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Message from President Dick Fleischman [2004, Vol. 27, no. 2]; Sanfilippo Silent Auction 2003

Academy of Accounting Historians

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Message from President Dick Fleischman

The exciting and multitudinous accounting history events of August have now come and gone. I can report to those of you who were unable to attend that they universally exceeded expectations. The World Congress of Accounting Historians, held in St. Louis and at Ole Miss during the first week of August, was an outstanding success. Dale Flesher and Richard Vangermeersch, as co-conveners, and Gary Previts and Bill Samson, as members of the Organizing Committee, did yeoman service in bringing off the event. Steve Moehrle and Jennifer Reynolds-Moehrle were indispensable in making local arrangements in St. Louis.

The one-day conference in Orlando on the Saturday before the AAA national convention, jointly sponsored by the Academy and the Public Interest Section, went extremely well. The papers presented were very strong and represented an attractive mix of young and established scholars. Kudos to Richard Baker and Vaughan Radcliffe for managing the PIS portion of the program.

At the Orlando main event, the ice-cream social was a big hit. An estimated crowd of 100 or so passed in and out during the course of the evening. Likewise well attended were the two history sessions at the national convention. Thanks are due to Karen Hooks and Michael van Breda for organizing history's triumphant return to the national program after a decade of exclusion. The far-sighted vision of AAA Presi-

dent Bill Felix should also be mentioned and applauded. Please, please, please submit papers for next year's AAA in San Francisco. It is the only way to make our presence felt.

As Dan Jensen assumes the presidential reins/reigns, there are serious issues at hand for the Academy going forward. Although individual membership held constant for the first time in a while, there was a significant decline in the number of U.S.-based institutional subscribers. It seems that the days of hard-copy publications may have passed, and our journal may have to go with the flow. Dan will be heading a committee to study the possibilities. The issues will be more complex for the Academy since membership and subscription to the *Accounting Historians Journal* are tied.

It is also the case that the Academy's leadership is aging rapidly and that renewal is imperative (remember *Logan's Run*?). Initiatives must continue to bring young scholars into the organization. The successful events of August are but only a start.

Many thanks to all for making my presidential year a rewarding experience.

Best wishes,
Dick Fleischman, President
Academy of Accounting Historians

The Sanfilippo Silent Auction 2003

The Academy of Accounting Historians hosted a silent auction during the November 6-8, 2003 Research Conference in Denton. The silent auction was named and dedicated in memory of Jeanette M. Sanfilippo who died on January 7, 2003. Jeanette had served The Academy with unequalled enthusiasm and friendliness for a number of years and initiated several projects to publicize accounting history and membership in The Academy. She had taught at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Maryville

University, and Alaska Pacific University.

The silent auction included over a hundred older books and other publications in accounting, business, and economics donated by individuals and the Accounting History Research Center. The auction provides an opportunity for the participants at the research conference to buy interesting publications and research materials and to raise some funds for The Academy. The auction raised about \$600 in 2003.