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January 2012

Dear Members of the CCCC.

Happy New Year! May this be a wonderfully successful year for you with good health, many happy hours and, of course, many, many nice covers and stamps.

As I sit here to write a message to our members I must mention first of all the happiness I felt to receiving so many nice covers, letters and messages from you. I was not always punctual in answering, too much has been going on in my life but as an eternal optimist I feel that this year will be better and I shall be able to stay in touch not only with the OMs but all the other members also who sent letters, stamps, beautiful covers. One thing I have been very busy with and still are, is to get my own collection in better order. To make it sellable if the need should arise although I have no intention at the moment to part with my treasures. Sorting takes lots of patience as you all know and lots of time mainly if there are envelopes with several years of stamps to be identified and catalogued.

The highlight of the year was my trip to Poland, meeting several of our members, some I had met before, some not and the wonderful hospitality of Andrzej Kidzinski and mainly Roman Sudzik who accompanied me and my family on our trip through the heart of Poland, Without him we would not have seen and experienced a fraction of what we saw and we came home truly enriched by this experience and feel that we truly learned what Poland is all about. It certainly was different from what we expected.

We hope to have the next meeting of the CCCC in 2013 in Canada, in the Toronto area and we are hard at work planning and outlining the meeting.

As to my thoughts about the CCCC, I would think that it is holding its own, we lose some members, mostly because of old age and are not always able to replace them with new members but I am sure that we are still the largest and most active cover club of the world. As some of our very active OMs are getting older also and issuing less circuits, I am counting on the newer ones that have joined the CCCC in the past few years to pick up where needed and keep the club going. Unfortunately Holger Kaufhold resigned as Director of Statistics and I am still in the process of selecting a new Director who will be able to do this very time consuming job. I am planning to have some changes made, mainly to have a list established with names and addresses so that it will be of much more use to other OMs. I have started this task just to see whether it can be done as well as Jan Jorgenson did it a long time ago. If you are interested in doing part or all of this task and you have not yet let me know, please get in touch so that I can give you details of the work involved. And my wish for the coming year is that I am in touch with as many of our members as possible, by mail, e-mail or phone. I like to know what you think about our club, like to hear your suggestions of what could be done better and know of your joy when you receive an extra fine cover, Should you ever be in this area, please drop by and say hello. There is nothing more valuable than really knowing a person.

Wishing everyone a very happy and contented New Year,

Renate

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