

**Report of the 44th Congress and General Meeting
Meyrin/Geneva /CH - 25th April 2009, Forum de Meyrin
on the occasion of ' PHIL AERO '09 '**

President Steve REINHARD /USA welcomed the delegates and guests.

He presented the Board Members present, viz. Stefan Bruylants /B - vice-President, Hans Mierl /A - Treasurer, Jackie Lauwers-Bekaert /B - Secretary General, Board Members Gérard Collot /F, Hugo Goeggel /COL, Bedrich Helm /CZ, Wolfgang Porges /D, Romano Savini /I, Ross Wood /AUS and Honorary President Kuno Sollors /D.

Mrs. Carmen Hischier, President CPM/Club Philatélique de Meyrin, welcomed the FISA Board Members, delegates and guests and wished them a successful Congress.

She granted to all present three books : a book from CPM, a book of the town of Meyrin and a book by the Swiss Post.

The President read out the greetings and good wishes received from Honorary President Roland F. Kohl, Honorary Board Member Hermann E. Sieger /D, Secretary and Treasurer ASSA /Aerophilatelic Society of South Africa Dave Morton, President CAS/Canadian Aerophilatelic Society Chris Hargreaves, Former President CAS Richard K. Malott, President AIDA Constantino Gironi, President AAMS/American Air Mail Society Andrew Mc Farlane and Walter Hopferwieser. He excused Board Member Neville Polakow/SA.

GRANTING OF AWARDS

- The **GOLDEN F.I.S.A. MEDAL 2009** was presented to **Hans MIERL /A** and **Derrick PILLAGE /UK** for their outstanding contribution to aero- and astrophilately.
- The **GOLDEN F.I.S.A. PIN** was awarded to **Richard K. MALOTT** for his service and devotion to aero- and astrophilately.
- **LITERATURE :**
 - A **SILVER MEDAL 2009** was awarded to **Gérard COLLOT /F** and to **Walter M. HOPFERWIESER /A**, both for research in literature.
 - A **BRONZE MEDAL 2009** was awarded to **Hans Ullrich SCHULZ /D** for his catalogue/handbook 'Im Zeichen der Luftbrücke'.
- The American Air Mail Society elected Secretary General **Jacqueline LAUWERS-BEKAERT** to the **2009 AEROPHILATELIC HALL OF FAME** for her lifetime dedication and outstanding service as secretary and to aero- and astrophilately. She received from President Steve Reinhard the AAMS plaque. She was also nominated Honorary Secretary General of F.I.S.A. Jackie thanked FISA and the delegates for their cooperation and friendship during the past 25 years.

The honouring ceremony was followed by the **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**.

The following point was added to the **AGENDA :**

Pt 4B/ Financial Reports 2007 and 2008 by Treasurer Hans MIERL /A.

1/ The proposed **AGENDA** and **ADDITION** were accepted.

2/ MM Peter Beer /CH and Derrick Pillage/UK volunteered as **TELLERS** and were confirmed as such

3/ **REPORT OF PREVIOUS GENERAL ASSEMBLY** , Bellefonte/USA 2007 as published on FISA website and sent by mail - No objections, accepted.

4/ The Secr. General **ANNUAL REPORTS 2007 & 2008** were approved and accepted as published on the website and sent by mail.

Vice-President Dr. Stefan Bruylants expressed the wish to receive by e-mail information from clubs, s.a. exhibitions taking place, Day of Aerophilately, other events, literature etc... in order to update the website. Website becomes more important for information.

The website domain name was changed into www.fisa-web.com .

5/ REPORT and ACCEPTANCE of internal AUDITED Treas. REPORTS 2007 & 2008.

Both auditors, MM Reiner Stimm /D and Peter Beer /CH agreed to the balances provided and received applause from the Board and audience.

6/ The auditors proposed to DISCHARGE Treasurer and FISA Board Members – Unanimously accepted.

7/ ADMITTANCE/EXCLUSION of NEW MEMBERS - none received.

- Since SAB/Société Aérophilatélique Belge did not pay their dues during the past 3 years, the Board proposed to exclude this society. Nobody opposed.
- Still uncertain whether Gmünder Weltraumfreunde will pay their due.

8/ ELECTION President Steve REINHARD

The Board unanimously agreed to re-elect Steve, also the delegates had no objection.

His goal, and of the Board, is to work closely with the clubs, to promote aero-/astrophilately, also through the website, visit exhibitions/shows worldwide. We are the ambassadors for the promotion of our hobby and would appreciate cooperation between the clubs.

9/ RESIGNATION of Secr. Gen. Jackie LAUWERS-BEKAERT - No objections.

The President presented Jackie a plaque since she was elected to the Aerophilatelic Hall of Fame 2009.

On behalf of F.I.S.A. she was presented an award plaque in recognition for outstanding service as Secretary-General of the Federation worldwide.

She received a standing ovation and expressed her thanks to the Board and Delegates for their cooperation and friendship.

ELECTION SECR. GENERAL Wolfgang PORGES.

He was proposed to the audience and unanimously accepted.

The newly elected secretary thanked the audience for their confidence.

The same as Vice-Pres. Stefan Bruylants he would appreciate to receive information from the clubs for the quarterly FISA NEWSLETTER he will issue and also the club bulletins.

RESIGNATION of Board Member Tom FROMMER/Austr. - No objections.

10/ ELECTION of NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Proposed are **Neville POLAKOW /SA** and **Ross WOOD /AUS** - Unanimously accepted.

As to **Martin CZECH /UK**, due to difficult situation within BAMS/British Air Mail Society, his election was restrained. Meantime this seat is vacant.

The other Members of Directorate were all re-elected.

11/ ELECTION of AUDITORS

MM **Reiner STIMM /D** and **Peter BEER /CH** volunteered as Auditors and were unanimously accepted. Steve thanked the delegates for their confidence.

12/ FIXING YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION -

Proposed from 2010 onwards :

- € 50 up to 50 members
- € 70 from 51 to 100 members
- € 90 over 100 members

Gifts are always welcome. - Unanimously accepted.

13/ MOTIONS and APPEALS

None received

14/ GRANTING of PATRONAGE or AUSPICES to exhibitions

No requests received.

15/ FIXING TIME and PLACE of the CONGRESS and GENERAL ASSEMBLY in 2011

According to Wolfgang Porges, IAPC/Internationaler Aero-Philatelisten Club, Berlin in cooperation with other German clubs, would be willing to do the footwork for a small scale of Aero/Astro exhibition in the range of 300 frames. At the same time the 2011 Congress and General Assembly could take place.

16/ COMMUNICATIONS

- Gérard COLLOT/F informed on the events taking place on occasion of the Centenary of the Channel crossing by Louis Blériot in 1909. A non-competitive Aerophilatelic exhibition will be held in Blériot Plage 24 to 25 July 2009. Many other events will take place. Enclosed related information.
- Romano SAVINI /I informed on the 'Air Games' to be held in Torino/I 6 to 14 June 2009. AIDA will organise an exhibition 6-7 June (on invitation, without jury) of apx. 900 sheets of AIDA members. On Sunday 7th June AIDA will celebrate the yearly 'Day of Aerophilately' with a special postmark showing Faggioli's airplane.
- Ross WOOD /AUS added that 1910 was the year the first powered heavier than air flight occurred in Australia and that Australia Post will be commemorating the centenary of the event in 2010 with a stamp issues). The date of the flight was March 18th 1910 when Harry Houdini at Diggers Rest (near Melbourne /Victoria) flew several flights in his Voisin biplane. Yes this was the same Harry Houdini, the great illusion artists born Edrich Weiss in Hungary 1878. Details of any other commemorative events are still being pursued.
- Mrs. Beatrice BACHMANN /CH wished to express her thanks towards F.I.S.A. since they accepted the Rules and Guidelines for Astrophilately and opened the doors for astrophilately. The Swiss club GWP invited five cosmonauts who sojourned two years in space which met with great success. Astronaut Claude Nicollier displayed on astrophilately in Verkehrshaus Luzern. This was a great promotion for our field.
- In 2010 The Belgian Royal Federation will organise the international FEPA exhibition (all classes 'ANTWERPIA 2010', as well as their national exhibition at Antwerp /B from 9 to 12 April 2010.

No further communications having being received, the Congress and General Assembly were adjourned at 11.40 am and President Steve Reinhard thanked all participants.

The General Assembly was followed by a lecture on '**Specialities on Swiss Aerophilately**' by Tony A. ROTH /CH and a FISA lunch at the Forum Restaurant.

In the evening at the gala dinner Mrs. Carmen Hischer was thanked for the warm welcome and congratulations to the Members of the O.C. for the great exhibition. She received flowers and a FISA Teller from President Steve Reinhard.

At the same time Jackie was appointed Honorary Secretary General and will always be welcome at FISA meetings and exhibitions. She also was presented flowers.

J.L-B / May 2009.