



Thematic Philately Commission

E-mail NEWSLETTER

www.fipthematicphilately.org

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The FIP Thematic Commission's delegates

Dear thematic philatelists,

PROGRESS OF ACTIVITIES THE LAST QUARTER

As you have noticed the Bureau has been very much focused on to form its organisation, establish communication and to define the relationship with the National delegates and their national networks.

I am very happy to say, that we see weekly progress in our communication with many of the national delegates. The two set tasks seem to be progressing; nationally via the delegates, thus our network and list of judges grows from week to week. However, we still have not heard from all delegates, so please stick to the tasks we have in focus and come back with the information we need.

- All national delegates work to connect thematic collectors in your country with each other by a national network.
- All national delegates report to the Commission secretary, Koenraad Bracke kobra22@telenet.be, the name, qualification level (international/national) and e-mail address of all thematic judges in your country.

In October, we published *TCNEWS* #24. Thank you for the constructive feedback received. As you may have noticed, my article previously published in *TCNEWS* #23, about thematic philately based on my theories of the "4th generation ..." has been very positively received, translated into other languages and republished in several magazines worldwide.

In addition, I would like to thank Manfred Bergman, who as a responded to my article and set some records straight in a two pages article published in "*Revista F.A.E.F. #136*". One of the intentions I have as Chairman, is to introduce and develop the theories about the development of thematic philately, is to get feedback, comments and most of all additional information from knowledgeable collectors worldwide. Bergman's additional information is most welcome.

- Find attached [the article by Manfred Bergman](#) giving additional information about thematic philately's history and its development

THANKS TO MARGARET MORRIS AND THE BTA WE HAVE BEEN OFFERED A TOOL TO PROMOTE THEMATIC PHILATELY

Margaret Morris is a driving force in Scottish thematic philately and for thematic philately in Great Britain too. Margaret is active in the British Thematic Association BTA and recently they published a CD with a 32-page paper for collectors rather than exhibitors, and it does not require any prior thematic knowledge from the reader. If you are thinking about starting a thematic collection, or have an existing collection which you want to develop, Margaret's paper will give you ideas and guidance.

Thanks to Margaret and the BTA all national delegates are offered a very useful tool to communicate thematic philately on a national basis. The CD can be purchased via the BTA for a very reasonable charge including postage. The offer is presented in the attached flyer.

- In the attached [FLYER](#), BTA offers Margaret Morris' 32-page paper introducing the collector to thematic philately

OUR NEXT CHALLENGE

As we all know, thematic philately is wrongly interpreted with too many rules for exhibitors. To change this paradigm, will be the main focus for the Commission to work on during the next four year term. - We know that thematic philately is quite simple and based on only five rules, relating to the concept, the material and the presentation.

In U.S.A., our national delegate and Bureau member Darrell Ertzberger initiated a debate in the "*Topical Time TT*" magazine. Darrell's initiation was intentionally provocative and started a range of reactions published in later issues of *TT*. The debate in the U.S.A. about topical/thematic philately reflects quite well from my perspective, the challenge we have in front of us about changing this paradigm. We as thematic collectors and exhibitors have to take on this debate and to stand up for the real focus. The Bureau and the whole Commission will give you all support you need, but we need to know what you need ... please let us know.

- In the [attached file](#) you find copies from the discussion in *TT* about topical/thematic philately.

PROGRESS TO COME

We are now awaiting information about next year's international exhibitions in Australia, Thailand and Brazil. There are three occasions where the Bureau and Commission will focus on communication with collectors, exhibitors and judges.

- We are planning a Commission meeting in Melbourne, Australia, in conjunction with the exhibition, **Australia 2013** in May next year.
- We are planning for Seminars and/or Commission meetings in Thailand and Brazil as well.

The F.I.P. Board has its next meeting later in November. I have as Chairman given a written report to President Tay and the F.I.P. Board, and I am awaiting direction. The Thematic Commission is anxious to support ideas and programs that emanate from the FIP's leadership.

I am very much looking forward to any direction that President Tay and the Board wish to give to us at this time, if it should be different from those activities we are already performing. We see ourselves on the Thematic Commission as a resource to the FIP leadership in our area of specialty and wish to support the general goodwill toward and reputation of FIP within the global community.

Until next time with best wishes,

Jonas Hällström

Fédération International de Philatélie

Chairman of the Thematic Philately Commission

Skolgatan 10, 4tr.

SE-541 31 SKÖVDE

SWEDEN

Tel: + 46 500 489819

Cell: + 46 734 373965

E-mail: j.hallstrom@telia.com