



FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE PHILATELIE

FIP

FONDEE EN 1926

FIP COMMISSION FOR POSTAL HISTORY

ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE FIP COMMISSION FOR POSTAL HISTORY JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2019

Website

FIP Postal History Commission website was maintained by the Bureau Chairman throughout the year with all our Commission and Bureau reports posted as well as the postal history results from International exhibitions.

Activity on the Commission's website (www.fippostalhistory.com) between 1.1.2019 to 31.12.2019 is summarised as follows:

- 4936 users for 6080 sessions.
- Visitors from over 90 countries with top 10 being:-
USA 1261, France 426, Australia 309, South Korea 238, China 234, UK 222, India 164, Hong Kong 163, Netherlands 163 and Japan 153.
- Corinphila and their associated companies sponsorship acknowledged by placing their logos on the web pages.

The Bureau and Commission Meetings

During 2019, no commission meeting was held due to lack of suitable venue and availability of Bureau members. However, Bureau members managed to meet twice:-

- 30 May at Stockholm during Stockholmia 2019 Stamp Exhibition. Six Bureau members were present: Malcolm Groom, Andrew Cheung, Bill Hedley, Dan Walker, Henrik Mouritsen and Andres Schlichter. Minutes of the meeting can be found from our website.
- 16 December at Hobart, Tasmania. The meeting was conducted by video conference. The main purpose of this meeting was to approve the "Revised Postal History Guidelines" and matters regarding the commission meeting during London 2020. Minutes of the meeting can be found on our website. Six Bureau members joined the video conference: Malcolm Groom, Andrew Cheung, Bill Hedley, Dan Walker, Henrik Mouritsen and Andres Schlichter in addition to FIP Co-ordinator Dr. Prakob Chirakiti. Minutes of this meeting can be found on our website.

Seminars:

Since the Postal History Commission did not meet at World Stamp Exhibition at Wuhan, China, no seminar was given in 2019.

The Bureau Finances

The Bureau is fortunate to be sponsored by the Global Philatelic Network who are duly recognised on our website and at seminars. The sponsorship assists in meeting the costs of the website.

Judging Guidelines Harmonization project

The FIP Board started this project harmonizing judging guidelines amongst different classes at Finlandia 2017, more serious discussions were held during Bandung 2018 and Praga 2018. Our commission has revised the guidelines and the document containing these has been sent to delegates for study and approval well in advance of the May 7 London 2020 meeting.

The Commission Statistics:

There are 92 FIP members and we have recorded and published on our website 71 delegates to our Commission. The following FIP member Federations do not have delegates appointed:-

Albania, Bahrain, Brunei, Congo, Ecuador, Estonia, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Iran, Iraq, Korea DPR, Macau, Monaco, Mongolia, Nigeria, Ukraine and Vietnam.

Three Federations have not yet officially confirmed their delegates: **Belarus, Croatia and Slovakia.**

Delegates' Reports:

To facilitate reporting, the Commission has designed a standard activity report form for the benefit of the delegates filing the report. The Secretary sent the form to all delegates on 14 November 2019; the deadline of reply was 17 January 2020. The delegates were encouraged to reply to their regional representative in addition to the Secretary.

Only 15 out of 70 delegates (FIAF 1, FEPA 10 and FIAP 4) sent activity report from their country at the time of writing, other delegates failed to reply to reminders sent by the Commission's Bureau members and Secretary. Compounding to the problem, some delegates email did not work.

We are grateful to those delegates who have showed support and interest by submitting report to the Postal History Commission.

Australia by Malcolm Groom

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

Seminars on Postal history were focussed on overseas exhibitions in late 2018 and 2019. Since the last report the commission meeting held at Bangkok 2018 was combined with the presentation of the new seminar on 'Treatment' prepared jointly by Dan Walker, Peter McCann, Pat Walker and Kathryn Johnston. My inability to attend the major exhibitions in Australia during 2019 prevented the presentation of any seminars on postal history at those events. Focus was on the redrafting of the Postal history guidelines under the harmonisation project.

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

Exhibitions held in Australia during 2019 providing a postal history class were at Sydney Stamp & coin Expo (13 to 16 June) where there were 27 postal history exhibits including 13 in class 2C. Aeropex 2019 (6 to 8 December) was a specialised Aerophilately exhibition that included a postal history class for airmail related exhibits and attracted several entries. Bunbury 2019 (20 & 21 July) was a One Frame exhibition that had 3 postal history entries.

Australian postal history exhibitors participated in all the international exhibitions during 2019.

Publications concerning Postal History

The RPSV published '*Post Office Registration Labels of Australia & it's Territories, Past & Present*' by Kevin Burt. The Tasmanian Philatelic Society published '*Tasmanian Postal History: Post Office & Datestamp Compendium*' by John Hardinge in December 2019 as a follow up to the early publication. Two important works are in preparation for publication in 2020 namely, '*Airmail – The story of Australia's Overseas Airmail*' (6 volumes) by Ron Lee and '*Australian Postal Rates*' by Richard Breckon.

Other activities or events concerning Postal History

I continued to maintain the FIP Postal History Commission website with regular updates as they are required. Google Analytics reports for the 12 months showed 2256 visitors for the year compared to 2114 for the previous year.

Czech Republic by Lubor Kunc

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

- 2 meetings of Postal History Society of the Czech Republic (average 20-30 participants)
 - 2 meetings of Field Post Section (average 10-15 participants)
 - 10 meetings of KF 00-15 (Postal History Philatelic Club; average 40-50 participants)
 - Annual Czech Philately Day at Postal Museum Prague (on Nov. 6, 2019; see <https://www.facebook.com/Postovnimuzeum>)
 - 10 public lectures given by members/guests of KF 00-15 (see <https://www.kf0015.cz/>)
 - 6 public lectures given by members/guests of KF 00-65 (Apollophila, see https://www.kf0015.cz/?page_id=38977)
 - Active participation in the Slany historical conference (Nov. 16, 2019; L. Kunc)
- Contribution to an *Paginae Historiae* Anthology 2019 published by the Czech National Record Office (see <https://www.nacr.cz/vyzkum-publikace-odborne-akce/publikace/paginae-historiae>)

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

- Participation in World Stamp Exhibitions (e.g. Wuhan 2019 – Vit Vanicek receiving the LG medal)
 - Participation in stamp exhibitions like Stockholmia 2019, Liberec 2019 etc.
 - Vit Vanicek & Lubor Kunc acted as jurymen in the world stamp exhibitions
 - Vit Vanicek & Lubor Kunc successfully passed the FIP Jury Fellow training at Kamnik
- Participation of the Postal History Society members in the EXPONET Permanent Virtual Stamp Exhibition (<http://www.exponet.info>)

Publications concerning Postal History

- Publishing four issues of Postilion Journal (Editor L. Kunc) with regular enclosures of “Polní pošty” (Field Post Magazine; Editor L. Bártík) and “Poštovny” (Postal Agencies; Editor P. Gebauer)
- Articles published by the Society members in philatelic magazines in the Czech Republic and abroad.

Continuing the project of summarization the new discoveries of Czech postmarks from the pre-stamp period until 1939 and to publish the outcome as a supplement to the Votocek’s monographs of 1970s & 1980s (Boruvka).

Other activities or events concerning Postal History

Continuing the last year project for using the EXPONET Virtual Philatelic Exhibition as an alternative publication tool for extensive postal history studies with a subject being attractive also for general public and historians.

Denmark by Henrik Mouritsen

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

Two weekend training seminars for all our judges were held in 2019. The new revised and harmonized guidelines for Postal History suggested by the Bureau were presented and unanimously supported by the group of Danish judges. Denmark has also decided to propose a revised text for the one-frame exhibit judging advice given on the FIP webpage at the upcoming FIP congress in Jakarta.

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

2019 was an active year for postal history exhibitors. We held one national exhibition and one regional exhibition, both with many postal history exhibits. Internationally, Danish postal history exhibitors participated in Nordia 2019 and Stockholmia 2019.

Publications concerning Postal History

The Danish Federation, the Copenhagen Philatelic Club, and The Global Philatelic Network provided very substantial economic support for the publication of a 6-volume handbook on Danish Postal History 1875-1907. It was first released at Stockholm 2019. The book does not only deal with every aspect of Danish postal history, it also describes all the UPU regulations and rates in francs and centimes for all types of mail, including postal parcels, insured letters, money orders, CODs etc., during the first 32 years' of UPU's existence. This reference work will be valuable for postal historians wanting to describe their UPU items from almost any country 1875-1907. The sixth volume is dedicated to (1) providing advice on how to optimise one's scores in postal history exhibits, traditional exhibits, and postal stationery exhibits, and (2) showing how postal history knowledge can be implemented in large gold medal exhibits in these three different FIP classes.

Egypt by Hany Salam

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

- 27 July postal history seminar on treatment held in Cairo.

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

- 30 March - 5 April, National Philatelic Exhibition, 7 postal history exhibits.
- 30 September - 5 October, Continental Philatelic Exhibition, 13 postal history exhibits.

Publications concerning Postal History

- A Postal History of Egypt under the Muhammad Ali Dynasty, by Sami Fereig.
- The Egyptian Maritime Postal History 1845 - 1889 by Hany Salam.
- LOP magazine Issue #143, 144 and 145 contributed by different groups exchanging PH knowledge and articles.

Other activities or events concerning Postal History

- Monacophil 2019: Presented the gems of the Egyptian Postal History materials from collectors all over the world.

Germany by Thomas Hoepfner

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

- Sindelfingen: PH Symposium ("Postgeschichte Live", hosted by Deutscher Altbriefsammler-Verein) approximately 80 visitors.
- Essen (IBM): Exhibitor workshop, approximately 30 visitors.

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

Within Germany:

- 4 local exhibitions (30 exhibits each), 3 regional exhibitions (60 exhibits each); all with postal history and most with Youth participation trend shows that postal history is the largest class with approx. 30-40% of all exhibits.

Outside of Germany:

- CHINA 2019: 4 postal history exhibitors (2 Gold).
- STOCKHOLMIA 2019: 13 postal history exhibitors (1 Large Gold, 8 Gold).
- AlpeAdria (Kamnik, Slovenia): 1 postal history exhibitor (1 Gold).
- Gouda 2019 (Netherlands): 1 postal history exhibitor.

Publications concerning Postal History

Highlights:

- Bahnpost Deutsch-Sudwestafrika (Albert)
- Sachsen: Übergang zum Norddeutschen Postbezirk (Kolditz)
- Der Orient-Express (Dorr)
- Dansk Posthistorie (Mouritsen)
- Paketdienst im Generalgouvernement (Hacker)

- Stempelkatalog Abstimmungsgebiet Allenstein 1920 (Gruber)
- Postgeschichte Deutsches Reich 1871-1945 (Klein)

Hong Kong by Andrew Cheung

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

Dr. Andrew Cheung discussed the “Revised Postal History Guidelines” at the November meeting of the Hong Kong Philatelic Society and members approved of the changes.

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

National stamp exhibition Hongkong Stampex 2019 held from 1 -3 March. Thirteen new exhibits were shown by 11 different exhibitors, subjects including Netherlands East Indies, China, Hong Kong, Macao, Malta and Tasmania. Five Gold medals, seven Large Vermeil medals and one Vermeil medal were awarded. In the One-frame class, two postal history exhibits took part.

There were two multi-frame exhibits and a one-frame postal history exhibit participated in China 2019 World Stamp Exhibition in Wuhan garnering one Gold medal, one Large Silver and a 91 points (OF) award.

Local members of the Royal Philatelic Society, London also showed in Stockholmia 2019.

Publications concerning Postal History

In the annual journal of the Hong Kong Philatelic Society No. 23: nine articles related to postal history of China and Hong Kong.

Newsletter of the HKPS, a monthly publication, articles related to postal history were present.

Other activities or events concerning Postal History

The Hong Kong Philatelic Society held monthly meetings ten times in 2019; postal history was the theme for three meetings. Details of these meetings can be found in the annual journal of HKPS.

Hungary by Dénes Cizrok

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

- 9 Postal history meetings of the “PH-Working-Group” in the year 2019 for PH-exhibitors, discussion about the different new methods, analysis of the different exhibits in the PH-group
- Two-day seminar together with the Austrian philatelists about different PH-topics
- Seminar during the HUNFILA 2019 exhibition about PH-topics in the Stamp Museum
- István Glatz and Dénes Czirók fulfilled at the FIP-Jury Academy in Kamnik
- István Glatz jury member at CHINA-2019 exhibition
- Dénes Cizrok jury member in the Sindelfingen at “Postgeschichte – Live” exhibition
- István Glatz jury member at the Alps-Adria 2019 exhibition
- György Lövei Dr. jury member at the Atlantic-Alp-Adria 2019 exhibition in Portugal

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

- HUNFILA 2019 International Stamp Exhibition in Budapest: 15 PH exhibits (116 frames): 2xLG, 7xG, 3xLV, 1xV, 2xLS+5 OFR-PH exhibits
- CHINA-2019: 2 PH exhibits: 1xLG, 1xLS
- Sindelfingen: 2 PH exhibits from Hungary; 1x Bronze Posthorn, 1x “Candidate” for the “Posthorn”

Publications concerning Postal History

- BÉLYEGVILÁG monthly philatelic journal: in every edition: 3-4 pages with postal history articles, separate 2 pages for the “PH-Working-Group”
- PHILATELICA 19/1 and 19/2 (40-40 pages in Hungarian- and English languages)
- 2 articles in the “London Philatelist” about Hungarian PH topicsArticles published in other philatelic magazines in Hungary (Szabolcsi Bélyegűjság) and foreign (ArGe-Hungary, HPSGB-News, etc.)

Other activities or events concerning Postal History

- 6 lectures in the Stamp Museum Budapest about postal historian topics
- Cooperation in the Stamp Museum Budapest about “The Post from Maria Teresa” exhibition and “150 year the first post card in the world” exhibition.

Korea by Lee Bok Kyu

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

Seminar: One seminar was held during KORPEX 2019 and about 70 exhibitors and jurors attended. New Juror: Mr. Han Chul kyu served as Jury Apprentice during National stamp exhibition KORPEX and the Board of Korean Philatelic Federation approved it.

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

- National Exhibition, KORPEX 2019, was held in Nov. It had PH section. Two PH exhibits, both got LS.
- Eight Regional Stamp Exhibitions were held before KORPEX 2019. Some had PH exhibits.
- FIP Exhibition: One exhibit by Han H. K. in China 2019 obtained V. (Chosun Definitive Stamps issued during the Transitional Period)
- KPF has, only one PH Juror, Mr. Kim Y. K., but he did not participate in any of FIP/FIAP Exhibitions in 2019.

Publications concerning Postal History

Philatelic Monthly “Woopyo”, Monthly Magazine of KPF, published two series of articles on postal history by Mr. Kim Jung-Suk:-

- Postal History of New Born Rep. of KOREA (2018/8 - 2019/2)
- Postal History during the Korean War (2019/6 – date)

Other activities or events concerning Postal History

No other activities recorded.

New Zealand by Gerald Elliott

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

Seminar and workshop held in Wellington for all National and International judges and all classes were catered for.

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

- No National exhibition held in New Zealand during 2019 pending FIAP exhibition in Auckland March 2020.
- New Zealand exhibitors supported FIAP/FIP stamp exhibitions world-wide achieved high awards.
- Postal History will be well-represented in 2020 FIAP stamp exhibition in Auckland.

Publications concerning Postal History

- Postal history items concerning British Regiments engaged in the Maori Wars together with the Royal Navy as well as new articles added to website: www.elliott-postalhistorian.com
- New Zealand members contributed articles in the Mailcoach, the RPSNZ Stamp Collector and the Kiwi NZ Society of GB etc.

Other activities or events concerning Postal History

- Postal History Society of New Zealand was active throughout the year with monthly meetings featuring talks by local and visiting collectors.
- Gerald Elliott article on Fanning Island originally published by the Postal History Society of UK and subsequently in the Collectors Club Inc. New York garnered the Robert Odenweller Award for the best article published in 2018.

Norway by Hallvard Slettebø

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

- By Norwegian Postal History Society: 4 meetings with postal history presentations, approximately 30 participants per meeting.
- By Norwegian War and Fieldpost Society: 1 weekend meeting/seminar.
- By Norwegian Ship Mail Society: 1 meeting.
- By Norwegian Railway Mail Society (Founded 2019): 2 meetings.
- "Stamp School" by the National Federation: 4 full-day seminars (Postal History and other classes) with total approx. 80 participants.

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

- FIP: 1 exhibition, 1 postal history exhibits (1 LG/SP/GPIC, 1 LV).
- Nordic: 1 exhibition, 23 postal history exhibits incl. 3 One-frame exhibits (9 in CC/LG/G, 4 Special Prizes).
- National: 2 exhibitions, 15 postal history exhibits incl. 5 One-frame exhibits and 2 in 2C (4 G).
- Local: 2 exhibitions, 20 postal history exhibits incl. 10 One-frame exhibits and 1 in 2C.
- UK National Stockholmia: 8 postal history exhibits (4 LG, 3 G).
- No female postal history exhibitors (several in TH, PS, OP, PC).
- No youth exhibitors in any class.

Publications concerning Postal History

- Norwegian Postal History Society, journal and website.
- Norwegian Ship Mail Society, journal.
- Norwegian War and Fieldpost Society, journal and website.

Postal History books including:

- Jarl A. Aspaker: The single-ring postmarks 1845-1899.
- Kjell Åge Johansen: Mail and post offices in Oslo.
- Inge Johansen: Mail in Råde.
- Trond Schumacher & John Torstad: Norwegian control of mail 1940.
- Postal History articles in various stamp club journals.

Other activities or events concerning Postal History

No other activities recorded.

Slovenia by Veselko Guštin

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

Before the exhibition SLOVENIJA 2019 in Mekinje, Kamnik held on March 25-27, there was a FIP jury academy for all classes of jurors (about 20 present) conducted by Peter Suhadolc.

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

- During the International exhibition Slovenija/Slovenia 2019 in Mekinje (Kamnik), 28-31 March 2019 there were 6 exhibits in Honour class (52 frames) and in Postal History class (112 frames).
- Deveto Okno Kranj, 5-14. September 2019, 9th International One-frame Exhibition, there were 18 One-frame exhibits in postal history class.
- EUROPHILA, International Exhibition, Škofja Loka, 18-21 September 2019 there were 7 exhibits in postal history.
- Fimera 25-28. September 2019, Trbovlje, National exhibition with 4 postal history exhibits.

Our members participated also in the following stamp exhibitions: CHINA 2019, Wuhan; BULGARIA 2019, Plovdiv; HUNFILA 2019, Budapest; AAPhila - Atlantic, Portugal and Viana do Castelo, MULTILATERALE 2019, Luxemburg. Information available from www.fzs.si.

Publications concerning Postal History

The exhibition catalogue in Slovenia published several postal history articles. We have also our journal Nova filatelija, and Zbornik with postal history articles too.

Other activities or events concerning Postal History

The year 2019 was the year celebrating 100 years of first Slovenian stamp »Chainbreakers«, therefore philatelic clubs organized many exhibitions all around Slovenia. The subject of »Chainbreakers/Verigarji« was mentioned in many newspapers.

Switzerland by Kurt Kimmel

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

- February 9th Rolf Leuthard lectured “The Swiss army during the 19th century”
- March 16th Markus Sprenger gave a paper about the French colonies during the 2nd World war (each time 12 participants).
- September 1st over 26 members of the Consilium spent a weekend at the Lake of Four Cantons with five lectures: Postal History of the Canton Schaffhouse, Swiss postal agencies abroad, etc.
- November 2nd our 22nd annual seminar for jurors and exhibitors was organized in Olten with about 30 participants and two exhibits in order to discuss “Title pages”.
- November 29th Rolf Leuthard, President of the Swiss Federation, lectured about “How to build a Postal History exhibit”.

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

- Postal History exhibits from Swiss collectors achieved highest results at the FIP exhibition in Wuhan and at the Multinational in Luxembourg as well as at the Sindelfingen show.
- The following National postal history jurors met all the requirements to become FIP Postal History jurors: Adriano Bergamini (17th June passed the FIP jury apprenticeship in Wuhan). In 2018 our Federation submitted FIP apprenticeship application of Jürg Roth and Jean Voruz to the FIP Board.
- At our National Exhibition in Bulle (Grade II and III), 28th November to 1st December over 40 exhibitors (of which 13 first time) participated in the Postal History Class.

Publications concerning Postal History

- Evert Poel published a book about “Port Payé” in Switzerland 1796-1862.
- The Swiss Postal History Association issued four issues with interesting articles mainly relating to Swiss Postal History.
- The “sbz” (from the Swiss Federation) published articles concerning Postal History.

Other activities or events concerning Postal History

Dr. Giovanni Balimann and Heinrich Windels were honoured for their lifetime work as author and/or exhibitor of postal history by receiving each a gold coin from the Kimmel Postal History Foundation. See www.kimmelstiftung.ch

Turkey by Turhan Turgut

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

Every year from October to following May we organize philatelic seminars that cover a wide range of topics including postal history. Some of these on postal history were repeated at local and national exhibitions. A lecture on Ottoman Postal History was delivered three times in Istanbul (two of them at a Rotary Club’s meetings, the other at the American Research Institute), once each in Izmir and Ankara.

Academy of the Turkish Philately 2019 Seminar Program:-

| | | |
|------------------|--|-------------------|
| 12 January 2019 | Collecting Provincial Philately | Hakan Orkut |
| 26 January 2019 | Maritime Mail | Atadan Tunacı |
| 16 February 2019 | Open Discussion on Philatelic Topics | Yakup Nakri |
| 02 March 2019 | A New Approach to Ephemera | Mert Sandalcı |
| 16 March 2019 | Aesthetics and Page Design in Exhibiting | Atadan Tunacı |
| 06 April 2019 | Airmail | Selçuk Akar |
| 20 April 2019 | The Field Post | Bahattin Öztuncay |
| 04 May 2019 | Where is the Philately Heading? | Mehmet Akan |

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

The year 2019 witnessed great philatelic activity in Turkey.

There were 3 exhibitions sponsored by the PTT in the cities of Samsun, Amasya and Sivas.

The annual National exhibition was held in Ankara at the end of December.

35 Turkish exhibits were displayed at Plovdiv (Bulgaria) 2019 Exhibition in October. One third of these were related to postal history.

Publications concerning Postal History

A significant postal history publication that was published at the end of 2018 was Turhan Turgut's "Postal History of the Ottoman Empire - Rates and routes 1840 - 1922". This colossal 865 page work was awarded a large gold at "Italia 2018" and a gold at "Stockholmia 2019".

A second book of great importance was published in September 2019: "Microhistory of the Turkish Post 1920 - 2015". This is the first book of a three volume work in 796 pages by Mehmet Akan and Timur Kuran; the book showed tremendous amount of detailed information about the Turkish post. Both of these books are written in Turkish and English parallel texts.

United Kingdom by Bill Hedley

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

- UK/FEPA representative of the Postal History Commission delivered a FIP seminar on "Postal History and the Wider World" at Stockholmia 2019.
- Seminar on postal history at Autumn Stampex 2019 given by Peter McCann.
- UK representative attended Academic Postal History Congress in Prato, Italy in June 2019.
- Seminar on conservation of materials held at RPSL in September 2019.
- One new postal history judge accredited by FIP.

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

- Three National Exhibitions in 2019 (2 in London, 1 in Perth, Scotland), all with postal history class included.
- The postal history class was well represented, and the Best in Show at Autumn Stampex was a Postal History exhibit.
- There was also strong participation at Stockholmia 2019.

There is some concern that insufficient new exhibitors are entering competitions at National and International levels and we are looking for ways to encourage more potential exhibitors to take part.

Publications concerning Postal History

- Full range of articles in the London Philatelist and many other journals of specialist societies.
- Several publications by RPSL and the Rossiter Trust with relevance to postal history.
- New RPSL website rolled out.

Other activities or events concerning Postal History

- Guide to philatelic research at the British Library published by David Beech MBE.
- Multi-class award introduced to encourage exhibitors to compete in five or more classes.
- Fresh research facilities introduced at new RPSL building in Abchurch Lane, London.

United States of America by Danforth Walker

Seminars, Lectures, Conferences for Postal History jurors and/or exhibitors

There were no specific postal history seminars or classes in 2019 in the USA. Instead there were several seminars and classes on the judging criteria such as Treatment, Importance, etc. and the use of the point system.

Exhibitions with Postal History Class

The US has now finished three full years of judging with points given at all national exhibitions. The point system is now well established in the US after the three years of use. Exhibitors in general are happy with the point system particularly since they get a written form with the judge who is first responder for that exhibit specific comments on Treatment, Importance, Knowledge, Rarity, Condition and Presentation.

The US has between 80 and 850 national judges who are required to use points when judging the 30 plus national shows. The US judging core has slimmed down from over 200 judges mainly due to the cost of judging – air transport, hotels, and meals, after a \$350-\$500 honorarium, still results in an average out of pocket cost to the judge of about \$1,000.

The US continues to have over 30 national shows each year with postal history exhibits being the dominant class. Besides the national shows there are lots of regional and local philatelic shows throughout the year in the US and lots of local club meetings with postal history subjects a major “show and tell” topic.

Publications concerning Postal History

The USA publishes a good deal of postal history literature. One work published in May 2019 has done very well in literature competition. Yamil Kouri Jr. authored “The Postal History of the Spanish Cuban American War (1895-1898)” hardbound, 752 pages published by the Collectors Club of Chicago.

Other activities or events concerning Postal History

Judging Criteria

Historically, the order of judging criteria at the FIP level is the same as used in the USA: Treatment (20 points), Importance (10 points), Philatelic Knowledge, Personal Study and Research (often a combined 35 points but sometimes 25 points for Philatelic Knowledge and 10 points for Personal Study and Research), Rarity (20 points), Condition (10 points) and Presentation (5 points). There is a high chance that this will change in two respects: 1) Presentation will be first and 2) Importance last and judges will be encouraged to judge exhibits in this order with Presentation points first decided and Importance points decided last.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Dear delegates, kindly keep in touch with your continental representative (FIAF, FEPA, FIAP) or the Secretary regarding postal history activities in your own country even if no significant activity took place. Please also check the accuracy of your details particularly your email on the website. FIP approved streamlined seminars and new exhibiting seminars for the benefit of jurors and exhibitors are available from our website www.fippostalhistory.com, please take a look.



Malcolm Groom
Chairman,
FIP Postal History Commission



Andrew Cheung
Secretary,
FIP Postal History Commission