

1776 - 1896

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ΟΛΥΜΠΙΑΚΟΙ
ΑΓΩΝΕΣ



FIRST MODERN OLYMPIC GAMES, ATHENS 1896
WINNER & PARTICIPATION MEDALS & BOXES





SPORTS
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

SPI Convention at WESTPEX 2011

If you didn't attend our 10th International Convention at WESTPEX in early April, you really did miss a terrific exhibition and a fun convention!

The weather in San Francisco was outstanding; the San Francisco Airport Marriott was a particularly inviting venue right on San Francisco Bay.

The highlights of our convention were the SPI outing on Friday night to a downtown San Francisco restaurant, our meeting with guest speaker Jim Bowman on Saturday and the awards banquet that evening, and the Schuyler Rumsey auction on Sunday featuring the world class Olympic exhibit and collection of the late Vic Manikian.

A more complete review of the SPI convention and auction are presented on pages 8-12. My thanks to the show committee, exhibitors and attendees for making this event a great success!

FIPO Reorganization

At the invitation of the International Olympic Committee, a working group of five senior members of the Olympic philatelic community convened in Lausanne, Switzerland on April 4 and 5, 2011, to discuss the future of the International Federation of Olympic Philately (FIPO). Out of this meeting has emerged a First Report which outlines the plan to create a new international Olympic collectors organization that will unite philatelic, memorabilia and numismatic associations.

This First Report, along with a cover letter from Mr. Timo Lumme, Co-ordinator of the, IOC Philately, Numismatics and Memorabilia Commission, are enclosed with this issue of the journal.

In this first phase, the working group encourages each interested society and its members to

review the First Report and respond with comments to either the head of its own association (in our case, to myself), or directly to the IOC (the address is provided near the end of the report).

The deadline for receipt of comments from individuals and/or associations is 31 August 2011.

As one of the five members of the working group, I fully support this idea of a unified Olympic collecting body to replace FIPO. While the new organization will, for the most part, become a self-financing entity, it will continue to maintain strong ties to the International Olympic Committee.

17th World Olympic Collectors Fair

Upcoming the first week of August is the World Olympic Collectors Fair. This will be the *very first* time this fair has been held in the United States.

Whether you are a buyer, seller, or collector of Olympic memorabilia, pins, torches, medals, stamps, coins, etc., this is a wonderful opportunity.

In all there will be some 100 dealers in the 22,500 square foot Olympic Pavilion. A 24-frame philatelic exhibit area will be presented. The USPS will be there with a special Olympic postmark.

The show is being held in conjunction with the larger National Sports Collectors Convention from 4-7 August at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Illinois, just a stone's throw from Chicago's O'Hare Airport.

The NSCC, which will occupy 300,000 square feet in 2 adjacent halls, expects 30,000 attendees over the 4 days of the convention. You do NOT want to miss this event!

For more information, refer to page 2 of this issue or our SPI website (www.sportstamps.org). The website also has hotel information with special show rates.

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

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*For the FIRST time in its history,
the World Olympic Collectors Fair
is coming to the United States!*

**Donald E. Stephen Convention Center
Rosemont, Illinois
August 4 - 7, 2011**

**Held in conjunction with the 2011 National Sports Collectors Convention
Hosted by the Olympin Collector's Club with the cooperation of
Sports Philatelists International**

- ◆ 600 dealers in sports memorabilia ◆
- ◆ Daily autograph sessions with your favorite sports stars ◆
- ◆ Olympic Pavilion with 100 Olympic dealers in pins, torches, coins, etc. ◆
- ◆ U.S. Postal Service Station & Special Olympic Postmark ◆
- ◆ Olympic & Sports Philatelic Exhibits ◆
- ◆ Ingrid O'Neil Olympic Auction ◆

**For Show Hotel Listings:
www.sportstamps.org**

Tickets: \$18/day in advance at www.nscshow.com/vip_tickets.shtml or \$20 at the door. Vendor tables in the Olympic Pavilion are \$225 for the entire show (deadline July 1). For more information, contact Jim Greensfelder, Olympin Collectors Club, POB 777, Guilderland, NY, 12084, or e-mail: medal_man@hotmail.com



(The following article is based on a PowerPoint presentation by the author at the International Collector's Fair in Cologne, Germany on 10 April 2011.)

Author's Note: The dates mentioned in the following article are according to the old Julian calendar used in Greece until 1923. The Olympic Games took place from 25 March to 3 April 1896 by the Julian calendar, which corresponds to 6 to 15 April 1896 by today's Gregorian calendar.

First Modern Olympic Games, Athens 1896

Winner and Participation Medals and Their Boxes

by Stathis Douramakos

WINNERS MEDALS

The 1896 Olympic prize medals were awarded to honor the first and second place winners only. The first place winners received a silver medal, while the second place winners received a bronze medal. No medals were awarded for third place as they are today.

Designed by renowned 19th century French medalist, J.C. Chaplain, the medals measure 50 mm in diameter. The obverse depicts the laureate head of Zeus facing forward. In the palm of his right hand he cradles the statue of the goddess Victory (Winged Nike) poised on an orb and grasping a laurel branch. The word "OLYMPIA" in Greek is inscribed vertically at left; the artist's signature appears along the right edge.

The reverse of the medal provides a view of the Acropolis and Parthenon. Greek characters spell out the words "FIRST OLYMPIC GAMES" at top and "ATHENS / 1896" at bottom. The edge is stamped either "ARGENT" (silver) or "BRONZE".

The medals weigh approximately 62 grams and may vary slightly from medal to medal.

Some interesting facts about these medals:

- The silver winner medals were made by melting ancient Greek coins.
- During the awards ceremony (which was moved from 2 April to 3 April due to heavy rains) only the Olympic Winners (first place winners) were awarded with their silver medals and of course a diploma and olive branch. General Secretary of the Games, Timoleon Philemon, handed the awards to the King, who in turn made the presentations to each athlete.

*(Left at top) 1896 first place (silver) winner medal.
(Left at bottom) 1896 bronze participation medal.*





Figure 1. Greek newspaper report from 4 April 1896 showing the design of the winners medal.

- Second place winners – at that time they were referred to simply as “winners” – were given only a laurel wreath during the awards ceremony. At a reception hosted by the Olympic Committee that evening, they were presented with their bronze medals.

- Medals came in a “beautiful leather box” (reported in the newspaper “ΤΟ ΑΣΤΥ” 4/4/1896 - Figure 1) along with the diploma (for the first place winners) enclosed in a paper tube. Unlike today’s medals which are suspended from colorful ribbons, the 1896 medals had no clasp and thus were not designed to be worn.

- Olympic winners in more than one event were presented with a separate diploma and olive branch for each, but only one medal. Winners of both first and second place presumably received one of each medal (silver and bronze).

- The number of silver and bronze medals struck is not precisely known. It must have been slightly higher than the number of winners, though, as some were given as gifts. Timoleon Philemon sent a silver winners medal along with an olive branch to the man he called “the first Olympic Winner” – Georgios Averof – who was the primary sponsor of the modern Olympic Games. Philemon also sent such gifts to the National Historical Museum of Greece.

- The winners medals, which were minted in Paris, arrived in Greece on 27 March (reported in the newspaper, “ΑΚΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ” 28/3/1896) along with the diplomas. The latter had been designed by Nikolaos Gyzis, a well-known 19th century Greek painter living in Munich.

Winners Medal Boxes

1896 winners medals were presented in two styles of boxes.

The first style, reserved for the athletes, was a round box in a red or black (dark green) leather-like material (artificial leather). The outer color of the box had no particular meaning. The inner lining of the winners medal boxes may vary, but was usually dark green (Figure 2).

The second style of box was square with a pair of parallel pipe hinges. These were designed for medals to be presented to high officials (Figure 3). The parallel pipe boxes had the same inner lining as the round boxes, as well as the same clasp mechanism. The outside of these boxes was always covered in brown leather-like material. The color of the inner lining distinguished the medals (blue for a silver medal, red for a bronze).



Figure 2. Winner’s medals were presented in round leather-like boxes (above) in either red or black and with a plush lining typically in a dark green (below).





Figure 3. Winner medals in silver (above left) and bronze (above right) were presented in square boxes to dignitaries. The color of the lining was specific to the medal: blue for a silver medal and red for a bronze.

PARTICIPATION / COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS

These medals, in either gilt-bronze or bronze, were available for sale to the public for commemorative purposes by the organizing committee of the Games.

The medals in gilt-bronze (Figure 4) or bronze were designed by N. Lytras and engraved by V. Pittner in Vienna, Austria. They measure 50 mm in diameter.

The obverse pictures the Seated Victory (Nike) holding a laurel wreath over a phoenix rising out of the flames. The Acropolis and Parthenon loom above her head in the background. Greek text in four lines reads: "OLYMPIC / GAMES / 776 BC – 1896 / ATHENS". The artist's signature is also visible along the lower right edge.

On the reverse is the Greek legend in five lines: INTERNATIONAL / OLYMPIC / GAMES / IN ATHENS / 1896" surrounded by a laurel wreath. The engraver's name is at bottom.

The medal, weighing 58 grams, has a plain edge.

Despite common belief, silver participation medals did not exist, as proven by many documents from 1896. This is why no one has ever found authentic silver 1896 participation medals.

In order to be precise we must mention that in the past a few original silvered 1896 participation medals have been found. However, new evidence confirms with certainty that the silver coating was not originally applied in 1896. We do know that for the 1906 Olympic Games, remainders of the 1896 participation medals were altered to include a metal plate inscribed "1906" placed over the old "1896" date. Perhaps the silvering process was applied to medals on which the new "1906" plates were missing, leading to the mistaken belief that they were actually silver 1896 medals. Another possibility is that years later silver versions were created by private initiative.



Figure 4. The 1896 participation medal in gilt-bronze.

So how do we know that these 1896 participation medals did not come in silver? As evidence, we refer to a book published in 2004 by the National Historical Museum of Greece which included a letter sent to them in 1896 by Timoleon Philemon. This was the first time this letter has been made available to the public. A translation of the relevant portion of the letter follows:

Athens June 8, 1896

Honorary Sir,

By the command of his highness heir being president of the committee of the first International Olympic Games held in Athens, I have the honour to send to you and deposit in your museum the following object that are related to the Olympic Games.

A – A silver medal same as the one that was awarded to the winners of the events.

B – A bronze medal same as above, which was given to those who came second.

C – A gilt commemorative medal.

D – A bronze commemorative medal.

Further more, I am sending you all printed material that was made by the committee for the Olympic Games such as regulations, Programs, notices...etc. etc.

*The General Secretary of the Olympic Games,
Timoleon Philemon*

As additional evidence, we can refer to the Greek newspapers of 1896 where one can find advertisements selling the participation/commemorative medals. Advertisements were different for the bronze medals and gilt-bronze medals. There was no advertisement mentioning silver medals.

Participation/Commemorative Medal Boxes

The 1896 participation medals were available for purchase with either a plain or luxurious box.

The plain box (Figure 6) is round with a red or black leather-like exterior. The inner lining is found in numerous color variations (e.g. yellow, red, blue, and pink). The inner as well as outer color of the boxes has no particular meaning.

The second style of official/authentic boxes for these medals is comparatively luxurious (Figure 7).

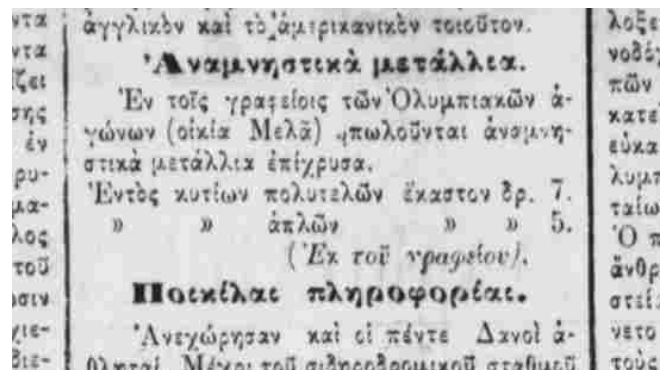


Figure 5. Newspaper advertisement from 9 April 1896 announcing the sale of commemorative medals with either a plain or luxurious box.

They are square shaped with parallel pipe hinges and an ornate clasp. The outer and inner lining are the same color. So far these medal boxes have been found in red, purple, and light blue. They were available for sale at the offices of the Olympic Committee (Melas residence) at a higher price.

An advertisement from the newspaper ΕΦΗΜΕΡΙΣ on 9 April 1896 provides further evidence of the two box styles (Figure 5). A translation of the advertisement reads:

Commemorative medals.

In the premises of the Olympic Games (Melas residence) gold commemorative medals are sold.

In boxes that are luxurious, each drachmas 7.

In boxes that are plain, each drachmas 5.

(From the office)

It is also possible to date these boxes based on their manufacturing process. The luxurious boxes contained nitrocellulose, a compound used at that time (1896) as a coating/lacquer. The same compound was also used in making the 1896 plain round boxes. This method of production was terminated shortly thereafter because of safety issues – it was highly combustible. This is one more piece of evidence that these boxes are from that time period.

On 29 March, the bronze participation medals were available for sale to the public at the price of 2 drachmas. Advertisements were published in the newspapers. Soon after – on 9 April – the gold participation medals went on sale, in both plain and luxurious boxes.

While the contract for designing the winners medals was awarded to Chaplain after an international tender, the design of the participation medals was given to Lytras based on national bids. The



Figure 6. The plain boxes for participation/commemorative medals were round with either black or red imitation leather exteriors. The interiors came in a variety of colors.

payments were markedly different with Chaplain being paid considerably more.

In all, 20,000 commemorative medals were struck. This includes both those medals distributed for the 1896 Olympic Games as well as those altered to commemorate the 1906 Olympic Games. It was these latter medals that we find coated with gold or silver.

Fakes and replicas are known to exist. Most are of very low quality and can be easily identified. One must be careful, however, as some fakes appear very authentic to the untrained eye. In 2004, official replicas of the medals were issued to coincide with the return of the Olympic Games to Athens.

Figure 7. The "luxurious" boxes for the commemorative medals were square-shaped with matching exterior and interior colors.



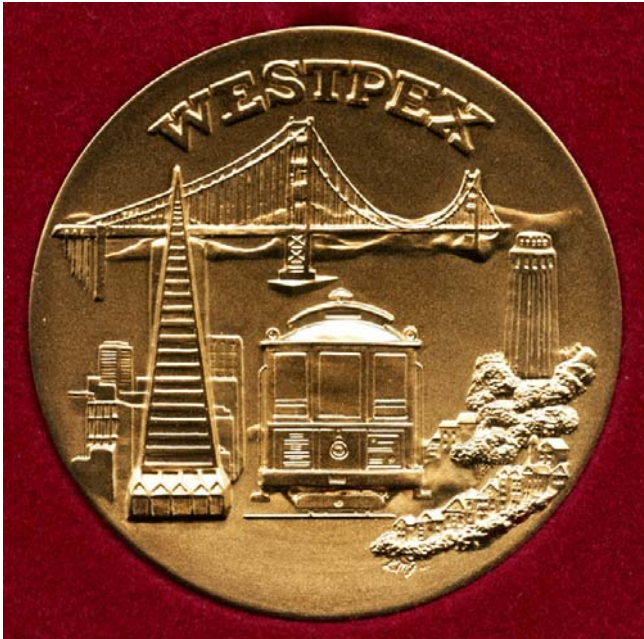
Bibliography

"Athens in the Late Nineteenth Century/the First International Olympic Games," Athens 2004, Historical and Ethnological Society of Greece, General Secretariat, p. 75. Letter 1 June 1896, from Timoleon Philemon, General Secretary of Olympic Games, 1896.

Newspapers "TO AΣTY", "AKPOΠOΛIΣ", and "EΦHMEPIΣ" March-April 1896.

"Olympic Games in Athens 1896 * 1906 - ATH. TARASSOULEAS" (1988 publication, page 94).





WESTPEX gold medal.

I'm not sure if it was the brevity of my remarks or approval of the sentiments I conveyed, but those gathered at the WESTPEX 2011 Awards Banquet applauded loudly when, taking a page from the late IOC chief, Juan Antonio Samaranch, I declared this to have been the "best exhibition ever."

It will be recalled that at the Closing Ceremony of each Olympic Games, members of the Organizing Committee, volunteers and supporters hoped Samaranch would deem "their" Games the "best ever." Certainly from my perspective, I thought the WESTPEX committee deserved those accolades as they did a stellar job.

WESTPEX, one of the preeminent American Philatelic Society World Series of Philately exhibitions, was held at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel from April 29-May 1. Sports Philatelists International, conducting its 10th International Convention at the show, was one of three guest societies, the others being the Confederate Stamp Alliance and the International Society for Portuguese Philately.

SPI members were well-represented by eight exhibits totaling 30 frames (see the sidebar on the next page for the Palmares.)

I was honored to have been asked by the WESTPEX committee to present our society awards. The SPI Best-of-Show (Multi-Frame) went to Conrad Klinkner's "Games of the Xth Olympiad, Los Angeles - 1932." Conrad's exhibit also received a WESTPEX silver medal.

The SPI Best-of-Show (Single Frame) went to my "Men's Gymnastics: Dressed to Win," causing a brief

WESTPEX 2011: Klinkner wins SPI Best-of-Show award at "best exhibition ever"

by Mark Maestrone

awkward moment – I could hardly award myself the prize! – until APS Executive Director, Ken Martin, stepped forward to make the presentation.

Our new SPI Novice Award went to first-time exhibitor Jim Leatherberry for his single frame exhibit "Lawn Bowling." Congratulations, Jim!

Overall, our exhibitors did well despite some tough judging. Those exhibitors who attended on Saturday were surprised by a new and much improved Judges' Critique session. Rather than the usual dry question-and-answer format, judges and exhibitors adjourned to the frames. The judge responsible for "first response" walked each exhibitor through his exhibit, providing a much more personalized – and effective – critique. I would certainly like to see this system continued!



Conrad Klinkner (left) holding his SPI Best-of-Show award (a crystal Nambe vase) while President Mark Maestrone presents him with diplomas.



SPI dinner at the Market Bar (left to right): Norm Jacobs, Bruce Tomkins, Mark Maestroni, Charlie Covell, Andrew Urushima, Conrad Klinkner, and Larry Elliott.

A special thank-you goes to member Bob Farley from the U.K. who mailed in his 5-frame exhibit on the 2012 London Olympic Games. A near-disaster was averted when the exhibit, which had gone AWOL due to a postal mixup, suddenly appeared in the USPS tracking system. Needless to say, we *all* breathed a sigh of relief when it arrived safely!

Friday night our society's festivities kicked off with a fun excursion down to San Francisco's Embarcadero for dinner at the well-known seafood restaurant, the Market Bar. Located in the old Ferry Building right on the waterfront, the place was hopping, this being a Friday evening.

I was particularly pleased with our attendance which included a new attendee (Larry Elliott from Anderson, California), as well as three from clear across the country (Bruce Tomkins from Tennessee, Norm Jacobs from Georgia and Charlie Covell from Florida).



Jim Bowman discusses some of the source material for his 1936 talk.

Saturday morning, SPI members gathered for a very interesting Power-Point presentation by 1936 Olympic Games specialist, Jim Bowman. His talk, "Germany's Struggles to Host the Olympic Games - 1896 - 1936," was both colorful and informative. Who knew that fishing had been an Olympic sport at the 1900 Paris Games!

After disappointingly low attendance at our prior convention in Los

WESTPEX 2011 - Palmares

Gold (Single Frame): Mark Maestroni, "Men's Gymnastics: Dressed to Win." Also American Topical Association - One Frame Award; Sports Philatelists International - Best in Show Single Frame Exhibit.

Vermeil (Single Frame): Andrew Urushima, "Spoiled by War: The Games of the XIIth Olympiad."

Silver: Charles V. Covell, Jr., "Soccer (Just for Kicks!)." Also American Topical Association - Third Award.

Silver: Glenn Estus, "Olympic Machine Cancels 1912-2004."

Silver: Conrad Klinkner, "Games of the Xth Olympiad, Los Angeles - 1932." Also Sports Philatelists International - Best in Show Multi-Frame Exhibit

Silver: Patricia Ann Loehr, "On Course For Golf." Also Women Exhibitors - Sterling Achievement Award.

Silver Bronze: Robert Farley, "The Road to London 2012."

Silver Bronze: Jim Leatherberry, "Lawn Bowling." Also Sports Philatelists International - Novice Award.

Angeles, it was nice to have a "crowd" of 15 people at the meeting. Operating on the theory that it's never too early to indoctrinate new stamp collectors, Andrew Urushima brought along his twin 18-month-old sons Kai and Reyn. The boys definitely stole the show!

Sunday's highlight for many of us was the Schuyler Rumsey auction of the late Vic Manikian's extensive early Olympic Games collection and gold medal exhibit. Rumsey had arranged the material in 172 lots of both single items and groupings by Olympic year. All but three sold. Those of us who attended the auction with the hope of going home with a reasonably priced prize were disappointed. The Manikian collection realized around \$185,000 against a pre-sale estimate of about \$130,000. An overview of the auction results are presented on page 10.

In closing, thanks go to the WESTPEX committee for inviting us to participate in their first-rate show. We certainly would like to return again in the future. Big thank-yous to Jim Bowman for being our guest speaker, to our exhibitors for their participation and to the SPI members who attended from far and wide. Let's do it again in 2 years!

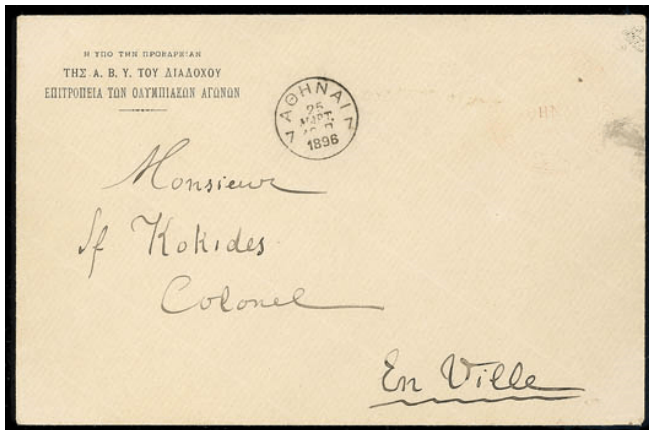
Schuyler Rumsey Auction #44

The Vic Manikian Collection, 1 May 2011

The following is a selection from the 172 lots that comprised the auction. The prices realized do not include the 15% buyer's premium and sales tax. Thanks to Conrad Klinkner for helping select some of the more interesting pieces.



Lot 3177. Greece, First Day Cover, 1896 1L-60L Olympic Issue. The eight lower values each tied by "6/Athens/6/25 March 1896" first day cancels on cover front (with one flap) to Germany, front with some creasing including two heavy vert. creases which have been reinforced, Fine. Scott #117-124. Estimate \$3,000 - 4,000. Realized: \$5,250.



Lot 3178. Greece, Opening Day of the 1st Olympic Games. 1896 Olympic Committee official cover used locally with light strike of magenta Olympic Committee cachet at right and postmarked "7/Athens/7/25 March 1896" first day cancel. The Olympic Committee posted its correspondence without stamps, using this special magenta seal. Very Fine and rare. Estimate \$2,000 - 3,000. Realized: \$5,750.



Lot 3222. Belgium, 1920 Olympic set. Tied by special Olympic cds "Antwerp/16.8.1920/VII Olympiade" (3rd day of Games) on official Belgian Olympic Committee cover to France, Very Fine. Scott #B48-B50. Estimate \$500 - 750. Realized: \$2,300.



Lot 3224. Belgium, 1920 15c Runner, Large Die Proof. Printed on white wove paper & die sunk on card, printed by the ABNC with "For Approval" handstamp at top and manuscript "O.K. 3/16/20" notation at bottom left, reverse with pencil "Approved" with magenta date & time handstamp of the "General Engraving Dept./Supt's Office", Extremely Fine and choice. Scott #B50. Estimate \$4,000 - 6,000. Realized: \$16,000.



Lot 3234. France, 1924 25c Olympic, Imperforate Setenant with Perforate. Corner margin pair with top stamp imperforate setenant with perforated stamp below, o.g., never hinged (slightly disturbed), bit of gum adherence on front. Very Fine and rare; with 1988 Roumet certificate (without mention of any flaws or defects), signed both Roumet and Calves. Scott #199. Estimate \$750 - 1,000. Realized: \$2,600.



Lot 3238. France, Colombes/Village-Olympique/ 25.7.24. Cds's tying 1924 Olympic Set Complete on registered cover to Bordeaux with rare handstamped "Colombes Olympique" registry label, straight line "Colombes-Village Olympique" and boxed "Jeux Olympiques/Mai à Juillet/1924" handstamps, reverse with second strike of two line "Colombes Olympique" handstamp (as on registry label) and Bordeaux arrival cds. Very Fine, a showpiece. Scott #198-201. Estimate \$5,000 - 7,500. Realized: \$8,000.



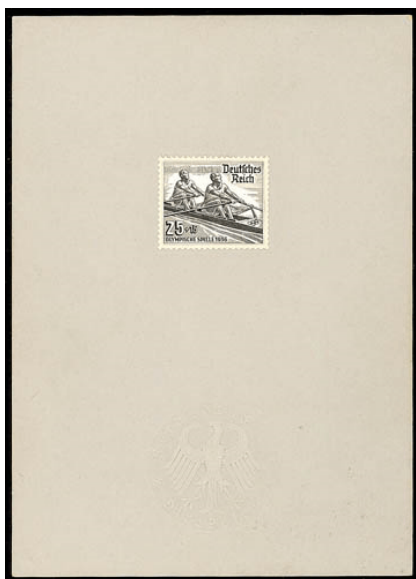
Lot 3241. France, Colombes/Village-Olympique/ 1.7.24. Two strikes of bold cds tying 25c Olympic + 50c Pasteur on cover to the Chicago Athletic Assoc. in Chicago, Ill., cover with printed corner card, "Member/American Olympic Team/c/o Morgan, Harjes Co./Paris, France" and signed by "Ray E. Dodge" (Olympic 800m runner and founder of the company that makes the Oscar and Emmy statuettes for movie and television awards), small cover defect at top right, otherwise Very Fine. Scott #199. Estimate \$300 - 400. Realized: \$1,600.



Lot 3254. Netherlands, 1928 2c Olympic Fencing, Wood Cut Proof in Black (135 x 112 mm), signed in Dutch at bottom left, "Proef" (Proof), Very Fine. Scott #B26. Estimate \$500 - 750. Realized: \$2,000.



Lot 3269. Germany, 1936 Olympic souvenir sheet, imperforate & 4pf + 3pf value shifted. Without gum, sheet gently cleaned with faintest trace of yellow spotting, still very fine, major Olympic Rarity; with 2006 Hans-Dieter Schlegel certificate. Scott #B91 var. Estimate \$2,000 - 3,000. Realized: \$8,500.



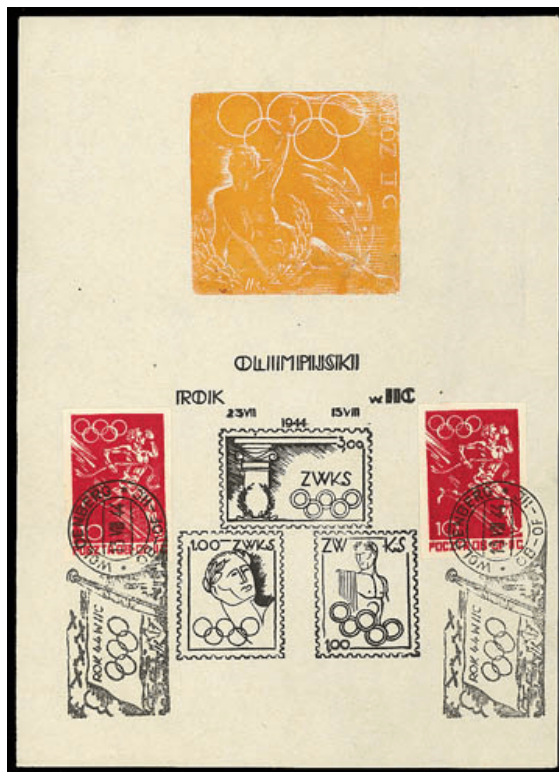
Lot 3270. Germany, 1936 25pf + 15pf Olympic Rowing, Large Die Essay. Black & white photo essay mounted on perforated "Dummy" stamp all mounted on grey card, prepared by Max Eschler of Munich with colorless embossing of "Reichsdruckerei Direktion" with Berlin Eagle emblem at bottom, reverse with green approval handstamp dated "13.1.36a". Extremely Fine, reported to be unique. Scott #B88. Estimate \$500 - 750. Realized: \$2,200.



Lot 3289. Hungary, 1936 Zeppelin Olympic Flight. Airmail cover originating from Hungary franked with 1936 Hungarian 10f-80f Airmails stamps tied by "Budapest/1936 Jul. 29" postmarks with magenta Zeppelin Olympic flight cachet below, backstamped two different "Berlin-Zentralflughafen" cds of 30.7.36 and 1.8.36, 52f stamp with small pre-use tear, Very Fine, reported to be one of eight known Hungarian cover carried on this flight. Estimate \$500 - 750. Realized: \$2,000.



Lot 3321. Germany, 1930 Berlin Olympic Congress. An interesting accumulation of official Congress cards and numerous stamps or Postal cards with the special Olympic Congress postmark. Estimate \$200 - 300. Realized: \$2,700.



Lot 3330. Poland, 1944 Woldenberg "Non-Held" Games. A nice selection of stamps including black proof, the Black stamp with scratch across, postcards, souvenir sheet, etc., plus a "Woldenberg Diploma Sheet." The last day of the Games, the winners were given specially prepared large "Diploma" sheets embellished with labels bearing the inscription "Rok Olimpijski 1944" - Olympic Year 1944, a wonderful selection of these scarce issues. Estimate \$400 - 600. Realized: \$2,500.



(Above) Twenty-year-old John Loaring boarding a train in Ontario to catch the ship taking the Canadian '36 Berlin Olympic Team to Europe. (Below) John's silver Olympic medal in the 400-meter hurdles.

John Wilfrid Loaring

by John Loaring, Jr.



The first day of the 32nd edition of the world's largest sports collectors show, the National Sports Collectors Convention, on 3 August 2011, is the anniversary of John W. Loaring's 21st birthday when he ran his first of nine Berlin Olympic Games races. The first day of the International Olympic Committee's World Olympic Collectors' Fair on 4 August marks the anniversary of his silver-medal performance in the Berlin 400-meter hurdles. With the confluence of all these events, it seemed an auspicious occasion to relate something of my father's Olympic and sports accomplishments.

Pre-Olympic Developmental Years

John Wilfrid Loaring was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada on 3 August 1915, and moved to Windsor, Ontario in 1926. Shortly before starting high school in 1929, he was stricken with rheumatic fever. His family doctor advised that his running days were over, but Loaring hoped otherwise. By 1934, Loaring was dominating 120-yard hurdles and 440-yard runs. At the Intra-Empire Schoolboy Games in Melbourne, Australia, on 9 November 1934, Loaring won gold medals in the 120-yard high hurdles and 4x440-yard relay.

1936 Olympic Games, Berlin, Germany

The first time Loaring competed in the 440-yard hurdles was at the 1936 Ontario Championships, and he won. The first time he competed in the metric version of this event, the 400-meter hurdles with slightly different hurdle spacing, was at the 1936 Canadian Championships and Olympic Trials in Montreal, Quebec. At age 20, he won both the 400-meter hurdles and the 400-meter run, breaking the Canadian records for both.

Loaring's second competitive experience in the 400-meter hurdles was on his 21st birthday, 3 August, in the heats at the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games. The following day, Loaring ran in both the semi-final and final of the 400-meter hurdles. He was the youngest finalist, winning the silver medal, 3/10ths of a second behind the American gold medalist, who had set World Records at both the 1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games and in 1934.

On 6 and 7 August, Loaring ran four 400-meter races: first round, second round, semi-final, and final, in which he placed sixth.

One day later – 8 August – he anchored the 4x400-meter Canadian relay team. In the semi-final



Glenn Hardin (USA) and J.W. Loaring (CAN) following their one-two finish in the 400-meter hurdles final.

heat, Loaring received the baton ahead of Germany's Rudolf Harbig, who later, in 1939, broke World Records in the 400-meter and 800-meter runs. Loaring purposely slowed near the end, letting Harbig win in front of his countrymen, and knowing that a Canadian second would qualify for the final. However, in the final, Canada's third relay runner was fouled by an American runner, and Loaring received the baton seven meters behind Harbig. Loaring nearly caught Harbig. Germany and Canada received the same time, though Loaring crossed the finish line less than a meter behind Harbig. Thus Canada placing fourth.

International press reported that officials huddled about the obvious foul, but ultimately decided not to disqualify the USA team, because the Canadian team hadn't protested. Such was the gentlemanly "roll-with-the-punches" sportsmanship and politics of that earlier time.



1936 Berlin extremely rare official commemorative silk band, 123 cm long, gold-colored metal thread embroidery on red on one side and white on the other, with bronze eagle & Olympic rings.



After the 4x400-meter relay final, J.W. Loaring is shown supported by two team-mates. As the Canadian anchor, he chased down the German runner, Rudolf Harbig (later the holder of WR's in both the 400-meter and 800-meter runs) who had a 7-meter lead. Though both runners crossed in the same time, Harbig's slight lead gave the German's the bronze medal.

The popular German weekly, *Fussball*, selected Loaring as: "The toughest competitor of 1936 ..." The noted Olympic authors, Ross and Norris McWhirter, commented: "Loaring's competitive record at the 1936 Olympics ... must just about represent the most severe test to which any Olympic athlete has ever been subjected."

Loaring is still the only athlete to complete in all three Olympic men's finals involving the 400-meter distance in a single Olympic Games – and he did so as he turned age 21. Unfortunately, World War II deprived him of two Olympic Games during his prime competitive years.

Post-Olympic Performances

Immediately after the Olympic athletics events, Loaring competed in a British Empire vs USA Meet in London, England, on 15 August 1936. In a four-by-two-lap steeplechase relay, Loaring ran the anchor leg in a World Best time, winning gold for the British Empire Team. He overcame a 12-yard lead of USA's anchorman, who had held the 3,000-meter steeplechase World Record until one week prior. This was Loaring's one and only steeplechase experience.

In the 1937 Pan-American Games in Dallas, Texas, Loaring's favorite 400-meter hurdles event wasn't on the program. However, he won a fourth-place medal in the 400-meter run.



1936 Berlin medal presentation case (probably unique) with engraved plaque showing the signature of von Tschammer und Osten (Head of the German Sports Office during the Olympics), eagle above wreath & swastika, oak & laurel branches, and Games legend.

Three days later, Loaring competed in an Oxford-Cambridge versus Canada Dual Meet in Hamilton, Ontario. After winning the 220-yard hurdles, he upset Britain's Olympic silver and gold medalist while winning the 440-yard run.

1938 British Empire Games, Sydney, Australia (now the Commonwealth Games)

Loaring won gold medals in the 440-yard hurdles and two relays, as well as fifth place in the 440-yard run. He is the only Canadian track & field athlete to win three golds in a Commonwealth Games.

Loaring tended to run to win rather than to set records, especially when running many races. In the 440-yard hurdles final he was very far ahead, then noticeably slowed toward the end, still winning by 15 yards. Despite slowing, he missed the World Record by only 3/10ths of a second, with 1938's World Best 440-yard/400-meter hurdles time. In 1938, Loaring was awarded the J.W. Davies Trophy, as the year's top Canadian in Track, Field, Marathon, and Harrier competition.

Later Life

Loaring distinguished himself serving in the Royal Canadian Navy during World War II. He completed his naval service in 1946-47 at the rank of Lieutenant-Commander.

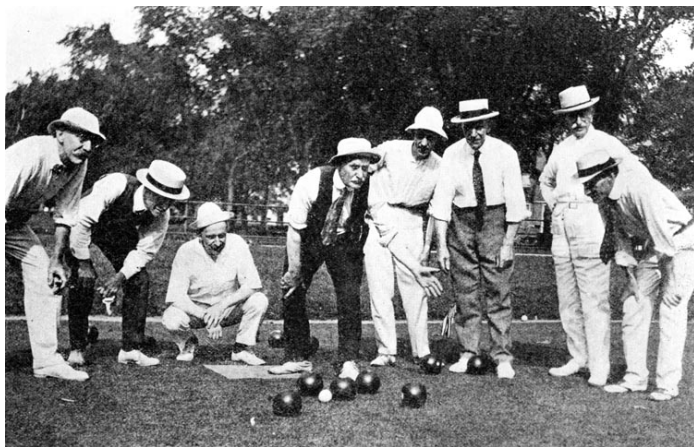
Following the war, Loaring entered into the

family construction business. In later life he continued his involvement with sport in a broad variety of roles in athletics, running, swimming, and water polo, through his general positions with the Canadian Olympic Association, the British Empire & Commonwealth Games Association, and the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada. He was an Athletics Official at the 1966 British Empire & Commonwealth Games, Kingston, Jamaica. Many sports events were named in his honor, and he was inducted into national and regional halls of fame. Loaring died of cancer at age 54, on 20 November 1969.

Forced by limitations of time, space, and money to nearly cease buying memorabilia, the author disposed of some of his collection through Geneva-based David Feldman S.A. in 2009 and 2010. A third sale will be held later this year, with preliminary information available at the IOC World Olympic Collectors' Fair in Chicago this August.



The author holding his father's Olympic silver medal. A rare 1936 Berlin Olympic gold chain (given to IOC members) is draped over a large unique Berlin Olympic Games official badge album. The large globe-shaped award is a "Jesse Owens/International Amateur Athlete Award" which went to the World's Best Amateur Athlete, Carl Lewis, who, in a couple of Olympic Games, roughly doubled Jesse Owens' feat of four gold medals.



(Left) Lawn bowling at the Parade Grounds of Prospect Park (New York City) circa 1919.
(Right) Canadian national champion, Tim Mason.

Lawn Bowling: it isn't just your Grandad's game anymore!

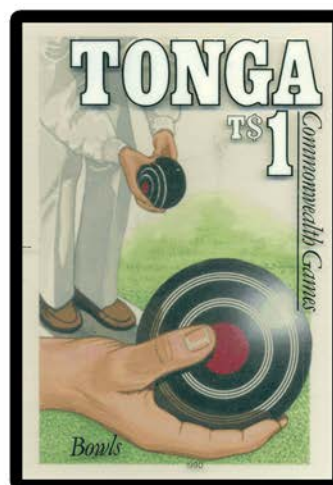
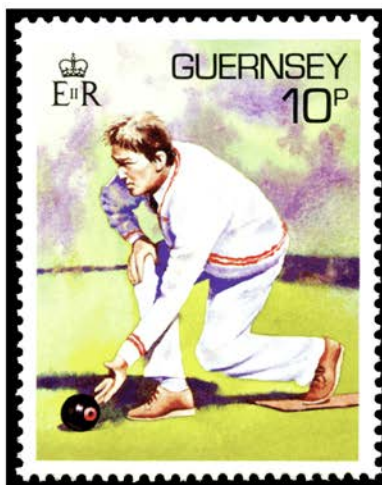
by Patricia Loehr

When lawn bowling originated in England and Scotland it was known as "bowles." Scots made it a national sport in the 1500s and have nurtured it to become popular in many countries. Lawn bowling began in America about 1690 and preceded bowling at pins. In 1915 the American Lawn Bowling Association began in Buffalo, New York.

The game is played either outside or indoors on a green about 120 feet square and divided into rinks. The entire green is surrounded by a ditch. Each rink is 20 feet wide and 120 feet long. Greens are grass that is maintained to an even carpet-like surface.

Only flat sole shoes are permitted on a lawn bowling green. Equipment to play are bowls, rectangular mats, and a small white ball referred to as a "jack." Bowls vary in size and weight, however each set of four are the same in size and weight. To allow for lawn bowls to curve when rolled they are flattened on one side and built out on the other. That unbalance of the bowl is known as "bias."

Lawn bowling is played by opposing sides of singles, pairs, triples or fours. Play in one direction is an "end." In singles play, the game is determined when a side has 21 points. Pairs, triples and fours are determined by most total points after a predetermined length of time or playing an agreed upon number of ends. Number of bowls for each player





is decided before play begins to a maximum of four. For example, in pairs or triples each player might play four or three bowls.

To begin play, a mat is placed at the start end. Then a side sets the jack for distance by rolling it from the mat toward the other end of the rink. The jack is centered and must be a minimum distance from the ditch. The jack becomes the target and bowlers from each side alternate rolling a bowl from the mat to the jack. The bias of the bowl allows it to curve from either a forehand or backhand roll. After all bowls are played, the bowl closest to the jack scores 1 point. Additional points can be scored for each bowl closer to the jack than the closest opponent bowl. There are other variations of play and scoring.

The First World Lawn Bowls Championship was held in Sydney, Australia in October of 1966 with

sixteen countries participating. Lawn bowling has been a sport in the Commonwealth Games since their beginning in 1930. In 2010 Guernsey celebrated its 40th anniversary participating in the Common-

wealth Games with a set of six sport stamps one of which depicts lawn bowling (above).

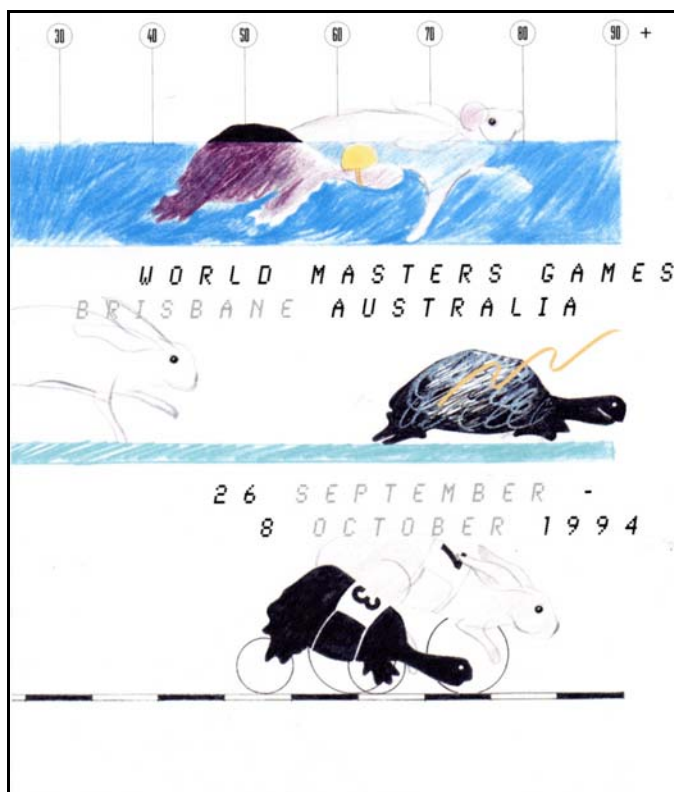




Figure 1. Turkey PTT's official First Day Cover of the souvenir sheet of four stamps, 27 January 2011.

East Meets West at the 25th Winter Universiade

by George E. Killian

The 25th edition of the Winter University Games, also known as Winter Universiade, were held in the city of Erzurum, home to Turkey's newest winter resort, from January 27 to February 6, 2011.

The Games were officially opened by the President of Turkey, Mr. Abdullah Gül, along with the Prime Minister, Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, before a capacity crowd of over 30,000 spectators in the snow covered Cemal Gursel Stadium.

The opening ceremony was a spectacular event with dance shows performed by Mustafa Erdogan's world famous dance company, Anadolu Atesi (Five of Anatolia).

The Games played host to some 1,593 athletes from a record breaking 52 countries, setting a new Winter Universiade record (Innsbruck's 2005 Games had 51 participating nations).

The winter sports program featured 11 sports:

alpine skiing, biathlon, ice hockey, curling, ski jumping, cross country skiing, Nordic combined, snowboarding, freestyle skiing, figure skating and short track speed skating.



Erzurum, Turkey's fourth largest city and host to the 25th Winter Universiade, is situated in the eastern region.



Figures 2 & 3. Stamps were issued in two souvenir sheets. The perforated sheet (above) was sold at face value at the post office (quantity issued = 100,000). The imperforate sheet (right) was only available as part of the folder which sold for 30 lira (about US\$19). There were 10,000 folders printed.

The mascot of the 2011 Winter Universiade was Kanka, a double-headed eagle. Looking both East and West, it represents power and strength.

A total of seven face-different commemorative stamps were issued 27 January 2011 for the Games as part of two souvenir sheets.

A perforated souvenir sheet (Figure 2) was composed of two 90-kuruş and two 1.30-lira stamps. The pair of lower value issues show an ice hockey player and the Chifte Minareli Medrese, a landmark and symbol of the city. The twin minarets of the Medrese, if you look closely, are repeated in the Games logo forming the two vertical legs of the letter “U” (for “Universiade”).

The higher value stamps show a ski jumper and Kanka, the Games mascot. In all, 100,000 sheets of the perforated souvenir sheet were printed.

The imperforate sheet (Figure 3) is comprised of four 1.30-lira stamps. The mascot stamp is the only one duplicated on both sheets. The other three show the Medrese (same design as on the perforated sheet, but with a different value), the ancient Erzurum Castle, and the Erzurum Clock Tower. A first day cover is shown in Figure 4.

In addition, eleven different sports postmarks, one for each day of the Games, were offered by the Central Post Office in downtown Erzurum. The schedule of postmarks, reproduced in Figure 5, was as follows:



- 27 January: Ice Hockey
- 28 January: Short Track Speed Skating
- 29 January: Ski Jumping
- 30 January: Nordic Combined
- 31 January: Cross-Country Skiing
- 1 February: Biathlon
- 2 February: Curling
- 3 February: Snowboarding
- 4 February: Figure Skating
- 5 February: Freestyle Skiing
- 6 February: Alpine Skiing

The Turkish Post (PTT) issued a folder containing the 2 four-stamp commemorative souvenir sheets, a first day cover (Figure 1) and four postal cards (Figures 6-11) featuring the Games mascot and images of some of the sports and venues. The imperforate souvenir sheet was only available as part of this folder and thus had a printing of 10,000.

A special cancel was used in the Athletes Village on the campus of Atatürk University (Figure 12).

The closing ceremony was highlighted by the passing of the FISU flag from the city of Erzurum to the city of Maribor in Slovenia, the host of the 26th Winter Universiade in 2013.

We can only hope that the postal authorities of Slovenia will follow suit in 2013 with an array of philatelic material honoring one of the world's great winter sporting events.



Figure 4. The first day of the souvenir sheet of 4 imperforate stamps was also 27 January 2011. This first day cover includes the Erzurum circulate date stamp.



Figure 5. Daily Sports Postmarks, Erzurum Post Office, 27 January - 6 February: ice hockey, short track speed skating, ski jumping, Nordic combined, cross country skiing, biathlon, curling, snowboarding, figure skating, freestyle skiing, Alpine skiing.



Figure 6. Mascot and Chifte Minareli Medrese on 90-kuruş postal card.



Figure 7. Snow sports: ski jumping, biathlon, and snow-boarding on 90-kuruş postal card.



Figure 8. Mascot and Erzurum city skyline on 1.30-lira postal card.



Figure 9. Ice sports: speed skating, figure skating, ice hockey and curling on 1.30-lira postal card.



Figure 10. The reverse of the 90-kuruş postal cards (Figures 6 and 7). The indicium is printed in black ink.



Figure 11. The reverse of the 1.30-lira postal cards (Figures 8 and 9). The indicium is printed in black ink.

Figure 12. "ATATÜRK ÜNİVERSİTESİ" postmark from the Athletes Village post office.



Slovak Sport & Olympic Postal Stationery and Commemorative Sheets, 1995–2010

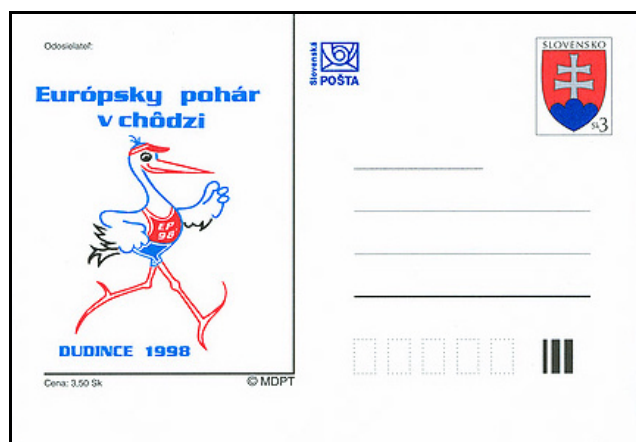
compiled by John La Porta



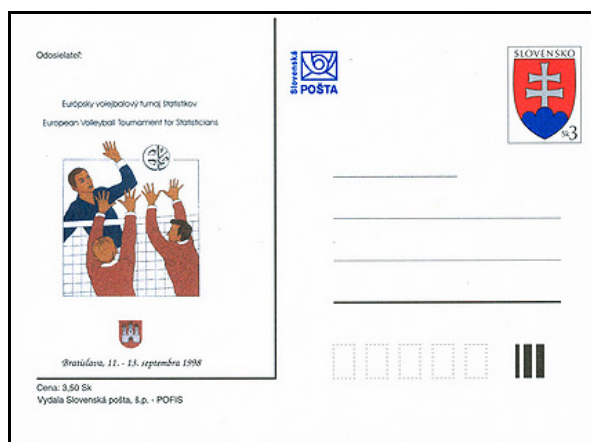
29.03.1995 Ice Hockey World Ch - Group B
Stamp Engraver: Martin Cinovsku
Graphic Designer: Svetozar Mydlo



27.04.1996 Table Tennis European Championship
Graphic Designer: Martin Cinovsky



25.04.1998 European Walking Cup
Graphic Designer: Igor Cechvala



11.09.1998 European Volleyball Tournament
Graphic Designer: Dusan Nagel



18.12.1998 Poprad-Tatry '99 19th World Winter Academic Games & 2006 Candidate City
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



17.05.2000 Inter Slovnaft Bratislava
Slovak Soccer Championship
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



25.05.2000 World Ice Hockey Championship
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



27.05.2000 European Soccer Championship
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



28.08.2000 Sydney Olympic Games
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



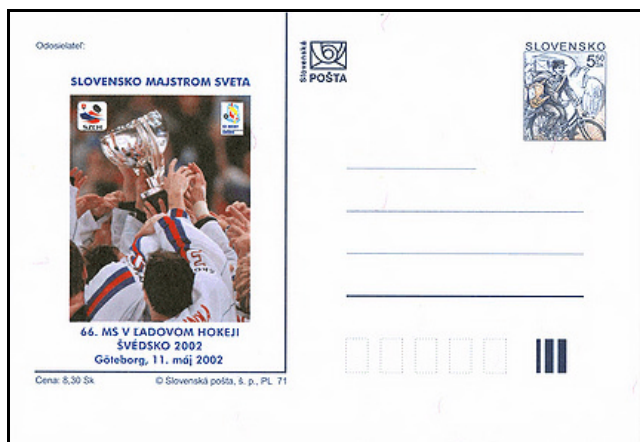
24.11.2000 Sydney Olympic Games
Stamp Engraver: Peter Joriga
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



21.01.2001 European Figure Skating Championship
Graphic Designer: Igor Schurmann



28.02.2002 VIII Winter Paralympic Games
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



15.05.2002 Slovakia 2002 World Ice Hockey Championship
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



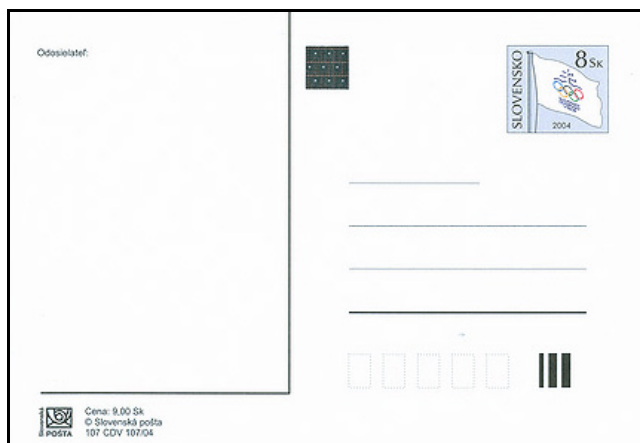
07.07.2002 Olympic Day and Sports Philately
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



29.11.2002 World Class Slovak Women Tennis Players
Graphic Designer: Peter Juriga



30.05.2003 World Ice Hockey Championship
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



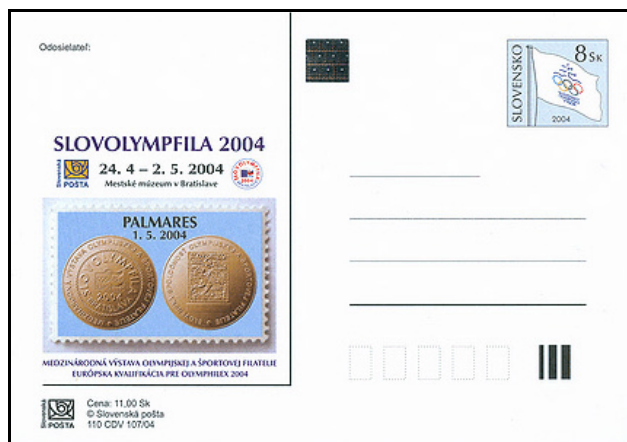
16.03.2004 Slovolympfila 2004
Stamp Engraver: Ervin Smazak
(Prepaid postal card without cachet)



20.04.2004 Slovolympfile 2004 Exhibition Opening
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



20.04.2004 Slovolympfila 2004 Day of the Slovak Sport Stamps
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



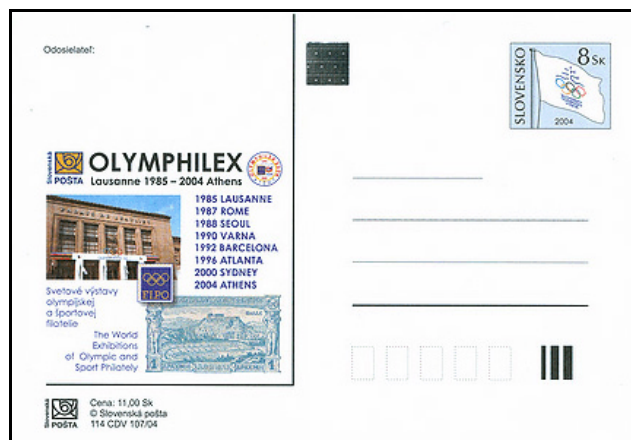
20.04.2004 Slovolympfila 2004 Exhibition Palmare
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



28.07.2004 Athens Olympic Games
Graphic Designer: Ervin Samzak



28.07.2004 Athens Paralympic Games
Graphic Designer: Ervin Samzak



28.07.2004 Olymphilex 2004
Stamp Engraver: Peter Juriga
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



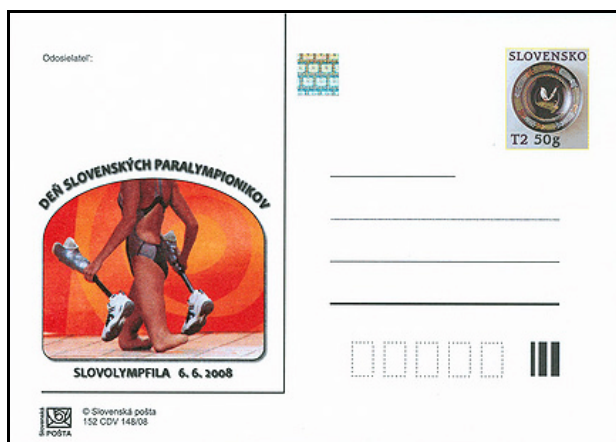
05.11.2004 Inauguration of the Slovak Olympians
Postage Stamps
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



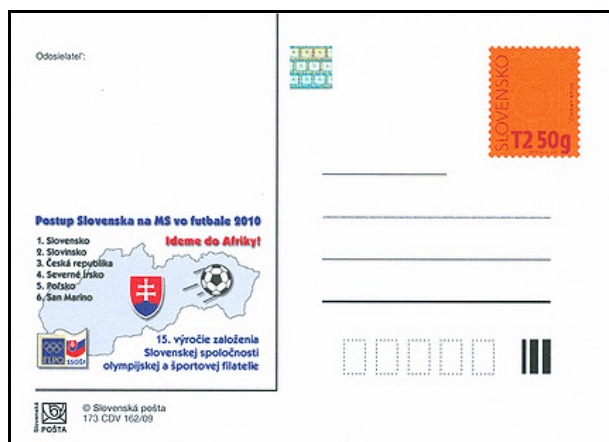
02.12.2005 Davis Cup Finals
Stamp Engraver: Peter Juriga
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



04.06.2008 Slovolympfíla 2008
Day of the Slovak Olympians
Graphic Designer: Peter Juriga



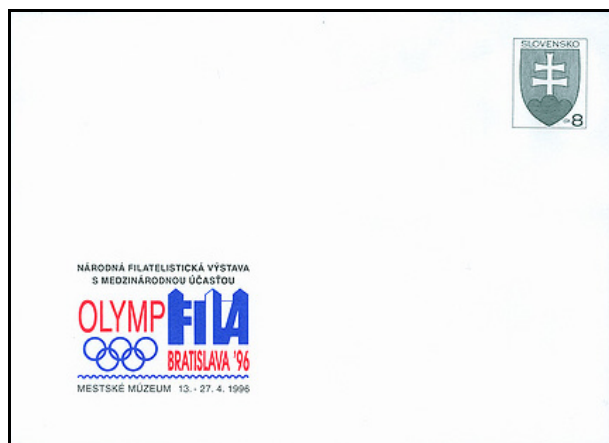
06.06.2008 Slovolympfíla 2008
Day of Slovak Paralympians
Graphic Designer: Peter Juriga



20.11.2009 15th Anniversary Slovak Society of
Olympic and Sport Philately
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



01.04.2010 Vancouver Olympic Games - Slovak
Medalists
Graphic Designer: Ervin Smazak



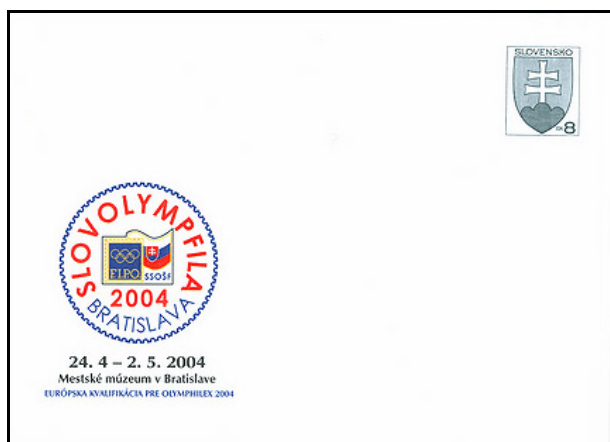
12.04.1996 Olympfíla 1996
Stamp Engraver; A. Lednický
(Prepaid postal envelope with cachet)



15.05.2002 Slovakia Ice Hockey World Championship
Stamp Engraver: Martin Cinovsky
(Prepaid postal envelope with cachet)



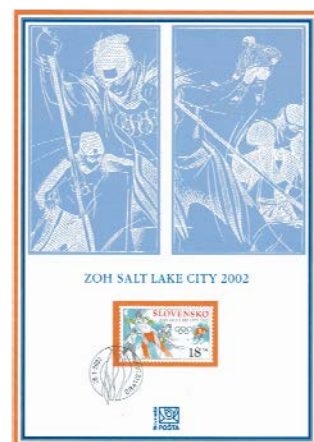
07.07.2002 Day of Olympic and Sports Philately
Stamp Engraver: Ervin Smazak
(Prepaid postal envelope with cachet)



20.04.2004 Slovolympfila 2004
Stamp Engraver: Ervin Smazak
(Prepaid postal envelope with cachet)



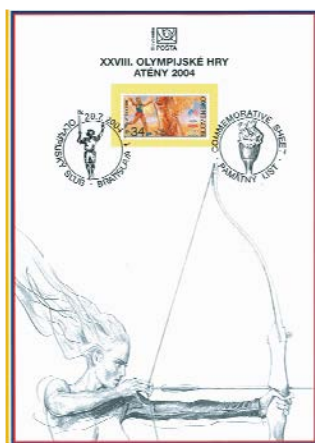
12.01.2002 European Youth Olympic Days
(Commemorative sheet)



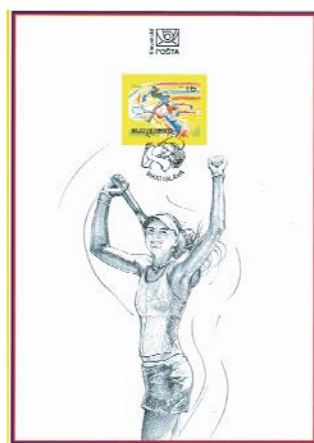
25.01.2002 Salt Lake City Olympic Winter Games
(Commemorative sheet)



24.07.2002 World Ice Hockey Championships
(Commemorative sheet)



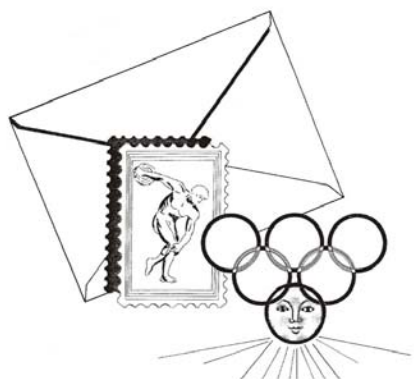
29.07.2004 Athens Olympic Games
(Commemorative sheet)



21.03.2007 Tennis
(Commemorative sheet)



13.03.2009 Martial Arts
(Commemorative sheet)



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NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

by Mark Maestrone

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39100 Italy. (nicola@cont.it)

**General sports, soccer, international games
and ice hockey.**

2280 Kirk McGowan, 1194 Sesame Drive,
Sunnyvale, CA 94087-2420 USA.

1932 Olympic Games.

2281 Andrew Potter, 29 Orpington Road, London
N21 3PD, U.K. (andywithsarah@googlemail.com)

**General sports, Olympics host country, sailing,
cricket, and international games.**

2282 Ernest E. Waner, 3025 Hard Rock Rd., Grand
Prairie, TX 75050-6769 USA.

(waners@telkomsa.net) **General sports,
Olympics, World Cup soccer.**

2283 Gennaro Marcelli, via Caravaggio 45, 80126
Napoli, Italy. (loredanamarcelli2@virgilio.it)

**General sports, horse racing, tennis, and
soccer.**

RENEWING MEMBERS

1399 Shlomo Vurgan, 31/22 Bernstein St., Rishon
Le-Zion 75503 Israel. (vurgan@bezeqint.net)

Basketball, tennis, volleyball and soccer.

ADDRESS CHANGE

James B. Yarwood. (New Address) 21 Dryden
Drive, Poquoson, VA 23662-1453.

PASSINGS

Longtime SPI member and basketball collector,
Hugh Gottfried of Santa Monica, CA passed away
on February 9, 2011.

CORRECTIONS TO MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK

Laurentz Jonker (add email address)

laurentz.jonker@gmail.com

EXHIBITING

APS Ameristamp Expo 2011, February 11-13,
Charleston, South Carolina. Charles J. O'Brien, III,
received a multi-frame Vermeil as well as a Prix
d'Honneur in the Most Popular competition for his
exhibit, "Roberto Clemente." Patricia Ann Loehr's
"Golf on Map & Large Letter Picture Postcards"
took home a multi-frame Silver Bronze.

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THE SPORTS ARENA

by Mark Maestroni



Alain Hébert recently sent an update to his article "What is an Olympic Stamp? The Vancouver Experience" which appeared in the Winter 2010 issue of *JSP*.

He had just purchased a Mozambique "Olympic" souvenir sheet which he wished to share with readers. The item in question, shown above, was obviously printed after the conclusion of the Vancouver Games as all six stamps that make up the sheet feature gold medalists.

One stamp in particular (top right) showed a not-so-fine moment in Olympic history – the post-game hijinks of the Canadian women's ice hockey team after winning the tournament. According to

press reports, the team's celebration spilled out of the locker room and back onto the ice, fortunately after the fans had left the arena. Toasting each other with beer and champagne and puffing on some rather serious-looking stogies, the women took turns mugging for each other's cameras (and evidently a few press photographers too). One of the many photos that escaped into the public arena is shown at bottom left.

Thanks to Mozambique, we have a memorable Olympic moment captured for eternity on a stamp!



Postcard enthusiasts will be disappointed to learn that there may not be any officially-licensed postcards for next year's 2012 London Olympic Games.

According to a report in the March 2011 issue of *Picture Postcard Monthly*, two of the U.K.'s better known publishers, Judges and Kardonama, have declined to pay what they feel are exorbitant fees to the London Organizing Committee (LOCOG) for the rights to produce official postcards.

With a stringent ban on unauthorized use of any Olympic branding, it seems unlikely that even unofficial cards will be produced.



You just never know when you'll run across an Olympic connection on a stamp at which you might not otherwise have given a second look.

During a recent search for stamps reproducing images of works by my favorite Olympic architect, Santiago Calatrava, I happened upon an interesting cover in my collection celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth of Evangelis Zappas, a renowned Greek philanthropist. It was Zappas who revived the Olympic Games in 1859 (this was prior to the founding of the IOC in 1894 by de Coubertin).

What sparked my interest in the cover were the

stamps used for franking (right). A 1 drachma stamp from 1975 featured Zappas. To make up the correct postal rate, which was probably 120 drachma in 2000, an additional stamp was added showing the Rio-Antirrio Bridge crossing the Gulf of Corinth near Patras. The design of the bridge bore the tell-tale features of a Calatrava creation, but sadly turned out not to be his.

What I *did* discover was a hidden Olympic connection. While this stamp was issued in 1999 and used on this cover in 2000, the bridge itself was not completed until just prior to the start of the 2004 Athens Olympic Games. At its inauguration on 7 August 2004, the first people to cross the bridge

were the Olympic Torch Relay – a fact that the cover's creator could not possibly have anticipated. Now, how's that for an Olympic philatelic surprise!



Front Row (Left to Right): Edwin Olson (Asst. Manager), Ray Rivero, Mitch Ivey, Ronnie Mills, Carl Robie (team captain), Brent Berk, ? , John Ferris, Don Schollander, Mike Burton. **Middle Row (Left to Right):** William Lippman (Manager), Gary Hall, Ross Wales, Ken Merten, Charles Hickox, Don McKenzie, David Perkowski, Mark Spitz, Chet Jastremski, Andrew Strenk, Don Gambriel (Asst. Coach), George Haines (Coach). **Top Row (Left to Right):** Jackson Horsley, Bill Johnson, Larry Barbieri, Pete Williams, Doug Russell, Ken Walsh, Stephen Rerych, Zachary Zorn, Greg Buckingham, Mike Wall, Philip Long, Brian Job, John Nelson.

Bruce Tomkins very kindly agreed to scan for me this terrific postcard which he picked up during our recent SPI convention at WESTPEX. The card shows the entire 1968 U.S. Olympic Men's Swim-

ming Team following the Olympic Trials held at the Belmont Plaza Olympic Pool in Long Beach, California. Does anyone know the name of the mystery swimmer (fourth from the right) in the front row?

REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Mark Maestrone

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

December 2010 (#58). In an article by René Christin, the European Indoor Athletic Championships take center stage. Starting with the second championships in 1967 in Prague, Christin presents the extensive philatelic history of the event. Also reported on in this issue were the recently completed World Championships of Fencing in November at Paris, 1st Youth Olympic Games in Singapore and a presentation of autographed cards by French medalists at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics.

March 2011 (#59). With the selection of the 2018 Olympic Winter Games just around the corner (6 July 2011 at the 123rd IOC Session in Durban, South Africa), this issue of the AFCOS magazine begins with a look at two of the candidate cities: Annecy, France and Munich, Germany. Roland Parmisetti, a specialist in mountain climbing philately, traces the Himalayan adventures of Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Norgay Tenzing in "Victory on Everest". Additional articles touch on arctic sports, tennis, the 2011 world championships in both Alpine skiing and Nordic skiing, and handball.

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

December 2010 (#33). In "What can we do?", three senior members of the International Filabasket Society present various views concerning the classification of stamp issues into official vs. unofficial. Editor Luciano Calenda – one of the three voices – proposes that "instead of saying 'this issue is illegal' it would be better to explain to collectors 'this issue can be used in an exhibit and this other not'". The public is invited to respond.

Also in this issue is a new series displaying portions of members' exhibits. Ryszard Prange of Poland presents 20 pages of his exhibit, "Basketball Report, I Love This Game."

April 2011 (#34). Continuing the dialogue begun in Issue #33 on a classification system for stamps, the

editor provides an 11-point plan centering on what stamps potential exhibitors are advised to avoid or limit, while at the same time encouraging collectors to include or exclude what they wish.

This issue's exhibit highlight is from I.F.I.S Chairman Pere Magrane's one-frame "All that glitters is not gold". The clever theme presents mistakes in design or content as well as errors, freaks and oddities in the world of basketball philately.

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

December 2010 (#148). Thomas Lippert provides a review of certain types of 2008 Beijing Olympic postal stationery. The German private post stamps commemorating the 2010 World Cup are discussed by Wolfgang Marx. Cycling, specifically the 50th anniversary of the world championships held in Leipzig, is examined by Veiko Brandt.

February 2011 (#149). Wolfgang Marx continues with his thorough look at the many German private post issues for the 2010 World Cup.

Thomas Lippert tackles the philately of the Deaflympics held in Taipei in 2009. While we hear surprisingly little about them, this was their 21st games which date back to 1924 in Paris (the very first competition for athletes with a disability). At the 2009 edition, 2,670 athletes from 80 countries competed in 20 sports.

Lastly, Thomas reports on the special Munich 2018 candidate city postmarks used in 69 post offices across Germany.

April 2011 (#150). As they do each year, a special issue of the IMOS journal is produced reflecting themes from the region where their annual convention is being held – this year, Frankfurt.

Both Garmisch-Partenkirchen and Berlin, which are celebrating the 75th anniversary of the 1936 winter and summer Games respectively, are featured in a number of articles. Munich's bid for the 2018 Olympic Winter Games are reported on.

In sports, readers are treated to articles on football, gymnastics, fencing and alpinism.

Olimpiafila: *MOSFIT, Vorosmarty u. 65, 1064 Budapest, Hungary. [In Hungarian; English synopses]*

November 2010 (Vol. XIII, No. 2). Philately has friends in high places! Dr. Pal Schmitt, an Olympian, well-known member of the IOC since 1983, and friend of Olympic philately in Hungary, has just been elected President of the Hungarian Republic. A review of his accomplishments opens this issue of the Hungarian Olympic philately journal.

In other articles, Ferenc Takacs looks at “a few relics” of the 1960 Rome Olympics, while Czaba Toth presents some of the philately of those Games. Hungary’s second sports cancellation – devoted to aviation – is 90 years old. Sandor Szekeres provides an interesting history of the cancel along with wonderful usages.

Also covered in this issue are the 30th European Aquatics Championships and ITU Triathlon World Championships, both held in Budapest in 2010.

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

October 2010 (#76). The first part of this issue is dedicated to reports on celebrations surrounding the 50th anniversary of the Rome Olympic Games which included a philatelic exhibition organized by UICOS. A variety of other short articles report on auto racing events, baseball, volleyball, the 1st Youth Olympic Games, and golf at the Olympics.

January 2011 (#77). A detailed article by Thomas Lippert on the philately of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games opens this issue of the UICOS journal. Pasquale Polo discusses the return of rugby to the Olympic Games in 2016 at Rio de Janeiro. Included are articles on cycling at the Olympics, and the 2010 World Cup.

Tee Time: *International Philatelic Golf Society, c/o Ron Spires, 8025 Saddle Run, Powell, OH 43065 USA*

March 2010 (Vol. 16, #1). In addition to new stamp issues and postmarks, an update to Pat Loehr’s Golf Meter Slogan Cancel catalog is presented showing cancels from Germany (2004-2007) and Great Britain (2006-2007).

June 2010 (Vol. 16, #2). J.S. Gray reports on a British WWII Christmas airgraph (similar to our US V-Mail) with a golf connection. Member Ken Aldridge discusses his visit to the World Golf Hall of

Fame near St. Augustine, Florida. Finally, Roger Weik presents additions to his previous article on the Australian Imperial Forces Victorian Cup.

September 2010 (Vol. 16, #3). When we think about the Indy 500, we think auto racing. Pat Loehr writes about a golf tournament held from 1961-1968 in conjunction with the famous race. She also covers another series of cancels produced for the Memorial Tournament in Dublin, Ohio from 1985-2005. One of the oldest golf courses in Canada is the Haileybury Hotel Golf Course in Ontario. Charles dePencier and John La Porta present a series of postcards and photographs of the course.

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

December 2010 (Vol. 27, #4). An interesting article by Bob Farley lists the various postal markings that document the alterations to the 2008 Olympic Torch Relay due to the earthquake in Sichuan Province. These secondary markings, along with the more traditional cancels, help tell the story of this controversial torch relay.

Sid Marantz and Bud King continue their look at Olympic pin collecting with a review of IOC pins: staff pins, sessions and meetings, sponsor pins, etc.

Part 4 of Brian Hammond’s philatelic history of the IOC Sessions covers the 1995 Budapest session on up to the 121st Session in Copenhagen.

March 2011 (Vol. 28, #1). As we approach the 2012 London Olympic Games, Bob Farley reviews the philatelic history so far. This issue takes us through the selection process and bid timeline.

Part 3 of the series on pin collecting covers the NOCs, IFs, and NGBs.

Publications available online

Grupo Podium, the publication of the Olympic Games & Sports thematic association of Argentina. Currently online, May 2011 bulletin (in Spanish) available at: www.grupopodium.com.ar

Olympsport, the publication of the Czech Association for Olympic and Sports Philately. Currently online, 2011 #2b available at: www.olymp-sport.cz

Philatelic Volleyball Newsletter, available (via email in PDF format) in English from Piet H.M. van den Berg at volleyphil@home.nl

NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

Armenia: November 26, 2010. Vancouver Olympic Games. A souvenir sheet with three se-tenant stamps, 350dr cross-country skiers; 500dr skier, lodge; 600dr downhill skiers.

November 26, 2010. World Cup Soccer. 1,100dr soccer ball, image of ball with map of Africa. Sheets of 10.

November 26, 2010. Singapore Youth Olympic Games. 870dr emblem, symbolic wrestlers, weightlifting, boxing. Offset in sheets of 10.

China: November 10, 2010. Asian Games Opening. \$.80 badminton; four \$1.20 stamps, wushu; hurdles; equestrian; dragon boat. \$3 weigi. Printed in sheets of 12 and miniature sheets of 12.

Cyprus: January 28, 2011. 100th Anniversary Anothosis Ammochostos Soccer and Volleyball Club. €.31 shield with eagle. Offset in sheet of 8.

Egypt: January 31, 2010. African Cup of Nations Soccer Seven Victories. 30pi pyramid, logos and mascots; 200pi 2008 eagle mascot, trophy; 250pi 2010 giant black antelope mascot. Souvenir sheet with 250pi stamp, trophy "7", soccer players with ball.

Greece: March 18, 2011. Special Olympics. Booklet consisting of 24 panes of a single €.60 stamp with attached label depicting the official mascot Apollon in the following sports: Badminton; tennis; golf; gymnastics; powerlifting; table tennis; equestrian; sailing; kayaking; basketball; bowling; bocce; young athletes; roller skating; volleyball; beach volleyball; cycling; football; motor activity training program; softball; athletics; judo; aquatics; handball.

Guinea-Bissau: August 10, 2010: Extreme Water Sports. Sheet of four 700 fcfa stamps, souvenir sheet with one 3,000 fcfa stamp.

August 10, 2010. Extreme Wind Sports. Sheet of four 750 fcfa stamps, souvenir sheet with one 3,000 fcfa stamp. August 10, 2010. Singapore Youth Olympic Games. Sheet of four 800 fcfa stamps, souvenir sheet with one 3,000 fcfa stamp.

August 10, 2010. Japanese Golf Player. Ai Miyazato is depicted on a sheet of six 550 fcfa stamps. One souvenir sheet with a 3,200 fcfa stamp.

November 9, 2010. Fencing. Sheet of five 600 fcfa stamps. One s/s with a 2,800 fcfa stamp.

November 9, 2010. Stamp on stamps. Sheet of six 550 fcfa stamps, one depicts tennis. Souvenir sheet with 3,000fcfa stamp. Sheet depicts tennis, table tennis and Olympic stamps.

November 9, 2010. Famous female golfers. Sheet of six 500 fcfa stamps. Souvenir sheets with one 3,000fcfa stamp.

Iceland: March 17, 2011. Motor Sports. Booklet of four nondenominated stamps, 50 grams domestic, rally; motocross; 50 grams to Europe, extreme off road; quarter-mile racing.

May 4, 2011. 100th Anniversary Melavollur Stadium. Nondenominated 250 grams domestic stamp, musician playing trumpet, representatives of various sports, running, tennis, basketball, gymnastics, speed skating, wrestling, the stadium. Offset in sheets of 10.

Iraq: January 26, 2011. Asian Soccer Club Championship. 250d, 500d, 750d, 1,000d emblem, different views of player in action. Souvenir sheet with 1,000d stamp, silhouettes of two players.

Jordan: November 30, 2010. Sports. 10pi skydiving; 20pi swimming; 30pi hot air balloon; 40pi sailing. Souvenir sheet with 50pi stamp, car racing in the desert.

Kazakhstan: December 21, 2010. 7th Asian Winter Games. Four se-tenant stamps, two 190s stamps emblem; Irbi show leopard mascot, freestyle skiing; two 240s stamps, Irbi ski jumping; Irbi skating. Offset in sheets of 8.

North Korea: February 1, 2010. Vancouver Olympic Games. Pane of eight se-tenant diamond shaped stamps with four designs. 10w hockey player; 40w figure skater; 50w speed skater; 70w skier. Aerogramme with 70w skier stamp.

May 10, 2010. Table Tennis. Souvenir sheet with four circular stamps, 10w forehand; 30w serve; 95w backhand; 152w pushing ball.

May 31, 2010. World Soccer Cup. 20w, 57w, 170w, souvenir sheet with 114w stamp, various soccer scenes.

Liechtenstein: March 14, 2011. Games of the Small States. 50c running, volleyball, cycling; 1fr judo, shooting, squash; 1.40fr table tennis, tennis, swimming.

Lithuania: January 22, 2011. 37th European Men's Basketball Championship. 2.45 litas, basketball with map, hoop in national colors. Printed in sheets of nine.

Luxembourg: March 15, 2011. Anniversaries. 0.60€50th Anniversary Luxembourg Federation of Bowling.

Malaysia: February 28, 2011. AFF Suzuki Cup 2010 Soccer Champion. Two 60s stamps, medal; trophy. Sheets of 10 (medal) and sheets of eight (trophy).

Marshall Islands: February 6, 2011. 100th Anniversary Birth Ronald Reagan. Five se-tenant 44¢ stamps, one depicts Reagan as a football player in the movie Knute Rockne All American.

Monaco: March 2, 2011. Monte-Carlo Rolex Masters. €0.75 crowd watching tennis match, sailboats, clock, palm trees. Printed in sheets of 10.

Mozambique: March 30, 2010. Sports. All consist of sheetlets of six stamps. Scott Catalog Numbers. 1987, 8m World Cup venues, 2014, 175m souvenir sheet; 1988, 20m 2010 Men's Winter Olympic Gold Medalists, 2015, 175m souvenir sheet; 1989, 2010 Women's Winter Olympic Gold Medalists, 2016, 175m souvenir sheet; 1990, 20m Female Table Tennis players, 2017, 175m souvenir sheet; 1991, 20m Female Cyclists, 2018 175m souvenir sheet; 1994, 33m Male Table Tennis players, 2021, 175m souvenir sheet; 1995, 2010 Men's Winter Olympic Gold Medalists, 2022, 175m souvenir sheet; 1996, 2010 Women's Winter Olympic Gold Medalists, 2023, 175m souvenir sheet; 1997, Golfer's, 2024 175m souvenir sheet; 1998, Tennis Players, 2025 175m souvenir sheet; 1999, Baseball Players, 2026 175m souvenir sheet; 2000, 33m Hockey Players, 2027, 175m souvenir sheet; 2001, 33m Male Cyclists, 2028, 175m souvenir sheet; 2002, 33m Judo, 2029 175m souvenir sheet; 2003, 33m Taekwondo, 2030, 175m souvenir sheet; 2004, 33m Polo Players, 2031, 175m souvenir sheet; 2005, 33m Horse Racing, 2032, 175m souvenir sheet; 2006, 33m Dog Racing, 2033, 175m souvenir sheet; 2007, 33m Rugby Players, 2034, 175m souvenir sheet; 2008, 33m African soccer players, 2035, 175m souvenir sheet; 2009, 33m Soccer players, 2036 175m souvenir sheet; 2010, 33m Lionel Messi, soccer player; 2037, 175m souvenir sheet; 2011, 33m Roger Federer tennis player; 2038, 175m souvenir sheet; 2012, 33m Alberto Contador cyclist; 2038 175m souvenir sheet; 2013, 33m Valentino Rossi motorcyclist, 2040, 175m souvenir sheet.

March 31, 2010: World Cup Soccer. Sheet of four se-tenant 33m stamps, depicting soccer players.

November 30, 2010. 70th Birth Anniversary Pele. Sheet of six 246m value stamps depicting Pele, the soccer star. A souvenir sheet with a 175m value stamp depicting Pele.

Nepal: September 26, 2010. Pemba Doma Sherpa. 25re two photographs of first Nepalese woman mountaineer to climb Mount Everest.

Netherlands: February 23, 2011. Nordic World Ski Championships. Souvenir sheet contains two stamps, 9kr new Holmenkollen ski jump; 12kr Marit Bjorgen and Kristin Stormer Steira in 2010 World Cup.

New Caledonia: March 17, 2011. Pacific Games. 110fr Jeomy, humanized bat mascot, with torch, aerial view of island. Offset in sheets of ten.

Nevis: December 10, 2010. World Soccer Cup. Second Round Matches. Four panes of six se-tenant \$1.50 stamps. Four souvenir sheets each with two \$1.50 se-tenant stamps.

Paraguay: December 8, 2010. Singapore Youth Games. 2,000g tennis; 5,000g team.

Poland: February 4, 2011. Field Hockey. 2.40zł field hockey scenes. Offset in sheets of eight.

San Marino: February 8, 2011. French Paintings. €0.50 Horse Racing at Longchamp by Degas.

February 8, 2011. Exhibition Sport in Philately in San Marino. €1.50 athletes, racket, balls, swimmer.

Serbia: May 6, 2010. World Cup Soccer. 22d, 50d different soccer scenes. Souvenir sheet with 177d stamp, players legs, soccer ball.

June 1, 2010. Tour de Serbia Bicycle Race. 50d diamond-shaped stamp, the race. Printed in sheets of 8 stamps and a label.

Slovakia: March 25, 2011. Ice Hockey World Championship. Se-tenant pair of €0.40, €0.50 stamps, depicting views of hockey players in action.

Sri Lanka: September 7, 2010. Beaches. Set of three souvenir sheets, 40re sheet depicts a surfer at Arugam Bay Beach.

Switzerland: March 3, 2011. 14th World Gymnaestrada, Lausanne. 85c gymnasts, partial map of world.

Syria: June 11, 2010. World Cup Soccer. Two £25 stamps, different soccer scenes. Souvenir sheet with £50 stamp, trophy, emblem.

(Continued on page 36)

COMMEMORATIVE CANCELS

by Mark Maestrone


THE NUMBERING SYSTEM

Catalogue numbers are shown at left, such as 05101-911. In this example: 05=Year [2005]; 1=Month [January]; 01=First day of use; 911=First 3 ZIP code digits. The months of October, November and December are 2-digit months, and are expressed as X, Y, and Z. The place of use is listed next, followed by the dates of use. All cancels are in black unless otherwise indicated.


SPORTS CROSS INDEX MARCH - MAY 2011

Auto Racing: 11529-462.
Baseball: 11407-932.
Basketball: 11312-611.
Football: 11416-151.
White-Water Rafting: 11411-258.
Wrestling: 11521-120.

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB STA.
ROCKFORD, IL 61125
MARCH 12, 2011




11312-611 Rockford, IL 12-13



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RAWHIDE BALLPARK
STATION
APRIL 7, 2011
VISALIA, CA 93291
Join the celebration.

11407-932 Visalia, CA 7



11411-258 Fayetteville, WV 11

Wilkpex'11
Wilksburg Stamp Club
salutes Coach
Chuck Noll...
"the four trophy man"
Exhibition Station
Monroeville, PA 15146
April 16, 2011

11416-151 Monroeville, PA 16-17

P W H F
X

Induction Weekend Station
May 21, 2011
Amsterdam, NY 12010

11521-120 Amsterdam, NY 21



Indianapolis 500® Station
Indianapolis IN 46208
May 29, 2011

11529-462 Indianapolis, IN 29

(New Stamp Issues - Cont'd. from page 35)

Togo: March 15, 2011. Cricket World Cup. Sheet of four 750f stamps depicting cricket players. Souvenir sheet with a 3,000f stamp showing a cricket player.

Turkey: January 27, 2011. 24th Winter Universiade. Souvenir sheet contains four stamps, two 90k stamps, building, ice hockey player; two 1.30 liras, mascot, city skyline; stadium. S/s with four 1.30 liras stamps, mascot skyline; the others show various buildings.

Tuvalu: July 11, 2010. World Soccer Cup Champions. Seven panes of four se-tenant \$1 stamps each showing different photos of matches between Spain and other teams. S/s, \$3 stamp, Spanish team celebrates victory.

United States: May 20, 2011. Indianapolis 500. Non-denominated (44¢) stamp depicting a race car.

Uzbekistan: October 25, 2010. 16th Asian Games. 800s boxing.

January 5, 2011. Asian Winter Games. 800s figure skater; 900s freestyle skier.

Yemen: June 11, 2010. World Cup Soccer. 50r, 60r, 80r, two 100r, each stamp shows trophy and logo and different stadiums. S/s of two, 50r emblem; 100r trophy.

November 22, 2010. 20th Arab Gulf Cup. 60r player, emblem, two soccer balls, one with map; 80r team photograph; 100r trophy, flags; 120r stadium; 150r logo, soccer ball. S/s with 250r stamp, soccer ball, flames.

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