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# **FILACUBA**

## **Cuban Philately -- Filatelia Cubana**

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### **Cuban Philatelic Society of America**

### **Sociedad Filatélica Cubana de América**


## **Members' Forum -- Foro de los miembros**

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### **Recommendations for the Conduct of CPSA Elections of Officers and Board of Directors**

by Ernesto Cuesta

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 The last CPSA elections of officers and members of the Board of Directors were not effected according to the published Bylaws of the Society and used an **electoral ballot** in which no alternative candidates were provided for any of the officers or members of the Board. Since no alternative candidates were provided for any of the elective positions, the proposed slate on the ballot was basically undemocratically automatically self-appointed into their positions. I am therefore using this vehicle to make a call for new elections of Society officers and members of the Board of Directors to be held as soon as possible.

The democratic process that should be followed to elect the Society's officers and members of the Board of Directors should be as follows:

1) Candidates for the elections should be solicited through the Society's journal and Website and through a direct mailing to all members of the Society with a request that each candidate submit a brief summary of qualifications for each position. A list of all Society members should be included with this mailing so that people know who is a member in case they want to nominate another member of the Society for a position. The mailing should indicate the deadline for submission of candidates.

2) An electoral committee should gather the information received and should prepare a final list of candidates with their qualifications together with an electoral ballot for the conduct of the elections. The electoral ballot should include the Society Bylaws pertaining to the conduct of elections for the voters' reference.

3) Publish in the Society's journal and Internet Website the list of candidates and their qualifications and mail it to all Society members together with the electoral ballot, clearly indicating the deadline for submitting the vote.

4) Publish the election results in the Society journal and Internet Website after the voting deadline expires. The names of all candidates and the number of votes each received should be published for each electoral position.

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## **Recomendaciones para efectuar las elecciones de los Oficiales y miembros de la Junta Directiva de la CPSA** por Ernesto Cuesta

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Las últimas elecciones de la Sociedad se efectuaron de manera no consecuente con los estatutos publicados de la Sociedad y usando una **boleta electoral** donde no se presentaron candidatos alternativos para ninguno de los oficiales y miembros de la junta directiva de la Sociedad. Al no presentarse alternativas en las candidaturas propuestas, básicamente los oficiales y junta directiva de la Sociedad se auto-eligieron de manera nada democrática. Hago por este medio un llamado a que se llame a nuevas elecciones de oficiales y junta directiva de la Sociedad a la mayor brevedad posible.

El proceso democrático a seguir para elegir a los oficiales y junta directiva de la Sociedad debería ser el siguiente:

1) Solicitar candidaturas por medio de la revista y el sitio del Internet de la Sociedad y además por carta dirigida a todos los miembros de la Sociedad, pidiendo que cada candidato mande una breve reseña de sus calificaciones para cada posición. Se debe incluir además en este envío una lista de todos los miembros activos de la Sociedad para que quien así lo desee pueda añadir a cualquier miembro de la Sociedad como candidato para cualquier cargo. También se debe fijar un plazo para recibir todas las candidaturas.

2) El comité electoral debe de recopilar toda la información recibida y preparar una lista final de candidatos con sus calificaciones y una boleta electoral para efectuar la votación. La boleta electoral debe de incluir los estatutos de la Sociedad referentes a las elecciones para referencia de los votantes.

3) Publicar en la revista y en el sitio del Internet de la Sociedad la lista de candidatos y sus calificaciones y distribuirla por carta a todos los miembros junto con la boleta electoral con un plazo fijo para someter la votación.

4) Publicar en la revista y en el sitio del Internet de la Sociedad los resultados de las elecciones una vez terminado el plazo para someter la votación. Se deben publicar todos los nombres, posiciones y número de votos recibidos por cada candidato postulado.

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## ELECCIONES 2005-2008

En la reunión de la Junta Directiva del 26 de julio de 2005 se acordó nombrar un Comité de Nominaciones para las elecciones de 2005-2008. Formó el mismo: Gerardo Alvarez, Ignacio Prats y Yamil H. Kouri.

Este comité presenta a nuestros asociados la siguiente candidatura. Previamente se obtuvo la aprobación de los candidatos de aceptar su nominación.

Se incluye una boleta en blanco para aquellos que deseen votar por otros socios, pero recuerden que deberá obtener la aprobación del candidato.

Presidente	Fernando J. Iglesias
Vice-Presidente	Silvia García-Frutos
Secretario	Aldo Martí
Tesorero	Carlos San Martín
Vocales	Yamil H. Kouri
	Gerardo Alvarez
	Fermin Belleau
	Luis Díaz
	Ignacio Prats
	Jack Thompson
	Mark Tyx

## ELECTIONS 2005-2008

The Board of Directors at its meeting of July 26, 2005 appointed Gerardo Alvarez, Ignacio Prats y Yamil H. Kouri as members of the Nominating Committee for the elections of 2005-2008.

The committee chose the following candidates and obtained their consent to form the included slate.

Included also is a blank slate for the benefit of those members who may want to vote for some other person(s) besides those nominated; always with the consent of the candidates.

President	_____	President
Vice-President	_____	Vice-President
Secretary	_____	Secretary
Treasurer	_____	Treasurer
Directors	_____	Directors
	_____	
	_____	
	_____	
	_____	
	_____	
	_____	

English proposal for an updated CPSA elections process follows this message on pages 2 and 3.

**Subject:** Visita a Miami

**From:** Ernesto Cuesta <ecuesta@philat.com>

**Date:** Thu, 05 Nov 2009 23:20:01 -0500

**To:** Gerardo Alvarez <engart@bellsouth.net>, Fermín Belleau <fjbsenior@mindspring.com>, Silvia García-Frutos <SilviaStamps@yahoo.com>, Fernando Iglesias <fciglesias@earthlink.net>, "Dr. Yamil H. Kouri, Jr." <yhkouri@massmed.org>, "Ignacio (Chachi) Prats" <ignacio@ahora.net>, Carlos San Martín <purchase@uoriginals.com>, "Jack E. Thompson" <jetgold@sbcglobal.net>, "Mark R. Tyx" <marktyx@stanford.edu>

**CC:** Arturo Codina <flagator71@bellsouth.net>, Daniel Chaij <danchaij@comcast.net>, Octavio Cabrera <ocpe@tampabay.rr.com>

Estimados Todos:

Mañana viernes viajo a Miami donde estaré hasta el miércoles 11 de noviembre. Espero asistir a la reunión de la Sociedad el martes que viene por la noche para ver si nos podemos poner de acuerdo sobre el futuro de la Sociedad. Les adjunto una propuesta para llevar a cabo las elecciones pendientes de la directiva de la Sociedad de una manera racional y democrática. Ni las elecciones que publicaron ni las que he oído que pretenden publicar para sustituirlas son aceptables para un gran grupo de miembros de la Sociedad, de manera que sugiero que nos sentemos a discutir y negociar una alternativa con la que todos estemos de acuerdo. Estoy a disposición de ustedes si quieren reunirse antes de la reunión del martes en conjunto o individualmente para hablar sobre el caso. Me pueden contactar a través de mi teléfono celular 301-404-7153.

Espero que cuando nos reunamos sea con la mente abierta y enfocada hacia un futuro mejor para la Sociedad y que no pretendan hacer uso de los fallidos y mayormente ignorados estatutos de la Sociedad como excusa para subvertir la discusión.

Por último quisiera pedirle a alguno de los miembros de Miami con acceso al depósito de revistas de la Sociedad que me consiguieran los siguientes números de la revista para reponer los míos que le envié a Juan José Areal Alonso de España cuando reanudó su cuota de miembro en la Sociedad a través de mi cuenta personal de PayPal. Ya hice este pedido cuando remití los fondos de la cuota de Areal hace meses y todavía no las he recibido. Los números que necesito son del #50 al 55.

Quisiera además que me proporcionaran 5 copias de la revista donde se anunció que la Sociedad me otorgaba el premio Cruz-Planas.

Los veo en Miami.  
Mis saludos,  
Ernesto

The Spanish message above proposed a meeting to discuss the following updates to the Society elections at the Miami meeting of the Society I attended on 10 November 2009. Instead, upon attending the meeting I was bluntly told that if I didn't like the way the Society was operating, I should leave and form my own Society.

<b>Proposed-CPSA-Elections-Process--5Nov09.doc</b>	<b>Content-Type:</b> application/msword
	<b>Content-Encoding:</b> base64

## **Society Officers**

There shall be three Society Officers elected by the general Society membership:

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Should any of these elected Officers cease holding their office for whatever reason, the Board of Directors shall appoint an interim Officer for the vacated office that will function in that capacity until the next general Society elections are held. All Society Officers shall be members of the Society's Board of Directors.

## **Society Directors**

There shall be two types of Society Directors: 1) De facto and 2) Elected.

- 1) De facto Society Directors shall be the following:
  - All Society Officers, that is, the President, Treasurer, and Secretary
  - The Auction Manager
  - The Journal Editor
  - The Webmaster
  - The Chairperson of the Editorial Board
  - All Cruz Planas Award Recipients shall be Honorary Directors of the Society for life with full voting rights as members of the Society Board of Directors.
- 2) Elected Directors. The Society membership shall elect five (5) additional Directors from its membership at large without any residency restrictions.

The rationale for making the Auction Manager, Journal Editor, Webmaster, and Chairperson of the Editorial Board de facto Society Directors is that they are intrinsically involved in regular Society operations and they therefore should have input into all decisions that affect Society operations. The rationale for making all recipients of the Cruz Planas Award lifetime Directors is that anybody that is deemed a recipient of such an award has consistently over time dedicated a considerable amount of effort in support of the Society and/or Cuban philately and should have a voice in the future operation of the Society.

## **Society Elections**

Society elections shall be held for the Society officers and five Directors every three years by vote from the entire Society membership. Only paying members and honorary members of the Society at the time of the close of the elections shall have their votes counted in the elections. Any member of the Society that has been a member in good standing of the Society continuously for the three years preceding the election closing date shall be eligible to hold office in the Society or be eligible to be a member of the Board of Directors. There shall not be any residency restrictions for any Officer or Director of the Society—the Society should always have access to the best leadership available worldwide. The Society shall assume all costs that Society Officers or Directors shall incur due to the transition of Society operations from the previous Officers or Directors to the place of residence of the new elected ones. All candidates for Society Officer or Director must be able to communicate electronically via e-mail with other Society Officers and Directors and Society members. This last requirement is imposed so that the Society leadership can manage the Society expeditiously in step with the requirements of the virtual world of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. This restriction does not apply to Honorary Directors.

## Election Process

Society elections shall be conducted according to the following process:

- The Board of Directors of the Society shall appoint an elections committee composed of two or three Society Directors or their designees to call for nominations for each election and to conduct and monitor the election process.
- The elections committee shall be appointed at least three months before the election date.
- The elections committee shall call for nominations to all elective positions for Society Officers and Directors. The call for nominations shall be distributed to all Society members via one or more of the Society's communications vehicles. It shall be announced in the Society Website and if possible it shall be published in the Society's journal or auctions bulletin depending on their publication schedules. Additionally, an e-mail announcing the call for nominations shall be sent to all members with e-mail addresses. The call for nominations shall end one month after its distribution via the means cited.
- All candidates to Society elective offices shall have been a member in good standing of the Society continuously for the preceding three years.
- There shall be no residency restrictions for any Society elective office—the Society should always have access to the best leadership available worldwide. The Society shall assume all costs that Society Officers or Directors shall incur due to the transition of Society operations from the previous Officers or Directors to the place of residence of the new elected ones.
- All candidates to Society elective offices must be able to communicate electronically via e-mail with other Society Officers and Directors and Society members. This requirement is imposed so that the Society leadership can manage the Society expeditiously in step with the requirements of the virtual world of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. This restriction shall not apply to Honorary Directors.
- All candidates to Society elective offices shall submit to the elections committee a brief statement of their qualifications and planned contributions to the Society in the position that they are aspiring to fill. The final slate of candidates for all elective offices in the Society shall be approved by the current Board of Directors.
- The elections committee shall compile a list of candidates with their qualifications and plans for the office they are aspiring to fill and shall prepare an elections ballot containing all candidates nominated for the election. These materials shall be posted in the Society Website at least a month before the election and shall if possible be published in the Society journal or auctions bulletin depending on their publication schedule. Additionally, an e-mail with these materials shall be sent to all members with e-mail addresses and a hardcopy shall be mailed to all members that do not have an e-mail address. The elections closing date should be adjusted as necessary to end one month after all election ballots have been distributed.
- Members may vote electronically or by regular mail by the elections deadline specified in the elections ballot. The elections committee will count the ballots after waiting one week after the closing date of the elections to receive any ballots held in transit through the mail. Only election ballots received or postmarked before the elections deadline will be valid. The elections committee shall make every effort possible to resolve any issues that arise with respect to the validity of any election ballot by contacting the voting member directly if necessary. A simple majority of votes shall be required to appoint each candidate to office in the Society.
- All election records shall be preserved and archived for at least 6 years under control of the Society Secretary and shall be auditable upon formal request. Votes submitted electronically shall be printed and archived in hardcopy form.
- The elections committee will communicate the elections results to Society members using the Society Website and publications and will also send an e-mail with the results to all members with e-mail addresses.
- The new Society Officers and Directors will take office upon publication of the results of the election by the elections committee.