

## Celebrating 75 Years of PSA

Dedicated to the memory of  
longtime PSA Historian, **Tony Patti, Hon PSA, FPSA**

**2009** marks the celebration of 75 years of the Photographic Society of America (PSA), an achievement about which all PSA members can be happy.

In 1934 membership in a national photographic group was confined to camera clubs who made up the *Associated Camera Clubs of America*, but a group of forward-thinking people saw a need for a society that individual photographers could join. Preparations for such a new group were concluded in 1933 and in January 1934 the Photographic Society of America was born with the enthusiastic support of photographers, camera clubs and leading photographic institutions and manufacturers. The prevalent feeling of those involved in photography was that one had a "duty" to join the new Society.

PSA has a rich and varied history and the *PSA Journal* is committed to telling its story. Every issue published in 2009 will tell some part of the Society's history. A group of writers was recruited by the *Journal* and in April 2008, those on the writing team who were Board members scheduled to meet in Oklahoma City, (**Gerry Emmerich, FPSA, EPSA; Dick Frieders, Hon PSA, FPSA; Elena McTighe; Joanne Stolte, APSA, EPSA; Jean Timmermeister,**

**FPSA; and Sharp Todd, APSA, PPSA**), arrived a day early at their own expense, to research the publications kept at PSA Headquarters—for their respective articles in the series. Authors **Mary Ellen Brucker FPSA; Byron Hindman, FPSA; Dana Vannoy, APSA, PPSA, and Dr. Ralph Venk, Hon. FPSA**, have also written articles for the series.

The entire twelve months of 2009 will bring *Journal* readers a comprehensive history of the Board of Directors and PSA presidents; the Divisions; Charter Member Camera Clubs; the Print Collection; the *PSA Journal*; the Evolution of PSA-recognized Exhibitions; the History of Membership; PSA's Move from Philadelphia to Oklahoma City; PSA Conferences; the Chapters and Councils; and Honors and Distinctions. And for those who like history in small doses, there will also be short historical vignettes.

An undertaking of this scope would not have been possible without a complete set of *PSA Journals* at headquarters and the work of former PSA Historian, the late **Tony Patti, Hon PSA, FPSA**. It was Tony who painstakingly created a *Journal* index encompassing all issues from 1934 - 2003 and who documented many events throughout his PSA career as author and historian.

It is the *PSA Journal's* great honor to dedicate this series, *Celebrating 75 Years of PSA*, to the memory of **Tony Patti, Hon. PSA, FPSA**.

Elena McTighe  
Publications  
Vice President