



BULLETIN OF THE ROSSICA SOCIETY OF RUSSIAN PHILATELY

Bulletin 54 Spring 2015

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to all!

2014 was a busy year with a lot happening. The Journal got a new look at an affordable price. We had a great meeting at WESPEX and Russian exhibits did very well, member Ed. Laveroni and his exhibit of the Trans-Siberian Railroad won the Grand Award at the show. We also agreed to attend as a society the International Stamp Show in New York in 2016.

Several items have progress nicely this year. Necessary changes to the by-laws were accepted and await final approval by the membership at the NAPEX 2015 membership meeting. The officers approved the Rossica Identification Service and procedures have been posted on our web site. The Officers have discussed the desire to have a Society Auction but we need volunteers to run it. See the Minutes of the Board meeting for more information on improvements to the Society.

The 2015 membership meeting will be held at NAPEX in June, so mark your calendars, The 2014 meeting in WESTPEX set a high standard for us to meet this year.

The not so good news is that dues will increase \$2.00 for 2016. Why the \$2.00 increase you may ask. This is needed to pay for the journal and bulletin printing, US Domestic Postage and fund the Library purchases, awards and publications.

The \$2 increase reflects the current postage rate as well as other rising costs. We may have to change these numbers again for our overseas members if the US Post Office increases its rates again. To be honest postage to addresses outside the United States is killing us. The current estimate to mail a journal is \$13.50 to Europe and the Society does not have the funds to subsidize these costs. Also because of our dues cycle, the Society will usually be a year behind any postage increases. See the table showing the new schedule elsewhere in the Bulletin.

There is one issue that keeps me up at night and that is membership. We are currently at about 250 members, better than most specialize societies, but not enough to keep the society healthy in the long term. We need to get our membership back up above 350 members. So here's my challenge to the members: talk to the fellow collectors at your local societies, shows and activities. If you find someone interested try to get him or her to join Rossica.

Another way you can help the Society is to write about what you collect! The Journal is a reflection of the collecting interests of the members who write. If you are not seeing articles that interest you, you can do something about it: write! I have found that every time I have submitted an article, fellow members respond with more information and even articles. So if there is an area of Russian Philately that you want to learn more about start a discussion through the Journal or use our Web site and the Samovar.

Finally, I would like to thank the Officers for the work they have put in throughout 2014. They make the Society run and through their efforts great things happen.

Have a great 2015, and I hope to see many of you at NAPEX or any other of the other shows I may attend.

Raymond J. Pietruszka
President, Rossica

MINUTES OF THE TELECONFERENCE OF THE ROSSICA SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of the Board meeting December 9, 2014

In attendance: Michael Ann Gutter, Alexander Kolchinsky, Ray Pietruszka, Jeff Radcliffe, Charles Rehwinkel, David Skipton, Nik Sorokin

Meeting called to order at 9:05 PM EST

Agenda and Discussion

1. Status of the vote on by-laws changes as published in the last Journal. The main change is to allow the general membership to vote by email and regular mail. There are no objections from the members. This change must be voted in person at the Rossica meeting in June during the NAPEX show.
2. Finances. Officers have received Treasurer's projected budget a week before the meeting. It was approved at the WESTPEX meeting back in April. We received approximately \$3,500 in dues.
RP: Beginning from the first meeting in 2015, we must have the projected budget at the first meeting of the current year, the final actual budget for the past year, and updates of income and expenses every quarter afterwards.
3. Current membership: we currently have 244 paying members.
4. RP: there is a proposal to reinstate regular dues for the officers effective 2015.

A lively discussion ensued. Arguments were made that dues waiver is the only way to reward board members for their time and effort and that the amount of their dues makes up a relatively small portion of the budget. This is a common practice in other societies. It was decided by consensus that the dues should be made voluntary, and receipts will be issued upon request for the purpose of IRS deduction.
5. It has been decided by consensus that the Officers' meal during yearly Rossica meetings will not be paid for by the Society.
6. RP: Because of increase of printing and postage expenses, we need to adjust our dues and publish them in the upcoming Bulletin and the Journal. MG proposed to increase all dues by \$2. Late fee of \$5 must be paid after April 1. The \$2 increase is sufficient to stay financially sound for the current year. The proposal to increase the dues by \$2 starting from February 1, 2015, and to raise the new member application dues from \$25 to \$30 regardless of location effective January 1, 2015, was approved by consensus.
7. RP: Currently, we don't have updated and mailing-ready materials to send as a welcome package. This issue will be discussed later with the Board members directly involved in their production.
8. Other changes of Society prices were also approved unanimously: the cost of the Journal for non-members at \$20 plus postage; double price for double issues; \$45 a year for subscription services.
9. We retain Premier printers for another year with a stipulation to check the cost of similar services to make sure that we are not paying higher than current market price.
10. NS: Some manuscripts submitted to me as the Editor are too long for our average reader, although they are definitely worth publishing. Usually, they don't have wide enough appeal to be serialized. To keep readers interested, I am trying to keep stories at a reasonable size. Such philatelic studies should be published separately. RP: We will decide later how to proceed with this as a matter of editorial policy.
11. RP: Identification service has been discussed and approved earlier, and we will ask Greg Mirsky to write a formal description of what we offer for the next Bulletin.
12. RP: As the experience of other societies shows, mail sales is the only way to financial stability. We need volunteers to run the program.
13. RP: The next Rossica meeting will be held at NAPEX in early June of 2015. It's time to think about exhibits and volunteer members in the area.
14. MG: SESCOAL approached us with an offer to have Rossica meeting there in the first week of October of 2017. They provide a generous hospitality package. DS: We also have an invitation to BALPEX in 2018.
15. NS: American Stationery Society will attend NAPEX and they invited us to make a presentation. Our member Valery Zagorsky will make a presentation on Russian stationery.

PROPOSED NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following people to Tentative Membership in Rossica. If there are no objections they will become full members:

Mr. Martin Clark, UK, tentative member No. 2074

Mr. Michael J. Kiss, Georgia, tentative member No. 2075.

NEW DUES SCHEDULE

Our dues beginning from February 1, 2015, and paid by checks or money orders drawn in US dollars is shown in the below. Dues paid by PayPal include handling fees are shown in parentheses.

	Domestic	Canada	Other countries
Application fee, any format and location	\$30 (\$31.50)		
Download	\$24 (\$25.50)		
CD-ROM	\$27 (\$29)	\$32 (\$34)	\$37 (\$39)
Printed Journal	\$32 (\$34)	\$37 (\$39)	\$47 (\$50)
Printed Journal + Download	\$37 (\$39)	\$42 (\$45)	\$52 (\$55)
Printed Journal + CD-ROM	\$37 (\$39)	\$42 (\$45)	\$52 (\$55)
Printed Journal + Donation of \$25	\$57 (\$60)	\$62 (\$65)	\$72 (\$75)
Late fee for dues paid after April 1	\$5		

EXHIBIT AWARDS

Below is a list of members receiving Exhibit Awards since January 2014. The show in which they won the award and the title of their exhibit is also given.

Leszek Ośródka ciemioerek.c8@wp.pl

The History of mail in Lodz, 1824 – 1918 (5 frames)
Gold-plated medal (79 points)
XXI General Poland Philatelic Exhibition, Warsaw, 2014

Jerry Miller

German New Guinea 1888 – 1914 (9 frames)
Grand Award, Show Gold, GPS Gold
St. Louis Stamp EXPO, March 2014

The Evolution of “Via Siberia” Mail 1899 – 1945 (10 frames)

Gold and Best Asia Exhibit
WESTPEX 2014

German Intervention in China (10 frames)

Show Gold, Military Postal History Society Award for Best Exhibit, APS 1900 – 1940 Medal of Excellence for Best Exhibit

Norman Banfield

Australia – King George VI Postal Stationary (5 frames)
Vermeil
PHILAKOREA 2014

Vladimir Berdichevskiy

The Postal Correspondence of the Russian Navy Personnel (1901 – 1918), 8 frames

Large Vermeil
PHILAKOREA 2014

Norman Banfield

Russia - Censorship of Mail 1878-1920
WESTPEX-2014 – Gold

Jay T. Carrigan

Carpatho-Ukraine, 1944-1945
NAPEX-2014 – Gold; also American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Award of Excellence (Title Page); also American Philatelic Society 1940-1980 Medal of Excellence; also Germany Philatelic Society C.H. Hunt Award; also Germany Philatelic Society Gold
NOJEX-2014 – Gold; also Society for Czechoslovak Philately Mucha Award

Igor Grigorian

Scent of Armenia - Incense and Its Evolution into Papier d'Armenie (Single frame)
SESCAL-2014 – Silver; also American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Award of Honor; National Stamp Dealer's Association Most Popular Award

Igor Grigorian

Pre-Christian Armenia: From Origins to Temple of Garni
APS Stamp Show-2014 – Silver

Vesma Grinfelds

Handmade Provisional Cancellations of Latvia: 1919-1920 (Single frame)
Minnesota Stamp Expo-2014 – Silver; also Women Exhibitors Sterling Achievement Award

Vesma Grinfelds

Provisional Cancellations of Latvia: 1919-1920
Philatelic Fiesta-2014, Gold

Vesma Grinfelds

Latvia: The Rising Sun Stamp of 1919 (Single frame)
WESTPEX-2014 – Gold

Vesma Grinfelds

The Slogan Handstamps of Latvia: 1936-1940
St. Louis Stamp Expo-2014 – Vermeil
Minnesota Stamp Expo-2014 – Vermeil; also American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Award of Honor

Alexander Kolchinsky

The Mail of Leningrad Blockade (10 frames)
WESTPEX-2014 – Vermeil; also American Philatelic Society Award of Excellence: 1940 – 1980; also Military Postal History Society - Best Military Postal History Exhibit
CHICAGOPEX-2014 – Gold; also American Philatelic Society 1940-1980 Medal of Excellence

Alfred F. Kugel

German World War I Military & Occupation Mail from Allied & Enemy Territory
MILCOPEX-2014, Vermeil

Alfred F. Kugel

Standard Postal Markings of the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe 1917-1923 (Single frame)
MILCOPEX-2014, Silver

Edward J. Laveroni

Imperial Postmarks of the Trans-Siberian Railroad, Chelyabinsk to Manchzhiriya
WESTPEX-2014 Gold and Grand Award; also ROSSICA Best Russian Exhibit; also Postal History Society Medal - Best Postal History

Edward J. Laveroni

St. Petersburg-Moscow Railway (Nikolaevskaya Railway) (Single frame)
WESTPEX-2014 – Gold

Kirill Levandorskiy

The War in 1941-1945 as viewed by children
WESTPEX-2014 Gold and AAPE Youth Grand; also WESTPEX Award of Merit - Best Youth Exhibit

Arnold Levin

Russian Mute Cancels and Registration in WWI
WESTPEX-2014 –Vermeil; also American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors: Award of Honor

Hyman Lovitz

Imperial Russia Postal Stamps 1857-1900
WESTPEX-2014 –Vermeil; also American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors: Award of Honor

Dr. Ross Marshall

Russia Pre-UPU Stampless Mail to the West in Austria
Philatelic Fiesta-2014, Vermeil; also Rossica Special Award

Dr. Ross Marshall

The Two-Numbered Code on Russian Mail to the West to 1843 (Single frame)
WESTPEX-2014 –Vermeil

Dr. Ross Marshall

Antarctica - McMurdo-Vostok Flights (Single frame)
MILCOPEX-2014 – Silver

Raymond J. Pietruszka

Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Nov. 1917 - June 1923
WESTPEX-2014 –Vermeil

George V. Shalimoff

Nicholas II, the Last Tsar of Russia (Single frame)

Philatelic Fiesta - Silver

David Skipton

Soviet Clandestine Mail Surveillance 1917-1941
WESTPEX-2014 - Gold

Ivo Steijn

"Special" Post in the USSR. 1924-1938
WESTPEX-2014 – Silver

Ivo Steijn

Big Trouble in Little Crimea 1918-1921
WESTPEX-2014 – Silver

Nancy and Richard Weinberg

The Small Heads of the First Definitive Set of the U.S.S.R 1923-1928
WESTPEX-2014 –Vermeil; also ROSSICA President's Award for Best Non-Gold Russian Exhibit

Randy Woodward

The Nikolayev Provisionals (Single frame)
WESTPEX-2014 - Gold

Valery B. Zagorsky

Postage Stamp Catalogue: Russia 1857-1917, RSFSR 1918-1922, USSR 1923-1991 (Literature Exhibits) –
CHICAGOPEX-2014 – Gold

MEMBER NOTES**CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS**

Please don't forget to send any changes in your email address to Rossica Secretary Alexander Kolchinsky at alexander.kolchinsky@rossica.org.

INTERCOSMOS PROGRAM

By John Macco

In September 1976, the representatives of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Germany, Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, Cuba, Mongolia, Romania and the Soviet Union signed an intergovernmental agreement on cooperation in space exploration and usage of outer space for peaceful purposes. At the same time, the Soviet Union initiated the development of the Intercosmos program included participation of citizens of these countries in manned spaceflight on board Soviet space vehicles and space stations with Soviet cosmonauts. At the intergovernmental meeting on September 14, 1976, it was decided to implement these spaceflights between 1978 and 1982. It was decided to perform the spaceflights in two stages: the first three flights were planned for 1978 and the others for 1979-81 time frame.



Cover Note: The Intercosmos Program allowed Soviet bloc countries to fly guest cosmonauts to Soviet space station Salyut-6. The covers shown have stamps of Russia that were issued for the various flights and covers are autographed by the respective crews.

The Soyuz-28 mission was the first Intercosmos flight. It was launched with Commander Alexi Gubarev and Czechoslovakian Vladimir Remek on March 2, 1978 to the Salyut-6 space station. While the mission had a political purpose, experiments were carried out including one which monitored the growth of *Chlorella* seaweed in zero gravity, another which used the on-board Splav furnace to melt glass, lead, silver and copper chlorides and an experiment called Oxymeter which measured oxygen in human tissue. On March 10, 1978, after a flight of 7 days, 22 hours and 16 minutes, Soyuz-28 landed.

The Soyuz-30 mission, the second Intercosmos flight with Commander Pyotr Klimuk and Miroslaw Hermaszewski from Poland was launched on June 27, 1978, to the Salyut-6 space station. Many experiments were carried out by Hermaszewski. One was a crystallization experiment that produced 47 grams of cadmium tellurium mercury semiconductors for use by infrared detectors aboard the space station. The yield was far greater - 50% compared to 15% - than ground based experiments. Hermaszewski also participated in medical experiments that measured lung capacity and the heart during exercise in a pressure suit. After a flight of 7 days, 22 hours, 2 minutes and 59 seconds Soyuz-30 landed on July 5, 1978.



The Soyuz-31 mission, the third Intercosmos flight, with Commander Valery Bykovsky and the German Sigmund Jahn, was launched on August 26, 1978, to the Salyut-6 space station. Medical and biological experiments were carried out including an audio experiment that tested sound and noise perception limits. An experiment called *Berolina* used the Splav furnace to process an ampoule of bismuth and antimonite with the material between two plates in the ampoule. The tree structure that resulted was four to six times larger than what had been produced on the ground. Another experiment tested using different photographic films on the station's interior. The Soyuz-31 crew swapped crafts with the Soyuz-29 crew so as to supply the long duration crew with a fresh craft. After a flight of 7 days, 20 hours and 49 minutes, the Soyuz-31 crew landed on September 3, 1978.



The Soyuz-33 mission, the fourth Intercosmos flight, with Commander Nikolai Rukavishnikov and Georgi Ivanov, a Bulgarian, was launched on April 10, 1979, to the Salyut-6 space station. The Soyuz-33 spacecraft failed to dock with the Salyut-6 space station due to an engine failure on the Soyuz. After a flight of 1 day, 23 hours and 1 minute, the Soyuz-33 crew landed on April 12, 1979.



After the failure of Soyuz-33 to dock with Salyut-6 space station, the next Intercosmos flight was rescheduled.

The Soyuz-36 mission, the fifth Intercosmos flight with Commander Valery Kubasov and the Hungarian Bertalan Farkas, was launched on May 26, 1980, to the Salyut-6 space station. Hungarian experiments were carried out by Farkas. One experiment was Pille, which measured radiation doses received by the crew with miniature thermoluminescent devices attached to their clothing and to the walls of the station. Another three experiments studied the formation of interferon in human cells under weightless conditions. Earth resources work using the on-board cameras was carried out, in coordination with ground crews, airplanes and helicopters. The Soyuz-36 crew swapped their Soyuz craft with the long duration crew to supply the long duration crew with a fresh Soyuz. After a flight of 7 days, 20 hours and 45 minutes, the Soyuz-36 crew landed on June 3, 1980.



The Soyuz-37 mission, the sixth Intercosmos flight with Commander Viktor Gorbatko and the Vietnamese Pham Tuan, was launched on July 23, 1980 to the Salyut-6 space station. Tuan's 30 experiments involved observing Vietnam from space, life sciences (including tests of growth of Vietnamese azolla water ferns, with application to future

closed-loop life support systems), and material processing. The Soyuz-37 crew swapped their Soyuz craft with the long duration crew to supply them with a fresh Soyuz. After a flight of 7 days, 20 hours and 42 minutes, the Soyuz-37 crew landed on July 31, 1980



The Soyuz-38 mission, the seventh Intercosmos flight with Commander Yuri Romamenko and the Cuban Arnaldo Tamayo Mendez, was launched on September 18, 1980, to the Salyut-6 space station. Mendez studied the crystallization of sucrose in weightlessness for the benefits of his country's sugar industry. Other experiments conducted by Mendez included one in which he wore heavy overshoes, to assess ways of preventing muscular deterioration in space. After a flight of 7 days, 20 hours and 43 minutes, the Soyuz-38 crew landed on September 26, 1980.



The Soyuz-39 mission, the eighth Intercosmos flight with Commander Vladimir Dzhanibekov and the Mongolian Jugderdemidiin Gurragchaa, was launched on March 22, 1981 to the Salyut-6 space station. Gurragchaa's experiments were mainly medically oriented, but they also included Gurragchaa's photography of his homeland to conduct an earth resources survey of oil, gas and mineral deposits, and the use of a visual polarizing analyzer to assess the effects of prolonged exposure to space on the

station's portholes. After a flight of 7 days, 20 hours and 42 minutes, the Soyuz-39 crew landed on March 30, 1981.



Leonid Popov and the Romanian Dumitru Prunariu, on May 14, 1981, to the Salyut-6 space station. Prunariu studied earth's magnetic field. After a flight of 7 days, 20 hours and 41 minutes, the Soyuz-40 crew landed on May 22, 1981

The Soyuz-40 mission, the ninth and last Intercosmos flight in the first phase, was launched with Commander

