

The 2010 Wieland Shield Tour is rapidly approaching. Plans are underway at the present time for the tour to be held from January 8-19, 2010.

The priority mission of the exchange tour between Life Saving Victoria and the LA County Lifeguard Association is the educational interaction of coastal life saving principles and philosophies in addition to the 2 day Wieland Shield competition designed to showcase the life saving skills of both teams.

The 21st Wieland Shield competition consists of two teams, Australia, represented by State of Victorian Lifesavers, versus the United States, represented by Lifeguards from the State of California. The two teams consist of Surf Lifesaving's leading swimmers, paddlers, runners and surf skiers. On January 16 & 17, 2010 the teams will race to determine the top surf life saving champions.

The perpetual American Consul General's Trophy, informally called the Wieland Shield, was first presented by Consul General William A. Wieland at Melbourne in 1967. The trophy is made from Victorian red gum wood, and has a badge representing the State of Victoria and the insignia of the American Surf Life Saving Association. The trophy is retained by the winning country until the next biannual competition crosses the Pacific Ocean.

The 4 Women and 7 Man California Lifeguard team will be joined by a Lifeguard Educational Team. The Educational Officers are cultural goodwill ambassadors, and will study lifeguard operations, research new training methods and procedures, and exchange information with the Victorian Lifeguards.

All competitors and educational officers will help raise funds for the trip.

Any current and retired Permanent Lifeguards, Captains, and Chiefs and retirees that are interested in being an educational officer for the tour should send in an interest letter and a short resume detailing your educational and training experience, contributions to the Lifeguard service, LACOLA, the California Surf Life Saving Association, and the United States Lifesaving Association. to Jay Butki: [jbutki@fire.lacounty.gov](mailto:jbutki@fire.lacounty.gov). by Nov. 20, 2009

The cost of the trip will be determined by the amount of sponsorship, donations, and fund raising.

If interested please respond as soon as possible.

Questions call (310) 849-5955