



World's Largest Olympic Collectors Club  
PO Box 777 - Guilderland, NY - 12084  
Phone: (518) 355 - 9445

## Established 1982 - Our 30<sup>th</sup> Year - Issue No 118 - June 2011

Greetings to all of our 2011 members! Thanks to all of you who renewed in time to get your 2011 badge and be included in the enclosed 2011 Member Directory. A special warm welcome to 25 new members this year, 12 of whom live in the United Kingdom, getting ready for the excitement of the London 2012 Olympiad.

Your new directory is included with this newsletter. Also included is your ballot to elect three Board members. The rest of this newsletter focuses on the biggest Olympic collector event in history; the 30<sup>th</sup> Olympin Festival, the 17<sup>th</sup> IOC World Fair and the 32<sup>nd</sup> National Sports Collectors Convention – all combined into one huge event!

### 2011 MEMBER DIRECTORY

The enclosed 2011 Directory contains the contact info and collecting goals of the 526 members for this year, as of June 1, 2011. **Please** verify your personal listing, and advise us of any changes or additions. **Is your email address correct?**

If you have to make an address or email correction, we will include it in the Supplemental Member Directory issued with the September newsletter. If you only make Collector Code changes, they will be entered in the Club database, but will not be listed in the Supplemental Directory.

Please look at your listing to verify your **email address** is correct. I sent emails to some members using their email addresses in the 2010 book and they came back undeliverable. One wrong character results in an unusable email address!

### 2011 MEMBER BADGE

If you received this newsletter, and are included in the enclosed 2011 Member Directory, your 2011 Member Badge was sent to you at least 2 weeks ago. Please let us know if you did not receive it.

We hope you appreciate the effort it took to get the London 2012 logo on this year's member badge. The reason they were mailed beginning in April was because it took Aminco almost 8 months, instead of the normal 2 – 3 months, to gain approval.

### PLEASE VOTE! – 3<sup>RD</sup> OLYMPIN ELECTION

At the back of this newsletter is your ballot for the third election in Olympin history! (**pink** color)

#### Election of Board of Directors

Three Board positions are up for election this year, those served by **Don Bigsby**, **Don Hollis** and **Sid Marantz**. Don Hollis has decided to step down to make room for another member to join the Board. Don will continue to be very active in the Club, keeping involved in many aspects of the organization. We owe him a great deal of thanks for the effort he has put into his tasks since 2009. Thank you Don. **Don Bigsby** and **Sid Marantz** are running for re-election, and are joined by new nominee **Craig Perlow**. These three gentlemen are running for the three openings available. The three top vote getters will win, with their term beginning January 1, 2012. Statements by each of the three candidates are included on the reverse of the **pink** ballot sheet.

All votes must be returned to **Jon Becker** by postal mail by July 15<sup>th</sup>. No exceptions!

Mail the **pink** ballots to **Jon Becker**, not Olympin. (There are **green** sign-up sheets for Chicago Tables and Banquets; these must be sent to **Olympin**.)

Election results will be announced at the Friday night dinner in Chicago on August 5<sup>th</sup>. The results will also be published in the September newsletter.

**Visit our Website! [www.olympinclub.com](http://www.olympinclub.com)**

# CHICAGO FAIR

*This is the last Olympin newsletter before the HUGE combination of shows in Chicago in August. Jim Greensfelder has done a monumental job, from planning to implementing what appears will be the biggest Olympic collectors event ever. Based on past attendance, the NSCC expects 30,000 to 100,000 visitors to the show over the four days!*

*Here is more up-to-date information regarding this incredible event:*

**TABLE RESERVATIONS** – Almost 80 tables have been reserved and paid for. It appears obvious that tables will sell out shortly. We have re-designed the Olympic area and managed to find room for two more tables, meaning that we definitely will have no more than 102 tables available for dealers. Many table holders have questions which will be answered in a special mailer to all those who have rented tables. It is planned to send out the “Table-holder Package” in mid-June. If you rented a table, there is a **yellow** paper enclosed with this newsletter to confirm your reservation. If you rented a table (and paid for it), but did not receive the yellow confirmation, please contact Don Bigsby **immediately**.

The “Table-holder Package” will be mailed in mid-June and will contain everything you need for a smooth transition into the Convention center to set up. Subjects covered include moving in details, parking, electricity options, display cases, badges /credentials pickup, diplomas, insurance coverage, moving out, etc.

**FRIDAY NIGHT BANQUET** - It will be held on **Friday night at 8 PM** at the **Doubletree Hotel**. The cost is **\$60 per person**. It is a Buffet, so no dinner selections are necessary. Simply send \$60 per meal to the Olympin Collectors Club, either by check, or via Paypal. While this is a bit pricey, we selected the location since most members will be staying in that hotel, and will not need a cab to get to their room. While the entire \$60 goes toward the cost of the buffet, there will be several Olympic dignitaries there, plus you will also get to hear a great speaker, participate in a Silent Auction and catch up with old friends. Olympin is hosting a free wine, beer and soda bar from 7 PM to 9 PM.

**OLYMPIN BANQUET SPEAKER** - Our club is very privileged to announce the guest speaker for the Friday night banquet. He is Bill Mallon, author or co-author of over 25 Olympic books. He is a consultant to the IOC, USOC and several organizing committees on statistical analysis of the Olympic Games results. Bill is a Recipient of the Olympic Order (2001) and an Honorary Member of the International Society of Olympic Historians (2004).

Bill Mallon’s list of accomplishments, honors and awards would fill this newsletter! His speech topic will be about the 1904 Olympics, it’s move from Chicago to St. Louis, and the unusual aspects of events and participants. Join us for an interesting Olympic evening!

*As an aside, it should be mentioned that the I.S.O.H. is well known to many Olympin members. A quick review of their last member directory included 45 Olympin members!*

**OLYMPIN’S SILENT AUCTION** – Preceding the Banquet on Friday night will be a silent auction from **7 PM to 8 PM**. There will be some serious collectibles that have been donated by some generous members to help raise funds for this great event. Olympin is being set up as a non-profit organization, so all items are tax deductible and a letter will be sent to each donor detailing their contribution. Thanks for your help and support of your club!

Scott Reed is coordinating the auction event, and passed on this message.:

“We are still looking for items to offer at the silent auction. We have had some very nice contributions already, but can certainly use more. Please let me know if you have something to contribute. You can bring the items to the show, or, for those who would like to mail it ahead of time rather than carry it to the show, we have an address in Chicago where auction items can be sent ahead of time.”

Scott can be reached at [ser@prodigy.net](mailto:ser@prodigy.net) or 404-790-2765.

# CHICAGO FAIR

**O'NEIL AUCTION SATURDAY- 6PM** – The excitement continues Saturday at 6PM when Ingrid O'Neil presents an auction with about 50 high-end pieces of Olympic memorabilia. Ingrid's live auctions always create excitement, and even if you don't intend to bid, you should attend this event in Conference Room # 5 in the Rosemont Convention Center.

**OLYMPIN MEETING SAT. -7PM** - Following Ingrid's auction, Olympin will have a **Member Meeting** in the same room. This is your Club, please try to attend, and share your opinions!

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - With all the events associated with the biggest Olympic show ever, Olympin has a need for some help, especially at the Olympin Table during Show hours, or at the Silent Auction on Friday night before the Banquet.

Scott Reed is also coordinating the coverage at the Olympin table for the 4 days. He has this to say:

“Thank you to all those who responded to our request for volunteers to work at the Chicago show. I will contact each of you individually in June to reconfirm your ability to help, and to find out how much time you will have to volunteer. Once I know everyone's availability, I will put together a schedule and will distribute it to you well before the show.”

“If anyone has not yet responded but will be at the show and have some time to help at the Olympin table or at the silent auction, please let me know.”

([ser@prodigy.net](mailto:ser@prodigy.net) or 404-790-2765)

**TIPS FOR VISITING CHICAGO** – *Board member Don Hollis lived in Chicago for many years, and has written this article to help our visiting friends make the most of their visit to the “Windy City”.*

Rosemont is next to O'Hare airport. There is nothing to walk to, or do, in Rosemont itself – other than restaurants and maybe a casino. However, it is a major bus terminus and you can travel by bus to most of the nearby communities. O'Hare itself is

surrounded by modest bedroom communities – with little ‘action’. Although the Zoo and similar family destinations are partially spread out into the suburbs – the majority of such destinations are downtown.

There is an excellent subway (the BLUE ) line to downtown – but, it is a 45 minute ride. At peak traffic times the Blue line is actually faster than a cab. But, at slow times, cabs can make it to Michigan Avenue from Rosemont in 20 to 25 minutes – at a cost of about \$40. each way. The Blue line is very safe up until about 10 P M. And, in the center city there are connecting subway lines to all of the shopping/sports/arts/educational and residential areas. Plus, there are a few free shuttle busses within the downtown area. Once you are downtown, 90% of what you may want to see is either within a shuttle bus ride, walking distance – or – a 10 minute cab ride away. I think the subway toll is \$2.25/person each way and there are several of these train lines going S, N and W. The race tracks are best reached via rental car or taxi.

Michigan avenue is a ten minute walk from the Blue line subway station at State and Lake – but, you can easily walk a couple miles on Michigan Avenue itself. The world class Art Institute is at the wonderful, new Millennium Park on Michigan Avenue (just East of the Blue line station) where there are often free concerts, etc. For families , the Museum of Science and Industry is wonderful – but it is 5 plus miles bus ride South of the shopping area. The Aquarium and Natural History Museum are only a couple of miles South – on the same bus line - of the best shopping. So, if you invest an entire day you could hit all three.

The lakefront with its boat tours and running/biking trails runs East of the entire city plus several suburbs. The Museum of Contemporary Art is in the heart of the main shopping area. From Michigan Ave itself you can get an architectural boat tour bus which starts on the river and does a loop – not too expensive. Both baseball stadiums are on the Red subway line – which you can transfer to from the Blue line.

Check out [www.explorechicago.com](http://www.explorechicago.com) for more info.

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**Tom Chestnut** – I want to share a table in Chicago with a member in August. Please contact me at [tomchestnut@tds.net](mailto:tomchestnut@tds.net), or at 262-514-2932.

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**Shlomi Tsafrir** – looking to share my room during the Chicago show. I already have a reservation at the Embassy Suites from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> of August. The hotel includes breakfast, and the room can accommodate up to 3 persons. Would not mind to share it with a man, woman or a couple. Please contact me at [shlomitsafrir@hotmail.com](mailto:shlomitsafrir@hotmail.com).

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Collector looking to buy paper items from the 1932 Winter Olympics in Lake Placid. Contact **Chris Snyder** at [k1chris89@aol.com](mailto:k1chris89@aol.com).

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**OFFER TO NEW COLLECTORS IN THE UK**

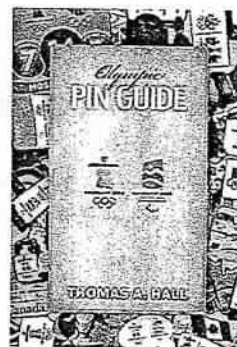
The Board of your Club has decided to make a special offer to residents of the UK to encourage them to join your Club. A small, but active group of collectors in the UK are enjoying the hobby, and their numbers are slowly growing. You can read about their activities and get to know them better by going to the website: [www.londonpins.co.uk](http://www.londonpins.co.uk). Recently, the site ran the following announcement about our offer:

"The team that runs the Olympin Club have made a very special offer to UK pin collectors and readers of [www.londonpins.co.uk](http://www.londonpins.co.uk). For a limited time they are offering a 2-year discounted membership to the club.....The normal cost of a one year membership to the club is US\$25, but the offer to UK readers of this website is US\$35 for the 2011 AND 2012 membership years. So, if nothing else, you would be getting the 2 club pins for a little over £20. This offer is available until 9th May 2011. The offer may be extended or the price may be increased, but they guarantee, this is the lowest price that this offer will be. *Please note this offer is to UK residents only*"

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**ALERT! FAKE SQUAW VALLEY TORCHES!**

We have just learned that a plaster cast of the Squaw Valley 1960 Torch was bought by a dealer



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Tom @ 780-977-0327

UK residents are getting a 2 year membership starting when they join in 2011 and running through the end of 2012 for \$35. They will be getting one pin for 2011 and one for 2012; not two 2011 pins. Jim Kendall, one of our members from Virginia, recently went to London and attended a pin swap while there. We sent him with sign-up sheets and he got EVERYONE who was at the swap to join the Club. They asked us if we would extend the offer to collectors who could not make the swap but wanted to also join. We thought this was a good idea. We did this to try to entice these new collectors into the Club early on so they and our current members could begin to network and trade pins now. We believe this adds value to all our members. This is also an attempt to bring new members into the Club to grow and make it stronger. Many organizations run "specials" for new customers/members in this way. It in no way means we long time members are any less important. It is just a marketing strategy. As a matter of fact, the Club does offer discounts to our current members if they join for more than one year at a time. Please contact me if you have thoughts on this program. Sid Marantz

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in Canada. Now **copies** of the rare torch are turning up for sale. Ingrid O'Neil contacted the IOC and is waiting to hear if they want the name of the suspected seller of these fakes. **BE CAREFUL!**