



# BULLETIN OF THE ROSSICA SOCIETY OF RUSSIAN PHILATELY

Bulletin 50

Spring / Summer 2012

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Proposed Rossica Constitution and By-Laws



In this Bulletin you will find the proposed Constitution and By-Laws. They are the product of review by all the officers and extensive input, a process that has taken four months, a great deal of back and forth and a bucket's worth of eye drops to complete. We do hope that you will take the time to go over them, because if they are passed, they will be the

governing documents of the Society for what may be many years.

Why do we need a new set of governing documents? For one, from its 1929 inception in Yugoslavia to the present day, the Society has never had any by-laws, only a constitution, and that in a number of iterations. The one that we are now under, the 1999 Edition with modifications passed in 2008, includes many procedures that would be better off in by-laws, where changes could more easily be made as technology, officer corps composition.

For another, the current Constitution has a number of flaws, not the least of which is that it gives the President far too much power. Moreover, it allows the President to hold more than one office, such that for many years the power of the executive and the power of the purse (the Treasurer's position) were under one roof, and we went for years without an audit.

In this proposed Constitution, you will find that this shortcoming has been corrected, and that the President's authority has been considerably curtailed in many other respects. While the Presidency is an important job, it is not a license to command a military unit. This is a

society that runs on the good will, expertise and time of volunteers; they are neither employees nor troops.

We have taken it several steps further, too, ensuring that one person cannot be the Treasurer AND the Auditor at the same time. Other restrictions have been introduced that reflect where we are today. For instance, in this proposed Constitution the Treasury must reside in the United States. The reason for this is that if someone outside the USA ran for office and won the Treasurer's position, we would be confronted with the need to transfer thousands of dollars to another country. Worse yet, that Treasurer would still have to fill out tax returns for both Maryland (where we are incorporated, at least for now) and the IRS, since we operate as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. To turn the problem around, would any of our U.S. members wish to navigate the shoals of French or Japanese tax laws, just as an example?

Another problem that is addressed concerns the Library. We have become the victim of our own success; the Library is so large now that shipping it from one Librarian to the next is problematic. The last time we did this, it went from Illinois to California, and it wasn't cheap. Sending it overseas is essentially out of the question, so the Librarian position in this proposed Constitution is limited to the North American continent.

Per Article I of the current Constitution (1999 edition with year 2008 modifications), "[it] may be amended as follows:

a) Proposed amendments may be submitted in writing to the Secretary.

b) Such proposed amendments shall be passed on to the Board of Directors for study.

c) After review of the proposed amendments (Article III, Section 7), the Board of Directors shall forward the proposal to the President for approval. If the President disapproves the amendment(s), the Board can overturn his decision with a unanimous vote.

d) Only after review by the Board and approval by the President or by Board action shall the proposed amendment be printed in ballot form in the next edition of the Journal or Bulletin for study by the regular membership prior to the next general meeting of the Society.

e) The amendments must receive the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the Regular members in good standing voting in such elections before they shall be considered as adopted and a part of this Constitution.”

Therefore, these proposed By-Laws and Constitution will be put before the membership at the Annual General Meeting this year (NOJEX in Secaucus, New Jersey, 25-27 May 2012) for an up or down vote. If you plan on attending (and we hope you do), please come to the meeting and let your voice be heard.

David Skipton  
Greenbelt, MD  
[david.skipton@rossica.org](mailto:david.skipton@rossica.org)

## General Meeting BALPEX 2011 (59<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting)

Our President David Skipton opened the meeting at 1 PM with the announcement that it was our 59th annual meeting. Everyone in the room introduced themselves, and there were over 20 present.

-The minutes of the previous annual meeting at Rompex had been printed and sent to all members in the Bulletin and Journal. A vote for approval was made and passed.

-We had, when we included the 9 frames of Bulgaria, 140 frames of Russian related material. This was the second largest exhibit of Rossica since ROSSICAPEX 2009 where we had 208 frames.

-Dave passed out the first supplement to the Alexander Epstein catalog, “**Postal Stationery of Russia 1845-1922**”, to those who had bought the book.

-Recent books published by Rossica are: “**Russian Field Post 1914-1918**,” “**Postal**

**Stationery of Russia and Its Dependencies (1845-1922)**,” and the update of Tchilinghirian and Stephen, “**Stamps of the Russian Empire Used Abroad.**”

-We have souvenir sheets in both English and Russian with available at the Rossica booth.

-The USPS is not present at the show this year because of budget concerns. We can't mail any of the show covers from the show.

-The BSRP will have one last journal in Dec., but they may not exist after the printing of their journal. We offered to help, but they declined saying that they had no one willing to take the editorship for a long period. They could not find a journal editor. There will be no dues this year, since they did not produce a journal last year. The

last few years have seen the demise of Russian Societies in Australia/New Zealand, Canada and now the BSRP is in trouble.

-An additional 3 albums of the G. H. Kaestlin collection of Imperial Russia and zemstvos have been discovered this year in addition to the 13 volumes found in 2010. Tom Lera of the NPM reports that there will be 72 permanent frames of zemstvos in the new Gross Gallery of the NPM, and more will be rotated in the future. The newly discovered albums contain Kaestlin's zemstvo notes. The Schmidt zemstvo catalogue was based on this collection to a considerable extent. A premier zemstvo collector from Russia, I. Gorsky, came over to see the collection, and he proclaimed it the one of the best he had ever seen.

-There will be a coffee table book of over 300 pages printed by the Smithsonian of this collection. It will probably be sold for less than \$100. There will be 50 pages of zemstvo bibliography. Rossica will be involved in the writing, editing, and sale of the book. We hope to be able to sell it for under \$100.

-Who is Kaestlin?? We know he joined Rossica in 1935, but he dropped out after WW II. He was unknown by the BSRP. Research at the British Museum by Tom Lera and Leon Finik found that he was the manager of a Swiss Bank in London. Most of the material was bought at the Faberge Auction. He will be recognized in the book.

-In the Officers meeting, there was approval in principle to try expertizing again. Each Rossica member can have one item expertized for free each year. The member must pay postage and insurance. Anything expertized after the free one will cost \$50 on a sliding upward scale similar to the APS. A straw example of the form to be submitted was devised by David and was shown on the screen. **Rossica is not in the expertizing business.**

-**The Rossica Fire Brigade** participated in the APS Show in the team exhibit competition of 1-frame exhibits and came in 6<sup>th</sup> out of 8. One more Gold or new exhibit and we would have been up with the 4<sup>th</sup>- or 5<sup>th</sup>-place teams. This was quite a good showing for the first team participation of Rossica. Any Rossica member can enter, but there must be a 5- member team to participate. We could have multiple teams if enough people sign on. Let David know if you are interested.

-Friday night was the Rossica dinner. We had almost 18 people at the restaurant Skura restaurant. At the dinner, **Jeff Radcliffe** was awarded the **Rossica Service Award** and a rare book on the Roosevelt-Stalin Era for his many services to our organization. He is the webmaster, BOD member, and the former editor of the journal. Jeff printed them, applied the stamps and addressed envelopes, packaged, and mailed out the journal, etc. Congratulations Jeff! It was well deserved.

-**Secretary Report Ed Laveroni:** Not much to report due to the action of our Treasurer Michael Gutter and Membership Chair Ian Sellick. I receive the e-mails, and I usually answer them, or I pass them on to Michael or

Ian. All incoming applications are answered by me when I receive them, they are passed on to Michael for dues, and Ian for new membership information. Ian has been ill, so he is a little behind with new member welcome information.

**-Treasurer Report Michael Gutter:** Our finances are good. There will be no increase in dues. The increase in 2010, Foreign \$10 and Canadian \$5, for the mailing of two journals was approved at our meeting at RMSS 2010 and has helped defray our costs due to the increase in shipping costs of the USPS for Overseas and Canadian mail. Early bird specials will continue to be kept. Pay in advance and receive a discount on your dues. See Mike if you have failed to pay dues this year. Slow payment of dues hurts us financially. Pay this year and next year and receive the discount on next year's dues.

**-Journal Editor Report Bill Moskoff:** Rossica puts out a 2 dimensional journal in living color. The quality of our articles is high. The authors are quite predictable. We need new authors to write about what interests them. Put it on paper, and the editor will correct and print. We need names of people who will write, and Bill will contact them. (Soon as I got home, Bill e-mailed me to write an article) Remember personal ads for members are free as long as they are not too long winded. Send your ad to Michael for printing in the journal.

**-Membership Chair Ian Sellick:** Rossica membership is increasing, but we do have some laggards in paying their dues. We must have between 23-40 new members per year to continue increasing membership. Laura and Ian have been at a number of shows with a Rossica booth with signs, books, programs, applications, and other information promoting Rossica. They were even at the APS Show in Richmond.

- The next annual meeting will be at NOJEX 2012.

**-Carl Barna:** He asked a question from the floor about Russian philately which no one could answer, Ray will look into it.

- **Alexander Kolchinsky:** mentioned a program on Russian philately that he has created for clubs. It could be expanded for general use of the membership. He volunteered to be in charge, and he will send something.

-There was a 15-minute break at 2 PM.

-Bill Moskoff, Alexander Kolchinsky, and Robin Gates Elliot, all Rossica members, each gave presentations on Russian philately at the NPM (National Postal Museum, Smithsonian) last year.

**Bil Moskoff** was our speaker. He gave a talk on a somewhat similar topic at the NPM, with this one entitled **"The People's War. Defiance and Resistance During WWII in the Soviet Union."** It was the story of peasants and people used by army and government to help stop the German Army. The German methods of cruelty against civilians turned the population against them. Never knew the correct amount of the guerilla army, the government says 96,000, while others said 150,000 in Belarus alone. Bill explained the stamps

associated with the "heroes" who were killed by the Germans and held up as shining examples by the Soviet Government for propaganda purposes. Heroism was widespread among the patriots even when their food supply was taken by both Soviet and German armies. A discussion followed this wonderful presentation. Bill did a great job.

-A book to look at is titled **"Ivan's War"** by Catherine Merridale.

- The meeting closed at 2:55 PM

## Officers Meeting, Balpex 2011 Saturday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 PM with all officers present except Randy Woodward, Richard Clever, and Greg Mirsky, but Greg was present by phone conference.

Dave passed out the Agenda for the meeting as follows:

### President's report: David Skipton

a. The BSRP is in trouble. They will try and put out a journal at the end of the year, and because they did not put out one last year, there will be no membership charge for this year. It could be the final journal of the BSRP.

b. Rossica's relationship with the NPM (National Postal Museum). In addition to the 13 albums of Imperial and zemstvo material already found, 3 more albums of Zemstvos material were located with Kaestlin's notes on his collection. The NPM wants to produce a coffee table book with 300+ color pages selling for under \$100. They have offered to let Rossica be a seller. They want to know how many copies we will need. They will print it for approximately \$30, but they will need up front money. Jeff offered to pick them up and mail the orders. A **discussion** followed:

How many to order? What is the print run? Are we to be the sole sellers, or will the Smithsonian also sell the book in their stores? It was suggested to order 30 and see how the sales go. Is this a one-shot printing, or can we reorder? We probably can sell 35-50 copies easily, but it may be a little harder with the other 50. We didn't think the printing will be available next year as Dave thought. We felt it would take 12-18 months before publication. No one knows, because the final details are not known. A later publication date is probably better so we could have a longer prepublication sale. Nik will help Tom Lera with the Russian translations. The book will be a big undertaking for the Rossica Society. Gorsky came over from Russia to see the collection. He was so impressed with the rare material and condition that he was willing to put up the money himself for scans of the

material. The market for such a book on zemstvos is probably small. It was felt that the print run for us should be 100, and if needed we could order more. Dave made a motion to order 100 and commit Rossica. It was seconded and passed by easy majority.

The Smithsonian plans to have 72 pull-out frames of zemstvo material on permanent display at the NPM's Gross Gallery. Imperial material will be rotated in later, perhaps in 2012 or 2013.

c. The French have approached us to do a translation of a George Werbizky article. That was fine with Rossica. George hopes they send him a copy.

d. A Russian Union of Philatelists is printing a new magazine called *Mir Marok* which is in addition to *Filateliya*. It is intended for a wide audience and is professionally produced.

#### **Vice President Report: Ray Pietruszka**

It has been a quiet year for requests for exhibiting awards, only 3 requests. We are almost out of plaques. We need to order something else like the Rossicapex awards. Vesma Grinfelds had ordered them for Rossicapex, so Ray will contact her about ordering new plaques. The Officers were in agreement. The National awards cost \$50 in the past, but they are costing more. Ray requested \$85 to be the top price paid for the award. It passed.

#### **Secretary Report: Ed Laveroni**

After the minutes of our annual meeting and officers' meeting in Denver in May of 2010, the duties of the secretary quieted down, with thanks to Ian for handling membership, and Michael for handling dues. My duties are primarily answering e-mails of members, prospective members, forwarding dues to Michael, and forwarding inquiries of membership problems to both Michael and Ian they have always responded to them in a very efficient manner.

This year I think the world has found my name, as secretary of Rossica. They are requesting free stamps, literature, or money. I bet I have more relatives that have died and left me huge amounts of money than anyone else in Rossica. It is just that they want money sent to them before sending me any. I have had requests for free stamps from Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Estonia, South Africa, United States, etc. At no time in my 8 years as your secretary have I been confronted with the volume of requests. Thank goodness Dave told me to either ignore them or let them know we are not a stamp store. Other officers have suggested that we collect inexpensive Russian stamps to send to people as a form of publicity for Rossica. This is something that

we need to address. The more people who know about us, the better.

I wear two hats in this organization. I am Secretary of Rossica and President of the Rossica chapter of Northern CA. We have meetings at peoples' homes, and at stamp shows. Our usual meetings are at Penpex in December (local show), and Westpex in April, and the meetings are usually well attended. The usual pattern is to pass on Rossica information that Dave has passed to me, along with conducting regular business about the chapter and we often have a speaker. At Westpex I spoke about Balpex and our desire to get 150 frames for the show. We want to let the APS know that we are a powerhouse for exhibits. Our chapter member Mike Ercolini has produced a disc on "Imperial Censor Marks." He is willing to share it with Rossica members. Just let me know your interest, and I will pass on his e-mail address. The new Epstein book, "The Russian Fieldpost: 1914-1917" sells for \$50 on paper or on CD for \$30.

We only had 6 members at our Westpex meeting. This was the lowest number since I have been chapter president. That not in attendance missed the fine presentation by our new Bulletin editor Randy Woodward. He talked about "Inflation Mail." He had beautiful digital pictures of covers, and those present became absorbed in his talk. Inflation Mail is not an easy subject with rate changes every few days or weeks, and authors disagree on the dates and rates of the changes. Randy had graphs with all the authors who have written on inflation mail showing their rates, dates of changes, etc. A lively discussion occurred that stimulated us all. We had to be kicked out of the room 2 hours later. We all requested that Randy come back to complete his presentation, and Randy agreed.

Balpex is the next annual meeting September 2-4, 2011. Your Secretary will again go to work taking minutes. Next year will be a rough one, because it will be an election year. Your Secretary will earn his high salary.

At this point, **Dave Skipton surprised everyone by saying, "I will not run for President of Rossica next year."** No discussion occurred, because Leon Finik appeared to talk about Rossica Expertization.

#### **Rossica Expertization: Leon Finik**

Expertization will only be for Rossica members. Each member will get one free expertization per year, but they must pay for postage, insurance, etc. We need a minimum charge that is high enough to make it difficult and expensive to prevent people from sending in every stamp they own for expertization. Rossica is not in the business of expertizing. We want the certificate that we award to mean something, and if it is expensive, we won't have to issue as many certificates. We could use

the style of the APS for a certificate. Dave also set up an example of what the certificate could look like. He passed it out to the Officers..

**Discussion:** We are worried about liability, because this service ended badly the last 2 times Rossica had expertization. We need no exposure of liability for the examiners or society. Do we have to carry insurance? Do we follow the APS form or Dave's? Do we want to do it, and what will be the scale of cost? We could have one free/year with a \$50 minimum and an escalating scale of payment. Michael made a motion with the idea that we forge ahead in principle for an expertization service. It passed 7-2

#### **Treasurer Report: Michael Gutter**

The budget will be the same as last year. Michael would like to transfer our account to something interest bearing. The Society is in great financial shape. We are having some difficulty with slow paying members. The dues and publications produce most of our income. Our big expenses are the Journal and Rossica library. Michael has been able to get us bargain prices for our paper and ink. The increase in mail charges to members, passed at Rompex, for foreign and Canadian postage has really helped our finances. Rossica has never lost money on anything that we have printed or published. Michael asked about trying to make money for Rossica in commodities. The idea died for lack of a motion. We did OK her encouragement to move our money to a bank or savings and loan that does not charge our checking account.

#### **Librarian Report: Greg Mirsky**

With Greg on the speakerphone, he mentioned a few more major additions to the Rossica library. He has a lot of requests for journals, etc. Greg is returning most information in digital form. He said his budget is OK. Dave asked if he had found the Billig's book on zemstvos. He hasn't as of yet. Greg gets about 2-3 requests per month for information from the library. Even when Greg travels he checks his e-mails, and he can send some information before he gets home. The library is using Greg's complete issue of Filateliya to fill in the holes that we have for the missing journals in our library.

#### **Auditor Report: Richard Clever**

Richard just had a hernia operation, and he will get together with Michael after the first of the year to do both 2010 and 2011 audits. It was asked how much it cost. Michael was happy to respond that it was free.

#### **Board of Directors:**

#### **Nikolai Sorokin:**

Speaking of computer technology and charging for ads on the Rossica site (which is a good idea), how about discussing the possibility of placing Rossica site ads on dealer sites (or offering a swap to those dealers who cooperate) as a way of spreading the word and increasing the number of hits, which would help attract ads, and could possibly help us increase membership. Judging by the high prices realized for so many Russian lots on e-bay (regular stamps excluded) there are fanatical collectors out there, and I doubt that they're all members of Rossica. So there are collectors who should find out about us if they're not

aware of us yet. On-line ads could help. Actually a discussion of the Rossica site during the meeting may be a useful topic, although we'd have to agree on the purpose and subject of such a discussion prior to the "AGM."

#### **Discussion:**

We should limit the ads to member dealers. It was thought to be a pretty good idea. Mike made a motion and Nik seconded it to have the ads on our website and swap with member dealers. It passed. Jeff will make up the guidelines for the ads. The ad cost will be similar to the Journal. Michael has a list of member dealers, and Jeff will contact them about an ad.

#### **George Werbizky:**

The random publishing of Rossica journals must stop. We need to decide in what month of the year the 2 issues of the journal appear. Spring and fall: May & October, or summer and winter: July and December? Single year big issue? In our activities, the journal and exhibits must come first.

Moneywise, unless we have some specific project, covering expenses + 20% should be enough. For special projects approved by the Board we can always ask for donations or make a one-time increase in membership dues.

**Discussion:** The problem is that life gets in the way and messes up our well made plans. We are volunteers, and problems in the lives of the people concerned in the editing, printing and shipping of the journal may prevent the appearance of a journal at its proper time. The second subject, moneywise never came up.

#### **Jeff Radcliffe:**

Jeff has been very busy with his job and family. He figured half of his available days were spent on Rossica, but since the addition of Bill and Mike to the journal, it has been much easier. He is still behind in additions to the Virtual Gallery. Dave pointed out that Ed and Ray have promised their exhibits for years, and we are still

waiting. Ed sent in his 1 framer, but Jeff could not make the Apple format work. Pdf or jpeg should be used. It was mentioned that movement around the Virtual Gallery is cumbersome. Jeff would appreciate suggestions on how to make things work easier.

#### **Membership Report: Ian Sellick**

Rossica had a booth at the APS Show in Richmond, but not at the show in Columbus. Ian has been ill and out of circulation for a month. He is behind in sending out welcome material to new members. Ian no longer has access to printers through work. He will get to work on the welcome package for new members ASAP.

#### **Journal Report: Bill Moskoff**

Bill said this was his rookie year. He feels that the quality of the journal is high in philatelic scholarship. He feels our journal is better than the APS. One problem that we have is that we need more contributions from the general membership. The journal helps keep the Society going. Fall issue is ready for printing, and it is another strong issue.

#### **Bulletin Report: Randy Woodward**

Our new Bulletin editor Randy Woodward sent in a detailed report which I will summarize for him. He is both Bulletin editor of Rossica and Philamath a quarterly journal published by the Mathematical Study Unit associated with the American Topical Association. He has been publisher of Philamath for 25 of its 34 years. It is always printed in black and white and from 12 pages and up to 30 pages on special occasions. Two-sided pages are stapled together at the upper left corner. Randy wanted the Philamath journal printed in color, but because of high cost, it was rejected by the officers. With the printing of the Bulletin, he finds that costs are very reasonable printing with a personal printer in color. Randy requested an HP Officejet Pro 8500 Premier color printer to his MSU officers, the same as he uses for the Rossica Bulletin. The officers of MSU finally gave their OK to purchase such a machine.

1. Randy is requesting that the MSU buy from Rossica a 75% ownership of what Rossica paid for the Rossica computer.
2. The Rossica paper supply would be kept separate from the MSU paper supply.
3. The ink cartridges would be separate. There could be a problem with the cartridges belonging to Rossica going dry between the 60 or so issues. It probably won't happen with the MSU cartridges, because Philamath is quarterly. As an alternative to keeping cartridges separate, the MSU could buy 3 sets of cartridges to every one of Rossica's.

4. The costs of mailing out the Rossica Bulletin and Philamath cost can easily be separated.

5. If printer repairs are needed, MSU will pay 75% of the costs, and Rossica 25%. When was the last time anyone had a printer repaired?

Other issues may occur that were not thought of, but they can be addressed when brought up. Randy showed how he came up with the percentages that he did based on members mailings of 85 for Rossica and 84 for Philamath. Since math is Randy's thing, I left out the calculations.

**Discussion:** It was very short since we all thought it was a good idea for both groups. Michael made a motion to accept Randy's request and Dave seconded it, and it passed.

#### **Rossica Constitution / By-Laws:**

The Constitution needs to be rewritten, and By-Laws written. At the moment it is ambiguous, poorly written, and it does not conform to modern rules of order. Today, By-Laws are needed. Greg has a copy of the old constitution. At Rompex a committee of Ray, Michael and Ed was formed to work on this, but so far we have found that it is not going to be easy. By-laws are probably the first to be addressed. We need a vote of the membership to alter or change the Rossica Constitution, but By-Laws can be amended at Annual General Meetings with just those present.

#### **The Rossica Expertization Service:**

It was addressed already.

#### **Exhibiting Information to the Membership Application:**

It should be written so as not to scare off new members. Dave made a motion to insert into the application for membership a question, if a new member has ever exhibited. It was seconded and passed.

#### **Approach from NAPEX for Rossica to convene there in 2015:**

We didn't want to anger Balpex, but David said no problem. A motion was made by Ed to have the 2015 Annual meeting at NAPEX. Ray seconded it and it passed.

The meeting had other issues to address, but we had gone for 4 hours with a short break in the arctic conditions of the room. The rest of the issues were tabled till our next meeting. They were: **Family membership plan, Other money making proposals, and What we charge members and non-members for purchases.**

The meeting was adjourned sometime after 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ed Laveroni Secretary

## Rossica Election Time

Every three years it becomes time to elect your new Rossica officers for the next three years. In April, May and June of this year Rossica members in good standing are to send nominations for officers they would like to have running the Rossica Society for the years 2013-2015. Those elected officers that need nominations are:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Auditor
6. Librarian
7. Board of Directors (3)

I must receive these nominations by June 30, 2012. At that time I will notify all persons nominated for the various offices by e-mail or regular mail to find out if the nominee will accept the nomination. If the nomination is accepted, that person will send me a written platform regarding what they will do if elected to that office. The deadline for receiving the platform by the Secretary is August 1, 2012. If no platform is received, that nominee's nomination is voided. I will then forward all platforms to the Balloting Committee who will send the platform with the ballots to all members in good standing for the election.

The election ballots must be received by the Balloting Committee by October 15, 2012 to be counted in the election. The committee will wait 7 days after the close to receive ballots that have been postmarked on October 15, 2012.

Dave Skipton will not be running for President and Ed Laveroni will not be running for Secretary for the year 2013-2015.

Sincerely,  
Ed Laveroni  
Rossica Secretary

## Question For Members

Rossica member Gary Hanson of Canada asks why the first CZAR was not honored on the Romanov set. Please send your answer to Randy Woodward, Bulletin Editor, at [rswoodward@theriver.com](mailto:rswoodward@theriver.com).

## Dr. Ross Marshall Wins Grand

Dr. Ross Marshall won the Grand at Filatelic Fiesta with his exhibit "Russian Pre-UPU Stampless Mail to the West". This was the same exhibit that was shown at Balpex this year.

This is the second Grand won by a Rossica member in the last month.

## New Members

Welcome to Rossica! We hope you will enjoy the benefits the society has to offer including the Journal, the Bulletin, the Library, and the Website. Of course, if you have access to the Internet, the Samovar is a great source of information and I encourage you to visit it and post your questions as well any news and discoveries you may have made. We also encourage you to share your collecting interests with others. Help us grow and bring new members into Rossica.

- 2013 Jonathan Rosser, United Kingdom
- 2014 Tom Waters, Aleppo, PA
- 2015 Bogdan Pelc, Berlin, Germany
- 2016 Christopher Crocoll, Dulles, VA
- 2017 Brian Ostro, New Port Richey, FL
- 2018 Henry G. Tuttle, Fremont, CA
- 2019 Henry Googer, Cumming, GA
- 2020 Alfred F. Capparelli, Roseville, CA
- 2021 Dr. Angus Pringle, South Africa

## Proposed New Members

The following are our tentative members who will become full members within 90 days unless our regular members provide Rossica a reasonable cause as to why they should not become a full member.

David Ruppel

Respectively Submitted  
Randy Woodward  
Editor, ROSSICA Bulletin