

December 19, 2006

NATIONAL TOPICAL STAMP SHOW '07 PLANS IN PLACE.

WILL ALSO HAVE NON-TOPICAL DEALERS

The American Topical Association presents their all-topical exhibition and convention annually in different cities across the United States. This year's show, running from June 15th to 17th will be held at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Irving, Texas, adjacent to the DFW Airport. It is located at the intersection of Highway 114 and Esters Road. ATA attendee room night prices have been reduced to only \$89 per night for this newly remodeled showplace. Reservations can be called in to 1-800-345-5251, referencing the ATA for the reduced pricing.

Although the National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS) is topical in nature, non-topical dealers are also being solicited and are filling up spaces for tables at this show. The Prospectus for exhibitors is available from the ATA Central Office – PO Box 57 – Arlington, TX 76004-0057, as well as on-line at www.americantopicalassn.org.

In keeping with the Texas theme, the Grand Prize for this year's NTSS will be a bronze Frederic Remington casting, entitled "Comin' Through the Rye". This sculpture was featured on an 18c USA stamp (Scott Number 1934). There will also be three different western related cancelled and cacheted covers for the show.

On Saturday night, those attending the Awards Banquet will be serenaded at their tables by a group known as Mariachi Alteño, adding a little Tex-Mex flavoring to the event. A celebrity speaker has been solicited to address the attendees, and will be announced at a later date.

The ATA will have a saddled Texas Longhorn Steer in the parking lot on Saturday for those who may wish to have a photo taken on, or alongside the docile beast. The Red River Playboy is noted as having the longest set of horns of any saddled longhorn in the country. The owners charge a nominal fee for photos. Here is a chance to show your Yankee friends how bold you really are.

The show will open at 10:00 AM daily, but on Friday there will be a special 9:30 AM event. It will be a First Day of Issue ceremony from a foreign government, honoring both the Texas Rangers and their favored rifle, the Winchester, which will celebrate its 150th anniversary this year. This was known as "The Gun That Won the West". A Texas Ranger from Company "B" in Garland, Texas will be on hand to

unveil the stamp and tell those at the ceremony a little about the history of this fine branch of Western Law enforcement. This will be followed by a book signing by some of the authors of ATA Handbooks. First Day Covers from this event will be on sale throughout the show at the ATA Table. The cachet has been designed and donated to the ATA by the well-known stamp artist, Chris Calle.

On Saturday, June 16th there will be an all-day book-signing, this time by four authors from the National Outlaw and Lawmen Association. These men have researched outlaws and lawmen of the Old West and have published several books on them. Rick Miller's book on Sam Bass has been noted as the best biography ever devoted to this outlaw and his capture by Texas Rangers. NASA in Houston has loaned the ATA eight artifacts from the Space Age which will be on display at the Space Unit's Society Table, along with a howitzer shell, used to deliver mail from US Military to their North Korean counterparts in the early 1950's. A sample leaflet will also be on display.

At 1:00 PM, Allison Blankenship, a zoologist, will bring in 8 different Texas 'Critters' and let a few lucky viewers touch or hold some of them, including a black tailed prairie dog, a porcupine and others. Stamp Camp USA, run by Cheryl Edgecomb will be running all day on Saturday and Sunday for classes of 25 children each, and space is limited. There will also be an adult trainer's workshop session on Friday. Contact Cheryl at Stamp Camp USA – PO Box 377 – Knoxville, PA 16928-0377 or email stampcampa@intergate.com for more information.

Another major attraction will be the invitation only, Youth Champion of Champion's exhibit competition. Carol Barr has arranged for the best of national youth exhibits to compete for a national crown at this show. MaryAnn Bowman will coordinate an ATA Youth Table as well.

On Sunday, parents and grandparents are invited to bring in children for chaperoned cartoons and popcorn from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. This will give the grown-ups a little free time to look for stamps and covers at the dealer's tables.

There will be a meeting of ATA Chapters at 9:00 AM on Saturday along with several Study Unit meetings and seminars that will be open to the public during the show. Several Society tables have already been reserved.

The hotel has agreed to take visitors to church on Sunday morning. Those who reserve rooms can request this when checking in.

Three different tours will be held during the show with one each on the Thursday before the show opens, another on Saturday afternoon and the third all day on Monday following the show. These will be announced at a later date. Admission and parking will be free throughout the show. There are many things to do in the Ft. Worth – Dallas area. Attendees are invited to make a short vacation out of their visit. For any additional information including an advance registration form or a dealer's packet, contact the ATA Central Office at the address above or call 817-274-1181. Y'all come now!

For information on the world's largest all-topical philatelic organization, 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.



Tarrant County Courthouse
Downtown Ft. Worth, Texas



Saddled Texas Longhorn Steer (The Red River Playboy)