

JEAN C STOUT SELECTED AS 2013 ATA DISTINGUISHED TOPICAL PHILATELIST

Topical collector Jean C. Stout of Jackson, Mississippi, has been selected as the American Topical Association 2013 Distinguished Topical Philatelist, according to an announcement by DTP committee chairman Donald W. Smith. The award will be presented May 18, 2013, during the ATA National Topical Stamp Show in Rochester, New York.



Jean Stout joined ATA in 2004, and began serving as a member of the ATA Board of Directors in 2012. She is co-founder and vice president of the ATA Penguins on Stamps Study Unit, organized in June 2007. Serving as Unit Treasurer, Jean regularly teamed up with Unit Secretary Sue Rosenberg to prepare and present CD programs at the 2010 and 2011 unit meetings. During the 2012 unit meeting Jean introduced a contest for members to prepare one-page penguin exhibits to be used in a noncompetitive single-frame exhibit publicizing the Penguins on Stamps unit.

Jean also participates in the ATA Ambassador program, maintains the Penguins on Stamps Study Unit checklist, and has prepared Penguin displays at three different local libraries. She is a member of the American Philatelic Society and the American Society of Polar Philatelists. Her other topical interests include Roosters/Chickens, Sherlock Holmes, and Halloween/Horror.

In early 1996, Jean asked her husband, R. Lamar Stout, a prominent philatelic Rhodesia collector, if there was anything she could do to help. He handed her a shoe box of stamps to soak off covers. He then bought her a *U.S. Minute Man* album, and she was hooked. But, what to collect? The Stouts owned a wholesale company selling refrigeration and heating equipment. The company logo was a Penguin named "Polly." Jean decided to collect penguin stamps initially to illustrate a children's book for her granddaughters.

Jean Stout was born in Port Arthur, Texas; she received a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration from McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana. She has been married for 52 years and has a son, a daughter, and four granddaughters. Jean has been involved with the United Methodist Women, most recently serving as president of her local unit. Other interests include visiting aquariums and zoos, organizing patio flower gardens, and identifying birds.

The ATA Distinguished Topical Philatelist Award was established in 1952 by ATA founder Jerome Husak to recognize notable service in topical philately. This award has been presented in the past 64 years to 120 topical philatelists, including residents of Canada, Great Britain, and Italy. The current selection committee, chaired by Donald W. Smith, consists of Donald Beuthel, Jack H. Green, George Griffenhagen, Dorothy C. Smith, Dalene Thomas, and Mark H. Winnegrad.