

January 26, 2006

ATA TO CONDUCT MANY EVENTS AT WASHINGTON 2006

The American Topical Association has given its full support to the success of Washington 2006. In addition to a sizeable monetary gift to the organization by ATA founder, Jerry Husak, the ATA decided at their annual board meeting in 2003 to forego their annual National Topical Stamp Show this year so that more of its members would attend the once-a-decade international show that serves philatelists of all persuasions. The ATA has also contributed a crystal figurine of a soaring eagle, made in Germany from the Lenox Classic Crystal Collection (see below).

The ATA will host a number of meetings and symposia during the event. Ann M. Triggler has organized a panel discussion "Thematic Exhibits - Aspects of Their Evaluation" to be held from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM on Friday June 7. The five IFP Thematic Commissioners who will serve on the panel include Damian Laeger of Germany – president of the FIP Thematic Commission,; Giancarlo Morolli of Italy – president of the FIP Thematic Commission; and FIP Thematic Commission members Jose-Ramon Moreno of Spain; John Sinfield of Australia; and Ann M. Triggler of the United States. For any exhibitor of thematic displays, this will afford a unique opportunity to find ways to improve point levels with an inside look at thematic judging rules.

Both, the members of the forty-five active specialized ATA Study Units, along with those who have an interest in some of the topics covered by these Units, should plan to attend a group meeting of members of all these affiliates in which ideas and activities will be discussed to help advance both the Units themselves and the collectors who are members. This will be open to the public and will be presided over by Dalene Thomas, former president of the ATA and currently a member of the ATA Board of Directors and the Study Unit Director.

Sixteen of these affiliates plan to hold open-to-the-public symposia or annual sessions during Washington 2006 for anyone who wants to learn more about these specialized areas of collecting. The first session to be held will be the Christopher Columbus Philatelic Society, meeting from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM on Saturday, May 27th. This will feature a talk by Rita Stark on her new book, *The Four Caravels of Christopher Columbus*, and a presentation by Dr. David Curfman on "Columbus Memorabilia Going Back 300 Years".

Sunday, May 28th will include affiliate meetings by three groups. The Ebony Society of Philatelic Events (Black History), will meet from noon to 1:00 PM with Manuel Gilyard as president and Clarence McKnight as secretary. From 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM the Scouts on Stamps Society International will hold a session with A. Jan Thomas, Jr. as president and Lawrence E. Clay as corresponding secretary. The final meeting of the day will be the Europa Study Unit with Stephen Luster as president and Donald W. Smith, former ATA Executive Director, as Secretary.

Tuesday, May 30th will see the Collectors of Religion on Stamps holding a one-hour noon symposium featuring a lecture by Arkadiusz Walinski on "Pope John Paul II Stamps of the World". The Reverend Augustine Serafini serves as president and Verna Shackleton as secretary.

The Carto-Philatelic Society, whose members specialize in collecting Maps on Stamps will hold their symposia on Thursday, June 1st from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM. David Wolfersberger, President of this group and Alf Jordan, the secretary will preside.

The Ships on Stamps Unit will meet that same day from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM with Myron P. Molnau, president of that Unit and Les A. Smith, secretary.

Five other Units will hold their meetings on Friday, June 2nd. The ATA Biology Unit whose members include collectors of flowers and other plants, birds, mammals and all life forms plan to meet from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM with Fran Hammond, the president, and Alan J. Hanks as editor of their journal, Biophilately. Recent handbooks by members of Bears on Stamps, by Nancy H. Phillips and Terri Waddell, John James Audubon by Lois Herrmann and Plants on Stamps-Volume 4, by Alex Stansen and Jeane Gould will be available at the ATA Table. Immediately following, from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM the Philatelic Lepidopterists Association (collectors of Butterflies and Moths on Stamps) will meet, with Donald P. Wright, Jr., president and author of ATA Handbooks 123 and the follow-on HB 150 Insects on Stamps series, will preside along with Alan J. Hanks, the Editor of their journal, The Philatelic Aurelian.

Also meeting from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM, Angela Watson, president and Joe Petronie, editor of the Lambda Philatelic Journal, will host a meeting of the Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps Study Unit. This will be followed by a "Meet and Greet" session of the ATA Mathematical Study Unit in which Monty J.

Strauss is president and Estelle Buccio is the Secretary. Their Unit's newest handbook #152 "Computers on Stamps" was authored by Larry Dodson.. Finally, the ATA Old World Archaeology Unit will meet from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Merle Farrington is president and Eileen Meier is secretary while Carolyn Scannell, the ATA 2nd Vice President, edits their newsletter, The Old World Archaeologist.

The final four Study Unit meetings on Saturday, June 3rd will include the Medical Subjects Unit, holding a symposium featuring two audio-visual presentations from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Dr. Ranes Chakravorty, First VP of the ATA will discuss "US Stamps and Medical History", while Dr. Frederick Skvara, editor of their journal, Scalpel and Tongue and ATA Chapter Director, will talk on "Philatelic Sketches in Medicine".

From 11:00 AM to Noon that day, the Americana Study Unit will show a computerized \ presentation of "US Presidents on Philatelic Material" which is being developed by Dennis Dengel, David Kent, a past president of the ATA, and Melvin Morris. Mr. Morris with help from David Kent and Donald D. Saddler has written the recent handbooks, The Roosevelts on Worldwide Stamps, JFK and His Family on Worldwide Stamps and the newest ATA Handbook, to be released by the time of Washington-2006, Presidents of the 20th Century on Stamps. It is anticipated that Larry Dodson's newest ATA Handbook, The US Civil War on Stamps will be published by the beginning of Washington 2006. All will be available at the show.

Dalene Thomas, president and editor of the Lighthouse Stamp Society, and also the ATA Study Unit Director and a member of the ATA Board of Directors, will host a symposium on June 3rd from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM featuring a lecture by Henry Gonzalez entitled Lighthouse Restoration in the Chesapeake Bay Region.

The final ATA Study Unit session will be held from 3:00 to 4:00 PM on Saturday, June 3rd by the ATA Space Unit. The guest speaker will be Dr. David Leckrone, senior scientist of NASA's Hubble Space Telescope, featuring fascinating slides of some of the glimpses into the universe made by the HST. Space Stamp designer Chris Calle is also expected to attend.

Throughout the show, ATA's Office Manager, Karen Cartier will relate multi-cultural stories depicted on postage stamps, to children and other interested attendees, from her newest work, Tales by Mail –

Book 2.

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; or visit their website at www.americantopicalassn.org.

