

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE PHILATÉLIE

Commission for Maximaphily

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World Maximaphily Activity Report for 2004

We very much appreciate the efforts and the willingness of the FIP Maximaphily Commission delegates who had the kindness to respond to our invitation to enrich our world Maximaphily report, covering the activities of their own country during the year 2004.

Thirty countries (30), out of fifty one (51) represented in the FIP Commission for Maximaphily, participated in the present worldwide Maximaphily activity report.

We welcome the new delegates to the Commission: Mr Sergei Magdichev (Bulgaria), Mr. Pierre Vandenhoute (Belgium), Mr. Jin Hur (Rep. of Korea), Mr. Kalevi Ant-Wuorinen, Mr. Andrzej Nowak (Poland), Mr. Jose Francisco Da Paola Sobrino (Brazil), Mr. Arry Dharma (Indonesia) and Mr Tan Chee Hui (Malaysia).

The FIP Commission has been working on the regulations which govern Maximaphily in order to improve them and make them clearer and more easily understood by the various persons in charge in FIP, in the national federations, in postal administrations and by the members of the Commission. The Commission offered gratis documentation at the disposal of the members who needed additional information.

Immediately after the Singapore meeting we started working for the implementation of the main decisions and commitments which were:

- To incorporate the new Maximaphily SREV and Guidelines in the FIP website;
- To improve communication among the delegates;
- To persuade postal administrations to create correct maximum cards;
- To introduce and promote Maximaphily in the countries where it is not known;
- To continue the offer to national philatelic federations of a Maximaphily data-processing documentation;
- To continue and improve Best Maximum Cards International Competition.
- To support the Maxifrance2005 Maximaphily Exhibition
- To organise an official Maximaphily Symposium during Maxifrance2005 Maximaphily Exhibition

Five seminars on Maximaphily were conducted by the Commission chairman during 2004 at the international exhibitions in Spain, (Valencia, 21-29 May 2004) in Singapore (26 August-2 September 2004), in Romania, (Bucharest, 15-21 September 2004), in Slovakia, (Nitra, 24-27 September 2004) and in Bulgaria, (Varna, 15-23 November 2004).

In numbers 90 and 91 of Flash, the official review of the FIP, six pages were published presenting the work of the Commission during 2004. The same information was appeared for the last six months in the main page of the official internet-site of the FIP.

Actually in some of western and central European countries Maximaphily is progressing and the number of young people who show interest in Maximaphily is continuously increasing.

Even the countries which participated in the present world Maximaphily activity report have actually considerably increased from 18, last year, to 30.

Our idea for organising an international competition for the best Maximum Card of the year became a successful reality because it was the first step towards the recognition of those who have worked hard for Maximaphily and of those who need to be encouraged. This competition demonstrated our great interest in the world wide feeling of the maximum cards collectors. It is our belief that in the next few years this competition will create such dynamism, especially in most of the African and Asian countries, which Maximaphily has never had before.

The success of the "World Best Maximum Card Competition" for the best M.C. created during the year 2003, which was achieved in Singapore, was much appreciated by the participants. This is why we decided to repeat it for the Best Maximum Card created during the year 2004.

Australia's delegate Mrs. Barbara Bartsch explains that the "World Best Maximum Card Competition" is a really creative idea, giving eight important reasons in her own report.

Consequently we agreed with the proposal of some delegates to postpone the deadline for the entry forms until July 31, 2005. In this way we are sure that participations will be considerably increased.

Rapport d'activité pour l'année 2004

Nous apprécions beaucoup les efforts et la bonne volonté des délégués de la Commission Maximaphile de la FIP qui ont eu la courtoisie de répondre à notre demande et nous ont fait parvenir leur compte rendu d'activité de leur pays respectif. Nous les remercions vivement car cela a permis d'enrichir notre rapport de l'année 2004 sur la présence maximaphile dans le monde entier.

Cinquante et un (51) pays sont représentés cette année à la Commission de Maximaphilie de la FIP. Trente (30) d'entre eux ont contribué à la formation du présent rapport d'activité maximaphile mondiale.

Nous souhaitons la bienvenue aux nouveaux délégués de la commission :

M. Sergei Magdichev (Bulgaria), M. Pierre Vandenhoute (Belgium), M. Jin Hur (Rep. of Korea), M. Kalevi Ant-Wuorinen, M. Andrzej Nowak (Polland), M. Jose Francisco Da Paola Sobrino (Brasil), M. Arry Dharma (Indonesia) et M Tan Chee Hui (Malaysia).

La Commission de la FIP a travaillé pour une meilleure étude des règlements qui régissent la Maximaphilie dans le but de les améliorer, les rendre plus clairs et accessibles afin que les différentes personnes en charge de la FIP dans les Fédérations Nationales, les Administration Postales et les membres de la Commission puissent en avoir une meilleure compréhension. La Commission met gratuitement une documentation à la disposition des membres qui souhaitent des informations complémentaires.

Immédiatement après la réunion de Singapour, nous avons commencé à travailler pour diffuser les règlements et principales décisions, à savoir :

- faire figurer les nouveaux SREV et Guidelines de la Maximaphilie sur le site Internet de la FIP.
- améliorer la communication entre les délégués.
- convaincre les administrations postales de faire des cartes-maximum conformes.
- introduire et promouvoir la Maximaphilie dans les pays où elle n'est pas encore connue.
- offrir aux Fédérations Philatéliques Nationales une documentation informatisée sur notre spécialité.
- continuer et améliorer le concours International de meilleures cartes-maximum.
- soutenir l'exposition Maxifrance 2005.
- Organiser un Symposium et une réunion officielle des délégués de la Commission de la FIP pour la Maximaphilie.

La présentation d'initiation à la Maximaphilie, réalisée à l'aide du logiciel Power Point, a été remise à de nombreux délégués à la Commission Maximaphile de la FIP.

En 2004, à l'occasion d'expositions internationales, cinq séminaires de Maximaphilie ont été animés par le Président de la Commission, en Espagne (Valence 21-29 Mai 2004), à Singapour (26 Août-2 Septembre 2004), en Roumanie, (Bucarest, 15-21 Septembre 2004), en Slovaquie, (Nitra, 24-27 Septembre 2004) et en Bulgarie, (Varna, 15-23 Novembre 2004).

Flash, la revue officielle de la FIP, dans les Nos 90 et 91 a consacré 6 pages pour le travail de la Commission fait en 2004. Le même travail a paru pendant six mois à la première page du site officiel de la FIP à l'Internet.

Notre idée d'organiser un concours international de la meilleure carte-maximum de l'année est devenue une réalité et devient un succès, car c'est le premier pas vers la reconnaissance pour ceux qui débutent et ont besoin d'être encouragés. Cette compétition a montré l'intérêt que nous portons au monde très sensible des collectionneurs de cartes-maximum.

C'est à Singapour qu'a eu lieu la délibération du jury de la compétition de la meilleure carte-maximum, créée en 2003. Celle-ci a été très appréciée des participants et c'est la raison pour laquelle nous avons décidé de reconduire ce concours en 2004. La déléguée de l'Australie, Madame Barbara Bartsch, donne dans son rapport huit raisons pour lesquelles « World Best Maximum Card Competition » est une idée vraiment créative.

En conclusion nous acceptons entièrement la proposition figurant dans le rapport des délégués de reporter au 31 juillet 2005, la date limite d'inscription pour ce concours. Ainsi nous sommes certains d'avoir un nombre de participants importants.

Armenia (Sedrak Nercessian)

Actually thirty collectors from Armenia and twenty five from other countries (Argentina, France, India, Iran, USA and others) appear members of the Armenian Maximaphily Association. During 2004, five members of the A.M.A. participated to different national philatelic exhibitions organised by our Federation and were qualified for international level. The same year three children of different age were initiated to Maximaphily forming the first youth group in our

country. During the same year, our Association created ten new Maximum-cards and one of them was decided to participate to the 2004 Best Maximum Card World Competition

Argentina (Roberto Wang)

Last year I tried to give a great impulse for the promotion of Maximaphily in Argentina. A new collector from the City of Rosario, has joined our club. I prepared a small, one frame, Maximaphily collection just for participating in the

Thematic Exhibition TEMEX 2003. I am sending you a photo from this participation. It's about landscapes and different places from Argentina. Most of them were created by me.

I have also translated to Spanish the Special Regulations for the evaluation of Maximaphily exhibits at F.I.P. exhibitions and the Guidelines for judging Maximaphily exhibits that was published in the number 105 of the Magazine of the Argentine Federation (FAEF).

In Argentine we don't have special Jury for Maximaphily and I am trying to form one.

Generally the difficulties to obtain new MC here are continuing. I visited important tourist cities but to obtain a common view card is a problem. In Argentina we can not find Cards from famous men, monuments or building. So, we try to do our best.

Austria (Peter Riedl)

Austria is a country with many qualified exhibits in all classes of Philately. Maximaphily has its own part to this general image. Three new Maximum cards were created during 2004 while new Maximaphily articles were published in the philatelic press and conferences for Maximaphily were organised for Maximum card collectors. Maximaphily collections took part together with other classes to the national exhibitions which were organised by our Federation and they have received up to Vermeil medals. My collection "Magnificent Buildings in Europe of the Centuries" was exhibited in "Singapore World Stamp Championship 2004" and was awarded with a Vermeil medal. I have represented my country to the FIP Maximaphily Commission meeting held in Singapore and I have attended the Maximaphily seminars in Echternach and Singapore. Two Austrian exhibits were displayed in Echternach (Luxembourg) and were awarded with a Large Vermeil and a Large Silver medals.

Australia (Barbara Bartsch)

This is my first report as a FIP Delegate and I still have a lot to learn and a lot to achieve.

Regretfully the out going delegate was unable to advise me in any way, but I would like to thank all the other APF Executive who have advised me during the past year, especially David Collyer.

Although, in my opinion, Maximaphily is a fascinating class to collect as it involves three philatelic elements, (stamps, postcards and postmarks), it has not yet caught the interest of collectors in Australia, or many other countries. Probably the most interest is shown in the European countries.

Because of the still few numbers, of those interested, there is, as yet, no organised National Australian group of Maximum Card collectors as there is for most other philatelic groups.

I have been a member of the US Maximum Card Study Group (MACSU) for about 10 years, and so I am fortunate to have several overseas correspondent friends. One of these friends is also the US FIP delegate and he assures me that the US interest in Maximaphily is not much better than here in Australia. They just have a larger population pool. However I still remember when the Thematic Class was also poorly regarded and I look forward to the time when the Maximaphily Exhibiting is as popular as the Thematics Class is today.

To this end, to promote Maximaphily, I have written small articles both here in Australia and for the US Topical Times, where there is a regular column on Maximaphily. I have also exhibited and given regular club displays.

With the collaboration of Betty Van Tenac, a combined 'Introducing Thematics and 'Introducing Maximaphily' workshop was held at Saphil House, SA this June.

It only attracted 10 collectors, although it was widely publicised to all SA clubs. It was also noted that most of those attending were seasoned exhibitors rather than the beginners we had hoped for.

As I said at the beginning - there is still a lot to achieve, and I have only just begun.

Here I must thank all those who have helped me through this first year as delegate and I look forward to being able to continue my efforts to promote Maximaphily within Australia.

-The 'World Best Maximum Card Competition' I do think is a really creative idea for many reasons:-

-It renews our interest in the rules of concordance

-It makes us look at the stamp - finding suitable cards and finding a related postmark.

-It gives us the urge to create our own cards

-It increases the interest in creating our own.

-It draws together maximaphilists from all over the world into a common goal

-It can be won by any one.

-You don't have to be a GOLD Medal winner to enter.

-Because the stamps, cards and postmarks are available to all.

Belgique (Pierre Vandenhaute)

La Maximaphilie en 2004 a été marquée par la démission de Monsieur Sanders en tant que Commissaire national de Maximaphilie et comme membre du bureau F.I.P. de maximaphilie.

En sa réunion du mois de décembre la Fédération Royale des cercles Philatéliques de Belgique (F.R.C.P.B) a désigné Monsieur Pierre Vandenhoute pour terminer le mandat de Monsieur Sanders. J'espère pouvoir donner un nouvel essor à notre discipline.

Une médaille d'or a été attribuée à Monsieur André Piquer pour sa collection "La Belgique d'avant 1940." à la 15eme Journée de Maximaphilie à Echternach au G.D. de Luxembourg.

Une exposition nationale se tenait à Liège. Sur quatre maximaphiles qui exposaient les trois obtiennent les points nécessaires pour exposer en internationale.

Bulgaria (Sergei Magdichev)

- EYROMINIMAX'04: In November 2004 the EYROMINIMAX'04 exhibition of national level with international participation was held in Varna where the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Transport and Communications Mr. Nikolai Vasiliev opened the exhibition together with Mr. Joseph Wolff FIP vice-president, Mr Nicos Rangos FIP Maximaphily Commission president, Mr.Spas Panchev president of the Bulgarian Philatelic Federation and Mrs Stana Christova General Director of Bulgarian Postal Services, EAD. During the exhibition students visits, Maximaphily seminar and auction were organized.

- The Maximaphily Commission organized several events for the promotion of the Maximaphily in Bulgaria. Guests from other countries were also participated. The Postal Administration issued a special souvenir sheet and a couple if maximum cards. Many visitors had visited the exhibition.

- The Bulgarian Maximum-card Collectors Club counts to day 45 active members.

- A Maximaphily Bulletin is edited four times a year: It was since 2002 that our club started to publish a Bulletin for promoting the development of Maximaphily in Bulgaria. In the Bulletin appeared new Bulgarian and foreign maximum cards, articles for the new collectors, and information about domestic and foreign Maximaphily events.

It is a quarterly special bulletin. There are subscribers from Bulgaria, Germany, P.R.of China, Italy, Israel and Cyprus.

- Seminars: During the same period was organized a seminar for exhibitors and jury members.

- Our Maximaphily Commission created 16 maximum cards related to various events and subjects.

Ten of 20 minutes TV films were prepared with topics related to Maximum-cards.

Canada (George Constantourakis)

- In 2004 about 10 Canadian Maximum Cards were created by individual Maximaphilists.

Personally I read numerous Maximaphily Articles. Also I wrote a 2-part Maximaphily article on the Modern Summer Olympics, plus another Maximaphily article on the actor Marlon Brando.

- My own Maximaphily collection: National 2 different collections and International 2 different collections. They received:

-National: 1 Gold and 1 Vermeil.

- International 1st Large Vermeil with Felicitations at España 2004, plus a 2nd Large Vermeil and a major award as "best in its class" at Singapore

- I think that the "Best Maximum Card World Competition is useful on condition that the judging is done by an independent third party and thus establish its credibility and respect.

- In Canada Maximaphily is still in its infancy. However there are positive signs. The hostility from the old guard establishment is diminishing. There are official North American rules governing Maximaphily even for One Frame exhibits.

-Finally there are a few Maximaphily exhibits starting to appear on Local/National level, other than those of the Canadian National Delegate to the Maximaphily Commission.

China (Li Hong)

- Last year, our Association has over 800 Maximaphily members in China, and publishes six Maximaphily journals. I have translated to Chinese for the Special Regulation for the evaluation of Maximaphily exhibits at F.I.P. exhibitions and the Guidelines for judging Maximaphily exhibits (approved by Singapore Meeting) that was published in the "China Maximaphilist" of our Association journal.

- Our Association does not produce maximum cards for the China new issue. The realization of very good number maximum cards is the creation of our members, who strictly follow the true spirit of Maximaphily rules.

- In October 2004, China organized the 3rd Guangzhou, China's National level Maximaphily Exhibition, where 51 Maximaphily exhibits appeared in competition and one of the 12 out of competition exhibits was 'One Frame' class.

- For 2004 Athens Olympic Games, China's and Greece postal services gave to circulation a joined issue stamps. With the help of Mr. Nicos Rangos, Mr. Costas Androulidakis and Mr. Bruno Bouveret, China and Greece Maximaphily Associations created a set of maximum cards, with a subject of Olympic Games from Athens to Beijing.

Cyprus (Nicos Rangos)

-Following an agreement of cooperation between Cyprus Postal Services and Cyprus Philatelic Society with the Ministry of Education and Culture, twelve exhibitions with Maximum Card exhibits were organised to primary and

secondary schools during 2004 and 6.000 students have visited them following specially scheduled guided visits. This is the reason that Philately and Maximaphily are actually developing in Cyprus and especially among young people.

-During the same year ten Maximum Cards were created with the relevant stamps issued by the Cyprus Postal Services.

-Cyprus Postal Services continues to create 3 Maximum Cards per year using only the stamps of the every year Christmas issues. Thanks to the excellent relations and the valuable co-operation between Cyprus Postal Services and the Cyprus Philatelic Society, all the nine Maximum Cards of the last three years were correctly created by the Philatelic Section of the Cyprus Postal Services according to the Maximaphily FIP regulations. Visual concordance and concordance of time and place with postmarks of the nearest post office are fully respected.

-The Cypriot Maximaphily collections that usually participate to international exhibitions are now 8 and 2 new ones are being prepared. Both of them belong to the one frame class. Four of them belong to young boys and girls.

My third exhibit which bears the title "Europa Nostra" with reference to the continent's cultural heritage and with Maximum Cards cancelled from 1901 to 1940 was invited and participated to three different exhibitions of national level with international participation, held in Hungary, Romania and Slovakia, during 2004, winning gold medals.

-At the end of the year 2004 were completed 18 years of Maximaphily activity in Cyprus and 13 years of participation to national and international exhibitions in which the Maximaphily collections of Cyprus were awarded bronze, silver-bronze, silver, large silver, vermeil, large vermeil, gold and large gold medals.

-Cyprus participated to the Best Maximum Card World Competition, for the year 2003, held in Singapore on September 2004

-Cyprus has filled the entry form for the next 2004 Best Maximum Card World Competition which will be held in France during the national Maximaphily exhibition MAXIFRANCE 2005 with international participation, (Corbeil-Essonnes, 23-25 September 2005). Special effort is exercised so that Maximaphily appears enhanced in this Exhibition.

-Cyprus helped China's and Greece Maximaphily Associations to create a set of maximum cards, with a subject of Olympic Games from Athens to Beijing.

-Expenses concerning the preparation and the prizes, of the 2003 Best Maximum Card Competition during 2004 and postal expenses for diplomas to the winners and all participants, as well as Maximaphily seminars organized in Spain, in Singapore, in Romania, in Slovakia and in Bulgaria during last May, September, October and November and other expenses related to the everyday activity of the FIP Commission chairman, as preparations of electronic presentations and postal expenses for CDs and other printed material sent from Cyprus to the delegates, evaluated to € 1384 were covered by Cyprus Philatelic Society Maximaphily Commission.

Finland (Kalevi Ant-Wuorinen)

-The Maximaphily is quite new in Finland: Our club "Maksimifilatelitit ry" was founded in March 1990, so this year we will celebrate the 15 anniversary with a special exhibition at the Main Post Office in Helsinki.

-The important and surprising thing is that about half of our members (about 80 together) are women! But unofficially there are hundreds of men and women making their own Maximum-cards when the Finnish Postal Authority issues new stamps. So, in Finland, this new "branch" of Philately has many friends!

-The Finnish Post created 4 official Maximum Cards, and the Aland Post Office 3 official ones. Our club "Maksimifilatelitit ry" created one (Nr. 14 in our series of MC) semi-official MC. Our members (about 80 persons, from whom almost the half are women), created several hundred unofficial MC, both in Finland and Aland.

-In our Post Museums Annual publication Tabellarius has published my article "Maximaphily - the harmonious concordance of a postage stamp, a postmark and a postcard".

-About 10 Maximaphily collections participated in some local and national exhibitions. They have received Bronze and Silver-Bronze medals.

-The main problems we meet in Finland are: Too many stamps every year (often with actually no real "ideas") and the official first day postmark sometimes has no connection to the stamp (so it is better to use the normal cancellation of the first day of issue)

-Our club has monthly meetings. During last meeting we decided to participate to the next 2004 Best Maximum Card World Competition that we find very useful and interesting. By this way we can show to the other philatelists how interesting and special and how creative this hobby really is!

France (Anny Boyard)

- La maximaphilie se développe actuellement en France et bénéficie d'une meilleure reconnaissance grâce au travail de fond qui a été réalisé depuis de nombreuses années et par la publication d'articles dans la presse philatélique "La Philatélie Française", "L'Echo de la Timbrologie", "Atout-timbres", « Timbres-magazine » et « Philinfo » et par des conférences données dans toute la France, en particulier lors de l'important Salon du timbre 2004, qui s'est tenu en France où des collections d'un cadre de maximaphilie ont été exposées.

- Les Maximaphiles Français œuvrent avec beaucoup de dynamisme pour le développement de la maximaphilie et la reconnaissance de cette classe.

- Un diaporama d'initiation sur la maximaphilie a été réalisé et mis à la disposition des associations philatéliques fédérées.

- Malgré cela, il est difficile de maintenir les effectifs de l'association qui sont en diminution pour les adultes car nous déplorons les décès d'anciens membres, mais la jeunesse est en progression. Il apparaît cependant que de plus en plus de collectionneurs isolés réalisent aussi des cartes-maximum
- Le site Internet "www.Maximaphiles-Francais.org" connaît une fréquentation journalière de plus en plus importante (35 000 visiteurs par jour) et les pages d'initiation sur notre spécialité sont davantage consultées.
- Sur les 98 timbres émis en France durant l'année 2004, le service des Nouveautés-France a réalisé 69 C.M. Grâce aux bonnes relations entretenues avec d'autres associations maximaphiles (Belgique, Canada, Chypre, Espagne, Italie, Portugal, Slovaquie, Suisse ...) des échanges de C.M. étrangères sont effectuées. La revue trimestrielle de l'association « Les Maximaphiles Français » diffusée à tous les adhérents ainsi qu'aux membres de la commission maximaphile et du comité directeur de la F.I.P., est un excellent support d'informations internationales sur la maximaphilie.
- La participation maximaphile aux différentes expositions allant du niveau départemental au niveau international, organisées dans toute la France, est en nette augmentation et reste d'un très bon niveau.
- Lors de l'exposition nationale à Echternach (Luxembourg) la participation d'une délégation française, présidée par Anny Boyard, invitée comme membre du jury, a été très fructueuse pour les relations entre les participants européens
- L'organisation de MAXIFRANCE 2005, Championnat européen qui se tiendra à Corbeil-Essonnes du 23 au 25 septembre 2005, sous le patronage de la Fédération Française des Associations Philatéliques, sera un fait marquant pour notre discipline sur le plan international. Le Symposium, ouvert aux membres de la commission FIP de maximaphilie, destiné à informer les collectionneurs sur les règles de la FIP (SREV et Guidelines), devra contribuer à une meilleure connaissance de cette spécialité philatélique si passionnante et vivante.

Germany (Günter Formery)

- During the reporting period, our national working group held two board meetings in Saarbrücken, at which numerous specialist concerns were treated.
- During the course of the year, we were able to increase our membership to 60, although at the end of the year we had to record some departures. Here it should be remarked that an advertising campaign carried out internationally by the FIP-Maximaphilie-Commission. We would certainly be very advantageous for this collecting area.
- The Chairman gave lectures using PC-presentations in the basic discipline of Maximaphily at several associations in Germany and abroad, and at an international symposium at the 15th Maximaphily Day in Echternach in Luxembourg. This lecture has been also available from us since 2004 in CD-ROM and printed form.
- In addition, we have developed a comprehensive philocartist PC-presentation on illustrated postcards and have already given some lectures on this element of Maximaphily. This has also been available since 2004 in CD-ROM and printed form.
- We published several special articles on our collecting area as part of our public relations work in association's magazines and well known special magazines. Our Report appeared three times in 2004 as usual in DIN A4 format, with up to 54 pages. We were delighted by the quotation of special articles from our Report by our European neighbors in their publications.
- By the end of 2004, our homepage www.maximaphilie.de had recorded just up to 1600 hits.
- A special directory of the members with their collecting areas, extending to ten pages, appeared for the first time this year. It contains a list of members and a section on the collecting areas of our members.
- As a result of the lack of interest on the part of our members, we were forced to stop our circular service for maximum cards. In its place, we now offer an auction service, free of charge, through a member of the working group.
- Our second Members Assembly was held in Perl by the Mosel in the Federal country Saarland, and was well attended. Exchanges, a lecture, an additional programme for the ladies, and a wine-tasting for all rounded out the two-day event. There were few changes in the Board, of which all the Directors were re-elected. A new manager of the Novelties Service special office was elected, who has since begun his activity with excellent results, and realized nearly twelve maximum cards novelties for this service area in the second half of 2004. An advisory member as liaison man to Luxembourg in addition to that for France also took up his post. The Circulars Service office has been closed until further notice.
- Two members of the Board participated in the society meeting of German Society of Philatelic Working Groups. The Chairman had declined in advance involvement in this Board with responsibility for the exhibitions division, due to overloading as a result of numerous philatelic functions.
- Working Group members have participated with great success in competitive exhibitions in Germany and abroad. They also showed exhibits in the new single-frame competition, which is ideally suited as an advertising platform.
- The Group noted with amazement that the new regulations for Maximaphily established in Singapore 2004 only approved an illustration area of less than 75 % for maximum cards realized before 1940. This seems unreasonably harsh, since under this regulation "classic maximum cards", under which international maximum cards from before around 1960, representing our "pre-philately", are understood, can no longer be exhibited. This determination will cause damage which cannot at this time be overlooked to our collecting area, because material which is good, old, and above all valuable to a large extent will be lost. We will consequently apply for an alteration re-determining the date to 1960.

Jahresbericht 2004 für die FIP-Maximaphilie-Kommission (German version)

Während des Berichtszeitraums hat unsere nationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft zwei Vorstandssitzungen zu Saarbrücken abgehalten, bei denen zahlreiche Fachbelange behandelt wurden.

- Im Verlauf des Jahres konnten wir unsere Mitgliederzahl auf 60 erhöhen, mussten am Jahresende aber wieder Abgänge verzeichnen. Hier ist anzumerken, dass eine international durchzuführende Werbeaktion der FIP-Maximaphilie-Kommission sicherlich sehr vorteilhaft für das Sammelgebiet wäre.
- Bei mehreren Vereinen im Inland und Ausland wurden vom Vorsitzenden mittels PC-Präsentation Vorträge über die Grundregel der Maximaphilie gehalten sowie im Rahmen eines internationalen Symposiums beim 15. Tag der Maximaphilie in Echternach/Luxemburg. Dieser Vortrag wird von uns seit 2004 auch als CD-Rom und in gedruckter Version angeboten.
- Des Weiteren haben wir eine umfassende philokartistische PC-Präsentation über illustrierte Postkarten erarbeitet und bereits einige Vorträge über dieses Element der Maximaphilie gehalten. Sie wird ebenfalls seit 2004 als CD-Rom und in gedruckter Version angeboten.
- Mehrere Fachartikel über unser Sammelgebiet veröffentlichten wir im Bereich Öffentlichkeitsarbeit in Vereinszeitschriften und namhaften Fachzeitschriften. Unser Maximaphilie-Report erschien 2004 dreimal wie gewohnt im DIN A 4 Format mit bis zu 54 Seiten. Wir haben uns über die bei unseren europäischen Nachbarn in deren Schriften zitierten Fachartikel aus unserem Report sehr gefreut.
- Bis Ende 2004 hatte unsere Homepage www.maximaphilie.de immerhin knapp 1600 Zugriffe zu verzeichnen.
- Eine spezielles Verzeichnis der Mitglieder mit deren Sammelgebieten, welches zehn Seiten umfasst, ist dieses Jahr erstmals erschienen. Es beinhaltet eine Mitgliederliste sowie einen Abschnitt über die Sammelgebiete unserer Mitglieder.
- Infolge des schwachen Interesses seitens der Mitglieder waren wir gezwungen, unseren Rundsendedienst für Maximumkarten einzustellen. An seiner Stelle bieten wir nun durch ein Arge-Mitglied einen kostenlosen Auktionsservice an.
- Unsere zweite Mitgliederversammlung führten wir mit guter Beteiligung an der saarländischen Mosel zu Perl durch. Tausch, ein Vortrag, ein Rahmenprogramm für die Damen, aber auch eine gemeinsame Weinprobe rundeten das zweitägige Ereignis ab. Es gab wenige Veränderungen im Vorstand, der im geschäftsführenden Bereich komplett wiedergewählt wurde. Ein neuer Fachstellenleiter Neuheitendienst, der zwischenzeitlich mit besten Ergebnissen seine Tätigkeit aufnahm und im zweiten Halbjahr 2004 zwölf Maximumkarten-Neuheiten für diesen Servicebereich realisierte, konnte gewählt werden. Auch ein Beisitzer als Verbindungsmann nach Luxemburg, neben einem solchen nach Frankreich, nahm zusätzlich seine Arbeit auf. Die Fachstelle Rundsendedienst ruht bis auf weiteres.
- Zwei Vorstandsmitglieder nahmen am Verbandstag des deutschen Verbandes Philatelistischer Arbeitsgemeinschaften teil. Die Einbindung des Vorsitzenden in dessen Vorstand für den Zuständigkeitsbereich Ausstellungswesen hatte dieser im Vorfeld, wegen Überbelastung infolge zahlreicher philatelistischer Funktionen, abgelehnt.
- Arge-Mitglieder haben mit gutem Erfolg an Wettbewerbs-Ausstellungen im In- und Ausland teilgenommen. Sie zeigten auch Exponate im neuen Ein-Rahmen-Wettbewerb, der sich bestens als Werbeplattform eignet.
- Mit Verwunderung hat die AMPH zur Kenntnis genommen, dass die in Singapur 2004 neu festgelegten Regelwerke für Maximaphilie nur noch vor 1940 realisierten Maximumkarten eine geringere Illustrationsfläche als 75 % zubilligt. Dies erscheint als unbillige Härte, da durch diese Regulierung „Klassischen Maximumkarten“, darunter verstehen man international Maximumkarten aus der Zeit vor etwa 1960, die unsere „Vorphilatelie“ darstellen, nicht mehr ausstellungsfähig sind. Durch diese Bestimmung wird unserem Sammelgebiet ein zur Zeit nicht überschaubarer Schaden zugefügt, weil gutes, altes und vor allem wertvolles Material im grossen Umfang verloren geht. Wir werden folglich eine Änderung und Neufestlegung auf das Jahr 1960 beantragen.

Greece (Pantelis Leoussis)

- The annual magazine of the Union of Greek Collectors of Maximum Cards was issued early in this year. It was dedicated to the memory of Margarita Kotopouli, benefactor of our Union and to the great regret caused by her death. Conferences and projections for the great work of its lost honorary president were included together with other information about the new MC's issues, activities, the results of our elections and the annual President's report during the General Assembly.
- A big number of fifty four (54) new Maximum-Cards were created during 2004. The majority of their subjects are taken from the Olympic Games which were hosted this year in Athens.
- The Hellenic Post continued issuing the "official Maximum Cards", which are at the same time (prepaid) postal stationery. Most of them are not corresponding to the FIP Maximaphily regulations. Some of them are reproducing the picture of the stamp. All of them bear the cancellation "Athens", which is not conforming to the concordance of the place FIP guidelines and regulations. Our Union creates its own MC and does not accept the ones of the Greek Postal Services.
- Greece participated to the Best Maximum Card World Competition, for the year 2003, held in Singapore on September 2004. We believe that the Best Maximum Card World Competition is an excellent movement towards the worldwide Maximaphily promotion
- Greece has filled the entry form for the next 2004 Best Maximum Card World Competition taken from wonderful subjects of the Olympic Games.

- The Union of Greek Collectors of Maximum Cards follows its way with security and certainty, regardless the difficulties that philately is confronting during last few years. It is one of the more active and productive philatelic associations of the country.

Hungary (Judít Szekeli)

- In the year 2004, we realized about 35 CM (private).
- We have a separate column in *Bélyegvilág*. This philatelic journal is published monthly. In addition, the Magyar Federation Section has a publication on 4 occasions annually.
- We are able to meet the members of the Sections twice a year because they live in the countryside.
- We participated in a first class exhibition with 44 collections, and won a large silver placement.
- We participated on 4 occasions with 33 collections with demonstrative nature connected to events.
- We sent 4 CM for the participation to the Best Maximum Card World Competition in Singapore.
- The problem of CM collection in Hungary is related to ageing, and we have no youth replacement.
- I consider the organization of the Best Maximum Card World Competition very important and as such it must be enhanced and continued.
- I distributed the application forms for the MAXIFRANCE 2005 exhibition. Unfortunately we have no applicants up to this moment. It is expensive and rather complicated with customs.

Italy (Cesare Rialdi)

- Pendant l'année 2004 l'A.I.M. a publié 3 numéros du *Notiziario A.I.M.* la revue de Maximaphilie qui est envoyée aux membres de l'A.I.M. et à toutes les Associations nationales italiennes.
- L'équipe de réalisateurs de nouveautés a préparé 50 Cartes maximum d'Italie, 22 C.M. de Saint-Marin et 23 du Vatican. Ces nouveautés sont envoyées aux abonnés 3 fois par an.
- L'A.I.M. a organisé une exposition régionale compétitive à San Colombano al Lambro (MI) avec la participation de 22 collections.
- En septembre 2004, lors de l'exposition nationale de philatélie, qui s'est tenue à Ravenna, 10 collections ont été présentées et ont obtenu un palmarès de haut niveau : 3 médailles de vermeil, 5 grand vermeil et 2 or.
- Nos exposants ont également participé à des manifestations étrangères : la Mondiale de Valencia (Espagne), l'exposition au Luxembourg et EFIRO à Bucarest. Une grande année pour la maximaphilie italienne.

Korea (Jin Hur)

Maximaphily in Korea is not so much popular like in China, and still is regarded as a subsidiary component to the thematic philately. Therefore so much regretfully, in the Korean annual national stamp exhibition at the moment, there is no independent section for it.

But at the international exhibition level, so far there are two exhibits which were awarded with silver medals in the recent FIP exhibitions. The two awarded exhibits so far are:

- The Bridge : by Mr. Seong-Joo Jeong.
- The Zoogeographical Fauna Protection with an Emphasis on Main Land Mammals : by me.

In terms of the traditional & thematic philately, Korea has shown a remarkable progress throughout the incessant domestic research achievement and some memorable results out of the international competitions, however, Maximaphily is lagging far behind the aforementioned two main categories.

For the maximum card competition on an annual basis, I will do my best to meet what is possible to get from us.

Luxembourg (Jos Wolff) Tätigkeitsbericht der F.S.P.L.-Maximaphiliekommision für 2004

Die Zusammenkünfte der Kommission finden jeden zweiten Donnerstag im Monat, außer in den Monaten Juli und August, für alle Interessenten statt.

- In den zehn Monatsversammlungen des vergangenen Jahres wurden hauptsächlich die Reglemente der Maximaphilie, der Aufbau von Sammlungen und die Bewertung von Exponaten, die Neuerscheinungen von Maximumkarten und die Neuigkeiten aus der F.I.P.-Kommission für Maximaphilie besprochen.
- Präsident Jos Wolff hielt Dia-Vorträge über die Übereinstimmung der drei Grundelemente der Maximumkarte und über die internationalen F.I.P.-Reglemente dieser Sparte in verschiedenen F.S.P.L.-Vereinen.
- In den Tageszeitungen wurden vor jeder Briefmarkenausgabe Artikel von Jos Wolff über die von der Kommission angefertigten Maximumkarten veröffentlicht.
- Am 17.-18. Juli 2004 hatte der Verein Echternach die "15^{ème} Journée Maximaphile" mit internationaler Beteiligung organisiert, mit 25 Maximaphilie-Exponate aus 6 Ländern im Wettbewerb.
- Bei Gelegenheit dieser Ausstellung fanden Referate von Madame Anny Boyard aus Paris, Herrn Günter Formery aus Saarbrücken und Herrn Jos Wolff aus Luxemburg mit Diskussionen über die Maximaphilie statt, an denen sich Maximaphilisten aus Belgien, Deutschland, Frankreich, den Niederlanden, Österreich und Luxemburg beteiligten.
- Vorstandsmitglied Francy Krack führte seinen Dia-Vortrag mit den Maximumkarten über die Stadt Luxemburg in verschiedenen F.S.P.L.-Vereinen vor.

- Mitglieder der Kommission beteiligten sich an zahlreichen lokalen und regionalen Ausstellungen und an der F.I.P.-Ausstellung Singapore 2004.
- Am 1. September 2004 nahmen Herr Wolff, als Delegierter für Luxemburg und FIP-Koordinator, sowie Frau Trommer an der Sitzung der FIP-Maximaphiliekommission in Singapur anlässlich des FIP-Kongresses statt.
- Vom 15. - 20.11.2004 fand die Eurominimax 2004 in Varna, Bulgarien, statt, zu der Herr Wolff als Ehrengast eingeladen war und wo er anhand eines Ein-Rahmen-Maximaphilie-Exponates über Luxemburg den anwesenden Ehrengästen die Maximaphilie erläuterte.
- Im Jahr 2004 wurden 29 Maximumkarten von der Kommission herausgegeben.

Report of the F.S.P.L. - Maximaphily Commission (Jos Wolff) (Translation in English)

- Ten meetings of the Commission, where the FIP regulations and the national and international news of this class of philately were discussed.
- President Jos Wolff held conferences about the elements of a maximum card and the evaluation of exhibits in different associations.
- Jos Wolff published articles on the new maximum cards of the Commission in all newspapers, before each emission.
- The 15th Day of Maximaphily had been organized by the local association of Echternach, with 25 exhibits of 6 countries in competition. On the second day of the exhibition, a meeting with the delegates and exhibitors of those 6 participating countries took place, with conferences of Mrs Anny Boyard from France, Mr Günter Formery from Germany and Mr Jos Wolff.
- Mr Krack showed his slides conference on maximum cards of the city of Luxembourg in local associations.
- The members of the Commission participated in numerous local and regional exhibitions, as well as in FIP exhibition Singapore '04.
- On September 1, 2004, Mr Wolff (as delegate for Luxembourg and FIP-Coordinator) and Mrs Trommer took part in the FIP-Commission's meeting on occasion of Singapore '04 and the FIP-Congress.
- From November 15 to 20 Mr Jos Wolff was guest of honour at the exhibition Eurominimax in Varna in Bulgaria. Luxembourg had sent a one-frame Maximaphily exhibit which Mr Wolff took as model to explain the Maximaphily to the honorary guests.
- During 2004 the Commission issued 29 maximum cards.

Malaysia Maximaphily Report (Tan Chee Hui)

- As I've just taken over the delegation, allow me to briefly give a general view of Maximaphily development in Malaysia:
- The popularity of making maximum cards began since early 1970s (though there were some prior to this). In late 1970s, the postal department of Malaysia introduced special/pictorial postmarks for first day of issue of stamps. This contributes to the increased popularity in making maximum cards since 1980s till even today.
- However, there are not many interests in exhibiting maximum cards at this moment.
- Currently, there are altogether 3 exhibits at national level and 1 at international level.
- The Philatelic Society of Malaysia (PSM) has been promoting Maximaphily through its newsletters. With the existence of PSM website recently, there is a forum to promote each branch of philately. Maximaphily is one of them.
- I would also like to thank former delegate for laying strong foundation for the future development of Maximaphily in Malaysia.

Netherlands (Frans Hermse)

In the Netherlands exists a club called 'Vereniging voor Kinderpostzegels en Maximafilie' (club for collectors of Pro Juventute Stamps and Maximaphily). I am frequently in contact with this club and especially with its president Edward Froom, whom you know I suppose.

On February 22, I gave a short display on Maximaphily at their regular meeting at Utrecht.

The club has got 144 members and most of them collect maximum cards. About six members take part in competitive exhibitions since July 2002 there is a special column on Maximaphily in the magazine 'Filatelie' written by Edward Froom, mentioned above.

At the exhibition at Echternach (Luxemburg) I was appointed as a jury member for Maximaphily in Luxemburg and I got a Luxemburg jury passport, although being Dutch. It stands to reason that I have already got a Dutch passport.

On December 11, I gave a short display on the principles of Maximaphily for the assembled Dutch jury members. Until now only 3 Dutch jurors are entitled to judge Maximaphily exhibits but all other members should have a minimum knowledge of Maximaphily.

The amended articles in the SREV and the Guidelines for Maximaphily will be translated by me and implemented in the Dutch regulations.

Pakistan (Syed Imtiaz Hussain)

Maximaphily activity it is very limited in Pakistan. I'm trying my best to hold some seminars about the awareness of this branch of philately. I hold one lecture/Seminar in my society (Khyber Philatelic Association, Peshawar) with the help of CD which you gave me during Bangkok'2003. Philatelists of Peshawar took a great interest in that lecture and asked several questions during my presentation/lecture. Now I'm trying to give lectures to this branch of Philately in Lahore and Karachi where there is a bigger bunch of philatelists.

If you have some written material on Maximaphily in English, then I will be happier to give lectures with the help of that material. In Pakistan we have some Maximaphily postcards but some of them do not come in Maximaphily because those cards are the printed enlarged copies of the issued stamps. In near future you will hear some good news in respect of new collectors and exhibitors from Pakistan.

Portugal (Dr Eurico Lage Cardoso)

1 - Le délégué de la FPF-APD se congratule avec les nouvelles règles du SREV et Guidelines destinées à améliorer notre spécialité et à éviter des erreurs dans la réalisation de cartes-maximum.

2 - La traduction en langue portugaise des SREV et des Guidelines devra être publiée dans la publication de la Fédération Portugaise de la Philatélie « Filatélia Lusitana » et appréciée avec beaucoup d'intérêt.

3 - Lors de l'exposition Philatélique Luso-Espanhola « Philaibéria 2004 en Estremoz, la classe de maximaphilie a présenté 14 collections. M. Eurico Lage Cardoso a officié comme juré.

4 - Plusieurs concours ont été réalisés au Portugal, mais la jeunesse est peu motivée pour la collection maximaphile.

5 - De nombreuses cartes-maximum ont été créées. Des échanges et relations sont effectués avec des associations maximaphiles étrangères.

6 - Les responsables de la commission internationale de maximaphilie ont sollicité dans un délai trop court l'envoi des participations au concours international pour la meilleure C.M.2004. Ce délai doit être prolongé jusqu'en mai ou juin 2005 et les C.M. devront être restituées aux collectionneurs qui ont réalisé les pièces.

Russie (Valery Petrov)

En 2004 près de 70 cartes-maximum ont été créées par les maximaphiles russes en conformité avec les règlements de la F.I.P. Moi personnellement j'ai réalisé près de 60 CM sans compter les variantes et celles réalisées avec des timbres découpés des entiers postales.

Je lis régulièrement la revue des Maximaphiles Français et parcours de temps en temps les sites des Associations Maximaphiles et personnelles. J'ai écrit trois articles dans notre revue nationale PHILATELIA (suite de cycle ERMITMAX sur ma collection maximaphile consacrée à l'histoire du Palais d'hiver et Ermitage). Un article sur les monuments de St-Petersbourg a été écrit par une maximaphile de cette ville G. Tchoudessova

Notre petite section a organisé à la Maison Centrale des Artistes (Moscou) la démonstration commentée de collection de CM de N.Kotchetkov "Histoire de la Russie avant Pierre le Grand".

Une collection de Maximaphilie a participé à une exposition locale et deux sur le niveau national. A l'exposition nationale «Cercle polaire 2004» (Mourmansk), Nicolas Kotchetkov (Moscou) avec sa collection « Marine de guerre de la Russie » a reçu un vermeil.

A l'exposition nationale «Russie 2004» (Moscou) Galina Tchoudessova (Petersbourg) avec sa collection « La promenade par Petersbourg » a reçu un grand argent et à l'exposition non compétitive (Moscou) consacrée au grand aviateur russe V.Tchkalov Nicolas Kotchetkov (Moscou) avec sa collection « Aviation en Russie et URSS avans1940 » a reçu un diplôme d'honneur du gouvernement de Moscou.

Les problèmes que les maximaphiles russes affrontent sont : Nous sommes peu nombreux. Nous sommes assez âgés et les jeunes ne s'intéressent pas beaucoup à la Maximaphilie.

Les maximaphiles Russes demandent que les CM avec les timbres-poste provenant de entiers postaux (=coupés) soient acceptées. Peut on discuter cette question à Paris? Un oeuvre de B.Millérioux "Les "vrais" cartes-maximum" (La Phil. Fr. № 425, 1989, p.529) touche ce problème: "Dans certains pays (URSS, Espagne, Australie etc.) les timbres des entiers postaux sont acceptés, découpés et collés sur d'autres supports (enveloppes ou cartes postales). Des cartes-maximum ont été réalisées ainsi, mais la Commission Internationale de la FIP n'a pas encore statué sur ces pièces".

Roumanie (Dr. Ioan Daniliuc)

-L'institution habilitée à éditer des matériaux postaux «ROMFILATELIA» a émis 10 CM officielles. Un nombre plus grand a été réalisé par les collectionneurs, comme des réalisations personnelles, en employant des cartes postales de leurs propres collections.

-Des articles de Maximaphilie ont été publiés dans les revues nationales: "Filatelia", "Curierul filatelic" et de l'étranger (La revue A.I.H, "Notiziario"), Auteurs: Joan Daniliuc, Vasile Doros, Petru Pitea, Andrei Potcoava, ValantIn Berëzovschi

-Le mois de Septembre a été célébrée la 30eme anniversaire de l'exposition "EUROMAX'74" qui a eu lieu en 1974 à Bucarest. A cette occasion l'Exposition Nationale de Maximaphilie "REMEMBER EUROMAX'74" a été organisée avec un symposium anniversaire, où plusieurs oeuvres ont été présentées par I. Daniliuc, P.Pitea, V.Doros, A.

Scariățescu de Roumanie et N. Rangos, Cesare Rialdi, Fausto Lodi de l'étranger, publiées dans le Catalogue de l'exposition.

-L'exposition la plus importante du 2004 a été l'Exposition Nationale de Maximaphilie "REMEMBER EUROMAX'74" qui a eu lieu en même temps avec l'Exposition philatélique Nationale "EFIRO 2004». Les 33 collections participantes ont gagné 2 médailles d'Or (Nicos Rangos et Vasile Doros), 4 médailles de Large Vermeil, 2 vermeil, 5 Grand Argent, 7 Argent, 4 Bronze Argente et 5 Bronze.

A l'Exposition Internationale de Valencia «Espagne 2004» le collectionneur roumain Andrei Potcoavă a gagné une médaille de Grand Argent. Les collections de maximaphilie (presque 40) ont participé à toutes les expositions districtuelles et nationales.

-Nous avons participé au Concours International de la meilleure CM à Singapour.

-La Maximaphilie roumaine a des difficultés d'ordre financière et aussi liées à la réticence de "Romfilatelia" d'éditer des CM ou des CPI qui peuvent être 'utilisées par' la Commission de Maximaphilie pour la réalisation des CM.

-Nous saluons avec beaucoup de joie et enthousiasme l'initiative des collègues français d'organiser une exposition de tel niveau comme "MAXIFRANCE 2005". Les collectionneurs roumains ont milité pour l'organisation des expositions de Maximaphilie avec la participation des collectionneurs de plusieurs pays étant donné le fait qu'ils sont les initiateurs et organisateurs de quelques expositions bilatérales et trilatérales, zonales (les éditions BALKANMAX de lesquelles deux ont été organisées en Roumanie) ou européennes (la première édition étant organisée à Bucarest). Nous saluons cette initiative et nous souhaitons beaucoup de succès aux organisateurs.

Singapore (Tay Peng Hian)

Singapore who is strong enough in other classes of Philately does not have any tradition in Maximaphily. However during "Singapore Championship 2004" a good number of quite interesting Maximaphily exhibits were gathered and the first World Competition for the Best Maximum Card of 2003 was held. During the same period a Maximaphily seminar was conducted by the Commission chairman and under his guidance 12 Maximum Cards were created and cancelled by the Singapore Post. One of them will participate to the second 2004 World Competition for the Best Maximum Card.

Slovaquie (Dr Jülius Molnar)

La section de maximaphilie de l'Association des philatélistes slovaques comprend 34 membres, dont 29 de Slovaquie, les autres étant répartis en République Tchèque et en Hongrie.

Le Groupe, présidé par le Dr Jülius Molnar, est très actif. De nombreux membres ont participé à six expositions, soit comme organisateurs, comme exposants et jurés dont ZAHORIE 2004 et MINIMAX 2004 ainsi qu'à quatre inaugurations d'émissions de timbres-poste.

Participations-organisations de six séminaires spéciaux, dont l'un en présence du président de la Commission internationale FIP pour la Maximaphilie Nicos Rangos.

De nombreux contacts sont entretenus avec différents pays étrangers : Hongrie, Chypre, France, Allemagne, Pologne, Roumanie, Bulgarie, République Tchèque, Ukraine.

Quatre nouvelles cartes-maximum ont été réalisées.

Evènements extraordinaires :

- 1) Première place au concours international de la meilleur C.M. (Singapour).
- 2) Parution d'un manuel destiné aux collectionneurs de cartes-maximum.
- 3) Un membre de l'Association a reçu l'insigne d'or de la Fédération Philatélique Slovaque.

Spain (Juan Antonio Casas Pajares)

-Durante este año han sido varios coleccionistas los que han pedido información de los reglamentos y el montaje de colecciones. Al principio les parece muy complicado pero siguiendo los consejos van aclarando sus dudas.

-La publicación de la revista de ASEMA "APUNTES DE MAXIMOFILIA", en la que escriben prestigiosos maximofilistas, sigue siendo muy solicitada por los que quieren conocer nuestro coleccionismo. En el nº 28 se han difundido las **modificaciones de los reglamentos** aprobados por la Comisión Internacional de Maximofilia en el **68º Congreso de la FIP** celebrado en Singapur los días 1 y 2 de septiembre.

-En la exposición mundial **ESPAÑA 2004**, celebrada en Valencia, el Presidente de esta Comisión participó como Jurado de Maximofilia. Se celebró un **Seminario de Maximofilia** que presidió Jos Wolff, Vicepresidente de la FIP, y que impartió Nicos Rangos, Presidente de la Comisión Internacional de Maximofilia y Jurado de Maximofilia de la exposición, intervino como traductor el socio y secretario de ASEMA Juan M. Laynez Ramírez. Este seminario coincidió con el de temática por lo que hubo algunas quejas. Tengo que destacar que los seminarios de Clase Abierta, Temática y Maximofilia se procure en próximas exposiciones que no coincidan en horarios pues hay coleccionistas interesados en participar en los tres. Durante la exposición se comentaron muchos aspectos de nuestro coleccionismo delante de las colecciones, aclarando muchas dudas de varios coleccionistas españoles y extranjeros.

-Seguimos solicitando que en la próxima EXFILNA tengamos un Jurado especializado en Maximofilia.

-Me es grato comunicar que se siguen solicitando en muchas exposiciones colecciones de maximofilia y en algunas no han podido participar por coincidencia de fechas.

-Ha causado gran alegría entre los maximofilistas que se eligiera como **“Filatélico Andaluz del Año”** a Francisco Velázquez Barroso durante la exposición EXFILANDALUS 2004 celebrada en Puerto Real.

-Durante este año 2004 algunas colecciones de maximofilia han obtenido galardones importantes a nivel nacional como internacional. Se han expuesto colecciones de maximofilia en:

-XIX EXPOFIL CARNAVAL 2004 en Cádiz. EXFIGALICIA 2004 en Tuy. TELABUL 2004 en Tel-Aviv. ESPAÑA 2004 en Valencia. OLYMPHILEX 2004 en Atenas. SINGAPUR 2004 en Singapur. EFICEGA 2004 en Cabra. EXFILANDALUS 2004 en Puerto Real. EXFILNA 2004 en Valladolid. EXFINUISLA 2004 en San Fernando. PHILAIBERIA 2004 en Extremoz. CHICLANA 2004 en Chiclana. I EXPOSICIÓN BINACIONAL MÉXICO-ESPAÑA en México D.F. EXPOFIL 2004 en Rota.

-Cuando estaba terminando de confeccionar este informe me llegó la triste noticia del fallecimiento de nuestro amigo y gran filatélico-maximofílico Juan Barberá Baro (q. e. p. d.). Sus colecciones de maximofilia estuvieron en las exposiciones más importantes de este año obteniendo grandes galardones para la filatelia española. Estuvimos muchos maximofilista al lado de sus hijos y familiares y la familia filatélica chiclanera manifestando nuestro pesar, que descanse en paz.

Spain – traduction française :

La publication de la revue d'ASEMA, “APUNTES DE MAXIMOFILIA”, dans laquelle les maximaphiles le plus prestigieux ont écrit, a été très sollicitée par les collectionneurs. Dans le numéro 28 on peut lire les modifications aux Règlements, approuvées à Singapour.

-A l'Exposition Mondiale “ESPAÑA 2004”, Monsieur Casas Pajares (Président de la Commission de Maximaphilie de FESOFI) a été membre du Juré de Maximaphilie.

-Le Secrétaire d'ASEMA, Monsieur J.M. Laynez Ramírez a officié comme traducteur à l'occasion du Séminaire de Maximaphilie offert par Nicos Rangos (Président de la Commission International de Maximaphilie).

-La commission regrette la coïncidence des Séminaire de Thématique avec celle de Maximaphilie et demande qu' à l'avenir, on ne pas fasse pas coïncider, en même temps, les séminaires de Classe Ouverte, Thématique et Maximaphilie, parce qu'il y a des collectionneurs qui sont intéressés par ces trois classes de la Philatélie.

-Pendant cette exposition, les collections ont été commentées et beaucoup de réponses sur notre classe de maximaphilie ont été apportées aux questions des collectionneurs espagnoles et étrangers. Nous souhaitons qu'à l'occasion de la prochaine exposition national EXFILNA, un membre du jury, spécialisé dans la classe de Maximaphilie, participe aux jugements des collections maximaphiles.

-Nous avons beaucoup de satisfactions pour la nomination de « Filatélico Andaluz del Año » (le philatélique andalous de l'année) du Vice-président d'ASEMA, Monsieur Francisco Velázquez Barroso, pendant l'exposition EXFILÁNDALUS 2004, à Puerto Real (Cadix).

-Pendant l'année 2004, quelques collections de Maximaphilie ont obtenu de très importantes médailles aux expositions nationales et internationales suivantes : XIX EXPOFIL CARNAVAL 2004, à Cadix ; EXFIGALICIA 2004, à Tuy ; TELABUL 2004, à Tel-Aviv ; ESPAÑA 2004, à Valence ; OLYMPHILEX 2004, à Athènes ; SINGAPOUR 2004, à Singapour ; EFICEGA 2004, à Cabra ; EXFILÁNDALUS 2004, à Puerto Real ; EXFILNA 2004, à Valladolid ; EXFINUISLA 2004, à San Fernando ; PHILAIBERIA 2004, à Estremoz, CHICLANA 2004, à Chiclana ; I EXPOSICIÓN BINACIONAL MÉXICO-ESPAÑA, à México D.F. , et EXPOFIL 2004, à Rota.

-Nous avons la tristesse de vous apprendre le décès de M. Juan Barberá Baro, grand maximaphile, membre de l'ASEMA. Il avait participé, pendant cette année, avec ses collections de Maximaphilie, aux expositions les plus importantes, ayant obtenu des médailles importantes pour la philatélie espagnole.

Suisse (Willy Monnet)

Après la disparition de président Sylvio TAIOLI, qui avait fondé et dirigé l'Association Maximaphile Suisse durant de nombreuses années, cette association s'est restructurée sous l'autorité du nouveau président, M. Willy MONNET.

- La nouvelle équipe continue à réaliser des cartes-maximum qui sont conformes à la réglementation internationale, mais non sans difficultés, pour la (les) raison(s) suivante(s) :

- de plus en plus le graphisme des timbres-poste suisses relève davantage du domaine de l'imaginaire que du réel, d'où la difficulté de trouver des cartes correspondantes,
- beaucoup de petites maisons d'éditions ont fermé leurs portes au cours de ces vingt dernières années,
- la réalisation de quelques dizaines de cartes-maximum seulement, représente un nombre trop important pour obtenir des cartes dans les commerces de détail et un nombre trop petit pour faire appel à des grossistes ou à un imprimeur en Suisse pour reproduire un document préexistant,
- si le sujet du timbre-poste suisse en tant que tel, est connu en début d'année au plus tard, le graphisme exact de celui-ci ne parvient à notre connaissance que peu de semaines avant la date d'émission.

- L'Association Maximaphile Suisse entretient des relations suivies avec de nombreux pays étrangers et assure la diffusion de C.M. du Liechtenstein et des Nations Unies, dans la mesure des possibilités et selon l'intérêt du sujet.

United Kingdom (Christine A. Earle)

After a recent meeting with the International Committee of the Association of British Philatelic Societies, although I am afraid I have to report that we are not in a position to submit an entry into the World Best Maximum Card 2004 Competition. It is possible that individuals are creating Maximum Cards but we are not aware about their activity. However, as Chairman of the British Thematic Association, I am hoping to organise a visit to the MaxiFrance 2005 exhibition with a few of my thematic colleagues. If there is anything I can do to help during this visit, I will be very pleased.

United States (Daniel Olsen)

-The Good News is that we, as MACSU, North America and Canada together, still have a Journal after more than 25 years!

-George Constantourakis as editor does a pretty good job considering he's busy on so many other activities. Now we have found a secretary who will handle a few of the activities involved with the membership. In addition to George, who has continued to exhibit Internationally, I keep exhibiting nationally. Although in 2004 I only had an exhibit in one National Show - that in Sarasota. I also did an exhibit for a local show.

But there are a couple of others who did show at local shows. (2005 will have a better showing). The not-so-good news is that Maximaphily still has all too few adherents here in North America. I have forwarded a number of new member's possibilities, but do not know if they have actually become new members. Now with the new secretary, -I will try to find out what our numbers actually are and if they are growing. I have tried to get some of our members to keep in touch with me - but - aside from George - only Terry Watson and Sebastian Safiano are in touch with each other. Sebastian makes maximum cards and keeps up a steady correspondence with many others outside (and a few inside) of the USA. He writes a column on Maximaphily for TOPICAL TIME. Terry makes many maximum cards and trades with as many as 20 foreign maximaphilatelists. But there are a few others who also make maximum cards. I buy and sell on eBay and I see that there are a dozen or so in the USA who sell maximum cards. I think a few may also be members of MACSU. As you can see - ours is not the close knit society with a good deal of intercommunication.

However, we are still around.

-On three occasions in National exhibitions with a great many important exhibits - mine on Maximaphily was voted the most Popular by the Public. (This was twice in 2003 and once this year - where my TO CONQUER THE SKY won the first USA GOLD in Maximaphily - as well as voted the most popular) This means the public really likes MC, but that does not mean they are going to become active collectors.

-I also wrote a couple of articles for our Journal.

-I did not send in a MC for the World competition - but I did tell Terry Watson - and he did send one in (for the USA). I must say that the competition is useful.

-I think I covered some of the subjects - but here is the biggest - by far:

-There is a very active FDC society - with its own National Show every year

And soon they will qualify to enter the American Philatelic Society Champion of Champions annual competition. - They have a fat journal - and many members as well as many collectors. And - for some reason - they are gaining more respect every year. And the prices are going up on the very early classics stamps on ordinary covers that are used on the first day that the stamp is issued. Maximum cards are still regarded as "postcards with stamps on them" REALLY! And it does not look like that will ever change.

-I have sent in my entry for the Washington 2006 show - actually a thematic "My VW" and the Maximaphily "To Conquer the Sky". I am working on "Watercraft", "The Posts" - not yet even started. I continue always improving my one on "THE CLEVER HAND" and "WHISKERS" - both popular in shows. Also my wife has twice this year exhibited her "GREETINGS FROM AMERICA".

Venezuela (Ignacio Martinello)

Unfortunately Creating Maximum Cards is very difficult in our country. The main problem in our country is that there are not suitable cards, commercially available, for the philatelic issues that we have every year. The Postal Administration of Venezuela issues Maximum Cards, but they do not comply with the FIP Regulations. We try to change this situation, but I think we need your help. I prepared a Maximaphily article and very soon it will be published in bulletin "Gaceta Filatélica".

I think that the "Best Maximum Card World Competition is useful because it is the best way to promote Maximaphily.

Conclusion

Comparing the present 2004 world Maximaphily report as it was transmitted by the delegates with the reports of the previous years, we can say with confidence that the development of Maximaphily all over the world lets us predict a good future for this attractive class of philately. We should be of course very pleased if we could receive more reports, but we know that it is a difficult task in each country because of the various well known difficulties. Last year the reports received were only 18 while this year they went up to 30. The considerable increase of the number of

countries which replied to our invitation and sent us their national Maximaphily activity report is a positive sign. Thus we congratulate all the Members of the Commission on the serious and great work they have carried out in their own countries.

We would like also to ask you to continue the efforts for the development of Maximaphily class, **especially with young people, respecting always the rules of the F.I.P. (SREV and GUIDELINES)** We renew our recommendation for consulting the sites of FIP www.f-i-p.ch/ and www.Maxiamphiles-Français.org and all their links. This can help you in your mission. We remind you that in order to help you with the organization of lectures and conferences in your country, we have prepared a PowerPoint Maximaphily presentation which is available, on request from the President of the Commission Nicos Rangos: (dn1989@cytanet.com.cy)

We extend many thanks to FIP President Mr. Koh Seow Chuan for his leading support, the FIP Board Vice-Presidents and Directors, especially to Mr. Joseph Wolff who has the responsibility for Maximaphily class and to FIP Secretary General Mrs. Marie-Louise Heiri for their special support and their perfect cooperation with us.

We thank you in advance for keeping us informed about all your projects and activities which will be held in your country and we wish to contribute, with you, to the further development of our "Maximaphily" hobby.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours.

Nicos RANGOS
Chairman of the FIP Commission for Maximaphily

Anny BOYARD
Secretary