



Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc.

WEBSITE UPDATE

Our Society website, www.israelstamps.com, has gone through many changes. We went live in March of 2008. We were able to utilize the TikiWiki platform, which was a good option at that time. Over the ensuing years, the website became old, unreliable and unstable and in August of 2014, we were shut down - the website was hacked.

Don Chafetz worked with our website development company to bring us a beautiful, user-friendly, Word-Press website. Don and I have been populating the pages and doing content maintenance. Becky Dean, the new Society Admin, is maintaining the Member/Users on the website and helping with content maintenance. This new site is Admin- and User-friendly.

The new website has improved greatly on some of the old features: purchasing a book with your Visa or Paypal account, renewing your membership dues and even making a contribution to the Fundraising campaigns is easier than ever. But we've added SO much more!

You can now easily access contact information and even see pictures of your officers and committee chairs online. We've provided a good listing, with active links, of Dealers and Auctioneers specializing in Holy Land along with some Suppliers for your philatelic hobby needs. The Calendar lists interactive links for major Stamp Shows throughout the U.S. and the annual Global shows. Detailed information for the annual convening stamp show and for next year's NYC 2016 World Stamp show in New York City are linked on our website.

All current members with active email addresses can obtain a user name and password for the Society website. The Member Only pages require a login. Members' Only pages include all issues of the Israel Philatelist since February 2012, several slide shows in PowerPoint and as pdfs with separate lecture notes, and information on exhibits, including a video presentation by Bob Pildes to the Collectors' Club of New York, and all of our newsletters. Please make sure you are not missing out and send your email address to Becky Dean - bdean@israelstamps.com.

Also under the Members' Only pages, access our searchable online library of IP Journals through 1988, The digital Web Archive Library went live in 2013. Our Editor, Don Chafetz, and I are creating the searchable database for The Israel Philatelist journals going forward from 1989 to current. Planned completion is this summer! Our goal remains to make this site your source for practical information and helpful links as well as a storehouse for the vast amount of Holy Land philatelic knowledge. We are looking for contributors of information, updates on chapter activities and volunteers to help with digitizing projects.

Currently, Don is filling the Webmaster position. If you have time, patience and dedication, along with some techie knowledge, good communication skills and a willingness to learn new technologies, this could be your opportunity to make a difference.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Galecki
Executive Assistant