

REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Mark Maestrone

Esprit: Sports et Olympisme: Jean-Pierre Picquot, 172 Bd. Berthier, 75017 Paris, France. [In French]

March 2009 (#51). Rudolph Roger opens this issue with a tribute to Jean Bouin, famed French distance runner in the early 1900s. René Christin reviews philatelic commemoration of the Globe Challenge around-the-world sailing event from its inception in 1989 to its current 6th competition. If you thought it was too early to consider the 2018 Olympic Winter Games, think again as René presents items for the Grenoble/Isère bid.

Filabasket Review: Luciano Calenda, POB 17126 - Grottarossa, 00189 Rome, Italy. [Color, in English]

April 2009 (#28). Editor Luciano Calenda draws back the curtain on the recent flood of so-called postal stationery cards from China being sold on the internet (particularly eBay). For a \$2 investment, anyone can purchase a postal card with a blank back that is designed to be printed on a home laser or inkjet printer. The result is a privately-produced item akin to a label or vignette that is not acceptable in the exhibiting arena. His advise? Stop buying them!

As an architect and someone interested in sports venues, I was also attracted to the article on "The 'Houses' of Basketball, Worldwide ..." The author illustrates many philatelic items (stamps, stationery, meters and postmarks) depicting buildings in which basketball is/was played. Regular features include updates on new basketball issues and interesting items from recent auctions.

IMOS Journal: Diethard Hensel, Dorfstr. 15, OT Koselitz, D-01609 Röderaue, Germany. [In Ger.]

February 2009 (#141). Olympic themes predominate in this issue. Armin Haug presents coins issued for various Olympic Games. The philately of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games is discussed in great depth by Thomas Lippert and Robert Farley. Thomas also reviews new issues from Canada Post for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Wolfgang Marx takes a different tack, examining German private post issues with a sports theme

(primarily cycling and football). This issue includes new stamp issues and sport/Olympic postmarks.

April 2009 (#142). Each year, IMOS produces a special issue of its journal coinciding with its annual convention. This year's convention was in Willingen, located midway between Cologne and Frankfurt in the western portion of Germany. Many articles deal with winter sports in the Willingen region (skiing, ski jumping, biathlon and cross country skiing). In addition, Thomas Lippert writes about the torch relay connected with the 1994 Lillehammer Olympic Winter Games. Karl Lennartz looks at the many special trophies awarded at the early Olympic Games (1896-1920). The relatively new sport of mountain biking is examined by H-Gerd Treschnak.

Phila-Sport: UICOS, CP 14327 Roma Trullo - via Lenin, 00149 Rome, Italy. [In Italian]

January 2009 (#69). A brief biography of Italian sprinter and five-time Mediterranean Games gold medalist, Pietro Mennea, is presented by Gianni Galeotti. Vic Manikian looks at the 1924 Paris Olympic Games. More philately – mostly postmarks and covers/cards – of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games is reviewed by Pasquale Polo.

Also enclosed with this issue of *Phila-Sport* was a new publication on "The Rimet Cup" which reproduces the exhibit of Andrea Francesconi.

Torch Bearer: Miss Paula Burger, 19 Hanbury Path, Sheerwater, Woking, Surrey GU21 5RB, U.K.

March 2009 (Vol. 26, #1). Thomas Lippert provides a very interesting examination of the early years of Olympic airmail in this opening issue of 2009. The first Olympics with an aeronautical connection were the 1900 Paris Games in which sportsmen in balloons and planes exhibited their skills. Continuing the discussion of the philately of the Beijing Olympics, Bob Farley examines the temporary post office at the Beijing International Media Center. In the winter sports category, Vic Manikian looks at bobsledding and the new issues of the Vancouver 2010 Games are introduced.