



World's Largest Olympic Collectors Club
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Established 1982 – Our 34th Year – Issue No 135 – October 2015

The greatest show ever held at Lake Placid is now history! Those of you that were there have provided a lot of feedback that the 21st IOC World Olympic Collectors Fair, which was hosted by Olympin, was a great success. And we at Olympin want to thank all of you that attended. A report and pictures follow in this newsletter.

OLYMPIN

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Since the 2015 Member Directory was printed in late May, we have welcomed 18 new members! In this newsletter (pages 9 and 10) you will find your printed 2-page Supplemental Member Roster to add to your Directory. It will also be added to the Club Website 2015 Directory. Thanks to the latest 18 who become members with us. We hope we exceed your expectations in our great hobby! We closed out 2015 with 512 members.

TWO UPDATES TO THE WEBSITE

Later in this issue, there are articles on a couple major improvements in the Club Website which may interest you. First, we have updated and expanded the "Ask The Experts" section (under "RESOURCES") to include additional types of Olympic collectibles. There have been some major changes in the experts listed for many of the categories. Also, Don has spent a great deal of time working on the "Club Pins" section (under "BENEFITS"), as it seems many more members are showing an interest in acquiring the member pins going back to 1983. In order to help satisfy the desire for old Olympin pins, we try to contact those who resign from the Club, etc. and offer them a fair price to make sure these pins have a chance to go to those desiring them.

There is a lot of other info in this issue, including articles written by members reviewing pin trading at the Toronto Pan Am Games and the Los Angeles Special Olympics World Games. Also, read about updates to our website content. And there is an insider article by member Bob Boehm on Boston's failed bid to host the 2024 Summer Games.

BUSINESS

2015 OLYMPIN MEMBERSHIPS CLOSED

Everyone should have their 2015 badge by now. If you do not, please contact us as soon as possible so we can replace your lost one. If you paid to 2016 or beyond, you should have your 2016 badge also.

OLYMPIN BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

Ingrid O' Neil was elected to the open seat, and Jon Becker was re-elected to the Olympin Board. Ingrid has already joined the Board for the remainder of this year. Their terms officially start in 2016, and run for 3 years. Your board members are:

Don Bigsby-President
Scott Reed-Vice President
Sid Marantz-Secretary
Jon Becker-Treasurer
Craig Perlow. Pam Litz and Ingrid O' Neil

The Board meets on an as needed basis, primarily by phone conferences, and welcomes any and all input from our members. We also welcome, and are currently receiving, help and project leadership from other members of the Club, which is needed and greatly appreciated. If you wish to contribute articles to our newsletter and/or web site, or help the Club in any way, please contact Don, Sid or any board member.

Visit our Website! www.olympinclub.com

SHOWS

21st IOC FAIR AT LAKE PLACID

By Karen Rosen

(We at Olympin are proud to state that the IOC Fair hosted by Olympin was a big success. Rather than having to hear the report from our view, Around The Rings generously allowed us to re-print their coverage of the event, as written by Karen Rosen. If you are a big Olympic fan, you must be well aware of ATR's status in the Olympic community. We thank them for sharing their article with you through our newsletter.)

(ATR) Lake Placid impresses Olympic collectors with atmosphere and cauldron lighting.

About 300 people perused items and shared memories at the 21st World Olympic Collectors Fair last weekend in Lake Placid, New York, host of the 1932 and 1980 Games.

"It's my first time in Lake Placid and it's very interesting," Irina Dzidziguri, one of seven Russians who made the trip, told Around the Rings. The show was held at the 1932 Rink at the Olympic Center on Main Street, and organizers estimated about 300 people -- including collectors and curiosity seekers -- attended.

"It's been overwhelmingly successful," Jon Becker, head of the organizing committee, told ATR. "It's the largest show of its type that we've ever had in Lake Placid. The community really got behind it." While most people were from the United States, 18 countries were represented including Turkey, Greece, Slovakia and Lithuania.

Prior to the show, about 90 people took a tour of the venues such as Whiteface Mountain and the bobsled facility, which has both new and old tracks. Many visitors also had their own little thrill ride -- a quick zip on a luge sled at the USA Luge headquarters -- where Olympic medalist Gordy Sheer gave them a shove down a short, icy track and luge official Dmitry Feld caught them.

They then went to the Lake Placid Horse Show Grounds to stand in the same field where spectators

SHOWS

watched the Olympic Opening Ceremony 35 years ago. The cauldron was lit to mark the occasion and local dignitaries spoke.

"Our Olympic heritage is in our bloodlines," said Mayor Craig Randall. He said the village of Lake Placid relights the torch to celebrate anniversaries and other Olympic Games.

Keeping the flame burning, he said, could lead to "perhaps even returning a future Winter Olympiad."

Chinese Collecting Strong

Hou Kun was one of 14 Chinese collectors at the show. Hou, who goes by the English name Justin, has written a book about Olympic history, culture and collecting with his wife, two-time Olympic taekwondo champion Wu Jingyu.

Hou helped translate for many of his fellow collectors. "We cannot talk, but we can trade pins," he said.

He spoke passionately at the Olympin Club meeting Sunday morning about bringing more participants into the hobby, particularly young people. "That will be the future, not just rich people or old men," Hou said.

He added that many collectors in China are aged 25 to 35. Many took up the hobby for the 2008 Games and Hou believes more will become involved because of the excitement of the 2022 Winter Olympics coming back to Beijing.

"We really do have a good future and the Chinese market has a good future," he said.

Hunt for New Collectors

Outside of China, growth in the collecting field has been slow.

Dzidziguri echoed Hou in saying that the hobby must attract youth. "We need to have the program for propaganda of pins and propaganda for children and youth," she said.

Dzidziguri added that many countries only make pins for the Olympic Games and no longer produce them for other events, such as regional competitions, which hurts the hobby. "If you don't make anything, it's nothing to collect," she said. Dzidziguri, who works for the state sports museum in Moscow, was a member of the IOC's Olympic Philately, Numismatic and Memorabilia commission before it was disbanded in the wake of Agenda 2020. Collecting is now part of the larger Culture and Olympic Heritage Commission, but Dzidziguri said former commission members have been assured they will still be asked for opinions and guidance.

She said Lake Placid items were popular at the show, but there was not much action from walk-ins. "Like every show, mostly it's trading between the collectors," Dzidziguri said.

New Organization Has First Meeting

AICO, the International Association of Olympic Collectors, held its first board meeting on Saturday. Officials then met with fair attendees to explain the mission of the organization representing Olympic stamp, coin and memorabilia collectors. It was formed last year and gained official recognition from the IOC at the session in Monaco in December.

"It's very important to the collector family that we have over us the umbrella of the IOC," Roman Babut, AICO president, told ATR. "The mission is to make a platform for all groups of the Olympic collectors. We are the voice of the collecting community."

Babut said AICO can facilitate an exchange of information between collectors from different fields. For example, as a stamp collector, he said "behind the stamp, I must write a history of the stamp, why it was issued, what was the event, who is on the stamp, what was the background, etc. This is not existing for pin collectors."

AICO is only for clubs – not individuals -- and has 18 members. Olympin, the U.S.-based memorabilia club with an international membership, is the largest at 510.

Valuable and Offbeat Items

While many tables held Olympic winners' medals valued at thousands of dollars, other items were available for as little as a dollar or two. Rich Fletcher of Janesville, Wisconsin, who took a table for the first time after attending previous shows, sold a London cookie tin for \$2. However, he found no takers for an Atlanta Road to the Games video narrated by Bruce (not yet Caitlyn) Jenner. It was only \$7, but required a working VCR to watch it.

Fletcher acquired his first collectibles in 1984: McDonald's tray liners with beautiful art relating to the Sarajevo Games. "I was 14 and that's when I really started getting into the Olympics," he said.

Now Fletcher hosts viewing parties for Olympic opening ceremonies festooned with banners he has collected.

"It's my first time selling and it's just been fun and a learning experience," said Fletcher, noting that it's more exciting than his day job. "It's much better than selling well pumps."

(Besides the ATR article, we have included 5 pages of color pictures to give you an idea of the fun and camaraderie members enjoyed over the 4 days of the event. The 5 pages in color are at the back of this newsletter as pages 15 - 20.)

RIO 2016 OLYMPIN TRADING MEET?

At past Olympic Games, attempts have been made to bring Olympin members and other collectors together to trade pins and make new friends. It has rarely happened with no one on site to set it up in advance.

For Rio 2016, we have that needed person on site. At our annual Club meeting in Lake Placid, Brazil member Roberto Gesto DeMelo volunteered to make arrangements for such a gathering, maybe even two of them! Board member Ingrid O'Neil volunteered to work with Roberto so he has our best interest at heart in setting up two pin trader events, one early in the first week and the other late in the second week. We'll keep you informed!

2016 OLYMPIN SHOW

It's not too soon to begin planning for next year's show! We are pleased that the 2016 Olympin Collector's Show will be held in Atlanta, from Friday, October 7 through Sunday, October 9. This will be the first major pin show in the USA after the Rio Summer Games, and it's also the 20th anniversary of the Atlanta 1996 Summer Games, so we expect great attendance. Add that to the events that are planned, and you won't want to miss it!

The event will be at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Atlanta on Peachtree Street, which was the same location where Olympin's popular 2012 post-London show was held. The Hyatt is one of Atlanta's iconic hotels, as it was one of the first open atrium lobby hotels in the world. It is within walking distance of MARTA (you won't need a rental car if you fly in for the event), and popular

GENERAL

PIN TRADING AT TORONTO PAN-AMS

This summer Toronto, Ontario hosted the Pan Am Games in Canada. Several Olympin members attended and enjoyed great pin trading. Among them was Ron Finnigan, an Ontario resident who has shared several great articles with us the past few years. His article on the Toronto Pan Am Games and pin trading can be found later in this newsletter. It has pictures of almost 40 key pins from the event!

PIN TRADING AT SPECIAL OLYMPICS

By Pam Litz

Over 6500 athletes from 165 countries competed in the 2015 Special Olympics World Games, which were staged in Los Angeles from July 25 to August 2, 2015. They were accompanied by 2000 coaches and assisted by 30,000 volunteers, making this the single biggest event in the city since the Olympics in 1984. While not every athlete took home a medal, all of them sported colorful lanyards, many festooned with a wide variety of pretty pins. Once again pin trading helped to break down language and other barriers and united this international group in a joyful exchange of tiny treasures.

sites such as Centennial Olympic Park, the Georgia Aquarium, and the World of Coke.

Special events in addition to the show itself will include our annual banquet, which will be at the Hyatt. The Hard Rock Café has reserved its private event room for us one night, so we will have a fun filled night there that will include both a live and silent auction, including Olympic as well as Hard Rock items. Other events will be announced as they are firmed up.

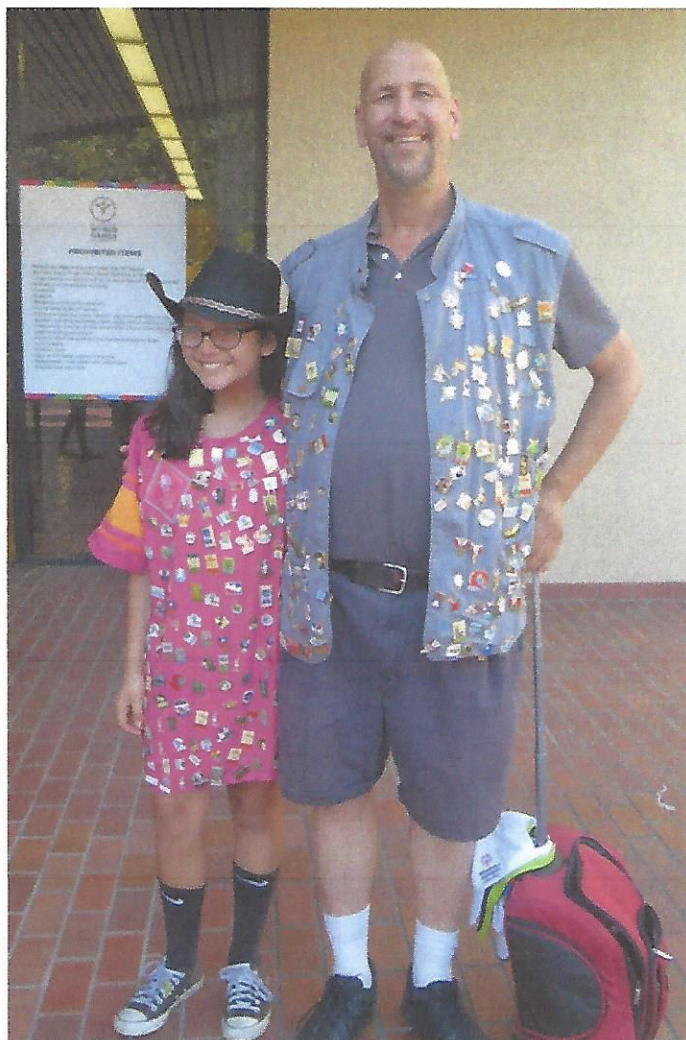
More information will be published on the Olympin web site and in the newsletter as details are finalized. So check back often to get the latest updates!

We look forward to seeing you in Atlanta next October!

NEWS

Some of the regular Southern California pin traders were fortunate enough to get in on the action. Sid Marantz attended the Opening Ceremony at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, which was broadcast internationally by ESPN and headlined Stevie Wonder and Avril Lavigne. Sid reported back that there was "a monstrous amount of pin trading going on" and "you would not know that you were not at an Olympic Games." Sid accumulated at least 100 country, state, media, sponsor, generic, and regional games pins that night and had "a blast."

Dan Presburger traveled to venues at both USC and UCLA and, as usual, attracted attention with his pin-covered smock (although not the pink one this time). He found the trading to be "fast and furious" with "thousands of pins floating around." The trading was easy as there were tons of people with nice-looking pins who wanted to trade. Like Sid, he also encouraged the rest of us to "spend a few hours bringing some happiness to some cool people, spread some pins around, make some trades, and have some fun." *(On the next page: picture of Dan with girl wearing his pink smock.)*



Chris Buzeta, Luis Rojas, Tim Riley, and Ray Erwin, along with his grandson, all responded to the call and met up at the L.A. Convention Center to attend events and to trade. Chris and Luis set up a table between two of the venues, spread out their common traders, and soon had people gathering around eager to exchange. Their approach was simple: “Take one and leave one. If you don’t have one, take one anyway.” Thus, everyone was able to join in the fun, and Chris and Luis each ended up with a respectable collection of their own.

On Friday, Dorie Leo and I did our part as Fans in the Stands, cheering on athletes at the tennis venue at UCLA. There we ran into Dan, who later directed us to the festival area and helpfully pointed out the sponsors who were handing out free pins, such as, Bank of America, Coke, and ESPN. Freshly stocked, Dorie and I shifted into trading mode. Sometimes the athletes delighted in trading themselves, enthusiastically pointing out the one they wanted, at times even pinning their own pin on our lanyards for us, thus clinching the deal.

Sometimes they looked on while a coach or a family member traded for them.

I couldn’t help but feel that each of these exchanges was fulfilling part of the Special Olympics mission: for all involved to “experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts . . . and friendship.” Of course, volunteers and other spectators also became caught up in the excitement of trading, and we made a few new friends with them as well. *(Below: picture of me trading with kids)*



Bud Kling and Sid attended the Closing Ceremony at the Coliseum and again traded the night away. On their way back to their car, an SUV pulled up alongside them and a stranger rolled down his window. In this particular neighborhood, this would have normally caused some apprehension, but that night what they heard was, “You look like the man who has my windmill pin. I’ve got a Gibraltar or a Singapore to trade for it so I can complete my collection.” As luck would have it, that was the one country pin that Bud had a duplicate of, the trade was completed, and all left happy.

Many of the Special Olympics pins were interesting and quite attractive. Some favorites that I managed to acquire were the windmill pin from the Netherlands, a carved wooden pin from Japan, the cheerleading pin with its megaphone and pompoms, the colorful Arizona state pin, the Toyota pin featuring the L.A. skyline, and the Google pin, all of which are pictured here. *(Next page: picture of those 6 Special Olympic pins)*



INSIDER VIEW OF FAILED BOSTON BID

By Bob Boehm

My first interest in bringing the Olympics to Boston came in 2006 when my daughter, Alyson, wrote her Senior thesis at Endicott College, proposing Boston as a future site for the Summer Games. I sat down with State Senator Eileen Donoghue in early 2013 and discussed the possibilities of bringing the Games to Boston, with the thought of using the Merrimack River and 2 venues in Lowell for some preliminary events. On May 7, 2013, Sen. Donoghue & I spoke at the Statehouse in Boston regarding a bid proposal and that Boston, being a destination city now, has many present facilities (Boston Garden, Gillette Stadium, Harvard Stadium, Fenway Park plus numerous college athletic dorms etc.) that could be used for events and housing. Other advocates stated that the way the city responded after the Marathon bombings, proved Boston is ready for the Olympic challenge.

After Boston received the USOC bid, I was one of original 15 that served on the VOLT (Volunteers for the Olympic Leadership Team) Committee. Our responsibility was to attempt to increase the awareness and pride that the Olympics will bring to this area. Each week this past Spring, committee members appeared at city and town public meetings, schools, high school & college sporting events, road races and little league openings. 2024 shirts, sunglasses, and wristbands were awarded to people who could answer a simple Olympic related question. Also, a sign up table for future volunteers listed over 3,000 names (at last count) who might be willing to help. In March, I spoke at the Lowell City Hall on the pride I have always felt when the USA

brings home the Gold and how united each fan feels when their country's flag is raised.

In June, Lowell was chosen to host the Rowing, Taekwondo, and Fencing events. For 14 of the Olympic's 17 days, events would have been held only 2 miles from my house.

As we all know, the pipe dream ended before it really got off the ground. The financial situation was never resolved and the Governor refused to sign anything that meant the state would pay for any cost over-runs.

From Inside The Games: Steve Pagliuca, the Boston Celtics co-owner who led the bid in its final two months after replacing John Fish, has also been praised for helping bring some stability to the organisation.

Boston's bid was withdrawn jointly by USOC and bid organisers at the end of July following increasing public opposition, orchestrated by a largely hostile local press and a well-orchestrated opposition group: No Boston Olympics.

Critics claimed the bid would cost far more than anticipated, and accused bid leaders of not being transparent with the public.

Los Angeles has since been confirmed as the replacement US bid, with Paris, Hamburg, Rome and Budapest other cities bidding ahead of the official application deadline of Tuesday (September 15) set by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

As for my own feelings: I'm terribly disappointed. I firmly believe that when the Boston Committee offered former Governor Deval Patrick \$7,500 per day to work as a consultant, the public support went from 60% in favor to 65% in opposition. In April, I wrote a letter to the editor at the Lowell Sun newspaper and titled it, "Do You Believe In Miracles". I stated how proud we all felt when our Hockey team pulled the greatest upset in team sports history by defeating the Soviet Union 4-3. I still get chills when I hear Al Michaels's final seconds call. I totally understand the public's concern over the budget issues and how money raised could be better used for education, or fixing

the numerous problems of the Boston T (our awful rail system). Would there be traffic nightmares, overcrowding on highways and restaurants etc.- as Al Michael's said; "YES". I know Montreal and Athens lost millions, but LA and London turned a profit and are presently using their Olympic infrastructure for athletic events and low income housing. Future tourism in the Greater Boston area would have gone through the roof. Tens of millions of new tourists would have spent billions of dollars in 2024 and in many years afterwards.

I never felt that Boston would win the IOC nomination in 2017, but I always felt that had Boston kept the USOC bid, we would have been asked to bid again in '28 or '32. That will NEVER happen again in my lifetime or my great, great grand kids lifetime. An opportunity of a lifetime has been lost. GO PARIS!!

TWO OLYMPIN WEBSITE UPDATES

1. "Ask The Experts"

By Len Braun with Sid Marantz

One of the many benefits of the Olympin Collectors Club is access to a group of experts that can answer many of the questions on a wide variety of topics that Olympic collectors may have regarding their collections. By going to the Olympin website (<http://www.olympinclub.com>) and clicking on "RESOURCES", followed by "ASK THE EXPERTS" you will see the list of experts and their areas of expertise. These areas include pins, medals, torches, reports, and most other areas of Olympic collecting.

The Experts and Categories covered in this website has recently undergone revision and the current categories and their experts are:

- National Olympic Committee pins: Pete Wade
- Olympic sponsor pins: Leonard Braun
- Olympic media pins: Doug Todd
- Olympic bid pins: Craig Perlow
- Olympic medals: Jim Greensfelder
- Olympic torches: Ingrid O'Neil

- Olympic diplomas: Jon Becker
- Olympic official reports: Jon Becker
- Olympic posters & programs: Jon Becker
- Olympic mascots: Sid Marantz
- IOC session badges: Craig Perlow
- Olympic participant badges: Ingrid O'Neil
- Olympic tickets: Brian Carberry
- Olympic photos and autographs: Michael Bowlby

Some time ago, I was asked to become the expert on Olympic sponsor pins. I hesitated about being called an "expert", but then I remembered the Nobel Prize winning physicist, Neils Bohr, who defined an expert as the person who has made the greatest number of mistakes in a given field. If you accept that definition, then I am most certainly an expert (in many other fields as well).

Since undertaking that task, I have been contacted by members having various pin related questions. Most of these questions were concerned with pin values and/or the best way to sell pins, pin sets, or pin collections. Unfortunately, this is one area where I often cannot be very helpful. As many of you are surely aware, unlike stamps or coins, for example, there are no catalogs listings on memorabilia and pin values. Values vary with time over a very wide range—the key factor being the current interest and demand. Usually, I can only suggest checking ebay. It's amazing how many pins and other items can be found there. More important than the starting bid, of course, is whether any have actually sold recently, and for how much. For older or very rare items, one of the individuals that conduct Olympic memorabilia auctions may be your best bet. For anything else, hopefully, we can be of assistance. If you are trying to identify a pin or other item, determine when it was used, whether it is common or rare, or other questions of that nature, we will try our best to help.

"Ask The Experts" should be a very valuable resource for the Olympic memorabilia community, but at present it seems to be underutilized. As another organization advertises, "Membership has its privileges", and Olympin encourages its members to take advantage of theirs. If any member has expertise in any other category and

wishes the board to consider adding to this list, please contact Sid Marantz at sidmarantz@aol.com.

2. "Club Pins"

By Don Bigsby

Over the last 5 years, interest in the Olympin member pins and related special event pins has grown steadily. Many members that have joined a few years after the club was founded in 1982 have been searching for the earlier pins they missed out on.

Olympin has never re-made pins in the 34 years of its existence. The earliest ones are the scarcest, as they were made in quantities to supply many less members. A few were made in the amount of 100 and 200 pieces.

Because of the increasing interest in old Olympin pins, I went back and searched our records and old newsletters to find information that I have added to the "Club Pins" section on our website. Check it out when you have time.

Because not all of you have access to our website, I have re-published the information in this newsletter on pages 10 and 11. In addition, page 11 lists 14 Olympin pins we have in stock. Anything older than 2009 are available in singles or doubles.

I make every effort to re-coup old club pins from those who have lost interest or passed away. Sometimes they are donated to the Club, or we buy them back. By doing this, those looking for them

Thank you to all the Olympin members who contributed to this newsletter! I could not have done it without you!

Don

have a chance to fill out their collection at reasonable prices.

So check out the pins and prices for the years available on page 12.

NOTE FROM A COLLECTOR'S DAUGHTER

By Mark Maestroni

6/29/2015 -- When Bob Farley passed away earlier this year he left his very considerable philatelic and memorabilia collection to his daughter, Sarah. She is now in the midst of trying to sort through and evaluate this vast collection. As a neophyte to Olympic collecting, you can imagine the task ahead of her! She would like the collecting public to know that ... well I'll let her tell you in her own words:

I have a few ideas of what to do with the collection. I have already come across some interesting and unusual items as well as the expected postcards, stamps and covers. To document this and to follow this large piece of work I have started a blog (www.philatelicolympicfarley.wordpress.com) and created a twitter account (@olympicfarley). I will also hopefully be using ebay to sell when appropriate (eBay account: starfishpo). This will give anyone interested a chance to keep up to date with my finds and help with any information or to contact me directly. I am keen to help everyone with their collections as Dad did with his knowledge over the years. My email address is: farleyboxall@gmail.com

Thanks to all of you!

Sarah Boxall (nee Farley)

History of Olympin pins issued

Olympin has issued two types of pins over the past 34 years.

1. Annual Member Badges

2. Special Event Pins

1. Annual Member Badges

The Olympin Collectors Club was founded in June 1982 in Herkimer, NY. For the past 34 years, each member received a dated, annual member badge as one of the benefits of membership. Contrary to opinion, there was no pin issued in 1982. The first pin was the 1983 member pin, which said “est. 1982”, meaning the club was established in 1982. A member pin has been produced every year since 1983.

Here are some interesting facts about some of the pins:

1983 – 200 were made, with 100 numbered “1” to “100” on the back. The growth was so fast, another 100 were ordered, but they were not numbered on the back.

1984 – There were 200 made that said “Los Angeles 1984” on the front. One was issued to every member. Being so well received by the members, Olympin made 100 that said “Sarajevo 1984” on the front. These were sold to members who ordered one, until they ran out.

1985, 1986, & 1987 – During this period, one of the most desired pins was ABC’s Guest Pin. It was 2 – layered, thus inspiring the Club to issue 2-layered member pins of a similar nature.

1988 – 1997 – For these 10 years, a professional pin designer made and produced our member pin. They are all similar, yet each different.

1998 – Finally, after 15 years, Olympin received permission from the USOC to use the Nagano 2016 logo on our pin. Martha Stewart talked about it on “CBS This Morning” TV Show during the Games.

1999 & 2000 – These were master designs made by ACOM and FIMO under IOC auspices for the Clubs that were members of these 2 organizations.

2001 – 2012 – necessary approval was obtained to use upcoming Games logos on Olympin’s badges. Except for 2005. These were immensely popular with members, especially those with the flags of the 32 nations represented in the Club.

2013 & 2014 – Sadly, there was no success to get Sochi’s approval.

2015 & 2016 – Once again, thanks to the Rio 2016 Organizer’s, the logos are back!

2. Special Event Pins

In the 34 years of Olympin, 17 Special Event Pins have been produced to commemorate pin shows, Olympin Club National Conventions, IOC Fair hosting, etc. In most cases, these pins were given to Olympin members who attended the event, with any excess made available for purchase by the members who were unable to attend.

Olympin Club Pins Available for Purchase

Of the 50 pins produced by Olympin over the past 34 years, 14 are available to buy from Olympin at very fair prices. The demand for the Club pins was evident at the Lake Placid Fair and your Club tried to keep their prices reasonable. Please send your order by email (olympin@excite.com) or by snail mail. After we confirm what you got, then you can pay. Regardless of the quantity you order, the cost of shipping will be \$3 within the USA and \$8 outside the USA. That is our cost to mail.

<p>A.</p>  <p>2015 IOC FAIR LAKE PLACID \$5</p>	<p>B.</p>  <p>XXIX WORLD OLYMPIC COLLECTORS FAIR LAUSANNE 23-25 MAY 2014</p> <p>2014 IOC FAIR LAUSANNE \$3</p>	<p>C.</p>  <p>O.C.C. 2014 6 for \$10 \$2</p>	<p>D.</p>  <p>O.C.C. 2013 6 for \$10 \$2</p>	
<p>E.</p>  <p>O.C.C. 2012 \$10</p>	<p>F.</p>  <p>2011 IOC FAIR CHICAGO \$4</p>	<p>G.</p>  <p>O.C.C. 2010 \$2 6 for \$10</p>	<p>H.</p>  <p>O.C.C. 2009 \$2 6 for \$10</p>	<p>I.</p>  <p>O.C.C. 2004 \$12</p>
<p>J.</p>  <p>O.C.C. 2000 \$8</p>	<p>K.</p>  <p>O.C.C. 1994 \$12</p>	<p>L.</p>  <p>O.C.C. 1ST IOC FAIR 1994 \$5</p>	<p>M.</p>  <p>O.C.C. 1991 CONV. \$3</p>	<p>N.</p>  <p>O.C.C. SPONSOR of 10th ANNIV. - L.P. \$3</p>

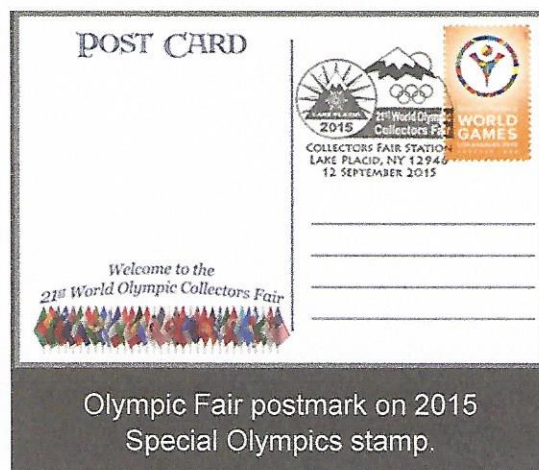
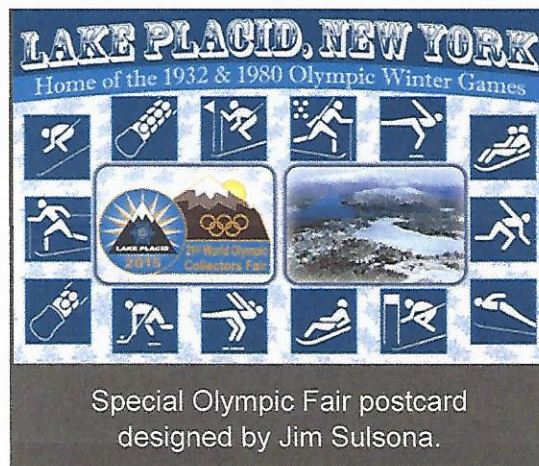
Special offer to SPI and Olympin members!



21st World Olympic Collectors Fair Lake Placid, NY

This year's Olympic Fair at Lake Placid's historic 1932 Olympic Arena was a grand success. To commemorate this epic event, SPI is offering the official show postcard (created by the host Olympin Collectors Club) with special U.S. Postal Service postmark on three days (10, 11, and 12 September).

**All proceeds benefit SPI and
the Olympic Collectors Club!**



Don't miss out on this great Olympic collectible!

Official Fair Postcard with special
postmark: \$2.50 each
(Your choice: 10, 11 or 12 September)

Official Fair Postcard: (no stamp or
postmark): 2 for \$1.00

Shipping/Handling Cost:
US: \$1.00 (1-4 cards); \$1.50 (5-8 cards);
\$2.00 (9-12 cards)
International: \$1.50 (1-4 cards); \$2.50
(5-8 cards); \$3.50 (9-12 cards)

Place your order, email to markspi@prodigy.net
Pay via PayPal to treasurer@sportstamps.org
Deadline to place orders 1 October 2015

By Ron Finnigan

The Athletes' Village is empty, the temporary venues are taken down, traffic has returned to normal and Toronto has hosted its first international multisport games. By all accounts, the Toronto 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games, along with the supporting cultural festival Panamania!, were an outstanding success. USA and Brazil topped the Pan Am and Parapan Am medal tallies respectively with the host country, Canada, finishing a strong second in each.

While the Toronto 2015 logo was not the favourite of this collector, the porcupine mascot 'Patchi' was a huge hit and stole the heart of all those that attended the Games. His 41 coloured quills represented the 41 competing nations, and he even made it onto one of the two Trinidad & Tobago team pins.

As was expected, pin collecting was front and centre at the Games, with numerous Olympin members attending from across Canada and the US. Trading in and around the Athletes' Village was very good with a more casual atmosphere than you typically find at an Olympics. The athletes came and went on foot much of the time and were more than happy to trade with collectors. At venues, good trading was easily done with many of the 23,000 volunteers, and many of the corporate sponsor pins could be obtained in and around the Sponsor Village at CIBC Pan Am Park.

The majority of the participating 41 nations had at least one dated pin, but many had several, including Saint Lucia and Canada who each had a very nice set of four, and the USA who had a team pin for each sport (including some non-Olympic sports such as water skiing and roller sports). As has been the trend in all recent games, the Caribbean nations lead the way in terms of high quality and great designs. And because many of their delegations were very small, their pins were often very hard to come across. In addition to Saint Lucia, notable dated pins from the Caribbean included Barbados, Guyana, Cayman Islands and Trinidad & Tobago. The dated St. Kitts and Nevis pin almost didn't show up, finally arriving late in the second week of the Games...much to the relief of a certain pair of California collectors. Dated National Federation pins were produced by Canada Cycling, USA Tennis and Mexico Gymnastics. At the end of this article are shown some of the nicer new generic NOCs (approximately 17 new NOC pins as best could be determined), as well as a selection of some of the nicer dated NOCs and some of our favourite non-NOC pins.

The Canadian Broadcaster CBC and Claro Sports (Mexican Division likely) were the only two broadcasters to produce dated pins. The Toronto Star newspaper produced two pins while Metroland Media (parent company of many Toronto area newspapers) had one pin.

Close to 40 sponsor pins were produced including CIBC gold (nicest overall sponsor pin), Porter Airlines (hardest to get sponsor pin), Maytag (most unique sponsor category pin...Official Washing Machine), Toronto Pearson International Airport (unique 4 pin/4 colour set) and one un-named sponsor pin that was produced but never seen during or after the Games (likely sitting on someone's desk in their US head office). Government pins included the Government of Canada, Government of Ontario and most of the Games Host Communities. And as with most Games, there are always a few pins that show up after the Games. Of note for Toronto were two Durham Regional Police pins. And while on the topic of security pins, mention must be made of the US Special Agent pin, our choice for 'overall hardest pin of the Games'.

Soon after the Games came to a very successful conclusion, discussion began immediately regarding the September 15 deadline for Toronto City Council to file a 'letter of interest' with the IOC regarding hosting the 2024 Olympic Games. Raising budgetary concerns, the Mayor of Toronto and his council decided to not pursue a bid for 2024. So the City of Toronto can now look towards a possible 2028 bid or maybe even a Youth Olympic Games bid. Once Rio and the three upcoming Games in Asia are behind us, how do LA 2024 and Toronto 2028 sound? One thing is certain. Toronto has established itself as a viable site for future large-scale international multisport games.



Over 80 Guests toured the area, visiting the 1980 Winter Games Venues.



On one of the 4 Tour Buses



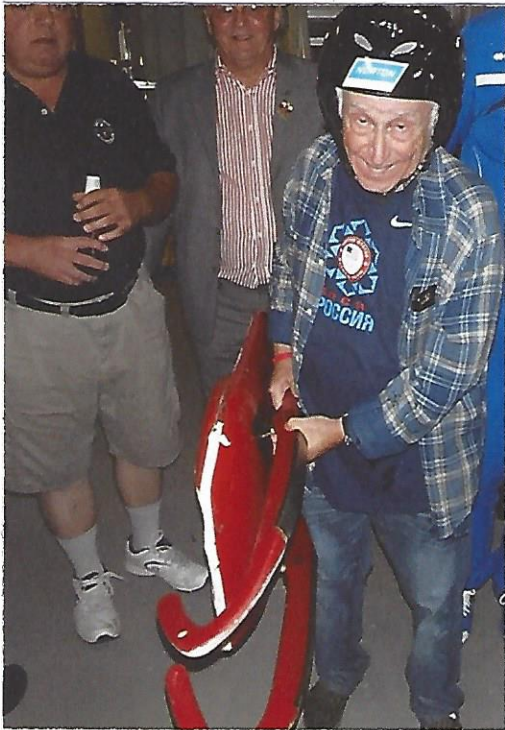
At the Various Venues



"China" on the Podium!

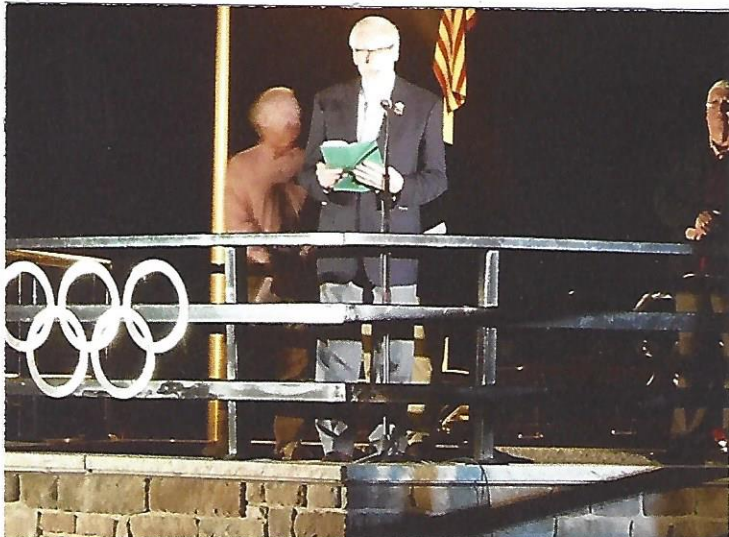


Enjoying riding a Luge Sled, then attending the Ceremony to Re-light the 1980 Cauldren



Sid Marantz sets some kind of Record

Cauldren Burning Again!



Mayor Randall Opening the Fair

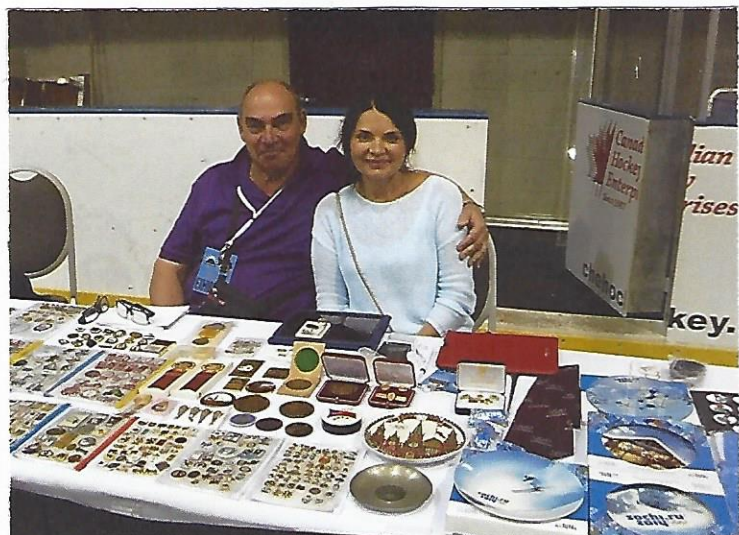


Passing the Torch that will Light the Cauldren

The Fair was open for 20 hours over 3 days



Tom Lippert



Konstantin Borodin & Liudmila Zorina



Bob Boehm



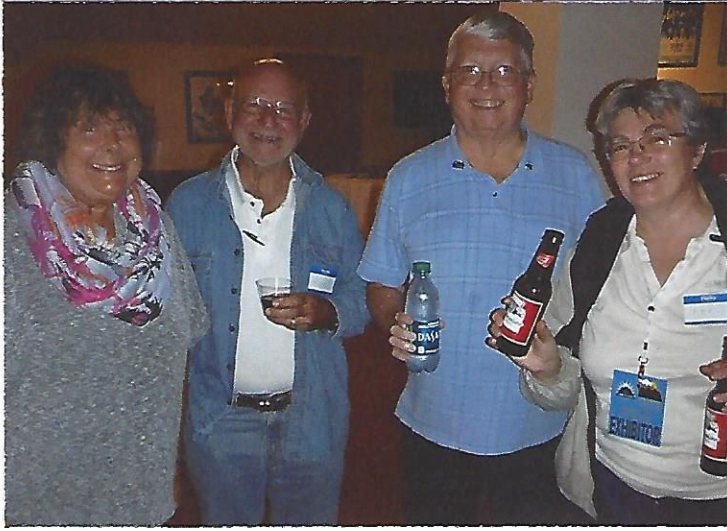
Reyna, Randy and Bob



Jim Kendell

Friday Night: Reception at the 1932 – 1980 Lake Placid Winter Olympic Museum

Saturday Night: Cocktail Hour, Auction and Dinner at the L.P. Convention Center



Drinking, Eating and Touring the Museum



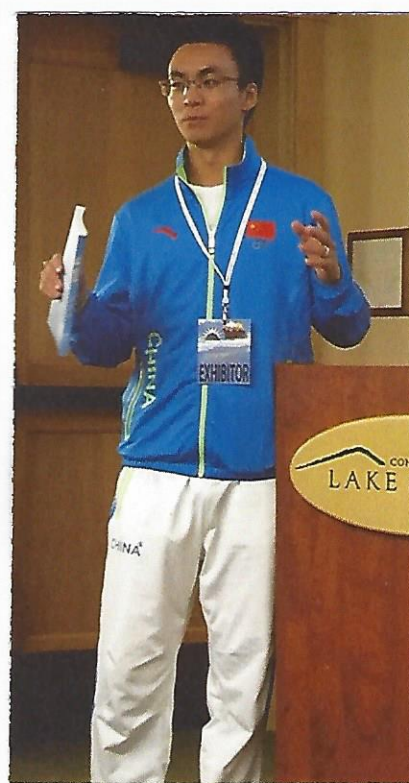
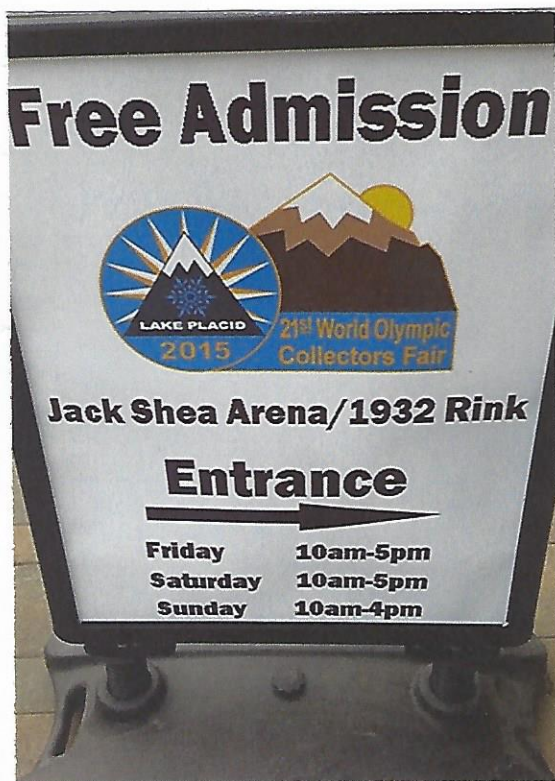
Some of their Winner's Medals



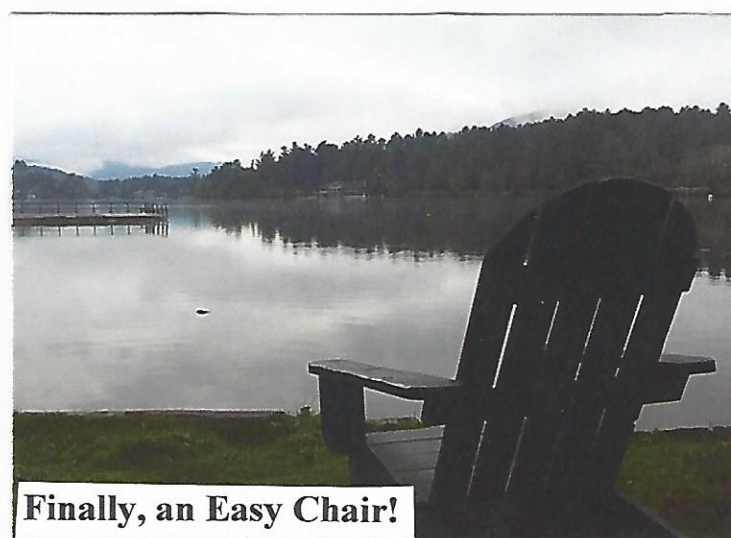
Over 110 people from 18 Nations Shared Dinner Saturday Night



Saturday night - Pre-Dinner Cocktail Hour and Olympic Auction



Sunday morning – Olympin Annual Member Meeting



Finally, an Easy Chair!