

BULLETIN  
OF  
THE ROSSICA SOCIETY  
OF RUSSIAN PHILATELY

NUMBER 30

THE SOCIETY THAT SLAYS DRAGONS

WINTER 1999/2000

*Society News*

**Annual National Meeting**

The Rossica National Meeting was held at the APS show in Cleveland OH 27-29 August 1999. This national level show gave members of the society an excellent opportunity to look for key items for their collection and meet fellow members and collectors. There was a lot of Russian material in the dealers area. As has been the trend, the better items were very expensive and hard to find. Modern material was a lot more common and reasonably priced. Mid range (\$25-50 range) items were noticeably lacking. Yet there were bargains to be found. Nearly everyone was able to find one or two items where expert knowledge paid off. The society manned a booth near the entrance of the show and had a steady trickle of collectors interested in Russian philately.

The social gatherings were a lot of fun. Nearly every night, members got together after the show for dinner and spirited discussions. For those that were there, it was great seeing you all again.

Several articles in this bulletin feature the events that happened at this show including the Rossica Board meeting (page 2), exhibiting results (page 7), and a seminar by one of our own, Al Kugel (page 4).

**New Constitution Proposed**

In last month's Journal, members were given a copy of the new Rossica Constitution. Please provide your comments to provide them to Gary Combs no later than 2 weeks after you receive this bulletin. Remember, this is your society and your opinion counts! For discussion on the Constitution, see the minutes of the board meeting on page 2.

**Officer Elections**

The opening of Nominations for the 2000-2002 Rossica Society Officers will be taking place early next year. Now is the time to start thinking about serving your society. If you are interested in running for office, contact Gary Combs or any other current officer and they will insure you are contacted by the election committee.

**Notice**

Member Alex Sadovnikov is suspended for one year for selling unauthorized copies of copyright material. Until he meets the terms spelled out in official correspondence, he is not to participate in any official functions related to Rossica.

**Mid-West Chapter**

The Midwest Chapter of Rossica seems to have gone inactive. Before action was taken to delete this chapter, Ged Seiflow volunteered to attempt to revive it. If you are a member living in this area and are interested in continuing this chapter by meeting at one or two of the local shows a year, please contact Ged at 1249 St. Claire Pl. Schumburg, IL 60173 or by email at [.seiflow@bigfoot.com](mailto:.seiflow@bigfoot.com).

**In this Issue**

Board Meeting Minutes	Page 2
Exhibiting Postal History	Page 4
Internet News	Page 8
New Membership Listing:	Page 3
New Publications	Page 8
Rossica Medalist:	Page 7
Russian Exhibits-An Editorial	Page 9
Russia's New Issues	Page 5

## Minutes of the Rossica Board Meeting 28 August 1999

Gary Combs called the annual board breakfast meeting to order with the following officers in attendance:

Dave Skipton  
Ged Seiflow  
Raymond Pietruszka  
George Werbizky

The following items were discussed:

Mr. Combs reported that the current sales of the CD-ROM version of the Moscow Study have broken even in cost. Several members have inquired about printed versions of this study and raised concerns that this work would not be available in print. The society's position on Publications is that Rossica is committed to providing paper-based publications for the indefinite future. Our electronic publications are to expand our availability base, not limit it. Paper copies of the Moscow Post Marks will be available in the future at a cost to be determined. He also stated that works on Mute Cancellations and Propaganda Cards were nearing completion and would soon be available in both printed and CD-ROM versions.

Part of the strength of our Society is the publications it produces. These publications cost a great deal of money to publish and distribute. In the past, publications have had to be produced serially, i.e., each publication had to pay for itself and restore the publication fund before the next item could be produced.

The board next addressed a proposal by George Shalimoff to increase the annual dues to \$40.00. Since all costs have gone up since the last dues increase especially in printing and postage cost, George proposed the increase in dues. The board felt that this was too high. It was then proposed that dues be raised \$25 to help fund future publications and compensate for the higher distribution costs. The officers approved the motion to raise the dues to \$25 a year effective next year (2000). To make this more manageable to the members, the dues structure will be \$20 if paid before December 31 and \$25 if paid afterwards.

It was voted to present the proposed Constitution to the membership for a vote. The new constitution will be sent out to the membership with the October journal and voted on before the next general meeting. All proposed changes were approved except for two.

The proposal that the layout and design of the Journal be mandated in the Constitution. The officers voted this down. The officers did not believe that this should be fixed in the Constitution. It was determined that the Journal Editor would use the traditional cover design for future journals.

The second item was a proposal for a junior membership. In order to encourage the pursuit of Russian philately, the society needs to reach out to young stamp collectors by offering them a discounted junior membership. In the history of Rossica, there has only been one junior member. Also it is not Rossica's role to bring young people into philately, but to promote the study of Russian philately. As such, our potential membership base is not in the junior collectors but the more advanced collectors. This proposal was defeated but it was requested the President survey the membership for the need of a mentor program to provide collectors new to Russian philately a helping hand and support. Let us know.

Also discussed was the plan to follow if Rossica were to stop functioning. Under the current Constitution, if Rossica stops publishing the Journal, it would cease as an organization after three years. At that time, the officers would be required by US law to turn over the remaining assets to another non-profit organization. Under the current plan, it is the American Philatelic Society. The big issue with this is the Library. The officers felt that this is the most valuable asset that the society has to offer as it contains a large number of source documents that are unavailable anywhere else outside of Russia. Under this plan, the library would then go to the APRL. There was concern by the officers that this would result in the loss of some of the rarer Russian language items since the APRL would have no use for these. No action was taken to change this clause, but **(Continued on Page 10)**

### New Members

In order to better serve our members, the new membership listing has been moved from the Journal to the Bulletin. The Bulletin, as the society's news source, is a better document to publish this listing. The Journal will use its space for articles.

John Behm  
P.O. Box 947  
Okemos MI 48805 USA

Vladimir Berdichevskiy  
P.O. Box 534  
Mizpe Ramon 80600 Israel

Gerald J. Bertulis  
RR 3, Box 1069  
Honesdale PA 18431-9704 USA

Steve Boulay  
540 Northmont Way  
Salt Lake City UT 84103 USA

Michael Breen  
Red Star Stamps  
2500 W. 6th Street, Apt. 105  
Lawrence KS 66049-2404 USA

Angelo Carli  
via Donizetti, 2  
I 25062 Concesio-Brescia Italy

Michael Clemons  
1707 Cambridge Ct.  
Liverpool NY 13090 USA

Shayne F. Clinard  
P.O. Box 17546  
Colorado Springs CO 80935 USA

Stuart C. Cockerill  
Eastlands, Sandrock Hill  
Sedlescombe, East Sussex  
TN33 0QR United Kingdom

Wallace A. Craig  
P.O. Box 3391  
Fullerton CA 92834 USA

Vladimir Eliseev  
870 Lexington Dr.  
Lancaster TX 75134-2400 USA

Vitaly Frenkel  
8133 Inverness Ridge Road  
Potomac MD 20854 USA

Richard L. Harris  
English Department  
University of Saskatchewan  
Saskatoon Sask  
S7N 5A5 Canada

Rodney Hartwell  
c/o The Augustan Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 75  
Daggett CA 92327-0075 USA

Mike Harvey  
52 Seaford Close  
Ruislip, Middlesex  
HA4 7HN England

Huanchin Horng  
9720 Athletic Way  
Gaithersburg MD 20878 USA

Serhiy Hrebenichenko  
P.O. Box 68  
Kyiv-1 252001 Ukraine

Sonny Joiner  
6641 Tibers Drive  
Mobile AL 36695 USA

Bruce D. Kelley  
6152 Willow Lane  
Boulder CO 80301 USA

Anatoly V. Kiryushkin  
P.O. Box 562  
Minsk 220113 Belarus

Robert Koch  
Burg. Hoggguerstraat 67  
1064 CK Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

Andrzej J. Komorowski  
Os. Jana III Sobieskiego 16 D  
60-688 Poznan Poland

Miron Lam  
3, Charuv Str,  
81512 Yavne Israel

Michal Lynn  
12847 Ponderosa Drive  
Palos Heights IL 60463 USA

Ruggero Mazzini  
via Paolo Costa, 12  
1-40125 Bologna Italy

Paul Meehan-Martin  
1717 Baker Avenue  
Everett WA 98201 USA

Lyon-Marie Michaud  
22, avenue du Bouchet  
1209 Geneva Switzerland

Richard Miggins  
P.O. Box 8335  
Universal City CA 91618 USA

David Montanye  
505 Shirley Street  
Winthrop MA 02152 USA

Robert N. Murby  
Flat 5A, Zenith Mansion  
7 Shan Kwong Road  
Happy Valley Hong Kong

Thomas E. O'Neill  
P.O. Box 8  
Danville NH 03819 USA

Evgeni Paskudski  
11839 Pearl Road, #411  
Strongsville OH 44136 USA

David W. Percel  
P.O. Box 883  
Ogallala NE 69153 USA

Manfred Rathmann  
Obstallee 32  
13593 Berlin Germany

Mark Shleifer  
1527 Beacon Street, Apt. 5  
Brookline MA 02146 USA

Rick Snyder  
161 S. Prospect St.  
Burlington VT 05401 USA

Nikolai Sorokin  
13009 Viewpoint Lane  
Bowie MD 20715 USA

Michael L. Tihomirov  
4700 Barnum Lane  
Alexandria VA 22312 USA

Teddy J. Uldricks  
UNCA/MLA/CPO #2141  
Asheville NC 28804 USA

Vladimir Venets  
Ramenki Street, 11-3-738  
Moscow 117607 Russia

Yuriy Yablonovskiy  
P.O. Box 1539  
Highland Park NJ 08904 USA

**Welcome one and all to the Rossica Society!**

## **Collecting and Exhibiting Postal History** by Al Kugel

At the APS STAMPSHOW in Cleveland this year, one of our own, Al Kugel, gave the exhibiting/ judging seminar on Postal History. As one of the top exhibitors of Russian material, Al has a lot to say that can help us all increase the enjoyment we derive from collecting. The following is the editor's recollection of what Al had to say about collecting and exhibiting postal history.

Why does Al collect and exhibit postal history? Because it's Fun! He has been collecting for 50 years but exhibiting for only 7 years. There's a big difference between collecting and exhibiting. Exhibiting is thinking out of the box; it's taking your collection and telling a story with it. So why exhibit? It gives you a change to express your creativity. In exhibiting postal history, you have to tell a story about the mail as expressed in postal markings, rates, or routes. It's a wonderful opportunity to educate people. It's an opportunity for increased fellowship, getting together with collectors with similar interests, meeting new people, and perhaps trade information and items.

Like with any exhibit, your first decision is to pick a topic. If you are planning to exhibit at a national show, the topic must be able to support 48-160 pages. At national shows, exhibits can be a minimum 4 frame (48 pages) to a maximum of 10 frames (160 pages). Does the story you want to present have enough material available? You also have to consider the other extreme--is the topic so broad that it can't be adequately presented in 160 pages of material? There are two types of approaches that Al used in his exhibits: horizontal, (a narrow time span) and vertical, an in-depth look at a location or a series. Your approach depends on the topic you have selected.

As with any exhibit, do your research. Study the why of the topic and present this in your exhibit. You will learn a considerable amount about your topic this way. Exhibiting is an opportunity to share your knowledge with other people. You don't have to wait until you have everything to win the grand award.

**(Continued on page 9)**

## New Issues

Russia issued the following stamps during 1999. Pictures and text are from MARKA, the official printers of the stamps of Russia.

### COMPETITION OF CHILDREN DRAWINGS RUSSIA IN THE XXI CENTURY



A set of three postage stamps was issued as a result of the competition for the best children's drawing for postage stamps Russia in the XXI century organized by the State Committee for Communications and Informatization of the Russian Federation. The competition was arranged by MARKA Publishing and Trading Center with the assistance of the Council of Youth Affairs of the President of the Russian Federation. The drawings represented on the stamps depict the dreams of children about Russia's future.

- 1.20 - Family over tea Sofya Kondrashina (12 years old Yekaterinbourg, I prize)
- 1.20 - Fantasy city Alexander Khudyshkin (12 years old, Samara, II prize)
- 1.20 - My town Yury Lapushkov (11 years old, Gulyai-Borisovka of Rostov Oblast, III prize).

Art designer: A.Zharov

Printing: offset with lacquer

Perforation: comb 12 1/2 : 12; 12 : 12 1/2 ;

Face value: 1.20 rbl. each stamp

Size: 52 x 37 mm; 37 x 52 mm

Issue: 250 000 copies of each stamp

### SPACE EXPLORATION

A postage souvenir sheet was issued to mark Space Exploration Day and is dedicated to the theme, space exploration works for the human being, society, and state. The stamp of the souvenir sheet features international space station "Alpha."

The margins of the souvenir sheet bear active orbit complex "Mir," the imprint of meteorological and communication satellites and drawings symbolizing practical utilization of space technology for accomplishing economic tasks. The souvenir sheet bears the quotation from the works of the Russian scientist, the founder of modern space exploration K.E.Tsiolkovsky (1857-1935): human beings will not stay on the Earth forever, but in chase of light and space they will percolate through the atmosphere timidly and then will gain the whole circumsolar space."



Designer: V.Beilin

Printing: offset

Perforation: frame 11 1/2 x 12 1/2

Face value: 7.00 rbl.

Size of the sheet: 120 x 67 mm

Size of the stamp in the sheet: 37 x 26 mm

### WORLD PHILATELIC EXHIBITION "IBRA '99"



The postage stamp was issued on the occasion of the World Philatelic Exhibition "IBRA '99" held from April 27 to May 4, 1999, in Nuremberg Germany. The stamp features the emblem of the World Philatelic Exhibition, the representation of the architectural site of Nuremberg - the house of German artist Albrecht Durer (1471-

1528) who lived in this city and the text "The World Philatelic Exhibition. Nuremberg, 27.4 - 4.5.99" in Russian and German languages.

Designer: A.Pletnev

Printing: offset

Perforation: comb 12 1/2 : 12

Face value: 3.00 rbl

Size: 42 x 30 mm (along perforation)

Issue: 250 000 copies of each stamp

A sheet contains 36 stamps

### AMATEUR FISHING



The set of five postage stamps is dedicated to amateur fishing. It is one of the most widespread passions of people of any age in Russia. The stamps feature various techniques of fishing

- 1.00 - Fishing by circle
- 2.00 - Summer rod fishing
- 2.00 - Spinning
- 3.00 - Winter fishing
- 3.00 - Underwater hunting

Designer: S.Sukharev

Printing: comb

Perforation: frame 12 : 12 1/2

Face value: 1.00, 2.00, 2.00, 3.00, 3.00 rbl.

Size of the sheet: 58 x 26 mm

Issue: 300 000 copies of each stamp

A sheet contains 28 stamps

### OKSKY STATE NATURAL BIOSPHERE PRESERVE. EUROPA STAMP ISSUE PROGRAM.

The postage stamp was issued according to EUROPA program on the theme natural preserves and parks. It is dedicated to the Oksky State Natural Biosphere Preserve. It was founded in Ryazan' province in 1935. Nurseries for rare species of wild animals are founded in the preserve. The stamp

features natural landscape of the Oksky preserve and shows the specimens of world fauna and flora.



Designer: V.Kolganov

Printing: offset

Perforation: comb 12 1/2 : 12

Face value: 5.00 rbl.

Size: 42 x 30 mm (along perforation)

Issue: 300 000 copies of each stamp

A sheet contains 36 stamps

### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOUNDATION



The postage stamp was issued to mark the 50th Anniversary of European Council Foundation. The European Council is a consultative political organization established in 1949 for contributing to the human rights legal proceeding integration. The administration of the European Council is situated in Strasburg (France). The Russian Federation joined the European Council in 1996. The stamp features the flag of Europe and jubilee symbol, the Palace of Europe in Strasburg, and the Spasskaya Tower of the Moscow Kremlin. The stamp bears the words To the great democratic Europe without dividing lines and jubilee date 50.

Designer: Y.Artzemenev

Printing: offset

Perforation: comb 12 : 12 1/2

Face value: 3.00 rbl.

Size: 40 x 28 mm (along perforation)

Issue: 250 000 copies of each stamp

A sheet contains 36 stamps

**(Continued on page 10)**

## Rossica Medalists

WESTPEX 99, San Francisco, CA, 15-17 April 1999

**George V. Shalimoff**, The Romanov Tercentenary Issue of Russia, Silver, Rossica Best Russian Award.

**Ivo Steijn**, The Golden Age of Soviet Postmarks, Silver, Rossica Best Non-Gold Russian Award.

IBRA 99, Nuremberg, Germany, 27 April - 4 May 1999

**Roger P. Quimby**, Russian Currency Stamps & Postal Stationary Used in Finland 1891-1918, Gold.

**Alfred Kugel**, The Germans in the Pacific, Large Vermeil.

**Paolo Bianchi**, The Russian Mail in the XVIII Century, Large Vermeil.

**George G. Werbizky**, Ostarbeiter Mail in WWII, Vermeil. Also a Silver award for his book!

NAPEX 99, Washington, DC, 3-5 June 1999

**Raymond J. Pietruszka**, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, Silver, Rossica President s Award.

Colopex 99, Grove City, Ohio, 11-13 June 1999

**Alfred Kugel**, The Break-up of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Gold, APS 1900-40 medal.

**G. Aldoph Ackerman**, Happy New Year--Russian Style, Silver, Edward E. Kuehn award.

Minnesota Stamp Expo 99, Crystal, MN, 16-18 July 1999

**Roger P. Quimby**, Russian Currency Stamps & Postal Stationary Used in Finland 1891-1918, Gold, APS 1900-40 medal..

APS STAMPSHOW, Cleveland OH, 26-29 August 1999

**Alfred Kugel**, The Allied Intervention in Russia 1918-1925, Champion of Champions-Prix D Honneur.

**Alfred Kugel**, Turmoil in the Balkans 1876-1918, Champion of Champions-Prix D Honneur.

**G. Adolph Ackerman**, For the Red Air Fleet, Gold, Rossica President s Award.

**George G. Werbizky**, Ostarbeiter Mail in WWII, Vermeil, APS Research Award.

**Raymond J. Pietruszka**, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, Silver.

**Alberich von Fafnen**, How to Win a Gold Medal, Silver Bronze.

INDYPEX 99, Indianapolis IN, 10-12 September 1999

**Alfred Kugel**, The Expansion of Greece 1897-1922, Gold, APS 1900-40 medal.

[Congratulations one and all! My apologies to anyone I ve missed. Thanks to George Werbizky for the IBRA '99 Palmares. Except for the listing I get from George, I m dependent on Linn s for my listings. Linn s is slow in listing shows and do not list a lot of the overseas exhibitors. So PLEASE send me palmares of any show you attend or exhibit, or where a Rossica member exhibited. Thanks! ED.]

See the article on Postal History Exhibiting Seminar presented by Alfred Kugel on page 3. Also see the editorial on exhibiting on page 9

*Internet News*

**Rossica Has a New Site**

The society has a new web site located at [www.rossica.org](http://www.rossica.org). That's right, we bought our own domain name and address. The new site is maintained by Jeff Radcliffe and doing a fine job. Check out the site, and, while you are at, it fill out his survey and see what improvements are planned.

**Russian Album Pages Available on the Net**

Need a stamp album pages for your Russian Collection? What to get them cheap? Own a computer with Internet access or someone that does? Then here's a real deal for you.

Bill Steiner has a web site ([stampalbums.com](http://stampalbums.com)) where he offers shareware stamp album pages. In the past year, he has added Russia from 1858-1998 to his list. He asks for \$5.00 to support his efforts, in return, you can get a complete set of pages in Scott order for the cost of the paper. This is real, I use it myself for some of my collections. The pages are based on the Scotts national series but with the plain border. They're clean and sharp with places for all of the Scotts recognized stamps with boxes sized for mounts. They are designed to be printed on 8.5 x 11 paper that fits US style document protectors. They will also print out on A4 paper but I haven't tried that. Another benefit is that he offers a downloadable blank page for those items that are not listed in Scott's. You need the Adobe reader to download the pages but that's free too. As of 1 November, he had pages for the following countries:

- Russia 1958-1998
- Far Eastern Republic
- Armenia 1992-98
- Georgia 1918-1923
- German Territories WW1 and II
- Estonia 1918-1941 and 1991-1998
- Latvia 1918-1940 and 1991-1998
- Lithuania 1918-1940 and 1990-1998
- Western Ukraine
- Poland 1918-1998
- Central Lithuania

Ukraine 1918-1998

If you don't have Internet access, a CD-ROM of the pages is also available through a third party. You can even buy the pages printed. For information check out the site at [www.stampalbums.com](http://www.stampalbums.com).

=====

*New Publications*

**The Russian Arctic. History and Philately of Russia's Far North.** By Ackerman, G.A. 1999. 132 pages with over 200 figures. Published by the author, 629 Sanbridge Circle E, Worthington, OH 43085. Price \$40 US currency only, includes handling and mailing.

The Arctic. Perhaps no other region has piqued the imagination as has the Arctic and the heroic ventures of the men who sought to conquer the Pole, the surrounding frozen seas and the inhospitable northern land. Nearly one-third of the Arctic region is under Russian sovereignty and no other country has made the commitment to the Far North that Russia has made over the centuries. This is the story of Russia's ventures into the unknown and the gradual economic development of its northern territory.

This monograph is written from an historical perspective and describes the exploration, exploits and development of Russia's little known Far North and polar region. The text is complimented with an array of related Russian/Soviet stamps and covers. The following chapter listing provides an overview of the contents and organization of the monograph: The Far North and Its Inhabitants, In the Beginning, The Exploration Eastward, The Latter Half of the 19th Century, The End of the 19th and the Early 20th Century, Developments in the Far North under the Soviets 1920-1940, Exploits to the Pole and the Drift Station Program, The Far North during the Great Patriotic War and Latter Half of the 20th Century 1940-2000, Polar Philately.

The author may also be contacted at [ackerman.3@osu.edu](mailto:ackerman.3@osu.edu)

### **Exhibiting Postal History** (Continued from Page 4)

You can start out at a regional show, and build the exhibit up over time.

So, you have a topic, an approach, now how do you get it together? Al starts out with a stock book to layout the material on the page before writing it up. This gives you the opportunity to move it around and get a balanced page. Strive for two covers per page. You never have enough room for everything you want to show, so don't waste space. Use enough text to explain the item's place in the story. But be brief, a lot of writing distracts from the material and does not help you with the judges. Pay attention to the appearance of the page. Keep it clean with a minimum of distractions so the eye focuses on the material. Al doesn't use borders on his pages, they don't add anything to the story, and can distract the viewer.

Next, organize the pages in a frame layout. Al lays them out on the floor. You can use a table or even build a work frame to hold the sixteen pages. Layout the pages for the best viewing of the material placing your better items at eye level. The frame needs to be balanced so the story stays together. Look out for repetition of page layout in each frame. You don't want all of your pages having the same layout. This could bore the viewer and hide the information you want to present. For oversize covers, use a double size board folded in middle and taped on the back (using archival tape, of course).

Make use of the Judges Handbook and try to understand what they are looking for. Remember; you can do whatever you want, but if you want to win you have to follow the rules. Keep changing the exhibit. Don't let it get cold or the judges will stop looking at it and will miss things. Continuing to improve the presentation and the material will lead you to the grand award.

So, now you have an exhibit and are ready to show it off. There are still two things you need to work on: a title page and a synopsis. Do your title page last so that you can capture the true feel of your exhibit. Remember, the title page tells the viewer what the story of the exhibit is and how you

are going to present it. Mention any limitations you've placed on the story. For the general viewer, this is the only information they will have before starting to look at your exhibit, so make it count. For the judges, you need to do a synopsis. In a synopsis, you need to discuss the material you are presenting, what is important, the approach, the difficulty of acquisition and the like. The synopsis makes life easier on the judge. It should give him the information he/she needs to become familiar with your exhibit and topic. Include references and relevant information that will help them evaluate your exhibit.

O.K., so you've got the exhibit on the show circuit and you're actively trying to improve it. Now what? Follow up your exhibit with an article. This will improve the judges' understanding and show your knowledge of the subject and help educate the next generation of collectors. Submit a copy of the exhibit to APRL (and Rossica) to preserve the knowledge you've gained. Finally, consider becoming a judge, giving something back to the hobby and making your expertise available to all.

### *EDITORIAL*

#### **Where have all the Russian exhibitors gone?**

I have a question for the society's membership. Why aren't you exhibiting? As is evident from the listing on page 7, only a few members exhibit. But why? We have wonderful collections, a fascinating field and so much to tell. I can remember when there were a lot more people showing their material. So what happened? Did you get bored? Did it get too expensive? Showed what you had, got the gold, and that was it? Did you show it and get frustrated with the level of award? Or did life just get too busy?

The reason I ask is that for a specialized society, a very low percentage of our members are exhibiting. I believe that at least 25 members should be showing their stuff, yet only about 10 members are doing so. Now I'm only talking about those members (**Continued on page 10**)

**Rossica Board Meeting**  
(Continued from page 2)

all agreed to consider it further and look for a different organization to receive the library.

The requirement for officers to be located in the United States was discussed and was left as it stands. It was felt that while Rossica is an international institution, it is based in the United States and has a significant American membership.

The officers approved a proposal to waive dues payments for elected officers and the editors of the Journal and Bulletin. These people perform a number of functions without compensation and to recognize these efforts, they should not have to pay dues.

A request by the APRL for a copy of our subject index for incorporation into their index was discussed. If this were done, it would increase the availability of the information in the Rossica library and possibly increase interest in the society. The downside is the lost effort to create the index; which has over 10,000 entries. Also, there was concern that this could lead to the library being accessed by non-members as well as increasing the librarian's workload. This was voted down.

The officers were also briefed on the topics for the general membership meeting, scheduled for that afternoon. During this meeting, the society's entrance into cyberspace, communications, the status of the various chapters, the new constitution, and publications plans would be discussed. [ED. The general meeting minutes were presented in the October Journal.]

The final item discussed was the continuing need for the Society members to communicate among themselves. Communications is a two-way street. Members need to read the official notices of the Society and officers need to respond to data calls by the president. If everyone listened at least as much as they spoke, most of the members would understand the Society better.

This concluded the board's discussions and the meeting was adjourned.

**Editorial-**  
(Continued from page 9)

in the United States, I simply don't have any information about our overseas members, though I would like to hear from them. Why 25? We are 400 strong, discounting dealers and the overseas members leave us about 250. 10% of that group should be exhibiting based on similar numbers in the APS. So please communicate your feelings. Maybe there is something the officers of the Society should be doing to help promote exhibiting?

Please write and let me know. I'll compile the results and take it from there. Thanks, the Editor.

---

**New Issues**  
(Continued from page 6)

**DEER. RUSSIA-CHINA JOINT ISSUE.**



This Russia-China joint issue is dedicated to the Manchurian deer (*Cervus elaphus xanthopygus*), which are specimens of the genus of red deer. Manchurian deer are live mostly in the mountain and forest zones of Russia and China.

- 2.50 -Manchurian deer-male
- 2.50 -Manchurian deer-female and young deer

Designer: V.Kolganov, Y.Huili  
Printing: offset  
Perforation: comb 12 1/2 x 12  
Face value: 2.50 rbl. each stamp  
Size: 42 x 30 mm (along perforation)  
Issue: 850 000 copies of each stamp  
A sheet contains 18 se-tenants

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
**2000**