

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (December 12, 2011):



NEW ATA DIRECTOR OF CHAPTERS

The American Topical Association (ATA) has announced that in January Tonny Van Loij will assume the position of Director of Chapters. The ATA is the world's largest organization for philatelists collecting by theme or topic. It has 30 affiliated chapters, geographical stamp clubs who have affiliated with the ATA, in the US, Canada, Australia, India and South Africa. Mr. Van Loij will coordinate the chapters' relationships with ATA and write a regular column with chapter news for ATA's bi-monthly journal, *Topical Time*.

A retired small business owner, Mr. Van Loij lives in Denver, Colorado, and is past president of Topical Philatelists in Colorado (TOPIC). He has collected stamps since 1954, has worked as a stamp dealer for 12 years, and has been an ATA member for 21 years. An active exhibitor of the topics of Europa and Mozart, his other philatelic interests include Beethoven and Colorado postal history. Mr. Van Loij is secretary/treasurer of ATA's Europa Study Unit and a member of the Motiv Gruppe Muzik in Germany, the Austrian Philatelic Society and the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library (RMPL), where he volunteers. Mr. Van Loij also volunteers at the Denver Botanical Gardens and is past president of a local Rotary Club.

Mr. Van Loij succeeds Dr. Fred Skvara who has retired as ATA's chapter director after 6 years in the position. Dr. Skvara retains his seat on the ATA Board of Directors.

ATA Chapters are local stamp clubs who have several members belonging to ATA. They receive extensive free publicity in *Topical Time* and the opportunity to add ATA Handbooks and program DVDs to their club libraries at minimal cost. Local stamp clubs interested in becoming ATA Chapters may contact TONNY VAN LOIJ, 3002 S XANTHIA ST, DENVER CO 80231-4237, tvanloij@gmail.com

For a complete contact list for all ATA Chapters, go to the organization's website at <http://www.americantopicalassn.org/chapters.shtml>. Or email americantopical@msn.com, call 618-985-5100, or write to PO Box 8, Carterville, IL 62918-0008.

Contact Vera Felts, americantopical@msn.com, 618-985-5100, for further information.