July 15, 2005

TOPICAL AWARDS PRESENTED BY ATA IN MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

The National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS) which is the only annual all-topical national philatelic exhibition in the U.S., convened in Milwaukee, Wisconsin June 17-19, 2005. It was held in conjunction with the American Topical Association's 56th anniversary convention and featured 170 frames exclusively composed of thematic exhibits.

The Grand Award winner was Joseph F. Frasch, Jr., of Ohio for his eight-frame Gold level exhibit entitled Corpus Juris. The exhibit describes the lives of 186 men and women of the American legal profession and a history of American law. The exhibit also won an American Philatelic Society Medal of Excellence and the newly named Don Brenke Americana Award.

The Reserve Grand was won by Joan M. Klimchalk of Michigan for her eight-frame Gold level exhibit entitled Santa Claus: A Living Legend. The exhibit records the story of Santa Claus from St. Nicholas to the practices of the modern myth. This exhibit was also selected as the Most Popular Exhibit by show attendees.

Other Gold level awards for Multi-Frame exhibits went to Jack Andre Denys of New Jersey for Bayeaux Tapestry: Story, Mystery, History which also received an American Philatelic Society Medal of excellence; to Robert J. Mather of Wisconsin for The Donkey in Man's World; and to Frederick Ziemann of Wisconsin for Wolf. This exhibit also won the ATA Biology Unit Award.

A Gold Award also went to the ten-frame Display Class exhibit by Larry T. Nix of Wisconsin, entitled America's Libraries. This first Display Gold that has ever been awarded at the NTSS also received both, an American Philatelic Society Medal of Excellence and Research Medal as well as the American Philatelic Congress Medal. A Youth Gold was won by Elizabeth Sharon Day of Maryland for her five-frame exhibit entitled Why I love Horse thereby receiving the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitor's Youth Grand Award.

Multiple-Frame Vermeil Awards were attained by Alexander R. Borges of Illinois for A Century of Railroad Building, also receiving an American Association of Philatelic Exhibitor's Honors Award and the

Casey Jones Railroad Unit award; by Yukio Onuma of Japan for Beethoven: His Life in an Historical Context; by Mary Ann Owens of New York for Ladybeetle, Ladybird, Ladybug, also receiving an American Association of Philatelic Exhibitor's Honors Award; and by Greg Balagian of Rhode Island for Big Cats and Humans. A Vermeil was also awarded to a Display Class exhibit by Harvey Edwards of Nevada for his entry on under-water craft entitled Under the Seas, which also received the Ships on Stamps Unit Award.

Multiple-Frame Silver Awards were garnered by Terri Edwards of Nevada for Penguin Paradigms: Pfact and Pfiction, which also won the ATA Chapter V incentive Award for the best exhibit by a first-time exhibitor at the National Topical Stamp Show; and by Mirko L. Vondra of Pennsylvania for Musical Arts and Opera. Silver awards in the Display Class went to Erik Norenins of Canada for National Parks: Paradise Lost, and to Mary Ann Owens for The Badger. Silver awards for single-frame exhibits went to Jack H. Green of Wisconsin for The Miracle of Apollo 13, also receiving the Space Unit Silver; to Dan Dobrescu of Romania for the First Romanian in Space, also receiving the Space Unit Gold; and to Ann Byerly of Louisiana for Battlefront Nurses, which also received the Medical Subjects Unit award.

Silver-Bronze awards went to Ray E. Cartier of Texas for his multiple frame exhibit Jules Verne: The Man and His Stories; to Jack H. Green for his single frame exhibit, Jules Verne: Prophet of Space Travel; and to Edward J. Mangold for his single frame exhibit, Chariots and Carriages. A Youth Silver-Bronze was garnered by A. Kenji Shoemaker of Wisconsin for a single-frame exhibit entitled Let's Go To The Circus.

Multiple-Frame Bronze awards went to Christopher Dahle of Iowa for The Universal Declaration of Human Rights; to Robert Hanson of Missouri for Perceptions of the Environment; to Ronald E. Hill for People, Places and Events on the United States on Cuban Stamps; and to Raymond J. Sullivan of Wisconsin for The World of Lepidoptera. Single Frame exhibits wining a Bronze award included Larry G. Canada of Louisiana for Judo: The Gentle Way, also receiving the Sports Philatelist International certificate; and June E. Berwald for The Gridley Family History.

Certificates were granted to John H. Evans of Maryland for Old lory on Stamps of the World; to Robert Jobe of Wisconsin for the History of Christmas Seals; to Dionisio T. Taeza of the Philippines for Wow Philippines; and to Robin Weidner of Pennsylvania for Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin.

A Court of Honor featured George T. Guzzio's award-winning single frame exhibit John Augustus Roebling: The Man and His Works, and the 2004 NTSS Grand Award exhibit on Man Beneath the Sea by Roland Essig of Wisconsin.

Non-competitive exhibits included Dear NASA prepared by Ray E. Cartier; Wisconsin on Stamps prepared by Robert J. Mather, and a History of ATA Conventions and Exhibitions, prepared by Donald W. Smith.

The judge's panel was chaired by Ann Triggle of New York. Other members of the jury included Frederick Lawrence of Arizona; Vincent P. Lucas of Florida; Phillip Stager of Florida; and Kent Wilson of Montana.

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.