

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

SPI Auction Manager (Desperately) Needed

Yes, folks, as you may have noticed from the auction catalog mailed with your Spring issue, we are once again searching for a new auction manager. Andrew Urushima will serve as temporary manager for a couple of auctions only.

This is not a difficult job, nor will it take up much leisure time. Each quarterly auction typically takes 20-30 hours – that's over 3 months. The only requirement of the job is that the manager must have a computer on which to manage the auction and help ready the auction catalog for the printer.

If you've ever thought about volunteering your time for a worthwhile activity, here's a perfect opportunity! Please contact your editor or Andrew Urushima for more details.

SPI Convention at SESCOAL 2009

We are fast approaching our next convention at SESCOAL 2009 in Los Angeles (October 9-11) so it's time to start making your plans to:

Attend the convention: Reservations are now being accepted for rooms at the convention hotel, the Radisson Los Angeles Airport Hotel. SESCOAL room rates are \$120/night, single or double occupancy. Please phone the hotel directly at 310-670-9000.

Exhibit your collection: If you have a single- or multi-frame exhibit, please do consider submitting an application (available from the Exhibits Chairman, Howard P. Green, 15125 Arlette Dr., Victorville, CA 92394 or online at www.sescal.org). The jury is a good one and includes two very knowledgeable thematic judges – Darrell Ertzberger and Phillip Stager. And don't forget that every sport or Olympic exhibit competes for our SPI Best-of-Show award!

URGENT NOTICE!

Due to some issues encountered in running Auction #123 which closed on February 15, all lots have been relisted in Auction #125 which is enclosed with this issue of JSP. If you placed bids in Auction #123, we ask that you please submit your bids again. We apologize to our bidders and consignors for any inconvenience and thank you for your understanding during this transition.

Participate in our SPI outing: as mentioned in the last issue of JSP, those interested in attending our special evening at the Magic Castle should contact me as soon as possible so we can reserve sufficient space for the group. The cost is \$25 for entry, plus dinner (\$20-\$50). Business attire must be worn.

Enroll in the APS course: Prior to SESCOAL (October 7-8) Rich Drews will present "Exhibiting for the Prize" exploring "how judging takes place in all the various exhibiting divisions. Students will learn what separates Silver and Vermeil from Gold, and what it takes to reach the sought-after Grand Award level." The cost is \$180 for APS members (\$280 for non-members). More information and a registration form are available at the APS website: stamps.org/education/edu_Courses.htm.

Hope to see many of you at the show!

The SPI web site is located at: <http://www.sportstamps.org>

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