



JUNE 2006

World Maximaphily Activity Report for 2005

Increasing trend of Worldwide Maximaphily

Once again we very much appreciate the efforts of the FIP Maximaphily Commission delegates who had the kindness to respond to our invitation enriching by this way our world Maximaphily report and covering the most important activities of their own country during the year 2005.

Thirty six countries (36), the highest recorded up today, out of fifty one (51) represented in the FIP Commission for Maximaphily, participated in the present worldwide Maximaphily activity report: Albania, Armenia, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Germany, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italia, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, USA and Venezuela.

We welcome the new delegates to the Commission: Mrs. Ana Ortiz (Mexico), Mr. Cesar Rialdi (Italy).

Our FIP Maximaphily commission Bureau was very active all over the year 2005 and the first six months of 2006:

- Reproduction of the new 2004 SREV and Guidelines of Maximaphily on the Internet site of the FIP.
- Diffusion of the official texts and reports to the delegates
- Improvement of our communication with the delegates.
- Publication of articles and reports in the FIP Flash magazine.
- Publication of articles related to Maximaphily in the other national and international philatelic press.
- Consisted efforts to convince the postal administrations to create maximum cards in conformity to the regulations.
- Introducing and promoting Maximaphily in the countries where it is not yet known.
- Offering on request to the National Philatelic Federations an electronic documentation on our speciality.
- Continuing and further improving the international competition of the best maximum card of each year.
- Improving Maximaphily regulations and making them clearer and more easily understood by all the shareholders.
- Seminars during national and international exhibitions

MAXIFRANCE 2005, Maximaphily championship, which was held in France under the patronage of the FFAP, the 23 to September 25, 2005 in Corbeil-Essonnes, was a great success and especially proved the interest of our speciality on its world-wide capacity (see *report Flash n° 94*). The participation of 16 European countries, plus Canada and China, is the result of the outstanding dynamism of the persons in charge for our speciality. We would like to congratulate all the persons involved, the delegates who were present, as well as the collectors - exhibitors for their considerable work.

The growing number of participants to the world competition of the best Maximum card created during 2004 delights us. We would like to express our sincere thanks to the delegates for their own interest towards this successful competition.

The Maximaphily Symposium of Sunday September 25 allowed to clarify Maximaphily and to show the interest which it might have for youth philately.

The FIP Maximaphily Commission delegates had a meeting in the afternoon of the same day being studied on the amendments of the regulations which govern Maximaphily. The target was to harmonize the points of view by taking account of all the remarks of each one of the delegates on the texts published after Singapore 2004, in particular related to the problem of the following article "Except for old postcards up to 1940, the picture must take up at least 75 % of the area of the postcard and offer the best possible concordance with the subject of the stamp or with one of them, if there are several" for which we found later the best solution making happy the opponent parties.

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

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

Even the countries which participated actively in the present world Maximaphily activity report have actually considerably increased from 18 in 2003, to 30 in 2004 and 36 in 2005.

During the recent Maximaphily Seminar, hosted in Washington '06, very important questions were discussed mainly for:

- The exit polls during exhibitions proving that visitors find Maximaphily as the most attractive and popular of the FIP classes.

- The increasing worldwide public interest for Maximaphily.
- The four high level (Gold and Large Vermeil) Maximaphily exhibits which were exhibited in Washington 2006.
- The fact that only in Maximaphily class the collector has the right to create himself his own philatelic collectable items.
- The new regulation for the antiquity of the Maximum cards which goes back to 1880-1946.
- The amendment of the previous difficult and complicated regulations which have been recently changed to new, simple, clear and understandable.

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

The success of the "World Best Maximum Card Competition" for the best M.C. created during the year 2003 and 2004 which were achieved in Singapore and in Corbeil-Essonnes in France was much appreciated by the participants. This is why we decided to repeat it this year in Malaga for the Best Maximum Card created during the year 2005.

Many delegates express different ideas and explain in their reports that the "World Best Maximum Card Competition" is a really good and creative idea and for this reason must be continued. Consequently we announce that the entry forms for the world best maximum card created during the year 2005 are expected to arrive to the Chairman address before August 31, 2006. The Competition will be held in Malaga next October.

Albania (Nikolla Xharo)

In Albania two five frames Maximaphily exhibits were mounted according the FIP regulations and participated to international exhibitions and competitions gaining bronze, silver and large silver medals. One of them with the subject of national costumes gained large silver medal in the World Philatelic Exhibition España 2004 held in Valencia.

Armenia (Sedrak Nercessian)

Thirty collectors from Armenia and twenty five from other countries (Argentina, France, India, Iran, USA and others) appear members of the Armenian Maximaphily Association. During 2004, five members of the A.M.A. participated to different national philatelic exhibitions organised by our Federation and were qualified for international level. The same year three children of different age were initiated to Maximaphily forming the first youth group in our country. We have participated to the Best Maximum Card World Competition for 2004 held during Maxifrance'05. During the same year, our Association created eight new Maximum-cards and one of them was decided to participate to the 2005 Best Maximum Card World Competition which will be held in Malaga next October.

Argentina (Roberto Wang)

- We have created about 10 Maximum Cards in 2005 because there where not more topic

We read all Maximaphily journals received from France and Spain.

Argentina did not organise any Maximaphily Exhibition the past year, but included all Maximaphily exhibits in the program of general exhibitions.

- The only one Maximaphily collection participated in a national exhibition received where it received a Large Silver medal.

Argentina participated in the best MC World Competition held in France in 2005. I prepared a MC for next Competition and suggest that in the future will be permitted more than one participation from each country in any competition. I think that will be better and useful.

- The Argentine Postal Services do not produce special Maximum cards, and the very few issued were not correct according the regulations in spite my advices to the Postal Services which seems not to be interested in this.

- I try to overcome the problems of Maximaphily in Argentina where are not correct Postal Cards, most of the people do not know what Maximaphily is and there is not specific Maximaphily Jury.

Australia (Barbara Bartsch)

- Maximaphily is still struggling in Australia. At our International "PACIFIC EXPLORER" Exhibition, in April 2005, there were nine entries. The most in number and the best in quality I have ever seen in Australia. Unfortunately they were all from overseas exhibitors.

- In the New Zealand National Exhibition in, November 2005, there were four exhibits with three of them from Australia.

I was one of them. I exhibited a new 5 frame collection, 'A Tourist in Spain' and received a Large Silver, which satisfied me, because I know it can be improved before I exhibit again next year.

- In March this year in "Canberra 2006", I exhibited my older collection of 'Roads and Bridges' as part of a State Team, and received Vermeil (Silver Gold)

- Locally, I hold Stamp Clubs at three different local primary schools and introduce them to postcards and Maxi Cards. As co-ordinator of the National Australian Youth Magazine, I try to show Maxi Cards whenever I can. In June 2005, we took advice from a school and issued the magazine with the theme "Visual Art of the Australian Aborigines" and were able to illustrate it with graphic examples on Australia Post Maxi Cards.
- Over the years I have been complaining to Australia Post whenever they issue a BAD Maxi Card. This year I have noticed a great improvement.
- I have read the GREV and Guidelines and am delighted that so many ambiguous points have been clarified.
- It will make it easier for hopeful Maximaphilists to know what is correct and what is not.

Austria (Peter Riedl)

- In Austria we are a few collectors for Maximum Cards. In 2005 two from us have exhibited our five exhibits in Austria and abroad. Two exhibitors had been in Kerkrade (NL) by the multilateral and we had both got Vermeil Awards. I obtained twice Large Vermeil Awards in Brno and Corbeil-Essonnes. The other exhibits were displayed in Austria.
- I visited the "1er Championnat européen de maximaphilie" and the symposium in Corbeil-Essonnes. In the year 2005 we realized 3 CM (private).
- We had a problem with the postal administration in Austria. Many years long did not have the official maximum cards concordance with the picture. In the year 2004 I had with the Austrian postal administration some discussions and I could hand over the FIP regulations to the competent official woman. She promised me that starting from 28.12.2004 the FIP regulations in the future will be respected. With the edition 2005 it did not fit again. Then it came again to a discussion over it. With a painting the card is to show the same picture, as the stamp. On the card however the stamp or their draft may not be shown. - -
- However the original of the painting is to be demonstrated. Now I hope that the postal administration will make all right in future.

Belgique (Pierre Vandenhautte)

- Au cours de l'année 2005 un nouveau délégué national a été nommé pour la commission de maximaphilie : Monsieur Pierre Vandenhautte, Allée des Pins, 18 6200 CHATELINEAU (Belgique) remplace Monsieur André SANDERS qui a donné sa démission pour une retraite bien méritée. Au mois de décembre 2005, la Fédération Royale des Cercles Philatéliques de Belgique (F.R.C.P.B.) a prolongé le mandat du délégué pour une durée de 3 ans.
- Un colloque réunissant les commissaires provinciaux et les collectionneurs de la discipline a été organisé.
- Les Maximaphiles Belges ont participé avec succès aux différentes expositions régionales et internationales comme Maxifrance 2005 à Corbeil-Essonnes (France), les Journées de maximaphilie du Luxembourg et à Brno (Tchécoslovaquie).
- The Belgian Maximaphiles publient un bulletin trimestriel.

Bulgaria (Sergei Magdichev)

- We have participated to the Best Maximum Card World Competition for 2004 held during Maxifrance'05. During the same year, our Association created ten new Maximum-cards and one of them was decided to participate to the 2005 Best Maximum Card World Competition which will be held in Malaga next October.
- The Maximaphily Commission organized several events for the promotion of the Maximaphily in Bulgaria. Guests from other countries were also participated. The Postal Administration issued a special souvenir sheet and a couple of maximum cards. Many visitors had visited the exhibition.
- The Bulgarian Maximum-card Collectors Club counts to day 45 active members.
- A Maximaphily Bulletin is edited four times a year: It was since 2002 that our club started to publish a Bulletin for promoting the development of Maximaphily in Bulgaria. In the Bulletin appeared new Bulgarian and foreign maximum cards, articles for the new collectors, and information about domestic and foreign Maximaphily events. It is a quarterly special bulletin. There are subscribers from Bulgaria, Germany, P.R. of China, Italy, Israel and Cyprus.
- Seminars: During the same period was organized a seminar for exhibitors and jury members.
- Our Maximaphily Commission created 16 maximum cards related to various events and subjects. Ten of 20 minutes TV films were prepared with topics related to Maximum-cards.

Brazil (With the Cooperation of Klerman Wanderley Lopes).

There are individuals creating maximum cards in Brazil and a collector is going to mount very shortly his first Maximaphily exhibit.

Canada and U.S.A. (=MACSU) (George Constantourakis)

In August of 2005 the Maximum Card Study Unit e.g. MACSU celebrated the 25 Years Silver Anniversary of its Affiliate status in the American Philatelic Society.

MACSU issued its first Journal "MAXIMAPHILY" in June of 1980 and a month later became Affiliate Nr. 106 of the APS (American Philatelic Society). Actually the first Maximaphily Association in North America was MACSA, which was launched in 1950 and reached almost 1000 members, but ceased to exist in 1957 for lack of renewing. In 2005 the focus of MACSU had been in publicizing the WASHINGTON 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition. MACSU will have a non-competitive One-Frame

Exhibit (along with 24 other Philatelic Groups). MACSU will also will distribute info and material aiming to make Maximaphily more visible in North America and attract new members to our Association.

China (LI Hong)

-In 2005, individual Maximaphilists created over 70 Chinese Maximum Cards.

-I have written two articles on the China Maximaphilist, one is the Maximaphily Exhibits at WSC 2004 in Singapore; the other is Maxifrance 2005. Article for Maxifrance 2005 on China Philately News. Supply some images of British Maximum Cards of the year 2005 to North American Maximaphily.

-I have represented my country to the FIP Maximaphily Commission meeting held in Corbeil-Essonnes, and attended to FIP Maximaphily official Symposium. I have participated to the Best Maximum Card World Competition held in France in 2005.

-My own two Maximaphily collections:

“Cows”, 5 frames, have received a Large Vermeil on Hong Kong Stampex 2005, of the national level, was exhibited in “18th Asian International Stamp Exhibition in Taipei 2005” awarded the Large Silver. Also participated to Maxifrance 2005 in the Court of Honor.

“Early Maximum Cards of Mexico”, Single Frame, national Vermeil medal at the APS STAMP SHOW 2005 at Grand Rapids USA, plus a Gold medal at China National Stamp Exhibition 2005 at Lixian.

-Our association has over 800 Maximaphily members in this year, members from Mainland of China, Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan and Singapore. And publishes 6 Maximaphily journals “China Maximaphilist”. Maximaphily is popular in China, Unofficial Statistic, over ten thousands stamp collector have a hobby for collect and create maximum cards. And a lot of Maximaphily exhibits including Single frame exhibit in the local level exhibitions.

-I think that the “Best Maximum Card World Competition” is very useful for promote Maximaphily in World. But I find some things need consider, a lot of Maximaphilist created good number local country maximum cards, also created no-local countries maximum cards. For me, I live in China, I have often created maximum cards from Hong Kong, Japan, Great Britain, etc, but I cannot represent such countries for Competition of Best Maximum Card in World. I think the competition could be separated two groups, one is the country competition, and the other is no-country competition by individual Maximaphilist.

-I have prepared the MC for participation to the Best Maximum Card World Competition that will be held next October in Spain.

Croatia (With the Cooperation of Ivan Libric)

Many individuals are creating maximum cards especially for their thematic collections. Recently there were mounted two one frame Maximaphily collections and one collection of three frames. The Croatian Postal Services created properly during 2005 four maximum cards designed by the famous artist Daniel Popovic. Furthermore Croatia participated to the Best Maximum Card World Competition held in France in 2005.

Cuba (Fernando Garcia)

In my country there are 25 collectors interested in Maximaphily. Four of their Maximaphily exhibits participated to the national philatelic exhibition organised during 2005. Thirty maximum cards were created during the same year 3 of which were created by the Post Services of Cuba.

Cyprus (Nicos Rangos)

- Ten Maximaphily exhibits participated to the “CYPRUS’05” of national level philatelic exhibition held in Limassol , in November 1-8, 2005. Exploiting our excellent relations with Cyprus Postal Services and the Ministry of Education and Culture, 14 exhibitions with Maximum Card exhibits were organised to primary and secondary schools during 2005 and 7.000 students have visited them following specially scheduled guided visits.

- During the same year 12 Maximum Cards were created with the relevant stamps issued by the Cyprus Postal Services.

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

- The Cypriot Maximaphily collections that usually participate to international exhibitions are now 10 and 2 new ones are being prepared. Both of them belong to the one frame class.

My third exhibit which bears the title “Europa Nostra” with reference to the European cultural heritage and with Maximum Cards cancelled from 1901 to 1940 was invited to participate in the court of honour of “Maxifrance’05” and of “Cyprus’05” exhibitions while another five Cyprus Maximaphily exhibits participated to “Maxifrance’05” of national level with international participation, to “Cyprus’05” national exhibition and two to “BRNO’05” European exhibition held in Czech Republic during 2005, winning several medals. The same Exhibit “Europa Nostra” received a gold medal in Washington’06 World Philatelic Exhibition.

- At the end of the year 2005 were completed 19 years of Maximaphily activity in Cyprus and 14 years of participation to national and international exhibitions in which the Maximaphily collections of Cyprus were awarded bronze, silver-bronze, silver, large silver, vermeil, large vermeil, gold and large gold medals.

Two seminars on Maximaphily were organized during 2005, one at the European exhibition in Czech Republic (Brno 2005) and the other in "Cyprus'05" which was held in Limmassol.

- Cyprus participated to the Best Maximum Card World Competition, for the year 2004, held in Corbeil-Essonnes of France on September 23-25, 2005 and won the second prize.

- Cyprus has filled the entry form for the next 2005 Best Maximum Card World Competition which will be held in Malaga during the World Philatelic exhibition España'06. Special effort is exercised so that Maximaphily appears enhanced in this Exhibition.

- The PowerPoint presentation of Maximaphily in electronic form was given to many FIP Maximaphily Commission delegates. Since September 2005 we ceased distributing the CD presentation waiting the final acceptance of the newly proposed regulations.

- Expenses concerning the preparation and the prizes, of the 2004 Best Maximum Card Competition during 2005 and postal expenses for diplomas to the winners and all participants, as well as Maximaphily seminars organized in different countries and other expenses related to the everyday activity of the FIP Commission chairman, as electronic, postal expenses and printed material sent from Cyprus to the delegates, evaluated to €480 were covered by Cyprus Philatelic Society.

Czech Republic (Cooperation with Lumir Brendl)

In my country there are 10 maximum card collectors who used to create yearly a dozen of beautiful and correct maximum cards on different and attractive subjects. At the same time a small number of maximum cards are created every year by the Czech Postal Services with the contribution of the same artist who makes the stamps designs.

During the year 2005, many Maximaphily exhibits participated to the European Philatelic Exhibition "Brno'05" which received silver, vermeil and grand vermeil medals. During the same year we participated to the World Competition for the Best Maximum Card created in 2004. Our intention is to participate to the same competition for the Best Maximum Card created in 2005.

Egypt (Cooperation with Dr M. Adel Farid)

After I have visited "Cyprus-Europhilex'02" in Nicosia with the great number of European Maximaphily Exhibits I tried to create some correct maximum cards with the stamps of my country. One of them has participated to the World Competition for the Best Maximum Card created in 2004. Another one will participate to the same competition for the year 2005.

Germany (Günter Formery)

- Unser Neuheitendienst realisierte auch 2005 zahlreiche Maximumkarten (MK) und nahm auch am Wettbewerb der schönsten MK teil. Wir werden an diesem Wettbewerb zukünftig nicht mehr teilnehmen, da nur ein Teil der nationalen Maximaphilievereine an der Abstimmung beteiligt ist.

- Die Homepage der Arge ist gut besucht, hat aber nicht zu einem Mitgliederzuchs geführt.

Beim Deutschen Prüferbund legten wir gegen dessen philatelistischen Begriffsbestimmungen Beschwerde ein, weil in diesen die MK als „Philatelistisches Erzeugnis“ bezeichnet. Man änderte aufgrund unserer Einwände diese Bezeichnung zwischenzeitlich ab.

In der philatelistischen Fachpresse des In- und Auslandes veröffentlichten wir mehrere Fachartikel über die Maximaphilie sowie in Ausstellungskatalogen und Vereinszeitschriften, um Werbung für die Maximaphilie zu betreiben.

- Eine Druckvorlage für einen 98 Seiten umfassenden MKn-Katalog zum abgeschlossenen Sammelgebiet „Französische Zone“ wurde erarbeitet und wird in diesen Jahr veröffentlicht.

Recht aktiv waren auch vier in Deutschland ansässigen Aussteller (Horst Niedermeier, Kurt Schubert, Günter Schuchardt, Günter Formery), die mit insgesamt 8 Exponaten an Wettbewerbsausstellungen und Briefmarkenschauen teilnahmen. Sie stellten im Wettbewerb auf einer nationalen (MAXIFRANCE'05 - V, S) einer regionalen, mehreren lokalen Ausstellungen und auf drei Ein-Rahmen-Wettbewerben (MAXIFRANCE'05 - 2. Platz) in Deutschland, Frankreich und Luxemburg aus.

- Hervorzuheben ist das gute Abschneiden unserer ausländischen Mitglieder Marianne Fiorini-Wecker, Walferdange/L (GS), Hubert Engel, Hagenau/F (G), Peter Riedl, Wien/A (GV), René Muller, Linger/L (V), Vincenzo Scicutella, Palo de Colle/I (V), und Cesare Rialdi, Brescia/I (GS), auf der MAXIFRANCE'05.

Eric de Clerck, Bijnenlaan/B, konnte auf der regionalen LIMBUFILEX 2005 eine Silbermedaille erringen.

Über unser Sammelgebiet hielten wir Vorträge bei mehreren Vereinen und philatelistischen Veranstaltungen.

- Der FIP-MA-Kommission teilten wir unsere Bedenken über Regulierungen in den MA-Regelwerken von 2004 mit und beantragten für das Element Ansichtskarte eine Änderung beim Illustrationsumfang von älteren Karten.

Mit einigen europäischen Vereinen der Maximaphilie haben wir eine Mitgliedschaft auf Gegenseitigkeit (B, F, I und NL) vereinbart. Insbesondere mit unseren Sammlerfreunden im Großherzogtum Luxemburg arbeiten wir eng zusammen und pflegen gutnachbarliche Kontakte mit ihnen.

Etwa 50-60 Seiten im Format DIN A 4 umfasst unsere Fachzeitschrift Maximaphilie-Report, die 2005 dreimal erschienen ist. In ihr sind zahlreiche Artikel zu unterschiedlichen Themen der Maximaphilie von Autoren aus verschiedenen europäischen Ländern veröffentlicht.

- Ein Mitglied erhielt im Dezember 2005 für seine philatelistischen Aktivitäten, auch im Bereich Maximaphilie, eine hohe staatliche Auszeichnung.
 - Von uns werden keine MKn seitens der Post gewünscht, da sonst eine Uniformität der Exponate zu befürchten ist.
- Zum 31.12.2005 haben wir den Austritt aus dem Verband Philatelistischer Arbeitsgemeinschaften e.V. erklärt und sind dem Landesverband der Briefmarkensammler des Saarlandes e.V. beigetreten.
- Wir würden es sehr begrüßen, wenn zukünftig die Mitteilungen der MA-Kommission in allen FIP-Sprachen erscheinen könnten, um eine bessere Verständlichkeit der Mitteilungen herbeizuführen.
- Für die gute Zusammenarbeit mit der Kommission bedanken wir uns ausdrücklich bei Madame Anny Boyard.

Finland (Kalevi Ant-Wuorinen)

- Some short notes from last year's activity; first after your questionnaire:
- Our club (which had its 15th anniversary in 2005) issued one card (number 15!);
 - The Finnish Post issued four MCs and the Åland Post also four MCs;
 - Our club members created several hundred different MCs (both in Finland and Åland); and myself about 200 different MCs (Finland and Åland).
 - About 10 collections of our members did participate in local and national exhibitions; I myself tried to go the international exhibition in Brno, but did not succeed!
 - The metals received were bronze and silver (+ of course some participation certificates!)
 - Yes, we did participate to the Best Maximum Card Competition in France September 2005, but with no success!
 - We have prepared two MCs (Finland and Åland) to the competition Espana 2006 and will send them to you in due time.
 - The yearly competition of the best MC in the world is useful as it spreads the knowledge of our wonderful hobby to all other philatelists (because they often are quite ignorant of its versatility and sometimes even despise it!). Also this kind of philately is much more interesting to the common people: they easily understand the whole idea, without having to be some kind of an expert!
 - As told above, our postal authorities produce MCs. In the early years the MCs were not always correct (mostly because the cancellation was wrong: it was better to take a normal date-cancellation on the stamp/postcard, so to achieve a MC filling the rules. We have quite good connections to both the Finnish and the Åland postal authorities, so we can give them our advices (and sometimes our hopes, too).
 - The problems of Maximaphily here are: - far too many stamps yearly: this hobby becomes more and more expensive! Also many of the new stamps are very hard to "maximize" because of their motifs.
 - Our club with HQ in Helsinki, is however a national club: it is quite hard to reach all the members, because the country is large, and many interested members are living far from the capital!
- And now to the new SREV and Guidelines regulations:
- Our club meeting warmly supports the new proposals to Maximaphily regulations: our sincere thanks for the great work you both, Nicos and Anny, have done!
 - One word of criticism: why only square and rectangular shapes should be accepted? We have here many nice cards (in free shapes) which we want to make to MCs when the "right" stamp is issued!
- Archive of competing MCs: this is a very good idea; if possible our club orders immediately a copy of it (if it is published!) in order to see what kind of MSc are created worldwide. The MCs (Finland and Åland) I sent to you can of course be used towards this direction !

France (Anny Boyard)

Version française :

- La commission de maximaphilie est toujours très active et développe de nombreuses actions.
- Tout au long de l'année des conférences ont été données à l'occasion de Congrès régionaux, dans plusieurs associations philatéliques et même au-delà des frontières françaises (Genève).
 - De nombreux articles ont été publiés sur notre discipline dans toute la presse philatélique française "La Philatélie Française", "L'Echo de la Timbrologie", "Atout-timbres", « Timbres-magazine » et « Philinfo ».
 - La participation maximaphile aux différentes expositions allant du niveau départemental au niveau international s'est maintenue et est restée d'un très bon niveau.
 - La commission s'est réunie régulièrement pour étudier les nouveaux textes afin d'harmoniser les jugements des collections de maximaphilie. Un CD Rom, en cours d'élaboration par Jean Claude Bouquet, regroupera les spécificités de la maximaphilie. Une maquette a été soumise à la commission.
 - En 2005, 64 cartes-maximum ont été réalisées par le Service Nouveautés-France.
 - Le site Internet www.Maximaphiles-Francais.org connaît une fréquentation de plus en plus importante (77 800 visiteurs) et les pages d'initiation sur notre spécialité sont davantage consultées.
 - La revue trimestrielle de l'association « Les Maximaphiles Français », diffusée à tous les adhérents, aux responsables de la FFAP ainsi qu'aux membres de la commission maximaphile et du comité directeur de la F.I.P, est un excellent support d'informations internationales sur la maximaphilie.
 - Mais finalement l'année 2005 a été incontestablement marquée par MAXIFRANCE 2005, championnat important organisé du 23 au 25 septembre 2005 sous le patronage de la Fédération française des associations philatéliques par Les Maximaphiles Français, en partenariat avec le CPCEE de Corbeil-Essonnes. Plus de 500 cadres de collections venant de 15 pays européens

ainsi que du Canada et de RP de Chine ont pu être exposés et admirés par un public très nombreux venu de toutes les régions de France et de l'Europe élargie, mais aussi de Russie, de RP de Chine et Taiwan.

Au cours de ce championnat de haut niveau national, 3 médailles d'Or et 6 de Grand Vermeil ont été attribuées par un jury international de qualité présidé par Jacques Thénard, assisté de Joseph Wolff et Nicos Rangos, responsables FIP, avec la collaboration de Michel Chagniot, Juan Antonio Casas Pajares, Frans Hermse, Gianfranco Poggi et Daniel Barbe.

Un espace important consacré à la jeunesse a accueilli 26 collections et proposé de nombreuses animations en direction des jeunes visiteurs.

- MAXIFRANCE 2005 a été aussi marqué par l'organisation d'un Symposium de maximaphilie, qui a permis d'aborder des sujets très variés, notamment une présentation très vivante de la maximaphilie par Jean-Claude Bouquet et une autre très intéressante de Paul Reynaud et Pascal Bandry sur les possibilités d'amener les jeunes philatélistes à la maximaphilie. La présence de Miguel Angel Garcia Fernandez, président de la Commission jeunesse de la FIP, a été appréciée. D'excellents contacts ont été pris avec Philippe Lesage, président du Conseil national à la jeunesse de la FFAP.

- A cette occasion les délégués de la commission FIP de maximaphilie se sont réunis. Une autre présentation vidéo de Jean-Claude Bouquet, très bien élaborée, a permis de travailler sur des modifications nécessaires des textes en vigueur.

Le succès remporté par MAXIFRANCE 2005 a mis en évidence l'audience de la maximaphilie sur le plan international et sa capacité à intéresser la jeunesse plus qu'aucune classe de la philatélie.

English version:

The French Commission for Maximaphily is still very active, developing many actions.

- All along this year lectures were given at the occasion of local philatelic congresses, to philatelic associations and also beyond the French borders (Geneva, Switzerland).

- Number of articles concerning our discipline were published in all the French philatelic press: "La Philatelie Française", "L'Echo de la Timbrologie", "Atout-timbres", "Timbres-magazine", et "Philinfo".

- The participation of maximaphily kept up at a very good level in all the stages of exhibition from local to international.

- The Commission held meetings regularly to study the new texts in order to make consistent the evaluation of maximaphily exhibits. A CD Rom is in progress by Jean Claude Bouquet. It will illustrate the Maximaphily regulations. A sample was submitted to the Commission.

- During 2005 year 64 maximum cards were issued by our service of new issues using French newly issued postage stamps.

- The Internet site www.Maximaphiles-Francais.org is increasing its attendance (77 800 visitors in 2005) and the pages about introduction to maximaphily are more and more consulted.

- The quarterly magazine issued by the association "Les Maximaphiles Français" is distributed to all of its members, to the members of the FFAP (Fédération Française des Associations Philatéliques) management committee, to the members of the FIP Commission for Maximaphily and to the FIP executive committee. It is a very good medium for international Maximaphily news.

- But in fact year 2005 was undoubtedly marked by MAXIFRANCE 2005, an important competitive exhibition held from 23 to 25 of September under the patronage of the "Fédération Française des Associations Philatéliques" and organized by "Les Maximaphiles Français" with the partnership of CPCEE (Club Philatélique de Corbeil Essonnes et environs). More than 500 exhibition frames coming from 15 European countries, Canada and PR China were in exhibition and were admired by a great lot of visitors coming from everywhere in France, from extended Europe but also from Russia, PR China and Taiwan.

During this high level international competitive exhibition 3 gold and 6 large vermeil medals were awarded by an international panel of well qualified judges chaired by Jacques Thénard, assisted by Joseph Wolff and Nicos Rangos, responsables for FIP, and having Michel Chagniot, Juan Antonio Casas Pajares, Frans Hermse, Gianfranco Poggi and Daniel Barbe as members.

A large place was reserved for young competitors with 26 exhibits and a number of organized activities for young visitors.

- MAXIFRANCE 2005 included a Symposium of Maximaphily that permitted to tackle a lot of subjects. In particular an interactive presentation of Maximaphily by Jean Claude Bouquet and a very interesting presentation by Paul Reynaud and Pascal Bandry concerning the way to lead young children to maximaphily. Attendance of Miguel Angel Garcia Fernandez, Chairman of FIP Commission for young philatelists was appreciated. Fruitful contact with Philippe Lesage chairman of the French council for Young Philatelists was taken.

- It was the occasion for a meeting of the FIP Maximaphily delegates. A video presentation very well prepared by Jean Claude Bouquet permitted to elaborate and to discuss about some modifications to the regulations into force.

The success of MAXIFRANCE 2005 highlighted the international success of Maximaphily and its ability to interest young people much more than any other class of philately.

Greece (Pantelis Leoussis)

- I have the pleasure to inform you that the UNION OF THE GREEK COLLECTORS OF MAXIMUM CARDS had a productive and notable activity during the past year 2005, with regular reunions in its privately-owned hall, Maximum cards auctions, and, generally, intense participation in the Hellenic philatelic life.

- The Union has created 20 new Maximum cards.

- In the enclosed herewith, recently issued official annual revue of our Union, there are articles written by the president N. Mallouchos and the signed delegate, who was in charge of the whole edition of it.

Many members of our Union took part at the Karditsa 2005 Philatelic Congress, where the President N. Mallouchos introduced the theme: MAXIMAPHILY; a Historical Retrospective. The signed delegate made two introductions concerning Thematic Philately and Open Classe (he represented these two classes, as national delegate of them too).

- Our country did not organise any special Maximaphily Exhibition, but we have participated to all the local, regional, national and international philatelic exhibitions, where our collections have been accepted.

The level of the received medals is from Large Vermeil to Bronze (national level).

We participated to the Best Maximum Card World Competition held in France on September 2005.

- We prepared some Maximum cards for our country's participation to the Best Maximum Card World Competition which will be held next October in Spain.

We indeed believe that the "Best Maximum Card World Competition" is useful. It pushes people and societies to improve their Maximum cards realisations. We don't believe that there is a better way to carry on this Competition.

- The Maximum cards produce by the Postal Services of our country are sometimes correct, sometimes not. In the second case we realize correct ones. Unfortunately, all our advices have been vain.

- We have not worth noticing problems of Maximaphily in our country.

Hungary (Judit Szekeli)

- During the year 2005, we continued creating private maximum cards.

- We have a separate column in *Bélyegvilág*. This philatelic journal is published monthly. In addition, the Magyar Federation Section has a publication on 4 occasions annually.

- Twice a year we are able to meet the members of the Sections because they live in the countryside.

- Maximaphily collections participated in a first class exhibition and won large silver medals.

- We participated on 4 occasions with 33 collections with demonstrative nature connected to events.

- We participate every year to the Best Maximum Card World Competition. I consider the organization of the Best Maximum Card World Competition very important and as such it must be enhanced and continued.

Iceland (cooperation with Gunnar Rafn EINARSSON)

Coming back to my country from Cyprus where I have seen a great number of Maximaphily exhibits during the unforgettable "Cyprus-Europhilex'02", I started to be interested in this attractive class of Philately. I was looking around to find postcards and stamps with matching pictures and by this way I have created myself my own correct maximum cards. I was rather lucky when one day I met a very aged philatelist who had already created a few local and unique maximum cards. I bought all of them having in my mind the intention to start during 2005 forming the first Maximaphily exhibit in Iceland.

Italia (Rialdi Cesare)

- L'activité a été normale avec la production de nombreuses C.M : 80 CM pour l'Italie, 40 pour San Marino et 40 pour le Vatican deux pays de l'Area italienne ; Nous avons aussi préparé des CM avec les timbres d'Autriche et du Liechtenstein (émission conjointes) et nombreuses CM avec des timbres du Papa Giovanni Paolo II (Autriche, Croatie, Roumanie etc...).

- Pendant l'année 2005, 11 articles sur la Maximaphilie ont été publiés dans la revue italienne « La Tribuna del Collezionista ».

L' A.I.M a organisé une ERP (Exposition Régionale) à Palazzolo sull' Oglio (BS) en juin 2005 à laquelle 21 collections ont participé.

- Pas d'exposition nationale en 2005, mais des projets pour 2006.

Nos collections ont participé à Exposition Internationale : Alpe Adria à Giumbiasco, 1 OR 2 G.V.- 2 V :

Journée Maximaphile en Luxembourg, 1 collection → OR ;

MAXIFRANCE 2005 : 6 collections italiennes avec un très bon palmarès

- Notre association a participé à la compétition pour la meilleure Carte-Maximum du monde en Septembre 2005.

Je pense que la « Compétition pour la meilleure Carte-Maximum du monde » est utile.

- Les services de Poste d'Italie émettent des pseudo cartes-maximum qui ne sont pas correctes. Il n'est pas possible donner des conseils aux responsables !

- Les problèmes de la Maximaphilie en Italie sont la diminution des adhérents à l' A.I.M en raison de l'âge et des décès.

- Mais nos collections sont très appréciées et nous avons reçu beaucoup d'invitations pour des Expositions Locales.

Luxembourg (Jos Wolff)

English version:

- 9 meetings of the Commission, where the FIP regulations and the national and international news of this class of philately were discussed.

- President Jos Wolff held conferences about the elements of a maximum card and the evaluation of exhibits in different associations.

- Jos Wolff published articles on the new maximum cards of the Commission in all newspapers, before each emission.

- The 16th Day of Maximaphily had been organized by the local association of Rodange, with exhibits of 3 countries in competition. On the second day of the exhibition, Mr Wolff held a seminar on Maximaphily for exhibitors from Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

- Mr Krack showed his slides conference on maximum cards of the city of Luxembourg in local associations.

- The members of the Commission participated in numerous local, regional and international exhibitions.

- From 23 to 25 of September 2005 Mr Wolff was jury member at the exhibition MAXIFRANCE 2005.

- On this occasion a meeting of the delegates of the FIP-Maximaphily-Commission who were present took place on September 25, which Mr Wolff attended as delegate and Mrs Trommer as observer.

- 2005 the Commission issued 26 maximum cards.

German version:

- In den neun Monatsversammlungen wurden hauptsächlich die Reglemente der Maximaphilie, der Aufbau von Sammlungen und die Bewertung von Exponaten, die Neuerscheinungen von Maximumkarten und die Neuigkeiten aus der FIP-Kommission für Maximaphilie besprochen.
- Präsident Jos Wolff hielt Dia-Vorträge über die Übereinstimmung der drei Grundelemente der Maximumkarte und über die internationalen FIP-Reglemente dieser Sparte in verschiedenen FSPL-Vereinen.
- In den Tageszeitungen wurden vor jeder Briefmarkenausgabe Artikel von Jos Wolff über die von der Kommission angefertigten Maximumkarten veröffentlicht.
- Am 22.-23. Oktober 2005 hatte der Verein Rodingen die "16ème Journée Maximaphile" mit internationaler Beteiligung organisiert.
- Am 23. Oktober 2005 nachmittags hielt Kommissionspräsident Jos Wolff ein Seminar in der Ausstellung ab, an dem Maximaphilisten aus Belgien, Luxemburg und den Niederlanden teilnahmen.
- Vorstandsmitglied Francy Krack führte seinen Dia-Vortrag mit den Maximumkarten über die Stadt Luxemburg in verschiedenen FSPL-Vereinen vor.
- Mitglieder der Kommission beteiligten sich an zahlreichen lokalen, regionalen, nationalen und internationalen Ausstellungen.
- Vom 23.-25.09.2005 fand die Maxifrance 2005 in Corbeil-Essonnes, Frankreich, statt, an der Herr Wolff als Juror teilnahm.
- Am 25.09.2005 fand bei Gelegenheit der Maxifrance eine Sitzung der anwesenden Delegierten der FIP-Maximaphiliekommission statt, an der Herr Wolff als Delegierter für Luxemburg und Frau Trommer als Beobachter teilnahmen.
- Im Jahr 2005 wurden 26 Maximumkarten von der Kommission herausgegeben.

Malaysia (Tan Chee Hui)

- The popularity of making maximum cards in Malaysia began since early 1970s (though there were some prior to this). In late 1970s, the postal department of Malaysia introduced special/pictorial postmarks for first day of issue of stamps. This contributes to the increased popularity in making maximum cards since 1980s till even today.
- The interest of Maximum cards collecting has been picking up in the year of 2005. More and more stamp collectors were creating their own maximum cards. More cards from different collectors were presented for selection for the 2006 competition. Articles in the newsletters and forum discussions in the official website of Philatelic Society of Malaysia is another evidence of its consistent progress. The philatelic bureau has been informed about the increasing popularity of maximum cards collecting and has been suggested to issue the proper maximum cards. In 2006, the postal authority will probably issue the first proper maximum cards (not PHQ cards).
- It was an encouragement for Malaysian Maximum card collectors that Malaysian entry **featuring "Bullock Cart"** submitted by Mr. Ye, Cho San won the third prize in the 2005 Competition, I mean, the International Competition for the Best Maximum Card created during the year 2004.

Netherlands (Frans Hermse)

English version:

- For the Dutch Maximaphily 2005 was a fruitful year. Four exhibitors took part in the international exhibition MAXIFRANCE 2005 23-25 September 2005 at Corbeil-Essonnes and obtained a good result. Undersigned was present as a member of the jury and as a committee member.
- During the meeting of the FIP-delegates the SREV and Guidelines which were accepted at Singapore were discussed in detail. No decisions could be made because of the lack sufficient quorum.
- During the meeting the delegates of the FIP-committee elected the Dutch maximum-card of Prince W. Alexander and princess Maxima as the best maximum card for the year 2004.
- Articles for Maximaphily are frequently published in the Dutch philatelic press by our president Edward Froon.
- Very good maximum cards are created by our New MC Service.
- A bulletin is published regularly which gained in October 2005 the price of the best magazine of 2004 in the Specialized Associations category.

Version française :

- L'année 2005 a été fructueuse pour la maximaphilie dans notre pays. Quatre exposants ont participé à MAXIFRANCE 2005 et ont obtenu de bons résultats. J'ai eu le plaisir d'être membre du jury de cette exposition.
- Durant la réunion des délégués de la FIP les SREV et Guidelines acceptés à Singapour ont été discuté en détail. Les décisions n'ont pas été prises car le quorum n'étant pas suffisant.
- Des articles maximaphiles sont publiés fréquemment dans la presse philatélique hollandaise par le président Edward Froon.
- De très bonnes cartes-maximum sont réalisées par le Service des Nouveautés.
- Un bulletin est publié régulièrement qui a gagné en Octobre 2005 le prix du meilleur magazine de 2004 dans la catégorie Associations Spécialisée.

New Zealand (Jenny Banfield).

We have two exhibitors – both have been active at either national or local level. Individuals continue creating Maximum Cards. New Zealand has participated to the world 2004 best maximum card competition and counts to participate to the next one which will be held in Spain later this year. Referring to the antiquity of the Maximum Cards I would vote for 1940.

Pakistan (Syed Imtiaz Hussain)

Maximaphily activity was always very limited in Pakistan because of the lack of tradition. I'm trying my best to hold some seminars about the awareness of this branch of philately. Now I'm trying to give lectures to this branch of Philately in Peshavar, Lahore and Karachi where there is a bigger bunch of philatelists.

In Pakistan we have some Maximaphily postcards but some of them do not come in Maximaphily because those cards are the printed enlarged copies of the issued stamps. We are trying to change this practice.

Portugal (Dr. Eurico Carlos E. Lage Cardoso)

- La traduction en portugais des SREV et Guidelines a été effectuée et publiée dans la revue de la Fédération Portugaise de Philatélie « Filatelia Lu Sitana ».
- La maximaphilie a été présente dans quatre expositions organisées au Portugal avec 24 participations.
- Le Portugal a été présent dans les expositions internationales et mondiales « Interexpo ? (Nicos je n'arrive pas à lire) 2005 », « Pacific Explorer 2005 » avec 5 participations et à « Maxifrance 2005 » avec 4 participations dont une qui a obtenu une médaille d'Or.
- A Juvania 2005 (Barcelone) la jeunesse a été présente avec 2 participations.
- Dix expositions non compétitives ont été réalisées en diverses localités du pays.
- Un bulletin est publié chaque année par l'Association portugaise de maximaphilie.

Roumanie (Ioan Daniliuc)

Durant l'année 2005, les maximaphiles roumains ont pris part aux expositions nationales et aussi internationales: Brno et Maxifrance 2005. On a participé aussi au concours mondial pour la meilleure Carte Maximum.

- La parution d'album "Enesco dans la musique universelle" signé par M. V. Doros a été toujours un succès remarquable. L'inédit de cet ouvrage est que l'album a été illustré entièrement par des CMs.
- On a toujours multipliés et distribués les documents émis à l'occasion de la réunion Corbeille – Essones. Ces jours ci même on prépare l'exposition EFIRO 2008.

Russie (Valery Petrov)

- En 2005 presque 60 cartes-maximum ont été créées par les maximaphiles russes en conformité avec les règlements de la F.I.P. Moi personnellement, j'ai réalisé près de 50 CM sans compter les variantes et celles réalisées avec des timbres découpés des entiers postales.
- Je lis régulièrement la revue des Maximaphiles Français et parcours de temps en temps les sites des Associations Maximaphiles et personnelles. J'ai écrit deux articles dans notre revue nationale PHILATELIA (y compris un grand article sur l'exposition MAXIFRANCE 2005, Symposium et la réunion de la Commission FIP à Corbeil-Essones). Deux articles ont été écrit par une maximaphile de Saint-Petersbourg G. Tchoudessova.
- Une collection de Maximaphilie a participé à l'exposition nationale «Russie-2005» (grand argent) et 4 participations sur le niveau locale (un vermeil de l'exposition à Moscou, consacrée à Jeux Olympiques de Tourine).
- Nos maximaphiles n'ont pas participé à la compétition pour la meilleure carte-maximum du monde 2004, mais nous envisageons cette participation possible au prochain concours de Malaga.
- Les Services de Poste de Russie n'émettent pas de cartes-maximum.
- Les problèmes que les maximaphiles russes affrontent sont traditionnels. Nous sommes peu nombreux et mal organisés, surtout en dehors de Moscou et Saint-Petersbourg. Les anciens, qui ont commencé une activité maximaphile en général en 1960-1970, disparaissent. Les jeunes ne s'intéressent pas beaucoup à la Maximaphilie. Pourtant deux maximaphiles russes ont participé au Symposium de Corbeil-Essones. Notre proposition concernant les CM avec les timbres-poste découpés des entiers postaux est introduite dans le projet de SREV.

Slovaquie (Julius Molnâr)

En 2005 nos membres ont créé deux Cartes-Maximum.

Trois articles sur la Maximaphilie ont été publiés.

Malheureusement, en Slovaquie aucune exposition de Maximaphilie n'a été organisée en 2005.

A l'occasion de trois expositions locales quatre collections de Maximaphilie ont été exposées. Quatre autres collections ont participé à deux expositions internationales (Varna, Krakow).

A MAXIFRANCE 2005 à Corbeil-Essones (France) nous avons été présents au Symposium et à l'exposition avec une collection.

Nous avons participé au concours de la meilleure carte-maximum. Cette compétition est très utile car elle rend plus actifs les collectionneurs de C.M.

Entre 1993 et 2006, La Poste Slovaque a émis déjà 51 CM. Deux sur trois sont correctes. Nous avons donné plusieurs fois des conseils à la Poste Slovaque, mais seulement ces derniers temps les références FIP ont été acceptées par les responsables. Le groupe spécial de Maximaphilie en Slovaquie n'a pas reçu d'appui des responsables des associations des philatélistes slovaques (Zväz slovenských filatelistov). Malheureusement, la philatélie en Slovaquie est en décadence ; les collectionneurs sont très âgés et nous n'avons pas de jeunes adhérents. Pour notre travail, nous n'avons pas touché de subvention de la part des associations philatéliques.

Spain (Juan Antonio Casas Pajares)

Spanish version:

- Siguen llegando preguntas sobre los reglamentos y el montaje de las colecciones. A todos se les ha orientado para que comprendan los reglamentos y mejoren las colecciones. Todos los miembros de esta comisión seguimos insistiendo de la importancia de la justificación del matasello en cada tarjeta máxima.
- Sigue siendo muy demandada la revista de publica ASEMA "APUNTES DE MAXIMOFILIA", en la que escriben prestigiosos maximofilistas. En el nº 29 se ha vuelto a publicar las modificaciones de los reglamentos aprobados por la Comisión Internacional de Maximofilia en el 68º Congreso de la FIP y ratificados en la reunión de la F.I.P. Board del 25 de abril de 2005, en Sydney.
- Durante este año he participado como jurado y comisario en las siguientes exposiciones: MAXIFRANCE 2005 I Campeonato Europeo de Maximofilia celebrado del 23 al 25 de septiembre en Corbeil-Essonnes (París). Las jornadas de trabajo fueron intensas y se intercambiaron muchos puntos de vistas sobre las colecciones expuestas. Tuve la satisfacción del comentario personal de Nicos Rangos, Presidente de la Comisión F.I.P. de Maximofilia, sobre el buen trabajo desarrollado por las colecciones españolas. El domingo 25 se celebró un Simposio Europeo de Maximofilia y la reunión de las comisiones europeas para tratar diferentes puntos de los reglamentos. TRADIMAX 2005 Exposición Filatélica Luso-Española celebrada del 5 al 9 de octubre en Póvoa de Varzim (Portugal), donde participó como jurado alumno Salvador Luna Gálvez, que aprobó en su primera comparecencia.
- Me es grato comunicar que durante este año he recibido varias llamadas solicitándome colecciones de maximofilia para distintas exposiciones ya que son muy vistas por los filatélicos y público asistente.
- Durante el Seminario de Jurados organizado por FESOFI expuse el trabajo realizado por Francisco Velázquez Barroso, asistente al mismo, y yo "EL APASIONANTE MUNDO DE LA MAXIMOFILIA" donde explicamos los Estatutos de la Maximofilia con ejemplos de tarjetas máximas y otras que no lo son (tarjetas recuerdos). Este trabajo, que tuvo muy buena acogida entre los jurados asistentes, está disponible para las sociedades interesadas en conocerlo.
- Me siguen preguntando los coleccionistas el por qué no son calificadas sus colecciones por jurados especializados en maximofilia, por lo que comentan que evitan enviar sus colecciones a esas exposiciones.
- Se han presentado colecciones de maximofilia en las siguientes exposiciones : EXFILÁNDALUS 2005 en Cádiz. EXPOFIL IV CENTENARIO DEL QUIJOTE en Albacete. V EXPOSICIÓN HISPANO-COSTARRICENSE en San Antonio de Belén (Costa Rica). EXFILNA 2005 en Alicante. EXPOFIL 470 C.F.N.L. REAL FERIA Y FIESTAS DE DE SAN AGUSTÍN en Linares. MAXIFRANCE 2005 en Corbeil-Essonnes (París). TRADIMAX 2005 en Póvoa de Varzim (Portugal). EXFIAL 2005 en Almería. EXPOFIL ROTA 2005 en Rota. I EXPOSICIÓN NACIONAL DE LITERATURA FILATÉLICA "EXTREMOS 2005" en Extremos (Portugal). EXPOMAX 2005 en el Novo Sancti Petri (Chiclana). II EXPOSICIÓN HISPANO-MEXICANA en Chiclana. XXXII EXPSICIÓN FILATÉLICA Y NUMISMÁTICA REGIONAL en Puerto Real.
- Los filatélicos que quieran conocer distintos aspecto del coleccionismo de las tarjetas máximas pueden visitar la página web de la Asociación Española de Maximofilia www.asemamaximofilia.com

Suisse (Jean-Pierre Ramillon)

- Le nombre de réalisations de cartes-maximum proposées aux membres en 2005 s'est élevé à 52 cartes, dont 26 avec des timbres-poste suisses, 21 avec des timbres de l'O.N.U. et 5 avec des timbres du Liechtenstein. Aucun article sur la maximaphilie ne fut publié par nos soins ; en revanche nous avons participé à 2 soirées conférences sur ce sujet dans le cadre du Club philatélique et aéropostal de Genève.
- Au cours de l'année 2005, les Maximaphiles Suisses ont participé à diverses expositions : Exposition du Club philatélique de Meyrin (Genève) ; OMEGNAFIL 2005 (Italie) ; MAXIFRANCE 2005 (France) médaille de GV ; PHILAMEYRIN'05 (Suisse) Journée du Timbre 2005. Bon palmarès : une médaille d'Or, deux Grand Vermeil, une Vermeil et une médaille d'Argent.
- En 2004 et 2005 l'association a participé à la compétition pour la meilleure carte-maximum et le fera en 2006. « L'organisation de cette compétition est louable mais serait encore plus appréciée si l'on pouvait obtenir plus d'indications sur les critères retenues pour la désignation des trois premières cartes. (Nicos j'enlèverai ceci) »
- La Poste Suisse a édité en 2005 trois cartes-maximum. Celles-ci présentent une meilleure concordance qu'auparavant, mais cependant avec des critères de choix du support qui auraient pu être meilleurs. En ce qui concerne la Principauté du Liechtenstein, certaines cartes-maximum sont très bonnes, alors que d'autres ne sont en réalité que des souvenirs philatéliques. Quant à celles proposées par la Poste des Nations Unies, force est de relever qu'elles ne répondent pas aux dispositions adoptées par la commission FIP de maximaphilie.
- La difficulté principale rencontrée dans la réalisation de cartes-maximum réside dans la recherche de cartes du commerce, car beaucoup de petites maisons suisses d'éditions ont fermé leurs portes au cours de ces dernières années. En outre, le fait de

procéder à la réalisation de quelques dizaines de cartes-maximum seulement représente à la fois, un nombre trop important pour obtenir des cartes semblables dans les commerces de détail et un nombre trop petit pour intéresser les grossistes.

- L'association maximaphile suisse publie régulièrement un bulletin très bien documenté et riche en articles maximaphiles.

United Kingdom (Christine A. Earle)

I have to report that this time we are in a position to submit an entry into the World Best Maximum Card 2005 Competition. As far as I know individuals in United Kingdom are actually creating Maximum Cards but we are not aware about their accurate Maximaphily activity.

USA (Daniel Olsen)

- In August of 2005, MACSU celebrated the Silver Anniversary of its Affiliate status in the American Philatelic Society. Credit for this longevity goes mostly to the editors of our journal, North American Maximaphily. Our present editor, George Constantourakis, has been at that difficult task for more than six years. Terry Watson is probably our most active member in creating maximum cards from the USA stamps issued each year.

- His creations were profusely illustrated in the 2005 issues of the journal and many can be obtained just by getting in touch with Terry, who is very active in exchanging and selling his creations around the world. Which are always very limited and therefore rare, indeed.

We expect our membership will increase in 2006 as Maximaphily continues its worldwide growth.

Venezuela (Ignacio Martinello)

- Last year our general philatelic activity has been quite modest. But we could keep our weekly meetings at the Association, with a good response from our members as well as our potential members.

- The most serious problem that we face is the practically total lack of frames for regular stamp exhibitions. In the next months, luckily, this problem will be solved by a prospective donation. This will allow us to organize local exhibitions, and Maximaphily will take an important role at them.

- Last year, at the end of August, a philatelic Exhibition was carried out in Maracaibo, the second largest city of this country. It was a small Exhibition, but it attracted many visitors, philatelists and general public, particularly young people. Two frames, comprising 18 sheets, dealt with Maximaphily: "Learning Maximaphily" (regulations, with a range of good and bad examples). The section aroused much curiosity and interest: a fruitful experience, we dare to say. Apart from this, many points regarding Maximaphily were the subjects of discussion at our regular meetings. This year we will continue on the trend of promoting and spreading of Maximaphily. We thank Nicos Rangos and Anny Boyard for the assistance and help in our task.

Conclusion

Comparing the present 2005 world Maximaphily report as it was transmitted by the delegates with the reports of the previous years, we can say with confidence that the development of Maximaphily all over the world lets us predict a better future for this attractive class of philately. We should be of course very pleased if we could receive more reports, but we know that it is a difficult task because of the various well known difficulties in different countries. The considerable increase of the number of countries which replied to our invitation and sent us their national Maximaphily activity report is a positive sign. Thus we congratulate all the Members of the Commission on the serious and great work they have carried out in their own countries.

We would like also to ask you to continue the efforts for the development of Maximaphily class, especially with young people, respecting always the rules of the F.I.P. (SREV and GUIDELINES). We renew our recommendation for consulting the sites of FIP www.f-i-p.ch/ and www.Maximaphiles-Français.org and all their links. This can help you in your mission. In order to help you with the organization of lectures and conferences in your country, after the commission meeting in Malaga, next October, we will prepare a new PowerPoint Maximaphily presentation with the new regulations which will be available, on request from the President of the Commission: dn1989@cytanet.com.cy

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

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

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours.

Nicos RANGOS
Chairman

Anny BOYARD
Secretary