



TEXAS PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

“Friendship through Philately”

113th General Assembly and Annual Meeting
Saturday, February 21, 2009, 10:00 a.m.
Arlington Convention Center, Room M-2
Arlington, Texas

MINUTES

Call to Order

The 113th General Assembly and Annual Meeting of the Texas Philatelic Association was called to order April 12, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. by President Arthur P. von Reyn.

Officers and Board Directors Present

Arthur P. von Reyn, President
Douglas Moss, 1st Vice-President
Lyle C. Boardman, Treasurer
Lyle C. Boardman, Secretary
Jane King Fohn, Past President

Peter C. Eilias, Director (2010)
Denise Stotts, Director (2010)
George I. Woodburn, Director (2008)
Robert I. Benner, Director (2012)
James Berryhill, Director (2012)
William L. Strauss, Director (2012)

Approval of Minutes

Denise Stotts, seconded by Jane King Fohn, made a motion to accept and waive the reading of the minutes of the April 12, 2008 General Assembly and Annual meeting of the Texas Philatelic Association. The motion passed.

Reports

Necrology Report presented by Jane King Fohn

The names of ten members who passed away since the last meeting were read by Jane King Fohn followed by a moment of silence in respect for them.
(Attachment1)

Ray C. Ameen – Cabin John, MD
Gerald M. Barry – Fort Worth, TX
Romaine Flanagan – Austin, TX
Phillip M. McArthy – Houston, TX
John T. Pearson – San Antonio, TX

Dale R. Pulver – Cleveland, OH
Kim A. Rice – New Braunfels, TX
Stephen F. Sweeney – Crockett, TX
James A. Talley – Wichita Falls, TX
Robert A. Young – McKinney, TX

President’s report presented by Arthur P. von Reyn:

- No new initiatives were introduced in 2008 however life membership was stressed to members because of a possible increase in rates. The emphasis resulted in 29 new life memberships over the last 14 months.
- All issues of *The Texas Philatelist* in 2008 continued to be subsidized by Norman Cohen. At some time in the future, we will need to revert to a cheaper format if increases in funding cannot be found. Suggested means for increasing funding (other than a dues increase) are 1.) double membership to 1,000, 2.) Triple journal advertising space, 3.) Increase life memberships greatly, and 4.) Build the Journal

Publication Fund. A letter from the San Antonio Philatelic Society recommends returning to the method used earlier to avoid the costs inherent in the color printing process currently employed. The letter will be published in the next issue of *The Texas Philatelist*.

- Two mail auctions were conducted jointly with the Oklahoma Philatelic Society in 2008. They will continue in 2009, with one currently underway.
- The Greater Houston Stamp Show was cancelled due to Hurricane Ike, so meetings of the Board and Foundation were held at the Mid-Cities Stamp Expo in Grapevine.
- TEXPEX will resume as a stand-alone show in 2010 with the Collector's Club of Dallas managing it.
- The costs of using a service to accept VISA and MasterCard charges for dues and donations needs to be reviewed with consideration to only making it active during the annual dues period.
- The Publication Fund, implemented to accumulate funds to support the printing of *The Texas Philatelist* has reached a total of approximately \$6,000 versus a goal of \$15,000 by year end and \$150,000 over ten years. Solicitations will continue. (Attachment 2)

Secretary's Report prepared by Lyle Boardman:

- Membership status

Membership, April 3, 2008	544
<u>Membership, February 15, 2009</u>	<u>537</u>
Net Change	(7)

- Normal attrition of about 10 percent is not included in the numbers above, and as of February 15, 2009, 59 members had not paid their dues.
- A final dues notice will be sent after AmeriStamp Expo/TEXPEX which should result in about 20-25 members paying. (Attachment 3)

Treasurer's Report prepared by Lyle Boardman:

- TPA income exceeded expenses for 2008 by \$7,182 due primarily to donations to the Publication Fund and due to the large number of new Life Members.
- TPA Foundation income exceeded expenses for 2008 by \$2,070 due to increases in donations, the donation auction, and a decrease in expenses for the Youth Holiday contest. (Some of the Youth Holiday contest expenses were recorded in 2009).
- Norman Cohen suggested that there should be more involvement from chapters and that the TPA should be considered more of a parent organization with support flowing both ways. (Attachment 4A and 4B)

Membership Report presented by Arthur P. von Reyn:

- During 2008 membership recruiting included:
 - Mailing of copies of *The Texas Philatelist* to Texas APS members with a letter and an application
 - Making copies of the journal and membership applications available at TSDA bourses in Dallas
 - Staffing TPA booths at four major shows in Texas In 2007 membership recruitment will include (1) mailing *The Texas Philatelist* and membership application to TEXPEX mailing list; (2) journals and applications given to TSDA bourses in San Antonio, Houston and Dallas; (3) staff recruitment tables at major stamp shows in Texas; and, (4) if all members of a Texas Chapter of the Texas Philatelic Association join TPA, there will be a page in *The Texas Philatelist* dedicated to the group.
- During 2009, membership efforts will include:
 - Mailing to APS members (done just prior to AmeriStamp Expo/TEXPEX)
 - Copies of the journal and applications at TSDA shows
 - Staffing society tables at all major shows
 - Promoting chapter pages in the journal and recruiting members from chapters (Attachment 5)

Webmaster's Report presented by Arthur P. von Reyn:

In addition to the features of the website described in earlier documents, this year the website was used to recruit volunteers for AmeriStamp Expo/TEXPEX with noted success.

Visit counts for recent years are: (cumulative visits)

April 7, 2006	9,103
April 13, 2007	12,379
April 11, 2008	15,813
February 20, 2009	19,200

The monthly average over the last ten months is 335 compared to the prior year of 286. (Attachment 6)

TEXPEX report presented by Tom Koch:

TEXPEX will revert to its normal configuration, location and time frame next year. Sponsorship will be transferred from the Southwest Philatelic Foundation to the Dallas Collector's Club. The TPA will be asked to participate in a greater way by agreeing to perform discreet tasks as defined by the Show Chairman. Any member will be eligible to participate. Tom will be presenting this concept to the membership in an article in *The Texas Philatelist*.

***The Texas Philatelist* report presented by editor Douglas C. Moss:**

During 2008, *The Texas Philatelist* was produced in full color with 44 pages plus cover, and the inside and back covers were supported by advertising. All member

clubs were offered a full page for reporting chapter activities – only the Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society and taken advantage

Doug acknowledged four first-time authors whose articles appeared in TTP:

- Dr. Craig Boyd
- Elizabeth York
- Jeanne Stough
- Jerold Plumb

Also acknowledged was Patrizia Nova of the UT-Dallas Special Collections Department for her article about the TPA holdings at the McDermott Library.

The Texas Philatelist was awarded a Gold medal at the 2008 National Exhibition of Washington, DC (NAPEX).

Plans for 2009 include encouraging new and repeat authors, and encouraging chapters to provide a page of news each issue. (Attachment 7)

Award Announcements

The Forcheimer Philatelic Literature Award was presented to Lou David Allen for the best article to appear in *The Texas Philatelist* in 2008, and the Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society was awarded the Spalding Trophy Award for the best recruiting effort by a chapter.

New Business

No new business items were presented and there were no resolutions from the floor.

Next General Assembly and Annual Meeting

The next General Assembly and Annual meeting of the Texas Philatelic Association will be held at TEXPEX at 10:00 am at the Doubletree Hotel near the Galleria, Dallas, Texas.

Adjournment

Patricia Richmond made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Robert Thompson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyle Boardman,
Secretary-Treasurer
Texas Philatelic Association

NECROLOGY REPORT

The following members passed away during the 12 months preceding this meeting:

Ray C. Ameen – Cabin John, Maryland

Gerald M. Barry – Fort Worth, Texas

Romaine Flanagin – Austin, Texas

Phillip M. McCarthy – Houston, Texas

John T. Pearson – San Antonio, Texas

Dale R. Pulver – Cleveland, Ohio

Kim A. Rice – New Braunfels, Texas

Stephen F. Sweeney – Crockett, Texas

James A. Talley – Wichita Falls, Texas

Robert A. Young – McKinney, Texas

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Arthur P. von Reyn

1. No new initiatives were introduced in 2008 other than an increased emphasis on life membership ahead of a possible rate increase. Since December of 2007, 29 new paid life memberships have been recorded, apparently the most ever over such a short time span.
2. All issues of *The Texas Philatelist* in 2008 were printed in the 48-page full-color format, subsidized by member Norman Cohen, owner of Adventure Graphics in Dallas.
3. Barring a substantial dues increase, a letter accompanying the 2009 dues statements cited four ways of increasing funding for *The Texas Philatelist*:
 - a. Double membership to 1,000.
 - b. Triple journal advertising space.
 - c. Increase life memberships greatly.
 - d. Build the Journal Publication Fund
4. One interesting response was received to that letter:

The members of the San Antonio Philatelic Association (SAPA) have voted to donate \$100 to the TPA's Journal Publication Fund.

While we support the TPA's efforts to produce a quality philatelic journal, we are not sure the current – costly – publication is the way to go. We appreciate the current publication with its slick paper, but...the money for this effort has been, and continues to be lacking. SAPA is willing to donate \$100 to the cause, but in today's economic situation, we cannot go further. Frankly, we doubt that any of the four ways described in the letter will succeed in supporting the current journal.

We believe it is time to rethink the format of *The Texas Philatelist* and get it into a more financially viable shape. SAPA members would not be opposed to seeing the journal return to a simpler black-and-white style on lighter paper. Older members recall when the journal was produced in a mimeograph format, and they enjoyed it. One of our new members belongs to a Middle Eastern-related philatelic society that publishes a very good black-and-white journal with clear photos.

The above is only one idea; we hope you are receiving other suggestions. We realize “going back” may not be a popular idea, but the current reality dictates this popular journal be financially sound as well as philatelically interesting.

Manfred Groth,

Treasurer, SAPA

5. Two joint mail auctions were conducted in conjunction with the Oklahoma Philatelic Society during 2008, with Gil Weisser serving as auctioneer. Both were deemed successful.
6. The TPA/OPS Winter Auction 2009 ends today. Lots are on view at the TPA booth. Please don't overlook this activity in your buying frenzy at AmeriStamp Expo/TEXPEX!!!
7. The 2008 Greater Houston Stamp Show was canceled due to *Hurricane Ike*, so TPA meetings were held at the Mid-Cities Stamp Expo in Grapevine.
8. TEXPEX will resume as a stand-alone show in 2010, with the Collector's Club of Dallas managing it.
9. In late 2007, the TPA commenced accepting MasterCard and Visa, primarily to enable acceptance of dues through our website and to encourage more donations to the TPA. Due to the expense, if this program is to be continued, cards should be accepted only during the dues collection period instead of year-round.
10. In 2007, a Journal Publication Fund was established to help fund the publication of *The Texas* in future years in the current full-color format. The goal was to accumulate a reserve of \$15,000 by the end of 2008 and \$150,000 in ten years, but as of this date only about \$6,000 has been raised.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

By Arthur P. von Reyn

MEMBERSHIP STATUS:

Membership, April 3, 2008	544
<u>Membership, February 15, 2009</u>	<u>537</u>
Net Gain	(7)

Note: The normal attrition rate is usually about 10 percent. As of February 15, 2009, there were 59 members who had not yet paid their dues for 2009. A final dues notice to be sent after AmeriStamp Expo/TEXPEX will likely result in 20-25 more collections. The low point in last year's dues cycle was 504 members, indicating there might be a net year over year gain this time around.

TEXAS PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (Unaudited)

Revenue and Support:	YE 12/31/2008	YE 12/31/2007	YE 12/31/2006
Membership Dues	\$8,228.00	\$5,286.50	\$6,637.00
<i>The Texas Philatelist</i> ads	1,139.15	404.50	1,114.85
Interest Income	427.36	404.88	370.42
Gifts	1,039.58	890.71	337.61
Auction	32.08	0.00	0.00
Publication Fund	3,943.68	1,072.00	0.00
<u>Other Income</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>10.00</u>
Total Revenue and Support	\$14,809.85	\$8,058.59	\$8,469.88
Expenses:	YE 12/31/2008	YE 12/31/2007	YE 12/31/2006
Archive Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$26.78
Auction Expense	109.82	44.16	0.00
Board Expense	123.60	92.20	108.25
Credit Card Fees	250.23	19.45	0.00
Directory Expense	0.00	169.73	552.20
Dues Collection Expenses	503.64	24.89	62.36
Editor's Expenses	75.69	28.55	51.97
New Member Recruiting	1,066.15	1,788.95	2,289.08
Prepare <i>The Texas Philatelist</i>	3,975.52	3,701.71	3,285.19
<i>The Texas Philatelist</i> postage	1,447.54	1,664.39	789.12
Secretary's Expense	75.32	0.00	134.46
Treasurer's Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>5.00</u>	<u>101.89</u>
Total Expenses	\$7,627.51	\$7,539.03	\$7,401.30
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$7,182.34	\$519.56	\$1068.58

STATEMENT OF ASSETS (Unaudited)

Assets:	12/31/2008	12/31/2007	12/31/2006
Cash and Equivalents	\$28,616.27	\$20,127.93	\$19,608.37
<u>Bulk Mail Deposit</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Assets	\$28,616.27	\$20,127.93	\$19,608.37
Liabilities:			
<u>Payable to TPA Foundation</u>	<u>\$1,306.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total Liabilities	\$1,306.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Net Assets:			
Unrestricted	\$13,174.59	\$9,935.93	\$10,488.37
Life Membership	9,120.00	9,120.00	9,120.00
<u>Publication Fund</u>	<u>5,015.68</u>	<u>1,072.00</u>	<u>1,072.00</u>
Net Assets:	\$27,310.27	\$20,127.93	\$19,608.37
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$28,616.27	\$20,127.93	\$19,608.37

TEXAS PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (Unaudited)

Revenue and Support:	YE 12/31/2008	YE 12/31/2007	YE 12/31/2006
Donations	\$3,146.22	\$2,747.40	\$2,747.40
Auction Donations	339.50	0.00	0.00
Interest Income	436.19	415.75	415.75
Dividend Income	186.00	210.00	210.00
Grant for Stever Book	9,852.00	0.00	0.00
Total Revenue and Support	\$13,959.81	\$3,373.15	\$2,112.89
Expenses:	YE 12/31/2008	YE 12/31/2007	YE 12/31/2006
Support for TEXPEX	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Donations	500.00	500.00	500.00
Awards	50.00	50.00	50.00
TEXPEX Awards	265.84	326.70	386.92
Website Rental	119.50	119.50	115.40
TPA Xmas Contest	102.34	710.36	227.05
Treasurer's Expenses	0.00	5.00	0.00
Publication of Stever Book	9,852.00	5.00	0.00
Total Expenses	\$11,889.68	\$2,711.56	\$2,279.37
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$2,070.13	(\$399.23)	\$1,093.78

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS (Unaudited)

Assets:	12/31/2008	12/31/2007	12/31/2006
Cash and Equivalents	\$20,157.91	\$19,393.78	\$19,793.01
Investments	2,160.00	0.00	0.00
Receivable from TPA	1,306.00	0.00	0.00
Total Assets	\$23,623.91	\$19,393.78	\$19,793.01
Liabilities:			
<u>Liabilities</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Net Assets:	\$23,623.91	\$19,393.78	\$19,793.01
Total Liabilities and Net Assets:	\$23,623.91	\$19,393.78	\$19,793.01

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Arthur P. von Reyn

1. To grow our membership, efforts in 2008 included:
 - a. Mailing copies back issues of the TPA journal and membership materials to collectors on the APS mailing list.
 - b. Staffing member recruitment tables at all four major shows held in Texas, including the National Topical Stamp Show.
 - c. Samples of TPA journals were dropped off at a couple of TSDA shows this year with apparently no response.
2. 2009 efforts will include:
 - a. Mailing *The Texas Philatelist* to APS members who are not TPA members, along with a letter and membership application. (Note; This was done just before this show.)
 - b. Again trying to leave copies of *The Texas Philatelist* and membership materials at more TSDA bourses.
 - c. Staffing society tables stamp shows in Texas. Volunteers are always needed for this activity.
 - d. Promoting a program to have chapters to buy pages in the journal and have their members join.

WEBMASTER'S REPORT

By Arthur P. von Reyn

1. The website was programmed for recruiting volunteers for AmeriStamp Expo/TEXPEX. This resulted in double the volunteers that had been obtained by the APS alone. Hopefully, this capability will be utilized for future TEXPEX shows.
2. The many resources on the website include electronic files of *The Texas Philatelist*, a dealer listing, a member bourse, U.S. stamp issue calendar, links to other philatelic sites, U.S. historical postal rates, etc.
3. Interactive features now on www.texasphilatelic.org include:
 - a. Submitting membership applications.
 - b. Turning in chapter activity reports.
 - c. Paying dues and making donations.
 - d. Requesting free "Classified Bourse" ads.
 - e. Requesting OPS Sales Division books.
 - f. Registering philatelic events like stamp shows, first day of issue ceremonies, etc.
 - g. Volunteering for stamp shows
4. Since your president is also the webmaster, time constraints limit the frequency of updates.

Visit counts for recent years are:

April 7, 2006	9,103
April 13, 2007	12,379
April 11, 2008	15,813
February 20, 2009	19,200

The monthly average of visits was 335 for 2008-098 versus 286 for 2007-08.

THE TEXAS PHILATELIST REPORT

By Douglas Moss

1. During 2008, all bi-monthly issues of *The Texas Philatelist* were full-color, with 44-pages plus cover.
2. The inside covers and the back cover continue to be “sold out” with all paid advertising.
3. Last year, a full page was offered to TPA chapters. Only the **Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society** has taken advantage of this offer.
4. See Doug at the show about your society getting a page in the every journal issue!
5. First time Texas Philatelist authors (who are also TPA members):
 - a. Dr. Craig Boyd
 - b. Elizabeth York
 - c. Jeanne Stough
 - d. Jerold Plumb

Also a special thanks to Patrizia Nava (UT-Dallas Special Collections Department) for her article about the TPA holdings at the McDermott Library.

6. We are always looking for aspiring writers. Please talk to Doug about writing an article for the journal in 2009.
7. Remember, the best article during the year will win the Forcheimer Philatelic Literature Award!
8. *The Texas Philatelist* was recognized at the 2008 National Philatelic Exhibition of Washington D.C. (NAPEX) with a gold award. The journal will be entered into more literature competitions in 2009 in order to gain more insight into how to improve this publication.