

DAS RUNDSCHREIBEN

November 2009

President Frank Hills called the meeting to order at 2:45 PM on Sunday, November 8, and appointed Priit Rebane to take minutes in place of our Secretary who is out of the country. Present were Frank Hills, Ed Evan, Dick Laux, Fred Meder, George Kuhn, Manfred Seeger, Carl Kish, John Svenson, John Rimi, Priit Rebane, Larry Di Stefano, Harold Meininger, Maurice Boutin, and Charles Deusner. Guests: Mark Issacs and Elaine Meder. V. President, Dick Laux, brought a lot of German language magazines/cookbooks to give away to members. **Moved** (Laux/Meininger) that the October Minutes be approved as printed. **MC**

Treasurer, Ed Evan, reported a balance of \$2,809.02 in the treasury. The VA Chapter received our club's \$100 loan and expect to repay at the end of the Richmond APS show (8/12-15/2010). **Moved** (Meder/Kuhn) to approve the Treasurer's report. **MC**

No program. Extensive discussion focused on "where our chapter is going" and on FLOREX. George Kuhn noted initially that if we did not get some new members soon, the chapter would be gone. We are aging and dying off - a fact true of most stamp clubs around the world! The familiar pattern of attending a stamp club is being replaced by virtual meetings on the internet, and young people simply do not care for stamps. Dealers are also using the internet to buy and sell. A suggestion was offered by Ed Evan that our National GPS encourage that kind of virtual club just as the APS is now doing with its newsletter, sales on line, blog sites, etc. All the more reason to emphasize the importance of having a physical club meeting at shows like Florex and Sarapex, et al. Whether we like it or not, we need to consider utilizing the new technology to the max. **A plea:** that new-technology people step forward with ideas and suggestions which we can incorporate in our chapter!!



Next regular meeting: Saturday, December 5, 2009, at 1:00 PM, in Orlando. It is being held in conjunction with FLOREX, the Florida State Stamp Show & World Series of Philately event. **Schedule:** Friday, Dec. 4, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM. Saturday, Dec. 5, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Sunday, Dec. 6, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM. President Frank will present the program at our 1:00 PM meeting on Saturday. There will be no club auction. **All visitors to FLOREX are invited to be our guests.**

We will have a GPS table at the show. **Note: we still need volunteers to sit at our society table on Friday afternoon and on Sunday.** Please call Priit if you can help (727-812-1255; cell 727-422-8627). Volunteers so far are: Priit and Judy Rebane, George Kuhn, John Svenson, Frank Hills, and Dick Laux. What is the purpose of the information table? To advertise GPS and our Chapter 23, to sell the items on display, to welcome visitors who stop by - and to **recruit new members!** At FLOREX we have a large and "captive" audience. Let us make the most of this opportunity. **Recruiting a new member should be a personal goal of each of us!**

One further item discussed was a new chapter “publicity folder” and/or business card. Ed Evan, John Hayner, and Priit Rebane are still the committee responsible for developing these products, and they will continue to do the work necessary for completing the task. The money being generated by the chapter’s commission from the sale of Doug Warren’s collection will help defray our expenses in this effort. For that we are grateful.

Raffle won by Maurice Boutin; door prizes won by Ed Evan and Carl Kish.

Respectfully submitted,
John Hayner, Secretary (with the assistance of Priit Rebane and Ed Evan)

—
—