All of you have been to Olympia and have savoured the wonderful time spent. All of you have also made new friends with whom you are still in contact or with whom you would like to make contact again. All of you remember those wonderful moments at the International Olympic Academy, which is our second home.

Well the time has come to meet again in Olympia, between August 12-16, 2003, for the conference of the International Olympic Academy Participants Association. This conference, which is held once every two years, reunites past participants in Olympia to share again those special moments, to know more about what we are doing in our respective countries and especially to renew and strengthen our commitment towards the Olympic Movement.

The conference this year will be the eighth working session of the IOAPA. Our association has come a long way from its beginning in the summer of 1989. This has been possible through the constant work of some of our long time members, whom received a special memento during the conferences in 1999 and 2001. However we must also mention the constant support and help given by the International Olympic Academy, especially by Mr. Nikos Filaretos, the President of the IOA and Dr. Kostas Georgiadis, the Dean of the IOA, both of whom are inspirations for our Association.

The Executive Board of the IOAPA and the organizing committee under the chairmanship of the IOAPA Vice President, has already started with the preparations for the 2003 conference. The application to attend this conference is enclosed in this issue of Arete. You are invited attend and renew that wonderful feeling and at the same time meet old friends as well as make new ones. Book as early as possible since places for the conference are limited.

The IOAPA conference will evolve over four days with discussions, presentations and workshops. Due to the fact that our session will overlap the IOA General Session by one day we will be meeting one day before in the village in Olympia for the night of the 11 August 2003. That night the participants at the main session will be celebrating their last night in Olympia.

We are exploring the possibility of reserving a (continued on page two)
hotel, or rooms in two hotels in Olympia for our accommodations that evening. Two class C hotels that we are negotiating with are the Olympic Torch Hotel (single BB-€18.88; double BB-€30.68; triple BB-€43.90) and the Kronion Hotel (single BB-€31.16; double BB-€45.02; triple BB-€62.33). All rooms have private facilities.

During the conference various activities including sports, dancing, special social evenings and pool party will be held. Proposals for changes in the bylaws will be put forward to the members and can be approved by a majority vote. The new Executive Board of the IOAPA will also be elected for another two-year term.

The Executive Board of the IOAPA and the Organising Committee of the conference would like to invite you to attend our conference and we hope and wish, with everybody’s contribution, that it will be a big success.

Remember that you have to pay your own travel expenses to and from Olympia, although there is a possibility that roundtrip bus transportation from Athens to Olympia will be arranged with IOAPA funds. The Organising Committee also requires a participation fee of €50 or $50 (US) to secure your place at the conference. Please send cash if possible or a bank draft with the same country address and currency. Please note that similar to last year each participant will have to pay for his/her meals, €60 or $60 (US) for the four day conference. Those wishing to sleep in a single or double room will also have to pay an additional fee. We will be given free accommodation in the dormitories which sleep six persons.

I wish you good luck in all your work and I am sure that deep in your heart you will always have a special place for Olympia, Olympism and the International Olympic Academy. See you in Olympia!

Carlo Farrugia
Vice-President/ IOAPA Session Chair

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
By Laurel Brassey Iversen (USA)

As 2002 comes to a close we are already preparing for the IOAPA Conference which will take place in the summer of 2003 in Ancient Olympia. You will find more information about the conference in this issue of Arete.

The Athens 2004 Games are rapidly approaching and for everyone who has attended the IOA, it is a time that we all anticipate with great interest. We have seen many changes at the IOA and in Greece itself due to the fact that Athens was awarded the Games of 2004.

We hope that the IOAPA will be involved in some way during the Olympics. We will be working on our participation in the Olympic Flame Relay and the possibility of hosting a huge reunion for any past IOA participants who will be in Athens during the Games. We will need everyone’s help for all of our activities.

It has been a quiet year for the IOAPA and we hope to energize ourselves during the next conference with our new projects. On a personal note, my husband and I moved to Kauai, the western most island in the Hawaiian Islands, the first week of November. It was quite an undertaking but we are here on the beautiful “Garden Isle”. We would like to open our home to our IOAPA friends in the Aloha spirit of Hawaii. Please note my new address and phone and fax (page 1). I am looking forward to seeing many of you this coming summer.

Sincerely,

Laurel Brassey Iversen

(Continued from page one)
What have we been up to?

The Stork has been flying a lot over Germany the past few months. Over the Holiday Season word has arrived that two IOAPA families will be growing. Andreas Krumpholz (GER) and his partner Kristen are expecting a son in May 2003, and Holger Preuss (GER) and his wife Sonja are expecting twins. We wish both couples all the best wishes in the world for the future and healthy happy babies.

Jim Parry (GBR) has been appointed Professor in Olympism at the Autonomous University in Barcelona for 2003.

Silvia Beatriz Dalotto (ARG) has been selected as an Open Water Swimming Official for the Xth FINA World Championships in Barcelona this summer—the first woman so honored!

CONGRATULATIONS Andreas, Holger, Jim and Silvia!

We are sorry to report that the wife of Geoff Yarema (USA), Mariella Spasova Yarema, passed away January 3rd from a brain tumor. She and Geoff met at the IOA in 1986 and were both IOAPA members. He was a delegate from the US and she an accomplished gymnast from Bulgaria. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Geoff and his family.

What have we been up to?

The Stork has been flying a lot over Germany the past few months. Over the Holiday Season word has arrived that two IOAPA families will be growing. Andreas Krumpholz (GER) and his partner Kristen are expecting a son in May 2003, and Holger Preuss (GER) and his wife Sonja are expecting twins. We wish both couples all the best wishes in the world for the future and healthy happy babies.

Jim Parry (GBR) has been appointed Professor in Olympism at the Autonomous University in Barcelona for 2003.

Silvia Beatriz Dalotto (ARG) has been selected as an Open Water Swimming Official for the Xth FINA World Championships in Barcelona this summer—the first woman so honored!

CONGRATULATIONS Andreas, Holger, Jim and Silvia!

We are sorry to report that the wife of Geoff Yarema (USA), Mariella Spasova Yarema, passed away January 3rd from a brain tumor. She and Geoff met at the IOA in 1986 and were both IOAPA members. He was a delegate from the US and she an accomplished gymnast from Bulgaria. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Geoff and his family.

A WORD ABOUT VOLUNTEERING IN ATHENS 2004

Michael Croes (Aruba) is currently assisting the 2004 Athens Organizing Committee Volunteers Division. They are in search for people to volunteer for the Games in 2004. If you are interested in volunteering you can visit the official ATHENS 2004 site (www.athens2004.org) and go to VOLUNTEERS for more information......it is important, however, for you to write to his friend Nikos Theodorou at NKTheodo@athens2004.gr for any question regarding this offer.

Michael says they might have something special for us involved with the IOA or doing something with Olympic Education (e.g. Olympic Youth Camp).

Arete

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 31 March 2003

Send all submissions, comments and or address changes to:

Rusty Wilson, Editor
4092 Virginia Circle East
Columbus, OH 43213-2825
USA
Tel: +614-237-4075
Fax: +614-235-7464
E-mail: ruwilson@ix.netcom.com

IOAPA APPLICATION FORM: For a two year membership please send the following information, along with a check for €30 or $30 (US), or the equivalent in your currency, made out to the IOAPA to:

Paul Baldacchino, IOAPA Treasurer
259 Mitrovich Street
Pembroke STJ-14, MALTA
E-mail: pauldacchino@yahoo.com

(NAME: ____________________________
ADDRESS: ____________________________
______________________________
______________________________
______________________________
Telephone: ____________________________
FAX: ____________________________
E-mail: ____________________________

IOA SESSION(S) ATTENDED: ____________________________
(you MUST have attended an IOA Session to join the IOAPA and this information MUST be supplied!!!!)

IOAPA Conferences Attended: ____________________________

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 31 March 2003

Send all submissions, comments and or address changes to:

Rusty Wilson, Editor
4092 Virginia Circle East
Columbus, OH 43213-2825
USA
Tel: +614-237-4075
Fax: +614-235-7464
E-mail: ruwilson@ix.netcom.com
2003 IOAPA CONFERENCE APPLICATION FORM

The eighth conference of the IOAPA will be held in Olympia from August 12th to 16th, 2003. Since housing at the Academy is limited, attendance will be conducted on a first come first served basis. Because of this we encourage you to fill out the application form and return it to IOAPA Treasurer, Paul Baldacchino as soon as possible. Each application must be accompanied by a participation fee of €50 or $50 US, or the equivalent in your currency. If you pay by Eurocheque please issue it in your own country’s currency equivalent to €50 or $50 US to avoid charges for the IOAPA. Deadline for applications is 31 March 2003. Flight details must be received by the IOAPA Vice President, Carlo Farrugia, by 31 May 2003.

Paul Baldacchino, Treasurer
259 Mitrovich Street
Pembroke STJ 14, MALTA
Tel: +356-375127 (home)
E-mail: pauldacchino@yahoo.com

Carlo Farrugia, Vice President
Mosta PO Box 25
Mosta, MALTA
Tel: +356 9945 3434 (mobile)
E-mail: carlo@waldonet.net.mt

----------------------------- PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY -----------------------------

NAME: ____________________________________________________________________________
ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
TEL: ________________________________________    FAX: ________________________________
E-Mail Address: _______________________________________________________________________

What year(s) did you attend the IOA?
Have you attended an IOAPA Conference? Yes / No _____ If yes, when? 1989  1991  1993  1995  1997  1999  2001
Which of the following conference activities would you be willing to assist:
Sports ____ Social Evenings ____ Pool Party ____ Typing of Report ____ Dance Group ____
Web page workshop ____ Country Representative workshop ____
Would you be interested in making a presentation?

If yes, what would be your topic?
(A copy of your presentation is requested so we can make copies for those attending and for the report.)

Are you interested in running for a position on the IOAPA Executive Board?
If yes, for which position:
President ____, Vice President ____ , Secretary ____ , Treasurer ____ , IOA Liaison ____ ,
Newsletter Editor ____
(Those interested in elected office please supply a resume of experience so we can have this information ready for those attending. You will be able to decide to run for election once in Olympia.)

How will you be arriving in Athens? Air ____ Car ____ Train ____
(If Available) Will you: ____ Take the IOAPA bus to Olympia ____ Return on the IOAPA bus to Athens ____ Join us in post conference excursions

CONFERENCE DATES: 12-16 August 2003