

A Message From The President

Vic Boff

On September 22, 1990, The Association of Oldtime Barbell & Strongmen will hold its eighth Annual Dinner Reunion at the prestigious Downtown Athletic Club in New York City.

It is with profound appreciation that I look back over the years and realize that we are growing slowly, but solidly. Every reunion has been a happy time for remembrance. Some members see old buddies they haven't seen for more than 40 years. The greetings, the nostalgia, the picture-taking and the joking—this is what constitutes our organization. The unforgettable camaraderie and shared emotions are what give us all such beautiful memories to cherish.

We are the only organization that brings together annually the oldtime strongmen, weightlifters, bodybuilders, and distinguished strength athletes. The banquet evening is organized for your enjoyment and entertainment. Not only are the great stars or honored guests saluted and presented with beautiful plaques and paintings projecting their physical prime, but we also provide unusual and extraordinary entertainment either live or through video and film.

Al Antuck, the renowned physique photographer, wrote an excellent article which was published in the December '87 issue of *Muscle Mag International* sums up the congeniality and attitude of our reunion very well:

“Regardless of the ages of the readers of this article, let me encourage all of you to try to attend one of the annual dinners of The Association of Olde Time Barbell and Strongmen. You'll not only experience history first hand, but you'll see and hear many of the men who created that history. You'll livingly learn from these old timers instead of reading about them and their feats in a book. You'll see septuagenarians, an octogenarian, and perhaps even a nonagenarian, who are physically fit and mentally alert. All of these strongmen are of a different era - the pre-steroid age.”

We are anxious to extend membership to those younger enthusiasts who sincerely want to share our ideals of fitness, strength, and health and take part in our wonderful fellowship and nostalgia. They are the ones who will have to be the future torchbearers.

Also, for us to continue to grow successfully, we need your support. I wish to thank everyone personally who has joined and supported our Association.

The need for an organization of our type is important. Get in touch with your old training partners or buddies. Tell them about our Iron Game Fraternity. Do your part. We cannot succeed without you.

In conclusion, let me say how pleased and delighted I am with the publication, *Iron Game History*. Coming as it does from the Todd-McLean Physical Culture Collection (museum and library) at the University of Texas, it will now serve as a landmark that fulfills an evolutionary legacy, from the past to the present. Please send in your subscriptions.