



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE PHILATÉLIE

Commission for Maximaphily

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To:

THE FIP PRESIDENT MR. TAY PENG HIAN
THE VICE-PRESIDENTS AND DIRECTORS OF THE FIP BOARD
THE FIP SECRETARY GENERAL
THE DELEGATES OF THE FIP MAXIMAPHILY COMMISSION

2013 World Maximaphily Activity Report

Same number of National Delegates to FIP Maximaphily Commission

47	50	51	52	54	57
2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
60	61	62	62	62	
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	

Same number of countries participating in our World Maximaphily Activity Report

21	30	36	43	46	49
2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
49	49	51	51	51	
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	

Same number of countries participating in our World Competition for the Best Maximum Card

18	26	31	34	37	40
2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
45	53	59	60	60	
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	

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 2013. Their efforts are very much appreciated.

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

ALBANIA	CYPRUS	IRAN	NETHERLANDS	SINGAPORE
ARMENIA	CZECH Rep.	ISRAEL	NEW ZEALAND	SLOVAKIA
AUSTRALIA	DENMARK &Area	ITALY & Area	NORWAY	SLOVENIA
AUSTRIA	ESTONIA	JAPAN	PHILIPPINES	SPAIN
BELGIUM	FINLAND	KOREA Rep.(South)	POLAND	SWEDEN
BRAZIL	FRANCE	LIECHTENSTEIN	PORTUGAL	SWITZERLAND
BULGARIA	GERMANY	LUXEMBOURG	QATAR	THAILAND
CANADA	GREAT BRITAIN	MALAYSIA	ROMANIA	TURKEY
CHINESE TAIPEI	GREECE	MALTA	RUSSIA	UKRAINE
CROATIA	ICELAND	MONTENEGRO	SERBIA	U.S.A.
				VENEZUELA

FIP Maximaphily Commission Bureau's Activities throughout the year 2013.

The Bureau was quite active throughout this period. There was a close cooperation between the Chairman, all Bureau Members and in particular with *Mme A. Boyard* (Bureau Member) and *Mr. N. Rangos* (former Chairman).

- We kept constantly upgrading our contact info leading to greater facility to communicate.
- We kept in constant contact with every Delegate either requesting their National Activity Report or sending out official communications, plus sending our annual World Activity Report.
- We kept updating our own FIP Maximaphily Commission website with the most recent information, with emphasis on the Reports, Competitions and Links.
- We made power point presentations regarding the '*Judging Maximaphily*' and '*Recognizing Fake Maximum Cards*' at FIP, National and Regional level Exhibitions.
- We have communicated to all our Delegates the **new regulations** '*Amendments to the SREV and Guidelines on Personalized Stamps and other points*', that were adopted in Jakarta and approved by the FIP Board in Rio de Janeiro.
- During this period, we 've posted on our Commission website the *2012 World Competition for the 3 Best Maximum Cards* with 60 participations in each Competition.
- We 've carried out electronically the Voting for the *World Competition of the 3 Best Maximum Cards* by having the official Delegates email their Voting Papers to both the Chairman and the *Mme Anny Boyard* (Bureau Member).

Main Maximaphily Events of 2013

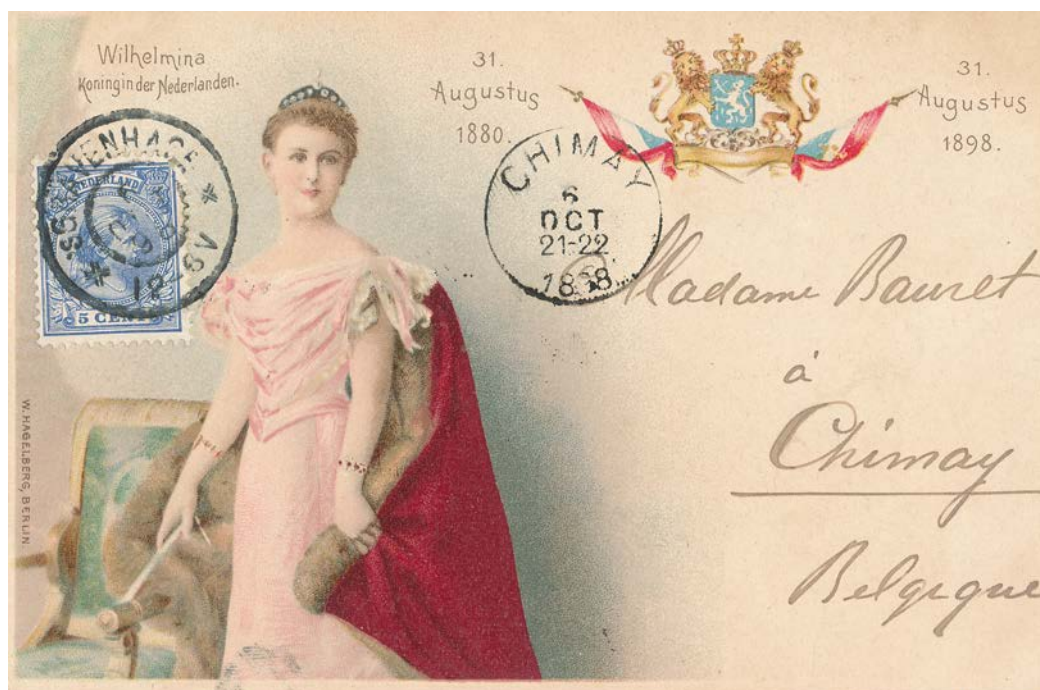
1st.- Approval of the *Amendments to the SREV and Guidelines*

On November 23, 2013, the FIP Board **approved** at its Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, our proposed: *Amendments to the SREV and Guidelines on Personalized Stamps and other points*. These *Amendments* had first been adopted by all the Delegates attending the *FIP Maximaphily Commission Conference* in Jakarta, on June 22, 2012. Following the request by *Mr. Beston* for a more clear and simple definition, paragraph 3.1, on both the SREV & Guidelines, was re-worded. After consultation, it was accepted by the Bureau Members of the FIP Maximaphily Commission, on November 9, 2013.

2nd.- *POSTEX 2013 Nat. Phil. Exhibition in Apeldoorn, Netherlands*

During 2013, there were many Regional, National and Multinational Maximaphily Exhibitions particularly in Europe. The one that stands out the most was that of *POSTEX 2013* National Philatelic Exhibition (October 18-20) in Apeldoorn, Netherlands. This Exhibition celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the Dutch Association "*Pro Juventute and Maximaphily*". As part of this National Exhibition, they had a large non-competitive Maximaphily Exhibition of 80 frames with 50 top frames of well-known European

Maximaphily collectors. Dutch exhibitors contributed 30 Maximaphily frames. The highlight among the Dutch Exhibits was *Ronald van der Leeden's* beautiful exhibit of 'Classical Maximum Cards from the period 1898 -1930', in particular important people such as royalty, presidents etc. (see image below of one of the earliest known circulated Dutch Maximum Cards of *Queen Wilhelmina*, sent on Oct.6, 1898 from *Gravenhage*, Netherlands to *Chimay*, Belgium with both departure and arrival cancellations and using as support a Postcard with an undivided back).



Maximaphily Seminars/Workshops at FIP Exhibitions

- On May 13, 2013, at the *AUSTRALIA 2013 World Stamp Exhibition* in Melbourne, *George Constantourakis* (Chairman of the Commission) made a presentation on 'Judging Maximaphily' and on 'Recognizing Fake Maximum Cards'. These presentations were followed by a very vivid discussion both on the Regulations and also on the Forgeries issue, with Bulgaria's Delegate offering further explanations on this very important issue.

On Nov. 23, 2013, at the *BRASILIANA 2013 World Stamp Exhibition* in Rio de Janeiro, *Nicos Rangos* (Former Chairman of the Commission) made a presentation on 'The Beautiful World of Maximaphily'. This presentation was the highlight of Maximaphily for the Brazilian Maximaphilists at *Brasiliana 2013*. It was seen by them as an excellent opportunity to understand the rules of Maximaphily and to learn how to mount good Maximaphily Exhibits.

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

Maximaphily Exhibits at FIP Exhibitions

In May 2013, at *AUSTRALIA 2013* in Melbourne, there were 6 Maximaphily Exhibits and 1 such Exhibit in Youth Class.

In Aug. 2013, at *THAILAND 2013* in Bangkok, there were 3 Maximaphily Exhibits.

In Nov. 2013, at *BRASILIANA 2013*, in Rio de Janeiro, there were 8 Maximaphily Exhibits.

National Maximaphily Websites

We kept updating the list of Maximaphily Websites. These sites are reaching an ever growing number of collectors. The most thorough in content website is that of the '*Maximaphiles Francais*' with a following

of 400 00 visitors. It was recently redesigned aiming at modernization and simplification. It is easily accessible to tablets, smartphones and other mobile devices through the “QRCode”:

There other many other such sites, in particular sites from certain countries have in depth content e.g. Romania, Spain, Italy to name a few. When visiting many of these sites, you can see all the Maximum Cards made by those Association and some record digitally their Journals. Certain sites have even introduced a translator.

World Competition of the Best Maximum Card

During this period, the the *10th World Competition for the three Best Maximum Cards created in 2012*' was posted on our Website www.maximaphily.info This Competition was open for Voting to all our official Delegates. The Voting was done electronically over a 30 days period. The official Delegates had to send in by email their Voting Papers with their Choices to both the Chairman and the most experienced Bureau Member Mme *Anny Boyard*. If a Country Vote was sent only to the Chairman, it was automatically forwarded to Mme *A. Boyard* to ensure the integrity and security of the Vote. The Chairman was in charge of recording and constanly updating the Vote Results, as soon as they were received. Mme *Anny Boyard* was in charge of verifying the Vote Results by checking every Vote received. For this Competition, we followed the new regulation, that is it will NOT be allowed to vote for your own country. This major Voting change was formally approved by our Delegates at the Jakarta Meeting of the Commission on June 22, 2012. 60 countries participated in the 2012 Competition. These Competitions have proven to be very popular among our members and they serve in promoting the creation of Maximum Cards of high quality. Certain Maximaphily Associations are starting to conduct their own National Competition for the Best Maximum Card created in the year.

WORLD COMPETITION RESULTS of the 3 BEST MAXIMUM CARDS created in 2012

1st Prize (66 points)	2nd Prize (57 points)	3rd Prize (51 points)
AUSTRIA	RUSSIA	BRAZIL
<i>Peter Riedl</i>	<i>Valery Petrov</i>	<i>Aluisio Oliveira de Queiroga</i>

Results of 10th World Competition for the Best Maximum Card created in 2012

In this *10th World Competition for the three Best Maximum Cards created in 2012*, there were **60 participating countries**, there were **42 Votes** cast by Delegates and **43 countries** received a Vote.

1st Prize went to **AUSTRIA** (66 points) for the Maximum Card of 'FRIETZA RIEDLER', 1906 painting by *Gustav Klimt*. Postcard is published by the Österreichische Galerie Belvedere, Vienna. The First Day cancellation of Wien (Vienna) has a special mention '*GUSTAV KLIMT*' and a concordant illustration (triple). The stamp was issued for the 150th Birth Anniversary of *Gustav Klimt* 1862-1918. This Maximum Card was created by **Peter Riedl**.

2nd Prize went to **RUSSIA** (57 points) for the Maximum Card of the 'ARCHTECTORAL ENSEMBLE OF THE HOLY ST. TRINITY SERGIUS LAVRA, SERGIEV- POSAD'. The *Trinity Lavra of St. Sergius* was founded in 1345. It is the most important Russian monastery and the spiritual center of the Russian Orthodox Church, situated in the town of *Sergiyev Posad*, about 70 km NE of Moscow and currently is home to over 300 monks. The postcard is support is an official '*Marka*' Postal Stationary, nr. 2010 – 198/1. The First Day cancellation of Sergei-Posad has a special mention '*World Cultural Heritage in Russia – Trinity-Sergius Lavra*' and a concordant illustration (triple). The stamp was issued to publicize World Cultural Heritage Sites in Russia. This Maximum Card was created by **Valery Petrov**.

3rd Prize went to **BRAZIL** (51 points) for the Maximum Card of the 'SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN CABLE CAR'. The postcard is published by the Edicio Schmittstamps 2012. The First Day cancellation of Rio de Janeiro has a special mention '*Centenario do Bondino do Pão de Açúcar*' and a

concordant illustration (triple). This strip of 2 stamps was issued for the Centenary of the Sugarloaf Mountain Cable Car. This Maximum Card was created by *Aluisio Oliveira de Queiroga*.

Approx. Number of Maximum Cards created in 2013

During 2013, about **1500** different Maximum Cards were created worldwide by the National Maximaphily Associations, local clubs or individuals. Congratulations to the **NETHERLANDS** for gaining the TOP Delegate with **102** Maximum Card creations. In addition, the Postal Services of certain countries occasionally produce MC's. These are not included, as well as those MC created by unknown individuals. Unfortunately availability of this very important information is not obtainable.

About **1500** Maximum Cards created in 2013:

THE NETHERLANDS ON TOP

COUNTRY	MC	COUNTRY	MC	COUNTRY	MC	COUNTRY	MC	COUNTRY	MC
ALBANIA	?	CYPRUS	20	IRAN	6	NETHERLANDS	102	SINGAPORE	?
ARMENIA	11	CZECH Rep.	37	ISRAEL	31	NEW ZEALAND	?	SLOVAKIA	4
AUSTRALIA	14	DENMARK	34	ITALY	93	NORWAY	22	SLOVENIA	14
AUSTRIA	15	ESTONIA	7	JAPAN	?	PHILIPPINES	1	SPAIN	45
BELGIUM	68	FINLAND	10	KOREA Rep.	?	POLAND	26	SWEDEN	9
BRAZIL	73	FRANCE	94	LIECHTENSTEIN	30	PORTUGAL	91	Switzerland	39
BULGARIA	31	GERMANY	28	LUXEMBOURG	24	QATAR	?	THAILAND	?
CANADA	38	GREAT BRITAIN	43	MALAYSIA	22	ROMANIA	94	TURKEY	?
CHINESE TAIPEI	45	GREECE	22	MALTA	6	RUSSIA	35	UKRAINE	27
CROATIA	14	ICELAND	3	MONTENEGRO	1	SERBIA	43	U.S.A.	100
								VENEZUELA	?

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

- To publicise through workshops, articles and CD Rom's the new regulations adopted in Jakarta and approved by the FIP Board in Rio, regarding the specific criteria in using *Personalized Stamps* to create valid Maximum Cards.
- 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 encourage National Maximaphily Ass. in the direction of promoting Youth Maximaphily.
- 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 request from FIP member countries the appointment of **active** Delegates to our Commission.
- To introduce and promote Maximaphily in the countries where it is not well known.
- To offer to 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 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.

Inclusion of all FIP Classes:

- 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.

- We are pleased to note that Maximaphily Exhibits at FIP Exhibitions are starting to appear more frequently than before e.g. at “*Australia 2013*” there were 6 Maximaphily Exhibits; at “*Thailand 2013*” there were 3 such Exhibits and at “*Brasiliana 2013*” there were 8 such Exhibits.

- The inclusion of All Classes at FIP Exhibitions 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.

Judging:

- 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.

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

SUMMARIES of 2013 NATIONAL REPORTS (of 14 selected countries)

In most European countries Maximaphily is well rooted, foremost in *France*, then the *Be-Ne-Lux* countries, *Spain & Portugal, Greece & Cyprus, Italy & Switzerland, Poland* and in particular in *Romania*. Outside Europe the two countries with the most activities are *Brazil* and in particular *Chinese Taipei*.

Reading this Summary and then all the National Reports we note the major Activities undertaken. We also are obliged to draw your attention to certain major Issues raised by certain countries such as *France* and in particular *Cyprus* and *Chinese Taipei*.

BRAZIL

- There were **73** new different Maximum Cards were created with Brazilian stamps issued in 2013 and 13 different MC's issued by Brazil Post (Correios), all are according to the FIP Maximaphily rules.

- The following 10 articles on Maximaphily were published in Philatelic Journals: "*Christmas's MC*"; "*The Best FIP's 2011 MC and Brazil's 2012 MC*"; "*The legacy of Raymundo Galvão de Queiroz*"; "*MC with more than one stamp*"; "*The first Brazilian's MC's*"; "*Who thinks he has everything...*"; "*The Fernando de Noronha islands*"; "*Religion's MC*"; "*Maximaphily in Brasiliana 2013 Expo*".

- The Activities of our Brazilian Maximaphily Club were: 130 associates (12 new members joined in 2013). The Newsletter was distributed on 16 Brazilian States and 8 foreign countries.

- Brazil participated in the non-competitive Nat. Philatelic Exhibition *Expofinter 2013*, in *Campinas*.

- At the World FIP Expo '*Brasiliana 2013*' in Rio de Janeiro, our country was represented by two collections with five frames each. Despite having a reduced participation compared to other classes (only There were 8 exhibits in Maximaphily Class), our country wasn't outside, being represented by two collections with five frames each. If it lacked exhibitors from countries where Maximafilia is strong, e.g. Portugal, France, Spain etc... we could see the collection "*History of Maximaphily 1872-1940*" by *George Constantourakis*, of Canada, which was the winner of the class. His collection on the History of Maximafilia is a real class of early Maximaphilty from around the world.

- In 2013, Brazil's Entry at the *World Competition of the Best MC created in 2012* the '*SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN CABLE CAR*', created by *Aluisio Oliveira de Queiroga*, won the **3rd Prize** with 51 points.

CANADA

- In Canada, Maximaphily is followed by a limited number of collectors, who on occasion create their own Maximum Cards. Most of these are very good Maximum Cards, having (temporary event) concordant cancellations. However, we have a dealer who creates MC using as support self-made poor quality postacdrds. We have to try and change this situation. Maximum Cards are becoming ever more acceptable to both exhibitors and certain judges. Maximum Cards are shown ever more frequently in Topical

Exhibits. In addition there are many high caliber Postcard Exhibits in regional shows. It is to these collectors that we have focus and expose them to Maximum Card collecting.

- Exhibitions: There were 3 Maximaphily Exhibits presented by *G. Constantourakis* at the following 3 exhibitions:

At the *AUSTRALIA 2013* in Melbourne, '*Greco-Roman Sculpture*' (8 frames), receiving a Large Vermeil.

At the *BRASILIANA 2013* in Rio, '*The History of Maximaphily*' (8 frames), receiving a Large Vermeil.

At the *CALTAPEX 2013 Regional Philatelic Exhibition* in Calgary, Alberta, '*The History of Maximaphily*' (8 frames), at the Court of Honor receiving a Gold.

- Seminars: At the *AUSTRALIA 2013* in Melbourne, on May 13, 2013, *George Constantourakis*, had a presentation on '*Judging Maximaphily*' and on '*Recognizing Fake Maximum Cards*'. These presentations were followed by a very vivid discussion, with many pointed questions, from the very engaged maximaphilists present.

At the *CALTAPEX 2013 Regional Philatelic Exhibition* in Calgary, Alberta, on October 19, 2013 *George Constantourakis*, made a presentation on '*Judging Maximaphily*' and on '*Recognizing Fake Maximum Cards*'. The aim was to initiate philatelists into this little known Class of Maximaphily.

CHINESE TAIPEI

- *Chinese Taipei Maximaphily Ass.* publish a monthly bulletin and a tri-monthly journal of "*Chinese Taipei Maximaphily*" with original maximaphily related articles and color images. The effort in the production of bulletin and journal solely dedicated to Maximaphily is one major activity of the society which is unprecedented locally or perhaps abroad. Since its establishment in 1998, Chinese Taipei Maximaphily Association has been very active in the promotion of the hobby regionally and internationally.

- In 2013, the Association managed to publish the award winning collection entitled "**Hats**" by *Chih-Ping Chu*. The aim of this publication is to serve as a guide to many maximaphilist in the preparation and organisation of a competitive exhibit. Mr. *Chu* also had a Maximaphily presentation entitled "*The preparation and write up on the HATS maximaphily exhibit*".

- Taiwan's Annual National Exhibition '*Rocupex'13 Taipei*' attracted 7 Maximaphily Exhibits, their results are as follows: 1 LV+SP, 1V, 2 LS, 2S, 1SB.

- Between June 6-16, 2013 a specialized Maximaphily Exhibition was held at *Gaoshiung* with a total of 20 frames of exhibits. A temporary post was set up at the venue providing with a special "*mandarin duck*" illustrated cancellation. Members were glad to realise beautiful MCs with these thematic cancellations.

- In 2013, notably Taiwan had NOT sent any maximaphily exhibits to participate in any of the international philatelic exhibitions. It was widely told that there was prejudice against maximaphily exhibits in these international events. Taiwan Chinese Maximaphily Society appeals to all philatelists to seriously look into the inherit problem in the unfair treatment against the hobby, as it is the promotion of the hobby interest has been jeopardised.

CYPRUS

- Cyprus Postal Services policy of low number of new issues, the low nominal prices and excellent quality of new stamps are three important factors that help increase the interest of maximum card creators. 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.

- In 2013 we created 17 Maximum-Cards with the relevant stamps, issued by the Cyprus Postal Services and Cyprus Postal Services created 3 MC's.

- Exhibitions: We participated in the following bilateral and international exhibitions

1.- "*Hellas-Cyprus*" national level Exhibition 21 Oct- 8 Nov. 2013 - Three Maximaphily Youth exhibits

2.- "*THALAND 2013*" 2-8 August 2013 - Maximaphily exhibit "*Europa Nostra*" (I just write down the facts of my negative experience without comments): *The former FIP President Joseph Wolff, who had 3 decades of experience in judging maximaphily class was appointed juror for some other classes. The*

members of the Presidium never exhibited a Maximaphily collection and never had a cross accreditation in Maximaphily Class. No jurors were present in front of the frames to meet with maximaphily exhibitors.

3.-“EUROMAX and POSTEX 2013” in Apeldoorn, Netherlands 18-20 Oct. 2013 – with a color copy “Europa Nostra”

4.- “ISRAEL- TEL AVIV 2013” 26-30.5.2013 – One frame Maximaphily exhibit

5.-“BRASILIANA 2013” 19-25 Nov 2013”. Successful Maximaphily Seminar in Rio de Janeiro. (I just write down the facts of my negative experience without comments): I had a very bad experience when I realised that Maximaphily Class exhibits were judged by not competent in Maximaphily Class jurors, under the cover of the anonymous team of Presidium. As far as I know, the members of the “Brasiliana 2013” jury Presidium never exhibited a Maximaphily collection and never had a cross accreditation in Maximaphily Class. Myself being FIP accredited Maximaphily team leader and juror since 13 years ago, I was appointed to judge in Rio only Youth Class exhibits. No jurors were present in front of the frames meeting with commissioners and/or maximaphily exhibitors.

- We organized 24 presentations in primary and secondary schools during 2013 and more than 7.500 students have learned about philately and Maximaphily.

- Seminars, presentations and meetings. Two Maximaphily conferences were organized in Cyprus during 2013. The following topics were discussed: Maximum cards with Personalised stamps. How to achieve high quality modern creations. On how to be protected from fakes and forgeries maximum cards. On one frame exhibits and On matters related to the improvement of the exhibit presentation.

- Cooperation with Criminal Department of Cyprus Police Head Quarters for ink chemical analysis of some suspicious old cancellations

- On December 31, 2013, were completed 26 years of intensive Maximaphily activity in Cyprus and 22 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.

FRANCE

- During 2013, the New Issues Service of 'Les Maximaphiles Francais' created 94 different Maximum Cards. Some attractive maximum cards were created by individual maximaphilists with the personalized Stamp series officially issued by “La Poste” for each one of the French administrative areas.

- It has to be said that in spite of more and more difficulties to obtain postcards and right cancellations the association “Les Maximaphiles Français” is working with a will for a maximaphily at a high level of quality. It requires traveling throughout France to obtain concordant cancellations.

- Foreign new issues: Correspondences with foreign friends in maximaphily are continuing and make possible very profitable exchanges at the international level.

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

- Members of the National Commission of Maximaphily meet to harmonize the work of the jury in accordance with the revised texts of the FIP.

- The catalogue commission meets regularly to register the new maximum cards of France.

-- The Internet site www.Maximaphiles-Francais.org is more and more visited (350 000 visitors). It is still establishing the links to the various sites dedicated to world maximaphily and philately, as well as to the cultural sites needed by maximaphily. It is easily accessible to tablets, smartphones and other mobile phones through the "QRCode" and through social networks.

- The quarterly Journal 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., as well as to the members of the F.I.P. Commission for maximaphily and to the members of the management committee of the F.I.P.

- 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: We have strengthened our actions in the direction of the Youth, thanks to partnerships with associations belonging to “*Fédération Française des Associations Philatéliques*” (18 associations and 40 young people). Youth maximaphily workshops have been implemented in a number of exhibitions using the game “*MaxiJeu*” for which demands are ever more registered.
 - Exhibitions: We are very active and participate by loan of collections, conferences, or jury, in many exhibitions competitive or not. In particular: Ile-de-France regional Congress, Stamp Day in many places in France. French participation at “**POSTEX 2013**” Exhibition in Holland – 18th to 20th of October 2013 - with 4 collections.
- International Exhibition: *We are sorry and upset to observe that French maximaphilists, class adult or youth, are systematically denied participation to international or world exhibitions. Why? The French maximaphily deserves more international recognition.*
- Planned actions: “*Maxifrance 2014*” in Poitiers 1st to 4th of May. A Multilateral Maximaphily Exhibition is organized with the patronage of FFAP. This event of National level with European participation will get the European Challenge Trophy going again. Collections will be also exhibited in the Court of honor. A symposium of maximaphily will be held.
 - Development of maximaphily: the CD Rom developed by Jean-Claude Bouquet explaining the specificities of maximaphily and including various tests illustrating the rules, will be released in France as the Office of the F.I.P. has validated the new regulations adopted in Jakarta.

ITALY

- During the 2013 AIM created **60 Maximum Cards** of Italy, **24 of the Vatican** and **San Marino 9**. Several members have made their own realizations, also for countries outside Italy (Czech Rep., Hungary, Austria, Portugal). Some of them are published in our website. The Italian Post put on sale cards that are reproduction of the stamp, however they call them philatelic cards, not maximum.
- We organized a Maximaphily Exhibition at *Imola* on the theme Nature. We participated in the following National Exhibitions: in *Noale* (receiving 3 Gold, 5 Large Vermeil medals); in *Arezzo*, National Exhibition with 1 frame; and in *Vasto* (Show on the theme of Music). International participation: in *Melbourne* for ‘*Australia 2013*’, at *Appiano* in Italy for “*Alpe Adria*”, in *Graz*, Austria, at *Lambesc* in France (theme music), *Mamer* in Luxembourg for the Day of Maximaphily and in *Rio de Janeiro* for ‘*Brasiliana 2013*’.

On the occasion of the National Exhibition in *Noale*, *Gianfranco Poggi* gave a Maximaphily Seminar on the themes: Support Cards, Concordance of Time, and Concordance of Place. We published three issues of our journal *AIM Notiziario*. This journal is also on our site internet www.maximafilia.it

LUXEMBOURG

- There were 10 Meetings of the Luxembourg Maximaphily Commission, where the FIP Regulations and the National and International news were discussed.
- The ‘*MAMER*’ Association organized the 24th *Day of Maximaphily* Exhibition with participants from from *Luxemburg, Germany, Italy* and *Romania* in competition and 12 exhibits out of competition.
- President *Jos Wolff* held conferences in different associations on the topics of : ‘*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 philatelic journals.

NETHERLANDS

- During the *POSTEX 2013* National Philatelic Exhibition (October 18-20, 2013), in *Apeldoorn*, we held our 2nd general meeting, on the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of our Association. As part of this National Exhibition, we had a large non-competitive Maximaphily Exhibition of 80 frames. It was a quite

successful Maximaphily promotion Show, thanks to the 50 top frames of well-known foreign Maximaphily collectors who were prepared to exhibit in the Netherlands. For example *Anny Boyard*, *Dominique Durand*, *Hubert Engel* and *Bruno Bouveret* (France), *Nicos Rangos* (Cyprus), *Vasile Doros* (Romania), and *Peter Riedl* (Austria). Dutch exhibitors contributed 30 Maximaphily frames. Amongst them *Willem Broeke*, *Edward Froom*, *Frans Hermse*. The highlight among the Dutch Exhibits was *Ronald van der Leeden's* beautiful exhibit of 'Classical Maximum Cards from the period 1898 -1930' in particular important people such as royalty, presidents etc.

- The Dutch philatelic magazine, "*Filatelie*" closely connected with the Federation, pays every month attention to Maximaphily with relevant and interesting news in the field of national and international Maximaphily. The e-magazine Postzegelblog (<http://www.postzegelblog.nl/>) pays irregularly attention to maximaphily.

POLAND

- In 2013 in Poland the International Maximaphily Exhibition 'Maximaphily 2013' was organized. The Exhibition took place between 16-23.11.2013 in *Tarnow*. There were 24 exhibits presented in Maximaphily Class and 1 in Literature Class. 9 exhibits were from Youth philatelists. Presented exhibits were from Poland, Belarus and Slovakia. Two Exhibits won the Gold (incl. one in Literature Class). *Slawomir Bem* from Poland for the exhibit '*Understanding Beauty of Women*' received the Grand Prix of the '*Maximaphily 2013*' Exhibition and the Gold medal.

- During the exhibition a seminar on maximaphily was organized with an interesting presentation by *Roman Babut* about '*Wonderful World of Maximaphily and New rules for creation of Maximaphily Exhibits*' based on materials from *Nicos Rangos* from Cyprus. The seminar was connected with training of Jurors in the Class of Maximaphily in Poland.

- In the Exhibition catalogue, there were two articles on Maximaphily by *Marek Smola* on '*Marian Haydzicki – maximaphily theoretician from Poland*' and by *Marian Rawinski* on '*Maximaphily history*'.

PORTUGAL

- Regarding the status of Maximum Card collecting in Portugal, it is not as brilliant, for several reasons such as: the financial crisis affecting many Portuguese families and the bad relationship between the National Federation (FPF) and certain Associations (like CFP); and in particular the suspension of activities of APM (Portuguese Maximaphily Association) since 2011. The main alarm was the non-admittance of Maximaphily Exhibits at the last National Exhibition at *EBORA 2013*. I strongly disapproved of this decision by FPF, even though they claim it was based on costs and exhibition area reduction. The hopeful sign is that at the next National Exhibition in Nov. 2014, at *Viana do Castelo* Maximaphily Exhibits will be accepted again. Generally, Maximum Card Exhibits are commonly recognized by exhibition visitors as their preferred frames.

- On positive side, Maximaphily is still very active in Portugal through the *CNN-National Club Maximafilia* (that is not affiliated to FPF National Federation) with its president *Joaquim Cortes*, which produces Maximum Cards for almost all Portuguese stamp issues (in multiple copies) for distribution among its members and also for sale on both Delcampe and ebay. In 2013, they created about different **91** Maximum Cards (including variants) for stamps issues of Portugal, plus the Azores & Madeira.

ROMANIA

The participation of the Romanian maximaphiles in Philatelic Exhibitions, including exhibiting collections for the first time, has been a constant concern, encouraged by the Board of Directors of our Society. In 2013, philatelic associations of six cities have organized several exhibitions with general themes where Maximaphilie collections have been exhibited.

Maximaphiles participated in the National Philatelic Exhibitions in 2013 as follows:

1. *Trilateral* non-competitive Exhibition of *Botosani-Bistrita-Sibiu* (20-27 April).
2. *Radauti* (June 5-6): a remarkable Exhibition for Youth where were presented 22 collections, including 8 collections in the Maximaphily Class.

3. *Expo Nature - Timisoara* (15-20 March): two collections of Maximaphily;
 4. 110 years of Philately in *Timisoara* (May 9-12): a national exhibition where 14 collections of Maximaphily were involved and where 2 Gold medals and 1 Large Vermeil have been obtained;
 5. *Filex Transsivannica* (19-25, August, Bistrita), National Exhibition with International participation: 10 collections of Maximaphily participated, including 3, adults, and a remarkable thing, 7 young. A collection on show was appreciated with the degree of Grand Vermeil and two with Vermeil.
 6. *Resita* (7-9 November) 2 entries, one exhibit received a Gold medal.
 7. *History, Timisoara*, (16-20 December), where 5 collections of Maximaphily participated.
- International exhibitions of 2013 it participated with:
1. *HUNFILA - Hungary* (26-28 April): one collection valued a Silver-Bronze Medal;
 - 2.. *Bilateral Luxembourg-Romania*, Sibiu (26 June - 1 July): Exhibition of Philately that has become traditional, four collections of Sibiu. Remarkable is the fact that there were new exhibitors of Maximaphily Romanians to this cultural event.
 3. *MAMER 2013 - Luxembourg* (9-10 November): International Exhibition of Maximaphily. Romania participated with two collections getting a Gold and a Grand Vermeil;
 4. *POSTEX 2013 - in Apeldoorn, Netherlands* (18-28 October), non-competitive International Exhibition of Maximaphilie non-competitive, where it participated with one collection;
 5. *Kuwait 2013* (3-5 November): exhibition organized under the patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Romania, on the occasion of the 50-th anniversary of diplomatic relations of the Romania and Kuwait. The Romania participated with eight collections of Maximaphily.
- In total, 15 Romanian exhibitors participated at National and International exhibitions with 39 collections of Maximaphily.

There was no participation in the FIP World Exhibitions in Australia, in Thailand, in Brazil, because of the high exposure, insurance, guarantees of customs costs and transportation.

A total of 29 Maximum Cards were created by Associations or Groups of Maximaphily of Bucharest, Botosani, Sibiu, Ploiesti and 65 Maximum Cards by individual persons with experience in maximaphily.

In 2013, 26 articles and presentations of new Maximum Cards were published in specialty journals "*The Philatelic Courier*", published in Sibiu and 17 in "*Philatelica.ro*", published in Bucharest, with an international destination for articles written in foreign languages.

The article "*Dialogue between the representatives of Maximaphily*" was published in two journals, particularly attention readers as are questions of principle and pragmatic aspects of the maximaphily of the two countries (France and Romania) and at European level.» The dialogue was completed in two series of conversations that took place in Paris between Mme *Anny Boyard* and *Vasile Doros*. The journals also published further articles of analysis of the situation collections presented at the exhibition of *Bistrita*, articles signed by the members of the jury *Balfour Mihai*, *Nicolae Salade* and *Coriolan Chiriches*.

On the blog of the Romanian society of Maximaphilie "*Dr. Valeriu Neaga* (<http://srmdvn.blogspot.ro>) administered by engineer *Mihai Ceuca*, have published 100 articles to date, which focused on various aspects of the Romanian Maximaphily and Europe's Maximaphilie events. At the end of 2012 more than 30,000 visits to the maximaphiles from 73 countries have been registered. Because in 2013 the maximaphiles of the Romania commemorated 10 years since Dr. *Valeriu Neaga*, the spiritual protector of our Maximaphily Society, we launched a new special blog dedicated to the commemoration, <http://rememberneaga.blogspot.ro/>. The blog recalls the philatelic activity of Dr. *Valeriu Neaga* in connection with his colleagues in Maximaphily. The blog is a true monograph of the Romanian maximaphily and an encyclopaedia of the representatives of the maximaphily.

SPAIN

- I have asked the '*Correios*' - through the Spanish Federation – that for every new stamp issue, they provide cancellations in locations relevant to the stamp subject. This petition had a good reception. We appreciate the support of our Spanish Phil. Federation on this matter.

- Another complain that keeps coming from Collectors is the lack of timely information about the exact image of the cancellation of upcoming new stamp issues. The logic is that if these images were to be published well in advance of the issue date, this would give us enough preparation time to create our maximum cards.
- Many newsletters and press philatelic societies and journals reproduce Maximum Cards in their articles. They are asking members of our Association to participate in Philatelic Exhibitions with their Maximaphily collections. These collections are usually of great interest to visitors, for achieving the concordance of the 3 elements of a Maximum Card, that is the Stamp, the Postcard and the Cancellation.
- On the occasion of the 28th anniversary of ASEMA, we have upgraded our website www.asemamaximofilia.com with more content and more user friendly. When visiting this site, you can see all the Maximum Cards made by our Association. They are recorded digitally on every issue of your magazine *Maximaphily Notes* and the cover can be downloaded in a .pdf file. You can also review the Regulations of Maximaphily and get news of their activities. For wider dissemination, we have also introduced a translator.
- In 2012, we carried out with ASEMA partners our “3rd Best Maximum Card National Competition” in order to promote realization of quality Maximum Cards.

SWITZERLAND

- In last year's report, our AMS stated that there were only 19 Maximum Card realizations. In 2013, our Association achieved 39 Maximum Card realizations. We have to go back to the year 2008 to see a comparable result.
- How can we explain this sudden growth? It is mainly due to knowledge, relationships and the tenacity of a recent member of the Association, Mr *Ulrich Aebi*. It is thanks to the research and interventions of this member, from our fellow German-speaking Swiss members of the AMS, that were able to acquire more postcard supports and thus create maximum cards and complete our Maximaphily collections dealing with various themes.
- We published articles on maximaphily and the activities of the AMS, in each of the tri-annual Bulletins of "*Rhône Philately*". In addition, relations with other philatelic societies are maintained which include the sending of our annual report, or even participation in several competitive exhibitions.
- In 2013, Maximaphily Exhibits of our members were shown at competitive or not exhibitions, both in Switzerland and France.

UNITED STATES

- In 2013 MACSU continued to strive to increase the awareness of maximaphily within the United States. One strategy was the continued publishing of MACSU's quarterly E-Journal, the "*North American Maximaphily*" and were distributed at no cost to known maximum card collectors (and heads of various maximum card Clubs around the world). Another 50 journals were sent at no cost to buyers who purchased maximum cards on internet auction sites.
- During 2013, MACSU continued to make improvements on its website that was created last year. This website can be accessed at www.macsu.org and offers members the opportunity to share scans of their favorite maximum cards, download copies of recent MACSU Journals, and provides links to a variety of other maximum card websites. In 2014 this web site will be expanded and improved.
- All maximum cards realized in the United States are collector-made as MACSU does not produce maximum cards, nor has the United States Postal Service produced cards in decades. Most maximaphilists in the United States realize only a small number of USA cards for their personal collection and maybe a few duplicates for trade or selling on the internet. Close to 100 different USA 2013 stamps were used in the realization of maximum cards in 2013. Some of these maximum cards were made in very limited numbers (less than 5 copies), while several cards were realized in multiples of 50 cards. A few collectors also are active in realizing non-USA cards.

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)

GENERAL COMMENTS/ BEST MAXIMUM WORLD COMPETITION:

The Activities of the Albanian section of Maximaphily are that they have not been able to produce MC, because stamps were issued late in the year.

- In 2013, ALBANIA did participate in the **Vote** for World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012. This Competition was posted on the FIP Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all National Delegates.

2. ARMENIA (Sedrak Nersesyan)

GENERAL COMMENTS/MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS:

In 2013, there was a total of **11 Maximum Cards** created in Armenia with the stamp issues on *Europe*, *Flora* and *Famous people*. There were 9 Maximum Cards made by our Association, 2 Maximum Cards made by individuals. Moreover, we organized Maximaphily lectures and Seminars relating to the development of Maximaphily in Armenia.

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2012:

-In 2013 Armenia participated in the *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card '*TATEV MONASTERY (8th century)*', issued for the longest non-stop double track cable car (5.7km) to Tatev Monastery, created by *Sedrak Nersesyan*.

3. AUSTRALIA Jan.-June 2013 (Barbara Bartsch)

I continue to exhibit my own Maximaphily exhibits in both local and National Exhibitions, but Maximaphily has a very limited following in Australia with only a few Maximaphily exhibitors, although some examples may still also be seen in Thematic and Open exhibits. Dealers at National Stamp Exhibitions usually only have the prolifically produced Australia Post issues. Australia Post still issues a Maximum Card for almost every stamp, and every value stamp, issued in Australia. Some are very good cards showing earlier documents, however the postmarks have deteriorated. First, by using one postmark for an entire set, so that in a zoo set the tiger postmark was also used on the rhino and panda etc. Then using pictorial postmarks that do not appear on the stamp. But the quality of the ink has improved and most postmarks are now clearly legible.

Now unfortunately I must report that because personal domestic responsibilities I find it is not possible to continue as the FIP Maximaphily Delegate and regretfully I have resigned my position. I will continue to enjoy the interests of Maximaphily, but not in an official capacity. I wish the next FIP Maximaphily Delegate my congratulations and I will continue to collect and enjoy Maximaphily.

AUSTRALIA Sept.-Dec. 2013 (Daryl Kibble)

Barbara Bartsch resigned her position as Australian Maximaphily Commissioner in June 2013. I was elected to the post at the Annual General Meeting of the Australian Philatelic Federation in September 2013. I attended the FIP Maximaphily Commission meeting at *Australia 2013 World Stamp Expo* in Melbourne, in May where I met some of the other FIP National Delegates. I published the article – ***Challenges in Creating FIP Compliant Maximum Cards in Australia*** – in the November 2013 edition of *The Asia Pacific Exhibitor*. This highlighted the difficulties in creating maximum cards in Australia as compared to European and other countries. Good Australian maximum cards are extremely difficult to create. Yet I doubt this would be reflected in the marking by judges at FIP level.

This is due to a number of factors:

1. Australia is a young nation. We have no “history” to draw on as regards monuments, artwork, achievements in western civilization etc, until the 1800s. Prior to this Australia only had a primitive Aboriginal civilization. This impacts both the stamp issue program as well as the inability to have any postcards depicting early “history” spanning previous centuries like other nations of the world;

2. Being a small population (c. 5 million by 1920) and without a long-term “national history”, it means that antique postcards are fewer in number and far more limited in scope of subject. The majority are not suitable for making maximum cards as regards the stamp issue program;

3. Australia Post continues to fail miserably as regards the stamp issue program. As reported in more detail later, Australia Post does NOT support maximaphily as a serious hobby, by releasing 90%+ of its stamp program as invalid FIP compliant maximum cards every year. This non-compliance is mostly as regards the CANCELLATION as well as the POSTCARD. The invalid cancellation is the most disappointing element, as it means that even if the collector can locate a valid postcard, they still cannot create a valid maximum card in many instances due to the unavailability of a cancellation.

In 2013, Australia Post issued 113 new “maximum” cards (I use the term loosely as the majority are invalid creations under the FIP rules). They are nothing but revenue raisers. The only set of stamps released in 2013 that best satisfy the FIP rules was an issue of five paintings at the National Gallery of Art in Parkes, Canberra (19 March 2013). All five works of art are located in the one building, and the single national cancellation issued for the stamp release was therefore valid for each stamp in the set. While place of concordance was satisfied for all five stamps, the pictorial design only reflected that of one of the stamps. The postcards reproduced the artworks. For Australia Post, this was just luck and not planning.

Typically Australia Post issue one cancellation for an entire set of stamps, but the cancellation is usually only compliant as regards concordance of place with one of those stamps in the set. This is the biggest downfall of Australia Post’s stamp issuing program. I have brought it to their attention several times in the past 10+ years, and I know others have done so also. They do not care. The other concern for Australia Post issued “maximum” cards is that most are on postcards made especially for the stamp release but without reproducing a pre-existing document, and as such, are invalid for FIP.

This is why maximaphily as a hobby does not exist in Australia (as regards creating new Australian maximum cards). I have been the only person regularly making cards for the past 20 years, and it is difficult. Barbara Bartsch has made cards in the past as well, and a few other collectors from time to time. In these 20 years, I only have been able to make enough Australian cards to fill a 5-frame FIP exhibit using antique postcards. That is how difficult it is. I could fill an 8-frame FIP exhibit using both antique and modern postcards. But the scope of subject matters is also limited. I own more modern French maximum cards made on antique postcards than I do Australian in the same time period by a number of 10 to one! You will find in Australia that the best subjects to create maximum cards with, on antique postcards, are: Fauna, Sport, and Chinese Lunar New Year (the latter being on antique postcards not issued in Australia of course). Other subjects like Flora, Christmas, Agriculture/Farming, and some “structures” come in second.

The other problem is that there has been no “history” of making valid FIP maximum cards in Australia, and no organized maximaphily. This means that very few good maximum cards exist from the past decades to collect, as you see in many other developed nations. Most of the small numbers that were made use invalid cancellations that were convenient to the uneducated creator (indeed many were made on glossy postcards and the cancellation dates are smudged in any event), or focus on the Royal Family. The NSW Stamp Promotion Council used to create maximum cards to raise revenue during the 1970s and 1980s. Some are good, but many are also invalid under FIP rules (again usually around the cancellation).

In 2013, I personally made maximum cards for 14 different stamp issues. Of these, I would rate 8 being great maximum cards (most of these being unique creations). Most of my “better” Australian creations are unique. I did make different versions of some of these as regards postcards as well (so in total I made about 40 maximum cards from 14 stamps).

There are a small group of maximaphily exhibitors in Australia. However, these exhibitors do not exhibit Australia as a country and they also exhibit very irregularly. A thematic approach to exhibiting is the one most often seen. Personally, I have three active maximaphily collections suitable for FIP exhibition – Australia as a country, French sites/monuments, and Bible story through Art. I have previously exhibited at FIP level “The Science of Maximaphily” (1990s) and “A Maximum Life” (2000s), concentrating on pre-1930 maximum cards that explained the FIP maximaphily rules.

4. AUSTRIA (Peter RIEDL)

In Austria we are only few collectors for Maximum Cards: Two important exhibitors pass away in 2013. *Karl Tancsos*, 94 years old, was a PIONEER for Maximaphily in Austria. He was an excellent exhibitor and until 2000 a FIP-Juror for Maximaphily and Thematics. Also *Franz Schiffbaenker*, he was an ambitious Maximaphily- exhibitor. *Peter Riedl* obtained a VERMEIL medal in BRASILIANA 2013 , a LARGE VERMEIL in the following 3 exhibitions *Gmunden*, *Szokesfehervar* (Hungary) and *Noale* (Italy).

In Austria we have a separate class for “ANSICHTSKARTEN” that are Picture- and Motive Postcards, since 2007. Now we have new modified regulations. It is exactly the same (and equal) as in Germany. We have some exhibitors with very old and interesting Picture Postcards. Thus eleven Picture- and Motive Postcards -exhibits were to be seen in *Gmunden*, for which have four medals in GOLD, four in LARGE VERMEIL and three in LARGE SILVER assigned.

During the year 2013, there were **15 Maximum Cards** realized as follows: 2MC's *850 Years, Voraus Monastery*. Then 1MC each: *Porsche 356 no. 1*; *Wildlife - Chamois*; *Movie Actres Senta Berger*; *Post Diligence-Stagecoach*; *Sunflowers*; *Icon of Saint Nicholas of Myra*; *Madonna with child by Lorenzo Lotto*; *Christmas 2013 - Nativity by Joos van Clevee*; *Christmas 2013 - Altar, St. Michael's Church, Lungau* *Christmas 2013 - Silent Night Chapel*; *Christmas 2013 - Franz Xaver Gruber-Silent Night Composer*; *Music Theater, Linz*; *Burgtheater, Vienna*.

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2012:

Austria participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* with the Maximum Card of 'FRITZA RIEDLER', a 1906 painting by Gustav Klimt, created by *Peter Riedl*. This Maximum Card won the **1st Prize with 66 points**.

5. BELGIUM (Gaston Lefèbvre) *French version*

- Pour ce qui est de notre activité, nous avons émis environ 68 cartes maximum tout en éliminant les sujets de timbres n'entrant pas dans le cadre de collection ou encore exigeant la perception de droits excessifs ou essayant un refus pure et simple.
- Cette année nous n'avons pu publier notre modeste revue faute de temps et manque de volontaires. Nous devons également regretter l'abandon de membres atteint par la limite d'âge mais aussi par la crise.
- La Poste nous a réservé quelques beaux timbres objet de convoitises maximaphiles. La Bande dessinée, les oiseaux de Buzin, le chocolat et une nouvelle série à suivre sur les papillons.
- Quelques participants (à compter sur les doigts d'une main) aux expositions provinciales.
- Aucun projet d'émission de cartes maximum émises par la Poste .
- Comme dit auparavant 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*

- With regard to our Activities in 2013, we have issued approximately **68 Maximum Cards**, while eliminating the subjects of stamps not falling within the scope of collection or requiring excessive fees or wiping a pure and simple denial.
- This year we could publish our modest reviewed due to time constraints and a lack of volunteers. We also regret the abandonment of members reached the age limit, but also by the crisis.
- The 'Poste' issued a number of beautiful stamps that delighted many maximaphiles. For example: on Cartoon characters, on Birds by Buzin, on Chocolate and a new series (to continue) on Butterflies.
- There were a few participants (to be counted on the fingers of one hand) in provincial exhibitions.
- No proposed issuance of maximum cards issued by the 'Poste'.
- As said previously a year of maximaphilie brings joys, surprises, and penalties. We continue to work towards a maximaphilie active and effective in our country.

6. BRAZIL (Agnaldo de Souza Gabriel)

- **73 new different Maximum Cards** were created whit Brazilian stamps issued in 2013 (1 with the personalized stamp Brasiliana 2013 and 72 with comemorative stamps);

- using 65 out of the 70 (1 personalized and 64 comemorative) Brazilian stamps issued in 2013;
- 13 new different MC's issued by Brazil Post (Correios); all are according to the FIP Maximaphily rules.

9 new articles on Maximaphily

- "Christmas's MC", in the newsletter Filacap n° 176, February/2013;
- "The best FIP's 2011 MC and Brazil's 2012 MC", in the SPP Newsletter # 216, April/2013;
- "The legacy of Raymundo Galvão de Queiroz", in the newsletter Filacap # 177, May/2013;
- "MC whit more than one stamp", in the newsletter Filacap 2013 Special, May/2013;
- "The first ones brazilian's MC", in the "A Filatelia Brasileira" Magazine # 19, June/2013;
- "Who thinks he has everything...", in the newsletter Filacap # 178, August/2013;
- "The Fernando de Noronha islands", in the SPP Newsletter # 217, August/2013;
- "Religion's MC", in the newsletter Filacap # 179, October/2013;
- "Maximaphily in Brasiliana 2013 Expo", in the SPP Newsletter # 218, Dezember/2013;

The Brazilian Maximaphily Club activities:

- 130 associates (12 new members joined in 2013) distributed on 16 Brazilian States (AL, BA, CE, DF, ES, GO, MG, PB, PE, PR, RJ, RN, RO, RS, SC e SP) and 8 countrys (United States, Mexico, France, Israel, Portugal, Romania, Nicaragua and Taiwan);
- The best 2012 Brazilian MC contest;
- Participation on the world's FIP best MC contest;
- 936 members correspondences exchanged in 2013.

Brazilian MC Participations on competitive shows:

- World FIP Expo Brasiliana 2013, Rio de Janeiro/RJ, November/2013 - large silver medal (75 pts).

Brazilian MC Participations on non competitive shows:

- Philatelic Exhibition Expofinter 2013, Campinas/SP, October/2013.

World FIP Expo Brasiliana 2013:

- FIP Board approved the "*Special regulations for the evaluation of Maximaphily exhibits at FIP exhibitions*" and "*Guidelines for judging Maximaphily exhibits*" (previously accepted by the FIP Maximaphily Commission Conference held in Jakarta on June 22, 2012 and accepted by the Members of the FIP Maximaphily Commission Bureau on November 9, 2013).

- Despite having a reduced participation compared to other classes, our country wasn't outside, being represented by two collections with five frames each. If lacked exhibitors from countries where Maximafilia has greater representativeness, as Portugal, France and Spain, we could see the collection "*History of Maximaphily 1872-1940*" by George Constantourakis, of Canada, which was the winner of the class, with 85 points (Large Vermeil). George Constantourakis is the current President of the Commission of Maximafilia of FIP and his collection on the history of Maximafilia is a real class of early Maximafilia around the world. There were 8 exhibits in Maximaphily Class. Highest: Large Vermeil medal (85 pts) and 2 Brazilian exhibits in Maximaphily Class. Highest: Large Silver medal (75 pts);

The lecture "The Beautiful World of Maximaphily" by Nicos Rangos

The lecture "The Beautiful World of Maximaphily" by Nicos Rangos (former President of the Commission of Maximafilia of the FIP), was the highlight of the Maximafilia in the exhibition Brasiliana 2013. Held on Saturday, day 11/23/2013, was an excellent opportunity for understanding the rules of Maximafilia and mounting of exhibition Collections. Even in chat for closure was possible to acquire new knowledge. Due to its comprehensiveness, the lecture has many interesting aspects that could be highlighted. Show then just some of these aspects, choosing those who can bring some more news for the maximafilistas in General:

- The importance of home page (plan): was highlighted the importance of the opening page of the collection, which should not be just a simple listing of chapters, but rather bring information about the development of the chapters;
- Philatelic Research composed of four items: philatelic research can be demonstrated in four items, and not just in three, as most collections are made. Beyond the date of issuance of the stamp, and date stamp and type information on the issuance of the postcard, can also be added the info on the period of validity of the postage stamp.

- The first postal maximums: were shown some highs earlier maximum postal postcard from Belgium in 1876, which was believed to be the oldest postal existing. Were shown 1875 maximums (Bavaria), 1874 (Russia), 1873 (Germany), 1872 (Germany x 2) and 1872 (Russia), the latter being the oldest known postal maximum, illustrated below.

- Imprint stamps with Maximum cut of postal stationery: postal stamps with maximum cut of postal stationery are allowed provided that the postal administration allow its use (163 to 167 pages).
-Finally, at the end of the lecture got a major break on Maximum Cards using a Personalized Stamps. The subject arose due to the launch of the new Personalized Stamps, where the Brazilian stamp is really Personalized, and not just a label attached to it, as were the Personalized Stamps issued by Brazil so far. The use of this new model of a Personalized Stamp in creating valid Maximum Cards is possible on condition that (a determining factor) that these Personalized Stamps are issued by the Postal Operator at the request of a client and are available to the general public (as was the case of the two issues that illustrated the Brasiliana 2013).

2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition

In 2013, Brazil's Entry at the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* was the Maximum Card '*SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN CABLE CAR*', created by *Aluisio Oliveira de Queiroga*. This Maximum Card won the **3rd Prize with 51 points**.

7. BULGARIA (Sergei Magdichev)

GENERAL COMMENTS/MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS

-In 2013 our Maximaphily Association had 35 members.

- In 2013, Bulgarian Maximaphily Exhibits participated in two entered the World Stamp Exhibitions, that is AUSTRALIA 2013 and BRASILIANA 2013 receiving each a Silver Medal.

At the National level Exhibition "BULGARIA - RUSSIA 2013" there were two Maximaphily Exhibits, receiving each a Large Vermail Medal.

During 2013, there were about **31 different Maximum Cards** realized in Bulgaria.

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2012:

-In 2013, Bulgaria, participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* with the Maximum Card of the '*ROSENERTE*' - ROSE HARVESTING FOR ROSE OIL, realized by *Sergei Magdichev*.

8. CANADA (George Constantourakis)

GENERAL COMMENTS/MAXIMUM CARDS

In Canada, Maximaphily is followed by a limited number of collectors, who on occasion create their own Maximum Cards. Most of these are very good Maximum Cards, having (temporary event) concordant cancellations. However, we have a dealer who creates MC using as support self-made poor quality postcards. We have to try and change this situation. Maximum Cards are becoming ever more acceptable to both exhibitors and certain judges. Maximum Cards are shown ever more frequently in Topical Exhibits. In addition there are many high caliber Postcard Exhibits in regional shows. It is to these collectors that we have focus and expose them to Maximum Card collecting. During the year 2013, there were about **38 Maximum Cards** including 'variantes' created on the following topics: *Chinese Lunar*, *Baby Animals* (Marmot, Porcupine, Deer, Bear), *Personalities* (Raoul Wallenburg, Oliver Jones, Robertson Davies, Laura Secord & de Salaberry), *Signs of the Zodiac* (Sagitarium, Capricorn, Aquarius & Pisces), *Princess of Wales Regiment*, *Adopt a Pet Baby Animals* (Dogs, Cats & Parrot), *Chinese Gate* (Victoria BC), *Queen Elizabeth II* (60th Anniv. of Coronation), *Early Canadian Motorcycles*, *Canadian Recording Bands*, *Superman* (60th Anniversary), *Prince George* (Celebrate Royal Birth).

EXHIBITIONS

There were 3 Maximaphily Exhibits presented by *George Constantourakis* at the following 3 exhibitions: At the *AUSTRALIA 2013 FIP World Stamp Exhibition* in Melbourne, in May, 2013, '*Greco-Roman Sculpture*' (8 frames), receiving a Large Vermeil.

At the *BRASILIANA 2013 FIP World Stamp Exhibition* in Rio de Janeiro in Nov.2013, *'The History of Maximaphily'* (8 frames), receiving a Large Vermeil.

At the *CALTAPEX 2013 Regional Philatelic Exhibition* in Calgary, Alberta, in Oct. 2013, *'The History of Maximaphily'* (8 frames), at the Court of Honor receiving a Gold.

SEMINARS

At the *AUSTRALIA 2013 World Stamp Exhibition* in Melbourne, on May 13, 2013, Canada's *George Constantourakis*, had a presentation on *'Judging Maximaphily'* and on *'Recognizing Fake Maximum Cards'*. These presentations were followed by a very vivid discussion, with many pointed questions, from the very engaged maximaphilists present.

At the *CALTAPEX 2013 Regional Philatelic Exhibition* in Calgary, Alberta, on October 19, 2013 *George Constantourakis*, made a presentation on *'Judging Maximaphily'* and on *'Recognizing Fake Maximum Cards'*. The aim was to initiate philatelists into this little known Class of Maximaphily.

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2012:

-In 2013, Canada participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* with the Maximum Card *HMS 'TITANIC'* for 100th Anniv. of its ill fated maiden voyage. The *'Titanic'* sunk off the coast of Newfoundland. The survivors (and many of its victims) were taken to Halifax (place of cancellation of this MC).

9. CHINESE TAIPEI (Chih-ping CHU)

1. Any social society established in Taiwan is governed by the Home Ministry Society Acts, without exception *Chinese Taipei Maximaphily Association* being a National body is registered under the Home Ministry Society Act. Governed by the regulations, the society holds an annual general meeting and a tri-monthly executive committees meeting. The society with the active contribution of its members is able to publish a monthly bulletin of *"Maximaphily News"* (Fig.1) and a tri-monthly journal of *"Chinese Taipei Maximaphily"* (Fig.2) with original maximaphily related articles and maximum card color images. The effort in the production of bulletin and journal solely dedicated to Maximaphily is one major activity of the society which is unprecedented locally or perhaps abroad. Since its establishment in 1998, Chinese Taipei Maximaphily Association has been very active in the promotion of the hobby regionally and internationally.

2. In 2013, the society managed to compile an Maximaphily Exhibit publication entitled *"Hats"* (Fig.3) with the award winning collection owned by Mr. Chih-Ping Chu, we have the honour to have Mr. Chu to finance the entire publication. The publication is definitely an excellent guide to many maximaphilist in the preparation and organisation of a competitive exhibit.



(Fig.1)



(Fig.2)



(Fig.3)

3.Taiwan Annual National Exhibition (*Rocupex'13 Taipei*) attracted 7 Maximaphily Exhibits to participate, they are as follows :

No	Title of Exhibit	Frame no.	Name of Exhibitor	Total	Medal
1	Medicinal Plants	5	Li Chih-Hsin	81	V
2	Taiwan Flower	5	Tseng Cheng-	68	SB
3	Belfry	5	Chen Kuo-Hsiung	86	LV+SP
4	Ancient architecture art deco	5	Pi Kuang-Chieh	75	LS
5	Building construction elements	5	Fan Chin-Tung	78	LS
6	Taiwan Alpine landscape	5	Chao Yen-Tuan	74	S
7	Arts Journey	5	Yen Po-Cheng	73	S

4. In 2013, notably Taiwan had **NOT** sent any maximaphily exhibits to participate in any of the international philatelic exhibitions. It was widely told that there was prejudice against maximaphily exhibits in these international events. Taiwan Chinese Maximaphily Society appeals to all philatelists to seriously look into the inherit problem in the unfair treatment against the hobby, as it is the promotion of the hobby interest has been jeopardised.

5. 2013-6-16, a special Maximaphily exhibition was held at Gaoshiung with a total of 20 frames of exhibits. A temporary post was set up at the exhibition venue providing with a special “mandarin duck” cachet, members were glad to realise beautiful MCs with these thematic cachets.

6. 2013-7-17 to draw the worldwide maximaphilists closer, a FACEBOOK page has been created to link the members across the globe to share all the facets on maximaphily, it was glad to see a total of 500 members joined the community in a short period of time.

7. 2013-12-5, Vice President of the Society, Mr. Chu delivered a Maximaphily talk entitled “The preparation and write up on the HAT maximaphily exhibit” at ZhangHua community centre.

8. 2013 has been a fruitful year for the society, a total of **45 original MCs were realised.**

9. In 2013 CHINESE TAIPEI did participate in the *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card *'FORMOSAN WHITE-NOSE CIVET (Paguna larvata taivana)*, created by *Chig-yung Chiang*. This Maximum Card came in 6th place receiving 33 points.

10. CROATIA (Ivan LIBRIC)

GENERAL COMMENTS/MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS:

During 2013, Croatia Post, Philatelic Clubs and Individuals created **14 Maximum Cards** as follows:

Catles of Croatia 4 MC's; *Croatian Fauna-Amphibians* 3 MC's; *Bridge & Viaduc* 2 MC's;

Croatia's Accession to EU 1 MC; *Art - Paintings* 3 MC's; *Bridge & Viaduc* 2 MC's; *T. Pejacevic, Knight S.M.O.Malta* 1 MC.

In 2013 Croatia participated in the *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card *'STEAM LOCOMOTIVE (series MAV 424)'*, created by *Ivan Libric*.

11. CYPRUS (Nicos RANGOS)

The general policy of the Cyprus Postal Services for 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 2013 created 17 Maximum-Cards with the relevant stamps, issued by the Cyprus Postal Services.

At the same time Cyprus Postal Services continued during 2013 to create 3 Maximum-Cards using only 3 stamps of the same year Christmas issue.

Thanks to the excellent relations and the valuable cooperation all last 11 years Christmas maximum cards were correctly created by the Philatelic Section of the Cyprus Postal Services in excellent

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:

Cyprus Maximaphily exhibits participated in the following bilateral and international exhibitions

- 1.- “Hellas-Cyprus” national level Exhibition 21 Oct- 8 Nov. 2013 - Three Maximaphily Youth exhibits
- 2.-“THALAND 2013” 2-8 August 2013 - Maximaphily exhibit “*Europa Nostra*”(I just write down the facts of my negative experience without comments): *The former FIP President Joseph Wolff, who had 3 decades of experience in judging maximaphily class was appointed juror for some other classes. The members of the Presidium never exhibited a Maximaphily collection and never had a cross accreditation in Maximaphily Class. No jurors were present in front of the frames to meet with maximaphily exhibitors.*
- 3.-“EUROMAX and POSTEX 2013” in Apeldoorn, Netherlands 18-20 Oct. 2013 – with a color copy “*Europa Nostra*”
- 4.- “ISRAEL- TEL AVIV 2013” 26-30.5.2013 – One frame Maximaphily exhibit
- 5.-“BRASILIANA 2013” 19-25 Nov 2013”. Successful Maximaphily Seminar in Rio de Janeiro. (I just write down the facts of my negative experience without comments): *I had a very bad experience when I realised that Maximaphily Class exhibits were judged by not competent in Maximaphily Class jurors, under the cover of the anonymous team of Presidium. As far as I know, the members of the “Brasiliana 2013” jury Presidium never exhibited a Maximaphily collection and never had a cross accreditation in Maximaphily Class. Myself being FIP accredited Maximaphily team leader and juror since 13 years ago, I was appointed to judge in Rio only Youth Class exhibits. No jurors were present in front of the frames meeting with commissioners and/or maximaphily exhibitors.*

Thirteen Cyprus Maximaphily collections were and continue to be ready to participate in international exhibitions. Three of them belong to the one frame class. Another three belong to the Youth class.

One Maximaphily collection was exhibited at the Heads of State lounge of Larnaca airport. 1 December 2012 – 31 January 2013.

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 2013 and more than 7.500 students have learned about philately and Maximaphily.

Seminars, presentations and meetings:

Two Maximaphily conferences were organized in Cyprus during 2013

Participation to the World Competition for the Best Maximum Card:

“Cyprus Maximum Card Collectors” decided which Maximum card created during 2012 will represent the country at the World Competition for the Best Maximum Card created during 2012.

Maximaphily Meetings in Cyprus The following issues were discussed mainly on:

Maximum cards with Personalised stamps

How to achieve high quality modern creations.

On how to be protected from fakes and forgeries maximum cards

On one frame exhibits and

On matters related to the improvement of the exhibit presentation.

Cooperation with Criminal Department of Cyprus Police Head Quarters for ink chemical analysis of some suspicious old cancellations

24 years of intensive Maximaphily activity

On December 31, 2013, were completed 26 years of intensive Maximaphily activity in Cyprus and 22 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.

12. CZECH REP. (Josef FRONC)

Our section underwent minor changes in 2013, is otherwise stabilized. We published three issues of the magazine, including Annex Newsletter *Maximus* (18, 19 and 20), which again brought a lot of interesting information about collecting Maximum Cards from the past and present. Colleague *Kancnýř* continued to successfully manage a blog *maximafilatelii*, published exactly 100 articles!

The membership base has as of the end of 2013 was 43 members, 3 of them foreign, which is a positive indication, although in the course of several members of the section checked out, but we also got 5 new active members. Individual members mostly work individually, but in some events and KF, SSČSZ (it is mostly about the inauguration of the new stamps), some regularly meet not only to create new CM.

- In the past year, members of the group created about 37 Maximum Cards, using the new stamps issue plan, which numbered 41 marks. Use was as much as 90% of the issued stamps! Used were all signs, advertising signs except refuel cheaper and 20 years old Czech Post. There were also several Maximum Cards to own markers and several Maximum Cards is the earlier marks within the current archiving commemorative postmarks of that year. From this perspective, ie a maximum creative usage. Again, we participated in the International FIP Competition for the Best three Maximum Cards. The Competition of 2011, due to longer terms evaluation, did not go so well for us as in previous years, this time we ranked 12th place, but if the fact that is selected from the 60 countries of the world, it is still good location. Now we have expectations as to how we place in 2012 with the Maximum Card 'GIRL WITH LONG HAIR' painting by *Kamil Lhoták*.

In 2013, we did not have any Maximaphily collections exhibited, as organizers held no philatelic exhibitions and we did not publish in any journal, but the Chairman of the Josef Fronc participated in his lecture on Maximafilately, as a specialized field of philately in the House of Portus in Prague, as part of a lecture series organized by KF 00-15.

Publisher *Oftis Ústí nad Orlicí* headed by Mr. *Kábrt* published 6 Maximum Cards in 2013, on the Themes *Zavis Cross*, *Cyril and Methodius*, *Pepa Bican*, *Kladruští horses* and *King James Bible*. A set of postcards for creating Maximum Cards issued by the Agency Progres Partners Advertising. It was a set of historic postcards with motives cars Škoda author Zapadlík, a postcard Franz Kafka.

Our department has issued 11 Maximum Cards (Ivan Strnad, EUROPA-Postal Vehicles, the Golden Bull of Sicily - the best mark two decades, Motorcycle Böhmerland, MS Canoe Slalom, Marta Pavlisová, the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Leipzig, the Bible bunnies Art Piranesi and Svabinský of the franking Mole). *PostFila* released Maximum Cards for the issues of Conservation - Karlštejnsko and 4 pieces of historic vehicles. The postcards were again the counter, Karlštejn marks were stamped with commemorative cancellations. Many other Maximum Cards were created individually by our members.

If I can summarize the results of the past year, I state stabilization, an important activity for any section. We foresee that this established trend will most likely continue in the future. Those interested in collecting and creating Maximum Cards, may contact Mr. *Josef Fronc*, Head of Section at fronc@cbox.cz

13. DENMARK & Area (Ib Krarup Rasmussen)

GENERAL COMMENTS/ MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS:

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 and Fair Cards.

During the year 2013, there were **34 Maximum Cards** created in the Danish Area as follows:

DANEMARK : In 2013, Individuals from the *Galeria-ATM-Ateeme* study group (specializing in variable rate stamps, worldwide) created 3 Danish Maximum Cards on the following topics: Northern Lights, Icelandic Horse and Gullfoss waterfall.

FAROE ISLANDS : In 2013, Faroe Post created 8 Maximum Cards as follows:
EUROPA 2013-Postal Vehicles 2MC's; Peter Troll 4MC's; Christmas (*Carols*) 2MC's

GREENLAND: In 2013, Post Greenland created 23 Maximum Cards -as follows:
3 MC's Contemporary Art VII; 2 MC's Mail Transport (Dog-sled, truck); 2 MC's Greenlandic Mining IV; 2 MC's Agriculture in Greenland II; 3 MC's Greenlandic Herbs III; 2 MC's Aviation III; 2 MC's Christmas 5 MC's Expedition XI, Carl Petersen, Uummanaq, Coastal Icebergs, Inshore fishing, Kid paing in snow 2 MC's Fauna (Polar Bear, Musk Oxen)

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2012:

-In 2013, Denmark's Entry at the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* was the Maximum Card '*HAWFINCH*' (*Coccothraustes coccothraustes*), created by Galeria ATM.

-In 2013, Faroe Islands' Entry at the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* was the Maximum Card '*TROELLANES CLIFFS*' *Eysturoy, Faroe IIs*, created by Faroe Post.

-In 2013, Greenland's Entry at the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* was the Maximum Card '*HUMBACK WHALE*' (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), created by Post Greenland.

14. ESTONIA (Rein-Karl Loide)

In 2013, Eesti Post (Estonian Post) created 7 Maximum Cards as follows: *Estonian fauna-Weasel, Bird of the Year-Partridge, Icebreaker Tarmo, Folk costumes – Kihelkonna and Karja, Kiiipsaare Lighthouse and Christmas 2013*. In 2013, ESTONIA did participate in the *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition* whith the Entry of Estonian Fauna '*DEER*' (*Capreolus capreolus*), created by Eesti Post.

15. FINLAND (Kalevi Ant-WUORINEN)

During 2013, the interest of making individual MCs is still diminishing here. The youth is not any more, like in the early days, interested in hobbies like philately with its many branches.

In the best years we had over 70 members in our club, but today the number of actual, devoted Maximum Card-makers (members of our club, the Maksimifilatelitist ry) is just above 40.

Also last year we did not publish any own MC because of lack of a suitable, single stamp.

The Post of Finland issued no MCs, but issued a postcard and a stamp with cancellation on the pictureside. It was called "leimattu kortti", that is a cancelled postcard.

They could not call it MC, because the stamp and the card were of quite different origins.

The Aland Post issued a number of fine MCs. On February the 19th came the long-tailed duck (*Clangula hyemalis*), but, as a decoy; on June the 4th came two MCs: water lily (*Nymphaea alba*) and cow lily (*Nuphar lutea*); and finally on August the 20th came peacock butterfly (*Nymphalis io*). All 4 different MCs from Aland were 100 % correct in all details.

Different philatelic clubs issued their own Maximum Cards; the exact number I dont know, but I've seen about 6 different MCs on the market. Countless individual MCs were made, including my own ones: from Finland multiples of a total of 119 Maximum Cards and from Aland (25).

There were neither new Maximaphily Exhibits built up nor Exhibitions organized. Three National Maximaphily participations in National level exhibitions and none in International Exhibitions. Two lectures in Maximaphily were given. After two years of "no-show" in the national organ of Finnish Philatelists, the "*Filatelisti*", our own Maximaphily column ("*Filatelia*") appeared again last year. An as usually, our bulletin the "*MaxFil*" appeared four times.

In 2013, Finland's Entry at the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* was the Maximum Card 'CLOUDS-SUNSET IN THE FINISH ARCHIPELAGO, created by Mrs. Kertu Ekhholm.

Aland's Entry at the same Competition was the Maximum Card 'SANTA'S LITTLE HELPERS AS SKATING JUDGES', created by Mrs. Kertu Ekhholm.

16. FRANCE (Anny BOYARD) *French version*

Réalisations maximaphiles :

- En 2013, 94 cartes-maximum différentes ont été réalisées par le Service Nouveautés-France des Maximaphiles Français, (64 issues du programme philatélique, 24 auto-adhésifs et 6 des Collectors - salon de l'agriculture de Paris). 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.

- Concernant la réalisation des CM, 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.

-Nouveautés étrangères : Les correspondances se poursuivent avec des associations maximaphiles permettant ainsi de faire des échanges très fructueux au niveau international.

- La France a participé au Concours mondial de la meilleure carte-maximum 2012.

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.

- La commission du catalogue se réunit régulièrement pour saisir les données des nouvelles réalisations de CM de France.

Vie associative :

- Cette année malgré les efforts déployés par l'association « Les Maximaphiles Français » le nombre d'adhérents s'est maintenu pour l'année 2013. Par contre le nombre d'associations participant au partenariat associations adhérentes à la FFAP/MF est en augmentation.

Pour 2014, nous prévoyons une augmentation des adhésions grâce à Maxifrance 2014 à Poitiers.

- L'association « L'Essor maximaphile » continue d'exercer une petite activité.

Communication :

- Le site Internet www.Maximaphiles-Francais.org connaît une fréquentation de plus en plus importante (350 000 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. **Les MF, c'est où, quand et comme vous voulez !** Il est facilement accessible aux tablettes, smartphones et autres mobiles à travers les "QRCode" et se prolonge sur les réseaux sociaux.

- 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.

- Comme à l'accoutumée, la Maximaphilie a été présente avec de nombreux articles publiés 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 2013 les MF ont renforcés l'action menée en direction de la jeunesse avec les partenariats réalisés avec les associations de la FFAP (18 clubs et 40 jeunes). Des ateliers jeunesse maximaphiles ont été mis en place dans de nombreuses expositions avec l'utilisation de MaxiJeu, qui est de plus en plus demandé par les Clubs.

Expositions :

- L'année 2013 aura été marquée par notre présence particulièrement active. Les MF maintiennent une participation sous forme de prêt de collections, conférences ou jury, pour de nombreuses expositions compétitives ou non, du congrès régional du Gaphil et les Fêtes du Timbre organisées dans toute la France.

Exposition Postex en Hollande du 18-20 octobre 2013 : déplacement et participation française avec 4 collections.

Expositions internationales

Nous sommes désolés et offusqués de constater que des collections de maximaphiles français sont systématiquement refusées lors des inscriptions aux expositions internationales ou mondiales. Pourquoi ? La maximaphilie française mérite plus de reconnaissance internationale.

Formation de jurés : En 2013, un juré maximaphile est en cours de formation et un autre est prévu pour 2014.

Actions envisagées :



Maxifrance 2014 à Poitiers du 1^{er} au 4 mai.

Une exposition multilérale de maximaphilie est organisée avec le patronage de la FFAP. De rang national à participation européenne, cette manifestation permettra de remettre en compétition le Trophée du Challenge européen initié à MACON en 2007. Des collections seront aussi exposées en Cour d'honneur. Un symposium de maximaphilie sera tenu.

Développement de la maximaphilie : Le CD Rom élaboré par Jean-Claude Bouquet, enrichi de divers nouveaux tests sur les spécificités de la maximaphilie, sera diffusé en France, le bureau de la FIP ayant validé les nouveaux règlements adoptés à Jakarta.

FRANCE (English version)

Maximaphily Realizations:

- In 2013, the Service of new issues of the Association "Les Maximaphiles Français" created **94 different maximum cards**.
- 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.
- It has to be said that in spite of more and more difficulties to obtain postcards and right cancellations the association "Les Maximaphiles Français" is working with a will for a maximaphily at a high level of quality. It requires traveling throughout France to obtain concordant cancellations.
- Foreign new issues: Correspondences with foreign friends in maximaphily are continuing and make possible very profitable exchanges at the international level.
- France took part in World Maximaphily Competition for the Best Maximum Card created during the year 2012.

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.
- Members of the National Commission of Maximaphily meet to harmonize the work of the jury in accordance with the revised texts of the FIP.
- The catalogue commission meets regularly to register the maximum cards of France newly carried out.

Association life:

- In spite of its efforts the association "Les Maximaphiles Français" only succeeded to keep its membership for the 2013 year. However the number of federate associations in partnership with "Les Maximaphiles Français" is increasing. For 2014, we expect an increase of memberships thanks to Maxifrance 2014 in Poitiers.
- The activity of the association "L'Essor Maximaphile" is reduced at a small level.

Communication:

- The Internet site www.Maximaphiles-Francais.org is more and more visited (350 000 visitors). It is still establishing the links to the various sites dedicated to maximaphily and philately of the whole world as well as to the cultural sites needed by the maximaphily.

"Les Maximaphiles Français": it's where, when and how you want!

It is easily accessible to tablets, smartphones and other mobile phones through the "QRCode" and continues through social networks.

- The quarterly Journal 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 members of the F.I.P. Commission for maximaphily and to the members of the management committee of the F.I.P.

- In line with the previous years 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 2013 the Association “*Les Maximaphiles Français*” has strengthened its action in the direction of youth thanks to partnerships with associations belonging to the “*Fédération Française des Associations Philatéliques*” (18 associations and 40 young people). Youth maximaphily workshops have been implemented in a number of exhibitions using the game “*MaxiJeu*” for which more and more demands are registered.

Exhibitions

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

French participation at “**POSTEX 2013**” Exhibition in Holland – 18th to 20th of October 2013 - with four collections.

International Exhibition

We are sorry and upset to observe that French maximaphilists, class adult or youth, are systematically denied participation to international or world exhibitions. Why? The French maximaphily deserves more international recognition.

Training of jury members

In 2013, the training of a maximaphily jury member was in progress and another one is planned for 2014.

Planned actions

"Maxifrance 2014" in Poitiers 1st to 4th of May

A Multilateral Maximaphily Exhibition is organized with the patronage of FFAP (*Fédération des Associations Philatéliques Françaises*). This event of National level with European participation will get the European Challenge Trophy going again. This competition was initiated in MACON in 2007. Collections will be also exhibited in the Court of honor. A symposium of maximaphily will be held.

Development of maximaphily: the CD Rom developed by Jean-Claude Bouquet explaining the specificities of maximaphily and including various tests illustrating the rules, will be released in France as the Office of the F.I.P. has validated the new regulations adopted in Jakarta.

17. GERMANY (Günter FORMERY) *English version*

In 2013, our membership fell again by 3 to 60 members by the end of the year, despite the introduction of the family membership. The reasons are manifold; last but not least, the social changes contribute to this.

The new issue service of our Association AMPH (*Arbeitsgemeinschaft Maximaphilie & Philikartie*) realized about 22 Maximum Cards including a number of variants (between 10-20 copies). As usual, *Deutsche Post* has issued 6 Maximum Cards in copies of 3000 each (total number **28 Maximum Cards**). They were well-formed MC and easily available. We have no surveys on the individual realizations on the part of our members.

Dr. *Hademar Fresacher*, Klagenfurt/A, could be awarded in 2013 because of special merits with the Amphitheater Medal of merit, given to him at the international stamp fair Sindelfingen.

As usual, have we published articles in various journals. Especially on the home page of the National Association, we hired several messages. We published the REPORT three times in colored version in a range of 36 DIN A 4 pages. The Amphitheater homepage

<http://www.maximaphilie.de/> has been revised several times.

In recent years, our members took part in competitive Exhibitions from local (R3) to international (R 1) rank, including abroad. You could win gold medals at national level. Also in advertising shows, we were present.

In 2013, Germany, took part in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* with the Maximum Card of the 'KING FRIEDRICH THE GREAT' on the occasion of his 300th Birth Anniversary, created by *Juergen Noll*. This Maximum Card came in 7th place with 30 points. Exchanges and exhibitions we were represented at promotions and lectures, but must be noted, that only a low was successful these measures.

We express our dismay about Maximum Cards realized using that with Personalised Stamps, that are now approved for competitive exhibitions. In our opinion, there will be no significant increase in quality of an exhibit that uses such material. There are fields of activity that are more productive. For example, the optimal processing of the illustrated Postcards (explanation of the types of printing and publishing interests). By intensifying our study about the Postcard, take advantage of the component "Postcard" to improve our knowledge and so our comment on our collections. Maximaphily will thus certainly be upgraded.

In the sector of postcards, there were numerous exhibitions also up at the national level, including participation in the international. Also here were obtained highest reviews. ARGE had a substantial involvement in the creation of a new special regulations for the evaluation of view and motif Postcards.

18. GREAT BRITAIN(*United Kingdom*) (Christine A. EARLE)

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- 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; unfortunately I cannot see this situation changing. Perhaps the introduction of the Open Class will ignite a future interest; we hope 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 cancels.

MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS:

In 2013, Individual created about **42** different Maximum Cards including 'variantes' on the following topics: **17 MC's**, Classic TV - 50 years of *Dr Who*; **6 MC's**, *British Auto Legends* (*Jaguar E-type, Rolls-Royce, Aston Martin D85, MG MGB, Morgan Plus 8, Lotus Esprit*); **4 MC's**, *British Auto Legends-The Workhorses* (*Morris Minor Post Van, Ford Anglia 105E Police Patrol Car, Austin FX4 taxi, Coastguard Land Rover*); **5 MC's**, *Freshwater Life* (*Common Toad, Crucian Carp, European Eel, Perch, Monnow*) - *Pond Life - Lakes – Rivers*; **3 MC's**, *Great Britons* (*Vivian Leigh, Ben Britten, Peter Cushing*); **2 MC's**, *HM The Queen - 60th Anniversary of the Coronation*; **2 MC's**, *Merchant Navy* (*East Indiaman, Royal Mail ship Queen Elizabeth 1940*); **1 MC** *Jane Austen* (*Pride & Prejudice*); **1 MC** *Dinosaur – Iguanadon*; **1 MC** *Nat. Memorial Arborium -Poppies*

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2012:

-In 2013, Great Britain's Entry at the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* '*DALESBRED SHEEP*' by Ian Billings, was voted 9th, receiving 21 points.

19. GREECE (Nikos Mallouhos)

A National Philatelic Exhibition, with International participation, was organized by the *Hellenic Philatelic Society* (HPS) under the patronage of the Hellenic Philatelic Federation (EFO). All exhibition classes participated in approximately 250 frames (of 16-pages). The exhibition was hosted, between October 21 to Nov. 8, 2013, in the “*House of Cyprus*”, in Athens.

There were 11 Greek exhibits of Maximum Cards and covered various topics. The exhibits received 4 Gold medals, 2 Silver, 1 Silver Bronze and 1 Bronze.. Our magazine “*Maximaphilia*” was honored with Large Silver medal.

During 2013, twenty two (**22**) Maximum-Cards were created by the “*Union of Greek Collectors of M.C*”, with stamps issued by the Greek Postal Services.

The M.Cs. covered the following topics: Award-winning Greek Cinema, EUROPA 2014 – the Post Van, Sailing tourism, 100 years from Mt Olympus first Ascent, the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of Mount Athos into Greece, the 100th anniversary of the Union of Crete with Greece.

At the same period, the Greek Postal Services issued 24 maximum cards, but 15 of them can't be accepted, as they reproduced the postage stamps or the concordance of place was not respected.

Within 2013, 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, early in February. The Magazine (No 68) was distributed to our members and to Greek Philatelic Associations, free of charge. The issue included many articles about the Maximum Cards. Finally, our Union participated in the Word Competition of the Best three Maximum Cards created in 2012, with the Maximum Card “*BACK-STREET FOOTBALL*’ (SOCCER), created by our “*Union of Greek Collectors of M.C*”.

20. ICELAND (Gunnar Rafn EINARSSON)

GENERAL COMMENTS:

In 2013, there are still only 2 known collectors of maximcards in Iceland and there have been no official maximaphily activities during this year. There were only **3** Maximum Cards created, 2MC's by the Iceland Posts on *Postal Vehicles - EUROPA 2013* and myself made only one copy of one Card, for a foreign collector. Maximum Cards appeal to Thematic Philately collectors, but are still rarely used by Icelandic collectors. Iceland did participate in the Vote for the *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition*.

21. IRAN (Massoud N. Farahbakhsh)

- Currently, there is no Maximaphily Activity in Iran as the Post Office and individuals have yet to issue stamps and postcards suitable for this Branch of Philately. However, some Thematic collectors show plenty of interest in older Maximum Cards, as part of the theme they collect. This interest will hopefully lead to a more structured activity towards Maximaphily collections.

In 2013, Individuals in Iran created **6** Maximum Cards as follows: *Caspian Sea Fish* 4 MC's; *Arbor Day* 1 MC; and *Avicenna* 1 MC.

- In 2013, Iran did participate in the **Vote** for the *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition*. This Competition was posted on the Maximaphily Commission Website and open for Voting to all Delegates.

22. ISRAEL (Mayer Gozes)

In 2013 we (*Mayer Gozes* and *Nahum Shereshevsky*) made **31** Maximum Cards, using 25 Stamps (including ATM) out of 68 issued during the year. The Post issued 4 MCs, all correct.

In the “*Tel Aviv 2013*” Multinational Exhibition (Israel, USA, Russia, Singapore, Cyprus) held in May, there was one 1-frame Maximaphily Exhibit that was awarded a Vermeil medal (83 points), judged as 1-frame, not maximaphily. The exhibition was opened for Maximaphily Exhibits, but no one applied.

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2012:

In 2013, Israel participated in the *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card 'GREEN SEA TURTLE (*Chelonia mydas*)', created by Mayer Gozes. This Maximum Card received 33 points and came in 6th place.

23. ITALY & Area (Gianfranco POGGI) French version

Pendant le 2013 l' AIM (Associazione Italiana di Maximafilia) a créés 60 CM de l' Italie, 24 du Vatican et 9 de Saint Marin. Plusieurs sociétaires ont fait des réalisations personnelles, aussi au dehors de l' Italie (Autriche, Ceskia, Hongrie, Portugal). Quelques-unes sont publiées dans notre site internet. La Poste vente des cartes qui sont reproduction du timbre-poste, toutefois elle les appelle Cartes philatéliques, non maximum.

A Imola a été organisée une exposition de Maximaphilie sur le thème Nature.

Nous avons participé à l' exposition Nationale de *Noale* (3 Or, 5 Grand Vermeil); à *Arezzo*, exposition Nationale 1 cadre; à *Vasto* (exposition sur le thème Musique).

Participation internationales: à *Melbourne* pour "*Australia 2013*", à *Appiano* en Italie pour "*Alpe Adria*", à *Graz* en Autriche, à *Lambesc* en France (thème Musique), à *Mamér* en Luxembourg pour la Journée de la Maximaphilie, à *Rio de Janeiro* pour "*Brasiliana 2013*".

A l' occasion de la Nationale à *Noale*, Gianfranco Poggi a conduit un séminaire de Maximaphilie sur ces thèmes: Les cartes de support, La concordance de temps, La concordance de lieu. Nous avons publiés trois numeros de notre revue AIM Notiziario. Cette revue est aussi dans notre site internet www.maximafilia.it

Nous avons participé au Concours Mondial pour les 3 meilleures cartes-maximum créés en 2012.

L' **Italie** avec la carte Maximum du " *JARDIN BOTANIQUE*" (ROME), créé par *Cesare Rialdi* de l'A.I.M.

Le **Vatican** avec la carte Maximum '*BATAILLE DU PONT MILVIUS-CONSTANTIN L'EMPEREUR*, (Peinture de 1521 par *Giulio Romano*), créé par l'A.I.M.

Le **San Marino** avec la carte Maximum de '*JACQUES BERGERET DA BAMBINO*' (Peinture de 1880 par *P. A. Renoir* , Boston Museum of Fine Arts),créé par *Vincenzo Scicutella* de l'A.I.M.

L' **Ord. Mil. Souv. MALTE** avec la carte Maximum de '*KORE*' , statue de marbre période archaïque 674 av. J.-C., Musée d' Acropole, Athènes, créé par *Sergio Berti*.

ITALY & Area English version

During the 2013 AIM (Associazione Italiana di Maximafilia) has created **60 Maximum Cards** of Italy, **24 of the Vatican** and **San Marino 9**. Several members have made their own realizations, also for countries outside Italy (Czech Rep., Hungary, Austria, Portugal). Some of them are published in our website. The Italian Post put on sale cards that are reproduction of the stamp, however they call them philatelic cards, not maximum.

We organized a Maximaphily Exhibition at Imola on the theme Nature. We participated in the following National Exhibitions: in *Noale* (receiving 3 Gold, 5 Large Vermeil medals); in *Arezzo*, National Exhibition with 1 frame; and in *Vasto* (Show on the theme of Music). International participation: in *Melbourne* for '*Australia 2013*' , at *Appiano* in Italy for "*Alpe Adria*", in *Graz*, Austria, at *Lambesc* in France (theme music), at *Mamer* in Luxembourg for the Day of Maximaphily and in *Rio de Janeiro* for '*Brasiliana 2013*'.

On the occasion of the National Exhibition in *Noale*, *Gianfranco Poggi* gave a Maximaphily Seminar on the themes: Support Cards, Concordance of Time, and Concordance of Place. We published three issues of our journal *AIM Notiziario*. This journal is also on our site internet www.maximafilia.it".

We have participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* as follows:

Italy with the Maximum Card of '*BOTANICAL GARDENS*' (ROME), created by *Cesare Rialdi* (A.I.M.)

Vatican with the Maximum Card of '*EMPEROR CONSTANTINE- MILVIAN BRIDGE BATTLE*, 1521 painting by *Giulio Romano*, Vatican Museums, created by the A.I.M.

San Marino with the Maximum Card of '*JACQUES BERGERET AS A CHILD*' (painting by *P. A. Renoir* 1880, Boston Museum of Fine Arts), created by *Vincenzo Scicutella* of the A.I.M.

Sov. Mil. Order of Malta with the Maximum Card of '*KORE*', 674 BC, Acropolis Museum Athens, Archaic period marble statue, created by *Sergio Berti*.

24. 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.

25. KOREA Rep. (South) (Chang Hwan KIM)

- The Korean Maximaphily Club, is the only collecting group of maximum cards in South Korea. It organizes Maximaphily meetings/seminars, as well as exchanges/

sales of Maximum Cards. In 2013, six bimonthly meetings were held with about 40 members attending.

- The Korean Maximaphily Club has recently requested through the Korean Philatelic Foundation, that the Postal Authority manufactures Maximum Cards, at least in a limited issue policy and only for selected new issues.

-In the 2013 National Stamp Exhibition, only one Maximaphily Exhibit was registered, titled '*The Development of Ships*' by *Kyong Sik Shin*. It was awarded Vermeil.

- In 2013, Korea's Entry at the World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012 was the Maximum Card '*KOREAN PAVILLION-EXPO 2012 YEOSU, KOREA*', created by Keon Seong Baik. This Maximum Card received 18 points and came in 10th place

26. LIECHTENSTEIN (Stefan ERNE)

GENERAL COMMENTS/ MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS:

Liechtenstein Post creates high quality Maximum Cards for most of the new stamp issues.

During 2013, Liechtenstein Post created **30 Maximum Cards** - the great majority of them correct MC- as follows: 3 MC's Alpine flowers-'Chiltern gentian' (*Gentiana rhaetica*), 'Alpine forget-me-not' (*Myosotis alpestris*), 'Hairy Alpine rose' (*Rhododendron hirsutum*); 3 MC's Mathematics/Leaves (Apple, Maple, Vine); 4 MC's Young Animals of the Alpine Region (Chamois, Goat, Hare, Marmot); 1 MC Chinese Lunar Year; 2 MC's Civil Protection–Avalanche Rescue; 4 MC's Bridges Bring Together; 2 MC's 1923-2013 Customs Treaty, 1923-2013 Switzerland-Liechtenstein; 4 MC's Christmas (Abstract Paintings); 4 MC's Sports and Touring Cars; 2 MC's Liechtenstein Views; 3 MC's Liechtenstein Palaca, Vienna.

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2012:

-In 2013, Liechtenstein's Entry at the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* was the Maximum Card '*CHRIST DESCENT FROM THE CROSS*' (Terracotta Relief by Mass. Soldani-Benzi, 1710/20), created by Liechtenstein Post.

27. LUXEMBOURG (Andrée TROMMER, Sec.)

- There were 10 meetings of the Luxembourg Maximaphily Commission, where the FIP regulations and the national and international news of this class of philately were discussed.

- The 24th *Day of Maximaphily* had been organized by the local association of 'MAMER' with exhibits from Luxemburg, Germany, Italy and Romania in competition and 12 exhibits out of competition.

- President *Jos Wolff* held conferences in different associations on the topics of : '*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 philatelic journals.

- In 2013 the Commission issued **24 maximum cards**.

28. MALAYSIA (YE Choh San)

Maximaphily activity over the year 2013 was moderate with several Maximum Card collectors realizing cards of their preference. Approximately 22 Maximum Cards depicting various subjects were realized for the year.

There was no exhibitor from Malaysia putting up Maximaphily exhibit in the year 2013. As usual one or two pieces MCs were seen in most of the Youth exhibits showcased during the stampfair and National exhibition.

Pos Malaysia Ltd issued a set of official MCs featuring 4 different Lighthouses in Malaysia. This is most welcomed by the collectors, as there are NOT many local postcards depicting the 4 lighthouses. Malaysia did participate in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* with the Maximum Card of 'DRUM PLAYING-CHILDREN'S HOBBIES', created by *Ye Choh San*.

29. 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.

- 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.

- Usually MaltaPost issues a number of Maximum every year, in In 2013 Malta Post issued a set of 6 Maximum Cards featuring Maltese Buses titled "*The End of an Era - Series II*" for sale on the counters of its different branches across Malta

- In 2013, MALTA did participate in the **Vote** for the *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition*.

30. MONTENEGRO (Tomo Katuric)

GENERAL COMMENTS: The Union of Philatelists of Montenegro have not exhibitors and collectors of Maximum Cards. Each year the Montenegro Post produces Maximum Cards for a one or two stamp issues. In 2013, Montenegro Post produced a Maximum Card of *Petar II Petrovic Njegos*, the most nationally representative poet of Montenegro, on the occasion of his 200 Birth Anniversary.

31. NETHERLANDS (Edward Froom)

- The Dutch Association "*Pro Juventute and Maximaphily*":

a) had its official **30th Anniversary** on February 24, 2013;

b) is a member of the Royal Netherlands Federation of Philatelic Societies;

c) had 135 members in 2013;

d) published its quarterly magazine "*Bulletin*" with respectively 32, 36, 36 and 28 pages A4 in full colour, edition: 150 copies);

e) created **102** maximum cards in its News service. Some members created an (unknown) number of maximum cards for their own collection and for exchange. None by the postal authorities;

f) organized in the middle of the country this year one formal, well visited, general meeting in spring including a members auction.

- During the *POSTEX 2013* National Philatelic Exhibition (October 18-20, 2013), in Apeldoorn, we held our 2nd general meeting, on the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of our Association. As part of this National Exhibition, we had a **large non-competitive Maximaphily Exhibition of 80 frames**. It was a quite successful Maximaphily promotion Show, thanks to the 50 top frames of well-known foreign Maximaphily collectors who were prepared to exhibit in the Netherlands. For example *Anny Boyard*, *Dominique Durand*, *Hubert Engel* and *Bruno Bouveret* (France), *Nicos Rangos* (Cyprus), *Vasile Doros*

(Romania), and *Peter Riedl* (Austria). Dutch exhibitors contributed 30 Maximaphily frames. Amongst them *Willem Broeke*, *Edward Froon*, *Frans Hermse*. The highlight among the Dutch Exhibits was *Ronald van der Leeden's* beautiful exhibit of 'Classical Maximum Cards from the period 1898 -1930', in particular important people such as royalty, presidents etc. (see image on page 3 of one of the earliest known circulated Dutch Maximum Cards of *Queen Wilhelmina*, sent on Oct.6, 1898 from Gravenhage, Netherlands to Chimay, Belgium with both departure and arrival cancellations and using as support a Postcard with an undivided back).

- The Dutch philatelic magazine, "*Filatelië*" closely connected with the Federation (edition 27.500 copies to Dutch stamp collectors) pays every month attention to Maximaphily with relevant and interesting news in the field of national and international Maximaphily. The e-magazine Postzegelblog (<http://www.postzegelblog.nl/>) pays irregularly attention to maximaphily.

The Netherlands (read "*Pro Juventute and Maximaphily*") participated of course in the 2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition with the MC '*Magere Bridge, Amsterdam*' created by *Ronald van der Leeden* and has the intention to continue participating.

32. NEW ZEALAND (Jenny Banfield)

We still have only 2 exhibitors at National exhibition (one of them is almost 90). Maximum cards are always included in Shows and are covered in our Judging Seminars. I am no longer the NZPF Education Office, so I am not sure how many exhibitors we will get.

In 2013 NEW ZEALAND did participate in the 2012 *Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card: '*CAPE CAMPPELL LIGHTHOUSE*', Marlborough Province, created by *Fred Saunders*. This Maximum Card came in 4th place receiving 48 points.

33. NORWAY (Rune Oyen)

GENERAL COMMENTS/ MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS:

Every year the Norway Post issues a number of Maximum Cards. These are sought after collectors. However, they are not very active and we have no exhibitors in this class.

In 2013, there were 11 Maximum Cards created using 2013 stamp issues. Norway Post created 7 Maximum Cards as follows: **2 MC's**, *Postal Vehicles*, **2 MC's**, *Christmas 2013* and **1 MC** each for *King Karl Johan*, *Crown Prince Haaken*, and *Norwegian Fashion*. Foreign individuals created **2 MC's** using the paintings of Edvard Munch e.g. '*The Scream*', '*Sick Child*', '*Madona (Nude)*', and '*Self-portrait*'.

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2012:

In 2013, Norway participated for the 1st time in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* with the Maximum Card of '*KAVRINGEN LIGHTHOUSE IN FOG, OSLO FJORD*' created by Norway Posts.

34. PHILIPPINES (Eduardo R. Jacinto)

Maximaphily is well known in the Philippines, by a small number of enthusiastic philatelists. However, they have never managed to band together into a group. Over the years realizations have been made by various individuals, myself included. Personally, I have been collecting and realizing Maximum Cards for almost 30 years. During these years, I have exchanged Maximum Cards with collectors of similar likes from around the world (e.g. USA, Australia, China, Italy etc.) and have developed several good friendships. I have also exhibited, but only in some minor shows held here in my country. My good friend *Hans-Werner Becker*, formerly of Luxembourg, now a Philippine resident, has been exhibiting some of my creations of Philippines Maximum Cards. He has actually a virtual 16-page Maximaphily display entitled "*The Philippines-A Short Overview*" at <http://www.freewebs.com/maeca89/hanswernerbecker.htm>

I have also a virtual 48-page Maximaphily display on my appreciation of Maximaphily at <http://www.freewebs.com/maeca85/eduardorjacinto.htm> where I explain the regulations of Maximaphily, using different examples of Maximum Cards.

In the previous years of 2011 and 2012, I had managed to make some good Maximum Card realizations. However, in 2013 it has been particularly difficult making any such MC realizations, as most

of the subjects featured on the stamps of the Philippines did not appear on postcards. Some Maximum Cards may have been realized by other individuals, but they have not yet surfaced. The one outstanding distinction of 2013 is the issuance of the first official Maximum Card from the Philippine Postal Corporation (*PHLPOST*). First day cancelled on June 11, 2013, the stamp and the card (as well as the postmark) show '*Malacanang Palace*', where Philippine Presidents hold office and reside, on the occasion of its 150th year. If only postcards were available for the Philippine issues, the realization of Maximum Cards could always be carried out. Hopefully, my Report for 2014 would be on a more positive note.

35. POLAND (Slawomir Bem/Marian Rawiński)

- In 2013 we have issued **26 Maximum Cards**.

- During 2013 three new Maximaphily collections have been created in Poland, including two by Youth.

- In 2013 in Poland the International Maximaphily Exhibition 'Maximaphily 2013' was organized. The Exhibition took place between 16-23.11.2013 in *Tarnow*. There were 24 exhibits presented in Maximaphily Class and 1 in Literature Class. 9 exhibits were from youth philatelists. Presented exhibits were from Poland, Belarus and Slovakia. Two Exhibits won the Gold (incl. one in Literature Class). Slawomir Bem from Poland for the exhibit '*Understanding Beauty of Women*' received the Grand Prix of the '*Maximaphily 2013*' Exhibition and the Gold medal.

- During the exhibition a seminar on maximaphily was organized with an interesting presentation by Roman Babut about '*Wonderful World of Maximaphily and New rules for creation of Maximaphily Exhibits*' based on materials from Nicos Rangos from Cyprus. The seminar was connected with training of Jurors in the Class of Maximaphily in Poland.

- In the Exhibition catalogue two articles on Maximaphily were published : by Marek Smola on '*Marian Haydzicki – maximaphily theoretician from Poland*' and by Marian Rawinski on '*Maximaphily history*'.

- Poland participated in the *World Competition for the Best MC created in 2012*, with the Maximum Card '*Masquerade*' showing *Tadeusz Makowski's* painting, created by *Marian Rawinski*.

36. PORTUGAL (Bento Grossinho DIAS)

1.- GENERAL COMMENTS

Regarding the status of Maximum Card collecting in Portugal, it is not as brilliant, for several reasons such as: the financial crisis affecting many Portuguese families; the general trends of philately collecting from traditional areas to new ones; the bad relationship between the National Federation (FPF) and certain Associations (like CFP); and in particular the suspension of activities of APM (Portuguese Maximaphily Association) since 2011.

The main alarm was the non-admittance of Maximaphily Exhibits at the last National Exhibition at *EBORA 2013*. I strongly disapproved of this decision by FPF, even though they claim it was based on costs and exhibition area reduction. Maximaphily Exhibits were only accepted at *EBORA 2013* Regional Level Competition, and even there the participation was poor. The hopeful sign is that at the next National Exhibition in Nov. 2014, at *Viana do Castelo* Maximaphily Exhibits will be accepted again. Generally, Maximum Card Exhibits are commonly recognized by exhibition visitors as their preferred frames.

On positive side, Maximaphily is still very active in Portugal through the *CNN-National Club Maximafilia*, (that is not affiliated to FPF National Federation) with its president *Joaquim Cortes*, which produces Maximum Cards for almost all Portuguese stamp issues (in multiple copies) for distribution among its members and also for sale on both Delcampe and ebay. *Joaquim Guerra de Sousa*, at a minor level, also produced a dozen of Portuguese MC with particular relief on Azores ones.

2.- MC REALIZATIONS

In 2013, there were about **91** Maximum Cards(including variants) realized in Portugal, plus Azores & Madeira mostly by *CNN-National Club Maximafilia*, as follows:

Gastronomy 1st & 2nd series 19 MC; *Beekeeping (Apiculture) Portugal, Azores & Madeira) 12 MC*; *Cathedrals 16 MC*; *Traditional Festivals 8 MC*; *Figures of History & Culture 6 MC*; *Jewellery 5 MC*; *Falconry 4 MC*; *Order of Malta 4 MC*; *Christmas (Nativity scenes) 4 MC*; *Composers (Verdi, Wagner) 4*

MC; Postal Vehicles-Europa 3 MC; Butterflies 2 MC; Art of Joana Vasconcelos 2 MC; Aga Khan Award 1 MC; Avicenna 1 MC.

3.- BEST MAXIMUM CARD WORLD COMPETITION:

Portugal participated in the *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card 'SAGRES' TRAINING SHIP. This MC was created by CNN - National Club Maximafilia.

37. QATAR (Yacoub Jaber SOROUR)

Regarding the 2013 Nat. Maximaphily Activity Report in our country. We wished that we could have this type of beautiful Maximum Card collection and had some sort of activities related to it. Unfortunately, we are not having such collection and no one in our members has this collection so far. With regards to the Voting for *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition*; please kindly see the attached voting documents for our votes on the Maximum Cards we selected.

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

La participation des maximaphiles roumains aux expositions philatéliques, y compris les collections exposées pour la première fois, a été une préoccupation constante, encouragée par le Conseil d'Administration de la Société Roumaine de Maximaphilie "Dr Valeriu Neaga". Comme l'année précédente, les associations philatéliques de six villes ont organisé plusieurs expositions avec des thèmes généraux où des collections de maximaphilie ont été exposés.

Les maximaphiles ont participé aux expositions philatéliques nationales en 2013 comme suit:

1. La trilatérale de Botosani-Bistrita-Sibiu (20-27 Avril) : une participation Hors- Concours;
1. Radauti (5-6 Juin): une exposition remarquable pour la jeunesse où ont été présentées 22 collections, dont 8 à la classe de maximaphilie.
3. Expo Nature - Timisoara (15-20 Mars) : deux collections de maximaphilie;
4. 110 ans de philatélie à Timisoara (9-12 Mai): une exposition nationale où 14 collections de maximaphilie ont participé et où 2 médailles d'Or et 1 Grand Vermeil ont été obtenus;
5. Filex Transsivannica (19-25, Août, Bistrita), exposition nationale à participation internationale: 10 collections de maximaphilie ont participé, dont 3, des adultes et, une chose remarquable, 7 jeunes. Une collection exposée a été appréciée avec le diplôme de Grande Vermeil et deux avec Vermeil.
6. Resita (7-9 Novembre) 2 participations qui ont reçu une médaille d'Or et un Vermeil;
7. Histoire (16-20 Décembre), Timisoara, où cinq collections de maximaphilie ont participé.

Aux expositions internationales de 2013 on a participé avec :

1. HUNFILA - Hongrie (26-28 Avril) : une collection appréciée avec la médaille Vermeil ;
2. La bilatérale Sibiu-Luxembourg (26 Juin-1 Juillet) : «exposition de philatélie qui est devenue traditionnelle, quatre collections de Sibiu. Remarquable c'est le fait qu'il y avait de nouveaux exposants de maximafilie Roumains à cet événement culturel.
3. MAMER 2013 - Luxembourg (9-10 Novembre): exposition internationale de maximaphilie. La Roumanie a participé avec deux collections en obtenant un Or et un Grand Vermeil;
4. POSTEX 2013 (18-28 Octobre), exposition internationale de maximaphilie, non compétitive, à Apeldoorn, Pays-Bas où on a participé avec une collection;
5. KUWEIT (3-5 Novembre): exposition organisée sous le patronage du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères de la Roumanie, à l'occasion du 50-e anniversaire des relations diplomatiques de la Roumanie et de Kuweit. La Roumanie a participé avec huit collections de maximaphilie.

Au total, aux expositions internes et internationales ont participé 15 exposants Roumains avec 39 collections de maximaphilie. Il n'y avait aucune participation aux Expositions Mondiales FIP en Australie, en Thaïlande, au Brésil, en raison des coûts élevés d'exposition, assurance, garanties de douanes et transports.

Au Concours Mondial tenu en 2013 pour les 3 meilleures CM réalisées dans le monde en 2012, la Roumanie a participé avec la CM "*Cathédrale Métropolitaine Orthodoxe*" de Timisoara. Les résultats des jurés n'ont pas encore été prononcés.

Romfilatelia a publié 37 séries de timbres avec lesquelles elle a publié seulement neuf types de CM. Certaines associations philatéliques ont créé des CM qui répondent aux directives de la FIP/Espagne 2006 et l'Indonésie en 2012, approuvées à Rio de Janeiro en 2013 et aux principes GREV concernant les concordances nécessaires.

Un total de 29 CM ont été créées par des associations ou des groupes de maximophilie de Bucarest, Botosani, Sibiu, Ploiesti et 65 CM des réalisations personnelles des maximophiles avec expérience en maximophilie.

En 2013, 26 articles et des présentations de nouvelles CM ont été publiées dans les revues de spécialité «Le Courrier Philatélique», publié à Sibiu et 17 dans "Philatelica.ro", publiées à Bucarest, avec une destination internationale pour les articles écrits dans des langues étrangères.

L'article «Le dialogue entre les représentants de maximophilie» publié dans les deux revues, a particulièrement retenu l'attention des lecteurs car sont exposés des questions de principe et des aspects pragmatiques de la maximophilie des deux pays et au niveau européen. Le dialogue a été achevé dans deux séries de conversations qui ont eu lieu à Paris entre Mme Anny Boyard et Vasile Doros. Les revues ont publié aussi des amples articles d'analyse de la situation des collections présentées à l'exposition de Bistrita, des articles signés par les membres du jury Ceuca Mihai, Salade Nicolae et Coriolan Chiriches. Sur le blog de la Société Roumaine de Maximophilie "Dr. Valeriu Neaga (<http://srmdvn.blogspot.ro>) administré par l'ingénieur Mihai Ceuca, ont été publiés 100 articles à ce jour, qui ont porté sur différents aspects de la maximophilie roumaine et des événements de maximophilie des pays européens.

À la fin de 2012 plus de 30 000 visites des maximophiles de 73 pays ont été enregistrées. Car en 2013 les maximophiles de la Roumanie ont commémoré 10 ans depuis que le dr. Valeriu Neaga, le protecteur spirituel de la Société Roumaine de Maximophilie, est décédé, nous avons lancé un nouveau blog spécial dédié à sa commémoration, <http://rememberneaga.blogspot.ro/>. Le blog rappelle l'activité philatélique du dr. Valeriu Neaga en rapport avec ses collègues de maximophilie. Déjà vu de plus de 4000 fois, le blog constitue une véritable monographie de la maximophilie roumaine et une encyclopédie des représentants de la maximophilie.

Au cours de 2013, le Conseil d'Administration de la Société Roumaine de Maximophilie "Dr. Valeriu Neaga" a mis en titre "Le représentant de la Maximophilie de l'année. "Le premier diplôme pour ce titre a été décerné lors d'une cérémonie spécialement organisée, pour le collègue *Gheorghe Ardeleanu* suite la réalisation de deux collections de maximophilie qui, bien que présentées en première, elles ont obtenu les médailles d'Or et le Grand Vermeil, à plusieurs expositions nationales et internationales.

ROMANIA *English version*

The participation of the Romanian maximophiles in Philatelic Exhibitions, including exhibiting collections for the first time, has been a constant concern, encouraged by the Board of Directors of the Romanian society of Maximophilie "Dr. Valeriu Neaga". As the previous year, philatelic associations of six cities have organized several exhibitions with general themes where Maximophilie collections have been exhibited.

Maximophiles participated in the National Philatelic Exhibitions in 2013 as follows:

1. *Trilateral non-competitive Exhibition of Botosani-Bistrita-Sibiu* (20-27 April).
2. *Radauti* (June 5-6): a remarkable Exhibition for Youth where were presented 22 collections, including 8 collections in the Maximaphily Class.
3. *Expo Nature - Timisoara* (15-20 March): two collections of Maximaphily;
4. 110 years of Philately in *Timisoara* (May 9-12): a national exhibition where 14 collections of Maximaphily were involved and where 2 Gold medals and 1 Large Vermeil have been obtained;
5. *Filex Transsivannica* (19-25, August, Bistrita), National Exhibition with International participation: 10 collections of Maximaphily participated, including 3, adults, and a remarkable thing, 7 young. A collection on show was appreciated with the degree of Grand Vermeil and two with Vermeil.
6. *Resita* (7-9 November) 2 entries, one exhibit received a Gold medal.
7. *History, Timisoara*, (16-20 December), where 5 collections of Maximaphily participated.

International exhibitions of 2013 it participated with:

1. *HUNFILA* - Hungary (26-28 April): one collection valued a Silver-Bronze Medal;
 - 2.. *Bilateral Luxembourg-Romania*, Sibiu (26 June - 1 July): Exhibition of Philately that has become traditional, four collections of Sibiu. Remarkable is the fact that there were new exhibitors of Maximaphily Romanians to this cultural event.
 3. *MAMER 2013* - Luxembourg (9-10 November): International Exhibition of Maximaphily. Romania participated with two collections getting a Gold and a Grand Vermeil;
 4. *POSTEX 2013* - in Apeldoorn, Netherlands (18-28 October), non-competitive International Exhibition of Maximaphilie non-competitive, where it participated with one collection;
 5. *Kuwait 2013* (3-5 November): exhibition organized under the patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Romania, on the occasion of the 50-th anniversary of diplomatic relations of the Romania and Kuwait. The Romania participated with eight collections of Maximaphily.
- In total, 15 Romanian exhibitors participated at National and International exhibitions with 39 collections of Maximaphily.

There was no participation in the FIP World Exhibitions in *Australia*, in *Thailand*, in *Brazil*, because of the high exposure, insurance, guarantees of customs costs and transportation.

Romania participated in the World Competition, held in 2013, for the 3 Best Maximum Cards created in 2012, with the Maximum card of the "*Orthodox Metropolitan Cathedral*" of Timisoara, created by *Muntean Matius*.

Romfilatelia issued 37 sets of stamps and published only 9 Maximum Cards. Some philatelic associations have created Maximum Cards which correspond to the directives of the FIP/Spain 2006 and Indonesia in 2012, approved in Rio de Janeiro in 2013 and principles GREV on necessary concordance.

A total of 29 Maximum Cards were created by Associations or Groups of Maximaphily of Bucharest, Botosani, Sibiu, Ploiesti and 65 Maximum Cards by individual persons with experience in maximaphily. In 2013, 26 articles and presentations of new Maximum Cards were published in specialty journals "*The Philatelic Courier*", published in Sibiu and 17 in "*Philatelica.ro*", published in Bucharest, with an international destination for articles written in foreign languages.

The article "*Dialogue between the representatives of Maximaphily*" was published in two journals, particularly attention readers as are questions of principle and pragmatic aspects of the maximaphily of the two countries (France and Romania) and at European level.» The dialogue was completed in two series of conversations that took place in Paris between Mme *Anny Boyard* and *Vasile Doros*. The journals also published further articles of analysis of the situation collections presented at the exhibition of *Bistrita*, articles signed by the members of the jury *Balfour Mihai*, *Nicolae Salade* and *Coriolan Chiriches*.

On the blog of the Romanian society of Maximaphilie "*Dr. Valeriu Neaga* (<http://srmdvn.blogspot.ro>) administered by engineer *Mihai Ceuca*, have published 100 articles to date, which focused on various aspects of the Romanian Maximaphily and Europe's Maximaphilie events. At the end of 2012 more than 30,000 visits to the maximaphiles from 73 countries have been registered. Because in 2013 the maximaphiles of the Romania commemorated 10 years since *Dr. Valeriu Neaga*, the spiritual protector of our Maximaphily Society, we launched a new special blog dedicated to the commemoration, <http://rememberneaga.blogspot.ro/>. The blog recalls the philatelic activity of *Dr. Valeriu Neaga* in connection with his colleagues in Maximaphily. Already seen more 4000 times, the blog is a true monograph of the Romanian maximaphily and an encyclopaedia of the representatives of the maximaphily.

In 2013, the Board of Directors of the Romanian society of Maximaphily "*Dr. Valeriu Neaga*" highlighted title "The representative of Maximaphilie of the Year." The first degree for this title was awarded a specially organized ceremony for Mr *Gheorghe Ardeleanu* continued the realization of two collections of Maximaphily which, although that they wre presented for first time, they obtained Gold medals and the Large Vermeil at several National and International exhibitions.

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

-In 2013, there were at least 35 Maximum Cards created by individual maximaphilists, without counting the "variantes" MC. These Maximum Cards used as support Russian commercial postcards and ancient

postcards, in accordance with the regulations of the F.I.P. In addition, there were 10 more Maximum Cards created using imprint stamps cut out from Postal Stationeries.

-One Maximaphily exhibit was presented at a *World Stamp Exhibition THAILAND 2013*, plus one exhibit at a National Exhibition. The book "*Saint-Petersburg in Maximum Cards*" by Galina Chudessova was exhibited at the Intern. Exhibition *THAILAND 2013* and her new book "*Saint-Petersburg and The House of Romanov*" (Maximaphily) was exhibited at the National Exhibition *RUSSIA 2013* (Vermeil medal).

-In 2013, there were 4 articles on Maximaphily published in the National Monthly "*Philately*".

-Russia did participate in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* with the Maximum Card of the ARCHTECTORAL ENSEMBLE OF THE HOLY ST. TRINITY SERGIUS LAVRA, SERGIEV- POSAD' (a personal realization). The *Trinity Lavra of St. Sergius* was founded in 1345. It is the most important Russian monastery and the spiritual center of the Russian Orthodox Church, situated in the town of *Sergiyev Posad*, about 70 km NE of Moscow and currently is home to over 300 monks. This Maximum Card of RUSSIA won the 2nd Prize with 57 points and was created by Valery Petrov.

RUSSIA (Valery PETROV) *French version.*

- Au moins 35 cartes-maximum des réalisations personnelles, sans compter CM "variantes", ont été créées en 2013 par des maximaphiles individuels avec des timbres-poste de la Russie sur des cartes du commerce et cartes anciennes en conformité avec les règlements de la F.I.P. On peut y ajouter plus de 10 CM faites avec des timbres commémoratifs découpés des entiers postaux.

- La Poste de la Russie n'a pas réalisé des cartes-maximum en 2013.

- Une collection russe de maximaphilie a été présentée à *World Stamp Exhibition THAILAND 2013* et une autre collection à l'exposition philatélique de niveau national. Galina Tchudessova a montré son livre «*Saint-Petersbourg en cartes-maximum*» à *THAILAND 2013* et un livre neuf «*les Romanovs et Saint-Petersbourg: deux siècles ensemble*» (la maximaphilie) à l'exposition nationale *RUSSIA 2013* (une médaille Vermeil). En outre elle a publié 4 articles sur ce sujet dans un périodique philatélique.

-La Russie a participé au Concours mondial pour la meilleur CM de 2012. Elle s'est présentée cette fois-ci avec la CM de ENSEMBLE ARCHTECTORAL DE LA SAINTE TRINITÉ DE ST. SERGIUS LAVRA, SERGIEV-POSSAD' une CM de réalisation personnelle. La *Trinité laure de Saint-Serge* a été fondée en 1345. Il est le plus important monastère russe et le centre spirituel de l'Eglise orthodoxe russe, situé dans la ville de *Serguiev Posad*, à 70 km au nord-est de Moscou et est actuellement abrite plus de 300 moines. Cette Carte Maximum de RUSSIE a remporté le 2^{ème} Prix avec 57 points et a été créée par Valery Petrov.

40. SERBIA (Zlatimir MALJICA)

Our Maximaphily Association realized 11 Maximum Cards, it is not much, but it is enough for now. On the other hand, Individual Maximaphilists did much better by realizing about 43 Maximum Cards on the following topics: *Composers, Theater Actors, Personalities, Science & Education, Scenic views, Orchids, Postal Vehicles, Equestrian Games, Icons and Christmas.*

In 2013, Maximaphilists participated in several local exhibitions. Also our Association organized one exhibition. We had several lectures about Maximaphily at the schools for pupils of ages 13 - 15.

In 2013, Serbia did participate in the *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Entry '*YEAR OF THE DRAGON - CHINESE LUNAR HOROSCOPE*', created by Serbia Post (Card design by *Boban Savic*).

41. SINGAPORE (Richard Tan)

There were no major activities observed of Maximaphily at our Association level.

No serious exhibit of such nature were seen to the best of my knowledge at the National Exhibition. There were no report of serious activities at the local club but to my best knowledge, there were 3 Maximaphily collectors on top of causal collectors, who have not participated at Nationals yet. We hope to encourage and gather their participation in this area in the near future.

Activities at Club Level

There were various activities at different Clubs level where stamp collecting is concerned. As Singapore Post do not issue maxi cards, some private collector were seen using personal designs to enhance their collection. At exhibitions and at local events we observed minimum maximaphily interest.2)

National Schools Level

There were collectors and school participation mainly in the area of Thematic and Traditional during last year's School Events.

Individual collectors, mostly casual, do buy and collect maxi cards. Local stamp auctions continue to sell such items to collectors as well as to local dealers.

We are facing the same problems as in any other classes of stamp collecting lacking a new younger generation to support this hobby. Philatelic interest in schools very actively promoted and this is a main source of attractions to the young collectors. They will be encouraged to participate at Nationals. Many of these schools won medals and were very much encouraged by their teaches as part of their ECA.

Articles and Bulletins were not seen during these period.

The stamp issuing authority, Singapore Post, did not produce any official Maximum Card in the Year 2013. To promote and strengthen Maximaphily, the issuing authority's support will be very crucial and I will take every opportunity to put this forward to them to reconsider issuing official Maxi Cards. With Singapore hosting the World Stamp Exhibition in August 2015, we will bring this issue with them for reconsideration. Last year, during the Thailand World Stamps Exhibition, a pair of Post cards specially commissioned by Association of Singapore Philatelists was issued and the official Post Paid was being supported by the Singapore Post.

In 2013, Singapore's Entry at the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* was the Maximum Card 'PANDAS 'KAI KAI & JIA JIA' AT SINGAPORE ZOO' created by the Singapore Post.

42. SLOVAKIA (Július Molnár)

- In 2013, there were 4 new Maximum Cards in Slovakia, 2 by our Slovak Maximaphily Association and 2 by Individuals. There were no official Maximum Cards our Postal Services.

- In Nov. 2013, we participated in the Exhibition '*Maximaphily 2013*' in *Tarnow*, Poland, which had 24 Maximaphily Exhibits from Poland, Slovakia and Belaruss.

- We have published articles and also published a book: '*SLOVAKIA - Country of History, Culture and Natural Beauties in Maximaphily*'.

In 2013 Slovakia did participate in the *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card '*ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST*', 1906 Bronze by sculptor *Jan Koniarek*, created by *Julius Molnar*

43. SLOVENIA (Bojan Bračič)

1. Any **new Maximum Card realization** in 2013 by Associations:

1.1 Five Philatelic Societies, members of Slovenian Philatelic Association made 5 different MC from set of five stamps issued by Post of Slovenia with theme bridges.

1.2 *Maribor* Phil. Society made another MC from the same card and stamp but with another cancellation

1.3 Philatelic society *Idria* made 4 MC from Personalized Stamps

1.4 Philatelic Society *Ajdovscina* made 2 MC, one from stamp issued by Post of Slovenia, one with Personalized Stamp

1.5 *Postojnska jama L.t.d.* made 1 MC from stamp issued by Post of Slovenia

2. Any **new Maximum Card realization** in 2013 by Individuals:

2.1 I made with this year cancellation one MC from stamp issued in 2012 by Post of Slovenia (*Bridge in Maribor*).

2.2 A few collectors made MC from stamp with *Postojna Cave* but I have not exact data about this; thus in 2013 there was a total of about 14 Maximum Cards in Slovenia.

3. Any **new Maximaphily Exhibit** built up:

Mr. *Petauer* build up two 1-frame Maximaphily Exhibits.

4. Any **Maximaphily** participation in a **National** level **exhibition**:

4.1 On *FIMERA 2013* inter-societies exhibition, Maximaphily Class was represented with four 1-frame Exhibits (two from Slovenia, two from Macedonia)

4.2 On *Okno Kranj* (Specialized one frame exhibition); Maximaphily Class was represented with five exhibits (two from Slovenia, two from Macedonia and one from Serbia).

5. Any **lecture** in Maximaphily attended or given.

I have given a lecture with power point presentation **How to build good Maximum Card Exhibit**, during the *FIMERA 2013* Exhibition.

6. Slovenia took part in the **Vote World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012**.

7. New ideas or **remarks for improving** Maximaphily:

7.1 I will try to organize a group of Maximaphilists under our Association.

7.2 In first number of *Nova filatelija* magazine of Slovenian Philatelic Association, all MC mentioned in point 1. of this report, will be published and we will have the 1st National Competition for the Best MC created in 2013.

7.3 On March 18th we will have the 2nd Specialized Exhibition 'MaksiRavne 2014' with Maximaphily Class and Pictured Postcard Class only.

44. SPAIN (Juan Antonio Casas Pajares) *English version*

The President of the FIP Commission Maximaphily *George Constantourakis* invited me to be appointed a Bureau Member. I accepted, following consultation with *Fernando Aranaz*, President of the Spanish Federation. I have requested support FESOFI (Spanish Philatelic Federation) for the Maximaphily Class at National Exhibitions.

I have asked the Philatelic Service Spanish Post - through the Spanish federation – that for every new issue, provide cancellations in locations relevant to the theme of the stamps issued. This petition has received a good reception. We appreciate the support of our Spanish Federation on this topic.

Another complain that keeps coming from Collectors issue the lack of timely information about the exact image of the cancellation of upcoming new stamp issues. The logic is that if these images were to be published well in advance of the issue date, this would give us enough preparation time to create our maximum cards. Sometimes the image of the postmark is not appropriate for a Maximum Card, such was the case with first day postmark of the Christmas series. ASEMA chose to make its Maximum Cards with the ordinary Madrid postmark.

Many newsletters and press philatelic societies and journals reproduce Maximum Cards, as embodiments of partners or accompanying items. They are asking members of our Association to participate in Philatelic Exhibitions with their Maximaphily collections. These collections are usually of great interest to visitors, for achieving the concordance of the 3 elements of a Maximum Card, that is the Stamp, the Postcard and the Cancellation.

On the occasion of the 28th anniversary of ASEMA, we have upgraded our website www.asemamaximofilia.com with more content and more user friendly. When visiting this site, you can see all the Maximum Cards made by our Association. They are recorded digitally on every issue of your magazine *Maximaphily Notes* and the cover can be downloaded in a .pdf file. You can also review the Regulations of Maximaphily and get news of their activities. For wider dissemination, we have also introduced a translator.

The Spanish Association Maximaphily published this year numbers 45 and 46 of its magazine *Apuntes de Maximofilia*, which remains in high demand. ASEMA makes a wide distribution among philatelic societies and national executives and national delegates Maximaphily. Publication and distribution absorb most of their income. The booklet is published in full color.

This year ASEMA has made 45 Maximum Cards, 18 more than the previous year. Some with ordinary concordant postmark, for lack of concordant illustrated First Day cancellation. Several members of the committee belong to groups that are dedicated to creating their own Maximum Cards, using both regular new Stamp issues and also Personalized Stamps, which are being well received by the Spanish philatelists.

To promote realization of quality Maximum Cards, ASEMA has carried out in 2012 its “3rd Best Maximum Card National Contest” with ASEMA partners in 2012. In this issue involving more partners

and Maximum Cards of better quality. The 3rd prize was won, "*Puerta de Santa Maria, Burgos*," realization of socio nº 452 D. Pastor Pedro San Miguel. The 2nd prize was "*St. James, Portico of the Cathedral of Santiago*", created by socio nº 503 D. Broseta Santiago Diaz. The 1st prize was "*Gate of the King Casto's Chapel, Oviedo Cathedral*", created by socio nº 512 D. Juan Pablo Álvarez Díaz. The jury noted that all winning maximum cards had a nice triple concordance of Stamp, Postcard and Illustrated Cancellation. Next year, we will carry our 4th National Contest.

ASEMA participated in the "*10th World Competition of the Three Best Cards created in 2012*", organized by the FIP Commission Maximaphily to promote the realization of maximum cards among collectors. ASEMA's Entry was the "*Burgos Cathedral*" which had a nice set of matching triple image.

Maximaphily Collections were present in the following Exhibitions:

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FESOFI, in *Chiclana de la Frontera* (Cádiz), XXVIII EXCLEFIL 2013 in Valladolid; EXFILNA 2013 in Leon, XXII Philatelic Exhibition, MONTILLA 2013 in Montilla (Córdoba); XIII Philatelic Exhibition FEVAFIL 50th Anniversary of FESOFI in Valencia; XXIII cycle Cultural Exhibition dedicated to "Antonio García Gutiérrez Bicentennial" in Chiclana de la Frontera (Cádiz).

On June 5, within the exhibition "*50 years of FESOFI*" in Chiclana de la Frontera, I was invited by the Philatelic Association Chiclanera ODA to teach a **Seminar** on Maximaphily(see photos above). I made a presentation entitled "*Talking Maximaphily*" where attendees pose questions about key points of the regulations and ask your opinion about some their realizations. This involved all present and clarify any doubts about our collecting. Participants included even those with limited knowledge about Maximaphily. At the end I threw the challenge to all present, to create and exhibit a Maximaphily collection, even if it is of 1-Frame. On Nov. 11, I gave a similar presentation, as part of the *Philatelic Tertulias Ateneo de Cádiz*. I asked them to give their opinions. This presentation was not to pretend that I only talk about the rules, but everyone involved with their knowledge and opinions, and mainly to be able to interpret the fundamental points Maximaphily. This presentation, with audience participation was very enjoyable. Members of this commission have published interesting articles spreading various aspects and regulations Maximaphily, philatelic societies in several magazines. The magazine '*EL ECO FILATÉLICO Y NUMÍSMATICO*', receiving all Spanish philatelic societies, published in its issue for January 1214 my article "**Maximaphily**" fundamentals of our collecting class" and invited Collector to assemble and exhibit collections of maximum cards. In numbers 45 and 46 of the magazine *APUNTES DE MAXIMOFILIA* I have published articles entitled "**Roller Postmarks (first day) of Madrid and Barcelona, of no philatelic value**" where I ask the Spanish Philatelic Service to issue postmarks in consistent locations. *Manuel Manzorro Navas* published in the online magazine, an interesting article "**Maximaphily... a stranger?**" With many graphic examples of our regulations.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to *Fernando Aranz del Río*, (President of the Spanish Federation of Philatelic Societies) for the support he has given to our Class Maximaphily during the years of his tenure and to wish him every success in his new role as Vice President FIP and its collections and philatelic works. At the beginning of 2014, Mr. *Miguel Angel García Fernández* takes over the presidency of FESOFI, I present him with my congratulations and wish him every success in the development of office and I express my collaboration and support.

45. SWEDEN (Vivi-Ann Rangfors)

GENERAL COMMENTS/ MAXIMUM CARD REALIZATIONS:

Every year the Swedish Post issues a number of Maximum Cards. These are sought after by both Swedish and foreign collectors. However, Swedish MC collectors are people who have a subscription and then putting the Maximum Cards in an album. They are not very active and we have no exhibitors in this class. In 2013, the Swedish Post created 9 Maximum Cards, issued on 2 different occasions as follows: **4 MC's**, Insects and **5 MC's**, Stoves.

WORLD COMPETITION OF THE BEST MAXIMUM CREATED IN 2012:

In 2013, Sweden participated in the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* with the Maximum Card of '*ERIC LEMMING - Javelin Gold Olympian - Stockholm 1912 Olympics*', created by Posten Frimarken AB' (Swedish Post).

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

Contrairement à ce qui était affirmé en début du rapport de l'année 2012, les exercices annuels se suivent et ne se ressemblent pas toujours. Si le nombre de cartes-maximum réalisées en 2012, par rapport à l'exercice précédent, était semblable à 2 unités près, ce n'est pas le cas pour l'exercice 2013. En effet, à fin 2012 l'Association annonçait pour l'exercice écoulé la réalisation de 19 cartes-maximum - et 21 en 2011 -, alors que pour 2013 on compte 39 réalisations. Il convient de remonter jusqu'à l'année 2008 pour obtenir un résultat comparable et au-delà de 2006 pour des chiffres supérieurs.

Comment expliquer ce résultat, alors que l'Association est toujours confrontée à la disparition de petites maisons locales d'éditions de cartes illustrées au format de la carte postale. A cela il convient d'ajouter que plusieurs séries de timbres-poste suisses abordent des sujets dont la représentation graphique relève de l'art abstrait ou du symbolisme, ou que le thème abordé n'entrant pas dans le domaine habituel de recherche de cartes illustrées à collectionner ou à envoyer aux amis et connaissances, les éditeurs n'ont aucun intérêt à les proposer à la vente. Alors comment expliquer cette subite croissance ? Elle est principalement due aux connaissances, aux relations et à la ténacité d'un membre récent de l'Association, Monsieur *Ulrich Aebi*, qui ajoute à toutes ses qualités celle de pratiquer la langue de Goethe... C'est grâce aux recherches et aux interventions de ce membre auprès de nos compatriotes Suisses alémaniques que les membres de l'AMS ont pu acquérir des cartes-maximum susceptibles de compléter leurs collections maximaphiles traitant de divers thèmes, tels que: l'alimentation, les animaux domestiques, l'architecture, la botanique, l'eau, l'histoire, l'industrie, la littérature et les BD, les loisirs, les métiers, les oiseaux, le patrimoine, la protection de la nature, les sports ou encore les transports.

Le service des nouveautés et la gestion courante de l'Association prenant beaucoup de notre temps, nous avons dû réduire quelque peu notre engagement dans le domaine de l'information. Celui-ci n'a donc consisté au cours de l'exercice 2013 à faire paraître un article traitant de la maximaphilie et des activités de l'AMS, dans chaque Bulletin trimestriel "Rhône Philatélie" de l'Entente philatélique Valais - Haut Léman. A cela s'ajoutent les relations avec d'autres sociétés philatéliques avec notamment l'envoi de notre rapport annuel, ou encore la participation à plusieurs Bourses-Expositions compétitives:

- 1.- MEYRIN (Genève), Bourse-Exposition du Club Philatélique de Meyrin, le 16 mars 2013
- Monnet Willy, "*Le langage des plantes*".
- 2.- MACON (France), Groupement régional Rhône-Alpes, Exposition Rang 2, du 6 - 7 avril 2013
- Monnet Willy, "*Le langage des plantes*", Argent.
- 3.- NAFELS (Glaris), Glabra 2013, Exposition Rang II, du 13 - 15 septembre 2013, Monnet Willy, "*Le langage des Plantes*", Vermeil et -Ramillon Jean-Pierre, "*Evolution du monde animal*", Vermeil.
- 4.- ST-JEAN DE MAURIENNE (France), Fête du Timbre, Exposition départementale 12-13 octobre 2013
- Ramillon Jean-Pierre, "*Evolution du monde animal*", Grand Argent.
- 5.- MEYRIN (Genève), Bourse-Exposition du Club Philatélique de Meyrin, 30 novembre 2013
- Monnet Willy, "*L'aéronautique en maximaphilie*".

SWITZERLAND *English version*

In 2013, our AMS (Association Maximaphile Suisse), contrary to what it stated at the beginning of last year's report, that the annual exercises follow each other, it now states that they do not always look the same. If the number of cards-maximum in 2012, compared to the previous year, was similar to 2 units closely, this is not the case for fiscal year 2013. Indeed, end of 2012 Association announced for the past fiscal year the realization of 19 Maximum Cards - and 21 in 2011 - while 2013 it has achieved 39 Maximum Card realizations. We have to go back to the year 2008 to see a comparable result and beyond 2006 for greater figures.

How to explain this result, while the Association is always faced with the disappearance of small local publishers of illustrated cards in postcard format. It should be added that several sets of stamps Swiss address topics of the graphic representation of abstract art or symbolism, or that the theme do not enter the field ordinarily research cards illustrated collectible or to send to friends and acquaintances, publishers have no interest to offer them for sale. Then how can we explain this sudden growth? It is mainly due to knowledge, relationships and the tenacity of a recent member of the Association, Mr *Ulrich Aebi*, which

adds to its qualities to practice the language of Goethe... It is thanks to the research and interventions of this member from our fellow German-speaking Swiss members of the AMS that were able to acquire more postcard supports to create maximum cards and complete our Maximaphily collections dealing with various themes, such as: food, pets, architecture, Botany, water, history, industry, literature and comics, hobbies, crafts, birds, heritage, the protection of nature, sports and even transport.

Service news and day-to-day management of the Association taking many of our time, we had somewhat reduce our commitment in the field of information. We still managed to publish an article on maximaphily and the activities of the AMS, in each of the three annual Bulletins of "*Rhône Philately*" of the philatelic agreement Bulletin Valais - Upper Geneva. In addition, relations with other philatelic societies are maintained which include the sending of our annual report, or even participation in several competitive exhibitions.

Maximaphily Exhibits were shown at competitive or not exhibitions, both in Switzerland and France:

- 1.- MEYRIN(Geneva) Phil. Exhib. Meyrin Club, March 16, 2013, Willy Monnet, "*The language of plants*"
- 2.- MACON (France), regional exhibition Rhône-Alpes, April 6-7, 2013, Willy Monnet, "*The language of plants*", Silver medal.
- 3.- NÄFELS (Glarus), Glabra 2013, exhibition Rang II, Sept.13-15, 2013, Willy Monnet, "*The language of plants*", Vermeil medal and Jean-Pierre Ramillon, "*Evolution of the animal world*", Vermeil medal.
- 4.- ST-JEAN DE MAURIENNE (France), Festival du Timbre, October 12-13, 2013, Jean-Pierre Ramillon, "*Evolution of the animal world*", Large Silver medal.
- 5.- MEYRIN(Geneva), Phil. exhibition Club of Meyrin, November 30, 2013 – Willy Monnet, "*Aeronautics in Maximaphily*".

47. THAILAND (Weerawat Bongkotkorn)

There is no active Maximaphily philatelists in Thailand and there is no group / circle / club for Maximaphily. Some Thai Collectors show interest in creating and collecting Maximum Cards. One such example Maximum Card for H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej's 86th Birthday Anniversary. The Thai Post occasionally issues Maximum Cards. For example the issue of 8 MC's 'General Post Office After Renovation'

In 2013, Thailand's Entry at the *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012* was the Maximum Card 'KING MENGRAI THE GREAT STATUE, CHIANG RAI' created by Thailand Post.

48. TURKEY (Muzaffer ARDA)

In 2013 activities of Maximaphily are listed below:

- 1) As we mentioned last year report we have started the seminars about Maximaphily in the local Philatelic Associations, This year we also continued those seminars including the North Cyprus too. *Nicos Rangos* (FIP Maximaphily Commission Former Chairmen) did accompany us in this seminar and he talked about "*The Beautiful World of Maximaphily*"
- 2) Maximum Card Exhibits took part in local exhibitions.
- 3)At '*Australia 2013*' World Stap Exhibition, there was 1 exhibit Maximaphily Exhibit entitled: '*Classic Card Maximums of Turkey - Ottoman and Early Republic Period*'. This exhibit had a lot of excellent rare material. Unfortunately, on account of the poor the treatment, knowoledge of rules and presentation it got only a Silver Bronze medal. 4) PTT has not been issued any maximum cards in 2013, therefore Turkish philatelists produced their own Maximum Cards.
- 5) In 2013, Turkey took part in the **Vote** *World Competition of the Best Maximum Card created in 2012.*

49. UKRAINE (Veslav SAVIN)

Throughout 2013 in Ukraine was made 22 Maximum Cards by private persons and the 5 by the Posts, thus total 27 Maximum Cards.

I participated in the National Show *OdesFil 2013* as a Judge, as well I exhibited in the World Exhibition in *THAILAND 2013* and received a Silver medal.

In 2013 UKRAINE participated in the *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition* with the Maximum Card 'FORTRESS OF SUDAK IN CRIMEA, (1800 years since the founding of *Sudak* in 212 AD), created by *Veslav Savin*.

50. UNITED STATES (Terry WATSON)

In 2013 the North American Maximum Card Study Unity (MACSU) continued to strive to increase the awareness of maximaphily within the United States. One strategy was the continued publishing of MACSU's quarterly E-Journal, the "*North American Maximaphily*". Four quarterly E-Journals were published in 2013 and were distributed at no cost to known maximum card collectors and the Presidents of the various maximum card clubs around the world. Another 50 journals were sent at no cost to eBay buyers who purchased maximum cards at this internet auction site. Anyone wishing a copy of the E-Journal may contact the MACSU President at terryw7633@comcast.net.

During 2013, MACSU continued to make improvements on its website that was created last year. This website can be accessed at www.macsu.org. The site offers members the opportunity to share scans of their favorite maximum cards, download copies of recent MACSU Journals, and provides links to a variety of other maximum card websites. In 2014 this web site will be expanded and improved.

MACSU had a presence at the Americover Convention and Exhibition in Independence, Ohio in August of 2013. A maximum card seminar was held at this show sponsored by the American First Day Cover Society.

MACSU is aware of only one maximum card Exhibit within the USA in 2013—a 1-frame exhibit at the Philatelic Show 2013: Boxboro, MA on *Belgium's Atomium* which earned a silver medal. Maximum Card exhibits are rarely seen at American Stamp Exhibitions and Stamp Shows.

All maximum cards realized in the United States are collector-made as MACSU does not produce maximum cards, nor has the United States Postal Service produced cards in decades. Most maximaphilists in the United States realize only a small number of USA cards for their personal collection and maybe a few duplicates for trade or selling on the internet. Close to 100 different USA 2013 stamps were used in the realization of maximum cards in 2013. Some of these maximum cards were made in very limited numbers (less than 5 copies), while several cards were realized in multiples of 50 cards. A few collectors also are active in realizing non-USA cards.

The United States participated in the *2012 Best Maximum Card World Competition* by entering a card that used a stamp commemorating the '*CHERRY BLOSSOMS*' of Washington, DC. This card was realized by MACSU member, *Frank Kohut*.

51. VENEZUELA (Ignacio Martinello)

Our Maximaphily activity during the Year 2013 was quite simple, we are trying to move forward little by little, as the circumstances allow us.

In 2013, Venezuela did take part in the **Vote** *World Competition of the 2012 Best Maximum Card*.

Closing remarks:

- We extend our cordial thanks to all our National Delegates for their support and to all the Bureau Members, to *N. Rangos* (past President) for their support and advice in all matters.
 - We are looking forward to continue receiving the support, cooperation and friendly approach from the FIP President *Tay Peng Hian*, from the FIP Vice-Presidents & Directors and in particular from the Director responsible for Maximaphily *Bernard Beston*, for the benefit of the continuous progress our Maximaphily Class and of Philately in general.
- Respectfully yours

George Constantourakis
Chairman
FIP Maximaphily Commission