

May 19, 2006

MARK WINNEGRAD TOP MEMBERSHIP RECRUITER

Mark Winnegrad of Bronx, New York, has claimed first prize as top membership recruiter for the May 1, 2004, to April 30, 2005, ATA membership recruitment drive with eleven new \ members. winnegrad has achieved first place in ten of the last sixteen years. During this period he recruited a total of 484 new ATA members.

There was a tie for second place, each bringing in seven new ATA members. They are former ATA executive director Donald W. Smith of Johnstown, Pennsylvania; and current executive director Ray E. Cartier of Arlington, Texas. Don Smith was top recruiter in 1981-1982 and again in 1997-1998 with 65 new members, the largest number any person recruited in a single year until the ATA webpage was established featuring a membership application.

Third place was earned by Topical Time editor, George Griffenhagen, of Vienna, Virginia, with three new members. There was a tie for fourth place with Karen Cartier of Arlington, Texas, and Breck Pegram of Frankfort, Kentucky, each with two new members.

Those who recruited one new member in the 2004-2005 campaign include two recruiters from Indonesia (Gita Noviandi and Richard Susilo). California won the state-side competition with three recruiters (Ed Dimmick, David Epps, and Jim Leer). Two states came in second each with two recruiters: Illinois (Howard Buehler and Charlene Schibrowsky), and Ohio (Tom Foust and Donald Saddler). Other states with a single recruiter are Arizona (Carl Spitzer); Colorado (Dalene Thomas); Florida (Charles Covell); Maryland (Charles Vaughn); Massachusetts (George Young); Missouri (Margaret Jones); New Jersey (Frederick Skvara); Oklahoma (Celia Phillips); Oregon (Josef Franke); and Wisconsin (Robert Mather). Other one-person recruiters were Mike Campbell, Maurice Landry, McLeod Stamps, Smyth's Stamps, Stamp Gallery and John Wells.

While the current competition for prizes is limited to individual members, ATA also expresses appreciation to Linn's Stamp News which brought in six new members, and the following which each generated one new member: ATA Ships on Stamps Study Unit; Birmingham Stamp Club of Michigan; Palo Albums Website of Illinois; and Stamp News of Australia.

The ATA 2005-2006 Membership Recruitment Drive is now underway and will end April 30, 2006.

Under the program, ATA members receive a \$2.00 "ATA Boy Buck" for each new member recruited. These can be used for payment of membership dues, for purchasing ATA publications, for advertising in Topical Time, or for making a recognized donation. In addition, ATA members who recruit the largest number of new members in a year receive a special gift for their efforts.

For information on the world's largest all-topical philatelic organization, along with information on the National Topical Stamp Show to be held in Irving, Texas, June 17-19, 2007, contact the ATA Central Office, P.O. Box 57, Arlington, Texas 76004-0057 (telephone: 1-817-274-1181; email americantopical@msn.com); or visit their website at www.americantopicalassn.org.