Edict of Milan (also known as the Edict of Constantine), which ended three centuries of oppression, persecution and martyrdom of Christians. The miniature sheet reproduces a painting by Giulio Romano in the Sala di Costantino of the Vatican Museums. The work is better known as "The battle against Maxentius at the Milvian Bridge". Pope Leo X commissioned it in 1517 to Raphael who, busy with many other tasks, only began to work on it shortly before he died. Giulio Romano, a student of his school, finished the work.

-from the Vatican Post

#### **TURKISH CYPRUS** 2v Issue date 1 June Euro 2012 soccer championship



## New Issues

All dates 2012 unless otherwise noted

#### **MONTENEGRO** 1v

Issue date 29 June Beginning of negotiations to gain accession to the EU



**MONTENEGRO** 1v Issue date 27 July European Handball Championship



**SAN MARINO** souvenir sheet Issue date 16 Oct *Joint Issue* 20th Anniversary of diplomatic relations between San Marino and Croatia.



The two stamps chronicle the history of the two republics. According to legend Marino, a stone cutter from Arbe island, was the founder of the Republic of San Marino and he is represented on the background of the souvenir-sheet.

Note: as of this writing, Croatia has not shown this in its new-issue list.

#### ROMANIA 1v

Issue date 4 October 20th anniversary of German-Romanian Friendship Treaty



After the signing of this Treaty, Germany became the first commercial partner (both for export and import) and the third investor in Romania. *The illustration above includes the central label from the complete sheet of 8.* 

**POLAND** 1v Issue date 6 Sep Bilateral Philatelic Exhibition Poland -Germany "KARGOWA 2012"



**UKRAINE** souvenir sheet Issue date 25 June Ukraine welcomes the Euro 2012 soccer championship



image of the flower luminesces under UV-light

*Mea culpa* dept.: The stamp shown below, also issued for Euro 2012, was incorrectly identified in the last EN.



The image on the Ukrainian website was small and fuzzy, and the shape led me to believe that I was looking at a booklet cover. This slightly cropped image is from a new issue dealer's website, and it is obviously a stamp.



**New Issues** 

## Europa 2012: Visit ....

A few items not covered in previous issues, and a straggler.

As this issue of EN goes to the printer, three countries have yet to participate in this year's theme.

**ARMENIA** on the *Haypost* website a souvenir-sheet with 1 stamp is scheduled for 2Q 2012. (not a typo).

**GEORGIA** indicated that two souvenir sheets would be issued, as it became a PostEurop member in 2012. At this late date, it is unclear whether an issue will materialize.

NAGORNO KARABACH-no word as yet

**GIBRALTAR** 2v from a set of 6 Issue date 15 June 2012

Visit

Sweden



**ALBANIA** 2v printed se-tenant in sheetlets of 10. Issue date 21 Sept 2012

Shqiperia

Visit MALTA

Our friend at the Europa blogspot offers his assessment of the chances of seeing a lastminute offering:

Armenia: 85% Georgia: 20% Nagorno Karabach: no guess

VisitFinland



Next year's

**UKRAINE** 2v se-tenant Issue date 13 June 2012

Issued in sheetlets of 5 sets with 2 labels, and a booklet pair





MONTENEGRO 2v+souvenir sheet of 2 Issue date 17 Oct 2012



**Note from the ESU HB Editor**: The "working copy" of the Europa 2012 handbook update is available on the "Members Only Pages." It is ~75% complete and I will continue to post updates there until the final version is provided (target is the Jan-Feb 2013 Europa News, depending on stragglers). –Alex (ac.esu.handbook@ohiohills.com)

VisitBritain



## NEW ISSUES WITH SCOTT CATALOG NUMBERS - Don Smith

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

## From Linn's September & October Special Editions



		-	REARING NEW ISSUES UP	MTE
COUNTRY	SCOTT #	DATE OF ISSUE	DESCRIPTION	*
Aland	327	21-Mar-12	Norden 2012 (souvenir sheet)	1b
Aland	330	9-May-12	Europa 2012	1a
Andorra (French)	702	5-May-12	Europa 2012	<b>1</b> a
Austria	2387-8	6-Jun-12	Maps of Europe	_
Bulgaria	4594-6	4-Apr-12	Europa 2012 (4596 a souvenir sheet)	<b>1</b> a
Bulgaria	4601	7-May-12	Membership in the Council of Europe	2a
Croatia	841	8-Jun-12	European Soccer Championships	3c
Cyprus (Turkish)	725	8-May-12	Europa 2012 (se-tenant pair)	<b>1</b> a
Cyprus (Turkish)	727-8	29-Jun-12	European Soccer Championships	3c
Denmark	1585-6	21-Mar-12	Europa 2012 (1585 a souvenir sheet)	1a
Denmark	1587-9	21-Mar-12	Norden 2012 (1587 a souvenir sheet)	1b
Estonia	703-4	3-May-12	Europa 2012	<b>1</b> a
Faroe Islands	572	4-Jan-12	Queen Margrethe (joint issue w/Denmark, Greenland)	3b
Faroe Islands	581	21-Mar-12	Norden 2012 (sheet of 2)	1b
Faroe Islands	582-3	30-Apr-12	Europa 2012	1a
Finland	1408	21-Mar-12	Norden 2012 (souvenir sheet)	1b
Finland	1409	7-May-12	Europa 2012 (se-tenant vertical pair)	1a
France	4089-90	1-Oct-11	Marianne of Europe (self-adhesive coils)	3b
France	4183	23-Mar-12	Capitals of Europe: Copenhagen	3a
France	4224-5	20-May-12	Europa 2012 (4225 a souvenir sheet)	<b>1</b> a
Germany	2674	2-May-12	Europa 2012	<b>1</b> a
Germany	2677	14-Jun-12	Pfalzer Hut (joint w/Liechtenstein 1542) see EN#410-3	3b
Gibraltar	1355-6	15-Jun-12	Europa 2012	1a
Great Britain	2968	10-Apr-12	Europa 2012	1a
Greece	2537	10-May-12	Europa 2012 (se-tenant horizontal pair)	1a
Greenland	614-5	21-Mar-12	Norden 2012 (souvenir sheet 615a)	1b
Greenland	<b>620-1</b>	7-May-12	Europa 2012	1a
Guernsey	1162-3	1-May-12	Europa 2012	1a
Isle of Man	1494	2-Apr-12	Europa 2012	1a
Ireland	1963-4	3-May-12	Europa 2012	1a
Kazakhstan	668	11-Apr-12	Europa 2012	1a
Latvia	803-4	17-Apr-12	Europa 2012	1a
Liechtenstein	1542	14-Jun-12	Pfalzer Hut (joint with Germany 2677) see EN#410-3	3b
Lithuania	973-4	28-Apr-12	Europa 2012	1a
Macedonia	513	5-May-10	Europa 2010	1a
Macedonia	572	31-Aug-11	European Basketball Championships	3c
Macedonia	593-4	9-Apr-12	Macedonia in the European Union	2a
Macedonia	596-7	13-Apr-12	Europa 2012 (597 a souvenir sheet)	1a
Marshall Islands	1036	16-Jul-12	Euro 10 <sup>th</sup> anniversary	2a
Moldova	748-9	18-Apr-12	Europa 2012 (both stamps in a souvenir sheet)	1a
Monaco	2681	25-Jun-12	Prince Albert Exhibition (joint issue w/Belgium)	3b
Montenegro	285-6	26-May-11	Russian Diplomatic Mission, joint w/Russia 7272	3b
Montenegro	287-8	, 9-Jun-11	Games of the Small European States	3c
Montenegro	291	7-Oct-11	Concordat with the Vatican, 125 <sup>th</sup> anniversary	4b
Montenegro	292	21-Oct-11	Joy of Europe	3a
Poland	4041	22-May-12	Europa 2012	1a
Poland	4045-8	8-Jun-12	European Soccer Championships	3c
Poland	4049	15-Jun-12	European Soccer Championships	3c
Russia	7372	4-May-12	Europa 2012	1a
San Marino	1867	13-Jun-12	Europa 2012	1a

## The 1956 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (Part 8)

The Luster monograph installment continues with a discussion of the Netherlands issue for 1956, the last country in our list. In the next EN we will address "other issues." 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.

The Netherlands issued a publicity folder to accompany the release of its 1956 Europa set of two stamps.



Figure 102. Official Netherlands publicity release folder for the 1956 Europa set.

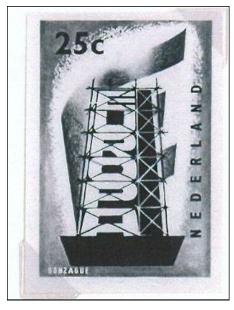


Figure 103. Accompanying the publicity folder was a publicity photo. These photos were intended for use by editors, publishers and the like to promote Netherlands philately.

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

The Netherlands issued a set of two 1956 Europa Stamps. The colors are primarily brown-red/ dark grey on the 10 cent stamp and medium-blue/dark grey on the 25 cent stamp. The stamps were designed by Daniel Gonzague. They were rotogravure printed on un-watermarked paper, perforated  $12\frac{34}{12} \times 14$ , by the Joseph Enschedé en Zonen company of Haarlem, in sheets of 100 stamps. D'Urso assigned the numbers 12 and 13 to these stamps.



Figure 104. Netherlands 1956 Europa set, as issued.

The right-side selvedge of the sheets contained numbers to make it easier for postal clerks to dispense and account for stamps. Figure 105 is an example of a block of eight stamps from the upper right side of a pane. The numbers "10" and "9" can be seen in the selvedge. Those numbers identify the block as coming from the top two rows of a sheet. The sheet's top selvedge can also been seen on this block.



Figure 105. Top-right two rows of a sheet of 10 cent Netherlands 1956 Europa stamps in a block of 8.

D'Urso records two different first day cancels. The one shown at figure 106 and another that reads "s-Gravenhage Philatelistiche Dienst." The later cancel is known with four different "check" numbers incorporated into its design.



Figure 106. Official first day cancels. Note that the cancel on the right bears the check number "4."

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

Shown at figures 107 and 108 are three cacheted first day covers. The top two covers are registered and addressed. The upper cover was mailed from s-Gravenhage. The second cover, bearing the same cachet design and cancel, bears a Nijmegen registration label. The hand-stamped word "AANTEKENEN" on the middle cover means "registered." The bottom first day cover, also with the same cachet, is manuscript-addressed to Austria.



Figure 107. Two registered first day covers, both franked with the complete set of the Netherlands 1956 Europa stamps.



Figure 108 First day cover addressed to Austria, franked with the complete set of the Netherlands 1956 Europa stamps.

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

Another first day cover can be seen at figure 109. It too is franked with the complete set of the Netherlands' 1956 Europa stamps. Registration was in Nijmegen according to the name on the registration label.



Figure 109. Cacheted first day cover from the Netherlands. Initials "APC" appear at the lower left corner of the cover.

The covers below were sent by the "Philatelic Service Department of the Netherlands Postal and Telecommunications Services. They likely contained a fulfilled order for stamps or some other related communication.



### Central European Initiative — Dana Roper



In 2008, Moldova issued a colorful pair of stamps in a miniature sheet to publicize Moldova's presidency of the <u>Central European Initiative</u> (CEI). The design shows the Council of Europe stars encircling a map of central Europe. The border of the miniature sheet shows the flags of the CEI members.

The Central European Initiative (CEI) is the oldest and largest intergovernmental forum for regional cooperation in Europe, with an observer status in the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Its origin lies in the creation of the *Quadrangolare* in Budapest on 11 Nov 1989, the founding fathers of which were Austria, Hungary, Italy and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. On that occasion, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the four founding members adopted a joint declaration stating the readiness of their Governments to strengthen good-neighborly relations and cooperation among their countries. In 1990, Czechoslovakia was admitted and the Initiative was renamed *Pentagonale*; in 1991, with the admission of Poland, it became *Hexagonale*.

A number of new countries were admitted in 1992, at which time it was decided to rename the organization the Central European Initiative. The expansion of the Initiative continued in 1993, 1996 and from 2000 to 2006, with the admission of its last country, Montenegro, increasing the number of Member States to eighteen.

In the meantime, several CEI Member States became European Union Member States, also thanks to the CEI's contribution in terms of cooperation for the social and economic development of the area.

The CEI Secretariat is based in Trieste, Italy. Financial support for the



functioning of the Secretariat is provided by The CEI aims at achieving cohesion in areas of mutual interest and at assisting its non-EU member countries in consolidating their economic and social development. In this regard, the CEI Plan of Action defines the organization's priorities within the established areas of cooperation.

Once predominantly oriented towards policy dialogue, the CEI has progressively added economic growth and human development as pillars of cooperation with a focus on capacity building, sharing experience and know-how transfer.

The CEI operates through various structures: – Annual Meeting of the Heads of Government (CEI Summit). – Annual Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs (MFA Meeting). – Regular meetings of the CEI Committee of National Coordinators (CNC).

Participation in EU programs started in 2004, with the aim to foster territorial cooperation among CEI countries – with particular attention to the involvement of non-EU CEI Member States in EU funded projects - and to expand existing experience in CEI's priority areas. ■

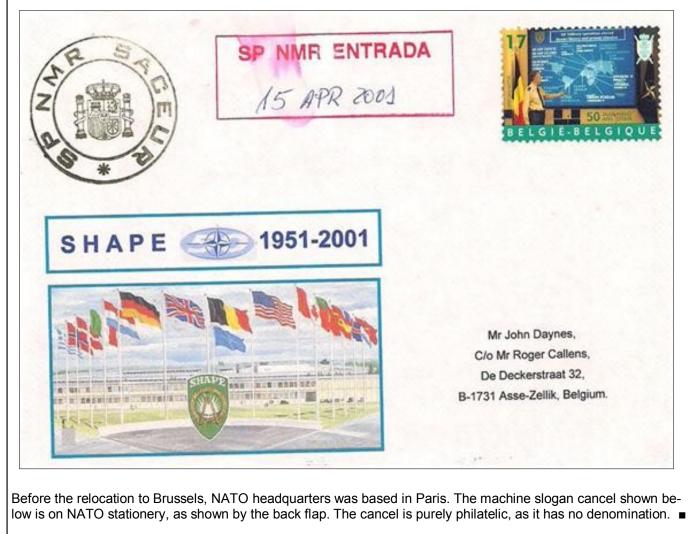
-info from the CEI website and Wikipedia



Map of the CEI, from Wikipedia. The circled areas were not explained.

## SHAPE 50th Anniversary — Tonny van Loij

The Belgian cover shown below marks the 50th anniversary of SHAPE, and has some interesting special markings. The cover is franked with one of the four stamps issued by Belgium to note NATO's 50th anniversary. SHAPE stands for Supreme Headquarters of Allied Powers in Europe and is based at Casteau since 1966. SP NMR SACEUR is a division of SHAPE - Supreme Allied Commander Europe, the most Senior Commander within certain Multinational Military Alliances. It had to be located at least 50km outside of Brussels, NATO's new location, because SHAPE was a major wartime military target.





### The Miscellaneous Box — Caroline Scannel

I've seen European Sporting stamps from Lebanon and North Africa, but In that same vein—since when is **Israel** a European Country?

The cover is a map of Europe, the ring of stars from the EU flag and running stag – symbol of the post office of Israel. The cancel also consists of a map of Europe. The postmark is Yerushalayim — a place I visited many years ago, and proclaims Philately Day, 8 December 1992, to honor European Unification.

Wasn't the expansion of the European Union 2004? Okay, time to pull out my Timeline. In 1992 the Single Market came into force. The role of the European Parliament was strengthened. The Maastricht Treaty was signed. Aha! With the signing and ratification of the Maastricht Treaty a snowball began to fall down a mountain, unifying the signers to open borders for both people and goods.

The European Central Bank was established in 1992, the Euro was born – it would take 10 years to establish this currency which became the strongest in the world for a few years. Today (2012) there is speculation it will disappear and national currencies will return (which I doubt). Still, Israel uses the shekel, a 'soft' currency and a long way from Euro.

So again, why is Israel honoring the European Union?

Stamps of Israel are usually collected with tabs. The tab on the stamp advertises Philately Day. Called Stamp Day in some countries, it usually commemorates the day the country issued its very first postage stamp. Upon checking I discovered that Israel celebrates stamp day in December.

In 1992 Israel Post chose to honor the European Union for their success in bringing together many nations into one customs and trade zone, with freedom of movement for its citizens and it's own Human Rights Court. There is a forum to air differences and negotiate rather than go to war.

As the Israelis say "Never Again". Never again will there be such devastation as existed after World War II, with thousands dyeing of starvation after the conflict. ■



## EUROPA NEWS

#### BULLETIN OF THE EUROPA STUDY UNIT,

AN ASSOCIATION OF PHILATELISTS DEVOTED TO THE STUDY OF PHILATELIC MATERIALS COVERING THE IDEA OF A UNITED EUROPE... UNITED IN A POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL SENSE.

#### www.europastudyunit.org

**EDITOR:** Mr. Dana Roper, 7266 Prices Cove Place, Gainesville, VA 20155; **email:** droper555@comcast.net.

EDITORS EMERITUS: Col. Stephen Luster (d) & predecessors

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS: PRESIDENT (interim): Mr. Dana Roper EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Mr. Tonny VanLoij

TREASURER: Tonny VanLoij VICE PRESIDENT: Tonny Van Loij, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: open DIRECTORS: Mr. Alex Cwiekalo, Ms.

Caroline Scannel, Mr. Dan Shilcrat WEBMASTERS: Dana Roper, Mr. Jasson Cwiekalo

AUCTION MANAGER: Mr. Donald W. Smith, P.O. Box 576, Johnstown, PA 15907.

EUROPA HANDBOOK: Alex Cwiekalo

ANNUAL DUES: (Including one year of the EUROPA NEWS): Electronic Membership \$10/yr; Standard membership (hardcopy of EN mailed): \$20/yr; \$25/yr outside US/Canada

Dues are payable as of January 1st each year\*. Payments must be made in U.S. Dollars; cash, or a bank draft, or a money order (made payable to the Europa Study Unit). We also have a PayPal account (**europastudyunit**, email **europastudyunit@comcast.net**) to which any payments can be transferred. Any of these methods is acceptable; however, when using Pay-Pal please add 7% to cover PayPal costs.

**SERVICES TO MEMBERS:** Periodic bulletin (*EUROPA NEWS*) to all members; website with special "Members Only" section; periodic auctions (~3/yr) of EUROPA-related material, EUROPA Handbook, monographs and specialty items available only to ESU members.

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

## **Editor's Page**

#### ESU meetings for 2013:

Your officers compared travel plans, and have agreed upon the following venues for ESU meetings next year. In all cases day and time are to be determined:

**APS Expo**, 18-20 January in Louisville, KY

National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS 2013), 17-19 May in Rochester NY

NAPEX, 31 May-2 June, McLean (Tysons Corner), VA

The NTSS meeting will rival last year, as all officers and directors plan to be there. We hope you can too. Put these dates on your calendar and plan to join us.

<u>My acting career</u>...seems to be flourishing; I now find myself as Acting President and Acting Webmaster. I ask your patience with the latter. I've been keeping the website up to date, but I'd like to go beyond that — by adding more content and possibly tweaking the format to make it more versatile. For example, I've noticed that the site looks pretty good on a standard PC or Mac, but somewhat crowded on an iPad.

So...is there a way to make the site display differently depending on the platform? Yes, it turns out that there is, but it involves a whole new alphabet soup that exposed how outdated my computer skills are. I am now learning about HTML5, XHTML, CSS3, meta-tags and style sheets. That's a lot of information to penetrate my addle pated skull, so I'll take it slow.

I've also noticed some differences between the various browsers, and fixed a few anomalies along the way. For example, the link to the order form on the Members Only site didn't work on Firefox. That is now fixed.

#### Member mail:

ESU member **Gary Jones** is looking for potential suppliers of Europa supplements now that White Ace has apparently folded its tent. He is looking for 3-ring binder pages, so that rules out Lighthouse and Lindner. Does anyone know of a possible source? Any leads would be appreciated, including home-grown pages. (Yes, I make my own pages, but I'm at least 20 years behind, and I rely on Lighthouse for their annual issue supplements).

ESU member **Bill Armstrong** writes with the following query:

"I have one MNH copy of the 1975 Andorra 0.80 (Fr) stamp - Michel(s) #264 - Scott #236, with "all" black missing. What do I have?"

Tonny VanLoij responded with this:

There is no listing in Michel CEPT 2012 or in Andorra (Michel). So it probably is a color missing stamp. Most of the time ( depending on the rarity ) they go for about \$50.00.

So, a nice little item, but probably not enough to retire to the Caymans. Does anyone have any additional information?

Getting back to the website, member **Baxter Stinson** emailed:

"I am a member of ESU. I go to the website now and then, but it doesn't do much good. There are not instructions for establishing a User Name and Password."

Excellent point! The main page now has instructions on obtaining a password. Thank you!

To all members: Please, keep those comments coming!

Uh-oh. It's dues time again. Where did the year go?

Please, send in your renewal and your vote for best Europa stamps of 2012!

## **Estonia Postal Cards**

In addition to its stamp program, the nation of Estonia occasionally produces a colorful item of postal stationery, usually a new postal card or postcard with a special cancel. Herewith are reproduced a number of these—dating back to the year 2000 — that have a European theme.

tival

Information is from the Estii Post, Wikipedia, and others.

Issue date 21 July 2007

This was a special edi-

tion of an existing

#### Issue date 6 June 2012 UEFA European Under-19 Championship



#### Issue date 7 July 2011 International Philatelic Exhibition "Baltica 2011"

This may or may not be Europa. "Baltica" implies a multi-national event for the Baltic countries, but International certainly goes beyond that. Can anyone out there shed some light on this? Should this be considered Europa?



IX European Youth Olympic Fes-

Issue date 28 February 2005 European Championships Air Guns

BELGRADE 2007



#### Issue date 10 December 2008 KUMU – European Museum of the Year 2008





Issue date 6 August 2004 European Road Championships 2004 in Otepää



## Issue date 20 May 2002 BirdEurovision 2002

...a competition where the member organizations of BirdLife International competed to choose the best European bird song of the year 2002. As the competition was held on the Internet, where people could listen to the birdsongs, birds did not have to fly to Estonia to compete. During the one-month voting period nearly 400,000 hits were made on the contest's internet site.



#### Issue date 14 May 2002 Eurovision Song Contest in Tallinn

The contest was won by Latvia's Marie N and her song "I Wanna"



#### Issue date 12 January 2000 Estonian-Finnish Song and Dance Festival

A third such festival was just held in Tampere Finland on 17 June 2012

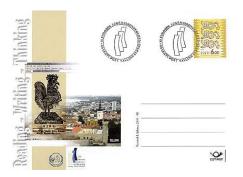


#### **NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2012**

### Estonia Postal Cards cont'd

Finally, two more instances of existing postal cards, to which a unique cachet was applied and then specially cancelled:

#### Issue date 7 July 2003 13th European Conference on Reading



#### Issue date 25 July 2002 470 European Championships



The 470 is an Olympic Class Dinghy designed in 1963 by the Frenchman André Cornu as a modern fiberglass planing dinghy. Recognized by the International Sailing Federation (ISAF), the name is the overall length of the boat in centimeters (the boat is 4.70 metres long). The hull is fiber-glass with integral buoyancy tanks.

It is a popular class of dinghy, offering a good introduction to high performance boats without being excessively difficult to handle. It is not, however, a boat designed for beginners. It has a large sail-area-to-weight ratio and is designed to plane easily. Most sailors get substantial experience in a more stable and less demanding dinghy before beginning the 470. ■

## "Heavenly Images"

#### **GREAT BRITAIN** 6v

Issue date 16 October 2012

In 1962, Ariel 1, the first ever British satellite, was launched from Cape Canaveral. In the 50 years since, British scientists, universities and companies have played a major role in the exploration of space. The six stamps feature photographs captured by European Space Agency (ESA) probes, complete with explanatory captions:

1st Class – Venus: taken from the ESA's Venus Express probe, the photo shows clouds in the southern hemisphere of the second planet out from the Sun.

1st Class – Sun: this image was gathered from the ESA's Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) midway between the Earth and the Sun. It shows particles being ejected from the solar surface. 77p – Lutetia: on route to a meeting with the comet Churyumov-Gerasimenko the ESA probe Rosetta came within 800km of the Lutetia asteroid, located in the asteroid belt between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter.

77p – Mars: a large area of ice within a 35km-wide impact crater on the red planet was photographed by the ESA's Mars Express probe.

£1.28 – Saturn: illuminated by the Sun behind, the beautiful rings of Saturn were photographed by the Cassini probe.

£1.28 – Titan: in 2005 the ESA's Huygens probe parachuted through the atmosphere of Saturn's largest moon to land on Titan's surface. The image captured here was taken on the way to this historic encounter . ■

—-from the Royal Mail website



Image: Spin particular ejected from the solar interaction of the

Titan Largest moon of Saturn, on which the Huygens probe landed in 2005

## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Euro

On 16 July 2012, the **Marshall Islands** issued twelve new stamps celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Euro. The following is from the <u>Marshall Islands Postal</u> <u>service:</u>

The official currency of the eurozone, the euro is the second most traded currency in the world after the U.S. dollar. Euro notes and coins were introduced on January 1, 2002. At midnight on New Year's Eve 2001, European Central Bank offices in Frankfurt erupted in celebration as a huge mock-up of a euro coin was lit up in front of the building. The euro is divided into 100 cents. All circulating euro coins have a common side bearing the denomination and depicting a map in the background. The other side of every coin has a national side with a special design chosen by the issuing country. Although different countries issue differently-designed euro coins, all euro coins are accepted for commerce in all countries which have adopted the euro. ■





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Tonny VanLoij 3002 S Xanthia St. Denver, CO 80231-4237

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