

The PhilateliKid

The newsletter for Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids (SCCFK)

Collect Stamps (The Most Educational Hobby)

www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org

February 1, 2026

First, a big thank-you to over 100 generous donors to SCCFK located all over the United States and 8 foreign countries, who donated stamps, supplies, and money during 2025. Many donors have donated multiple times. Your generosity is what keeps this organization going into its 24th year, with all members of the stamp clubs for children receiving all their supplies for free, including hinges, albums, glassine envelopes, tongs, etc. and all covers, and mint and used stamps. SCCFK has been mailing out *The PhilateliKid* now every month for over eleven years, using many mint US stamps for postage that were donated. SCCFK began including adult beginner stamp collectors as member over 10 years ago. So, from all of us, we want you to know that your thinking of us has made a big difference. Since 2002 we have given out over 10,000 albums and over half a million stamps. You have made that possible, as well as providing support for almost 10 years for our web site, www.stampcollectingforkids.org. Also, we appreciate your world-wide support of helpful ideas, suggestions, corrections, and encouragement for *The PhilateliKid*, which began its humble first edition with a circulation of just 59 members, and now has close to 500 recipients every month. We occasionally receive in the mail a copy of *The PhilateliKid* that was returned, marked "Deceased." This is always a somber reminder that for each of us, our days are numbered, even though, as a child, you may not think about it. For the friends and relatives of those who have "Closed Albums" we extend to you our deepest sympathies and prayers. Sometimes we receive a donation of stamps from the relatives of a "Closed Album." Again, a **big** thank you !! (Note: In the stamp collecting world, a "Closed Album" refers to a stamp collector who has died.)

In the May 2022 issue of *The PhilateliKid*, we began brief descriptions of various "Back of the Book" ("BOB") listings in the Scott Catalogues. In subsequent issues we looked at stamps which begin with the letter "B," "BK," "C," "CB," "CBO," "CE," "CFLEU," "CL," "CLC," "CLCF," "CLEU," "CM," "CO," "CP," "CVP," "D," "E," "EP," "F," "FA," "J," "JQ," "K," "L," "LO," "LOX," "M," "MR," "NSC," "O," "OXF," "P," "PC," "PM," "PN," "PR," "PS," "Q," "QE," "QI," "R" (Part 1), "R" (Part 2), "RA," "RC," "RD," "RE," "REA," "REF," "RF," "RG," "RH," "RJ," "RK," "RL," "RN-D," "RO," "RS," "RV," "RX," "RY," "RZ," "S," "SPCVP," "TD," "U," "UC," "UX," "UXC," "UY," "UZ," "WS," "WX," "#X," and State, followed by a number, and also United Nations. This month we will be looking at Danish West Indies. All stamps illustrated are from the author's personal collection, unless otherwise noted.

Stamps from Danish West Indies.

There has been considerable news lately about the Kingdom of Denmark, and its "ownership" of a Danish territory named Greenland, which geographically is the size of Alaska and Texas combined. Greenland's 2026 population 57,000. 80% of the land in Greenland is covered by ice. Approximately 90% of Greenland stamp with Denmark King Frederik IX the population is indigenous people – Greenlandic Inuit. The majority of the people of Greenland speak Kalaallisut (Greenlandic.) The currency used in Greenland is the Danish Krone (DKK). The people of Greenland are called Greenlanders. The indigenous people refer to themselves as Kalaallit.

Let's look at Denmark. It is a kingdom with a population in 2026 of approximately 16 million people. It is part of the European Union (EU) but does not use Euros as its currency, as 21 European countries now do. The currency in Denmark is called a Danish Krone (DKK.) Today, it cost about 16¢ to purchase one Krone. Denmark is one of the three countries called "Scandinavia," which is located in northern Europe. People from Denmark are called "Danes." Denmark is bordered on the south by Germany. That border



with Germany is about 40 miles long. Denmark, bordered on the west by the North Sea, and on the east by the Baltic Sea. The North Sea and the Baltic Sea meet on the northernmost tip of Denmark.

Denmark no longer has any colonies. However, in the past, Denmark had four major colonies: Greenland, Iceland, Faroe Islands, and Danish West Indies.* It also had three very small colonies: from 1640 to 1845 Tranquebar (now Tharangambadi) a city located on the southeastern coast of India, Serampore, a city located in western India, near Calcutta, and also Danish Gold Coast, (a Danish colony from 1658 to 1850) which was located in western Africa, on the Gulf of Guinea, now part of the country of Ghana.)

To stamp collectors, the four major colonies are interesting because they issued stamps. The three small colonies never issued stamps under their own name.

Scott Specialized Catalogue of the U.S. lists the Danish West Indies (DWI) in the back of the book, just before Guam. The Danish West Indies issued its first stamps in 1856, and continued using their own stamps until they were replaced by stamps of the United States in 1917. Scott lists 65 different stamps that were issued by DWI. Five of those 65 were overprints. Eight were Postage Due stamps. For reasons unknown to me, Scott skips number 26 in its listings for DWI.

Most of the stamps of Danish West Indies can be identified by the words "Dansk Vestindien." However, the first four stamps listed by Scott do not indicate the name, but only show a coat of arms. If you have some stamps that you cannot identify, check out Danish West Indies!

*Iceland became an independent country in 1944. Greenland is now part of the Danish Realm. The Faroe Islands is now part of the Danish Realm. The Danish West Indies came under control of the U.S. in 1898, and was formally sold by Denmark to the United States in 1917 for \$25,000,000 in gold coin. It is a Territory of the United States. It was renamed by the U.S., and is now called the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI.)**

** Do not confuse the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) with the British Virgin Islands (BVI), which is a British Overseas Territory, located a few miles east of the USVI.



Scott 11 with St. Thomas postmark

DEAD COUNTRIES

Beginning in October 2024, we illustrated stamps from "Dead Countries." We looked at [Basutoland](#), [Bavaria](#), [Belgian Congo](#), [British Central Africa](#), [British Honduras](#), [Cochin](#), [Croatia](#), [Cyrenaica](#), [Dahomey](#), [Dutch Indies](#), [Eastern Rumelia](#), [French Congo](#), [French Equatorial Africa](#), [Hawaii](#), [Middle Congo](#), [Newfoundland](#), [New South Wales](#), [Northern Rhodesia](#), [Nyasaland](#), the [Peoples Republic of the Zaire](#), [Queensland](#), [Rhodesia](#), [Rhodesia and Nyasaland](#), [South Australia](#), [Southern Rhodesia](#), [Tasmania](#), [Victoria](#), [Western Australia](#), and [Zimbabwe Rhodesia](#). This month we will look at [Alaouites](#) and [Latakia](#).

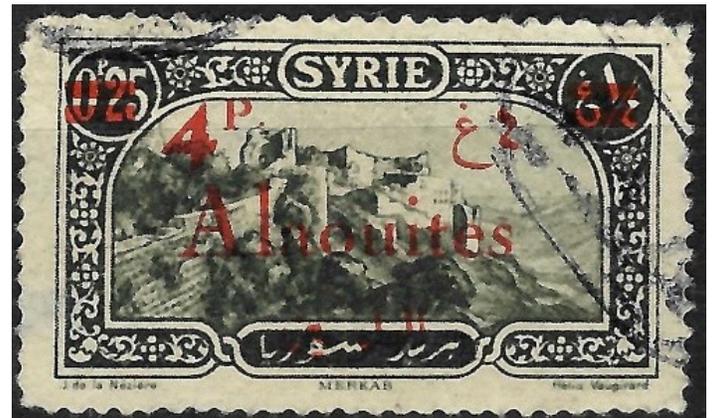
France governed Alaouites and issued 80 different stamps between 1925 and 1930. Of these, 21 were air mail, and 10 were postage due. The geographical area of western Syria from 1920 to 1946, was named Alouites, a French version of the English name Alawite. First, stamps of France were overprinted. After that, stamps of Syria were overprinted. Every stamp ever issued by Alaouites was an overprint. The name Alawites is the name of a very secretive religious group. Alawites also exist in Morocco.

The use of "Alawite", instead of "Nusayri", was advocated by the French early in the Mandate period and referred to a member of the Alawite faith with the term literally referring to a "follower of Ali."

Alaouites Scott No. 4 >>>>

The main city in this area is Latakia, which is a seaport on the Mediterranean Sea.

Beginning in 1930, the name changed to Latakia, with overprints of Syrian stamps saying Lattaquie. Every stamp ever issued by Latakia was an overprint of a stamp of Syria. Latakia only issued stamps from 1930 to 1933. Of these, 11 were airmail stamps, and 2 were postage due stamps. Only 35 different stamps were issued.



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