



## THE SOCIETY OF RUSSIAN PHILATELY

***Bulletin 67, Summer 2021***

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### **President's Message**

Greetings from Alabama! When you read this, the heat and humidity of August will so be gone, September will be approaching, bringing its cool weather and getting us ready for the fall.

I am about to head to the Great American Stamp Show (GASS) in Chicago to judge. You will have to wait until next time to get a report on how the show went.

We were planning to have our 2021 membership meeting at this show, but I had to cancel it. As a judge, I would not have the time to ensure that we could support all the expected activities at the show, such as a booth, membership meeting, a Rossica program, and exhibits. I tried that once a few years ago and it was almost a disaster, so never again.

Another factor in my decision was the lack of volunteers. Basically, with Covid still going strong even a month and a half ago, not enough members were ready to commit to helping. I don't blame them – Covid is a scary thing. And considering how bad it has gotten in late July and early August, it was a good decision.

We will start planning our 2022 Membership meeting and hope that Covid is under control by then.

I will have a selection of the Best Journal Article in 2020 and it will be announced in the next Journal. Let me know if you strongly believe an article from either of the 2020 Journals deserves to be recognized.

At this time, our Society has the same fundamental problem that many stamp groups have, that is, a lack of volunteers. We need new members to step up and help run our Society. I know that I'm part of the problem as I'm not very good at hunting down volunteers and meeting new people. But you, the members, need to meet me halfway and let me know that you will help when something you like pops up.

Right now, the position of Journal Advertising Manager needs to be filled. This is a parttime position, perhaps a few hours a month. The position requires you to call dealers and auction houses who sell Russian Area material and to establish a relationship with them as an active advertiser. Once done, you will need to follow through to ensure that their copy gets in on time and that they keep coming back. Talk to Nik Sorokin at [nik.sorokin@rossica.org](mailto:nik.sorokin@rossica.org) for more details.

Randy is still looking for short articles (up to 3 pages, including figures) for the Bulletin. Send contributions to [randyw1909@gmail.com](mailto:randyw1909@gmail.com). Send longer articles to [William.moskoff@rossica.org](mailto:William.moskoff@rossica.org).

(continued)

Второе, дополненное и исправленное, издание каталога "Местные Выпуски (Провизории) РСФСР, Украина, Белоруссия, СССР 1918-1963 гг." в двух томах. Каталог также включает изображения подделок.

Первое издание каталога было быстро распродано. В 2019 году каталог получил Золотую медаль на Всемирной Филателистической выставке в Китае и две Большие Золотые медали на филателистических выставках в США. Каталог приобрели коллекционеры и дилеры из 28 стран мира.

По всем вопросам, включая заявки на каталог и на рекламу, обращайтесь к автору по электронному адресу [mockba48@yahoo.com](mailto:mockba48@yahoo.com) не позднее 1 декабря 2021 года.

Second edition of the catalog "Local Stamps (Provisionals) Russia, Ukraine, Belorussia, USSR 1918-1963", with corrections and additions, in two volumes. The catalog also includes images of forgeries.

The 1st edition of the catalog was sold out in the record time. In 2019, the catalog received Gold medal at the World Philatelic Exhibition in China as well as Large Gold medals at Philatelic Exhibitions in USA. The catalog was purchased by stamp dealers and collectors from 28 countries around the globe.

All questions, catalog orders and advertisement requests should be directed to the author via email [mockba48@yahoo.com](mailto:mockba48@yahoo.com) no later than December 1st, 2021.



How about what you have been doing during Covid with your collections? Learn anything new? Did you find a new and nice example? Please present it to the society either through the Journal or the Bulletin so all can enjoy it.

The journals have been full of great articles – thank you to all the authors, translators, and the editorial board: Bill, Nik, Alex and Steve for their efforts. Until we start having meetings again, the authors and the Journal are the face of the Society.

I support the AAPE by doing critiques of new exhibits. I just completed one on early USSR anniversary issues. Amazing material – official review/presentation cards of the issue both drafts and proofs – these are extremely rare, usually only 10 were prepared for the reviewing committee, one became the official record of the meeting, and the others became waste and either saved or destroyed, so no more than 9 copies can exit outside of the official archives. Cherrystone has a single lot of 4 or 5 cards from one issue for a minimum bid of \$25,000! Not junk box material. The idea is to tell collectors about your interests, perhaps parts of Russian Philately that is known only to a few.

Stay healthy and keep your family health. Enjoy your wonderful hobby and please share some of your time and knowledge with the rest of us!

Raymond J. Pietruszka  
Rossica President  
pietrj@mindspring.com

## New Applications to the Rossica Society

We welcome the following new applicants with Tentative Membership into the Rossica Society. If there are no objections from the membership, they will become full members in the Society:

2112	Dimitri Tsrulnikov	Canada
2213	Anatoliy Mikheev	Russia
2214	Evert Weijman	Netherlands
2215	Sergei Tomskikh	Russia

## Minutes from Rossica Board of Directors Meeting

March 20, 2021

In attendance: Ray Pietruszka, Nik Sorokin, Greg Mirsky, Semyon Brayman, Bill Moskoff and Vesma Grinfelds

The meeting was called to order at 10:05PM (PDT) by President Ray Pietruszka with a quorum.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of Treasurer Steve Volis', Vesma Grinfelds gave the Treasurer's Report as Steve had given to her. "There are 264 paid members; 13 who have not paid as of yet. There is \$30,000+ in the Treasury with two Journals which need be paid for (\$9,000)".

Basically, the dues pay for publication of the Journal; the remainder pays for the Bulletin. The advertising income at present is @\$1,500 per journal (\$3,000 per year). It is good to know that we have cash if we wish to do another major publication in the future.

Officers: Bill noted that he enjoys doing the



Journal and likes working with Nik. Nik agreed to continue doing layouts but will NOT do advertising. Vesma and Greg agreed to continue on the Board. Lacking time, Ray would like to have "fresh blood" join the Board.

Publications Report: Bill stated that he is extremely pleased as the Journal is in great shape. He has the good fortune of having a surplus of articles; some are left over for the next Journal.

Randy was not present so there was no report concerning the Bulletin. Bill edited the last Bulletin for Randy and Ray will ask Randy about his commitment to continuing. Steve has gained some ads for the Bulletin.

Library Report: Greg Mirsky, Librarian, noted that the library has expanded beyond his garage. Due to Covid, the Library is growing; requests for service have also increased. He reported that the Facebook group has grown to over 150 people. Collectors in Russia are joining the group. In general, the Library is in good shape.

Website: Our new Webmaster is trying to get the site up and running.

Secretary's Report: Vesma asked: if GASS goes forth in August, shall she go forth to schedule our annual meeting and ask for a society table. It was agreed that she should go forth. There was discussion if we should hold virtual meetings? Nik suggested that we should have zoom meetings anyway. Perhaps our annual meeting should include a zoom meeting for those who cannot attend in person. Ray noted that more members need to be encouraged to exhibit at GASS.

Society Awards: No awards were given this past year. Ray suggested that we create an award for "Best Article of the Year" and that it be based on a vote of the membership.

New Business: Ray suggested that we do "as much as we can" on-line until the health situation

is relieved. Mini-meetings on line with updates and short presentations are a possibility. He will proceed with this.

This is an election year for ROSSICA. Bill asked if foreign members should be encouraged to join the Board? Greg noted that we need to find a Russia "Coordinator" for the purpose of a Chapter in Russia. It would be necessary for this new Chapter to define its purpose (i.e. grow membership, etc). It would need to have a charter. It was emphasized that this Coordinator need be a "neutral" person. This will require some thought.

Ray asked if the copyright notice is in the Journal. Nik advised that it is in the banner.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 (PDT).

Respectfully submitted,  
Vesma Grinfelds, Secreta

## Exhibit Award Winners

Dennis Hassler  
Exhibit Title: Wenden  
Awarded ROSSICA Best Russian Exhibit  
WESTPEX

Edward Rosen  
Exhibit Title: Birobijean – Jewish Autonomous Oblast  
Awarded ROSSICA's President Award  
WESTPEX

## Articles and Awards

If you have short (3pages or less) article you would like to submit to the Bulletin, please contact me at [randyw1909@gmail.com](mailto:randyw1909@gmail.com).

If you have won an exhibit award, please send exhibit title, award description, and exhibit title to [randyw1909@gmail.com](mailto:randyw1909@gmail.com).



