



# FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE PHILATÉLIE Commission for Maximaphily

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MAY 31, 2012

To:

THE FIP PRESIDENT MR. TAY PENG HIAN

THE VICE-PRESIDENTS AND DIRECTORS OF THE FIP BOARD

THE FIP SECRETARY GENERAL

## 2011 World Maximaphily Activity Report

### **Increase in the number of National Delegates to FIP Maximaphily Commission**

45	47	50	51	52	54	57	60	61	62
2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011

### **Increase in the number of countries participating in our World Maximaphily Activity Report**

21	30	36	43	46	49	49	49	51
2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011

### **Increase in the number of countries participating in our World Competition for the Best Maximum Card**

18	26	31	34	37	40	45	53	59
2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011

We extend our thanks to the FIP Maximaphily Commission Delegates who had the kindness to enrich our Worldwide Maximaphily Activity Report and cover the most important activities of their own country during the year 2011. Their efforts are very much appreciated.

The following fifty one (51) countries, participated in the present World Maximaphily Activity Report:

ALBANIA	CHINESE TAIPEI	ITALY	PAKISTAN	SPAIN
ARGENTINA	CROATIA	ISRAEL	POLAND	SWITZERLAND
ARMENIA	CYPRUS	JAPAN	PORTUGAL	THAILAND
AUSTRALIA	CZECH REP.	LIECHTENSTEIN	Rep. KOREA (South)	UKRAINE
AUSTRIA	DENMARK &Area	LUXEMBOURG	Rep. MACEDONIA (former Yugoslav)	UNITED KINGDOM (Great Britain)
BELGIUM	FINLAND	MACAU	ROMANIA	U.S.A.
BRAZIL	FRANCE	MALAYSIA	RUSSIA	VENEZUELA
BULGARIA	GERMANY	MALTA	SERBIA	
CANADA	GREECE	MEXICO	SINGAPORE	
CHILE	ICELAND	NETHERLANDS	SLOVAKIA	
CHINA	INDIA	NEW ZEALAND	SLOVENIA	

### **Our sincere condolences**

- In 2011, *Jacques Thénard* and *René Brana* two honorary chairmen of the French Association '*Les Maximaphiles Français*', passed away. *Jacques Thénard* was the Chairman of the FIP Maximaphily Commission for twelve (12) years from 1988 to 2000. Both Messrs *René Brana* and *Jacques Thénard* devoted much of their life to our discipline, which they have skillfully enriched.

### **Welcome to our new Delegates**

We welcome the new delegates to the Commission: *Nikos Mallouchos* of GREECE, *Guadalupe Morales Grifaldo* of MEXICO, *Marian Rawiński* of POLAND and *Patricio Aguirre Warden* of CHILE.

### **FIP Commission Bureau was very active all of 2011:**

In particular, there was a very close and constant cooperation between its Chairman, Secretary, Bureau Members and past Chairman. We worked for:

- The embedding and the spreading of the new Maximaphily regulations making them clearer, popular and more easily understood by all the shareholders.
- We are reviewing these responses and will make a clear proposal on the issue of *Personalized Stamps* at the next Commission Meeting, in Jakarta aiming to achieve their approval.
- The diffusion of the official texts and Reports to the Delegates.
- The constant upgrading of our contact information leading to greater facility to communicate.
- The offering of electronic documentation on Maximaphily Class, on request to the Nat. Philatelic Fed.
- We managed to update own FIP Maximaphily Commission website and will strive to make further improvements.
- For the first time, we have managed to post on our Commission Website the 59 participations in our World Competition of the three Best Maximum Cards created in 2010 .
- For the first time, the Voting for the World Competition of the three Best Maximum Cards is done electronically and the official Delegates email their Voting Papers to both the President and the Secretary of the Commission.

### **Maximaphily Seminars:**

In 2011, Maximaphily Seminars were held:

-In April 2011, during the '*ALPE-ADRIAPHILA 2011*' Exhibition in Opatija, Croatia, Nicos Rangos gave a power point presentation on "*How to be Protected from Fake Maximum Cards*" enriched with many MC colourful examples.

-In October 2011, during '*Polkowice 2011*' Youth Exhibition in Poland another successful Maximaphily seminar was given by Nicos Rangos.

-Numerous other Seminars were given by many National Maximaphily Associations.

### **Important proposal at the next Commission Meeting on the issue of the *Personalized Stamps***

- At the next Maximaphily Commission Meeting at *WSC INDONESIA 2012* in Jakarta, we plan to make a clear proposal to accept those *Personalized Stamps* that comply with these criteria:

- a) Printed by a Postal Administration or a private organization with official approval of the National Postal Administration.
- b) Presenting subjects of general interest.
- c) Offered and accessible to the general public.

### **General Comments referring to our National Associations.**

Reading the present National Reports we note the following:

- In most countries Maximaphily is progressing; best examples are USA, Brazil, Malaysia, France and many other European countries. In others is stable, in a few is regressing and in some others Maximaphily is just starting up.
- Certain countries report that the organizers of various philatelic exhibitions are asking their members to exhibit their Maximaphily collections, as these are of interest to visitors for the beautiful balance they achieve with the stamps on the cards and their concordant postmark.
- Several members of National Maximaphily Associations have published interesting articles; disseminating various aspects Maximaphily Rules in Journals of various Philatelic Societies.
- Many Maximaphily Associations produce E-Journals that are available either exclusively to their members or distributed free, as a means of attracting new members.
- Many National Associations encounter difficulties in creating good Maximum Cards due
  - a) to the large number of new stamp issues,
  - b) to the lack of concordant cancellations and
  - c) to the closure of many post offices in small localities.

### **National Maximaphily Websites**

We updated the list of Maximaphily Websites. These sites are reaching an ever growing number of collectors. Certain Personal Websites have a great following from Maximaphilists from around the world.

BELGIUM: [www.belgianmaximaphiles.be/](http://www.belgianmaximaphiles.be/) (*Cached - Similar* [The Belgian Maximaphiles](#) WPC)

CHINA: [Chinamaxicard](#)

FRANCE: <http://www.maximaphiles-francais.org/> [Les Maximaphiles Français](#)

GERMANY: <http://www.maximaphilie.de/> ([Maximaphily & Philokartie](#) AMPH)

GREECE: [maximaphilia.gr/](http://maximaphilia.gr/)

ITALY: <http://www.maximafilia.it/> ([Associazione Italiana Maximaphilia](#) A.I.M.)

ROMANIA: <http://srmdvn.blogspot.com/> [Societatea Română Maximafilie of D<sup>r</sup>. Valeriu Neaga](#)

SPAIN: [www.asemamaximofilia.com](http://www.asemamaximofilia.com) (ASEMA)

### **Personal Maximaphily Websites**

CZECH REP.: <http://cartesmaximum.blogspot.com/>

CHINESE TAIPEI (Taiwan): <http://bridge-maximumcard.blogspot.com/>

MALAYSIA: [Ye Choh San Malaysia Maximaphily](#) [余曹山极限片珍藏](#)

PORTUGAL: <http://omundoapaixonantedamaximafilia.blogspot.com/>

SPAIN: <http://asemabolsa.blogspot.com/>

UNITED KINGDOM (Ian Billings): <http://picasaweb.google.com/wild1952/>

USA: <http://www.squidoo.com/dorincard>

### **Jury formation:**

- We wish to see a speedier process for Maximaphily Jury Apprenticing at FIP Exhibitions, to counter the limited number of specialized Maximaphily Jurors.

- Regarding the Judging of Maximaphily Exhibits at FIP Exhibitions, we wish to see that – at minimum – the team leader Judge, is a FIP accredited Judge in Maximaphily.

#### **Inclusion of all FIP Classes:**

- Following the exclusions of Maximaphily from “*Paraguay 2011*”, and currently “*WSC INDONESIA 2012*” (and the small number of participations at “*Philanippon 2011*”); we would like to request that FIP encourages the inclusion of All Classes. This is of primary importance for the future of our hobby. Maximaphily is very much appreciated by the general public and it is also an asset in the direction of the Youth philately.

- Regarding 'FIP Exhibitions and those with FIP Recognition', we wish to see that the:

a) FIP encourages the inclusion of All Classes and in our case the Class of Maximaphily and

b) FIP encourages a greater number of Maximaphily Exhibits been accepted by the organizers of those FIP Exhibitions.

#### **The main points of our Strategic Plan for the future of Maximaphily:**

· To propose the official acceptance of *Personalized Stamps* that comply with certain specific criteria.

· To lead a campaign in fighting Fakes and Forgeries in Maximaphily by creating a data base of questionable MC's and by offering Seminars at many Maximaphily and Philatelic venues.

· To further publicize the posting of the World Maximaphily Competition of the three Best Maximum Cards in our Commission's Website and strive to improve the Voting fairness.

· To continue updating and improving our FIP Maximaphily Commission Website:

<http://www.maximaphily.info/>

· To continue improving the means of communications between the Delegates of the FIP Maximaphily Commission by constantly upgrading our contact information.

- To encourage National Maximaphily Ass. in the direction of promoting Youth Maximaphily.

· To introduce and promote Maximaphily in the countries where it is not yet known

· To offer to all national philatelic federations a Maximaphily data-processing documentation

· To improve our network with all National Philatelic Federations

· To persuade certain Postal Administrations to create correct Maximum Cards

· To open the way for more Maximaphily Jury training

· To reduce the level of discrimination against Maximaphily through learning procedures

· To promote the acceptance of all classes at FIP Exhibitions.

· To promote the Increase of the number of Maximaphily Exhibits being accepted by the organizing committees of FIP Exhibitions.

· To request from FIP members countries the appointment of **active** Delegates to our Maximaphily Commission.

#### **8th World Competition for the three Best Maximum Cards created in 2010**

-For the first time the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition'* was posted in our Website [www.maximaphily.info](http://www.maximaphily.info) and open for Voting to **all** our official Delegates. Also, for the first time, the Voting for this Competition, was done electronically. The official Delegates sent in by email their Voting Papers with their Choices to both the Chairman and the Secretary of the Commission. This way, ensuring that the Voting Choices will be better secured. In order to give a fair chance to all participating countries, we deemed it appropriate that the Voting Rules needed to be better defined, thus ensuring more Objective Results. We used this occasion to make a major change in the Rules that it will NOT be allowed to vote for your own country. In the past, a country present with a proxy power ended up Voting twice for their own country and countries not present were at a major disadvantage. We will present these changes for approval FIP Maximaphily Commission's Meeting in Jakarta.

-For this *'8th 2010 World Competition for the three Best Maximum Cards'* there were 59 countries taking part, an increase of 6 countries since the previous Competition. There were 45 Votes cast by Delegates representing 45 FIP Countries and out of the 59 participating countries, 50 countries received a Vote.

**Results of the  
3 Best Maximum Cards  
created in 2010**

<b>1st Prize</b> (105 points)	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</b> (48 points) <i>ex eco</i>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</b> (48 points) <i>ex eco</i>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize</b> (45 points)
<b>PORTUGAL</b>	<b>CZECH Rep.</b>	<b>SAN MARINO</b>	<b>LUXEMBOURG</b>
<i>Rui Dias</i>	<i>Pavel Kancnyr</i>	A.I.M. (Italian Maximaphily Ass.)	<i>FSPL Commission de Maximaphilie</i>

- **1st prize** went to Rui Dias of Portugal for his Maximum Card: '*Elevadores Publicos de Portugal*'. The Glória Funicular was opened on October 24, 1885. At first, it was designed as a water powered system, then in 1886 it was replaced by a steam power one, and finally in 1915 it was electrified. In 2002 it was designated a National Monument. The Glória Funicular makes the connection from the downtown *Restauradores* square to *Bairro Alto* (literally High Quarter) on a 265 metres journey up or down the hill, with an average gradient of 18%. The Glória is the busiest funicular in Lisbon and also the most accessible for tourists. When you go out of the funicular you will find on the right side the *S. Pedro de Alcântara Belvedere*, from where you get a magnificent view of downtown Lisbon.

- **2nd prize ex eco** went to Pavel Kancnyr of the Czech Rep. for his Maximum Card: '*Prague Castle & Charles Bridge*'. The Prague Castle is said to be the biggest castle in the world at about 570 m in length and an average of about 130 m wide. Its history stretches back to the 9th century. The castle buildings represent virtually every architectural style of the last millennium. The Prague Castle includes Gothic *St Vitus Cathedral*, Romanesque *Basilica of St. George*, a monastery and several noble historical palaces, gardens and defense towers. It also houses several museums, including the National Gallery collection of Bohemian baroque and mannerism art, exhibition dedicated to Czech history. The area around the Prague Castle is called *Hradčany*. The *Charles Bridge* is a famous historic bridge that crosses the *Vltava* (Moldau) river in Prague. Its construction started in 1357 under *Charles IV*, and finished in the early 15th cent. *Charles Bridge* was the most important connection between Prague Castle and the city's Old Town and adjacent areas. The bridge is 516 m long and 10 m wide, resting on 16 arches and is decorated by a continuous alley of 30 statues and statuaries, most of them baroque-style, erected around 1700.

**2nd prize ex eco** went to *AIM the Italian Maximaphily Association* for their **San Marino** Maximum Card: '*F. Coppi - G. Bartali*'. The se-tenant stamp depicts *Giro d'Italia*'s most famous cyclists *Gino Bartali* (left) and *Fausto Coppi*, (right). The First Day cancellation has a concordant illustration (triple). Although this San Marino cancellation is not concordant with the location of the event, here the focus is on a historic photo of two great rival cyclists, as symbol of good sportsmanship. During the climb of the *Galibier (Alpe d'Huez)* a photographer for *Omega*, *Carlo Martini*, snapped a photo where you could see the passage of a water bottle between the two arch rivals. The photo quickly became a symbol of knightly sports rivalry, the contest between gentlemen and fair play that characterized the relationship between the two champions. But, the truth about the photograph has always been in debate: It is not known which one passed the water bottle to his rival.

- **3rd prize** went to Luxembourg's Commission de Maximaphilie FSPL. This Maximum Card depicts the *Rose Yvan Misson* a rose of unique beauty, an early variety created in 1912 in Luxembourg by Soupert and Notting. The stamp used is found on the lower right of a Booklet of 10 stamps. This booklet is featuring 10 different Rose varieties found in Luxembourg. These stamps were to be distributed by the automated teller machines.

**During 2011, about 1800 different Maximum Cards were created worldwide by the national maximaphily associations, local clubs or individuals. Congratulations to the delegate representing France gaining the top with 142 Maximum Card creations.** In addition, the Postal Services of certain countries occasionally produce Maximum Cards. These are not included, as well those MC created by

unknown foreign individuals. Unfortunately availability of this very important and specific information is not obtainable.

**Maximum cards created during 2011 per country:**

**FRANCE ON THE TOP**

COUNTRY	MC	COUNTRY	MC	COUNTRY	MC	COUNTRY	MC	COUNTRY	MC
ALBANIA	?	CHINESE TAIPEI	38	ITALY	116	PAKISTAN	?	SPAIN	46
ARGENTINA	?	CROATIA	12	ISRAEL	35	POLAND	14	SWITZERLAND	21
ARMENIA	14	CYPRUS	17	JAPAN	?	PORTUGAL	65	THAILAND	?
AUSTRALIA	70	CZECH REP	38	LIECHTENSTEIN	35	Rep KOREA	?	UKRAINE	?
AUSTRIA	15	DENMARK & Area	27	LUXEMBOURG	18	Rep MACEDONIA (former Yugoslav)	15	UNITED KINGDOM (Great Britain)	50
BELGIUM	76	FINLAND	96	MACAU	15	ROMANIA	23	U.S.A.	79
BRAZIL	79	<b>FRANCE</b>	<b>142</b>	MALAYSIA	66	RUSSIA	42	VENEZUELA	
BULGARIA	29	GERMANY	24	MALTA	20	SERBIA	54		
CANADA	20	GREECE	36	MEXICO	22	SINGAPORE	48		
CHILE	?	ICELAND	4	NETHERLANDS	100	SLOVAKIA	9		
CHINA	80	INDIA	60	NEW ZEALAND	?	SLOVENIA	15		

**SUMMARY OF THE 51 DELEGATES' 2011 NATIONAL REPORTS.**

Reading the present National Reports we note the major activities undertaken and in particular the major issues raised as follows:

**Argentina:**

In 2011, Maximaphily was present in all the National Philatelics activities in Argentine. The exhibits have been a great success in the public that encourage us to persevere in it.

-We have no Maximaphily Jury and I want to remark that it is very difficult for us to find post cards to prepare Maximum Cards for each new issue.

**Belgium:**

In 2011, we have issued about 76 MC's and this after having eliminated the subjects of stamps not entering in a collection or even demanding excessive fees or refusing purely and simply. Therefore, we could not achieve the *Tintin in the cinema* series. However, we sometimes collaborate effectively with persons in charge of culture, that is how the *Toulouse Lautrec* series became a bestseller.

-One should also refer to our principal interlocutor, the Post. The pre-sales and the 1<sup>er</sup> day cancellations, are no longer in agreement with the subject of the stamp. This brings us to turn to local offices, which are slowly disappearing. We do not have anymore access to certain locations, which could have serve us with concordant cancellations. We often have start over the process of creating correct Maximum Cards, with the cost that it entails.

**Brazil:**

During 2011, the Brazilian Maximaphily Club has been very active with 8 new members out of a total of 112, distributed on 15 Brazilian States (AL, BA, CE, DF, ES, GO, MG, PB, PE, PR, RJ, RO, RS, SC & SP) and 8 countrys (United States, Mexico, France, Israel, Portugal, Romania, Nicaragua and Taiwan). There were 79 Maximum Cards created with Brazilian stamps issued in 2011. In addition there were a great number of Maximaphily Articles written in numerous periodicals, plus numerous exhibits were shown at competitive and non-competitive shows in Brazil.

**Canada:**

-There were major changes in the rules of the *2010 Best Maximum World Competition* by Canada's representative Canada's *George Constantourakis* as Chairman of the Commission. *First*, this Competition was posted on the Website of the FIP Maximaphily Commission and open for Voting to all National Delegates. *Second*, no country was allowed to vote for themselves. *Third* the Vote was sent by email to 2 Commission members, the Chairman and the Secretary. These major changes had an almost unimous

support from all the National Delegates, as it put a stop to the previous practice of having only countries present at the Meeting (of the Competition) with a proxy power, Vote twice for their own and putting countries not present at a major disadvantage.

-Canada's *George Constantourakis* exhibit *'The History of Maximaphily'* participated at *'INDIPEX 2011'* FIP World Stamp Exhibition and received a Vermeil medal (80 points). This *'History of Maximaphily'* exhibit has received 4 GOLD medals e.g. at *China 2009 FIP Gold* (judged by Joss Wolff), at *Adelaide 2006 Gold* (Five Nation Cup) and 2 National level Gold medal at *Royal 2003 and Royal 2011*. The Maximaphily Judging results from *'INDIPEX 2011'* created very strong negative reactions from many Maximaphily circles, in the USA and particularly in the Far East.

-Canada's *George Constantourakis* also participated at: *'2011 ROYAL'* Annual Canadian Philatelic Exhibition with his 8-frame exhibit *'Greco-Roman Sculpture'* in Competition and received a Gold Medal with (94 points), plus it was a runner-up for the Best Overall Exhibit of the Show. This exhibit had previously won 4 FIP Large Vermeils and was Twice the *"Best Exhibit in the Class"* at *WSC Singapore 2004 and Italia 2009*. He also participated at *'2011 ROYAL'* with his 8-frame exhibit *'The History of Maximaphily'* in the *'Court of Honor'* and received a Gold Medal Certificate.

### **China:**

In Nov. at the *27th Asian International Stamp Exhibition* in Wuxi, there were 3 Maximaphily exhibits, all from China exhibitors. Two of them received Large Silver and one Bronze medal. In the Expert report, 'Three other items not to be shown again were from the three Maximaphily exhibits (8-001 *Africa, The Natural and Cultural Landscape Before 1939*; 8-002 *Stone Architecture*; 8-003 *Museum*). Each of these exhibits contain many questionable cards and it is recommended each exhibit be downgraded two medal levels'. At World Maximaphily, the Fake maximcards is very serious problems for exhibition and collection. The FIP Maximaphily Commission plans to lead in the fight against forgeries through seminars at many Maximaphily and Philatelic venues.

### **Cyprus:**

-The low number of new issues, the low nominal prices and the excellent quality of the new stamps are three important factors that help increase the interest of maximum card creators in our country. The excellent co-operation between Cyprus Postal Services and the Cyprus Philatelic Society plays an important and positive role to all steps of the Maximum Card creation procedures. Thirteen Cyprus Maximaphily collections were and continue to be ready to participate in international exhibitions. Three of them belong to the one frame class. Unfortunately during the year 2011 the Organising Committee of the *"Philanippon 2011"* World Exhibition has accepted only two Maximaphily entries one from France and one from New Zealand. Cyprus proposed 4 Maximaphily entries but none of them was accepted.

-Thanks to our excellent relations with Cyprus Postal Services and the Ministry of Education and Culture, 24 presentations were organised in primary and secondary schools during 2011 and more than 8.200 students have learned about philately and Maximaphily.

-Seminars, presentations and meetings: Two Maximaphily conferences were organized in Cyprus during 2011 and one *"Fakes and Forgeries"* seminar during the FEPA Exhibition *"ALPE ANDRIA PHILA 2011"* in Opatija, Croatia. Furthermore a presentation and discussion on *"Judging Maximaphily"* and *"How to be protected from Fakes and Forgeries"* was held in *"POLKOWICE 2011"*, in Poland, on Oct.1-7, 2011.

-We congratulate our FIP Maximaphily Commission Chairman Mr George Constantourakis for his efforts and hard work to improve the procedure of the already successful competition, mainly on the way of voting through email services, giving the opportunity to all FIP Maximaphily Commission delegates to vote for the best maximum card created during the year 2010. His experiment was successful and we advise him to proceed in legalizing the procedure during the Jakarta Commission Meeting. Prior to the meeting the chairman, in collaboration with the majority of the Bureau members, has to find solutions to the following important parameters: 1. To define, prior to the voting period, the mechanism of judging about the correctness of the participating maximum cards by 3, at least, members of the Bureau or other specialists who have a wide knowledge of the regulations. 2. To ensure the secrecy of the vote and 3. Submit the new regulations to the FIP board for final approval.

-24 years of intensive Maximaphily activity: On Dec. 31, 2011, were completed 24 years of intensive Maximaphily activity in Cyprus and 20 years of participation to national and international exhibitions.

**Czech Rep.:**

-In 2011, we joined the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition*, with the Maximum Card 'PRAGUE HRADCANY CASTLE & GHARLES BRIDGE' created by *Pavel Kancnyr*. This Czech Maximum Card was voted 2nd, receiving 48 points. This is a great achievement, as we outdid many countries with long Maximaphily tradition.

-There was a fundamental change in the rules, in the past the voting practice was such that only elected representatives of those countries who personally attended the meeting at the world exhibitions could vote. The MC was the choice of their own country. Now the competition had new rules and all sent MC's were judged by all international delegates now. All had the same opportunity, thus improving the conditions of electoral competition, which led to more objective results.

**Finland:**

Mr. *Kalevi Ant-Wuorinen* states: "- My wish from last year came true: the MCs participating in the Best Maximum Card World Competition are now displayed on your websites ! Thank you ever so much Mr Constantourakis !! And more: the voting is now possible by email!"

**France:**

- Throughout 2011 many lectures were given at the time of regional philatelic congress as well as locally to several philatelic associations in France. The members of the French National Commission for Maximaphily met together in order to co-ordinate their judgment with the new texts of the FIP. The CD Rom, created by Jean-Claude Bouquet explaining the specificities of maximaphily and including various tests illustrating the rules adopted in Malaga is quite completed. We strongly wish its final validation by the FIP MX commission, because we have to proceed to its distribution in France.

-Youth: During the year 2011 the Association "*Les Maximaphiles Français*" have strengthened its action in the direction of youth thanks to partnerships with associations belonging to the "*Fédération Française des Associations Philatéliques*" (15 Associations and 35 Youthy). Youth maximaphily workshops have been implemented in numerous exhibitions.

- The year 2011 has been marked by the active presence of the association "*Les Maximaphiles Français*" at the Youth Exhibition "*Philajunior 2011*", participating in the activities with its *MAXI JEU*, and by the organization of a Maximaphily Exhibition in Valence. Not less than 27 Maximaphily Youth Exhibits and 31 Adult Exhibits - often new - were presented.

- The strong involvement of the association "*Les Maximaphiles Français*" towards youth was recognized through its chairwoman Yout, *Anny Boyard*, who received in June, at the national Congress of the FFAP in Metz, the "*Trophée Fromageat*" in recognition of her continuous, selfless and permanent efforts towards Youth. Youth Maximaphily Exhibits presented, have clearly shown that Maximum Card collecting is of interest to the Youth. So the efforts developed by the French philatelic clubs and by the association "*Les Maximaphiles Français*" were well rewarded.

**Greece:**

A new site on the internet, [www.maximaphilia.gr](http://www.maximaphilia.gr), dedicated to the Greek Maximaphily activity and the achievements of our Union, has started operating during the second half of 2011. Although the content of the site, for the time being, is in Greek, there are two useful sections - Old Greek Maximum Cards (1980 – 2010: Gallery) and new issues of the current year, where all the pictures of the MCs created by our Union, during the 31 years of its existence can be seen. An English version is under construction.

-Our Annual Journal "*Maximaphilia*" was published in full colors. This Journal (No 66) was distributed to our members and to Greek Philatelic Associations, free of charge. The issue included many articles about the MAXIMUM CARDS, as well as international information about Maximaphily and the World Maximum Cards Competition. The magazine is available at the Unions' site, in Pdf form.

**India:**

-In India Maximum Cards are not issued by India Post now. Many philatelists make them for their own use and for exchange/sale among others. During 2011, individual maximaphilists created about 50-60 different Maximum cards. Some of them used Picture Post Cards printed on Digital printers and some



were made using properly printed picture postcards. Normally they make between 5 to 50 cards only per issue. Hence it is difficult to collect all of them by any individual. We tried to organise a Maximum Cards Competition but could not get much response. This year we will try again and hope for a better response to it. The winner of this competition will be able to take part in International Competition.

-As now a days digital printing also gives a good result of printing and is good for small quantity of printing I hereby recommend that the cards printed digitally also should be accepted as proper Maximum Cards. After getting comments from other delegates a proper mention should be made in the next revisions of guidelines for Maximaphily.

-Between 12-18 Feb. 2011, INDIA was the host for the World Philatelic Exhibition *INDIPEX 2011* under the patronage of FIP. This exhibition was organized by India Post and our National Federatio, Philatelic Congress of India. Maximaphily was well represented in this exhibition with 10 exhibits, 3 of them were by Indian Maximaphilists. Many of the entries could not participate in the exhibition due to limited allotment in this section or due to limit of Individual entries to maximum 2 per person. In this exhibition Maximaphily section was well appreciated and liked by the visitors and media both.

#### **Italy:**

-We have published three issues of our magazine *A.I.M. - NOTIZIARIO*. We now have a website [www.maximafilia.it](http://www.maximafilia.it) where we display our new Maximum Card realizations. The number of members of AIM is now at 145. Unfortunately this continuous decrease, is the result of lack of young philatelists. In spite of this reality, the life of Italian Maximaphily still remains very active. For example, there is an increase in the number of Maximaphilists who participate in various exhibitions. We participated in the *Venice National Exhibition* with 15 collections receiving two (2) Gold and three (3) Large Vermeil medals. We also participated in numerous International Exhibitions in competition: *Gmunden* in Austria, *Mamer* in Luxembourg, *Opatija* in Croatia.

-In 2011, *San Marino* (Italian area) participated the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card '*ITALIAN CYCLISTS- F.COPPI – G. BARTALLI*' created by the A.I.M. using the tenant stamp depicting *Giro d'Italia's* most famous cyclists *Gino Bartali* (left) and *Fausto Coppi*, (right). This San Marino Maximum Card was voted 2nd, receiving 48 points (tied with the Czech Rep.).

#### **Luxembourg:**

- 10 meetings of the '*Commission de Maximaphilie FSPL*', where the FIP Maximaphily regulations and news were discussed. President *Jos Wolff* held conferences about the elements of a maximum card and the evaluation of exhibits. He also published articles on the new maximum cards.

-Luxembourg did participate in the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with a Maximum Card depicting the '*ROSE Yvan Misson*', an early variety created in 1912 by *Soupert* and *Notting*. This Luxembourg Maximum Card was voted 3rd, receiving 45 points.

#### **Malaysia:**

Maximaphily was able to be introduced to a certain school stamp clubs where students were attracted by these colorful MCs and began to realize some maximum cards where postcards were readily available commercially. Active students were able to follow DIY instructions and sent the relevant Postcards to Post Offices to request for concordant postmarks. A notable student presented an article on the maximum cards he realized, published in the Malaysian Philately journal. Although there was no any Maximaphily Exhibit put up for display in the Year End National Youth Competition, however, it was glad to note that the youth exhibitors were able to utilize maximum cards in various places of their exhibits. The awareness of the hobby of maximaphily was well transmitted in Malaysia. Realisation of Maximum Cards was not confined to local stamps alone , the cooperation with the Singapore MC collectors continued to flourish and many MCs of the 2 countries were realised and exchanged by the members.

#### **Portugal:**

-The Portuguese Association of Maximaphily (APM) has suspended its activities in July of 2011, by a decision of the majority of the members of the General Assembly. I would like to refer that the APM was the only Club of Maximaphily that was a member of the Portuguese Federation.

-Portugal's Entry for the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* was the Maximum Card '*LISBON FUNICULAR TRAM 'ELEVADOR DA GLORIA*', created by *Rui Dias*. This

Portuguese Maximum Card was voted 1st, receiving 105 points. It is worth noting that that the 2nd place received only 48 points.

### **Romania:**

-We made a solid analysis of Jurors in the Class of Maximaphily in Romania. Thanks to the professional evolution of certain Maximaphilists and their correct evaluation, nine of them have been proposed as members of jury, being approved by the F.F.R. In 2011, there were (1) National and (5) Regional Philatelic Exhibitions held in Romania, where it also 25 Maximaphily Exhibits were shown that were greatly appreciated by both the public and the jury. One Maximaphily Exhibit took part in "Valence 2011" France Mr. *Vasile Doros* with his collection "*George Enescu in the steps of the great European Musicians*"). Last year, we published in the journals 5 articles on the attractiveness of Maximaphily, but especially on the rules that govern Maximaphily. Throughout 2011, it is the Internet that was the primary means of information of maximaphilists of our country and even the world. The blog of the Romanian Maximaphily Society "*Dr.Valeriu Neaga*" <http://srmdvn.blogspot.com> with Mr. *Mihai Ceucă*, as webmaster, presented consistently the most important events of the Philatelic and Maximaphily activities. Our blog has recorded more than 12,000 visits.

-Romania participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> World Competition for the Best Maximum Card created in 2010, and organised by the commission with a Maximum Card '*LIPIZZAN HORSES OF SAMBATA DE JOS*' created by *Dr. Ioan Daniliuc*. This Maximum Card ranked 6th of the 59 participating countries, thus keeping the tradition to classify among the "Top 10". The Romanian Maximaphilists appreciate the fact to be able to vote by emailing their vote, a procedure that allows all the Delegates of the FIP Maximaphily Commission and provides a correct assessment of the Maximum Cards presented in the Competition.

-Recently, collections which included concordant T.C.V., which are the precursors to Maximum Cards, were much appreciated in International Exhibitions and they have won gold medals. The members of the Board took their decisions into account, too much of the values history, mailing and documentary of these pieces to the extent, by giving a disproportionate in relation to SREV score. Cannot challenge the value of these pieces, but the modern maximaphily, with parts made after 1946 is very diverse with regard the themes treated, actually having the role of culture in the world. If ythe focus isonly on the time length of the MC's, then, the other collections of maximaphily, of good quality, will never have access the gold medals. With these arguments, I therefore propose that a new class of participation be created, that will be inserted in the special regulations of the F.I.P. for the Evaluation of Maximaphily Exhibits F.I.P. (SREV) exhibitions. It will be necessary, of course, also change the Guidelines for the assessment of Maximaphily Exhibits in F.I.P. (Guidelines) exhibitions.

### **Spain:**

-In many Philatelic newsletters, magazines and newspapers there are reproductions of Maximum Cards. The use of Personalized stamps favors the realization of beautiful Maximum Cards. The organizers of various philatelic exhibitions are asking members of this Maximaphily Association to exhibit their collections. These collections are of interest to visitors for the beautiful balance they achieve with the stamps on the postcards and their concordant postmark. Several members of our Association have published interesting articles and disseminating various aspects Maximaphily regulations in journals of various philatelic societies. The website of ASEMA [www.asemamaximofilia.com](http://www.asemamaximofilia.com) is frequently visited by Maximaphilists and Philatelists in general. There you can view all the Best Maximum Cards created by our Association. We have expanded the area of the website to continue to show the accomplishments of our members. Every new issue of our Maximaphily Journal is digitally edited . You can also review the Maximaphily Regulations and get news of our activities.

-To promote realization of Maximum Cards among ASEMA partners, we have started the Competition "*The best maximum cards made by ASEMA partners in 2010.*" The initiative was well received by its members who sent in their best realizations. The **1st prize** went to "*Gran Via of Madrid*" partner D. No 452 *Peter Shepherd San Miguel*, highlighting the triple line, with a postmark very readable and well located. The well known maximaphilist *D. José Palma de Azua* was honored with the well deserved title of "*ANDALUZ PHILATELIST OF THE YEAR 2010*" by the Andalusian Federation of Philately. After many years of working with his collection "*The Architectural Art in Europe for the Divine*" he achieved a Large

Vermeil medal with 88 points in the 2006 World Malaga Exhibition and several National Gold medals. This award has been welcomed by our Association with great satisfaction.

**United Kingdom:**

- Maximaphily in the UK has a limited following as the sole interest in Maximum cards is their inclusion in the Thematic Philately Class. Unfortunately we do not have the Maximaphily Class included in our Regional or National competitions. Perhaps the introduction of the Open Class will ignite a future interest.
- There is a certain number of collectors that are creating their own maximum cards. In particular there is a very active Philatelist/Dealer, with worldwide connections and exchanges, who is creating excellent Maximum Cards for most of the new stamp issues. He provides well in advance information on the web (text and visual) on the upcoming stamp issues and most importantly copies of upcoming pictorial cancellations. This information, plus his cooperation with his correspondents and in particular his in depth knowledge of Maximaphily rules, enable him to create some unique MC's.

**United States:**

- With the reorganization and restructuring of the *North American Maximum Card Study Unity* in 2010, MACSU was resurrected. In 2011 MACSU took the next steps toward growth by beginning once again to publish a quarterly journal. Four quarterly E-Journals were published in 2011 and were distributed at no cost to known maximum card collectors and the Presidents of the various maximum card clubs around the world. For the first time, issues of *The Quarterly Journal of MACSU* were published in color. All maximum cards realized in the United States are collector-made, as MACSU does not produce maximum cards, nor has the US Postal Service produced cards in decades.

**MAXIMAPHILY ACTIVITY REPORT PER COUNTRY**

An *English version* is also included for those National Reports that were submitted in French, Spanish or German, thus every single National Report can be read in English.

**1. ALBANIA (Nikolla XHARO)**

- In 2011, our Association did not realize any Maximum Cards, because the 2011 Stamp issues were not available to all. Our two Maximaphily exhibits: '*Albanian National Costumes*' by Nikolla Xharo and '*Visual Arts in Maximaphily*' by Thimjo Nika, did not take part in any exhibition.
- In 2011, Albania did participate in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card of '*Mother Teresa*' created by Nikolla Xharo. For the first time, this Competition was posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates. Albania did participate in the **Vote** for this Competition.

**2. ARGENTINA (Ana Maria SANSON)**

Maximaphily was present in all the National Philatelics activities in Argentine during 2011. The exhibits have a great success in the public that encourage us to persevere in it.

- From June 14th to 19 we were in *PHILAFEST 2011*, a National Philatelic Exposition organized by the local Philatelic Association in Villa General Belgrano, in Cordoba province.
- From August 16th to 20th we participated in the National Philatelic Exposition in the Argentine Federation of Philatelics Entities in Buenos Aires.
- We have been also present in *ARAFEX 2011*, 7° Binational Argentine-Armenia Exposition in the 20° Anniversary of the Armenia Independence, from November 21st to 26th in Buenos Aires.
- In the World Competition for the Best 2011 MC, Argentine presented Domingo Faustino Sarmiento (1811-1888) issued on June 25th, Commemorations III, 200th Anniversary of Domingo Faustino's birth.
- In the First competition for the 2010 Best Maximum Card for ASEMA members, on July 5th, in Chiclana de la Frontera, Spain, I personally obtained the second prize with a MC about the famous Argentine writer Jorge Luis Borges.
- Our Postal Services did not issue any Maximum Cards in 2011.

-We have no Maximaphily Jury and I want to remark that it is very difficult for us to find post cards to prepare Maximum Cards for each new issue.

### **3. ARMENIA** (Sedrak NERSESYAN)

-There were 14 Maximum Cards realized in Armenia 2011. We have participated in two (2) Philatelic Exhibitions organized in Yerevan.

We organized two (2) Maximaphily Seminars in UPA of Yerevan. We published an article about Armenian Maximaphily in Armenia.

-In 2011, **Armenia** participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card 'CHILDREN'S BOOKS' for Europa 2010, created by Sedrak Nersesyan. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates. This Maximum Card of Armenia was voted 4th, receiving 33 points.

### **4. AUSTRALIA** (Barbara BARTSCH)

Maxmaphily still does not have the interest in Australia in comparison with the other philatelic classes and are rarely seen in National Exhibitions, although they are sometimes seen in a Thematic Exhibit. There were no articles on Maximum Cards published in Australia last year. However I believe there are some 'closet' collectors, who do collect Maximum Cards but never show or exhibit them. Australia Post is still issuing multiple stamp issues these days and usually issues a Maximum Card for each stamp, but they are getting better and they do succeed at times with a good card taken from a pre-existing document. There were about 70 Maximum Cards issued in 2011 on various topics.

-Australia did participate in the Best Maximum Card World Competition. I still exhibit my own collections and also display them at clubs. I also conduct Stamp Clubs at two local primary schools and introduce the children to both postcards and Maxi Cards. I am still hopeful that the popular 'Postcard Boom' may unearth some old Maximum cards and early TCV, (Timbres Cote Vu), cards.

### **5. AUSTRIA** (Peter RIEDL)

-In Austria we are only few collectors for Maximum Cards. In 2011 two from us have exhibited our exhibits in Austria and abroad. *Peter Riedl* obtained a VERMEIL Award in *CHUR* (CH).

*Franz Schiffbaenker* and *Peter Riedl* obtained a VERMEIL Award at the National Exhibition in *Gmunden* for new exhibits. There were also five exhibitors from Italy that showed their Maximaphily Exhibits with large success.

-In Austria we have a separate class for "ANSICHTSKARTEN" that are Picture- and Motive Postcards, since 2007. It is exactly the same equal as in Germany. We have some exhibitors with very old and interesting Picture Postcards. Thus four Picture- and Motive Postcards -exhibits were to be seen in *Gmunden*, for which have three medals in Gold and one in Vermeil assigned.

-There were 15 Maximum Cards realized in 2011 as follows:

4MC's Paintings, *Tower of Babel* by P. Bruegel, '*Wally*' by Egon Schiele in the Leopold Museum, and *Dora Fournier & Triumph of Ariadne* by Hans Makart; 2MC's Religious Paintings, 2011 Christmas; 1MC Church of *St. Quirin*, 2011 Christmas; 1MC *Kunsterhaus* in *Karlsplatz* Vienna; 1MC Ski World masters 2011 *Elisabeth Gorgl*; 1MC Bronze Relief, Altar of *Rankweil* Church; 1MC Sacred Art, Golden Cup; 1MC Cinema Actress *Hedy Lamarr*; 1MC 50 years Man in Space; 1MC *Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*, 220 year of death; 1MC *Franz Liszt*

-In 2011, Austria participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card 'LADY IN YELLOW 'DAME IN GELB' depicting a 1899 painting by Max *Kurzweil* and created by Peter Riedl. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates.

## **6. BELGIUM** (Gaston Lefèbvre ) *French version*

Pour ce qui est de notre activité, nous avons émis environ 76 cartes maximum et cela en ayant éliminé les sujets de timbres n'entrant pas dans le cadre de collection ou encore exigeant la perception de droits excessifs ou refusant purement et simplement. C'est ainsi que nous n'avons pu réaliser la série sur Tintin au cinéma. Par contre, il nous arrive de collaborer de façon efficace avec des acteurs culturels, c'est ainsi que la série Toulouse Lautrec a été un bestseller.

-Nous essayons de publier trimestriellement notre revue diffusée à nos membres et amis soit sur papier ou via un fichier PDF pour ceux qui possèdent une adresse Email. Le contenu est constitué d'articles illustrés par des cartes maximum.

-On ne parle pas de bilan sans évoquer notre principal interlocuteur, la Poste. Les préventes et oblitérations 1<sup>er</sup> jour ne sont plus en concordance avec le sujet du timbre. Cela nous amène à nous tourner vers les bureaux locaux qui disparaissent. Nous n'avons plus accès à des localités qui devaient nous servir pour des oblitérations concordantes qui ne sont pas toujours faites avec soin. Nous devons bien souvent recommencer des cartes maximum avec les frais que cela comportent.

-Quelques participants aux expositions provinciales, avec des résultats en dent de scie.

-Aucun projet d'émission de cartes maximum émise par la Poste . Pour ce qui touche le sujet des timbres personnalisés, ils sont constitués de deux parties, un timbre + une vignette. Ce qui nous facilite la tâche et ne devons pas nous intéresser à ces émissions.

-Une année de maximaphilie apporte son lot de surprises, de peines et de joies. Nous continuons à œuvrer pour une maximaphilie active et efficace dans notre pays.

## **BELGIUM** *English version*

-Regarding our Activity in 2011, we have issued about 76 Maximum Cards and this after having eliminated the subjects of stamps not entering in a collection or even demanding excessive fees or refusing purely and simply. Therefore, we could not achieve the *Tintin in the cinema* series. However, we sometimes collaborate effectively with persons in charge of culture, that is how the *Toulouse Lautrec* series became a bestseller.

-We try to publish a quarterly Journal that is distributed to our members and friends either on paper or via a PDF file for those who have an Email address. The content consists of articles illustrated by MC's.

-One should also refer to our principal interlocutor, the Post. The pre-sales and the 1<sup>er</sup> day cancellations, are no longer in agreement with the subject of the stamp. This brings us to turn to local offices, which are slowly disappearing. We do not have anymore access to certain locations, which could have serve us with concordant cancellations. We often have start over the process of creating correct Maximum Cards, with the cost that it entails.

-There were a few participants in the Provincial Stamp Exhibitions.

-The Post does not issue any official Maximum Cards and no project in this sense is foreseen. With respect to the subject of Personalized Stamps, they consist of two parts, a stamp and a label. This makes it easier and must not focus on these issues.

-A year of Maximaphily Activities full of surprises, of disappointments and pure joys. Optimistic by nature, we will continue to work towards a Maximaphily active and effective in our country.

## **7. BRAZIL** (Agnaldo de Souza Gabriel)

- 79 new different MC's were created with Brazilian stamps issued in 2011 (6 ordinary stamps and 73 comemorative stamps);

- using 74 out of the 83 (11 ordinary and 72 comemorative) Brazilian stamps issued in 2011;

- 4 new different MC's issued by the Brazilian Mail (Correios), but all are not according to the FIP Maximaphily rules (all the postcards have multiple images).

### SPECIALS OF MAXIMAPHILY:

- Translate of "FIP Maximaphily Word Competition for the Best Maximum Card Created in 2009" in the AFSC newsletter # 63, March/2011;

- Didact Maximaphily Presentation in the 1st Philatelic Meeting of Ribeirão Preto, Ribeirão Preto/SP, March/2011.

#### BRAZILIAN NEW ARTICLES ON MAXIMAPHILY:

- "*The Mountain Region of Rio de Janeiro State*", in the newsletter Filacap # 169, March/2011;
- "*Two Important Aspects in the MC's assembly*", in the SPP Newsletter # 210, April/2011;
- "*How to select MC for the Thematic Collections*", in the newsletter Filacap Special # 02, June/2011;
- "*The Best Brazilian's MC of 2010*", in the SPP Newsletter # 211, August/2011;
- "*Personality's Concordance in MC*", in the newsletter Filacap # 171, September/2011;
- "*Going to the Olympic Games 2012 – Part One*", in the newsletter Filacap # 172, Dec. 2011;
- "*Expo Brasiliana 2013: Rio de Janeiro City MC's - Part One*", in the SPP Newsletter # 212, Dec. 2011.

#### THE BRAZILIAN MAXIMAPHILY CLUB ACTIVITIES:

- 112 associates (8 new members joined in 2011) distributed on 15 Brazilian States (AL, BA, CE, DF, ES, GO, MG, PB, PE, PR, RJ, RO, RS, SC e SP) and 8 countrys (United States, Mexico, France, Israel, Portugal, Romania, Nicaragua and Taiwan);
- The Best 2010 Brazilian MC contest;
- Participation on the world's FIP Best MC contest (10th place);
- 1206 members correspondences exchanged in 2011.

#### BRAZILIAN MC PARTICIPATIONS ON COMPETITIVE SHOWS:

- National Philatelic Exhibition Brapex 2011, Recife/PE, October/2010, with Special Filacap of *Didact Maximaphily* (Literature Class - Silver medal) and the collections "*My Brazil is the Maximum*" (Maximaphily - Silver medal) and "*National Heroes*" (One Frame - Bronze medal)

#### BRAZILIAN MC PARTICIPATIONS ON NON COMPETITIVE SHOWS:

- Official Brazilian Mail (Correios) Philatelic Training, São Paulo/SP, March/2011;
- Official Brazilian Mail (Correios) Philatelic Training, Recife/PE, May/2011;
- Philatelic Exhibition 2011 Lorena, Lorena/SP, June/2011;
- 2nd State Philatelic Exhibition Class One Frame - Rio Preto 2011, São José do Rio Preto/SP, July/2011;
- Philatelic Exhibition, Nova Granada/SP, September/2011;
- Expofinter 2011, São José do Rio Preto/SP, September 2011;
- Excart 2011, Juiz de Fora/MG, October-November/2011.

### **8. BULGARIA** (Sergei MAGDICHEV)

-In 2011 our Maximaphily Association had **45 members**.

During 2011, there was a total of **29 Maximum Cards** created.

In October of 2011, we participated in a National Philatelic Exhibition held in Plovdiv with three (3) Maximaphily Exhibits.

-In 2011, BULGARIA participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card 'RED PANDA (*Ailurus fulgens*)' issued for Endangered species, and created by *Sergei Magdichev*. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates.

### **9. CANADA** (George CONSTANTOURAKIS)

-In Canada, Maximaphily is followed by a limited number of philatelists, who realize on occasion their own Maximum Cards. Some of these recently created Maximum Cards are starting to appear on ebay for sale to collectors. On the positive side, Maximum Cards are becoming ever more acceptable to both exhibitors and certain judges. Maximum Cards are shown ever more frequently in Topical Exhibits. There are a few philatelists that are attempting to built up Maximaphily Exhibits on various themes.

-Exhibitions: Canada's George Constantourakis participated at:

1.- '*ROYALE 2011 ROYAL*' Annual Canadian Philatelic Exhibition with his 8-frame exhibit '*Greco-Roman Sculpture*' in Competition and received a Gold Medal with (94 points), plus it was a runner up for the Best Overall Exhibit of the Show. This '*Greco-Roman Sculpture*' exhibit had previously won 4 FIP Large Vermeils and was Twice the "Best Exhibit in the Class" at *WSC Singapore 2004 and Italia 2009*.

2.- '*ROYALE 2011 ROYAL*' Annual Canadian Philatelic Exhibition with his 8-frame exhibit '*The History of Maximaphily*' in the '*Court of Honor*' and received a Gold Medal Certificate.

3.- 'INDIPEX 2011' FIP World Stamp Exhibition with his 8-frame exhibit 'The History of Maximaphily' and received a Vermeil medal (80 points). This "History of Maximaphily" exhibit has received 4 GOLD medals e.g. at China 2009 FIP **Gold** (judged by Joss Wolff), at Adelaide 2006 **Gold** (Five Nation Cup) and 2 National level Gold medal at Royal 2003 and Royal 2011.

The Maximaphily Judging results from 'INDIPEX 2011' created very strong negative reactions from many Maximaphily circles, in the USA and particularly in the Far East. Canada's representative as Chairman has avoided up to now to raise this delicate issue, but here he is quoting from Ye Choh San's website, posted last May 2011, for your reflection(reprinted with his permission):

*"What a world of difference in Judging of Maximaphily Exhibits - A comparison of Results @ Indipex 2011 and other Exhibition avenues Indipex 2011 shattered the hearts of many MC exhibitors. The judging result for the Maximaphily Class surprised the world of maximaphily. It is no doubt Indipex 2011 is the Dark Age for the development of Maximaphily. However, that is NOT the end of the world for Maximaphily, there are many other avenues for MC collectors and exhibitors to excel and be recognised in the proper manner. I just came to know about the exhibit "The History of Maximaphily" by George Constantourakis which was awarded a mere Vermeil medal @ Indipex 2011, is now crowned a GOLD equivalent in the Court of Honor Class in the recent Canadian Royale\*2011\*Royal exhibition held from 13-15 May, 2011 - a high respect was given to a Maximaphily Exhibit and an Honour to a renowned Maximaphily collector and exhibitor. Congratulations ! I am glad to note such a fair result presented for a Maximaphily Exhibit. Again, to all maximum card collectors and exhibitors, I will like to say there are other avenues in this world for the MC lovers to indulge in exhibiting, Indipex 2011 is just an unfortunate event in the History of Maximaphily, the Hobby which is currently picked up by many collectors worldwide, will continue to flourish and popular in the future. Bravo! MC collectors, continue with your work on the realisation of Maximum Cards".*

-Maximum Card realizations: During the year 2011, Individual Maximaphilists created about 20 **Maximum Cards** including 'variantes' on the following topics: *Chinese Lunar Year of the Rabbit*: 4 MC's; *Signs of the Zodiac (Aries, Taurus)* : 2 MC's; *Royal Wedding (Prince William & Kate)* 7 MC's; *Methods of Mail Delivery* (by *Dogsled*, by a 'Ponchon' sea mail using a barrel with a rudder and sail), 3 MC's; *Canadian Recording Artists*: 4 MC's.

-In 2011, Canada participated in the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the MC of the '2010 Year of the Tiger' using a Chinese commercial Art Card submitted by *George Constantourakis*.

-There were major changes in the rules of the *2010 Best Maximum World Competition* by Canada's representative Canada's *George Constantourakis* as Chairman of the Commission. *First*, this Competition was posted on the Website of the FIP Maximaphily Commission and open for Voting to all National Delegates. *Second*, no country was allowed to vote for themselves. *Third* the Vote was sent by email to 2 Commission members, the Chairman and the Secretary. These major changes had an almost unanimous support from all the National Delegates, as it put a stop to the previous practice of having only countries present at the Meeting (of the Competition) with a proxy power, Vote twice for their own and putting countries not present at a major disadvantage.

#### **10. CHILE** (Patricio Aguirre Warden/FIAF webmaster)

-In Chile, Maximaphily is followed by a limited number of philatelists, who realize on occasion their own MC's. Chile is the newest member to appoint a Delegate to our FIP Maximaphily Commission.

-Chile's Delegate also happens to be the FIAF Webmaster, in that capacity he has been instrumental in promoting Maximaphily through the Americas by posting our News items, our Reports, our Competitions and their Results, including many visuals. This contribution is bound to bear fruit in the near future.

-In 2011, Chile did participate in the VOTE for *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010*. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates.

#### **11. CHINA** (LI, Hong)

-In 2011, individual Maximaphilists created over **80 Maximum Cards** in China.

-On November 11-15 2011, All China Philatelic Federation (ACPF) organized China 2011, the *27th Asian International Stamp Exhibition* held in Wuxi, East city of China. Here were exhibited 3 standard Maximaphily Class exhibits, all from China exhibitors. Two of them received Large Silver and one Bronze medal. In the Expert report, 'Three other items not to be shown again were from the three Maximaphily exhibits (8-001 *Africa, The Natural and Cultural Landscape Before 1939*; 8-002 *Stone Architecture*; 8-003 *Museum*). Each of these exhibits contain many questionable cards and it is recommended each exhibit be downgraded two medal levels'. At World Maximaphily, the Fake maximcards is very serious problems for exhibition and collection.

-In 2011, **China** participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card '*KUNQU OPERA OF CHINA*' for UNESCO Oral & Intangible Heritage, created by *Zheng Wei*. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates. This Maximum Card of Armenia was voted in 6th place, receiving 24 points.

## **12. CHINESE TAIPEI** (Chih-ping CHU)

2011-annual-report of Chinese Taipei Maximaphily Association

1. Published two issues of *Chinese Taipei Maximaphily Bulletin* and 12 issues of *Maximaphily News*.
2. Published 20-24 periods of Chinese Taipei Maximaphily Bulletin and made five series of bound volumes of a set.
3. Published "*Pyramid & Sphinx 1891 -1914*" of the Maximaphily book series.
4. (1) Held an "*Alpine flowers stamps first day of issue and Maximaphily exhibition*" in Hwa-Liang Post Office's Philatelic Center on 6 May of 2011.  
(2) Held "*Maximaphily exhibition*" in ChangHua Post Office at the first business floor on 18 December of 2011.
5. Member *Chip-Ping Chu* and *Chung-Chen Wang* won Large Silver Medal and Silver Medal at *INDIPEX 2011*. Member *Holin Chen*, *In-Chang Lee* and *Yen-Tuan Chao* won LV, LS and S medals in *ROCUPEX'11 TAIPEI*.
6. Held Maximaphily Stamp Lecture and invited the President *Zhen Wei* of "*China Su-Zhou Maximaphily Association*" to give a lecture about "*Explore the Wonderful Maximaphily*" at The Audio-visual Room in Postal Museum's second floor.
7. Helped members to make an artwork card and total made 38 artwork cards during 2011.
8. Recruited 116 new members in 2011.

## **13. CROATIA** (Ivan LIBRIC)

GENERAL COMMENTS/ SEMINAR:

In April 2011, during the '*ALPE-ADRIAPHILA 2011 Internat. Exhibition*' in Opatija, Croatia Mr. *Nicos Rangos* gave a power point presentation on '*How to be Protected from Fake Maximum Cards*' enriched with many MC colourful examples.

Exhibits: In 2011 during the '*ALPE-ADRIAPHILA 2011 Internat. Exhibition*' in Opatija there were 3 Maximaphily Exhibits as follows:

*Nicos RANGOS* (Cyprus) : '*Europa Nostra 1900 - 1940*' in the *Court of Honour*'

*Dino TAGLIETTI* (Italy) : '*La Letteratura Attraverso I Secoli*', and received a Large Vermeil medal and Best in Class Prize, with 83 points.

*Italo CREDI* (Italy) : '*I Grandi della Musica*' and received a Vermeil medal, with 78 points.

MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS:

During the year 2011, Croatia Post and individuals created **12 Maximum Cards** as follows:

Croatian Endangered Fauna, 3 MC's: Pope Benedict XVI in Croatia, 2 MC's; Castles in Croatia, 4 MC's;

Ludbreg Most Precious Blood of Christ, 1 MC; Ruder Boscovich, scientist, astronomer, jesuit, 1 MC;

Vukovar, 20 years of city destruction by Serbs in 1991, 1 MC.



#### **14. CYPRUS (Nicos RANGOS)**

The low number of new issues, the low nominal prices and the excellent quality of the new stamps are three important factors that help increase the interest of maximum card creators in our country. The excellent co-operation between Cyprus Postal Services and the Cyprus Philatelic Society plays an important and positive role to all steps of the Maximum Card creation procedures.. “*Cyprus Maximum Card Collectors*” during the year 2011 created **14 Maximum-Cards** with the relevant stamps, issued by the Cyprus Postal Services.

At the same time Cyprus Postal Services continued during 2011 to create **3 Maximum-Cards** using only the 3 stamps of the same year Christmas issue. Thanks to the excellent relations and the valuable cooperation all last 9 years Christmas maximum cards were correctly created by the Philatelic Section of the Cyprus Postal Services in conformity with FIP Maximaphily regulations. Visual concordance and concordance of time and place with postmarks of the nearest post office or the specially illustrated first day of issue are fully respected.

##### Participation at different Exhibitions:

Thirteen Cyprus Maximaphily collections were and continue to be ready to participate in international exhibitions. Three of them belong to the one frame class. Unfortunately during the year 2011 the Organising Committee of the “Philanippon 2011” world Exhibition has accepted only two Maximaphily entries one from France and one from New Zealand. Cyprus proposed 4 Maximaphily entries but none of them was accepted. In “*ALPE ANDRIA PHILA 2011*” FEPA Exhibition held in Opatija, Croatia, were accepted 6 Maximaphily exhibits. One of them was my collection “Europa Nostra” which was invited in the Jury “Court of Honour” class. Three Cyprus Maximaphily Youth exhibits were accepted in the European “*POLKOWICE 2011*” Youth Exhibition and New Maximaphily Exhibits appeared in “*CYPRUS 2011*” national level general exhibition held in Agia Napa on November 18, 2011 - January 18, 2012.

##### Excellent relations with our partners and schools activity:

Thanks to our excellent relations with Cyprus Postal Services and the Ministry of Education and Culture, 24 presentations were organised in primary and secondary schools during 2011 and more than 8.200 students have learned about philately and Maximaphily.

##### Seminars, presentations and meetings:

Two Maximaphily conferences were organized in Cyprus during 2011 and one “*Fakes and Forgeries*” seminar during the FEPA Exhibition “*ALPE ANDRIA PHILA 2011*” in Opatija, Croatia. Furthermore a useful meeting, presentation and discussion on “*Judging Maximaphily*” and “How to be protected from *Fakes and Forgeries*” was held in “*POLKOWICE 2011*”, in Poland, on Oct.1-7, 2011. An interesting meeting and contacts about Maximaphily were arranged in Yokohama during “Philanippon 2011” world Exhibition with our friends Maximaphily exhibitors, Jenny Banfield, Li Hong, Ye Shoh San, and the collectors Lubomir Flosch and Shyam Pradhan and much more .

##### Participation to the World Competition for the Best Maximum Card:

“Cyprus Maximum Card Collectors” very soon will decide about the Maximum card created during 2011 which will represent the country to the next 2011 World Competition for the Best Maximum Card.

##### Congratulations to George Constantourakis

We congratulate our FIP Maximaphily Commission Chairman Mr George Constantou-rakis for his efforts and hard work to improve the procedure of the already successful competition, mainly on the way of voting through email services, giving the opportunity to all FIP Maximaphily Commission delegates to vote for the best maximum card created during the year 2010. His experiment was successful and we advise him to proceed in legalizing the procedure during the Jakarta Commission Meeting. Prior to the meeting the chairman, in collaboration with the majority of the Bureau members, has to find solutions to the following important parameters:1.To define, prior to the voting period, the mechanism of judging about the correctness of the participating maximum cards by 3, at least, members of the Bureau or other specialists who have a wide knowledge of the regulations. 2. To ensure the secrecy of the vote and 3. Submit the new regulations to the FIP board for final approval.

##### Maximaphily Meetings in Cyprus:

Four meetings were held in Cyprus where different issues were discussed mainly on: 1. How to achieve high quality modern creations, 2. On maximum cards with personalised stamps. 3. On how to avoid modern fakes and forgeries maximum cards, 4. On one frame exhibits and 5. On matters related to the improvement of the exhibit presentation.

#### 24 years of intensive Maximaphily activity

On December 31, 2011, were completed 24 years of intensive Maximaphily activity in Cyprus and 20 years of participation to national and international exhibitions in which Maximaphily collections of Cyprus were awarded with all levels of medals, bronze, silver-bronze, silver, large silver, vermeil, large vermeil, gold and large gold medals.

#### **15. CZECH REP.** (Josef FRONC)

-The situation of our section is stabilized at 31.12.2011. We published three issues of the magazine *Zpravodaj* with an attachment of Bulletin Maximum (12, 13, 14), that is in color, starting with issue 13 that came with many new information about collecting MC's from the past and present. By the end of 2011, membership was at 36 members, which is a positive message. Three old members left our section, but three new ones joined us. We also got a new member who is Russian. Some members still work individually, but some of them meet regularly on some *KF* and *SSČSZ* events. Their goal is create new MC's, but not just that.

-One exhibit *Premiéra Vysoké Mýto* was exhibited by *Josef Fronc*, who is the head of this section. He presented a 5-frame exhibit in the Class of Maximaphily. The exhibitor received 79 points, so it retains the Gold medal and advances to higher level. It showed that from the stamps of the Czech Republic is possible to create beautiful Maximum Cards that were presented on stamps issues of *Beauty from our homeland, To kids, Celebrities and Art*. A second exhibit was presented by *Jiří Koukal* from *Žďár nad Sázavou*. He presents a 1-frame exhibit with the name '*Walk in Prague*', which received 54 point and a Silver medal. It is the 2nd evidence that is it not a good idea to exhibit 1-frame, as in this case '*Walk in Prague*' was really a large topic and 1-frame has to be more limited in scope.

-The members created 38 MC's incorporating combinations from 31 new stamps issued last year. About 82 % published stamps was used. This number can be surpassed, because the creators have four years to find a suitable card to the rest of the stamps. *Oftis* publisher from *Ústí nad Orlicí* with Mr. *Kábrt* in the head published some new MC's that extend the offer to collectors, who don't have conditions for creating their own ones. We co-ordinate their publishing activity. *Postfila*, the maxi-cards publisher, get to circuit not just MC's, but also some postcards last year. Published MC's were put on a stamp, so they can be used in Maximaphily Exhibits. That is a great success. We are all already looking for new MC's by *Postfila*.

-In 2011, we joined the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010*, with the Maximum Card '*PRAGUE HRADCANY CASTLE & GHARLES BRIDGE*' created by *Pavel Kancnyr*. This Czech Maximum Card was voted 2nd, receiving 48 points. This is a great achievement, as we outdid many countries with long Maximaphily tradition.

- There was a fundamental change in the rules, in the past the voting practice was such that only elected representatives of those countries who personally attended the meeting at the world exhibitions could vote. The MC was the choice of their own country. Now the competition had new rules and all sent MC's were judged by all international delegates now. All had the same opportunity, thus improving the conditions of electoral competition, which led to more objective results.

-So the summary of last year sounds stable and I would really like to thank to all members.

#### **16. DENMARK & Area** (Ib Krarup Rasmussen)

##### GENERAL COMMENTS:

DENMARK: Individuals based abroad, created a small number of Danish Maximum Cards.

FAROE ISLANDS: The Postal Services created a small number of Maximum Cards

GREENLAND: The Postal Services created a large number of Maximum Cards

##### MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS:

During the year 2010, there were **27 Maximum Cards** created in the Danish Area as follows:

DANEMARK

In 2011, Individuals from the ATEEME study & collecting group specializing in variable rate stamps, worldwide (see <http://www.ateeme.net>) created 4 Danish Maximum Cards on the following topics: Ducks. (*Anas platyrhynchos*, *Aythya fuligula*, *Tadorna tadorna*) 3MC's; HOFI 2011 (*Horsens statue*) 1MC

FAROE ISLANDS

In 2011, Faroe Post created 4 Maximum Cards as follows:

EUROPA (*forrests*) 2MC's; Christmas(*Carols*) 2MC's

GREENLAND

In 2011, the Post Greenland created 19 Maximum Cards as follows:

*Greenlandic Mining II* 2MC's; *Queen's 40th Jubilee* 1 MC; Transportation means (*kayak, submarine cable*) 2MC's; EUROPA (*forrests*) 2MC's; Greenlandic Herbs (*Greenland Mountain Ash Berries, Arctic Mountain Cranberries*) 2MC's; Polar Bear (*Indipex 2011*) 1MC; Cartoons (*the orphan*) 1MC; Japanese Explorer *Naomi Uemura* 1MC; Aviation (*catalina, otter*) 2MC's; SEPAC (*dog sled*) 1 MC; Contemporary Art 2MC's; Christmas (*Children's drawings*) 2MC's

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2010:

In 2011, **Denmark** participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card of the 'Viking Long Ship 'Sea Stallion' submitted by *Josep J. Jove*. This card was produced by the ATEEME Group. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website [www.maximaphily.info](http://www.maximaphily.info) and open for Voting to all National Delegates. This Danish Maximum Card was voted 7th, receiving 21 points.

In 2011, **Greenland** participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card of the 'POLAR BEAR, 'Bear on the Lake' design by *Naja Abelsen 2007*. This card was produced by Post Greenland and was voted 8th, receiving 18 points.

In 2011, **Faroe Islands** participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card of the 'BOTTOM OF THE SEA'. This card was produced by Posta Faroe, depicting Coral Reefs off the Faroe Islands.

**17. FINLAND** (Kalevi Ant-WUORINEN)

Maximaphily Activity Report from Finland for the year 2011

- The maximum card Nr. 21 of our club was issued on November 7<sup>th</sup> last year. The topic was the popular Finnish Christmas Straw Decoration called "Himmeli".
- Last year I created personally 77 different Maximum Cards in Finland out of about 70 new stamp issues and 19 different Maximum Cards in Åland. The exact number of other MC's made by Individuals is of course much higher.
- There were neither Maximaphily Exhibitions, nor Exhibits or Events last year.
- Six different participations in National level exhibitions; none in International exhibitions.
- No lectures or seminars in Maximaphily were arranged.
- Articles in Maximaphily appeared in "Filatelisti" and our own organ "MaxFiP".
- Finland and Åland both participated in the 2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition.
- The Finland Post issued five MCs (topic: mailbox) and were 80 % correct. The Åland Post issued three MCs (topic: cartoons) and one MC (topic: beach-volleyball), all were 100 % correct.
- My wish from last year came true: the MCs participating in the Best Maximum Card World Competition are now displayed on your websites ! Thank you ever so much Mr Constantourakis !! And more: the voting is now possible by email !

**18. FRANCE** (Anny BOYARD) *French version*

*Avant de commencer ce rapport, j'ai le regret de vous faire part du décès de deux présidents honoraires des Maximaphiles Français, personnalités de grande valeur, MM. René Brana et Jacques Thénard. Tous deux ont consacré beaucoup de leur vie à notre discipline qu'ils ont enrichie de leurs compétences, en particulier Jacques Thénard qui fut président de la Commission internationale FIP durant douze années.*

*Les Maximaphiles Français sont en deuil mais ils continuent de porter avec ferveur le flambeau de la maximaphilie que leurs regrettés aînés leur ont transmis.*

*Tout au long de l'année 2011, un important travail pour le développement de la maximaphilie a été effectué en particulier par de nombreuses actions en direction de la Jeunesse.*

#### **Réalisations maximaphiles :**

- En 2011, 90 cartes-maximum différentes ont été réalisées par le Service Nouveautés-France des Maximaphiles Français, ainsi que 52 cartes-maximum « variantes » en petites quantités.
- De très intéressantes C.M. sont réalisées par des collectionneurs individuels à partir des « Collectors » émis officiellement par La Poste sur les régions de France.
- De nouvelles correspondances se sont développées avec des amis maximaphiles permettant ainsi de faire des échanges très fructueux au niveau international.
- La France a participé au Concours mondial de la meilleure carte-maximum 2010.

#### **Information, formation et publication :**

- Tout au long de l'année des conférences ont été données à l'occasion de Congrès régionaux ainsi que dans plusieurs associations philatéliques en France.
- Les membres de la commission nationale de maximaphilie se réunissent pour harmoniser le travail des jurés en regard des nouveaux textes de la FIP. Le CD Rom élaboré par Jean-Claude Bouquet, enrichi de divers nouveaux tests sur les spécificités de la maximaphilie, est quasiment achevé. Nous souhaitons vivement qu'il soit enfin validé par la commission FIP MX, car nous devons le diffuser en France.

Classe Littérature - niveau international : Les Maximaphiles Français : « Catalogue des cartes- Maximum de France 1901\ 2007 - Edition 2009 » - a obtenu une médaille de Grand Argent à l'Exposition mondiale « PHILANIPPON 2011 ».

#### **Vie associative :**

- Cette année les efforts déployés par l'association « Les Maximaphiles Français » ont porté leurs fruits et le nombre d'adhérents s'est maintenu pour l'année 2011.
- Pour 2012, nous prévoyons malheureusement une lente érosion des effectifs due en particulier à l'âge des adhérents qui nous quittent parce qu'ils perdent la vue.
- L'association « L'Essor maximaphile » continue d'exercer une petite activité.

#### **Communication :**

- Le site Internet [www.Maximaphiles-Francais.org](http://www.Maximaphiles-Francais.org) connaît une fréquentation de plus en plus importante (400 000 visiteurs). Il fait toujours le lien entre les différents sites maximaphiles et philatéliques du monde entier ainsi que les sites culturels nécessaires à la maximaphilie.
- La revue trimestrielle de l'association « Les Maximaphiles Français », excellent support d'informations internationales sur la maximaphilie, est toujours publiée 4 fois par an et diffusée à tous les adhérents, aux responsables de la FFAP ainsi qu'aux délégués de la commission F.I.P. de maximaphilie et aux membres du comité directeur de la F.I.P.
- Enfin la Maximaphilie a été présente dans la presse philatélique française : "La Philatélie Française", "L'Echo de la Timbrologie", "Atout-timbres" et dans les magazines associatifs.

#### **Actions Jeunesse :**

- Durant l'année 2011 les MF ont renforcés l'action menée en direction de la jeunesse avec les partenariats réalisés avec les associations de la FFAP (15 clubs et 35 jeunes). Des ateliers jeunesse maximaphiles ont été mis en place dans de nombreuses expositions.

#### **Expositions :**

- L'année 2011 aura été marquée par notre présence active à Philajunior 2011, pour participer à l'animation avec notre MAXI JEU, et par l'organisation d'un Salon de MX Jeunesse à Valence où près de 27 collections MX Jeunesse et 31 collections adultes – souvent nouvelles - furent présentées dans une vaste salle du Palais des Expositions, en collaboration avec l'Association Philatélique de Valence présidée par notre ami Sylvain Monteillet.
- La forte implication de notre association auprès de la jeunesse a d'ailleurs été reconnue cette année au travers de la présidente des MF, Anny Boyard, qui a reçu en juin, lors du congrès national de la FFAP de Metz, le « Trophée Fromageat » en récompense de ses efforts continus, désintéressés et permanents en direction de la jeunesse. Les collections exposées à cette occasion montrent que la collection de C.M.

intéresse la Jeunesse et les efforts, développés par les Clubs et les MF, ont été bien récompensés (photo jointe).



- Les MF sont toujours très actifs et maintiennent une participation sous forme de prêt de collections, conférences ou jury, pour de nombreuses expositions compétitives ou non, comme lors des émissions 1<sup>er</sup> Jour à Paris, du congrès régional du Gaphil à Paris (75) et les Fêtes du Timbre dans toute la France.

**Formation de jurés** : En 2011, Dominique Durand a obtenu la qualification de juré national lors du Championnat national de Metz.

-Enfin, il faut dire que les difficultés rencontrées pour obtenir des cartes postales et de bonnes oblitérations concordantes sont plus importantes et nécessitent des déplacements dans toute la France, mais courageusement les Maximaphiles Français continuent à œuvrer pour une maximaphilie de qualité.

Actions envisagées :

Participation aux expositions départementales, régionales et nationales. Au mois de juin 2012 à l'occasion du Salon « Planète-Timbres 2012 » à Paris, pour promouvoir la maximaphilie auprès des Jeunes, le jeu d'initiation à la maximaphilie MAXI JEU sera à nouveau présent dans les ateliers du Timbre. Les Maximaphiles Français ont réalisé 3 000 C.M. en partenariat avec Phil@poste, la FFAP et l'ADPhile.

## **FRANCE** *English version*

First of all, I regret to inform you of the passing away of Messrs René Brana and Jacques Thénard two honorary chairmen of the “*Les Maximaphiles Français*”, Association and both top French maximaphilists. Both Messrs René Brana and Jacques Thénard devoted much of their life to our disciplint, which they have skillfully enriched. In particular Jacques Thénard was President of the FIP Maximaphily Commission for twelve years. The Association is in mourning, but will eagerly continue to develop Maximaphily in the direction these greatly missed elders have shown.

Throughout 2011, “*Les Maximaphiles Français*”, conducted important work for the development of the maximaphily, in particular by many actions in the direction of youth.

### **Maximum card carrying out:**

- In 2011, a total of **142 Maximum Cards** were created. In particular, the New Issues Service of the association “*Les Maximaphiles Français*” created 90 different Maximum Cards. In addition, 52 variant Maximum Cards were created in smaller quantities.

- Some attractive Maximum Cards were created by individual maximaphilists with the Personalized postage Stamp series officially issued by the postal operator “La Poste” for each one of the French administrative areas.

- At the International level, new correspondences with foreign maximaphily friends, made possible for some very profitable exchanges.

- France did take part in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010*.

### **Information, training and publication:**

- Throughout the year many lectures were given at the time of regional philatelic congress as well as locally to several philatelic associations in France.

- The members of the French National Commission for Maximaphily met together in order to co-ordinate their judgment with the new texts of the FIP. The CD Rom, created by Jean-Claude Bouquet explaining the specificities of maximaphily and including various tests illustrating the rules adopted in Malaga is quite completed. We strongly wish its final validation by the FIP MX commission, because we have to proceed to its distribution in France.

- Literature class – National level: The “*Catalogue des cartes-maximum de France 1901 / 2007 - Edition 2009*” issued by the “*Les Maximaphiles Français*” Association, obtained the Large Silver medal at the “*PHILANIPPON 2011*” World Stamp Exhibition.

### **Association life:**

- In 2011, thanks to the efforts of our “*Les Maximaphiles Français*” Association, we succeeded in keeping our membership numbers steady. However, for 2012 a slow erosion of our membership numbers is expected. This is due to the age of our members and also to the loss of eyesight for some of them.

- The activity of the association “*L’Esson Maximaphile*” is reduced at a small level.

### **Communication:**

- The Internet site [www.Maximaphiles-Francais.org](http://www.Maximaphiles-Francais.org) is more and more visited (400 000 visitors). It is still establishing the links to the various Maximaphily and Philatelic sites around the whole world, as well as to those Cultural sites needed for Maximaphily research.

- The quarterly review of the association “*Les Maximaphiles Français*”, first-rate media for international information about maximaphily, is still distributed to all the members, to the managers of the F.F.A.P. (Fédération Française des Associations Philatéliques), as well as to the FIP Maximaphily Commission Bureau Members and to the FIP Board of Directors.

- Lastly Maximaphily was very present in the French philatelic press, “*La Philatélie Française*”, “*L’Echo de la Timbrologie*”, “*Atout-timbres*” and in the magazines of philatelic associations.

### **Youth**

During the year 2011 the Association “*Les Maximaphiles Français*” have strengthened its action in the direction of youth thanks to partnerships with associations belonging to the “*Fédération Française des Associations Philatéliques*” (15 Associations and 35 Youthy). Youth maximaphily workshops have been implemented in numerous exhibitions.

### **Exhibitions**

- The year 2011 has been marked by the active presence of the association “*Les Maximaphiles Français*” at the Youth Exhibition “*Philajunior 2011*”, participating in the activities with its *MAXI JEU*, and by the organization of a Maximaphily Exhibition in Valence (26). This exhibition was held in a Large Hall of the “*Palais des Expositions*” of Valence and was organized in collaboration with the philatelic association of Valence chaired by our friend Sylvain Monteillet. Not less than 27 Maximaphily Youth Exhibits and 31 Adult Exhibits - often new - were presented.

- The strong involvement of the association “*Les Maximaphiles Français*” towards youth was recognized through its chairwoman, Anny Boyard, who received in June, at the national Congress of the FFAP (Fédération Française des Associations Philatéliques) held in Metz, the “Trophée Fromageat” in recognition of her continuous, selfless and permanent efforts towards Youth. Youth Maximaphily Exhibits shown, at the opportunity of this congress, have clearly shown that Maximum Card collecting is of interest to the Youth. So the efforts developed by the French philatelic clubs and by the association “*Les Maximaphiles Français*” were well rewarded. (see attached photo).



- The association “*Les Maximaphiles Français*” is still very active and participates by loan of collections, conferences, or jury, in many exhibitions competitive or not. In particular: First Day issues in Paris, Ile-de-France regional Congress in Paris, Stamp Day in many places in France.

#### **Training of jury members**

In 2011, at the French national championship held in Metz, *Dominique Durand* was appointed national judge.

We would like to point, that in spite of increasing difficulties in obtaining postcards with a correct concordance and also the right cancellations, the “*Les Maximaphiles Français*” are determined to continue

working for a Maximaphily of a high level of quality. It requires travels throughout France to obtain concordant ordinary cancellations.

#### Planned actions

Maximaphily will participate at the French national, regional, and local exhibitions. In June 2012, "Planète Timbres 2012" an International & National Exhibition, will be held in Paris. Once again the training game "MAXI JEU" will be there in order to promote Maximaphily towards Youth. The association "Les Maximaphiles Français" in partnership with French philatelic organizations (*Phil@poste, FFAP and ADPhile*) has prepared 3 000 maximum cards to be distributed.

#### **19. GERMANY** (Günter FORMERY) *German version*

-Unsere Mitgliederzahl hat sich von 67 im Jahre 2010 auf 65 Ende 2011 verringert. Es ist zunehmend schwieriger Neumitglieder zu werben.

-Unser Neuheitendienst hat 2011 achtzehn Maximumkarten realisiert. Wir favorisieren private MK-Realisationen, über deren Anzahl wir naturgemäß keine Erkenntnisse haben. Am FIP-Wettbewerb für die drei besten MK des Jahre 2011 haben wir ebenfalls teilgenommen.

-Nach zähen Bemühungen, welche sich über etliche Jahre hinstreckten, ist es uns in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Ehrenvorsitzenden des BDPh, Herrn Michael Adler, gelungen, die Deutsche Post AG zur Realisierung von offiziellen MK zu bewegen. 2011 hat die Post insgesamt sechs Maximumkarten realisiert, von denen vier als hervorragend, eine als mittelmäßig und eine als nicht den Regeln entsprechend (sinnbildliche Übereinstimmung) einzustufen sind. Letztere haben wir bemängelt. Die verwendeten Illustrierten Postkarten werden bei Orten mit örtlichem Bezug auf die Marken vor dem Erscheinen der Marken im Handel angeboten. Zwischenzeitlich hört uns die Post bei der Planung von neuen MK an. Die neuen MK können bei der Versandstelle der Post von Sammlern iUm Abonnement bestellt werden. Gegen einen negativen Bericht der Deutschen Briefmarken-Zeitung wegen der Möglichkeit eines Abonnements (Ausdehnung der Ausgabenpolitik) haben wir beim Redaktionsleiter schriftlich protestiert. MK der Deutschen Post werden einer offiziellen Verlags-Ankündigung zufolge im Michel-Katalog erfasst und bewertet.

-Mitglieder der Arge haben im Bereich Maximaphilie an folgenden Ausstellungen teilgenommen:

nationalem Niveau	3	Bewertungen: V, GAS, 1 Rahmen V
regionalem Niveau	3	Bewertungen: V 2x, GF
lokal	1	Bewertung: V

Neben den Wettbewerbsausstellungen wurden auch Exponate bei philatelistischen Werbeschauen gezeigt, über deren Anzahl wir keine genauen Erkenntnisse haben.

-Im vorigen Jahr haben wir zwei Vorstandssitzungen in Saarbrücken durchgeführt, die auch zur Vorbereitung unserer Mitgliederversammlung 2012 in Würzburg dienten.

-Wir haben, wie in der Vergangenheit, in der nationalen Fachzeitschrift „philatelie“, im Nachrichtenblatt des Landesverbandes der Briefmarkensammler des Saarland, in Vereinszeitschriften und auf der Homepage unseres Nationalverbandes Fachartikel veröffentlicht und zu Belangen der Maximaphilie Stellung bezogen.

-In unserem Maximaphilie & Philokartie-REPORT (40 Seiten DIN A4), der wie bisher dreimal im Jahr in Farbe erschien, veröffentlichten wir zahlreiche Fachartikel.

-Wir sind gegen häufige Änderungen der Maximaphilie-Regelwerke. So wiederstrebt uns auch die Zulassung von „Personalisierten Marken“, auch wenn sie offizieller Natur sind, denn die Juroren werden mit der katalogmäßigen Überprüfung des Materials, ob die Marken privater oder offizieller Natur sind, zeitlich überfordert und im Laufe der Zeit wird diese erforderlich Überprüfung den Rahmen der Jurorentätigkeit sprengen.

#### **GERMANY** *English version*

- By the end of 2011, our membership has declined from 67 to 65 members. It is increasingly difficult to recruit new members.

- Our news service has produced eighteen (18) Maximum Cards in 2011. We favor private MC's realizations, however we have no information on their number. the number. We have also participated in



the FIP competition for the three Best MC's of the year 2011, with the Maximum Card "*I<sup>st</sup> RAILWAY CONNECTION, NURNBERG - FUERTH (1835)*" created by Joergen Noll. This Maximum Card was voted 4th, receiving 33 points.

- After a difficult effort, that stretched out over a number of years, in collaboration with the Honorary Chairman of the BDPH, Mr *Michael Adler*, we finally succeeded Adler to convince the *Deutsche Post AG* (the German Post) to realize official Maximum Cards. In 2011, *Deutsche Post AG* as a whole realized six (6) Maximum Cards, four of which as excellent, one is mediocre and one are not correct (emblematic match) according to the rules. We have criticized the latter. In the meantime, the *Post AG* is listening to our suggestions for the planning of new Maximum Cards. These new Maximum Cards can be ordered from *Deutsche Post* by subscription. Against a negative report in the German Stamps' Newspaper due to the possibility of a subscription, we have protested in writing to the Editorial Director. Maximum Cards of *Deutsche Post* will have an official publishing house announcement according to in the Michel catalogue recorded and evaluated.

- Members of the German Maximaphilists ARGE took part in Maximaphily Class, in the following exhibitions: National level 3 Exhibits; Regional level 3 Exhibits; and Local level 1 Exhibit. t

- In addition to the Competitive Exhibitions, also other exhibits were shown in philatelic advertising shows, over which we have no exact knowledge.

- Last year we conducted two Board Meetings in Saarbrücken, who served also to prepare our annual meeting 2012 in Würzburg.

- In the past year, we have published articles and taken a position on matters of Maximaphily, in the National Journal '*Philatelie*', in the newspaper of the Association of Saarland, stamp collectors Club magazines and on the homepage of our National Association. We also published many professional articles, in our '*Maximaphilie & Philokartie-REPORT*' (Maximaphily & Postcard-REPORT) (40 pages DIN A4 in color), which so far appeared three times in the year.

-We are against frequent changes of Maximaphily regulations. The approval of "Personalized stamps", even if they are of an official nature, because catalog-like review of the material by jury members, will overwhelm them and this is outside the scope of the juror activity.

## **20. GREECE (Nikos MALLOUHOS)**

-A new site on the internet, [www.maximaphilia.gr](http://www.maximaphilia.gr), dedicated to the Greek Maximaphily activity and the achievements of our Union, has started operating during the second half of 2011.

Although the content of the site, for the time being, is in Greek, there are two useful sections - Old Greek Maximum Cards (1980 – 2010: Gallery) and "nouveau" (new issues of the current year) - where all the pictures of the M.Cs created by our Union, during the 31 years of its existence can be seen.

An English version is under construction. We hope that it will be ready soon.

-During 2011, twenty eight (28) Maximum-Cards were created by the "Union of Greek Collectors of M.C", with stamps issued by the Greek Postal Services.

The Maximum Cards. cover the following topics: *Greek Engravers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Greek shipping, Forests, Greek Actors, Tourism, Gold Aquatics, Greek Anniversaries – Events and Primary School Reading books.*

-At the same period, the Greek Postal Services issued 40 Maximum Cards, but only 8 Maximum Cards can be accepted, as maximum cards, according to the international regulations.

Within 2011, multiple meetings of the Union's members were held at its privately-owned offices, followed by lectures, cards exchanges and auctions.

-The annual review of the Union - "Maximaphilia" - was published in colors, at the end of February. The Magazine (No 66) was distributed to our members and to Greek Philatelic Associations, free of charge. The issue included many articles about the MAXIMUM CARDS, as well as international information about Maximaphily and the World Maximum Cards Competition. The magazine is available at the Unions' site, in Pdf form.

-In 2011, we participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card 'BATTLE OF MARATHON' (Ancient kylix 480 BC, Edinburgh Royal Museum) created by the 'Union Collectionneurs Grecs des CM'.

## **21. ICELAND** (Gunnar Rafn EINARSSON)

### **BEST MAXIMUM WORLD COMPETITION:**

In 2011, Iceland participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card of an 'Snow Bunting '*Plectrophenax nivalis*' using as support an old card by the British Museum, Natural History and tied with a concordant triple cancellation. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates.

### **MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS:**

During the year 2011, the WWF issued 4 Maximum Cards on Iceland's Endangered Geese and Ducks, as follows: '*Black Scoter, Barnacle Geese, White-fronted Goose and Gadwall*'.

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

In Iceland there are two Maximum Card collectors dealing with Maximum Cards in the fields of **National Parks** and **Iceland's Fauna**. Maximum Cards are popular with Thematic Philately collectors, but are still rarely used by Icelandic collectors. There were no other Maximaphily Activities in Iceland during the year 2011 and no Litterature related to Maximaphily.

## **22. INDIA** (Ajay Kumar Mittal)

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

In India Maximum Cards are not issued by India Post now. Many philatelists make them for their own use and for exchange/sale among others. During 2011, individual maximaphilists created about 50-60 different Maximum cards. Some of them used Picture Post Cards printed on Digital printers and some were made using properly printed picture postcards. Normally they make between 5 to 50 cards only per issue. Hence it is difficult to collect all of them by any individual.

-In India we tried to organise a Maximum cards competition but could not get much response to it due to less entries and more of digitally printed cards. So it was called off. This year we will try this again and hope for a better response to it. Winner of this competition will be able to take part in International Competition.

-As now a days digital printing also gives a good result of printing and is good for small quantity of printing I hereby recommend that the cards printed digitally also should be accepted as proper Maximum Cards. After getting comments from other delegates a proper mention should be made in the next revisions of guidelines for Maximaphily.

Exhibitions: Between 12-18 Feb. 2011, INDIA was the host for the World Philatelic Exhibition *INDIPEX 2011* under the patronage of FIP. This exhibition was organized by India Post and our National Federation, Philatelic Congress of India. Maximaphily was well represented in this exhibition with 10 exhibits, 3 of them were by Indian Maximaphilists. Many of the entries could not participate in the exhibition due to limited allotment in this section or due to limit of Individual entries to maximum 2 per person. In this exhibition Maximaphily section was well appreciated and liked by the visitors and media both.

### Indian Maximaphily Exhibits at INDIPEX 2011:

INDIA: Pulak Gupta, *Discover India*

INDIA: Sasmita Raut, *The World of Birds*

INDIA: Pradip Mohanty, *Bills*

### Foreign Maximaphily Exhibits at INDIPEX 2011:

BELGIUM: Pierre Vandenhoute, *The Birds in the world*

CANADA: George Constantourakis, *History of Maximaphily 1872-1940*

CHINA: Xianli Meng, *Styles of Tops of The Buildings*

CHINESE TAIPEI: Chang-Cheng Wang, *The Artistic Styles of Buildings Before 1949*

CHINESE TAIPEI: Chih-Ping Chu, *Memorial*

HUNGARY: Miklos Laszlo, *Der Anfang Von Der Arpadenze*

TURKEY: Atabey Ege Tunaci, *Classic Maximum Cards of Turkey, Ottoman and Early Republic Period*

-During the various (15 approx.) State level Exhibitions organised during the year many new Maximum Card collections took part in thematic as well as country Collection. Maximaphily in India is getting popular day by day. One frame exhibits on small themes are also popular among the philatelists.

2010 BEST MAXIMUM WORLD COMPETITION:

In 2011, *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* was organised by FIP Maximaphily Commission. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates. This is a good venture organised by Maximaphily Commission. I recommend that it should continue for the future also.

### 23. ISRAEL (Mayer GOZES/ Nahum Shereshevsky)

-In Israel, there is not yet any official Association of Maximaphilists.

-This report is made by us – *Mayer Gozes*, the Israeli Delegate, and *Nahum Shereshevsky* – and refers to what we did.

-We know of about five (5) other collectors who create MCs, and there are also a few dealers. We can see their creations on E-bay and Delcampe and many of them are made according to rules. Most of them are based on specially printed postcards, while we use only commercial cards.

- In 2011, we made 30 Maximum Cards out of the 79 stamps issued in Israel (including ATM).

-The Post issued one set of five (5) Maximum Cards which was according to the rules.

-An article by *Nahum Shereshevsky*, "*The importance of the place of the cancellation in Maximum Cards*", appeared in "*Nosonet*" - the Internet publication of the Thematic Society of Israel.

-There were no Stamp Exhibitions in Israel in 2011 and Israeli collectors didn't exhibit overseas either.

-In 2011, we participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card '*THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE, JERUSALEM*' created by *Nahum Shereshevsky*.

### 24. ITALY & Area (Gianfranco POGGI) *French version*

#### COMMENTAIRES GÉNÉRAUX

Nous avons publié trois numéros de notre magazine A.I.M. – compte. Nous avons maintenant un site Internet [www.maximafilia.it](http://www.maximafilia.it) où nous affichons nos nouvelles réalisations de cartes Maximum.

Le nombre de membres de l'AIM (*Associazione Italiana di Maximafilia*) est maintenant à 145. Malheureusement, cette diminution continue, est le résultat du manque de jeunes philatélistes.

Malgré cette réalité, la vie de Maximaphilie italien reste encore très actif. Par exemple, il y a une augmentation du nombre de Maximaphiles qui participent aux diverses expositions.

#### EXPOSITIONS

Nous avons participé à l'exposition nationale de Venise avec 15 collections recevant 2 deux médailles d'Or et 3 trois Grandes Vermeil. Nous avons également participé à de nombreuses expositions internationales en compétition : *Gmunden* en Autriche, *Mamer* , Luxembourg, *Opotija* , en Croatie.

#### RÉALISATIONS DE MC

Il y avait un total de 116 MC réalisé dans l'italien région. L' AIM a réalisés 58 CM Italie, 20 CM San Marino et 38 du Vatican. Il y a de certains MC créé par maximaphilES individuels, mais nous ne connaissons pas leur nombre. La poste italienne vend des « Cartes philatéliques » qui sont visés par le timbre et certains confondent avec les cartes maximum.

#### CONCOURS MONDIAL DES 3 MEILLEURS CARTES MAXIMUM CRÉÉS EN 2010:

En 2011, l' **Italie** a participé au *Concours Mondial des 3 Meilleurs Cartes du 2010* avec la carte Maximum de le 'Carnaval HORSE RACE « *SA SARTIGLIA de ORISTANO* »

Créé par l'A.I.M. Cette carte Maximum italien a voté le 9, reçu 15 points.

En 2011, le **Vatican** a participé au *Concours Mondial des 3 Meilleurs Cartes du 2010* avec la carte Maximum du « *Léon XIII* » produit par la poste de Vatican.

En 2011, le **San Marino** a participé au *Concours Mondial des 3 Meilleurs Cartes du 2010* avec la carte Maximum '*Italien cyclistes-F.COPPI – g. BARTALLI*' créé par l'A.I.M. et en utilisant la se-tenant timbre

illustrant *Giro d'Italia* plus célèbres cyclistes *Gino Bartali* (à gauche) et *Fausto Coppi*, (à droite). Cette carte Maximum de Saint-Marin a été voté 2, reçu 48 points (à égalité avec la République tchèque).

## **ITALY & Area English version**

### **GENERAL COMMENTS**

We have published three issues of our magazine *A.I.M. - NOTIZIARIO*. We now have a website [www.maximafilia.it](http://www.maximafilia.it) where we display our new Maximum Card realizations. The number of members of AIM (*Associazione Italiana di Maximafilia*) is now at 145. Unfortunately this continuous decrease, is the result of lack of young philatelists. In spite of this reality, the life of Italian Maximaphily still remains very active. For example, there is an increase in the number of Maximaphilists who participate in various exhibitions.

Exhibitions: We participated in the *Venice National Exhibition* with 15 collections receiving two (2) Gold and three (3) Large Vermeil medals. We also participated in numerous International Exhibitions in competition: *Gmunden* in Austria, *Mamer* in Luxembourg, *Opotija* in Croatia.

### **MC REALIZATIONS**

There was a total of 116 MC's realized in the Italian area. AIM made 58 MC's Italy, 20 MC's San Marino and 38 MC's Vatican. There are some MC's created by individual maximaphilists, but we do not know their number. The Italian Post sells "Philatelic Cards" which are the subject of the stamp and certain conform being true Maximum Cards.

### **WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2010:**

In 2011, **Italy** participated in the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card of the 'CARNIVAL HORSE RACE 'SA SARTIGLIA DI ORISTANO' created by the A.I.M. This Italian Maximum Card was voted 9th, receiving 15 points.

In 2011, **Vatican** participated in the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card of the '*POPE LEO XIII*' produced by THE Vatican Post.

In 2011, **San Marino** participated the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card '*ITALIAN CYCLISTS- F.COPPI – G. BARTALLI*' created by the A.I.M. using the se-tenant stamp depicting *Giro d'Italia*'s most famous cyclists *Gino Bartali* (left) and *Fausto Coppi*, (right). This San Marino Maximum Card was voted 2nd, receiving 48 points (tied with the Czech Rep.).

## **25. JAPAN (Koichi SATO)**

There is no active Maximaphily philatelist in Japan and there is no group / circle / club for Maximaphily. Some Thematic Collectors show interest in Maximum Cards for their collecting theme, but not for entire Maximaphily. I therefore regret to send you activity report in Japan.

## **26. LIECHTENSTEIN (Stefan ERNE)**

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Liechtenstein creates high quality Maximum Cards for almost every new stamp issue.

In 2011, Liechtenstein participated for the 3rd time in our *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* that was - for the first time - posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and was voted 9th, receiving 15 points.

### **MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS:**

During the year 2011, Liechtenstein Post created **35 correct Maximum Cards** as follows:

Games of the Small States 2011 (Medals: *Gold, Silver, Bronze*), 3 MC's; Renewable Energy II (*Photovoltaics, Solar energy, Wind power*), 3 MC's; Ornamental Eggs from the realm of the Czars (*Moscow workshop, Fabergé, Pavel A. Ovchinnikov*), 3 MC's; Europa 2011 (*International Year of Forests*), 1 MC; Butterflies - III (*Peacock, Orange Tip*), 2 MC's; Children of the Hereditary Princes and Princess (*Nikolaus, Georg, Marie Caroline, Joseph Wenzel*), 4 MC's; Endangered Birds (*Hobby, Redstart, Nightingale, Red-backes Shrike, Oriole, Whinchat, Pygmy Owl, Wryneck*), 8 MC's; Paintings by Xiao Hui Wang (*Alpine Rhine, Water reflections*), 2 MC's;

Liechtenstein Landscapes III (*Unterland*), 1MC; Castles in Liechtenstein (*Gutenberg, Schellenberg, Schalun, Vaduz*), 4 MC's; Christmas 2011 (Cribs: *Parish Church St. Gallus Triesen; St. Florin Parish Church Vaduz; Parish Church of the Assumption Bendern*), 3 MC's; Chinese Signs of the Zodiac (*2012 Year of the Dragon*), 1 MC

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2010:

-In 2011, Liechtenstein participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card of the '*Ariadne gives Theseus the thread*' depicting a Ceiling Fresco by Johann M. Rottmayr in Liechtenstein Museum, Vienna. This card was produced by Liechtenstein Post. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates. This Maximum Card was voted 9th, receiving 15 points.

## **27. LUXEMBOURG** (Andrée TROMMER, Sec.)

- 10 meetings of the '*Commission de Maximaphilie FSPL*', 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. He also published articles on the new maximum cards of the Commission in all newspapers, before every issue.

- The 22nd Day of Maximaphily had been organized by the local association of *Mamer*.

- In 2011 the '*Commission de Maximaphilie FSPL*' created 18 Maximum Cards.

-Luxembourg did participate in the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with a Maximum Card depicting the '*ROSE Yvan Misson*', a rose of unique beauty, an early variety created in 1912 by *Souper* and *Notting*. This MC was realized by the '*Commission de Maximaphilie FSPL*'. This Luxembourg Maximum Card was voted 3rd, receiving 45 points.

## **28. MACAU** (Wong Ion Kong - President of CFM)

GENERAL COMMENTS:

In what follows, I will report briefly on the Maximaphily Activities carried out in 2011 in MACAU. In 2011, Macau participated for the 2nd time in our *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* that was - for the first time - posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website.

MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS:

During the year 2011, Macau Post created **15 Maximum Cards** as follows:

*Lunar Year of the Rabbit*, 5 Maximum Cards

*Legends and Myths IX – The Legend of the White Snake*, 6 Maximum Cards

*WWF: Macau Birds / 50th Anniversary of WWF*, 4 Maximum Cards, e.g. : Light-vented Bulbul (*Pycnonotus sinensis*); Spotted Dove (*Streptopelia chinensis*); Yellow Bittern (*Ixobrychus sinensis*); Greater Coucal (*Centropus sinensis*)

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2010:

-In 2011, Macau participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card of an '*Antique Telephone in Macao*' created by the *Clube Filatelico de Macau*. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates.

## **29. MALAYSIA** (YE Choh San/ Chee Hui TAN)

Maximaphily was able to be introduced to a certain school stamp clubs where students were attracted by these colorful MCs and began to realize some maximum cards where postcards were readily available commercially. Active students were able to follow DIY instructions and sent the relevant Postcards to Post Offices to request for concordant postmarks. A notable student presented an article on the maximum cards he realized and was published in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of the Malaysian Philately journal. Malaysia continued to support by submitting MC entry to the World Best Maximum Card competition. Pos Malaysia issued a fabulous set of Post Cards featuring the “underground tunnel technology” which was an attachment gift with the purchase of philatelic items, the set of 6 postcards were perfect for the realization of MCs with

the similar theme of stamps. This set of postcards which was NOT for sale captured the attention of many collectors and attracted the interest of many NON-collectors to begin hunting for it to realize as maximum cards, perhaps, this idea of the Pos Malaysia had in one way or other motivated the collecting interest of maximum cards. Although there was no any Maximaphily Exhibit put up for display in the Year End National Youth Competition, however, it was glad to note that the youth exhibitors were able to utilize maximum cards in various places of their exhibits. The awareness of the hobby of maximaphily was well transmitted in Malaysia. Realisation of Maximum Cards was not confined to local stamps alone , the cooperation with the Singapore MC collectors continued to flourish and many MCs of the 2 countries were realised and exchanged by the members. In 2011, about **66 MCs** were realised in Malaysia.

### **30. MALTA** (John A. CARDONA)

#### GENERAL COMMENTS

- Malta Philatelic Society, which is a very small Society, does not have a branch which caters for Maximaphily. Furthermore no activities are held which fall in that category.
- The JB Catalogue of Malta Stamps and Postal History, which is consulted throughout the Island, considers for publication only those Maximum Cards which are issued officially by MaltaPost p.l.c. for sale over their counters. It is pointed out that Malta Post p.l.c. is the official Postal Authority on the Island. In this connection Malta Post has issued a number of Maximum Cards in 2011. Twenty (20) Maximum Cards were issued under the title '*The Maltese Buses - The end of an Era*' and (4) under '*Maritime Malta*'.
- It is the wish of Malta Philatelic Society to keep in line with the policy adopted by the proprietors of the above catalogue. Furthermore it desires to avoid recording or mentioning any cards which may be produced privately. It is trusted that the above makes our position amply clear and would avoid any unnecessary exchanges or misunderstandings.

#### 2010 BEST MAXIMUM WORLD COMPETITION:

- In 2011, MALTA did participate in the **Vote** for *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010*. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates.

### **31. MEXICO** (Guadalupe Morales Grifaldo)

In 2011, there were about 22 Maximum Cards created in Mexico.

In particular I do not know of anyone else who is creating maximum cards in Mexico, only your server, *Guadalupe Morales Grifaldo* and are as follows.

- 1 .- *Mexican Red Cross 100 years*, horizontal format (21 February 2011)
- 2 .- *UPAEP, 100, United Cultures*, vertical and horizontal formats (March 23, 2011)
- 3 .- *Palacio Postal*, vertical format (04 May 2011)
- 4 .- *Armillita*, the centenary of his birth, three different portrait format (May 17, 2011)
- 5 .- *U-17 World Championship Cup, MEXICO 2011*, 3 different cards in horizontal format (June 15, 2011)
- 6 .- *Cantinflas 100th anniversary*, three different cards, horizontal format (12 August 2011)
- 6 .- *Cantinflas 100th anniversary*, four different cards, vertical format (August 12, 2011)
- 7 .- *International Year of Forests*, horizontal format (05 August 2011)
- 8 .- *50th Anniversary Hospital of Cardiology*, horizontal format (13 September 2011)
- 9 .- *International Day of Non-Violence, Gandhi Matham*, horisontall format (October 2, 2011)
- 10 .- *XV Pan American Games Guadalajara, Jal.* 3 different cards in horizontal format (10/14/2011)
- 11 .- *Postman Day (Xiquilpan baton)*, vertical format (November 11, 2011)
- 12 .- *International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women*, horizontal format (30 Nov. 2011)

In addition, the Mexican Post issued 10 postcards, which I subsequently be convert maximum cards.

- 1 .- *Official day of love and friendship* (hearts and flowers); 2 .- *Official day of love and friendship* (pair of birds and flowers); 3 .- *Mother's Day*; 4 .- *Grandparents Day* 3 different cards; 5 .- *Christmas 2011* 4 cards
- In 2011, Mexico did participate in the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card MEXICAN CHRISTMAS '*NAVIDAD MEXICANA*'. This MC was created by *Correos de Mexico*, having a special cancellation & mention '*Navidad Mexicana*'.

### **32. NETHERLANDS** (Albert Jacobs)

The Dutch Club “*Pro Juventute & Maximafilie*”: is a member of the ‘*Koninklijke Nederlandse Bond van Filatelistenverenigingen*’ (KNBF) [Royal Netherlands Federation of Philatelic Societies];

In 2011, we grew from 144 members to about 150 members. We publish a quarterly magazine “*Bulletin*” (28 pages A4 in full colour, number 175 copies). In 2011, we realized 100 Maximum Cards in our News service. Individual maximaphilists also created maximum cards for their own collections. The Dutch Posts are not issuing any such cards.

We organized 2 regular formal meetings for our members on our new location in *De Bilt*, as usual one in spring and the other one in autumn, both with an auction and as always meant:

- to enable the members to discuss topics in maximaphily and to share experiences; and
- to meet each other in a friendly atmosphere.

In 2011, none of the members of “*Pro Juventute and Maximaphily*” did participate in a stamp exhibitions. The well-known Dutch philatelic magazines, “*Filatelic*” (with the 1.000 edition in February 2011; now on facebook too) and “*Thema*”, still regularly pay attention to the articles published in our club magazine “*Bulletin*”. And also in 2011 in all the 11 editions of “*Filatelic*”, the Dutch national stamp bulletin, that goes to 28.500 stamp collectors, a full A4 page dealt with relevant and interesting news in the field of national and international maximaphily.

In the “*KNFB Nieuwsbrief*”, the Internet newsletter from the Federation, issues were issued with a wide variety of subjects, including, of course maximaphily articles. You can: read, download and get a free subscription (in Dutch only) of the *KNFB Nieuwsbrief* via <http://www.knbf.nl> The Dutch website <http://www.postzegelblog.nl> also paid attention to maximaphily. Of course the Netherlands (read “*Pro Juventute and Maximaphily*”) did participate in the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition*; with our Maximum Card entitled “*Long live the forest*”. Finally: Since the Fall of 2010 *Albert P.H.M. Jacobs* is the new Dutch Delegate to the FIP Maximaphily Commission.

### **33. NEW ZEALAND** (Jenny Banfield)

GENERAL COMMENTS/EXHIBITIONS:

The news from new Zealand is set out below:

Several dealers are now producing good Maximum Cards.

We have 2 exhibitors at National level. One is at International level (myself). I exhibited 5 frames at *PHILANIPPON 2011*. As the New Zealand Delegate, I attended the Commission’s Meeting in Lisbon at *PORTUGAL 2010*

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2010:

In 2011, New Zealand did participate in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card of the *SONG THRUSH* (*Turdus philomelos*), created by *Len Jury*. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates.

### **34. PAKISTAN** (Syed Imtiaz Hussain)

GENERAL COMMENTS/SEMINARS

In Pakistan very few Philatelists are interested in this branch of Philately. I held Two Seminars in 2011 ( in March and September '2011) on Maximaphily regarding the rules of Maximum Cards in Peshawar at the platform of Khyber Philatelic Association, Peshawar. In first seminar only 12 Philatelists attended it, but in next seminar 16 Philatelists attended the seminar. All participants asked different questions about the maximumcards and to make Exhibit of it.

2010 BEST MAXIMUM WORLD COMPETITION:

- In 2011, Pakistan did participate in the **Vote** for *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010*. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates.

### **35. POLAND** (Roman BABUT/Marian Rawiński)

#### GENERAL COMMENTS/ SEMINAR:

In October 2011, during the '*European Youth Philatelic Exhibition POLKOWICE 2011*', in Poland Mr. *Nicos Rangos* gave a power point presentation on '*Maximaphily Collecting*' enriched with many colourful examples of Maximum Cards. The presentation has been passed to Dr *Roman Babut* the Vice-President of the Polish Philatelist Union who had promised to use it for benefit of Polish philatelists ,promoting Maximum Card collecting. There are only 5 members, collectors of Maximum Cards (there are no new members, the older ones have died). We do not produce many MC's, just 8 or 16 examples on certain issues, depending on the subject

#### MAXIMAPHILY YOUTH EXHIBITS:

In 2011 during the '*European Youth Philatelic Exhibition POLKOWICE 2011*', in Poland there were 4 Maximaphily Youth Exhibits as follows:

PORTUGAL: '*The football passion*', received a Vermeil medal & a Special Prize, with 82 points.

CYPRUS: '*Animals life on Earth with Maximum Cards*', received a Silver medal, with 72 points.

BELARUS: '*Mammals*' received a Silver Bronze medal, with 68 points

POLAND: '*Famous and less known*' received a Silver Bronze medal, with 67 points

#### MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS:

There were about 14 Maximum Cards created in 2011 on the subjects of Polish Personalities, Cartoons etc.

In during the '*European Youth Philatelic Exhibition POLKOWICE 2011*', in Poland

Mr. *Nicos Rangos* created a number of Maximum Cards, using the stamp of a Polkowice Town Building from the S/S issued for the '*XX Congress of the PZF Polkiwice 2011*'.

The majority of these Maximum Cards were distributed to the Exhibition officials, Jury members, Commissioners and other collectors.

#### ON SITE CONSULTATIONS

In Polkowice, Mr. *Nicos Rangos* was also asked to consult some sport-related important and rare Maximum Cards of Poland presented by Polish collectors and his advices were met with a great pleasure by local philatelists.

### **36. PORTUGAL** (Eurico C.E. Lage Cardoso)

(Comments 3 & 4 on MC Realizations & 2010 Best MC World Competition by *George Constantourakis*)

#### 1.- GENERAL COMMENTS

The Portuguese Association of Maximaphily (APM) has suspended its activities in July of 2011, by a decision of the majority of the members of the General Assembly. I would like to refer that the APM was the only Club of Maximaphily that was a member of the Portuguese Federation. Accordingly this Delegate ignores virtually everything that is happening in the Clubs of Philately where there can be other maximaphilists.

#### 2.- EXHIBITIONS

Maximaphily was however present in the event held in *Povoa de Varzim* (XXI Philatelic Exhibition National, Inter-regional) held in December 7-11, 2011 with six (6) Exhibits.

#### 3.- MC REALIZATIONS

There were about 65 Maximum Cards realized in 2011 as follows:

6MC's *Archeology*: 6MC's *Portuguese Cheese*; 7MC's *Europa-Forest, Portugal/Azores/Madeira*; 4MC's *Museo do Chiado, paintings*; 6MC's *Theater in Portugal*; 4MC's *History & Culture*; 4MC's *Fado singers*; 4MC's *Manoirs of Madeira*; 2MC's *Football/Coat of Arms*; 2MC's *Whaling*; 2MC's *Exploration (Thailand/Korea joint issues)*; 4MC's *Fish*; 3MC's *Birds/Wildlife*; 3MC's *Vet Medicine*; 2MC's *Embroidery*; 6MC's *Various themes*.

#### 4.- BEST MAXIMUM WORLD COMPETITION:

The Portuguese Entry from Mr. *Rui Dias* of Lisbon, was accepted after receiving the official approval to our request from the Mr. *Perdo Vaz Pereira*, President of the Portuguese Philatelic Federation (following the lack of any response to our repeated requests from the official delegate). Portugal's Entry for the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition* was the Maximum Card 'LISBON FUNICULAR TRAM



'ELEVADOR DA GLORIA', created by *Rui Dias*. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website [www.maximaphily.info](http://www.maximaphily.info) and open for Voting to all National Delegates. This Portuguese Maximum Card was voted 1st, receiving 105 points. It is worth noting that that the 2nd place received only 48 points. Congratulations go to Mr. Rui Dias, whose example - in our view - represents the future of Portuguese Maximaphily.

In conclusion, in 2011 even with the unfortunate news of the Portuguese Maximaphily Association's (APM) suspending its activities, Maximaphilists continue to be very active in Portugal, judging from the high number of MC realizations.

### **37. Rep. of KOREA**, (South Korea) (Jin HUR)

The specialized articles on the current situation of the International Maximaphily were released on the monthly magazine of the Korean Philatelic Foundation, titled "*Woopyo*", 4 times in a row from January until April in 2011. In this series of 4 articles, titled as '*A Critical Summary on the Conditions and Changes of the Maximaphily Regulations*', the writer *Jin Hur*, the National Delegate to the FIP Maximaphily Commission, introduced the updated information and recent trend of the maximaphily based on the newly promoted regulations and final version of the formulations agreed and identified in Malaga in particular. Furthermore, he showed a lot of representative images of the certain maximum cards to provide the readers with more vivid and comprehensive understanding, so that the correct perception on the making of the maximum cards could be widely settled down.

-In the national philatelic exhibition held annually in Seoul, an exhibit titled '*Dream, Passion and Challenge toward the Sky*'(airplanes motifs) with 5 frames was awarded Vermeil together with a special prize. Regrettably that was the only one exhibit out of the maximaphily category. However, this kind of attempt to exhibit the maximum cards on an official competition venue is widely recommendable and very much promising one in order to promote nationwide the maximaphily's popularity.

-The maximaphily club in Korea was organized in 2010 for the first time, but its activity is still limited and we hope that it will be developed as an independent genre of the modern philately in Korea and contribute to reviving the philately as a whole.

### **38. REP. of MACEDONIA** (Former Yugoslav) (Sinisa PAVLESKI)

#### GENERAL COMMENTS:

Concerning MC 2011. Yes, I was talking about lot of variants and I confirm what I have told you. I have seen even more. If you need to know only how many MC are made, but with using some stamps only once, then, yes, only 10-15 MC's (from 38 different issues, including S/S). Personally, I have made Butterfly MC, several MC for some Japanese collector on Franz List, for a collector from Israel, dog Karaman,...all 2011 issues. I think, I have made about 5-6 different kinds which I can remember. We did not take part in any foreign exhibition, as most big philatelic exhibitions are planned to be held outside in Europe in next several years. I hope we will make some serious contacts with FEPA in Slovenia this May (during Balkanfila 2012 in Maribor 2012).

#### WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2009:

-In 2011, the Rep. of Macedonia participated in the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition*, with the Maximum Card '*ROBERT SCHUMANN (Composer)*' created by *Sergio Berti*, having a special cancellation with a concordant illustration (triple).

### **39. ROMANIA** (Vasile DOROS/ C. Ciobanu) *French version*

#### **Rapport concernant la maximaphilie de la ROUMANIE en 2011**

-Après deux expositions nationales, à participation internationale(en 2008 – “Expomax Bacău 600“, ayant comme location un Mall de Bacău et en 2010, “Art et Religion”, organisée dans l’enceinte de la Cathédrale des Saints Apôtres Pierre et Paul de Bacău, largement présentées dans la mass-média nationale, tout comme sur le plan international, par l’intermédiaire des revues “FEPA-News et FLASH), en 2011, la Commission de maximaphilie de la Fédération Philatélique Roumaine (F.F.R.) et la Société Roumaine de Maximaphilie “Dr.Valeriu Neaga” ont établi comme prioritaires les activités d’organisation

et de renforcement du mouvement de la maximaphilie. Dans ce sens, nous avons été préoccupés d'attirer de nouveaux maximaphiles, dans un cadre d'activité organisé, c'est-à-dire de les coopter en tant que membres de la Société Roumaine de Maximaphilie "Dr.Valeriu Neaga" (SRMDVN).

-On a fait une analyse solide des membres de jury de la classe de maximaphilie de Roumanie. Grâce à l'évolution professionnelle de certains maximaphiles et leur correcte évaluation, neuf de ceux-ci ont été proposés comme membres de jury, étant approuvés par la F.F.R., le 15 novembre 2011.

-Le Congrès de la F.F.R. a réélu en tant que président de la Commission de Maximaphilie de la F.F.R., pour un nouveau mandat, M. Vasile DOROS et il a approuvé que cinq membres de la Société Roumaine de Maximaphilie "Dr.Valeriu Neaga", respectivement Mihai Ceucă, Vasile Doros, Leon Iancovici, Andrei Potcoavă et Nicolae Salade, reçoivent la distinction de "Membre d'Honneur" de la F.F.R., tout en reconnaissant l'activité de ceux-ci dans le développement de la philatélie et particulièrement de la maximaphilie roumaine, ayant certaines influences dans la philatélie mondiale.

-S.C. ROMFILATELIA S.A. en tant qu'institution autorisée à émettre et à commercialiser des effets postaux, a émis, l'année dernière, 40 séries de timbres-poste. C'est seulement de 8 séries qu'on a réalisé 23 modèles de CM. C'est par l'intermédiaire des associations philatéliques territoriales (de Bucarest, Sibiu, Botosani et Bacău) que les membres de la SRMDVN (Ioan Daniliuc, Nicolae Salade, Coriolan Chiriches, George Gligor) ont réalisé 21 modèles de CM, tout en respectant les directives Guidelines/ Malaga-Espagne 2006 et les principes GREV.

-En 2011 on a organisé en Roumanie 5 expositions philatéliques régionales et une exposition nationale, à thèmes généraux (à Sibiu, Bucarest, Timisoara, Bistrita Năsăud) où l'on a aussi exposé 25 collections de maximaphilie, appréciées par la public et le jury.

-Une seule collection de maximaphilie participa à "Valence 2011"-France (M. Vasile Doros avec sa collection "George Enescu dans la suite des grands musiciens européens"), grâce à la collaboration avec l'association "Les Maximaphiles Français".

-L'année passée, on a publié dans les revues "philatelica.ro" et le "Courrier philatélique" 5 articles sur la beauté de la maximaphilie mais surtout des règles qu'elle doit respecter en maximaphilie.

-Durant toute l'année 2011, c'est l'Internet qui a constitué le principal moyen d'information des maximaphiles de notre pays et même du monde entier.

-Le blog de la Société Roumaine de Maximaphilie "Dr.Valeriu Neaga" (<http://srmdvn.blogspot.com>), ayant comme webmaster le secrétaire de l'association, M. Mihai Ceucă, a présenté avec constance les événements les plus importants des actualités philatéliques en général et maximaphiles en particulier. Notre blog a enregistré plus de 12.000 visites.

-La Roumanie a participé au 8<sup>e</sup> Concours mondial pour la désignation de la meilleure carte-maximum réalisée en 2010, et organisé par la commission MX de la FIP avec une CM réalisée par le Dr. Ioan Daniliuc, vice-président de la SRMDVN. Cette CM s'est classée la 6eme des 59 pays participants, gardant ainsi la tradition de se classer parmi les 10 premières, „Top 10”.

-Les maximaphiles roumains ont apprécié le fait qu'on a voté, pour la première fois, par correspondance, procédure qui, à la suite de la consultation de tous les membres de la Commission MX de la FIP, a assuré une correcte évaluation des CM présentées au concours.

-A titre de conclusion des discussions qu'on a eues avec les collègues maximaphiles et au nom de ceux-ci, je vous propose un débat, dans le cadre de la Commission MX de la FIP, sur une éventuelle modification du règlement de la F.I.P. et je vais argumenter cette proposition.

-Dernièrement, les collections qui ont inséré des T.C.V. concordantes, qui sont les précurseurs des cartes-maximum, ont été très appréciées aux expositions mondiales et elles ont remporté des médailles d'or. Les membres du jury ont pris leurs décisions en tenant compte, dans une mesure trop grande, des valeurs historique, postale et documentaire de ces pièces, en accordant un pointage disproportionné en rapport avec SREV. On ne peut pas contester la valeur de ces pièces, mais, la maximaphilie moderne, avec des pièces réalisées après 1946 est très diversifiée en ce qui concerne les thèmes traités, ayant effectivement le rôle de connaître la culture du monde entier. Si l'on apprécie (d'une manière disproportionnée) seulement l'ancienneté des CM, alors, les autres collections de maximaphilie, de bonne qualité, n'accéderont jamais aux médailles d'or.

-Avec ces arguments, je vous propose donc qu'on crée une nouvelle classe de participation qui soit insérée dans le Règlement Spécial de la F.I.P. pour l'Évaluation des participations de maximaphilie aux expositions F.I.P. (SREV). Il sera nécessaire, bien entendu, de modifier aussi les Directives pour l'évaluation des collections de maximaphilie aux expositions F.I.P. (Guidelines).

#### **ROMANIA** *English version*

-After two national exhibitions, participation, in 2011, the Commission of maximaphily of the Romanian Philatelic Federation (F.F.R.) and "*Dr. Valeriu Neaga*" the Romanian Maximaphily Society established as priority organization activities and reinforcing the Maximaphily movement. In this sense, we focus in attracting new Maximaphilists, within a framework of an organized activity, i.e. to co-opt them becoming members of Romanian Maximaphily Society "*Dr. Valeriu Neaga*" (SRMDVN).

-We made a solid analysis of Jurors in the Class of Maximaphily in Romania. Thanks to the professional evolution of certain Maximaphilists and their correct evaluation, nine of them have been proposed as members of jury, being approved by the F.F.R., on November 15, 2011.

-The Congress of the F.F.R. re-elected Mr. *Vasile DOROS*, as President of the Commission of Maximaphily of the F.F.R., for a new term, and approved that five members of the Romanian Maximaphily Society "*Dr. Valeriu Neaga*", respectively *Mihai Ceucă*, *Vasile Doros*, *Leon Iancovici*, *Andrei Potcoavă* and *Nicolae Salade*, receive the distinction of "*Honorary Member*" of the F.F.R. recognizing their activity in the development of Philately, of the Romanian Maximaphily and having a certain influence in world philately.

-S.C. ROMFILATELIA S.A. as an institution authorized to issue and market postal effects, issued last year, 40 series of postage stamps. It is only 8 series were used to create **23 Maximum Cards**. It is through the territorial philatelic associations (of *Bucharest*, *Sibiu*, *Botosani* and *Bacău*) that the members of the SRMDVN (*Ioan Daniliuc*, *Nicolae Salade*, *Coriolan Chiriches*, *George Gligor*) performed 21 Maximum Cards, while respecting the Guidelines of Malaga-Spain 2006 and the principles of the GREV.

-In 2011, there were one (1) National and five (5) Regional Philatelic Exhibitions held in Romania on various themes (in *Sibiu*, *Bucharest*, *Timisoara*, *Bistrita Năsăud*) where it also 25 Maximaphily Exhibits were shown that were greatly appreciated by both the public and the jury.

-One Maximaphily Exhibit took part in "*Valence 2011*" - France (Mr. *Vasile Doros* with his collection "*George Enescu in the steps of the great European Musicians*"), through collaboration with the association "*Les Maximaphiles Francais*".

-Last year, we published in the journals "*philatelica.ro*" and "*Philatelic Courier*" 5 articles on the attractiveness of Maximaphily, but especially on the rules that govern Maximaphily.

-Throughout the year 2011, it is the Internet that was the primary means of information of the maximaphiles of our country and even the world.

-The blog of the Romanian Maximaphily Society "*Dr. Valeriu Neaga*" (<http://srmdvn.blogspot.com>), with Mr. *Mihai Ceucă*, Secretary of the Association, as webmaster, presented consistently the most important events of the Philatelic and Maximaphily activities. Our blog has recorded more than 12,000 visits.

-Romania participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> World Competition for the Best Maximum Card created in 2010, and organised by the commission with a Maximum Card '*LIPIZZAN HORSES OF SAMBATA DE JOS*' created by *Dr. Ioan Daniliuc*, Vice-President of the SRMDVN. This Maximum Card ranked 6<sup>th</sup> of the 59 participating countries, thus keeping the tradition to classify among the 10 first, "Top 10".

-The Romanian Maximaphilists appreciate the fact to be able to vote by emailing their vote, a procedure that allows all the Delegates of the FIP Maximaphily Commission and provides a correct assessment of the Maximum Cards presented in the Competition.

-A title of conclusion of the discussions it had with maximaphilist colleagues and these, I propose a debate, in the FIP Maximaphily Commission, on a possible amendment of the rules of the F.I.P. and I will argue for this proposal.

-Recently, collections which included concordant T.C.V., which are the precursors to Maximum Cards, were much appreciated in International Exhibitions and they have won gold medals. The members of the Board took their decisions into account, too much of the values history, mailing and documentary of these pieces to the extent, by giving a disproportionate in relation to SREV score. Cannot challenge the value of

these pieces, but the modern maximaphily, with parts made after 1946 is very diverse with regard the themes treated, actually having the role of culture in the world. If you like (in a disproportionate way) only the time length of the Maximum Cards, then, the other collections of maximaphily, of good quality, will never have access the gold medals.

-With these arguments, I therefore propose that a new class of participation be created, that will be inserted in the special regulations of the F.I.P. for the Evaluation of Maximaphily Exhibits F.I.P. (SREV) exhibitions. It will be necessary, of course, also change the Guidelines for the assessment of Maximaphily Exhibits in F.I.P. (Guidelines) exhibitions.

#### **40. RUSSIA** (Valery PETROV) *French version.*

- Presque 40 cartes-maximum des réalisations personnelles, sans compter CM "variantes", ont été créées en 2011 par les maximaphiles avec les timbres-poste de la Russie sur des cartes du commerce en conformité avec les règlements de la F.I.P. On peut y ajouter 11 CM faites avec les timbres commémoratifs découpés des entiers postaux.

- Deux CM correctes sont réalisées par la Poste de la Russie.

Au Concours mondial pour la meilleur CM de 2010 la Russie s'est présentée cette fois-ci avec une CM, réalisée par notre Service postale.

- Une collection de maximaphilie a été présentée à l'exposition philatélique nationale ; deux participations aux expositions non compétitives. Le livre «*Saint-Petersbourg en cartes-maximum*» de *Galina Tchudessova* a été montré aux expositions internationales *PHILANIPPON 2011* et *INDIPEX 2011*.

- 5 articles sur la maximaphilie ont été publiés dans les périodiques divers (4 – *Galina Tchudessova*). En outre elle a édité la version revue et corrigée de son livre susmentionné.

#### **RUSSIA** (Valery PETROV) *English version.*

-In 2011, there were about 40 Maximum Cards created by individual maximaphilists, without counting the "variantes" MC. These Maximum Cards used as support Russian commercial postcards, in accordance with the regulations of the F.I.P. In addition, there were 11 more Maximum Cards created using imprint stamps cut out from Postal Stationeries.

-Russian Posts created 2 correct Maximum Cards.

-Russia did participate in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card of the '*G. TITOV (1935-2000)-SOVIET COSMONAUT 2010 Year of the Tiger*' using. This Maximum Card was created by the Russian Posts using as support a Postal Stationery.

-One Maximaphily exhibit was presented at a National Exhibition, plus two entries at non competitive Exhibitions. The book "*Saint-Petersburg in Maximum Cards*" by *Galina Chudessova* was exhibited at the International Exhibitions *PHILANIPPON2011* and *INDIPEX 2011*.

-In 2011, there were 5 articles on Maximaphily published in various periodicals (4 by *Galina Chudessova*). In addition she published the revised (corrected) of her above-mentioned book.

#### **41. SERBIA** (Zlatimir MALJICA/Dr. Jovan VELICKOVIC)

In 2011 The PTT produced two MC with the stamp devoted to Physical Equality and to Karadjodje the leader of the uprising against the Turks in 1804, both face value 22 dinar, internal letter rate. The cards do not conform in all details to MC regulations.

Philatelists collectors prepared 54 more MC, excluding the first two mentioned, in amounts of about 50 to 100 each, according to regulations. There are about 35 active MC cards collectors in Serbia, most in Belgrade, some in Novi Sad, and several in other localities. Unfortunately in 2011 there was no chance for them to exhibit neither in the country or internationally.

The Union of Philatelists of Serbia has at the moment very limited funds and cannot support adequately the MC collectors activities.

#### **42. SINGAPORE** (Choh San Ye/ Richard Tan)

- Activity of creating Maximum Cards is picked up by several young students, they are able to utilise the many Free ad-cards which are best for the realisation of the MCs of the local thematics. Maximaphily is easy for these students to understand and collect. Some students express their views, to them, Maximaphily is a new trend of collecting stamp which is educational and MCs are simply beautiful to treasure as collectibles. There is a small group of Chinese Students probably have their influence from their natives, and actively realising MCs for the new issues. These foreign students find realisation MCs in Singapore is relatively easy as compared to their country which is so large to have the MCs sent around the post-offices to request for decent postmark cancellations. Yes, truly, Singapore is an ideal place to develop Maximaphily, and most of the new stamp issues can be realised as MCs.

For the year 2011, the following new stamps were realised as MCs : 1. *Year of the Rabbit* 2. *Singapore-Egypt joint issue* 3. *Small clawed otter* 4. *Spirit of giving* 5. *Pond life* 6. *Orchid* -altogether, about **48 various MCs** were realised with these new stamp issues. Among these, as usual the *Year of the Rabbit* attracted many Chinese Zodiac Collectors throughout the world - PR China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Macau, USA, Vietnam, Korea, Japan, Canada, Malaysia wrote in to request to realise "*The Year of the Rabbit*" MCs for them. Many variant postcards of the Rabbit poured in during the month of January/February 2011 and it was really a task to have these cards realised into MCs. It was fortunate for Singapore MC collectors to have various outlets to have these Rabbit MCs done, Rabbit pictorial postmarks could be available from the Post offices, Philatelic Museum and the best of all , 3 new cute and relevant Chinese New Year cancellations featuring a rabbit impression are available at the "*River Hongbao Chinese New Year Exhibition*" venue at The Float at Marina Bay.

Needless to mention, the *orchid* stamp issue gave the MC collectors a busy time to have their abundance of orchid postcards realised as MCs . As a National Flower, orchid appears on many postcards available on the street.

-Mr. *Leong Kwee Loon* - a committed local MC creator, although catching up in age, has slowed down in his usual mass creation of MCs for each new stamp issue, did submit relevant Singapore MCs for publication in the "*China Maximaphily*" journals.

-*Singpost* did NOT come up with any official MCs for the year 2011, however, during the year end , special gifts for the loyal customers do come in the form of a Maximum card like philatelic items with a picture card affixed with a 2011 theme related stamp, duly cancelled with a special pictorial postmark. The move by Singpost does promote the hobby of Maximaphily. Many other collectors were requesting to have these Maximaphily gifts SOLD to them.

-There is no specific Maximaphily exhibit put up by collectors, however, Maximum Cards do appear on pages of the thematic and youth exhibitors.

#### **43. SLOVAKIA** (Júlis Molnár/ Ing. Ján Gróf)

In 2011, there were 9 new Maximum Cards in Slovakia, 4 of them were realized by our Slovak Maximaphily Association, 3 such Cards were realized by Individuals and 2 correct Maximum Cards by the Postal Services. Our Postal Services also issued 2 non correct Maximum Cards, that lacked a visual concordance.

We organized an event led by *John Sambucus* explaining the steps for the best preparation of realizing new Maximum Cards. We also presented one lecture on Maximaphily.

In 2011, Slovakia did participate in the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card of the '*Gothic Madonna Of Lubica*' by the Master Pavol Z. Levoce, 16<sup>th</sup> cent. submitted by *Ján Gróf*. This Competition was for the first time posted on the official FIP Maximaphily Commission website and open for Voting to all National Delegates. Before, Slovakia's Delegate was rarely present at the location of Voting for this Competition and thus we had lost our chance to vote. Now every Delegate can Vote electronically.

#### **44. SLOVENIA** (Bojan BRACIC)

GENERAL COMMENTS/ MC REALIZATIONS:

- In the Slovenian Philatelic Association we do not have a special group or team for Maximaphily, but some Maximaphilists do exist.

- The Post of Slovenia has not issued any Maximum Cards for more than 10 years.

- I do not have exact information on how many maximum cards have been made from Slovene stamps in 2011, but I have recorded about fifteen **(15) Maximum Cards**;

in addition in 2011, the WWF issued 4 Maximum Cards on Slovenia's 'Stone Crayfish'.

. The major problem, that has risen up in the last two years, is the use of Personalised Stamps - by both individuals and many philatelic clubs or societies - in creating Maximum Cards.

These Personalised Stamps can be ordered by anyone at the Post of Slovenia.

Exhibiting: In Slovenia, there are five or six philatelists who have made exhibits from Maximum Cards, but only one of them took part in the intersociety exhibition FIMERA 2011 from May 26<sup>th</sup> to May 28<sup>th</sup> 2011. In the specialised one frame exhibition PetoOKno (The fifth window) two exhibits from Maximaphily were present. Maximum Cards are popular in Thematic Philately; all exhibits from this class in Slovenia also included them.

Articles: In *Nova filatelija* (New Philately), magazine of the Slovenian Philatelic Association, in nearly every number (four per year), I also publish an article about Maximum Cards and Maximaphily.

**BEST MAXIMUM WORLD COMPETITION:**

- In 2011, Slovenia did participate in the **Vote** for *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010*. This Competition was for the first time posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates.

#### **45. SPAIN** (Juan Antonio CASAS PAJARES) *Spanish version.*

-Me alegra comentar que se ven reproducciones de tarjetas máximas en muchos boletines y revistas de sociedades y prensa filatélicas. Los sellos personalizados han favorecido la realización de bonitas tarjetas máximas.

-Se siguen solicitando a miembros de esta comisión colecciones de maximofilia para distintas exposiciones filatélicas. Estas colecciones suelen interesar a los visitantes por el bonito conjunto que forman los sellos en las tarjetas postales y sus respectivos matasellos concordantes.

-Varios miembros de esta comisión han publicado interesantes artículos difundiendo varios aspectos y los reglamentos de la Maximofilia, en revistas de varias sociedades filatélicas.

-La página web de ASEMA [www.asemamaximofilia.com](http://www.asemamaximofilia.com) sigue siendo muy visitada por maximofilistas que pueden contemplar todas las tarjetas máximas realizadas por dicha asociación, han ampliado el espacio de la página web para continuar mostrando sus realizaciones. Tienen registradas digitalmente todos los números editados de su revista *Apuntes de Maximofilia*. Se pueden revisar los Reglamentos de la Maximofilia y obtener noticias de sus actividades.

-La Asociación Española de Maximofilia ha publicado este año los nº 41 y 42 de su revista *Apuntes de Maximofilia*, que sigue siendo muy demandada. Siguen haciendo una distribución amplia entre sociedades y directivos filatélicos nacionales y de otros países. Su publicación y distribución absorben la mayor parte de sus ingresos.

-Este año ASEMA ha realizado 46 tarjetas máximas que tienen muy buena acogida. . Varios miembros de esta comisión pertenecen a agrupaciones que se dedican a la realización de tarjetas máximas, tanto de los sellos emitidos por Correos como de sus peticiones de sellos personalizados, que siguen teniendo muy buena acogida por los filatélicos.

-Para fomentar la realización de tarjetas máximas entre sus socios ASEMA han realizado el concurso **“Las mejores tarjetas máximas realizadas por los socios de ASEMA en 2010”**. La iniciativa obtuvo una buena acogida por sus socios que enviaron sus realizaciones. El 1º Premio lo obtuvo “Gran Vía de Madrid” del socio nº 452 D. Pedro Pastor San Miguel, destacando su triple concordancia, con un matasello muy legible y bien situado, y un soporte de cierta antigüedad; 2º Premio “Jorge Luis Borges” de la socia argentina nº 438, y presidenta de la Comisión de Maximofilia de su país, Dña. Ana María Sansón Grosso, destacando la originalidad del sello, el soporte y el matasello alusivo con la firma de Borges; 3º

Premio "Congreso de los Diputados" repite el socio nº 452 D. Pedro Pastor San Miguel destacando el soporte antiguo y aun teniendo cancelación ordinaria, corresponde al primer día de emisión.

-El activo maximofilista D. José Palma Azúa ha sido distinguido con el merecido nombramiento de **"FILATÉLICO ANDALUZ DEL AÑO 2010"** por la Federación Andaluza de Filatelia, mediante votación de las sociedades filatélicas que pertenecen a dicha federación. Tras muchos años de trabajo con su colección "El Arte Arquitectónico en Europa busca la Divinidad" ha obtenido medalla de vermeil grande con 88 puntos en la Mundial de Málaga de 2006 y variosoros nacionales. Este nombramiento ha sido acogido por esta comisión con gran satisfacción.

La Maximofilia ha estado presente en las siguientes exposiciones. -*MOSTRA FILATÉLICA 2011, en Vila Real de Santo Antonio (Portugal); EXPOSICIÓN FILATÉLICA 2011, en Faro (Portugal); EXPOSICIÓN FILATÉLICA DE SEMANA SANTA, en Avilés; PHILAFEST 2011, Villa General Belgrado (Argentina); VI EXPOSICIÓN FILATÉLICA, en Moncofense; XX EXPOSICIÓN FILATÉLICA, NUMISMÁTICA Y DE COLECCIONISMO "MONTILLA 2011", en Montilla; "EXFILCOR 2011", en Córdoba; EXFILNA 2011, en Valladolid; XXI CICLO CULTURAL DE EXPOSICIONES, en Chiclana. VII EXPOSICIÓN BINACIONAL ARGENTINA-ARMENIA, en Argentina. EXPOSICIÓN FILATÉLICA MANISES, en Manises. XI EXPOSICIÓN FILATÉLICA REGIONAL DE LA COMUNIDAD VALENCIANA, en Valencia. EXIBAR 2011, en Éibar.*

### **SPAIN English version**

-I am pleased to report that in many Philatelic newsletters and magazines and newspapers there are reproductions of Maximum Cards. The use of Personalized stamps favors the realization of beautiful Maximum Cards.

-The organizers of various philatelic exhibitions are asking members of this Maximaphily Association to exhibit their collections. These collections are of interest to visitors for the beautiful balance they achieve with the stamps on the postcards and their concordant postmark.

-Several members of our Association have published interesting articles and disseminating various aspects Maximaphily regulations in journals of various philatelic societies.

-The website of ASEMA [www.asemamaximofilia.com](http://www.asemamaximofilia.com) is frequently visited by Maximaphilists and Philatelists in general. There you can view all the Best Maximum Cards created by our Association. We have expanded the area of the website to continue to show the accomplishments of our members. Every new issue of our Maximaphily Journal is digitally edited. You can also review the Maximaphily Regulations and get news of our activities.

-Maximaphily The Spanish Association has published this year No. 41 and 42 of its Maximaphily Journal, which is always in high demand. There is still a wide distribution among national philatelic societies and managers and elsewhere. Publication and distribution account for the bulk of their income.

-This year ASEMA has made **46 Maximum Cards** that were very well received. Several members of this committee belong to groups that are dedicated to achieving the realization of good Maximum Cards, using both Stamps issued by the Post and Custom Stamps, which are also very well received by philatelists.

-To promote realization of Maximum Cards among ASEMA partners, we have started the Competition "*The best maximum cards made by ASEMA partners in 2010.*" The initiative was well received by its members who sent in their best realizations. The **1st prize** went to "*Gran Vía of Madrid*" partner D. No 452 Peter Shepherd San Miguel, highlighting the triple line, with a postmark very readable and well located, and a holder of a certain age, **2nd Prize** "*Jorge Luis Borges*" from a member from Argentina No. 438, and president of the Commission Maximaphily in her country, *Ms. Ana Maria Samson Grosso*, highlighting the originality of the stamp, postmark support and alluding to the signing of Borges, **3rd Prize** "*Congress of Deputies*" repeats the partner D. No 452 San Miguel Pastor Peter media highlighting the ancient and still having regular cancellation corresponds to the first day of issue.

-The well known maximaphilist *D. José Palma de Azua* has been honored with the well deserved title of "*ANDALUZ PHILATELIST OF THE YEAR 2010*" by the Andalusian Federation of Philately, by a vote of philatelic societies belonging to the federation. After many years of working with his collection "*The Architectural Art in Europe for the Divine*" he achieved a Large Vermeil medal with 88 points in the 2006 World Malaga Exhibition and several National Gold medals. This award has been welcomed by our Association with great satisfaction.

Maximaphily was present at the following exhibitions:

*PHILATELIC MOSTRA 2011, in Vila Real de Santo Antonio (Portugal); Philatelic Exhibition 2011, in Faro (Portugal); EASTER Philatelic Exhibition, in Avilés; PHILAFEST 2011, Villa General Belgrade (Argentina); VI Philatelic Exhibition in Moncofense; Philatelic Exhibition XX, numismatics and COLLECTIBLES "MONTILLA 2011", in Montilla; "EXFILCOR 2011", in Córdoba; EXFILNA 2011, at Valladolid CULTURAL EXHIBITION CYCLE XXI in Chiclana; EXPOSURE-VII ARGENTINA ARMENIA BINATIONAL (Argentina); MANISES Philatelic Exhibition in Manises; XI REGIONAL Philatelic Exhibition Valencia, in Valencia. and EXIBAR 2011 in Eibar.*

-In 2011, Spain participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card of the '*FIFA World Cup in Football*' submitted by ASEMA.

For the first time, this Competition is been posted in the Commission's Website with 59 participations. Again for the first time the Voting is done electronically.

#### **46. SWITZERLAND (Willy MONNET) French version.**

-L'année 2011 fut nettement moins riche en réalisations que les années précédentes. En effet, leur nombre s'est élevé à 21 seulement, soit un peu moins de la moitié des timbres émis, alors que les années passées on atteignait facilement les deux tiers. Cette diminution a pour explication la disparition progressive des petites maisons suisses d'éditions de cartes illustrées, la prolifération des cartes à vues multiples et des cartes doubles au détriment des cartes illustrées traditionnelles, ainsi que le nombre en augmentation de timbres-poste dont la représentation graphique relève de l'art abstrait ou du symbolisme.

-L'assemblée générale annuelle qui a eu lieu à mi-février à Genève, a réuni en majorité des membres proches géographiquement du siège social, mais il faut relever qu'un membre suisse alémanique et un autre membre romand avaient fait le déplacement.

Outre les questions administratives habituelles cette rencontre a permis aux participants de choisir la carte-maximum 2010 pour la participation au Concours international de la meilleure carte-maximum, d'avoir des échanges au sujet de la recherche de cartes illustrées afin de réaliser des variantes à celles proposées par l'AMS, ainsi que sur les dispositions relatives à l'élaboration d'une collection à présenter lors d'expositions philatéliques.

-En ce qui concerne l'effectif des membres, nous avons enregistré au cours du premier trimestre de 2011 le retrait de l'Association portugaise de maximaphilie, et en fin d'exercice celle d'un membre suisse pour raison d'âge, et d'un autre membre européen.

-En ce qui concerne le domaine de la "publicité", nous avons à nouveau envoyé un exemplaire de notre Rapport d'exercice annuel aux groupements philatéliques de la Suisse romande, ainsi qu'aux personnes, associations et sociétés avec lesquelles nous avons eu des relations en cours d'année principalement lors des recherches de cartes illustrées pour effectuer nos différentes réalisations. En outre nous avons continué à faire paraître deux articles dans les dix numéros annuels du Bulletin du Club philatélique et aéropostal de Genève, soit à chaque fois la présentation de nouvelles cartes-maximum, ainsi qu' une période de l'histoire de la Suisse illustrée d'une ou deux cartes-maximum. En outre, dans le Bulletin trimestriel "Rhône Philatélie" de l'Entente philatélique Valais - Haut Léman distribué à une vingtaine de clubs philatéliques de la Suisse Romande nous avons également présenté plusieurs de nos réalisations.

-La participation à des expositions philatéliques, compétitives ou non, fut la suivante:

Thonon-Les-Bains, Fête du Timbre, Exposition départementale, 26 - 27 février 2011

- Monnet Willy, "*L'Aéronautique en maximaphilie*", Grand Argent.

- Ramillon Jean-Pierre, "*Rencontre avec le monde animal dans son milieu naturel*", Bronze-Argent  
Lugano 2011, Exposition Rang II, 6 – 8 mai 2011

- Boucher Emmanuel, "*Les monuments historiques en Ile de France*", Rubis.

- Monnet Willy, "*L'Aéronautique en maximaphilie*", Vermeil.

Thorens-Glières, 11ème Challenge Piémont /Vallée d'Aoste /Savoie, 17/ 18 sept. 2011

- Ramillon Jean-Pierre, "*Evolution du monde animal*", Bronze-Argent.

Valence 2011, Salon national de philatélie (non compétitif), 14 -16 octobre 2011

- Monnet Willy, "*Le langage des plantes*".

- Ramillon Jean-Pierre, "*Evolution du monde animal*".



Sierre, Journée du Timbre 2011, Exposition de degré III, 9 - 11 décembre 2011

- Boucher Emmanuel, "*La gastronomie au fil des régions*", Rubis
- Monnet Willy, "*Le langage des plantes*", Vermeil
- Ramillon Jean-Pierre, "*Evolution du monde animal*", Vermeil PH

-Il est certain que les conditions actuelles pour procéder à des réalisations ou pour trouver de nouveaux membres afin d'assurer la relève s'avèrent nettement moins favorables qu'il y a une quinzaine d'années, mais nous restons cependant confiants.

**SWITZERLAND** *English version*

-The year 2011 was significantly less rich in achievements than in previous years. Indeed, their number of Maximum Cards created amounted to 21 only, which is a little less than half of the issued stamps, while the previous years it was easily two-thirds. This decrease was the gradual disappearance of the small publishers of Swiss of illustrated postcards, the proliferation of multiple views cards and double cards, as well as the number on the increase of postage stamps which the graphic representation of art abstract or symbolism for explanation.

-The annual general meeting which took place in mid-February in Geneva, brought together most of the geographically close members of the headquarters, but it must be observed that a German-speaking Swiss member and another Roand speaking Member did travel to Geneva to attend this meeting.

In addition to the usual administrative issues this meeting allowed participants to choose the 2010 Swiss Maximum Card for participation in the International Competition for the Best Maximum Card, to exchange information on finding appropriate postcards to make *variantes* MC's to those proposed by the AMS, as well as on the provisions relating on what maximaphily collections to present in philatelic exhibitions.

-With regard to the number of members, the withdrawal of the Portuguese Association of maximaphily, and year-end were recorded in the first quarter of 2011 a Swiss Member for reason of age, and another European Member.

-With regard to the field of "advertising", we again sent a copy of our report of annual exercise to philatelic groups of the French-speaking Switzerland, as well as the individuals, associations and societies with which we have had relations during the year primarily in the research of cards shown to our different accomplishments. In addition we continued to publish two articles in ten annual issues of the *Philatelic Club newsletter* and *AMF Geneva*, each time either with the presentation of new Maximum Cards or a period in the Swiss history illustrated with one or two Maximum Cards. In addition, in the quarterly newsletter "*Rhône Philately*" of the agreement philatelic Valais - top Geneva distributed to 20 philatelic clubs of the French-speaking Switzerland, we have also presented several of our achievements.

-Participation in exhibitions philatelic, competitive or not, was the following:

Thonon-Les-Bains, day of stamp, departmental, exhibition 26-27 February 2011

-Monnet Willy, "*Aeronautics in Maximaphily*", Large Silver medal.

- Ramillon Jean-Pierre, "*An encounter with the animal world in its natural environment*", Silver Bronze.

Lugano 2011, exhibition place II, 6-8 May 2011

-Boucher Emmanuel, "*The historic monuments of Ile de France*", Ruby.

-Monnet Willy, "*Aeronautics in Maximaphily*", Vermeil.

Thorens-Glières, 11th Challenge Piedmont Valley of Aosta Savoie, 17 / 18 sept. 2011

-Jean-Ramillon Pierre, "*Evolution of the animal world*", Silver Bronze medal.

Valencia 2011, national (non-competitive) Philately fair, 14-16 October 2011

-Monnet Willy, "*The language of plants*".

-Ramillon Jean-Pierre, "*Evolution of the animal world*".

Sierre, day of stamp 2011, exhibition of degree III, 9-11 December 2011

-Boucher Emmanuel, "*gastronomy over the regions*", Ruby

-Monnet Willy, "*The language of plants*", Vermeil

-Ramillon Jean-Pierre, "*Evolution of the animal world*", Vermeil PH

-It is certain that the conditions for increasing our membership are significantly less favourable than a 15 years ago, however we remain optimistic.

#### **47. THAILAND** (Weerawat Bongkotkorn)

Thai Collectors rely only Maximum card which issued by Thailand Post. Thailand Post has not issued any new Maximum Card since a quit long time.

In addition, they sold old stock of Maximum Cards at only 1/4 of regular price by promotion in Stamp Shows. This was due lack of interest in Maximaphily by Thai Collectors.

There is no any activity in Maximaphily in Thailand.

In 2011, Thailand did participate in the *2011 Best Maximum Card World Competition*, with the Maximum Card 'ROYAL BARGES 'SUBUNNAHONG' created by *Ye Choh San*.

#### **48. UKRAINE** (Veslav SAVIN)

Report of the Ukraine Association "*Kartmaximoum*" for the year 2011

In 2011, Individual Maximaphilists created Maximum Cards for the following topics:

Steam Locomotives, Fauna and Art.

Participation in Exhibitions: the exhibit '*Ukraine through Maximum Cards*' participated in two exhibitions, '*Odessa 2011*' National level and '*Ivano-Frankivsk 2011*' Regional level.

The International level maximaphily exhibit: "*La peinture francaise pendant les XII - XX siècles*" is steadily improving..

#### **49. UNITED KINGDOM** (*Great Britain*) (Christine A. EARLE)

- Maximaphily in the UK has a limited following as the almost sole interest in Maximum cards is their inclusion in the Thematic Philately Class. Unfortunately we do not have the Maximaphily Class included in our Regional or National competitions, and so there is very little chance for the UK collectors, that do not travel abroad to visit the international exhibitions, to see or experience Maximaphily. Unless the APBS adopts Maximaphily as a Class in the National Competitions (very unlikely) unfortunately I cannot see this situation changing. Perhaps the introduction of the Open Class will ignite a future interest; we may hope this will be so.

- There is a certain number of collectors that are creating their own maximum cards. In particular there is a very active Philatelist/Dealer, with worldwide connections and exchanges, who is creating excellent Maximum Cards for most of the new stamp issues. He provides well in advance information on the web (text and visual) on the upcoming stamp issues and most importantly copies of upcoming pictorial cancellations. This information, plus his cooperation with his correspondents and in particular his in depth knowledge of Maximaphily rules, enable him to create some unique MC's, with concordant triple cancellations.

-In 2011, there were about **50 Maximum Cards** created including 'variantes' as follows:

*British Royalty (House of Hannover)* 3 MC's; *The Crown Jewel*, 6 MC's; *London Sites(Windsor Castle, Tower of London)* 3 MC's; *British Sites A-Z, part 1* 12 MC's; *WWF for Nature Wildlife* 10 MC's; *Garden Birds* 4 MC's; *Water Birds* 6 MC's; *Sea Birds* 6 MC's.

-The United Kingdom participated in the World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010; with the Maximum Card '*Mountain Biking*' submitted by *F. Brian Sole*. For the first time this *Competition* was posted on our Maximaphily Commission Website under *Events*.

#### **50. UNITED STATES** (Terry WATSON)

- With the reorganization and restructuring of the North American Maximum Card Study Unity in 2010, MACSU was resurrected. In 2011 MACSU took the next steps toward growth by beginning once again to publish a quarterly journal. Four quarterly E-Journals were published in 2011 and were distributed at no cost to known maximum card collectors and the Presidents of the various maximum card clubs around the world. For the first time, issues of *The Quarterly Journal of MACSU* were published in color.

-All maximum cards realized in the United States are collector-made as MACSU does not produce maximum cards, nor has the US Postal Service produced cards in decades. Most maximaphilists in the United States realize only a small number of USPS cards for their personal collection and maybe a few duplicates for trade or selling on Ebay. However, one collector from the United States realized **79**

\_\_\_\_\_ from the 2011 USPS stamp issues, several in multiples of 50 cards, for a total of over one-thousand United States cards realized in 2011.

-The United States did participate in the *2010 Best Maximum Card World Competition* by entering a Maximum Card depicting '*BOYS IN PASTURE*' (1874) a painting by Winslow Homer (1838-1910) This MC was created by Sun Yu Ng, having a special cancellation of Portland ME the painter's hometown. on the painters.

-Next year, as we work toward our goal of increasing awareness of Maximaphily, United States collectors are making plans to have a presence in at least one National Stamp Show and to have a Maximum Card Exhibit at such a Show.

#### **51. VENEZUELA** (Ignacio MARTINELLO)

-A few Maximum Cards have been realized by myself.

-No Maximaphily Exhibit could be organized. We do not dispose, as yet, of the necessary frames for any Philatelic Exhibition. Anyway, for the time being, we are using the frames at our Headquarters for exhibition of short duration.

-At our weekly meeting in our headquarters, the Maximaphily Class is always present.

-In our bulletin "*Gaceta Filatélica*", N° 183 (Oct/Dec.2010), a thorough article was dedicated to the *PORTUGAL 2010 World Exhibition*; in it the Maximaphily subject was dealt with as it was deserving. Some more articles are being prepared for the current year.

-Our Postal Administration *Ipostel* produces Postal Cards for most of philatelic issues; unfortunately, many are not suitable for MCs, as they do not agree with the regulations.

-We are trying our best to keep an interest for Maximaphily alive among our friends and Association's members.

-In 2011, we participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2010* with the Maximum Card '*MANUELA LA LIBETADORA*' created by *Ignacio Martinello*.

#### **Closing remarks:**

- We extend our cordial thanks to the energetic *Nicos Rangos*, former Chairman of Maximaphily for his advice and support in all matters.

- We are looking forward to continue receiving the support, cooperation and friendly approach from the FIP President *Tay Peng Hian* and from the Director responsible for Maximaphily *Bernard Beston*, for the benefit of the continuous progress our Maximaphily Class and for the benefit of Philately in general.

George Constantourakis  
*Chairman*

Anny BOYARD  
*Secretary*