

# SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

## To NASSH With Love: A Fifteen Year Retrospective

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If our eyes are “windows to one’s soul”, so is the camera a mirror of our collective experiences. At Jack Berryman’s kind invitation, some 1700 slides, reflective of NASSH’s beginnings, were reviewed; of these 153 were utilized to present a panorama of our progress. Featured were the members engaged in business meetings, formal presentations, listening, sharing research, having serious dialogues before, during and after sessions, informal/formal dining, and simply recreating, having fun. The organization of the program focused on seven topical areas; namely, **ROOTS, SITES, PRESIDENTS/EDITORS, PRESENTING/PRESENTERS, DIALOGUE, ABSORBING, FRIENDSHIPS & FUN: A NASSH TRADITION**. Missing from the presentation was recognition of the hardworking hosts for each conference, except as they appeared incidentally.

Our Roots stem from the 1971 Big Ten Symposium on the History of Physical Education and Sport in Columbus. Skillfully chaired by Bruce Bennett, the meetings featured luminaries such as Betts, Forbes, Henderson, Lee and McIntosh. At the same site in 1973, the charter session was held with Marv Eyler chairing the steering committee. Elected president, Eyler appeared in the historic picture of eight leaders, including Seward Staley. The total group of charter members was also “captured”. Some claimed that Alan Metcalfe was never as young as he appeared in those pictures. Others remembered Dave Voigt’s historian’s greeting from his first Betts address, “How were you?”

### **NASSH’S FIRST 15 SITES WERE:**

1973	Columbus	1978	College Park	1983	Mont Alto
1974	London	1979	Austin	1984	Louisville
1975	Boston	1980	Banff	1985	Lacrosse
1976	Eugene	1981	Hamilton	1986	Vancouver
1977	Windsor	1982	Manhattan, KS	1987	Columbus (Capital U.)



The presidential presentations celebrated NASSH's fifteenth anniversary

**PRESIDENTS & EDITORS:**

**PRESIDENTS**

1973-75	Eyler
1976-77	Lewis
1978-79	Howell
1980-81	Remley
1982-83	Spears
1984-85	Metcalf
1986-87	Jable
1988-89	Crepeau
1990-91	Berryman

**EDITORS**

**Proceedings**

1973-78	Lucas/Smith
1979-81	Struna
1982-86	Wiggins
1987-	Slowikowski

**Journal of Sport History**

1976-79	Metcalf
1980-84	Berryman
1985-	Reiss

**Directory of Scholars**

1975	Berryman
1979	Findling & Lumpkin
1984	Morrow
1988	Booher

\*Each of the Publications Board (Committee) chairs were shown as part of the program. They were in order: Metcalfe, Bennett, Davenport, Mrozek, Baker, LeCompte, and Struna.

**PRESENTING/PRESENTERS**

Representative of the memorable honor addresses were Eyler's first Staley, Eliot Asinof's 5th Betts on the Black Sox scandal, Gerry Glassford's moving Howell address at Banff, Betty Spears Betts (1977), Mary Lou Remley's Staley (1984), Sandy Young's (1984) Howell, and Bill Baker's (1986) Betts on Owens at Vancouver. The themes have been diverse, but the scholarship remains consistent and allows us to suitably honor these leaders.

## **FRIENDSHIPS & FUN**

Among the traditions we share are the emergence of Bennett's "Bunch" and Eyer's "Eagles". Pride in their respective mentors and shared friendships have led these groups to a yearly reunion within the umbrella of the organization. Members have been tolerant of the accompanying shenanigans. Ron Smith's book display is a helpful aid for all of us in keeping abreast of new ideas. The passing of the president's white cowboy hat began with "Rem" in 1980. Student essay award winners have been in attendance and presenting in recent conferences. Our honorary presidents were featured in Seward Staley (1973) and Clarence "The Greek" Forbes (1987). Both scholars' pride or humor were clearly evident in their candid shots. President Betty Spears wore the first NASSH t-shirt in 1982 and cut the 10th anniversary cake. We also savored the photography exhibit orchestrated by host Don Mrozek that year. The lively baseball sessions add spice to an always busy agenda. Involvement by colleagues from around the globe has been a constant too. International fellows from the FRG, China, Australia, Scotland, England, etc., have regularly added to the scene. Tennis, basketball and softball games-plus ice cream orgies-have further enlivened the traditional venue.

Among the special events accompanying the conferences have been a rodeo in Calgary and Voigt's kidnapping by highwaymen, Heilrich & Bradsby's 100th celebration plus the Cardinal baseball game in Louisville, cookouts and singalongs, Dixieland music and a riverboat cruise, Chuck Chalberg's great "Teddy" Roosevelt, visits to Eisenhower's library/museum (1982), and Gettysburg (1983), and the colorful Ohio Village Muffins game engineered by Harry Jebson. All of these experiences add a special quality to an organization. They have universal appeal, encompass our diverse disciplines, and allow us to learn about and from each other. Just as important, the fun and relaxation involved make for a yearly meeting that most look forward to with a smile and eager anticipation. The collegiality and friendships which have evolved during these first 15 years are to be cherished and nurtured.

We have accomplished much. . . polishing skills, freshening concepts, and gaining new friends. With NASSH welcoming anyone with an interest in history and an open mind, neophytes, repeaters, and charter members indicate the course followed has been a steady one. The quality of publications and meetings, while always open to improvement, has been consistent. As R.T. McKenzie noted in his 1928 address to an Olympic gathering in Amsterdam, we take ". . . away from conventions such as these much more than we bring. . . ". Sixty years later the message clearly applies to NASSH. When we depart with a "see you next year", it comes from a genuine appreciation of the experiences, knowledge, humor, personalities at our elbows. The spring promises renewal of friendships and challenges. As the picture of Don Morrow and Glynn Leyshon in early twentieth century racing garb personified, we are ready for the run to the twenty-first century.