

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

Results: Articles of Distinction

The people have spoken and the winner of the best article in Volume 49 of our journal was Laurentz Jonker's "Olympic Accommodations, 1928 Amsterdam Games." I'm sure this was a tough choice for those who voted (sadly, only 18 members took the time to send in their preference).

We have submitted Laurentz's article to the American Philatelic Society and in due course they will post a PDF of his article on their website. Not only is this great publicity for SPI, but it's a nice way to honor outstanding writing. I hope this spurs others of you to sit down at your keyboards and tap out an article for all our members to enjoy.

And my congratulations to the runners-up in the competition, Norman Jacobs ("The Singles Grand Slam, Measure of a Tennis Champion") and Peter Street ("Cricket Tales of Southeast Asia").

Some Corrections

In the last issue of *JSP* (Fall 2011), there are a couple of errors in different articles.

"The World Olympic Collectors Fair Comes to Chicago" included an interesting anecdote on page 8 about how Dick Fosbury's eponymous high-jump style "the Fosbury Flop" got its name. Rather than further muddle the real story, I'll let Dick's subsequent e-mail to me speak for itself:

"I always remembered a photo in our local paper, the Medford Mail Tribune, showing me jumping, with the caption 'Fosbury flops over the bar'. With the alliteration and the conflicting meaning (flop), I couldn't forget it. So, when asked what my style was called, I explained that back home, they call it the 'Fosbury Flop'. The sports writers loved it."

Gunter Pilz correctly pointed out what is a glaring error in the article "2018 Olympic Winter Games,"

namely that the South Tyrol region is part of Austria. He is entirely correct as South Tyrol is actually a province in northern Italy.

In fact, this 2022 Olympic Winter Games bid comprises three regions spanning two countries: Tyrol (Austria) – South Tyrol (Italy) – Trentino (Italy).

SPI 50th Anniversary Party!

Can you believe it? SPI will be celebrating its 50th birthday from September 28-30, 2012 at INDYPEX in Indianapolis, Indiana. The show, an APS World Series of Philately exhibition, is held at the Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel, just a stone's throw from the airport. We'd like to get everyone's input on how they'd like to celebrate this milestone. Any volunteers to give a philatelic presentation? We need exhibitors too! If you have any ideas or think you'll be able to attend, please shoot me an email (markspi@prodigy.net)



Seeking a New Membership Chairman

SPI is still searching for a new Membership Chairman to take over the duties of maintaining our roster, fielding occasional questions from members and non-members alike, and generally keeping contact with *you*.

This isn't a time-consuming job. The only technical qualification is that you have at least a nodding acquaintance with Excel spreadsheets which are how we maintain our roster. E-mail capability is also a requirement. Let your 2012 New Year's resolution be volunteering to serve *your* society in this vital post!

As always at this time of year it is my pleasure to extend the best wishes of the officers and Board of Directors of SPI to you and your families for a wonderful holiday season and excellent New Year!

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

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