

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 13th May 2014

1. OPENING

The General Assembly was convened at least fifteen days in advance and the quorum of a minimum of 20 members was reached : 46 members were present and 13 proxies were received. The meeting was therefore validated, and Maria Kienzle opened it at 9:40.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 14 MAY 2013

The minutes of the General Assembly of 14 May 2013, which were published in the newsletter edition of June-July 2013, were approved unanimously.

3. REPORTS

a) President's Report

The number of members in the Club has really increased this year: The Club now has 474 members (16% more than last year), of which there are 134 associate members and 25 male members.

On the 11th February we had the pleasure of celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Club. Some of our former presidents came to take part in the celebration, and Nathalie Schneider immortalised the occasion with a special edition of the Bulletin and with many photos, which have been put on the Website by Mara Ceccucci so that we can all continue to enjoy the celebration.

The committee has worked hard this year. Our warmest thanks go to Laura Fantechi, who is always present to solve any problems in the Club. We would like to thank Lynda Evans for helping to design a new database, which is easier to use in keeping track of the information concerning our members.

Encouraged by the enthusiastic leaders of the 'Toddlers' group we renovated the 'Toddlers' room this year.

We warmly thank Avril Quarrie and Lynne Lauckner for their work over the years in welcoming new members. After many years of dedication, they are passing the responsibility to a new team: Federica Marchitelli, Flore Magnon and Marie Thérèse Coin.

This year the president of the CERN Clubs, Rachel Bray, agreed to sign the EXTERNAL forms for the CERN access cards. She will continue to do this in the future and it is for this reason that we nominate her as an honorary member of the CWC committee.

I would remind everyone that security at the entrance to CERN is more and more strict. We must follow the correct procedures: Ordinary members must obtain a family access card; Associate members must fill

in an EXTERNAL registration form to be signed by Rachel Bray. This form is sent to the Staff Association who then give the list of registered members to Bldg. 55. The access cards are only valid for one year. I remind everyone that new associate members *must* come to register accompanied by an ordinary member; only people known by an ordinary member can obtain access to CERN. The ordinary member must act as guarantor for the new member.

In order to simplify the registration process, we propose to have a single formula for payment: we will continue to charge 25 CHF for Ordinary members and 35 CHF for Associate members, but there will not be an additional fee if the payment is made at the Post Office or the Bank.

The language classes, art courses and various activities such as gymnastics and walking groups are going well. Cecile von Holtey's painting class decorated our room for the 40th anniversary celebration and Maria-Luisa Godoy's painting class presented their work at the Coffee Morning of 11th March. We wish to thank all the participants for their work.

Because there are many continuing members, many teachers would like to start to offer new beginner classes. We also have some new classes proposed this year, such as Arabic, Calligraphy, and Chinese calligraphy. I am afraid that soon we will have a problem finding rooms! We have also introduced a new formula: the Seminars given by Dr. Grazia Donato enabled us to improve our knowledge of the human body and its weaknesses. We thank Grazia who donated the proceeds from the seminars to the Association « Au Cœur de Grottes ». In the same format, starting in September, I propose to give a series of seminars on the basics of physics at CERN.

I would like to inform you of a special event coming up. Janette Norton, a long-time member of our Club, and one of the first members of the Women's Club walking group, passed away just over a year ago. In memory of Janette, her husband Alan would like to invite her walking friends to join him on a hike on the 25th June to Mont Hermone in Haute-Savoie - one of her favourite outings. If you would like to join this outing, please contact Sandy Duplay.

The monthly coffee mornings, the Christmas sale and the Spring sale give our members an opportunity to all get together. This year a new committee was formed to organize the sales, and we would like to thank them for their work. This year the sales, together with the contribution from the seminars by Grazia Donato, raised 8,480 (6,630+1,350+500) CHF. This sum was donated to the association « Au Cœur des Grottes ». Many thanks to all those who contributed to the success of these events, either by donations, by holding a stall at the sales, or by helping to prepare and clean up after the events.

Next year we propose the Association « Les Jardins de Voltaire » as the beneficiary of the Christmas sale proceeds. This is an association which helps young mentally handicapped adults find work in the refreshment room or in the gardens of the Château de Voltaire. We thought that the proceeds from the Spring sale could be donated to a different

association. I invite all our members to participate in the preparation of the sales. The committee meets on Wednesday mornings on the Mezzanine.

Many thanks go to Edith Cuperus who invited us to visit the Exhibition of Flemish tapestries at the Rath museum. The Club offers these visits free-of-charge to our members, and I encourage you all to participate, and to propose other ideas for outings.

Our heartfelt thanks go to Nathalie Schneider for the beautiful colourful Bulletins, and thanks also to Mara Ceccucci for maintaining our Website.

In July, our secretary, Helen Incandela, the pillar of our committee, will be leaving. We warmly thank her for all her work, and the friendship and collaboration of the past three years. We find ourselves with a big loss in the committee; we are still looking for a new secretary.

Magali Corthesy has offered to be the new Activities Coordinator.

I invite you all to our lunch on 10th June at the “Coq Rouge” Restaurant in St. Genis-Pouilly to end this working year in the spirit of friendship.

Now I give the floor to our treasurer, Véronique Paris, after which we will vote on the proposals for the committee.

b) Treasurer’s Report

Véronique Paris presented the financial report. She explained each item on the financial spreadsheet. The Christmas Sale and Spring Jumble Sale, together with the sum donated from the seminars given by Grazia Donato raised a total of CHF 8,480.00.

4. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE REPORTS SUBMITTED

The accounts for 2013/2014 were approved unanimously.

The proposal to maintain a single format for registration payments was approved unanimously.

Marie Thérèse Coin asked at what point during the year the Club no longer accepts new associate members. Lynda Evans explained that the quota for the number of associate members is 30% of the total number of members. We usually know by the end of the year whether we have reached the quota, therefore we accept registrations for new associate members until Christmas.

Avril Quarrie asked Maria to clarify the rule concerning partners of CERN employees with regard to access cards. Maria confirmed that anyone who is not able to obtain an access card from CERN as a family member must apply to the Club as an associate member.

5. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2014/2015

In the election of Activities Coordinator, Magali Corthesy is the only candidate.

For the Newcomers' welcome group, Federica Marchitelli, Flore Magnon, and Marie Thérèse Coin propose to take on this responsibility.

There is a vacancy for Secretary as Helen Incandela will be leaving at the end of July.

The Committee for 2014-2015 was approved unanimously.

6. PRESENTATION OF BUDGET 2014/2015

Véronique Paris presented the Budget for 2014/2015.

7. APPROVAL OF BUDGET 2014/2015

The budget was unanimously approved.

8. ELECTION OF 2 AUDITORS FOR 2014/2015

Ursula Freudenreich and Anna Lustermann were nominated and elected unanimously.

9. PROPOSALS FOR NEW CLASSES OR ACTIVITIES

Maria Kienzle presented the proposals for new classes following the Group Leaders' meeting which took place on 15th April 2014.

1. Patricia Constant is offering a course on modern literal Arabic.
2. Nathalie Schneider is offering a course on European calligraphy.
3. Julia Hou proposes a course on Chinese calligraphy.
4. Maria Kienzle proposes a series of seminars on the physics at CERN.
5. Petra Vincke proposes an Art history course following a more general theme than last year, to be given partly in English and partly in French.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

One of our members asked if it is possible to extend the length of classes. Maria noted that it must be the teacher's decision and it also depends on the availability of the room.

The new activities programme comes out in August, and the registration coffee morning will be on the 9th September 2014.

Nicole Comte is taking reservations for the end-of-year lunch which will take place on June 10th at the Restaurant Le Coq Rouge in St. Genis-Pouilly.

A beautiful flower arrangement was presented to Helen Incandela in appreciation of her three years as secretary. Flower arrangements were

also presented to Avril Quarrie and Lynne Lauckner in appreciation of their many years of work in welcoming newcomers, and to Nathalie Schneider in appreciation for her work on the special 40th Anniversary Bulletin.

11. CLOSING

The meeting was closed at 10:40, and was followed by refreshments.

16 May 2014

Helen Incandela