

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

eBay Store for SPI Items Now Open

Our publisher, John La Porta, recently inaugurated an online eBay store primarily to dispose of his own duplicates:

<http://stores.ebay.com/customimpressions>

While his current listings include an extensive array of topical stamps – including lots of sports and Olympics items – he has generously agreed to host material donated by SPI members with 100% of proceeds from their sale going to our society. As SPI is a 501(c)3 non-profit, you may be able to take a tax deduction on the value of your donations.

If you'd like to make a donation of sports or Olympic items, John requests you do the following:

1. Select items for donation based on a simple rule of thumb: would you buy this item for your own collection.
2. Enclose each item in a separate envelope.
3. Provide a SHORT description. If it's a stamp(s), cite the Country/Olympic Year, and a catalog number if you like. If it's a cover, card, or other type of item, give a brief description.
4. Assign an approximate selling price in \$US. These are fixed price sales, not auctions.

All items become the property of SPI whether or not they sell.

Items may be mailed to John La Porta, PO Box 98, Orland Park, IL 60462.

Of course John invites all SPI members to stop by the site and take a look at the items for sale. Good luck!

American Philatelic Society (APS) Introduces New Exhibiting Medal Levels

Beginning on 1 January 2017, APS-judged national level shows began awarding medals in eight levels rather than the previous five bringing it more into line with international exhibiting.

APS Medal Point Ranges		
Medal Level	New APS	Old APS
Large Gold	90-100	
Gold	85-89	85-100
Large Vermeil	80-84	
Vermeil	75-79	75-84
Large Silver	70-74	
Silver	65-69	65-74
Silver-Bronze	60-64	60-64
Bronze	55-59	55-59
Certificate	0-54	0-54

SPI Convention Ideas?

As one of a limited number of philatelic societies in the U.S. which periodically holds conventions, SPI receives invitations to participate at national level shows. Thinking ahead to perhaps January 2019, we've received inquiries from the Southeastern Stamp Expo in Georgia. Looking to 2020 and beyond, Westpex in San Francisco might be feasible. Perhaps our members have some other suggestions. Send your thoughts to me at my email below.

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

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