

The Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania, Inc.

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Forthcoming Annual Meetings:

2013 ANNUAL MEETING: Melbourne, Australia

2014 ANNUAL MEETING: St. Louis STAMP EXPO

2015 ANNUAL MEETING: Chicagopex, Chicago, IL

2016 ANNUAL MEETING: FIP International, New York

President's Message

Steven Zirinsky

The PIPEX annual meeting 12 May at our Convention was a good one. We have a solid membership base there and it was good to acknowledge them. The exhibits were stellar and the talks by Gene Walters and Dale Forster were informative and to the point, with some intense material.

The Board meeting consisted of **John Barwis**, myself and former Board member **David Hopper**. We hashed out a few ideas that were floated for general discussion the next day at the Annual Meeting. This was a well-attended discussion of about a dozen members. The above, plus **Sheryll Ruecker, Len Lukens, and Gene Walters**, joined in.

The discussion focused on the website and how its enhancement can further the SAS/O. Proposals that were discussed:

1. Putting *The Informer* on the website in fully searchable format for all to use 12 months after publication; prior to that it would be in a members' only section.
2. Have our exhibits on the web. The first page available for all to see, but the other pages would be available in the members' only section.
3. Put membership applications and dues payments on line.
4. Set up regional meetings of the SAS/O on a quarterly basis or held in conjunction with a show (this can be a loosely organized event). I will attempt to do a quarterly meeting in New York at the Collectors Club. If there is interest in Portland, then do the same at PIPEX next year as well.
5. Create online purchasing of members publications.

We are also exploring ways in which:

1. Members can reach out to each other
2. Create philatelic challenges, such as challenge members to post on our website interesting SG1 usages of every SAS/O related stamp.
3. Promote ourselves in other venues such as China 2013.
4. Prepare for our next meeting in Melbourne
5. Be a better resource to our members.

The Board will be fleshing out these thoughts and will be adding them to the website shortly. If you want to assist or suggest an idea, contact me.

Steve

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Melbourne 10-15 May 2013

FIP International Exhibition

www.Australia2013.com.au