

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE EDITORIAL TEAM.

Our first efforts with the new layout of the *Journal* and its new name received some mixed reactions, albeit most of them positive. A lot of the praise in this respect should go to Steve Harris because he took care of the layout, printing and mailing and that was more work than he had expected. We have certainly learned by doing and we hope that this, our second issue, will receive an even better response from the readers.

One of our members correctly pointed out that since we congratulated the ISOH members who had been honored with the Olympic Order in our previous Message, we should also have included Olympic historian John A. Lucas and C. Robert "Bob" Paul. John Lucas received this much coveted honor during the Centennial Games in Atlanta, while Bob Paul received his late in 1996. We congratulate both of them for this well-deserved distinction.

In the January issue we gave you the latest membership roster that had been transferred to me by Dr. Bill Mallon, M.D., the former Secretary General and current Vice-President. I adapted the roster by adding some new members and converting it into one, according to country. Some of our members already wrote to me, indicating changes in their personal data, both new addresses, telephone, fax, and e-mail numbers. I ask our members to scan their own personal data and should they wish any additions to be mentioned in the next roster to be published in the January 1998 issue, please contact me by fax or letter.

In this issue, one of the new "fixed" items is the ISOH financial report by our treasurer. It is our intention to give the membership roster in our January issues and the financial report in our May issues.

Also, the Executive Committee, on the advice of the editor-team, agreed to publish articles about Olympic memorabilia provided: there is basic historical background, which is to be judged by the editor-team; the article will not be used for the extension of certain collections, but only as an information to the readers; only a limited number of articles on this subject will be published in one year.

Most of the members of the Executive Committee and the editor-team also feel that there are enough possibilities in other publications for the collectors of philately, and that therefore only articles with a real historical value and relevant information on that subject should be published.

Associate editor Prof. Dr. Wray Vamplew has been elected President of the European Committee for the History of Sport for 1997-1999. He succeeds Prof. Dr. Arnd Krüger, also an ISOH member, who served as President from 1995 to 1997. We congratulate Wray for this honorable nomination.

We are dedicating an obituary section of the many Olympic medalists. We feel it will be a welcome addition, especially for our statistical members. We are also planning a series on past Olympic personalities, IOC members, athletes, officials, and other persons connected with the Olympic Movement. The first articles have been written by ISOH member Paul Jenès and myself and are found in this issue. Depending on the subject, these articles could fall under the title "Stars of the Past." But if the persons involved are still be alive, their stories could be told by themselves, and under the title "My Golden Olympic Moment." Contributions are welcome.

Tony Bijkerk, Secretary-General/Editor

Stephen L. Harris, Associate Editor • Wray Vamplew, Associate Editor

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