



PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

8 August 2020

Dear Friends

I trust that everyone is well and safe.

The planning of large events and significant travel continue to be problematic for everyone with the continuing uncertainty surrounding Covid-19. May I urge that you all be cautious with your expectations about what might be achievable with events and meetings. At the office, we are putting significant effort into improving workflows and introducing new processes and tools so that we can emerge from the pandemic organizationally in a stronger position than before.

Planning for the electronic General Conference is continuing and I anticipate details will be provided to you shortly on the format and the processes to facilitate conversations, considerations for proposals and voting.

The Young Artist recipients have been announced for 2020. This competition draws a large number of entries from all over the globe and the quality of creativity and detail that goes into each entry is impressive. The theme for 2020 was "*Flying yesterday and tomorrow*" and the three winning paintings are below. My thanks to the Education Commission for their initiatives with the voting protocols to ensure that this competition was able to proceed this year.

My congratulations to the winners of each category:

- Fay Fay HE - USA - Junior Category
- Wenqing FENG - China - Intermediate Category
- Airidas MIKELAITIS - Lithuania – Senior Category

My thanks to all those Members who have paid their subscriptions. Your continued support for the organisation is greatly appreciated. This year we realise that circumstances are different and potentially difficult for many and that is why we waived interest due on late payments until July the 1st and asked any Members with difficulties to talk to the office.

Some payments, however, are still outstanding. The office recently sent out 3rd reminder notices. May I remind everyone that Members who have not paid their subscriptions prior to the General Conference may not speak or vote at the GC. If subscriptions are not paid by 31 December all privileges are withdrawn, including the right to participate in and host international events.

From the perspective of the Commissions, who have sanctioned events, the formal notification of Members "not in good standing" on 31 December gives them no time to react to protect and reschedule events planned in the new year.

To provide Commission Presidents advance warning, we have taken the initiative, this week, to notify them of Members who have yet to pay subscriptions. Unfortunately, a number of these Members have FAI sanctioned events planned for 2021.

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If a Member does not contribute their subscriptions in a timely manner there are multiple flow-on effects. Frankly it is unfair on the participants, planning to attend the events, on the Commissions, who have conducted their due diligence in awarding the events, and on the office, with coordination of calendars, medals and other support activities. This situation applies to a few but potentially affects many and creates significant additional work.

I would like to think that Members always carefully consider the rights of the air sports persons and their opportunities to participate in their sport and to host their international colleagues. We are all here to support our air sports persons.

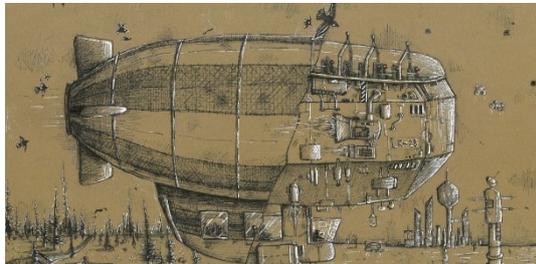
Finally, I am looking forward to the opportunity to talk with Members via the zoom meeting planned for Thursday 27 August to exchange thoughts on the challenges in air sports in general, within countries and on future developments of FAI.

As always, I welcome your feedback and views on FAI matters of importance to you.

Best regards and stay safe



Bob Henderson
President, FAI
8 August 2020



Airidas MIKELAITIS – Senior



Wenqing FENG - Intermediate



Fay Fay HE - Junior