

SN District 5 Stamp Collecting Options- January 2023

History of SN and TUBFRIM

TUBFRIM was established in 1928 at Nesbyen by postmaster Ditlef Frantzen. TUBFRIM would collect and sell used stamps. The profits should be used for tuberculosis work among children in Norway. TUBFRIM was transferred to the National Association for Public Health in 1947. TUBFRIM built its own stamp house, Solstad, in 1958. At most, 14 people worked at TUBFRIM. Collection of stamps and other philateli has always been the main activity, although both Telecards and postcards have been additional products in later decades. There have also been changes to what the profits will be used for. Today, the profits go to health and well-being measures for children and young people in Norway, and to the fight against tuberculosis. From 1928 until 2021 TUBFRIM has distributed NOK 26 million to approximately 2700 good measures. For many years, **Sons of Norway** had a partnership with TUBFRIM. For each pound of trimmed stamps, an entry was put in a drawing to win a trip to Norway. Over the years, the incentive changed to \$1,000 and TUBFRIM covered the cost. In 2021, Sons of Norway International dissolved the partnership but some of the Districts continued to send stamps to Norway via various routes.

In November, we received an email that the owner of TUBFRIM, the National Association for Public Health, has decided this week to shut down Tubfrim's operations from the summer of 2023. The ordinary operations of TUBFRIM will therefore cease from 22. october 2022. TUBFRIM will continue to accept all used stamps until the New Year 2022/2023, while alternative solutions are being worked on. The society is digitizing, and the amount of collected stamps has decreased drastically. The last five years, 2017-2021, shows that it will be difficult to produce surplus in the coming years. Therefore, the decision to discontinue operations is necessary. The large reduction in the entry of stamps, already scaled operations with regard to the number of employees, and costs at a minimum provide very little action opportunities to continue expecting operating profits. With this backdrop, we can no longer defend operations at TUBFRIM without operating on saved up funds. The board of TUBFRIM has therefore decided that the ordinary operations of TUBFRim will cease from 22. october 2022. Starting on the 24th In three to 4 weeks in October, there will be a one-stop sale with good prices to our loyal customers.

In January, we saw a Facebook post that after 01/01/2023, everything will be sent directly to: Skanfil Auctions AS, Postbox 2030, 5504 Haugesund. Take note of the package with "TUBFRIM". We hope that everyone will continue the good fundraising work that is made as income for the TUBFRIM Fund and the National Association for Public Health. Skanfil Auksjoner AS is part of the Skanfil group, with headquarters in Haugesund and branch offices in, among other things, Oslo, Bergen, Sarpsborg and Trondheim. Skanfil is the country's largest collector's company with stamps as their main product. But not only that - the company also turns coins, banknotes, postcards, art and most of the items worth taking care of. This also allows for donations of such objects for income for the TUBFRIM fund. The website is <https://skanfil.no/tubfrim/>

District 5 SN Options

The District 5 Board asked TUBFRIM Coordinator, Mary Bennett, for her thoughts on what direction we should go. Mary explored the costs to ship stamps to the new TUBFRIM contact and it would be from \$250-\$500/20 pound box- very cost prohibitive. A conference call to discuss the options led to a recommendation to the District 5 Board that we help process and send the stamps that Mary currently has at her house. The board allocated \$300 initially to transport or mail the stamps to two domestic programs (Sisters at St. Mary's College in Nortre Dame, South Bend, Indiana and to Stamps for the Wounded in Virginia.

The District is encouraging lodges to do the following:

- Continue to collect and trim stamps but to send them directly to the cause they want to support. We encourage the lodges to only send properly trimmed stamps that were the same criteria TUBFRIM had – a ½" border, one layer of stamp, and not torn/ripped.
- Mary is willing to process (clip, sort, discard) any stamps that still come to her but she encourages lodges to send them directly to the place of their choice.
- Lodges should count the stamp trimming hours in FraternalGives as community service hours.

The options that we explored and recommend lodges consider:

- **Sisters at St. Mary's College in Nortre Dame, South Bend, Indiana**

<https://www.cscsisters.org/big-dividends-little-stamp/>

If you have any questions about buying or donating stamps, please address them to:

stamproom@cscsisters.org. **Mail stamps to:** Sisters of the Holy Cross-Stamp Room, 100 Augusta Hall–Saint Mary's, Notre Dame, IN 46556-5000

- **Stamps for the Wounded**

<https://www.stampsforthewounded.org/>

Stamps for the Wounded (SFTW) is a service organization dedicated to providing comfort and stimulating activity to U.S. veterans through stamp collecting. SFTW sends donated postage stamps and other philatelic material and supplies to wounded, ill, and isolated veterans.

If you have any questions, please feel free to Contact Us through the web form, by email, or via postal mail. The following kinds of donations are needed: Used postage stamps saved from the mail; Stamps, covers and other items from stamp collections; New and gently used philatelic supplies (album pages, mounts, hinges, stock books, perforation gauges, tongs, etc.); Philatelic literature (catalogues and reference books but not philatelic magazines or newspapers); and cash donations to help with operating costs.

How To Send Donations to Us by U.S. Postal Service: **Stamps for the Wounded**, P.O. Box 297, Dunn Loring, VA 22027-0297

#3- New Option in Norway

STAMP COLLECTION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE CONTINUES. 😊

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<https://skanfil.no/tubfrim/>

- **TUBFRIM and Skanfil Auction**

<https://skanfil.no/tubfrim/>

Send stamps to: Skanfil Auctions AS, TUBFRIM-fondet, P.O. Box 2030, 5504 Haugesund, Norway. Feel free to contact us by tubfrim@skanfil.no or call us on tel. **52 70 39 40** / **924 90 761** if you have any questions.

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