



# Literature Commission

**Chairman:** Gary Brown  
**Secretary:** Muhammad Javaid  
**FEPA:** Maassen Wolfgang  
**FIAP:** Buranasombati Pichai  
**FIAF:** Vacant  
**Appointed:** Ari Muhonen  
**Webmaster:** Ari Muhonen  
**FIP Liaisons:** Aldo Samame

## Newsletter January 2019

The Commission meeting in Bangkok held on 30 November 2018 with 19 people in attendance.

The main points from the meeting were:

- That a mailing to all delegates will take place in the New Year.
- Ari Muhonen, webmaster will commence construction of a new website and will take approx. 6 months to finish.
- Ari – who was a judge in Italia 2018 supplied a short report on the “digital” side of the exhibition and the few problems they had with some of the websites. [Jose Moreno, FEPA President, will also supply me with a written report].
- Jeff Long [New Zealand] provided feedback on their last 2 Literature exhibitions which included digital.
- Mr. Madhukar Jhingan [India] presented book “India 1935 Silver Jubilees Stamps”

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### FIP NEWS

For the last 4 years Mr Prakob Chirakiti has been the board liaison member overseeing the Literature Commission and the Bureau pass on their thanks to Prakob for his assistance over that period.

The FIP Board have advised us Director Aldo Samame Y Samame will be the Board Liaison officer for the next 4 years.

It is hopeful that Aldo can assist us in obtaining a bureau member from the FIPA area for us to have full number of bureau members.



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## REPORT FROM CHAIRMAN

*Gary Brown*

While the meeting at Bangkok was not large in numbers, the discussion that took place was constructive.

My thanks go to Bureau member Ari Muhonen who has taken on the task of webmaster and is currently undertaking a total revamp of the Literature website. One of the matters discussed was for the website to include details of all new book titles and some details of the books when released.

This will be a major task but one that will make the website functional. More on this initiative in the Bureau's next newsletter.

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## JAPAN

*by Yukihiro SHODA*

Competitive Philatelic Literature Events in JAPAN (2017 Season): There are two national exhibitions every year in JAPAN. Both shows hold Literature Competition. These are ALL Japan Stamp Exhibition, in July and Japan Philatelic Exhibition (JAPEX), in November.

At "All Japan Stamp Exhibition 2017" there were 13 entries (9 Books and 4 Periodicals) in total, and awarded Vermeil 6, Large Silver 5, silver Bronze 1 and Bronze 1. This year highest entry was 77 points: Stampedia France Classic Stamp Catalogue by Nobuto Ariyoshi.

At "Japex 2017" there were 21 entries (5 Books, 16 Periodicals), and awarded Vermeil 1, Large Silver 11, Silver 8 and Silver Bronze 1.

Receiving a highest award was 76 points: Yubinshi Kenkyu (Bulletin of Postal History Society)

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## CHILE

*by Manuel Marino*

The Sociedad Filatelica de Chile (Chilean Philatelic Society) issues Philatelic Literature Class exhibits as follows:

- 1- It Issues its newsmagazine CHILE FILATELICO twice a year
- 2- It issues a bimonthly newsletter, which is e-mailed to all of its members
- 3- It maintains up to date its web page [www.sociedadfilatelica.cl](http://www.sociedadfilatelica.cl)



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## United Arab Emirates

*by Muhammad Javaid*

Emirates Philatelic Association with co-operation of Dragon Mart 2 hold "Stamp Exhibition EPAEX 2018 - Dubai" to celebrate "Year of Zayed". Exhibitors from GCC and New Zeland participated, exhibition was held from from 6-10 March 2018 at Dragon Mart 2, Dubai. Following literature exhibits were in the exhibition.

Americo Lopes Rebelo	Articles about Maximafilia Published in Several Magazines 2016-2017	Silver Bronze
Hatim Al Attar	Sultanate of Oman Postal System 1966-2016	Large Silver
Kuwait Philatelic Society	Al Posta Journal	Vermeil

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## GERMANY

*by Wolfgang Maassen*

### Philatelic book publishers

In Germany there are a number of publishers who are specialized in philatelic literature. On the one hand catalogue publishers such as MICHEL or PHILEX, on the other hand specialized publishers who have philatelic monographs, manuals and similar products in their programme.

The Schwaneberger Verlag (MICHEL) alone publishes more than 50 (!) new catalogues or revised and enlarged editions of catalogues every year, and as such they are the global leader in the field. Every year, PHILEX publishes around five updated catalogues of popular collection areas, including the two-volume Germany catalogue. Also worth mentioning is the Leuchtturm publishing house which publishes the DNK catalogue of Germany every year. Included in this group are further publishers of specialized catalogues that are regularly produced either by individual publishers or by consortiums. One example among many others are the special catalogues by E. Richter from Chemnitz on GDR stamp booklets and se-tenant stamps which as a two- or three-volume manuals are now in their 11<sup>th</sup> edition. The number of all manuals and specialized catalogues is too large to be listed here in detail.

The number of monographs and reference books published in Germany every year – usually they are written in German – is just as large. In this category we find in particular the Phil \*Creativ publishing house in Schwalmtal with five to ten new titles per year, the



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publishing house of Peter Morgan in Berlin (Morgana Edition) with a similar or even higher number of titles, and in addition the two study groups *Poststempelgilde* and *INFLA Berlin* which year after year produce several new titles as well.

If on account of produced monographs self-publishers and study groups are included, the number of new publications per year well exceeds one hundred titles.

In this context auction houses which publish literature in Germany should not be forgotten: first of all the companies Heinrich Köhler / Corinphila with their documentary series *Édition d'Or* and *Éditionspéciale*: On an average, they turn out as many as ten new titles per year. Also to be mentioned are individual monographs that these houses produce, and in this respect they are in company with other auctioneers such as Christoph Gärtner, Harald Rauhut and Ulrich Felzmann.

In addition, specialized auction catalogues should be taken into account as well which due to their in-depth contents can often be considered as manuals or documentary presentations. In no way can they be put in one line with the formerly usual 'price lists', but quite often they have the character of ground-breaking specialized studies on individual collecting areas. Usually they are distributed in elaborately created books as *name* or *special sale* catalogues – and, produced in considerably high number, they are in most cases even free of charge in Germany.

It is not exaggerated to assume that all in all this group of catalogue / book publishers brings out well over 200 titles each year, and there is no end in sight.

## **Philatelic magazine publishers**

Germany is still in the fortunate position of having a number of well-known publishers who have their own specialized magazine or are in charge of such publications for partner publishers. Here is the list of the main magazines written for the large public:

- “Deutsche Briefmarken-Revue” (German Stamp Review; monthly)
- “DBZ” (Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung – German Stamp Journal; biweekly)
- “Briefmarken Spiegel” (stamp mirror; monthly)
- “philatelie” (philately; monthly)

While the “philatelie” with about 30 000 copies printed is the highest circulation periodical and at the same time the official magazine of the Association of German Philatelists (Bund Deutscher Philatelistene.V., BDPh), the other three magazines are



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issued with editions of up to 15,000 copies each as so-called 'newsstand or on sale magazines' by other publishers (Philapress, etc.).

In addition, there are specialized magazines of various interests, some of which have a circulation. Examples:

- DAS ARCHIV (quarterly magazine of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Post und Telekommunikation)
- MICHEL-Rundschau (monthly house magazine of the Schwaneberger publishing house)
- "postfrisch" (quarterly magazine of the Deutsche Postphilatelie)
- PHILAHISTORICA (quarterly digital journal of the Phil \* Creativ publishing house)

Except for the latter, all these magazines appear in print. PHILAHISTORICA is available for free on the internet at [www.philahistorica.de](http://www.philahistorica.de); at the same time, printed annual volumes of this journal, each with about 1,000 pages, are published in small numbers.

## **Philatelic literature of the study groups of the BDPH**

The Association of German Philatelists e.V. (BDPh) counts some 130 study groups and thematic collectors societies which almost all publish printed (and a few even digital) journals. Usually two to four times a year, but these journals are meant only for members. In addition, a number of study groups – the Poststempelgilde (Postmark Guild) and INFLA BERLIN that have been mentioned above – also produce monographs, festschriften and catalogues.

If all these publications were to be listed individually, there would surely be more than 200 titles. Among them are small brochures of only a few pages, but also rather bulky in-depth works so that the 'output' per anno is thousands of pages.

## **Philatelic Literature of other German Federations**

In addition to the various publications of the study groups, a large number of the member associations of the BDPH also publish their own regular publications, partly as supplements in the BDPH-magazine *philatelie*. With regional philatelic contributions, dates and association events, they complement the nationwide publications.

The magazine *JungeSammler* (Young Collector) of the *Bundesverband der JungenBriefmarkenfreunde* has a special position in this respect. On the one hand, it is the organ of the member association of the German Philatelists Youth e.V.. On the



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other hand, the *Young Collector* is the nationwide link for young stamp enthusiasts of all ages. Young philatelists organised in the DPhJ do not receive the *philatelie-magazine* as young BDPH members, but the *Young Collector* as a magazine specially designed for young philatelists. In a transition period, there are even both association magazines.

As its own philatelic youth magazine, the *Junge Sammler* is unique in terms of content, scope and publication frequency and was also awarded the C.G. Award (2016) at TREVERIS 2018 and before. In this way, the *Young Collector* helps to accompany young people on their way to philately.

## Philatelic libraries

German philately is fortunate to own a number of specialized libraries spread across the country. A difference should be made between public libraries and private libraries of stamp societies some of which are worth mentioning, as the following overview will show:

- the Munich Philatelic Library

With literature in 43 languages it is the largest library for literature on Philately and Postal History in Germany and among the 5 major holdings worldwide. Integrated into the Munich Central Library since 1985, it is directed by a professional librarian and open daily. Its director is Robert Binner.

- the *Library of the Museum of Communication in Berlin*

This library is run by the Museum Foundation for Post and Telecommunications. It is open several days a week and focuses on postal history. However, it also holds large collections of the former philatelic Kalckhoff Memorial Library and the library of the regional associations (Landesverband) of Berlin.

- the *Philatelic Library Hamburg*

Started as a club library, it is nowadays the third in size in Germany. It is run by a supporting association and many volunteers under the direction of Sabine Schwanke.

- the *Heinrich Köhler Library in Frankfurt*

This is a society library which is supported by the "Verein für Briefmarkenkunde Frankfurt" and administered by volunteers.

- the *Philatelic Library Wuppertal*

This is a club library as well and has been run for many years by Hans-Jürgen Dobiak with the assistance of voluntary helpers of the Wuppertaler Philatelistenverein.



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- the Philatelic Library of Zeitz etc.

This library, as well as a number of similar institutions (e.g. the one of the Stamp Club Hanover) are less voluminous club libraries, but they are quite significant and contribute to maintaining philately in the province.

## Philatelic literature trade

Compared to former times, the philatelic literature trade is nowadays more likely to take place at auctions which offer philatelic literature as a smaller segment in their auction catalogues. Since Germany still has well over 50 auction companies, the offer of standard works is quite considerable.

*Philathek* is a company specializing in philatelic literature; it defines its role primarily as a distributor of catalogues and popular specialized works of other publishers, but it is also a well-known antiquarian bookseller. Two more philately and postal history specialist booksellers have to be quoted: *Philabooks* run by Burkhard Schneider is the best-known. *PhilShop* of the Phil\*Creativ publishing house has recently joined this small circle, with all three of them presumably offering most of their products on the internet or via ebay. When visiting [www.philshop.de](http://www.philshop.de), you will also find antiquarian numismatic literature being offered in the near future.

## Philatelic exhibitions

Each year clubs or associations resp. the Association of German Philatelists (BDPh) organize a number of exhibitions at various levels or degrees. In Germany, *Rank [degree] 3* shows are organized at a local level, those of *Rank 2* at a regional level and *Rank 1* at a national level. At least the *Rank 2* and *Rank 1* exhibitions comprise a literature class, sometimes with up to 20 or more works competing. There are often more titles entered at National *Rank 1* exhibitions, although there is usually only one *Rank 2* or *Rank 1* exhibition per year. At the recent TREVERIS 2018 in Trier, a combined *Rank 3 / Rank 2* exhibition, for instance, 13 publications went into the race.

This should be distinguished from specialized philatelic literature exhibitions. The last, a European exhibition with worldwide participation, was IPHLA 2012 in Mainz where more than 600 exhibits were on display. In 2016 the first national competitive literature exhibition of the Study Groups was organized in Sindelfingen; because of its success it will be repeated in 2018. At these special exhibitions once again one hundred and more titles can be expected to apply.

German exhibitors often participate in national exhibitions of neighboring countries, at FEPA or at international exhibitions, as can be seen in the catalogues and in the palmarès. For example, German exhibitors were represented with 19 philatelic literature exhibits at *PRAGA 2018*, and at the multilateral *HERTOGPOST 2017* in 's-Hertogenbosch / NL with no less than 14 titles.

In May 2021, the Federation of German Philatelists again wants to organize an *IBRA 2021* with FIP patronage and FEPA recognition. This exhibition will once again comprise an important literature class.



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## Literature jurors

Since a number of exhibitions are held in Germany and the neighboring countries every year, qualified literature jurors are always needed. A difference should be made between jurors who have 'literature' as an additional qualification from those who exclusively judge philatelic literature. The latter are usually called for only at national and / or international exhibitions.

A problem in more recent times seems to be the qualification of such literature jurors, because quite often the results achieved by exhibitors show wide differences in the points awarded. One means to remedy such problems is might be regular training seminars for literature jurors.

## Literature Awards

In a country where so many – and often very good – new titles appear every year, it is natural to honor the best and at the same time to award prizes to authors.

It was in 1922 when the *SIEGER literature prize* was created; it is donated today by the stamp house Hermann E. Sieger. This is the oldest literary award in Germany. In addition, the following – partly annual – awards are to be mentioned:

- the *Hermann Deninger Literature Prize* of the Foundation for the Promotion of Philately and Postal History (awarded since 1971 and with a prize money of 2,000 Euros)
- the *Kalckhoff Medal* of the Association of German Philatelists (first awarded to Dr. Franz Kalckhoff in 1950)
- the *Vespermann Memorial Prize* (which has been awarded by the BDPH since 1995 to study groups which are particularly productive in literature).
- the *C.G. Award* (bestowed since 2013 by the auction house Christoph Gärtner: an internationally oriented award in several classes combined with considerable prize money for the promotion of philately, with strong attention given to literature).
- the *Rauhut-Literature Prize* (awarded since 2011 by the Rauhut&Kruschel Auction House to two BDPH study groups for excellence in literature, also accompanied by an endowment).
- the *Heinrich Schlemmer Prize* (awarded annually since 1990 by the LandesverbandMittelrhein for the best catalogue of a Rank 3 exhibition).





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In addition to these prizes there are the bronze, silver and vermeil needles that the *Bund Deutscher Philatelisten* itself can bestow to authors in recognition of their services to philatelic literature.

## Trends for the future

For the time being we do not observe any decline in the production and popularity of philatelic literature. Although a considerable and permanent decrease of the number of collectors, and in particular of organized collectors, is to be observed, there is on the other side a noteworthy increase in the production of new book titles. Due to today's much lower production costs, but also thanks to digital distribution and production, the number of self publishers has gone up significantly. Although the number of copies printed might have gone down and is likely to become even smaller in the future, digital printing in very good quality now makes it possible for any philatelic researcher to publish his work himself.

International exhibition organizers court authors to participate, and presumably this invitation will be declined only where the fees and additional costs imposed by the regulations are considered significantly too high or exaggerated. In this respect, criticism of exhibition regulations has been increasingly noticeable for years. However, not even the FIP –with the help of its literary commission – seems able so far to break ground. One can only hope that new solutions will be found soon, otherwise it needs no prophet to predict that the number of exhibitors will drop to an extent never known before.

An even more urgent problem – especially for authors – is the fact of the sometimes immensely high postage fees that are practiced in many countries today. This affects the international literature exchange and trade just as much as exhibitors, who in addition to paying the exhibition fees are required to send two copies of their exhibit.

In Germany, it is noticeable that due to the declining number of collectors, more and more library holds are being liquidated, and these stocks can barely be sold on the domestic market. This puts a strong pressure on the previously known and usually practiced price level for a resale – a trend that is unlikely to reverse for the time being.

However, there is no reason to paint 'doomsday scenarios' on the wall. Philately is alive and keeps pulsating, philatelic literature is still in demand, albeit on an increasingly smaller market than before.



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## **NEW ZEALAND**

16th NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL PHILATELIC LITERATURE EXHIBITION

28 – 29 September 2019

Hosted by the Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society Inc, P O Box 9246,  
Tower Junction, Christchurch, 8149, New Zealand

## **2019 PROSPECTUS**

The Organising Committee invites entries from New Zealand and overseas to be judged and displayed at the 16th New Zealand National Philatelic Literature Exhibition.

### **Background**

Specialised philatelic literature exhibitions have been held in New Zealand every second year since 1989. They have drawn worldwide support and have served to introduce collectors, to literature that will develop their knowledge and interests.

Following the success of the 15th exhibition in 2017, the Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society Inc has again accepted an invitation to organise the 16th New Zealand National Philatelic Literature Exhibition 2019 (16th PLE) and members of the Society form the Organising Committee. The Society is home to an extensive philatelic library in New Zealand, housed in our Philatelic Centre.

Entries to the past exhibitions are accessible to New Zealand Philatelic Federation (NZPF) affiliated society members, and are also used by philatelic exhibition judges. This practice will continue.

The Organising Committee for this exhibition also welcomes entries of electronic media.

### **Special arrangements for 2019**

The 2020 FIAP International Philatelic Exhibition is scheduled to be in Auckland 19th to 22nd March, 2020 and it has a literature class. For those who are in the FIAP region (Inter Asia) and wish to enter both exhibitions we will forward your entries from Christchurch to Auckland, but you must separately enter with the organisers of the 2020 event and advise us that you wish to have the publications forwarded. It is intended that some of the Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society team will travel to Auckland and be involved in the literature display area of the 2020 FIAP International Exhibition.

### **Fees and Entry Forms**

For the 16th PLE there is only an information form to complete and no fees. For the 2020 FIAP exhibition there are two forms to complete plus the fees per entry as noted in website information for this exhibition.



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## Exhibition Classes

Class A Books and Monographs published after 1 January 2014

Class B Periodicals and journals published from 1 January, 2017

Class C Catalogues published after 1 January, 2017

Class D Digital Entries, a URL for accessible items, or on CD/stick

Class E Websites, the URL for the active electronic media

Class F Non competitive Books, Monographs or Periodicals

Class G Non competitive digital entries

For entry form – email: [CPS1911@outlook.co.nz](mailto:CPS1911@outlook.co.nz)

Or go to <http://nz2020.nz>



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Literature commission delegates, kindly email us for any addition or amendment.

Albania	Thimi Nika
Argentina	Eloy Orlando Corres
Australia	Gary Brown
Austria	Gerald Heschl
Belgium	Piet Van San
Bolivia	Eugenio von Boeck
Brazil	Geraldo de Andrade Ribeiro Jr
Bulgaria	Christo Nickoltchev
Canada	Charles J Verge
Chile	Manuel L Marino
China	Liu Jia Wei
Costa Rica	Dr. César Alonso Sancho Solís
Croatia	Ivan Martinas
Cuba	Juan Hernández Machado
Cyprus	Nicos Rangos
Czech Republic	Jiri Sedlák
Denmark	Christian Jantzen
Egypt	Magdi Moukhtar
Finland	Risto-Matti Kauhanen
France	Robert Cloix
Germany	Wolfgang Maasen
Greece	Anthony Virvilis
Hong Kong	Dr Andrew Cheung
Hungary	Ms Olga Lazarovics
Iceland	Gunnar Rafn Einarsson
India	Vispi Dastur
Indonesia	Mahpudi
Iran	Masoud Farahbakhsh
Ireland	Patrick Casey
Israel	Tibi Yaniv
Italy	Bruno F Crevato-Selvaggi
Japan	Yukihiko Shoda
Kuwait	Dr Mashael A. Alhajeri
Liechtenstein	Jan Huys-Berlingin
Luxembourg	Jean Frising
South Korea	Seong-Kwon Kim
Malaysia	Andrew Leong Fook Chee
Mexico	Lic. Victor Siena Alba,
Nepal	Dr Ramesh Shrestha
New Zealand	Norman Banfield
Norway	Odd Harald Johannessen
Pakistan	Usman Ali Isani
Paraguay	Roberto Eaton



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Philippines	Pio Rodriguez
Poland	Jerzy Bielawski
Portugal	Pedro vaz Pereira
Qatar	Essa Al - Kaabi
Romania	Ing Mircea Patrascoiu
Serbia	Vojislav Begovic
Singapore	Yau Khai Weng
Slovak Republic	Lubomir Floch
Slovenia	Branko Morencic
South Africa	Cedric Roche
Spain	Juan Manuel Cerrato Garcia
Sweden	Erik Hamberg
Switzerland	Hans Schwarz
Taiwan	Michael Lin
Thailand	Dr Pichai Buranasombati
U.A.E.	Muhammad Javaid
United Kingdom	Frank Walton
Uruguay	Juan Bosco Oberti
U.S.A.	Kenneth Trettin