



THE SOCIETY OF RUSSIAN PHILATELY

Bulletin 63, Summer 2019

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President's Message

Greetings from Alabama! Just got back from a nice vacation at the Jersey Shore with a slow ride back down the east coast back home. As a reward I'm behind the power curve in getting things done for the annual meeting and all the other things I agreed to do. So, here's the update for our members so they can start getting back into the collecting mode after what I hope was a great summer.

Top of the list is the upcoming Annual Meeting at Chicagopex in November. Yes November, it may seem a long way off, but I have already missed several of the due dates for the Show. But here are the highlights: We are having our annual meeting on Saturday, November 23rd at 2PM. We will have a business meeting, the announcement of the annual article and member awards.

Plus, we will have two presentations. One by the National Postal Museum and the other by Joseph Geyfman on Soviet Local stamps. There will also be Russia Area exhibits! I know this for a fact as at least three have been accepted and a Russian Area judge is on the jury. In addition to these activities, CHICAGOPEX is a Pan-Slavic event with the Lithuanian, Polish and Ukraine Societies also meeting. So, this show will be a great event to meet fellow collectors who collect throughout the old Russian Empire.

So how is the Society doing? It is doing well. Membership numbers and the treasury are holding their own. I personally found out that Rossica and Russian Philately are doing very well in Europe with my visit to Stockholmia 2019. I met over 9 members of the Society there, many of them exhibiting world class exhibits of Russian material. If you ever have the opportunity to go to an overseas show do so. You'll get to see exhibits, dealers' stocks and fellow collectors that never make it to the United States, it will be a rewarding experience. You'll read more about it in the upcoming journal.

But we are not where we need to be as a Society. Keep up your efforts to recruit new members, we do lose about 10- 20% a year of our members-we are getting old. Also, if you have a story to tell, write an article or develop an exhibit or better yet write an article about your exhibit. As a judge, I've learned that exhibiting and research that leads to an article goes hand in hand. Judges need to understand what they are judging, and other collectors need to learn more about Russian Philately. So tell us about your collecting efforts. You will learn so much more from the experience. But regardless of what you do, keep on enjoying what you collect.

That's enough for now. See you in Chicago!

Ray Pietruszka
Rossica President

New Applications to the Rossica Society

We welcome the following new applicants with Tentative Membership into the Rossica Society. If there are no objections from the membership, they will become full members in the Society:

2185 Petr Reznikov	Russia
2186 Valery Glushchuk	Estonia
2187 Dr. Jeffrey Anderson	WI, USA
2188 Nedelcmu Radu-Mihai	Romania

Note

916 Richard Stadnisky (re-joined) - CA, USA - given his original number

The Rossica Society recognizes Vladimir Pitchko as member # 2135

Minutes from Rossica Board of Directors Meeting March 30, 2019

In attendance: Ray Pietruszka, Steve Volis, Nik Sorokin, Greg Mirsky, David Skipton, Randy Woodward, Semyon Brayman, Bill Moskoff and Vesma Grinfelds

The meeting was called to order at 2:05PM (PDT) by President Ray Pietruszka.

Membership Report: Steve Volis reported that there are 266 paid members and we have gained 15 new members in the last 3 months. Ray Pietruszka then officially welcomed the new Board Members: Bill Moskoff, Randy Woodward, Semyon Brayman and Vesma Grinfelds.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Steve Volis, noted

that there is about \$30,000 between the checking and savings account; printing of the Journal has been paid. There is about \$800 in the PayPal account.

CHICAGOPEX: The Show will be held November 22-24, 2019; ROSSICA is a participating society.

a) Society Table: members will be needed to tend to our table. Several board members, who will be attending the Show volunteered.

b) Exhibiting: It was agreed that as many as possible exhibits need be procured. The Secretary will encourage her contacts to submit entries. She will also check with CHICAGOPEX if frames are being reserved for ROSSICA member entries and to what date they are being held. It was noted that our Journal should be entered as a Literature Exhibit.

c) Notifying Members about CHICAGOPEX: Ray Pietruszka agreed to create an announcement to be sent to all ROSSICA members in order to encourage their attendance and participation.

d) Pan-Slavic aspect of CHICAGOPEX: Ray Pietruszka noted that the Polonus Society is pushing for a Pan-Slavic philatelic union into which, he feels, we are being dragged. He suggested there be a "joint leadership" meeting and was wondering if POLONUS is seeking some sort of merger.

A general discussion concerning having a dinner Friday evening, November 23 and the possibility of having a hospitality suite. It was also agreed that there should be a two hour General Membership Meeting to be held Saturday afternoon. The Secretary will contact the Show and find out details about making arrangements for a hospitality suite and meeting room.

Trademark Application: Ray Pietruszka stated that there has been no update and that he has no final paperwork.

Webmaster: No candidate to replace Jeff Radcliffe has been found as of yet.

Library Portal Status: Greg Mirsky, Librarian, noted that much material has been scanned and uploaded to the "cloud". He can now create link and more easily respond to requests. Scanning of the archives is an on-going project. Storage on the cloud is inexpensive.

Transition of Journal Editor: Bill Moskoff will be taking over from Nik Sorokin. The upcoming Journal is being created by both of them.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55PM (PDT)

Vesma Grinfelds
Secretary

Member Exhibit Awards

- **Bernard Furnon**
 - Stockholm, 2019
 - tête-bêche and couchés in Zemstvo philately
 - 5 frames
 - Large Vermeil
- **Igor Grigorian**
 - August 2019, APS / NTSS stamp show, Omaha
 - Pre-Christian Armenia and Temple of Garni, 5 frames
 - 5 Frames
 - Gold
- **Igor Grigorian**
 - August 2019, APS / NTSS stamp show, Omaha
 - Incense and Armenian Scented Pape
 - 1 frame
 - Gold
- **Roger Quinby**
 - Finnish Straight-Line Railway Station Postmarks to 1917,
 - 1 Frame
 - Large Vermeil
- **Joseph Geyfman**
 - Local Stamps (Provisionals) of Russia, Ukraine, Belorussia, USSR, 1918-1922,1931
 - Book / Catalogue
- Omaha Stamp Show,
- Large Gold
- **Joseph Geyfman**
 - Local Stamps (Provisionals) of Russia, Ukraine, Belorussia, USSR, 1918-1922,1931
 - Book / Catalogue
 - FIP World Stamp Exhibition, China
 - Large Gold
- **Per-Christian Wallen**
 - Soviet Censorship during the Great Patriotic War
 - 5 Frames
 - FIP World Exhibition, China 2019
 - Large Vermeil
- **Norman Banfield**
 - Russia Airmails 1922 – 1950
 - 8 Frames
 - FIP World Exhibition, China 2019
 - Gold
- **Bjorn Sohrne**
 - Russian and Persia Postal Relations Since mid 1800 Until 1925
 - 8 frames
 - FIP World Exhibition, China 2019
 - Large Gold
- **John Macco**
 - Apollo-Soyuz Test Project
 - 5 frames
 - 3 different Shows
 - Silver at each show
- **Dymshits Mikhail**
 - Prepayment Without Use Of Postage Stamps And Beneficial Franking Of Post In The Ussr In 1923-1941
 - 8 frames
 - FIP World Exhibition, China 2019
 - Large Vermeil
- **Atadan Tunaci**
 - Postal services and routes between Ottoman and Persian empire
 - 5 frames
 - FIP World Exhibition, China 2019
 - Gold

To ALL exhibitors: If you exhibited after July 1, 2019 please send the following information to randyw1909@gmail.com

- Your name (first, last),
- Exhibit title and number of frames,
- Name of Show
- Exhibit award

Translator Request

Rossica member John Macco would like to make contact with a Russian to English Translator to do short translations. Most of the articles needing translation are from Philately USSR magazine. John can be reached at spacecovers2003@gmail.com

Request for Bulletin

If you have a short philatelic note you would like to see published in the Bulletin, please send a copy to me at randyw1909@gmail.com.

A Parcel Card for Everyone

By Ivo Steijn

Sometimes fortune just smiles on one piece of postal history. This 1926 parcel card from Baku to Ginsburg (bear with me) has so many interesting features it's hard to know where to start.

First, the card is a late use of an old Imperial form. Second, as noted by the handwriting at the top of the card and the two hand stamp cachets across the stamps, it was sent "Dolgovoi", which means that the addressee paid the postage. As a result, the stamps on the card are postmarked at the destination, Ginsburg.



The postage of 3.71 rubles was paid with 1 and 2 rubles stamps as well as 2 copies of the 30 kopeck stamps, all from the First Standard Issue. There is also a 3 kopeck "Decembrist" commemorative (!) and an 8 kopeck postage due stamp used as a postage stamp (!!).

Either of the latter two would have raised my eyebrows - both of them on one parcel card made my eyebrows ascend to the ceiling.

Finally, the destination. "Ginsburg" I hear you ask? From the Arabic writing in the lower half of the card, a location in Central Asia or Tatarstan seemed likely.

Furious Googling didn't yield any results and in the end it was Adrian Room's 1991 book on place name changes that gave the answer: Ginsburg is the place now known as Kaakhka in Turkmenistan.

I have no idea which Ginsburg it was (temporarily: 1920-1927) named after. Local boy made good?

