

October 10, 2005

### **ATA INITIATES MEMBER SUGGESTION AWARDS PROGRAM**

The American Topical Association has announced that collectors will now be able to win various prizes for submitting suggestions to the ATA during a one- year trial period, beginning November 1st. Suggestion Programs have been a staple at most major corporations, but this will be the first known time that this type of an opportunity has been extended to members of a major philatelic society.

The purpose of this program is to tap into the knowledge and skills of the 3,400 members of the ATA and other interested collectors, for ideas that can benefit the association in areas of savings, investments, income, membership retention, membership attraction and other ways that can improve the organization and the services it offers to members.

Each suggestion will be acknowledged by the ATA Central Office and reviewed by an ATA Suggestion Award Panel whose decision in all suggestion awards will be final. In the event of duplicate suggestions, the one with the earliest postmark will be the sole awardee; however others who suggest the same idea will be advised of the identity of the person who submitted the first form with that suggestion.

This program could be limited to members in good standing in the ATA, however, some past members who dropped out for one reason or another and others may have ideas that could help the Association and thus the program will be open to all collectors and dealers.

Suggestions must be submitted on the ATA Suggestion form. This form appears in the November-December issue of *Topical Time* magazine. Photocopies are acceptable. The form also appears on the ATA Website:

to download the ATA Suggestion form as a PDF file, [click here](#);

to download the ATA Suggestion form as a Microsoft WORD file, [click here](#);

then print the form, fill in the appropriate blanks and mail it to the following address:

“Suggestions: ATA – PO Box 57 – Arlington, TX 76004-0057”.

Those without a computer may also send an SASE to this address for a copy of the official suggestion form.

Awards will range from ATA handbooks, checklists and ATA memberships for one or two years, to a life membership in the ATA or even transportation to an upcoming National Topical Stamp Show, should the idea generate sufficient funds to merit that sized award. Lists of suggestions received and those suggesting them along with any awards given, will be published in *Topical Time*.

The ATA wants to listen to what collectors want and with this program all collectors have an opportunity to take an active role in helping to improve topical stamp collecting to make it more fun and more educational for all.

For additional information on the American Topical Association contact the ATA Central Office, PO Box 57, Arlington, Texas 76004-0057 (telephone 817-274-1181; fax 817-274-1184; email [americantopical@msn.com](mailto:americantopical@msn.com); or visit their website at [www.americantopicalassn.org](http://www.americantopicalassn.org).