NATIONAL TOPICAL STAMP SHOW 2004 AWARDS

The National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS) is the largest all-topical show and exhibition in the United States. Collectors with a wide range of interest compete for a variety of awards, the top of which is the Grand Award won this year by Roland Essig for his exhibit on "Man Beneath the Sea."

Taking the Reserve Grand Award was Edward J. Powell with his philatelically documented showing of "Columbus and His Discoveries." Other Multi-Frame Gold exhibits were: "Wolf", by Frederick Ziemann, which also was awarded the APS Research Medal and the Biology Unit Award; "The Olive: Olea Europaea", by Vincent De Luca, which was also given the American Philatelic Congress award; "Ming Shu: The reckoning of Fate", by Alberta D. Curtis; "The Donkey in Man’s World", by Robert J. Mather; "Under the Seas", by Harvey Edwards, also winning the Ships on Stamps Unit Award; and "Pharos: The Lighthouses of the World", by Dalene Thomas. Mrs. Thomas was also awarded the National Stamp Dealer’s “Most Popular Award” and the Lighthouse Stamp Society’s award.

Francis Adams garnered a gold medal for his single frame exhibit, "Dark Cave – Bright Visions."

Vermeil Multi-frame awards went to Alexander Borges, for "Building Tunnels", which also won the Casey Jones Railroad Study Unit award and an Honors Award from the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE); Richard Woodward for "The World Cup of Soccer" and also won the Sports Philatelist’s International Certificate; and "Save the Monuments of Nubia", by Pharoa Athena.
Display Class Vermeils were awarded to Dalene Thomas for "Jules Verne: The Man and His Works"; and "Microcosmos" by Alan Hanks. Mr. Hanks’ exhibit also was awarded the Philatelic Lepidopterists Award and the AAPE Creativity Medal.

Multi-frame Silver awards were given out to Verna Shackleton for "The Grand Tour: Churches in Middle Europe"; Carl Bogatiuk for "The Statue of Liberty" which also brought him the ATA Americana Unit Award; Kenneth Martin for "Blood: The Gift of Life." Mr. Martin also was given the Medical Study Unit award and the AAPE Honors Award. Other Multi-frame Silver award winners were Claude D. Giralte for "Swimming Pool Water Sports", and "Horse Breeds of the Continents" by Donna Trathen, which was given the ATA Chapter 5 Incentive Award.

The only Single frame Silver went to Jack H. Green for "Jules Verne: Prophet of Space Travel", for which he was also given the ATA Space Unit Gold.

Silver-Bronze awards went to three exhibitors of Single Frame exhibits. These were "The Nature of Bears" by Nancy H. Phillips; "Icarus and Daedalus" by Jack H. Green; and "Giant Panda and Its Conservation" by Sundar Lal Bansal.

Bronze awards were given to three multi-frame exhibits: "Soccer Stamps of the World" by Tony Quinn; "Man-Birds and Their Wings to 1914" by Gib Stephens; and "Fighter Planes Between 1935 and 1953" by Richard H. Boyle.

There were also four Bronze awards in the Display category. They were "Transportation Mosaic" by Marge Schleining; "Everybody Must Get Stoned" by Eleanor Steeb; "The Urchin’s Tale" by Laurie Ryan; and "The First 25 Years of Humans in Space" by Ray E. Cartier, which also took the ATA Space Unit’s Silver medal.

Silver awards for Single Frame exhibits went to Dorothy Smith for "Castles: If East Met West", and to "World of the Dragonfly" by Carl H. Spitzer.
A special exhibit, created by E. Clark Buchli, was on display in the hotel lobby, and was titled "Tennessee On Stamps."

Court of Honor displays included "A History of ATA Conventions and Exhibitions" by Donald W. Smith; "Long Live the King (Elvis)" by Michael Laurence; "Modes of Transportation" from the Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History; and "Toward a United Europe" by Stephen Luster, the 2004 recipient of the Distinguished Topical Philatelist award.

This year’s jury was comprised of Stephen D. Schumann, Chief Judge; Frank Alusio; Cora B. Collins; Ephraim W. Day; and Thomas Lera.