



NEWS FROM THE ATA CENTRAL OFFICE

NOVEMBER 3, 2009 - YOUNGBLOOD AND SAZAMA ASSUME POSITIONS WITH *TOPICAL TIME*

The American Topical Association (ATA) has announced that well-known philatelic journalist Wayne Youngblood is the new editor of its journal *Topical Time*. He succeeds George Griffenhagen who has retired after 17 years as journal editor.

Vera Felts, executive director of the ATA, read the announcement at the ATA's 60th anniversary celebration in Milwaukee on November 3. She read a message written by Jack André Denys, president of the Board of Directors, and introduced Mr. Youngblood as the new editor.

Mr. Youngblood's initial three-year term began that day. He will produce the January/February issue, and will begin the conversion of the magazine to full-color. Mr. Youngblood's experience in philatelic journalism includes positions with *Linn's Stamp News*, *Scott Stamp Monthly* and Krause Publications. Since 2006 he has been a partner of Youngblood Ink, a privately owned family business that specializes in writing, editing and designing. Currently the editor of *Airpost Journal* of the American Airmail Society and *Posthorn* of the Scandinavian Collectors Club, he is also Vice President for Consignor Relations at Regency-Superior Auctions.

Topical interests of Mr. Youngblood are playing cards on stamps, mummies, American Indians and peppers.

A new position of Advertising Manager has been created for *Topical Time*. Robert (Bob) Sazama, Ph.D., recently assumed the position. He is a stamp dealer with myriad connections in national and international philately. Dr. Sazama has promoted topical philately and has consistently recruited ATA members from his customers and within the stamp dealer community.

Beginning their positions at a transitional time for the ATA, Mr. Youngblood and Dr. Sazama join Ms. Felts as newcomers to ATA's leadership. (She became executive director in March.) The organization is in the process of having its website professionally redesigned and has begun a plan called "Buck the Trend," intended to counter the decline of most philatelic organizations. One of the key components of the plan is to make *Topical Time* more and more a must-read journal for an ever-increasing number of English-speaking thematic philatelists.