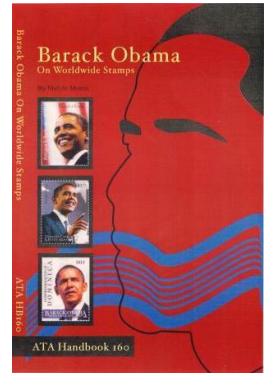


ATA PRESS RELEASE (Release on Receipt)

ATA PUBLISHES *BARACK OBAMA ON WORLDWIDE STAMPS*

The American Topical Association released its 160th handbook on topical collecting at the National Topical Stamp Show in Denver late last month. The title of the newest handbook is *Barack Obama on Worldwide Stamps*. It is the seventh release in the long-running handbook series on US Presidents written by Melvin Morris.



The new handbook will be of special interest to collectors of Americana, US Presidents, Black history on stamps, politically-related philatelic issues, and several other topics including flags on stamps. It covers the period of time between Obama's announcement of his intent to run for US President and his selection as the winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in late 2009.

Obama consists of 96 pages, fully color illustrated, with eight short chapters and 113 high-quality illustrations. Stamps from 30 different countries are listed and illustrated. Chapter titles include "Senator Obama's 'Free Franks,'" "Obama Wins Nobel Peace Prize," "The Coming of 'Bo' Obama," and "Michelle Obama Stamps." This handbook will be a fine visual reference for philatelic bookshelves.

Morris was the editor of *Americana Stamp News*, newsletter of ATA's Americana Unit, from 1992 until early this year. He is a retired high school and college teacher and was an editor for *Grolier's Encyclopedia International*. Morris has been a prolific philatelic writer. His collecting interests include the US Presidents and also dogs on stamps. His brief biography in the *Obama* handbook relates the story of how he collected stamps before he was born!

The graphic designer for the latest ATA handbook is Amanda Morgenstern, a young American philatelist with a BA (Honors) in Graphic Design and an MA in Typographic Design from Cambridge School of Art in the UK. Morgenstern began her career with Hallmark Cards in the UK and is now a freelance designer. Her clientele includes the ATA as well as other US and international entities. In 2009, her work for a client won a Platinum MarCom award. Morgenstern's online portfolio can be found at <http://abovevivid.carbonmade.com/>

The professional printing of *Barack Obama on Worldwide Stamps* was done by Minuteman Press of Toledo, Ohio, which donated handbook copies to the APS and the APRL.

Earlier ATA handbooks related to the US Presidents authored by Morris include HB 127, *John F. Kennedy I* (\$4); HB 132, *George Washington* (\$5); HB 135, *Abraham Lincoln* (\$6); HB 144, *The Roosevelts* (\$17); HB 147, *JFK and Family* (\$17), and HB 154 *US Presidents of the 20th Century* (\$22). ATA discounts the price by \$1/book if the set of seven handbooks is purchased.

Price of the new handbook is \$20 (\$18 for ATA members), plus \$1.75 postage. Copies will be available later this year at ATA society tables at APS StampShow, BALPEX, the Fall Postage Stamp Mega Event in New York, and CHICAGOPEX. A limited number of books has been printed. After the initial printing has been sold, printed-on-demand books will be available at an approximate cost of \$30.

Orders for the new ATA handbook may be made by check sent to ATA, PO Box 8, Carterville, IL 62918-0008, by MasterCard/Visa/Discover called to the ATA Central Office at 618-985-5100, or by PayPal to americantopical@msn.com.

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