

Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting

Paris, 10 January 2015

The ordinary general meeting was opened by the president Bruno Crevato-Selvaggi at 10.45 am.

Personal reasons forced Patrick Maselis to send his apologies at the last minute, but he sent a gift to Paris for each participant. He presented them with a large metal tin with a view of Roeselare, where he lives, containing packets of biscuits made by Belgian manufacturer Jules Destrooper. Everyone present extended a warm vote of thanks to Patrick Maselis.

Following the vote of the extraordinary general meeting, Henk Slabbinck was nominated honorary president of the AEP. A certificate written in calligraphy was presented at the meeting and will be handed to the recipient at a future meeting.

Approval of the minutes of the 2013 general meeting

The minutes of the 2013 general meeting, which was held in Monaco in December 2013, were approved unanimously. These minutes were published in *Trait d'Union* 1 - 2014.

Introduction to new members

Five new members joined the AEP after the 2013 general meeting in Monaco:

- Gaël Caron, France
- Damir Novakovic, Croatia
- Arnold Ottonin, Switzerland
- Anders Thorell, Switzerland
- Myrsini Vardopoulou, Greece – Honorary member

Report of the president

The president highlighted that 2014 had been an active year for our academy, but also mentioned the sad loss of six friends and AEP members:

- George Barker, Great Britain
- Michel Bilhaut, France - Honorary member
- Marc Lebrun, Belgium
- Emile van den Panhuyzen, Belgium
- Sava Velickovic, Serbia
- Börje Wallberg, Sweden - Honorary member

One minute's silence was observed in their memory.

Two AEP members signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 2014:

- Christopher King, Great Britain
- Wolfgang Maassen, Germany

As a result, 15 AEP members are now signatories of the RDP.

AEP patronage was awarded to the Rossica 2014 exhibition.

As general commissioner for Rossica 2014, Igor Rodin gave a presentation on the event, which took place in Moscow at the end of October. Distributed between three separate venues, this international event included a non-competitive philatelic exhibition and a competitive literature exhibition.

The AEP was awarded a Grand Or medal for *Opus XIII* and *Opus XIV* at Rossica 2014.

The AEP was awarded the Binos prize by the Hellenic Federation for *Opus XIII*, which was devoted to Greece.

On the subject of philatelic awards presented to AEP members, Bruno Crevato-Selvaggi stated that it would not be possible to mention all the Gold and Grand Gold medals, which have already been announced in *Trait d'Union*, but went on to single out:

- Jean-François Gibot, Grand Prix National at the 2014 Salon du Timbre, Paris
- Michèle Chauvet, Grand Prix International at the 2014 Salon du Timbre, Paris
- Jean Voruz, Grand Prix International at Philakorea 2014. The Grand Prix did not stay in Asia...
- Bob Odenweller was awarded the Charles Peterson prize for philatelic literature
- Golden Posthorn in Sindelfingen (Germany) for Paul Wijnants and Patrick Maselis
- Serge Kahn, Grand Prix National at Milcopex 2014 (Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA)
- *Opus XIII* and *Opus XIV*, Grand Or at Rossica 2014 (Moscow)

The president thanked Guy Coutant for his work on *Opus*, before handing over to him, so that he could tell us a few things about *Opus XV*. This year's edition does not have a central theme and any articles will be welcome. Guy Coutant mentioned that he had only received two articles and will therefore have to extend the deadline for articles to 31 March 2015.

The central theme for 2016 will be:

Transatlantic links between Europe and America

The president thanked Jean Voruz, editor of *Trait d'Union*, for the excellent AEP bulletin, which will still be published three times per year.

With regard to the Philatelic Press Award, Bruno Crevato-Selvaggi listed the prize winners from previous years:

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| - 2002: Philatelie (Germany) | - 2007: Vaccari Magazine (Italy) |
| - 2003: L'Écho de la timbrologie (France) | - 2008: Boletim do Club Filatelico do Portugal |
| - 2004: Il Collezionista (Italy) | - 2010: Filotelia (Greece) |
| - 2005: Revista de Filatelia (Spain) | - 2011: The London Philatelist |
| - 2006: Academus (Spain) | - 2012: Rundbriefe (Deutscher Altbriefsammler Verein) |

and announced that the 2014 prize will be awarded to *Documents philatéliques*, the journal of the Paris Academy of Philately.

The members were informed that they will receive *Academus*, the journal of the Spanish Royal Academy of Philately. If anyone should no longer wish to receive this magazine, they should notify the president by e-mail.

Concluding his report, Bruno Crevato-Selvaggi explained his main objectives for 2015 and 2016. It goes without saying that we must continue our excellent work, while focusing on three points:

- Terms of admission for new members, in order to preserve philatelic excellence and maintain a European balance,
- Official recognition of the AEP by the official institutions,
- 2016 will mark the 35th anniversary of the creation of the AEP. With this in mind, a major event will be held in Venice in November, which will be attended by the principal European philatelic associations. This event will be based on three major dimensions:
 - Philatelic and academic events, including an exhibition, conferences and other philatelic activities,
 - Official business, including the AEP general meeting and welcoming guests. This general meeting will mark the end of the president's mandate,
 - Social events, including a visit to Venice and gala dinner.

There were no comments concerning the president's report, which was accepted unanimously, except for two abstentions.

Financial report of the treasurer

Treasurer Michel Letaillieur presented the accounts for the financial year 2013, which were closed on 31 December 2013 and revealed a surplus of 29,154.13 €.

The president read out the report by Jacques Wils, auditor, who made several suggestions, including the proposal that “the surplus from the financial year should be added to the AEP’s equity capital.”

The accounts for 2013 were approved unanimously, except for one abstention, and formal discharge was given to the treasurer for his management in 2013.

In view of the AEP’s reserves, Michel Letaillieur proposed that subscriptions should be reduced to 100 € for 2015. He also mentioned negotiations conducted with the insurance company with a view to reducing our civil liability from 716 to 420 Euros per year, with even more risks covered, and put forward a provisional budget based on the figure of 220 members. The latter is a surplus budget and this proposal was accepted unanimously, except for one abstention.

How the AEP will contribute to philatelic events in 2015

For London 2015, Chris Hitchen provided us with an update on the AEP day to be held on Friday 15 May and stated that he had received 11 enrolments for 5-minute presentations based on a 24-page presentation (2 frames).

There will also be a presentation by the AEP.

For MonacoPhil 2015, Serge Kahn mentioned the three exhibitions, which will be held on 3 - 5 December this year (world rarities, polar philately and collections of Club de Monte-Carlo members) and shared some information concerning the polar exhibition, while welcoming the fact that over 200 frames have already been reserved. He confirmed that rooms have been block-booked at a reasonable rate at the Hotel Columbus, which is only five minutes’ walk from the event venue.

It was mentioned that the general meeting will take place on 5 December in Monaco.

European recognition

Jean-François Logette informed the meeting of steps that he has already taken and confirmed that securing recognition of the AEP by the European Parliament would not be the right way forward. It would be preferable to consult the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

There was no further business.

The ordinary general meeting was closed by the president Bruno Crevato-Selvaggi at 11.30 am.

Bruno Crevato-Selvaggi
President

S. Kahn
Secretary General