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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Members,

I am pleased to report that as of the last count we have 79 paid members. The number is still growing and the financial success of our new club seems assured. My sincere thanks to all those who have supported ONEPS.

Special credit goes to Richard Rose who is doing a great job publishing The Levant in a timely and cost-effective manner; David Sheby our tireless Secretary; Gary Paiste contributing in many ways; and Yavuz Corapcioglu, who is coordinating our exhibition at the annual meeting in the Philadelphia area in October. More on that later.

I have received a number of questions from former TOPS members asking what

relationship we have to TOPS. Very simply, TOPS became inactive and a number of TOPS members and ex-members formed ONEPS to provide a forum for Ottoman, Turkish and Near East philately. We hope that anyone reading this who hasn't joined will do so now. This second edition of The Levant will go out again to a fairly broad mailing list. The third edition, later this year, will be restricted mainly to paid members.

Now to the big event. We will hold our annual meeting on Saturday, October 13, at 3:00 pm at the Holiday Inn in Ft. Washington, Pa., which is near the Ft. Washington Expo Center, site of the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition October 12-14. Gary Paiste has reserved ten hotel rooms, two for our meeting and the rest for any visitors who may need one. Gary can supply details on accommodations and transportation directions. The hotel front desk will have our meeting room numbers.

We have reserved space for at least 100 frames and will show a wide variety of material. A number of exhibits are scheduled to come from Turkey and a couple of Turkish representatives will attend. For information on exhibiting, contact Yavuz Corapcioglu, P.O.Box 4581, Bryan, Texas 77805-4581, USA.

We will also have tables reserved for the Awards Banquet. Gary Paiste will need a head count of who plans to attend. A brochure and driving instructions are enclosed. Further information about the meeting will be posted on our website www.oneps.org. Gary Paiste will send Exposition information to those who plan to attend and/or show. I hope to see you there !

Robert W. Stuckell

President