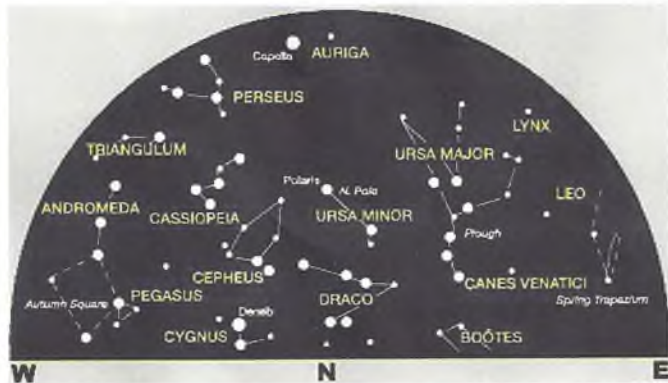


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Journal of the Astro Space Stamp Society

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F.I.P Section for Astrophilately Report on Activities from April 2013 till December 2013.

(Note: Because of the previous report of the Section to the FIP Congress was submitted on March 29, 2013, the current report is covered the period from April 2013 till December 2013.)

The most regular activity of the Commission has been given by the continuous correspondence from worldwide collectors of Astrophilately consulting about different chapters of this exciting field of collecting.

The Section's Bureau.

The Bureau continued to work in its original composition as elected in 2012 including 2 members invited by the Section's Chairman.

The Bureau consists of 7 members;

Chairman - Igor Rodin (Russia);

Secretary – Jaromir Matejka (Austria);

Bureau member (FEPA) – Julius Cacka (Czech Republic);

Bureau member (FIAP) – Carol Cheung (Hong Kong);

Bureau member (FIAP) – Avedis Ketchian (Argentina);

Bureau member (invited) - Charles Bromser (Austria)

Bureau member (invited) - Dr. Reuben Ramkissoon (USA)

Non-competitive exhibitions to promote Astrophilately.

Astrophilately in Germany.

1) The „Astrophil 2013" space philately exhibition.

More than 500 visitors were attracted by the Joint German-Russian Exhibition held in the Russian House for Science and Culture in Berlin since April 12 till April 14, 2013. The event was devoted to the 50th Anniversary of the first spaceflight of a woman cosmonaut and the 35th Anniversary of the first flight of a German national into space.

The exhibition was organized by: Chairman of the FIP Section for Astrophilately Igor Rodin (Moscow, Russia); the Federal Working Group on Space Philately (Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft „Weltraum Philatelie" e. V.) in the Federation of German Philatelists (BDPh); the Russian House for Science and Culture at Berlin; the Association of Russia/UdSSR Stamp Collectors Berlin (Verein der Briefmarkenfrenunde Rußland/UdSSR Berlin); the Federation of Berlin Stamp Clubs (Verband Berliner Philatelisten-Vereine). Soviet cosmonaut Vladimir Kovalenok and German cosmonaut Sigmund Jähn, the 2 of the 4 participants of the first German space mission, were the honorary guests of the exhibition. Before the opening ceremony, the press-conference with the cosmonauts and the organizers took place in the Russian House.

It was a non-competitive international exhibition. The exhibitors from Austria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Monaco, Romania, Russia and Switzerland took part in the event with 48 exhibits about the conquest of space in the following classes: the Honorary Class, Astrophilately, Thematic, Open Class and one frame exhibits.

The German Post issued a special cover and the pictorial postmarker (special official post mark) devoted to the exhibition. On April 13, German Postal Service attended the show with a mobile post office.

On April 14, Igor Rodin gave a lecture on Astrophilately titled "From the History of Soviet/Russian Space Mail". The translation of the lecture from English into German was made by Jürgen Esders.

The average age of the visitors was considerably lower than the age bracket usually observed on stamp exhibitions. "Astrophilately is a young hobby", Weltraum Philatelie President Florian Noller observed. Many of the German exhibits had been shown for the first time, or after a long period of inactivity.

2) The annual assembly of Weltraum Philatelie took place at Garching near München, during the Garching Space Days. The local organizers had set up a promotional space stamp and cover exhibition; one of the astronauts of STS-55, German payload specialist Ulrich Walter, was been invited for a presentation.

Astrophilately in Belgium.

A number of Belgium Astro exhibits were demonstrated in non-competitive class in the frames of the "FILA NOVUS PORTUS 2013" exhibition in Nieuwpoort on 22 -23 June, 2013.

Astrophilately in Italy.

In the frames of the 8th International Astronautics Academy Symposium on the Future of Space Exploration: Towards the Stars, there was non-competitive exhibition devoted to the 50th anniversary of Valentina Tereskova's flight in Turin, Italy on July 03-05, 2013.

The same exhibits were demonstrated in the frames of VeronaFil in November 2013.

Astrophilately in Spain.

From 15 May to 31 August Mr. Esteban's exhibit commemorating the 40th anniversary of Skylab launch was shown in the Centre of Training and Visitors (CEV) from Robledo de Chavela.

Several Spanish Astrophilately exhibits took part in National exhibitions: EXFILNA 2013 León, from 20 to 28 September; JUVENIA 2013 Alicante, from 14 to 20 October; "Exfilpalma 2013" Palma de Mallorca from 9 to 15 September

2 Astro exhibits were demonstrated at the Russian-Spain joint philatelic exhibition in the Russian Centre of Science and Culture in Madrid in October.

In the Lunar Museum, Fresnedillas de la Oliva (Madrid) there is a permanent Astrophilately Exhibition prepared by José Grandela.

Astrophilately in Switzerland.

A number of Swiss Astro exhibits were demonstrated in competitive class in the frames of National and regional exhibitions.

Astrophilately in USA.

A number of the US Astro exhibits were demonstrated in competitive class in the frames of BALPEX exhibition.

Promotion of Astrophilately (seminars, conferences, interviews, lectures, etc.).

1) At the MonacoPhil 2013 International Philatelic exhibition, during the opening ceremony Chairman of the FIP Section for Astrophilately, Igor Rodin had a great Honour to hand over H.S.H. the Prince Albert II of Monaco a flown Space Mail letter for the Prince's philatelic collection.

2) Mr. Grandela conference at Centre of Training and Visitors (CEV) annex to Space Tracking Station NASA-INTA in Robledo de Chavela (Madrid), 8 March, under the title "The woman in the space".

3) Jaromir Matejka (Austria) arranged a special temporary post office with a picture postmark in memoriam 35 years SOYUZ-28 – opening the first space post office by Georgi Grechko.

4) In June the Society of Space Philatelists (Switzerland), held the assembly with special guest, Russian cosmonaut Sergei Revin, where members became informed by PowerPoint and beamer about space activities and related astrophilatelic material.

5) German, Austrian and Czech astrophilatelists as the guests took part in the Congress of the Association of Space Explorers in Köln (Germany) June 29–July 6, 2013.

6) Mr. Grandela conference at Palacio Benacazón (Toledo) 17 September under the title “La llegada del hombre a la Luna, narrada por un protagonista” commemorating the foundation of Casa de Melilla in Toledo. Conference was offered with astrophilatelic support material.

7) On 28 September 2013 in the frames of ROSSICA – 2013 International Philatelic Show held at the Congress Centre of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation (RF CCI) in Moscow Igor Rodin conducted the lecture on Astrophilately “History of Soviet-Russian Space Mail” informed by PowerPoint and accompanied with the “Space Mail” video film made by Sergey Rodin.

8) USA, September. Sister philatelic organization, the Universal Ship Cancellation Society officers and members were invited to join the Space Unit officers and members to hear an informative space monkey and recovery ship presentation by Captain Joe Guion, U.S. Navy, Retired. Captain Guion was the Commanding Officer of USS Kiowa and responsible for the recovery of space monkeys Able and Baker in the Atlantic Ocean, May 28, 1959, at the dawn of the modern space age, and setting the stage for manned spaceflights by Project Mercury astronauts in the near future.

9) Mr. Rigo conference (in Catalan) in Ateneu Científic, Literari i Artístic de Maó (Menorca) 10 October under the title “Astrofilatèlia: aquesta estranya classe de filatèlia” inside the activities held in the exhibition “Exfilmò 2013”.

10) Mr. Grandela conference in Alicante 16 October under the title “La llegada del hombre a la Luna, narrada por un protagonista” during the exhibition Juvenia 2013.

11) Mr. Grandela conference in the public school “Rosalia de Castro”, Arganda del Rey (Madrid) 16 November under the title “Viajeros por el Espacio”.

Section's website.

The section's website www.astrophilatelists.com is maintained by Sergey Rodin. The site has various database for the Section as well as current items regarding missions and associated philately. The Bureau member Charles Bromser (Australia) checks and reviews the website.

Astrophilately in Internet.

1) Belgium. The Belgian Philatelic Society Cosmos: www.bfvcosmos.be

2) France. ASSOCIATION ASTROPHILATELIQUE DE FRANCE: <http://aaf.iimdo.com/>

3) Germany. The website of Weltraum Philatelie: <http://www.weltraumphilatelie.de>

4) Italy, Italian Astrophilately Society: <http://www.asitaf.it/asitaf/>

5) The Netherlands, Ruimtevaart Filatelie Club Nederland: <http://www.nedvision.nl/thematische-filatelie/rfc/index1.html>

6) Switzerland, Gesellschaft der Weltraum Philatelisten (GWP): <http://www.g-w-p.ch/>

7) The UK, the Astro Space Stamp Society: <http://www.astrospacestampsociety.com/>

8) The USA, Space Unit: www.space-unit.com/

Astrophilately Literature.

Periodicals (2013).

1) Joint membership magazine for Germany, Switzerland, Austria: Astrophilatelists split up again

The fusion of the magazines of three German speaking astrophilatelic organizations in Germany, Switzerland and Austria since 2009 has ended in 2013 and early 2014. In spring 2013, the Swiss association told Weltraum Philatelie they wish to continue on their own. In early 2014, Weltraum Philatelie ended the co-operation with the Austrian association. Four annual issues had been published, usually more than 100 pages thick, providing members with solid background information on space flight and astrophilately.

2) Belgium. The “Cosmos Express” bulletin is published 4 times a year by Belgian Astrophilatelic Society – BfV Cosmos, a copy in Dutch for Flemish and Dutch members and a copy in English for foreign members.

3) China. The “Space Philately” magazine is published in Chinese by China Space Philately Fraternity.

4) Czech Republic. The “Kosmos” bulletin in Czech is published 4 times a year (A5 format, 52 pages, color cover).

5) France. Bulletin “The Cosmophil” is published in French every 3 months by Association Astrophilatelique de France.

6) Great Britain. The “Orbit” journal is published 4 times a year by the Astro Space Stamp Society.

7) Italy. AS.IT.AF. issues the quarterly Newsletter “AD*ASTRA” in Italian and English.

8) The Netherlands. The “Ruimtevaart Filatelie Club Nederland” (RFC Nederland) (= Dutch Space Travel Philatelic Association) publishes its quarterly magazine “Nieuwsbrief” (each issue: 16 pages, full colour, size A4, in Dutch).

9) Switzerland. The “Space Phil News” quarterly magazine is issued especially for the members of the Swiss Space Philatelic Society.

10) USA. The Astrophile – Journal of Astrophilately is published by Space Unit with full colour reproductions of covers and their illustrations.

The Articles to promote Astrophilately.

The following Section's delegates and astro-collectors are the most active to publish Astrophilatelic material in Philatelic and non-philatelic mass-media:

Jaromir Matejka from Austria;

Julius Cacka from Czech Republic;

Jürgen Esders and Florian Noller from Germany;

Carol Cheung from Hong Kong;

Umberto Cavallaro from Italy;

Antoni Rigo, José Grandela, Esteban de la Osada from Spain,

Respectfully submitted,



Igor RODIN

Chairman of the FIP Section of Astrophilately
30 January 2014.