



## NEWSLETTER N° 4, MAY 1999

### Dear Map Friend,

The Map Evening on 31<sup>st</sup> March marked the first anniversary of our Circle – one year already! Readers of the Newsletter have been able to follow its progression from the initial coup d'essai to a well-balanced programme of events offering a wide range of topics, from practical aspects of map collecting to probing into the history of cartography. Indeed, as Ortelius himself said in the title page of his 1592 *Parergon*, « *Historiae oculus geographia* » (geography is the eye of history), and the study of old maps provides a fascinating insight into our past.

The map excursion to Brugge last year gave us a good opportunity to bring together some map enthusiasts whose number had grown significantly by the time we commemorated Abraham Ortelius' death 400 years ago, in December. The Study Sessions on paper conservation and restoration in February offered a welcome complement to the historical interest in maps in that it confronted us with a number of practical problems the map collector frequently faces, and at the same time presented advice, and words of caution. A brief report on the activities of this week-

end, and of our second Map Evening, will be found in this Newsletter.

What is new is the inclusion of a brief account of books we came across relating to an aspect of the history of cartography; the objective here is to inform readers of a work which is available on the market but has not necessarily been widely publicised. Reference books belong to a category of their own, and the field is vast! In order to help approach this subject outside the constraints of librarian rigour, it is intended to put a small cross-section on display in the context of our Seminar next year. More about this further on.

Many if not most of the public Institutions, Libraries and Museums holding map and atlas collections are accessible to the interested reader and amateur researcher, and almost always their home town has other attractions that merit a visit. We would like to encourage such visits by presenting to you, in forthcoming issues, a brief précis of such map collections.

Our first Annual General Meeting has, as you will see below, brought about a change of Treasurer and consequently of the bank account number – please also note the new e-mail address of our Secretary.

(W.B.)

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## STUDY SESSIONS ON THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF OLD MAPS

(Brussels/ Sint Niklaas, 20 / 21 February 1999)

In the afternoon of Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> February, our customary meeting place in the Collège Saint Michel was once more turned into a conference room, and then transformed into a demonstration workshop.

Standing in at very short notice for *Pierre Cockshaw*, Director General of the Brussels Royal Library, *Hossam Elkhadem* opened the Conference with « A brief History of Paper and its impossible ( ? ) Preservation ». As Map Curator of the Royal Library he was perfectly qualified to link the subject to maps and atlases. Based on his own professional experience of many years, he gave a brief overview of conservation principles as applied to large map collections, and highlighted the predicament which Curators face in dealing with 19<sup>th</sup> century material. On account of the specific composition of paper of that time, maps suffer severely from paper decay, and there seems to be no patent long-term solution in sight, since even modern secondary support media (micro-film, CD ROMs) have a limited life-span. In this situation map collectors could individually contribute to delaying the paper desintegration by employing, in their own collections, modern conservation techniques and materials.

*Hans Kok*, IMCoS Representative for the Netherlands and a specialist in the field of map conservation, then presented « Basic considerations for the beginning Collector » which he admirably adjusted to the level of quite a few confirmed collectors present. General aspects of paper, its production and use as support for various types of engraving were exposed, followed by some down-to-earth rules about buying a map (original or fake ? contemporary or recent colouring ? general conditions and state of repair ?). His advice about « maps around the house » was particularly welcome, as it reminded us of the special care that maps

require when we integrate them into our domestic environment.

The practical, hands-on part of the study sessions was opened with a commented display of conservation materials and equipment by *La Route du Papier* ; here one could become familiar with different kinds of acid-free cartons (for framing or safe-keeping in passe-partouts), all sorts of tapes for framing, hinging and minor repairs, as well as archival polyester pockets of various sizes, storage boxes, and a wide range of accessories. Interesting to note that many of the items, all of which are of professional conservation and restoration standard, can and, indeed, should be used by the collector of maps and prints (to the extent he himself wishes to get involved), in preference to any other ordinary material in current use, such as cello-tape or glues.

A professional paper restorer, *Ann Marchal*, then gave a demonstration of some practical aspects of restoration and conservation : cleaning the face of a map with gum powder, removal of old adhesive tape, consolidation of old paper in small steps, all led to the appraisal of a crucial moment in restoration : how far can the non-professional proceed with his own limited resources, and from what moment on should further work be entrusted to the professional. The demonstrations were very helpful in bringing across a message of caution, but also of better understanding of a very delicate subject.

*Wulf Bodenstein* closed the practical part with a brief demonstration of the model passe-partout currently being introduced in a public map collection, in Tervuren near Brussels, using exclusively the professional archiving materials exposed here.

The traditional drink concluded this most interesting and animated afternoon session.

### Study Session in Sint Niklaas, 21<sup>st</sup> February 1999

On Sunday morning the Group was welcomed by *Alfred Van der Gucht*, President of the Royal Archeological Society «Land van de Waes», on the premises of the Mercator Museum, the only cartographical Museum in Belgium, as he pointed out. We will come back to this later.

*Guy de Witte*, a professional restorer very much involved in a significant part of the Museum's heritage, started his presentation with an in-depth exposé of the ingredients of paper, their inherent positive or damaging properties and the way paper reacts to environmental influences and conservation treatment. He pointed out that conservation and restoration are, in fact, «necessary evils», linking this to the precept about the handling of old maps: if you don't *have* to touch them – don't! In this context a simplified definition of terms was helpful:

*Preservation* is protection of a map (e.g. with a passe-partout), without working on the object;

*Conservation* is treatment of a map with the objective of preserving it;

*Restoration* is putting a map back into a semblance of its original state.

In 1862 the Circle acquired a so-called IATO Atlas (Italian Atlas to Order),

containing 96 maps, plans and views essentially from the 16<sup>th</sup> century. As of 1994 Guy de Witte was entrusted with the restoration of this Atlas which had been rather heavily damaged in places. Each of the maps was separately treated and stored, an ulterior binding into atlas form not being excluded. A series of slides illustrated the condition before and during restoration, and, as a high-light, the Group were shown a selection of the maps in their present superbly restored form, soliciting full admiration and a warm round of applause.

Both restorers can be reached as follows:

**Ann Marchal**, 965 Ch. d'Alseberg, 1180 Brussels, Tel/Fax (0)2-332.38.09

**Guy de Witte**, «De Zilveren Passer», Rabotstraat 28, 9000 Gent, Tel (0)9-225.90.58, [zilverenpasser@skynet.be](mailto:zilverenpasser@skynet.be).

We would like to thank both for their time and effort to expose the rather complex issues in accessible terms to us; we are also indebted to IMCoS for their permission to reprint three articles by R. Shirley and H. Kok on map handling and preservation in the hand-out produced for this BIMCC event.

A video recording of the study sessions has been made by Jean-Louis Renteux and could be made available on request; please contact the BIMCC Secretary for details.

### BIMCC MAP EVENING (Brussels, 31<sup>st</sup> March 1999)

In spite of problems with public transport and traffic, some 20 map enthusiasts, academics and other professionals met to present, and comment upon, some historical pieces from their collection, or simply ask questions and exchange views and experiences.

BIMCC Chairman *Wulf Bodenstein* opened the meeting which marked precisely the first anniversary of the BIMCC founding event; he recalled briefly the various activities which had been undertaken since the official establishment of the Circle, and which had attracted a membership of some 55 paying members.

The floor was first given to *Pieter Hanssens* who presented a map showing Brussels surroundings, dated 1810. He had researched the history of Comte d'Arenberg, "Comte d'Empire" to whom this map was dedicated. This member of a prestigious and powerful Belgian family was a Colonel in the Austrian Imperial Army and very popular at the Habsburg Court in Vienna. Following the Brabant Revolution in 1789 and the subsequent annexation by France, he had lost all his titles and fled to Vienna; in 1803 however, he returned as an ordinary French citizen. Napoleon who had become Emperor in 1804 wanted to marry the young daughter of Franz II, Emperor of Austria; he needed the services of d'Arenberg to plead his cause at the court in Vienna; as a reward for his lobbying, d'Arenberg became successively Senator, Comte d'Empire, Chevalier de la Couronne de Fer and Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur; Napoléon married Marie-Louise, Archduchess of Austria, in 1810, the year the map was dedicated to d'Arenberg.

*Otto Chrispeels* then presented an etching by Baudartius from the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, showing the carriage of the Duke of Alba leaving Brussels after he had failed to repress the Dutch revolt, and passing the command to Don Luis de Requesens. In the background the print depicted the skyline of Brussels and, strangely close, the coast and a number of Dutch and Spanish vessels (naval encounter on 29.1.1574).

The map introduced by *Philippe Swolfs* came in three large sheets; produced by Beaupré it dated from the year VII of the French Republic and showed details of the Schelde River between Antwerp and the sea; the depth soundings were precious indications for navigation purposes and the map was valued by the Dutch, when they took over from the French in 1815. The map clearly showed the Fort of Lillo which controlled the access to Antwerp – and

where the BIMCC is organising its next visit to a map collection on 3.10.1999.

*James Rossman* presented two maps he had bought at a Brussels brocante, which were thought to come from the "Atlas de poche" published by Nicolas de Fer in 1697. The nicely coloured maps depicted respectively the County of Flanders and the Duchy of Brabant, and were surrounded by vignettes with plans of fortified cities of the area.

*Jean-Louis Renteux* showed a small map of the County of Hainaut, after Louis XIV had conquered a part of it, and it had been split between France and the Austrian Empire (Treaty of Utrecht, 1714). He was looking for a more precise identification of this unsigned map (which was written in Dutch and bears the page number XXV).

*Anne-Marie Hermans* explained her long-term project to reconstitute an uncoloured 1612 Latin edition of Ortelius' *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* she had inherited. This ambitious undertaking, about 90% complete by now, received warm encouragement from around the table. She also exhibited a series of folded maps from the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries in contemporary carton binding, depicting various European regions.

Finally, *Wulf Bodenstein* displayed an 1827 Italian copy of a 14<sup>th</sup> century portolan held in the Bibliotheca Laurenziana in Florence and depicting Africa; its shape was grossly inaccurate by our standards, but the historical land-link with a South Continent was surprisingly absent; particularly intriguing was the river system which connected the Nile delta with the Senegal estuary.

This traditional BIMCC get-together ended on a convivial note, with animated discussions around sandwiches, wine and other drinks served by BIMCC's charming hostesses.

(Jean-Loius Renteux)



## BIMCC PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

- ❖ *Excursion to a Map Collection*, our last event of this year, on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1999, Commandeurshuis, Kaserneplein 5, 2040 LILLO (near Antwerp), from 10.00 to 12.00. The Circle will be admitted to view the exhibition of a private map collection in the former Town Hall of the village of Lillo near Antwerpen, an old Napoleonic fortification on the banks of the river Schelde. Some 150 maps of the region of Flanders and adjacent areas will be on display in this historical place, offering a representative cross-section of ancient cartography of the Low Countries. Admission will be **free for Members**; others are asked to pay BEF 300. Please use the enclosed Registration Form if you plan to come along.
  - ❖ *Understanding Maps*, a Saturday morning Seminar in February 2000 at the Collège St. Michel in Brussels, addressing principles of map construction over the past centuries, aspects of scale, accuracy, and symbology. Four carto-historians have agreed to give a talk. In the afternoon it is intended to organize a small *exhibition of reference books* on the history of cartography which are still on the market, the intention being to assist those who wish to document themselves with finding the book they may have been looking for. This initial, small-scale event should also include some specimens of periodicals dealing with old maps, atlases and town views, perhaps globes – we'll see what the response to this experiment will be.
  - ❖ The *BIMCC Map Evening* in late March or April has become a well established tradition now; it brings together map historians, representatives of the trade and collectors for a chat about the one or other piece from their collection, in a relaxed and convivial atmosphere.
  - ❖ The *Excursion to a Map Collection* in October will take us to the Bibliothèque Nationale de France in Paris, where a special viewing of ancient maps and charts will be organized in the historical map room; a visit to the adjacent restoration workshops is also foreseen.
  - ❖ *From the Low Countries to the High Seas* – *Dutch maps from the Age of Discovery* is the conference scheduled for November/December, extending the horizon well beyond Europe this time. It is hoped that a concurrent exhibition of maps and sea-charts can be held to illustrate the theme of the conference; a number of distinguished personalities have been invited to give a talk.
- Please note that all details concerning next year's programme need confirmation; more precise information in forthcoming Newsletters.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### In Belgium ...

3<sup>rd</sup> July to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1999, **Vlaanderen in Kaarten**, Exhibition at the Stedelijk Museum, Marktstraat 25, B-8460 Oudenburg (near Ostend); open daily from 14.00 to 18.00 hours; catalogue available

(ca. BEF 250). The maps represent a large part of the personal collection of J. Bossu, with additional items on loan from the Plantijn Museum in Antwerp, the National Geographical Institute in Brussels and the Mercator Museum in Sint Niklaas. Further info. from Tel. 059/26.60.27.

# .... and abroad

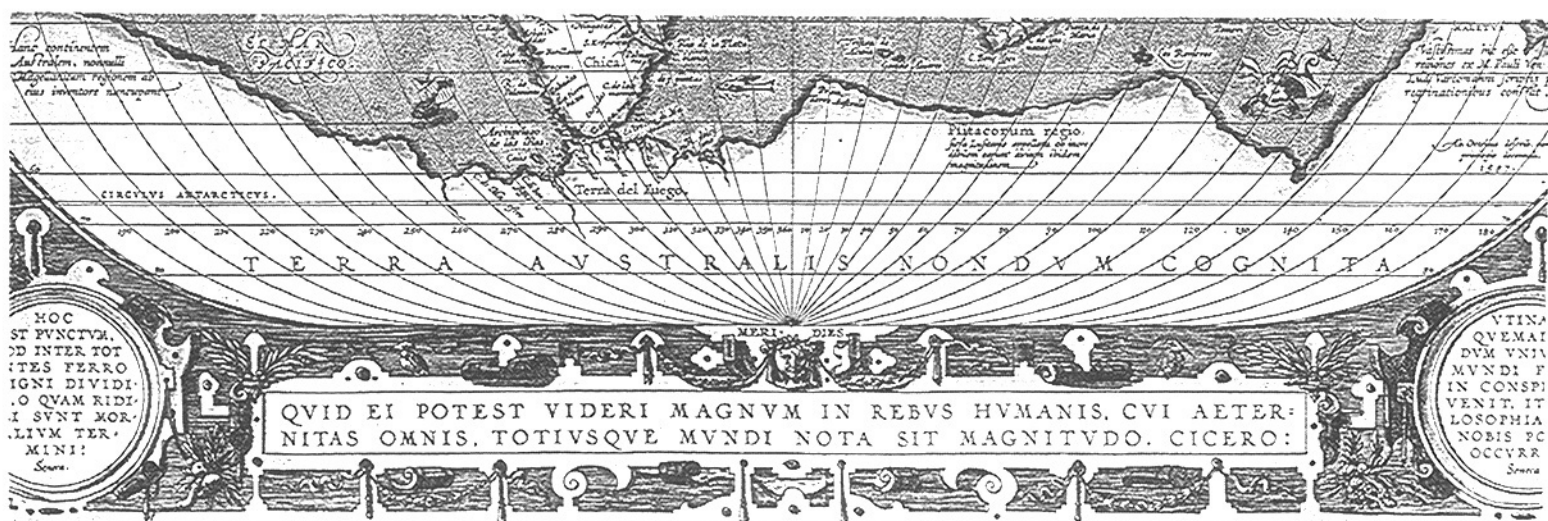
## Events of the London-based **International Map Collectors' Society (IMCoS)** :

- 31<sup>st</sup> May 1999, **IMCoS Map Fair**, Commonwealth Conference and Events Centre, Kensington High Street, London W8 (from 11.00 to 17.30 hours); over 30 exhibitors from around the world offer a vast range of maps from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> century; an annual milestone for any map collector. Admission is free.
  - 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> October 1999, **18<sup>th</sup> International Symposium**, Istanbul, held in conjunction with the 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Ottoman Empire with the main theme of « Ottoman Cartography. » Contact person: Muhtar Katircioglu, Karanfil Araligi 14, Levent, Istanbul, Tel. 90-212-264-17 86, Fax 90-212-269 81 54.
  - September 2000, **19<sup>th</sup> International Symposium**, Reykjavik, Iceland
- Further information about IMCoS membership or events may also be obtained from Samantha Pearce, 7, East Park Street, Chatteris, Camb. PE16 6LA, UK; e-mail: [samantha.pearce1@demon.co.uk](mailto:samantha.pearce1@demon.co.uk)

- ◆ 21<sup>st</sup> June to end of September 1999, **Le dessus des cartes : un atlas parisien**, Exhibition of maps and views of Paris from five centuries; organized by the Information Centre on architecture and urbanism of the City of Paris at the Pavillon de l'Arsenal, 21 Boulevard Morland, F-75004 Paris; open Tuesday to Saturday from 10.30 to 18.30 hours,

Sunday from 11h to 19h. Catalogue available (in French, ca. 300 pp). This exhibition of rarely seen maps and drawings intends to show the evolution of city plans from initial perspective views to properly surveyed maps which thus became an indispensable instrument for town planning.

- ◆ 27<sup>th</sup> June to 1<sup>st</sup> July 1999, **Conference on Medieval Mappaemundi**, in Hereford; apart from the famous Hereford world map, there will be on view the Isidore, Vercelli, « Higden », Beatus and other world maps. Further information from Canon John Tiller, Master of the Library, The Cathedral, Hereford HR1 2NG, UK, Tel. 44/1432-35 98 80, or from Peter Barber at the British Library Map Library, e-mail: [peter.barber@bl.uk](mailto:peter.barber@bl.uk).
- ◆ 11<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> July 1999, **18<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the History of Cartography**, Athens, on the theme « The Cartography of the Mediterranean »; info. from Dr G. Tolias, Tel 30/1/721 05 54, e-mail: [gtolias@eie.gr](mailto:gtolias@eie.gr)
- ◆ 26<sup>th</sup> / 27<sup>th</sup> November 1999, **2<sup>nd</sup> European Map Fair, Breda (NL)**; preceded by a conference on the history of cartography of the Netherlands, the fair opens on the 26<sup>th</sup> at 15.00 hours; an exhibition of town views is held in parallel. Further info from Karel Kinds, Tel ++32/(0)14/63.51.54. More details in our next Newsletter in September.



## LOOKS AT BOOKS

In the wake of the Ortelius Commemorations last year, marking the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of this outstanding 16<sup>th</sup> century personality, two books have been published which aptly complement the material brought forward so far and illuminate further facets of this great humanist and cartographer. A brief description follows.

**Abraham Ortelius, *Aurei Saeculi Imago, of Spiegel van de Gouden Tijd*  
De Carbolineum Pers, Elf Novemberstraat 22, B-2910 Wildert, Belgium, 1999  
(104 pp, limited edition of 75 hand-printed and numbered copies, BEF 5.000)**

In the context of the Ortelius Year 1998 several publications were brought out. Most attention was paid to the cartographic importance of Abraham Ortelius, and to his best known realisation: the first atlas. However, his personality touched a wide range of other fields of interest. Ortelius was a superb example of a Renaissance humanist: he applied his love for history and antiquity to toponymy, numismatics and both published and collected in these areas of scholarship. His solid knowledge showed in his correspondence and was attested to through the friendship with many learned men throughout Europe.

This 'other' Ortelius was the subject of the lecture presented by Joost Depuydt on the occasion of the Ortelius Commemoration organised by the BIMCC last December. He ended his speech by announcing the re-edition of one of his lesser known realisations: the *Aurei Saeculi Imago* (1596), in which Ortelius described the way of living of the ancient Germans. The booklet was dedicated to the four-year old Fredericus Monavius, son of his German friend Jacobus Monavius. He treated the subject in ten short chapters, amongst which childhood, marriage, religion and natural resources... Each theme was illustrated with an engraving by Peeter vander Borch. The "Mirror of the Golden Age" was printed in Antwerp on the press of Philips Galle in only 500 copies. It

never received a lively attention, which was probably due to its small scope and non-scientific character. The Ortelius Year as well as the intention to make this a better-known source gave the impulse for this edition after more than 400 years. Joost Depuydt and Jeanine De Landtsheer (Catholic University Leuven) looked after the explanatory introduction and the editing and translation into Dutch of the Latin text. In the introduction the figure of Ortelius is briefly situated in the context of his work, his intellectual contacts and other merits. Then this particular study of the Germans is examined, with attention to the classical sources it relies upon and the person to whom it was devoted. After a brief overview of the latest publications on Ortelius and a small bibliography on the *Aurei Saeculi Imago*, there follows the Latin text, based upon a copy held at the Theology Library of the Leuven University. This in turn is followed by the Dutch translation, printed in a similar lay-out and typography.

As the authors suggest, *Aurei Saeculi Imago* might be considered as a curiosity amongst the other, well known and widely spread publications by Ortelius. However, the beautifully edited and manually set *Aurei Saeculi Imago* with its 10 engravings is likely to become a collector's item not only because of its rarity, but because the style in which it is edited and produced will appeal to the discerning bibliophile.

(Véronique Van de Kerckhof)

*Abraham Ortelius and the First Atlas – Essays commemorating the  
Quadricentennial of his Death 1598-1998*

Edited by Marcel van den Broecke, Peter van der Krogt and Peter Meurer  
HES Publishers, 't Goy-Houten (Utrecht), Netherlands  
(430 pp, colour/bw plates, appendices, DFL 371,00)

This volume is worthy of the man whom it commemorates: it is beautifully produced, highly informative, readable - and conveys a wealth of scholarly research and documentation. It belongs at the side of all serious map collectors.

The editors are to be congratulated for publishing if not the only, certainly the most authoritative and well-rounded, commemoration of the quadricentennial of the death of Abraham Ortelius, the great Antwerp humanist, map-maker and antiquarian.

What is compelling about the present volume is what it reveals about Ortelius. Most antique map enthusiasts and collectors will know of Ortelius, to a greater or lesser extent. But the contributions to this volume show us how little we really actually knew about him. The twenty-one essays (including four extensive bibliographic appendices) rectify this lack of knowledge. Each presents a different facet of Ortelius' work, interests and accomplishments. They each add a substantive piece to the puzzle of what his true standing and influence was as the father of the first atlas and of historical cartography.

A listing of the chapter titles gives a flavour of the many facets of Ortelius. The volume is introduced by Leon Voet, who presents the political and cultural milieu of Antwerp and the Low Countries in the second half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. This, together with the following essay by Marcel van den Broecke, help to form a picture of Ortelius the man.

The rest of the essays bear testimony to the amplitude and complexity of this personality. Space does not permit a critical

account of each contribution. But the subjects of the essays give a good indication of what the reader will discover and enjoy learning about Ortelius.

They cover: the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* as the first atlas; the production of Ortelius atlases; his wall maps; Ortelius as the father of historical cartography; title pages to the *Theatrum* and *Parergon*; the world maps in the *Theatrum*; his maps of Africa; of the Americas; of the British Isles, England and Wales, and Ireland; of Spain; of "Germania"; of the Netherlands; of Holland; Ortelius' humanist concepts of the Far North; his non-geographical pictorial embellishments; his dictionaries of ancient geographical names; of the naming of Mona (Anglesey); and of Ortelius' travels through parts of Belgian Gaul. In the appendices we have the full listing of the editions and plates of the *Theatrum*, as well as the Ortelius' "Catalogue of Authors of Geographical Tables", and an extensive "Abraham Ortelius Bibliography".

All the contributions are well-written, offering us high-quality research and insights, and backed up with many illustrations and plates (colour and black & white).

The final word belongs to the editors themselves who captured the uniqueness of the volume and its subject, Abraham Ortelius. "It is an unpremeditated but fortunate coincidence that collectors (some of them businessmen) and amateur scientists in historical cartography, next to professionals in this field, are the authors of the present volume to commemorate a man who united all these capacities."

(John Barrett)



The BIMCC is pleased to acknowledge sponsorship support from :

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### Special thanks to our Benefactors

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## Results of some Auctions in Belgium

Please note : all prices are in Belgian Francs, as adjudicated. –

Henri Godts, Brussels, 13th and 14<sup>th</sup> March 1999 :

- Koeman, *Atlantes Neerlandici*, 5 vols, 1969, 40.000,-  
(NB : this is a classic still, although an updated version by P.v.d.Krogt is now being published progressively by HES – Vol I came out in 1997)
- R.V. Tooley, *Tooley's Dictionary of Mapmakers*, 1979, 9.000,-  
(NB : another classic which sold for £61 twenty years ago ; now being re-edited by Map Collector Publications in the U.K. ; Vol I (A – D) due out this summer.
- Gabriel Bodenehr, *Atlas curieux oder Neuer und Compendieuser Atlas...*, 135.000,-
- N. Sanson d'Abbeville, ed. S. de Vries, *Geographische en historische beschryvingh der vier bekende Werelds-deelen*, first and only Dutch edition of the description of the four Continents, 170.000,-
- J.J.F. Ferraris, *Carte chorographique des Pays-Bas autrichiens ... en 1777*, important wall map comprising 25 sheets, compiled in an atlas-type volume (complete), 110.000,-
- G. de Jode, *Exactissima Flandriae descriptio*, first ed. contained in the *Speculum orbis terrarum* of 1578, 38.000,-

(Results of other auctions were not available on date of publication)

Forthcoming auctions :

**11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> June :**

Romantic Agony, Tel ++32/(0)2/544.10.55 – e-mail [romanticagony@popost.eunet.be](mailto:romanticagony@popost.eunet.be)

**19<sup>th</sup> June :**

Galerij der Kempen, Turnhout, see address details on previous page

**Autumn 1999 :**

Henri Godts, Brussels, see address details on previous page

## BIMCC MATTERS

### First Annual General meeting

In accordance with its Belgian Statutes as a non-profit Association (VZW/ASBL), the 1999 AGM was held on 20<sup>th</sup> February at the Collège St. Michel, Brussels. President Wulf Bodenstein opened the proceedings by presenting the Executive Committee which, since its creation last year, has looked after current affairs and is in office until 2000 when new elections are to be held. The Agenda as published in Newsletter N° 3 was adopted.

The President then presented the Activity Report for 1998 ; this was approved. Copies of this report, together with BIMCC 1999 Membership Cards, were handed out to those present, and both were mailed subsequently to Members who could not participate (further copies are available from the Secretary on request).

The Treasurer presented the accounts for 1998 which showed a positive balance of BEF 34.712,- . Anne-Marie Hermans who had accepted to examine the accounts,

certified them to be in order, and the AGM approved them unanimously.

At this moment the President announced the resignation, for personal reasons, of Treasurer Christopher Bodenstein, which was accepted. After thanking him for his important contribution as a Founder Member, he proposed Anne-Marie Hermans as the new Treasurer, and new member of the Executive Committee. The AGM approved this change.

The newly appointed Treasurer then presented the draft budget for 1999 : taking into account the expected intake through new membership contributions and sponsorship support, and off-setting this against the anticipated expenses for communications, publications, insurance,

room rentals and ancillary expenditure, the estimated balance is + BEF 9.000,- . The Meeting approved the draft budget for 1999.

The President, on behalf of the Executive Committee, thanked Itzhak Sperling for the donation of a « Mercator » commemoration banner of 1994 which was duly displayed. There being no other business the President took this opportunity of thanking the Members of the Executive Committee and other supporters for their invaluable assistance, encouragement and support, and addressed a note of sincere appreciation to those who, through their benevolent sponsorship, had significantly contributed to the Circle's consolidation and growth in the first year of its existence.

#### BIMCC Executive Committee

Wulf Bodenstein, President ; Philippe Swolfs, Vice-President ; Véronique Van de Kerckhof, Secretary ; Anne-Marie Hermans, Treasurer ; Officers : John Barrett, Otto Chrispeels, Reiner Kaivers, Jean-Louis Renteux. Scientific Advisor : Hossam Elkhadem. Address : 71, Av. des Camélias, B-1150 Brussels, Tel/Fax ++32/2/772.69.09

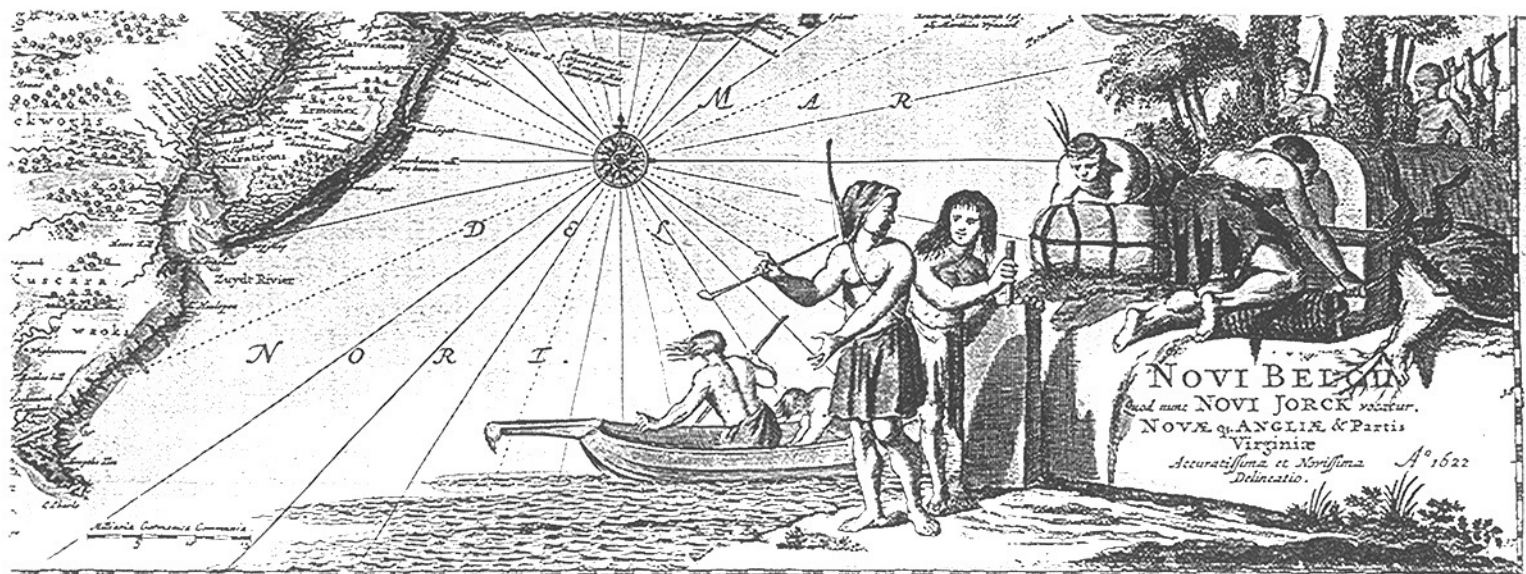
e-mail : [bimcc@bigfoot.com](mailto:bimcc@bigfoot.com)

Secretary : Véronique Van de Kerckhof, W. de Croylaen 23, B-3001 Heverlee ; e-mail : [vero.vdk@zynetmail.com](mailto:vero.vdk@zynetmail.com)

New bank account as of 1<sup>st</sup> June 1999 : KBC Bank, B-1980 Zemst, N° 436-8067361-27

#### Aims of the Brussels International Map Collectors' Circle (BIMCC)

- 1° Provide an informal and convivial forum for all those with a specialist interest in maps, atlases, town views and books with maps
- 2° Organize conferences and lectures on various aspects of historical cartography, on regions of cartographical interest, on documentation, paper conservation and related subjects
- 3° Organize visits to exhibitions, and to libraries and institutions holding important map and atlas collections.



# GERMANIA.

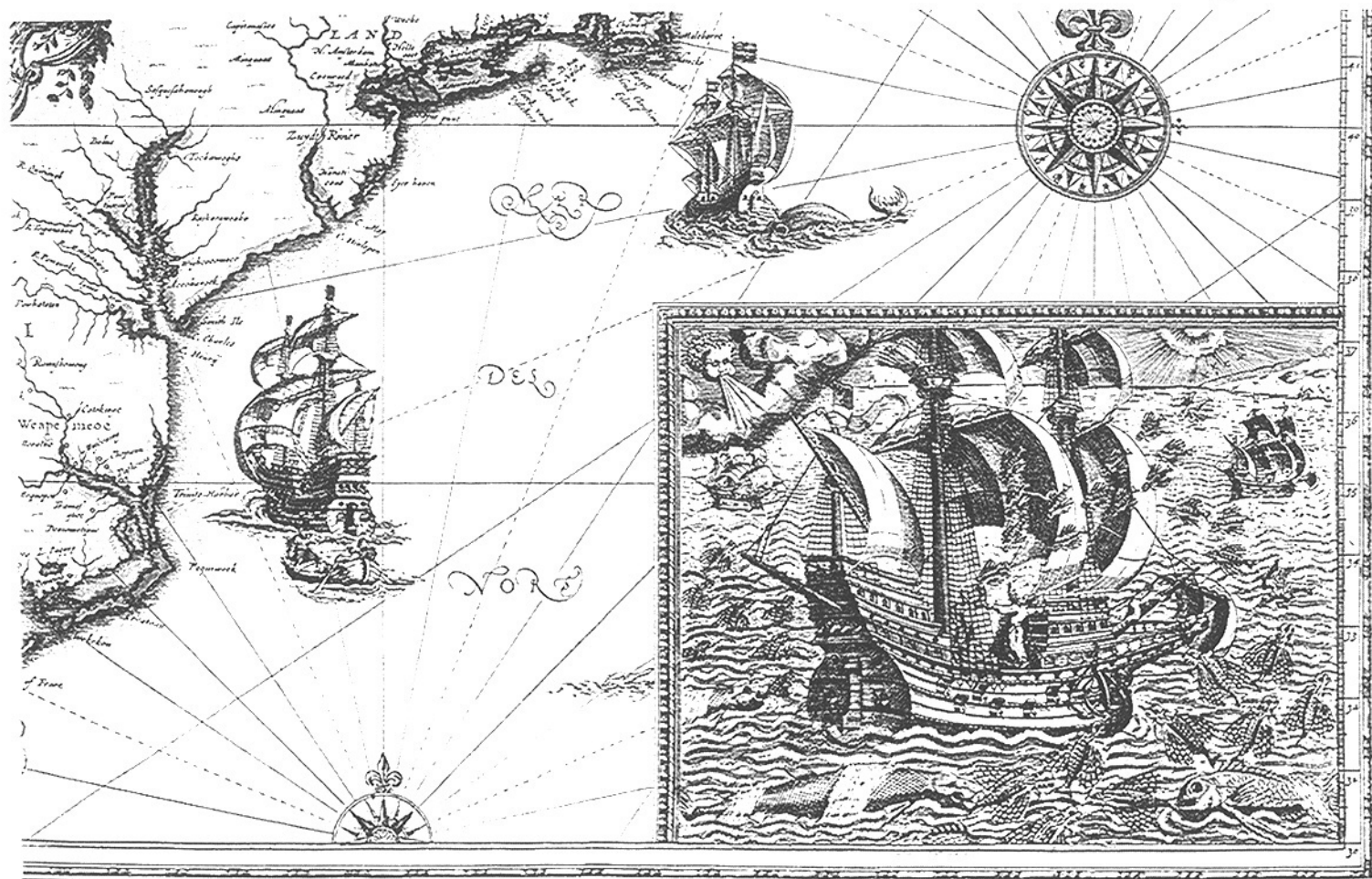
**G**ERMANIA Europæ terrarum maxima latissimaque est regio, multis distincta nominibus; cuius termini ab Auctoribus, ut quisque sui temporis rationem sequutus est, adeo variè describuntur, ut triplicem quasi Germaniam, secundum eius ætatem facere videantur; Veterem nempe, Mediam, & Recentem. Veterem vocabimus Berosianam, quam Rheno, Oceano, Tanai, Ponto Euxino, Danubio, eiusque accolis circumscribit. Media erit, quam Tacitus, Ptolemæus, & Plinius, coætanei ferè, cognouerunt; quæ cum ex ipsis Auctoribus satis nota sit, non opus videtur hic denuò eam describere. Recentiore verò Germaniam, sua lingua, hoc est germanica, (quam primam in Orbe terrarum fuisse, doctissimus Ioannes Goropius Becanus in suo de Originibus volumine, ingeniosè admodum & eruditè ostendit) terminabimus. Itaque omnè eum tractum, qui hodie hac lingua utitur, Germaniæ nomine comprehendemus. Eritque hoc modo eius maxima longitudo ab Iccio portu, quem hodie Cales vocant, & qua maximè in Occasum vergit; usque ad Vistulam fluiuium versus Orientem. Latitudinem habebit à Mari Germanico, Venedicoque ad Alpes usque. Singularum eius regionum hæc sunt nomina; Flandria, (quæ extrema est ad Occidentem) Brabantia, Selandia, Hollandia, Frisia, Dania, Megapolis, Pomerania, Prussia (quæ ultra Vistulam fluiuium ad Venedicum mare se extendit.) Deinde Marca Antiqua & Noua, Saxonia, VVestphalia, Gelria, Cliuia, Iuliacum, Colonienfis episcopatus, Hafsia, Turingia, Misnia, Lusatia, Silesia, Morauia, Bohemia, Franconia, Diœcesis Moguntinenfis, Lutzenburgum, Treuirensis ditio, Palatinatus, Alsatia, VVirtembergum, Sueuia, Bauaria, Austria, Sciria, Carinthia, Tirolis, Heluetia hoc in tractu versus Galliam vltima. Sunt etiam plura regionum nomina, sed quæ non ita magni sunt momenti, aut sub dictis intelliguntur. Et si Bohemia Germanica lingua minimè utatur, sed Slauonica, quia tamen in media Germania sita sit, & eius Rex inter huius Sacri Imperij electores locum habeat, pro Germanica regione habetur.

Hæc Germania, quæ hodie Romani Imperij titulo reuerenda est, pulcherrimis, munitissimisque Urbibus, Castris, pagis, incolisque adeo referta est, ut nec Italia, nec Gallia, neque Hispania cedere debeat. Habet frumenta, vineta, amnes pisciferos, quibus facillè cum fertilissimis Regionibus certare possit. Sunt fontes aquæ dulcis, sunt thermæ calidæ; sunt mineræ salis plurimæ. Metallorum autem, nempe auri, argenti, stanni, plumbi, æris, & ferri copia, nullis vnquam cessura est Regnis. Quinetiam vrbinitas, & morum ciuilitas, vestitus honestus, rei militaris peritia, apparatusque bellorum, & nobilitas nullibi maior. Hæc illa est quæ olim, ut Corn. Tacitus testatur, in vniuersum aut syluis horrida, aut paludibus fœda fuit.

Hanc ex Neotericis magna diligentia descripserunt, Beatus Rhenanus; Munsterus in sua Cosmographia; Franciscus Irenicus; Ioannes Auentinus in Boiorum annalibus. Obiter Bilibaldus Pirckheimerus; Ioannes Bohemus Aubanus; Gerardus Nouiomagus; Chonradus Peutingerus; Chonradus Celtes Poëta; Iacobus VVimphelingius Seletstadiensis; Aimoinus in fronte libri historiarum Francorum, & Henricus Pantaleon, in principio libri primi Profopographiæ. Sebastianus Brand multa per eam Itineraria, locorumque distantias, & fluminum decursus annotauit. Carmine descripsit Rhenum flu. Bernhardus Mollerus; Eundem Magnus Gruberus soluta oratione. Iohannes Herold de ea duos libellulos ædidiit, vnum de Germaniæ veteris, alterum de Rhetiæ littoralis antiquissimis nonnullis Romanorum institutionibus. Gasparus Bruschius de Monasteriis Germaniæ, volumen in lucem dedit.

Ex veteribus hanc diligentissimè descripsit Corn. Tacitus peculiari opusculo; quod doctissimis commentariis illustrarunt Andreas Althamerus, & Iodocus VVillichius. Plures Germaniæ scriptores, quos nos non vidimus, enumerat Fran. Irenicus lib. j. cap. 2. Exegeteos Germaniæ.





### Registration for the BIMCC excursion to LILLO

Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1999, 10.00 to 12.00 hours  
 Commandeurshuis, Kaserneplein 5, B-2040 Lillo ( near Antwerp )

*Please book \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) for the above visit*

*As a **BIMCC Member** I / we have **free admission** : N° of places \_\_\_\_\_*

*As a **non-Member** I / we will pay **BEF 300** per person at the door:*

*N° of places \_\_\_\_\_*

Name(s).....

Address/Tel. N°.....

Please send to V. Van de Kerckhof, W. de Croylaan 23, B-3001 HEVERLEE  
 e-mail : [vero.vdk@zdnetmail.com](mailto:vero.vdk@zdnetmail.com)

**BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL MAP COLLECTORS' CIRCLE (BIMCC)**  
**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Name..... First Name.....

Address.....

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e-mail.....

**SUBSCRIPTION :**

BEF 300 joining fee + BEF 800 annual membership..... BEF 1.100

Students and Juniors (under 25) : no joining fee ; annual fee .....BEF 300

☐ I enclose a Eurochèque, payable to the BIMCC in Belgian Francs

☐ I will transfer the amount to the BIMCC Bank Account with the KBC Bank,

B-1980 Zemst, account N° 436-8067361-27, mentioning « Membership »

Nota bene : this new account is active as of 1<sup>st</sup> June 1999

(Sorry, no credit cards, but International Money Order always a possibility)

Please send this form to, or request further information from,

**Véronique Van de Kerckhof, W. de Croylaan 23, B-3001 HEVERLEE**

e-mail : vero.vdk@zdnetmail.com

Date.....Signature.....

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