

# Unit 3: Norwegian and North American Stamps

## INTRODUCTION

Stamp collecting is one of the most popular hobbies in the world. A study done in Norway in 1990 indicated that 19 percent of the world's population collect stamps. Many resources are available to get you started on your collection. See p. 5 for suggested sources.

Stamps are classified into several categories according to their intended use.

- ▶ **Definitive stamps** are printed in unlimited quantities for specific postal rates and are available for several years.
- ▶ **Commemorative stamps** are printed in limited quantities, and honor important people, events or special subjects of national appeal or significance.
- ▶ **Special stamps** include issues that supplement the regular stamps, for example Christmas stamps and "LOVE" stamps.

## General Guidelines for All Parts

Begin by collecting Norwegian, U.S. and Canadian stamps. Check incoming mail, ask family and friends to save envelopes when they receive mail and/or correspond with people in Norway, USA and Canada to help build your collection. You can also ask the people you correspond with to use interesting stamps and ask long-term collectors if they will share some of their duplicates.

- ▶ **For Part 1:** Set a minimum goal of 300 different stamps (with good representation from all three countries).
- ▶ **For Part 2:** Collect 300 more for a total of 600.
- ▶ **For Part 3:** Collect 400 more for a total of 1,000.

Organize your collection as it accumulates and protect the stamps so that they do not get damaged or lost. You may use a stock-book, which is an album with plastic or paper pockets on each page. Packets of 50 album pages and stamp hinges are readily available for purchase in coin/stamps shops, bookshops, hobby stores, etc. You may also use a three-ring binder and attach your stamps to heavy loose-leaf paper.

- ▶ Create a dictionary of terms that are unique to stamp collecting. Expand the dictionary as your collection grows.
- AS YOUR COLLECTION GROWS, YOU MAY



WANT TO CATEGORIZE YOUR STAMPS USING THE MAJOR CATEGORIES LISTED BELOW:

- a. definitive stamps
- b. commemorative stamps
- c. special stamps
- d. airmail stamps
- e. postage-due stamps
- f. official stamps
- g. semi-postals (e.g., Red Cross Surcharge Stamp)

OR YOU MAY WANT TO ORGANIZE THEM BY TOPIC:

- a. animals
- b. sports
- c. events
- d. art
- e. presidents, royal family
- f. heroes
- g. monuments

▶ For each of the following three parts, please complete:

- items marked with an asterisk (\*)
- Elective Activity requirements
- Final Report Form A, B or C
- Evaluation Form

**Note:** There is one set of Elective Activities, p. 4, for all levels.

*For all parts, you must fulfill the items marked with an asterisk (\*)*

**To Do:**

- \*1. a) Pick one of the major categories, see p. 1.

## PART 1: STARTING A GENERAL COLLECTION

- b) Develop your collection to include 75 stamps from the chosen category, representing the United States, Canada and Norway - for a total of 25 stamps from each country.
  - c) Find out when these stamps were first issued and include the information in your album.
  - d) Make copies of album pages containing the 75 stamps.
  - e) Attach the copies to your Final Report.
- \*2.**
- a) Select a special topic. See p. 1 for topic ideas or identify another topic of special interest to you.
  - b) Include at least 30 stamps from your selected special topic, representing each country in your collection, for a minimum total of 10 stamps per country.
  - c) Determine when the stamps were issued and classify them according to whether they are definitive, commemorative or special stamps (see definitions, p. 1).
  - d) Make copies of pages containing approx. 30 stamps.
  - e) Attach the copies to your Final Report.
- \*3.** Select one (1) Elective Activity from p. 4 and complete the requirements.
- \*4.** Fill out Report Form A (p. 6), ask a lodge officer or designated person to sign as required. Be sure to include the following information:
- photocopies of stamp album pages
  - Elective Activity requirements
  - Report Form A
  - Evaluation Form

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**SEND MATERIALS TO:**  
CULTURAL SKILLS REPORTS  
SONS OF NORWAY  
1455 WEST LAKE STREET  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55408

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## PART 2: SPECIALIZING YOUR STAMP COLLECTION

*Please refer to General Guidelines for All Parts, (p. 1). For Part 2, you will expand your collection of stamps from USA, Canada and Norway for a total of 600 stamps (300 from Part 1 plus 300 more in Part 2). In order to fulfill the requirements for Part 2, you may wish to purchase a postage stamp album.*

### To Do:

- \*1.** From the USA, Canada and Norway:
- a) Select one (1) five-year period of one country (USA, Canada or Norway) and collect all the stamps which were issued during that period, e.g. 1995-2000.
  - b) Select five (5) one-year periods of one country (USA, Norway or Canada), e.g. 1978, 1983, 1990, 1995, 2000.
  - c) Select one-year periods in a combination of countries, for example: USA—1990; Canada—2000; Norway—1995.
- \*2.**
- a) Collect all the stamps issued during the years you select.
  - b) Mount the stamps on album pages.
  - c) Your stamp collection is likely to be quite large. You now have two options:
    - ▶ You may copy the pages and mail them in with your Final Report form.
    - ▶ You may show your collection to your lodge cultural/social director or other designated cultural skills leader and have him/her verify that you have met the requirements by signing the Final Report form to that effect.
- \*3.** Select one (1) Elective Activity from p. 4 and complete the requirements.

**Note:** *If you choose Elective Activity 4 for Part 1, you may continue that activity to fulfill Parts 2 and 3. You must attend a minimum of six stamp additional collector meetings to qualify for each of Parts 2 and*

## PART 2 CONTINUED

Continued from p. 2

- \*4. Fill out Report Form B (p.7), ask a lodge officer or designated person to sign as required.

Be sure to include the following information:

- copies of stamp pages
- Elective Activity requirements
- Report Form B
- Evaluation Form

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**SEND MATERIALS TO:**

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## PART 3: COMPLETING A 10-YEAR PERIOD COLLECTION

Please refer to *General Guidelines for All Parts, p.1*. For Part 3 you need to expand your collection so that you have a total of 1,000 stamps from Norway, Canada and the United States. In order to fulfill the requirements for Part 3, you will need a postage stamp album for your largest collection. To complete Part 3 you must fulfill the items marked with an asterisk (\*).

### To Do:

- \*1. a. Choose one country (USA, Canada or Norway).
- b. Select a ten-year period and collect all the stamps that were issued during that period.
- Note:** If the ten-year period includes a 1-year period (see Part 2, #1, b and c) from Part 2, extend the ten-year period by one year, for a total of 11 years. For example, you decide to collect Canadian stamps from 1980 to 1990. If you had already collected the stamps for 1985 to fulfill the requirement for Part 2, you need to extend the period to : 1979 to 1990.
- \*2. Mount the stamps on album pages.
- \*3. Your stamp collection is likely to be quite large. You now have two options:
- ▶ Copy the pages and mail the stamps with your Final Report form
  - ▶ Show your collection to your lodge cultural/social director or other designated cultural skills leader and have him/her verify that you have met the requirements by signing the Final Report form to that effect.
- \*Note:** If the same image was issued in several formats, e.g., self-stick, perforated, etc., one example of the image will suffice.
- \*4. Select one (1) Elective Activity from p. 4 and complete the requirements.
- Note:** If you choose Elective Activity 4 for Part 1 and/or 2, you may continue with that activity for Part 3, attending an additional six meetings

## PART 3 CONTINUED

Continued from p. 3

*at minimum.*

- \*5.** Fill out Report Form C (p. 8), ask a lodge officer or designated person to sign as required. Be sure to include the following information:
- copies of stamp pages
  - Elective Activity requirements
  - Report Form C
  - Evaluation Form
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**SEND MATERIALS TO:**  
CULTURAL SKILLS REPORTS  
SONS OF NORWAY  
1455 WEST LAKE STREET  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55408

## ELECTIVE ACTIVITIES FOR PART 1, 2 AND 3

- 1. a.** Select three commemorative stamps to represent the USA, Canada and Norway.
  - b.** Research the history of the stamps and write a report (suggested length: 1,000 words).
  - c.** Present your findings at your Sons of Norway lodge, local school or community club, or submit your story to the local lodge newsletter for publication.
  - d.** Attach your report to the Final Report.
- 2. a.** Select three stamps to represent American, Canadian and Norwegian modern-day life, for example technology, current events or famous people.
  - b.** Learn as much as you can about the topics and write a report (suggested length: 1,000 words).
  - c.** Present your information at your Sons of Norway lodge, local school or community club, or submit your report to the local lodge newsletter for publication.
  - d.** Attach your report to the Final Report.
- 3. a.** Read magazines and books that will help you become a knowledgeable collector of stamps.
  - b.** Join or form a club for collectors in your community. If possible, visit a stamp-collectors' store or attend a stamp collectors' convention. (See suggested resources.)
  - c.** Attach a brief report (suggested length: 1,000 words) about your chosen activity.
- 4. a.** Meet with other stamp-collectors and consider forming a special-interest group under the umbrella of your local lodge.
  - b.** Meet monthly (minimum six times to qualify for Norwegian Cultural Skills Program) to exchange stamps and learn about other collections.
  - c.** Attach a brief report (suggested length: 1,000 words) on your meetings, including how valuable they are to you and a sample of interesting things you have learned.



# RESOURCES

## 1. Canada

### National Philatelic Center

Canada Post Corporation  
Antigonish, Nova Scotia,  
Canada B2G 2R8

### The Stamp Travellers Club

Canada Post Corporation  
Antigonish, Nova Scotia  
Canada B2G 2R8

## 2. United States

### U.S. Postal Service

Philatelic Sales Division  
Box 449997  
Kansas City, MO 64144-9997

## 3. Norway

### Postens frimerketjeneste

Postboks 3770 Gamlebyen  
N-0135 Oslo 1, Norway

## 4. Slide Program

“Collecting Norwegian and North American Stamps,” a Cultural Skills Presentation. To borrow this slide program, call: 1-800-945-8851 and ask to speak to someone in the Sons of Norway Media Lending Library.

## 5. Websites

*Links good as of 4/30/04:*

►American Philatelic Society

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

►Scandinavian Philatelic Society

[www.scandps.org.uk/spslink.htm#Norway](http://www.scandps.org.uk/spslink.htm#Norway)

►The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

[www.sfu.ca/%7Edggronbec/cfpshome.htm](http://www.sfu.ca/%7Edggronbec/cfpshome.htm)

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# Report Form A

# Norwegian Cultural Skills Program

## Unit Three: Norwegian and North American Stamps, Part 1

I have completed the requirements in Norwegian and North American Stamps, Part 1.

I. I have established a stamp file and I currently have \_\_\_\_\_ stamps

From Norway \_\_\_\_\_ stamps

From USA \_\_\_\_\_ stamps

From Canada \_\_\_\_\_ stamps

II. Starting a general collection

1. I chose the category (check one):

definitive stamps

special stamps

postage due stamps

semi-postals

commemorative stamps

airmail stamps

official stamps

2. My special topic is

animals

art

monuments

sports

Presidents/royalty

Other \_\_\_\_\_

events

heroes

I am enclosing photocopies of my collection as specified

III. I chose elective activity  1  2  3  4 I have attached the required report.

I have shown my collection to the lodge officer or other designated person who has signed this form below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge Name/District/Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Age (if younger than 16): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Pin applied for (check one):  Generalist  Specialist  Mentor

Have you received Cultural Skills Program pin awards previously?  Yes  No If yes, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Applicant) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name of Lodge Cultural/Social Director, \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address of Cultural/Social Director, \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary or other designated person

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (International Headquarters) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form and your report to: **Sons of Norway  
Cultural Skills Report  
1455 West Lake St.  
Minneapolis, MN 55408**

# Report Form B

# Norwegian Cultural Skills Program

## Unit Three: Norwegian and North American Stamps, Part 2

I have completed the requirements in Norwegian and North American Stamps, Part 2.

I. I have increase my stamp collection for a total of \_\_\_\_\_ stamps

From Norway \_\_\_\_\_ stamps

From USA \_\_\_\_\_ stamps

From Canada \_\_\_\_\_ stamps

II. I chose to collect stamps from the period(s) (please specify years): \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing photocopies of my collection as specified

The person who has signed my report below verifies that I have met the requirements.

III. I chose elective activity  1  2  3  4 I have attached the required report.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge Name/District/Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Age (if younger than 16): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Pin applied for (check one):  Generalist  Specialist  Mentor

Have you received Cultural Skills Program pin awards previously?  Yes  No *If yes, please specify:* \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Applicant) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name of Lodge Cultural/Social Director, \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address of Cultural/Social Director, \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary or other designated person

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (International Headquarters) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form and your report to: **Sons of Norway  
Cultural Skills Report  
1455 West Lake St.  
Minneapolis, MN 55408**

# Report Form C

# Norwegian Cultural Skills Program

## Unit Three: Norwegian and North American Stamps, Part 3

I have completed the requirements in Norwegian and North American Stamps, Part 3.

I. I have increase my stamp collection for a total of \_\_\_\_\_ stamps

From Norway \_\_\_\_\_ stamps

From USA \_\_\_\_\_ stamps

From Canada \_\_\_\_\_ stamps

II. I chose to collect stamps from the period(s) (please specify years): \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing photocopies of my collection as specified

The person who has signed my report below verifies that I have met the requirements.

III. I chose elective activity  1  2  3  4 I have attached the required report.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge Name/District/Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Age (if younger than 16): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Pin applied for (check one):  Generalist  Specialist  Mentor

Have you received Cultural Skills Program pin awards previously?  Yes  No *If yes, please specify:* \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Applicant) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name of Lodge Cultural/Social Director, \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address of Cultural/Social Director, Secretary or other designated person \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (International Headquarters) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form and your report to: **Sons of Norway  
Cultural Skills Report  
1455 West Lake St.  
Minneapolis, MN 55408**

# EVALUATION FORM

Please keep this original and make the necessary copies to complete your report.

## CULTURAL SKILL COMPLETED: NORWEGIAN AND NORTH AMERICAN STAMPS

**Instructions:** For each of the seven questions below, please check the box which fits your opinion most accurately. The choices are: **Agree (A)**, **Neutral (N)** and **Disagree (D)**. It would be helpful for improving the unit if you would also add your specific comments in the space provided.

	<b>A</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>D</b>
1. The instructions for this unit were easy to follow	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The requirements for this unit were reasonable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. There were enough varied choices for optional activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. There were enough instructions and guidelines for doing the activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The unit provided interesting activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. The unit increased my understanding of Norwegian heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. The unit promoted my involvement in the lodge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS:** In the space below, please add other comments and suggestions you may have with respect to this unit. Your comments are confidential and in no way affect the awarding of your completed pin/bar.

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Please send the Evaluation Form to:  
Culture Department  
Sons of Norway  
1455 West Lake Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55408