

## **SIP President's Column**

Hi everyone. Spring is finally here and, for many of you, Passover is close at hand.

### **New York World Philatelic Exhibition Commencing May 28,2016**

Many of us are excited to attend one or more days at the show. Please feel free to come to our society booth and meet with Don Chafetz, Becky Dean, me or one of our volunteers. I hope to see you at the Society's annual general meeting on Sunday, May 29 or at one of the talks given by members of our Society on the 29th or 30<sup>th</sup>. Yacov Tsachor has agreed to speak on Fakes and Forgeries at our AGM. Details of other talks given by me, Gary Theodore and Howard Rotterdam can be found on our Society's website.

### **Volunteers**

Since my last column, I have not heard from any new folks who are willing to volunteer. WE NEED YOU!! I have said on many occasions that our society cannot run by itself. In late November 2017, in Chicago, I will be concluding my second term and intend to step down as president of our society at our annual general meeting . The terms of our current board members will also expire. I am asking all of the membership to consider running for our executive.

### **Membership**

Our society is the largest holy land philatelic organization in the world.. We need to attract new members and ask everyone in the society to do his or her part during the year to try to bring in at least one new member.

### **Fundraising**

Thank you to everyone who has made a contribution to the fund raising campaign for 2016. Please continue to keep our society in mind if you wish to make a charitable donation.

### **Thank Yous**

My continued thanks to all of our executive and board members for their dedication to the aims and goals of the Society. Don Chafetz ,Becky Dean and Vicki Galecki and others have been a great help with New York. Howard Chapman is one of our many members who has contributed so consistently to the welfare of the society.. I am also grateful for our affiliation with the American Philatelic Society and the benefits from that relationship.

### **Benefits of Membership**

Membership in our Society provides access to the award-winning journal, the Israel Philatelist, and discounts to acquire many books from our Educational Fund chaired by David Kaplin. Watch for various new forthcoming monographs. Our slideshows and library books are available to be lent. The Society also has a worldwide network of members who are very knowledgeable about Holy Land and Judaica philately. Contact us if you are looking for info when doing research. Perhaps we will be able to direct you as needed.

### **Dickstein and Reggel Awards**

Our Society gives out awards annually for certain contributions made by our members. This year's winners will be announced at the AGM in New York and will be featured in the Summer 2016 issue of **The Israel Philatelist**.

All the best,  
Regards Ed