PROSPECTUS
TOPEX '67
AMERICAN
TOPICAL
ASSOCIATION
18th Anniversary
1949 - 1967
16th Annual Convention

TOPEX '67
c/o Lincoln Rochester Trust Co.
Midtown Plaza Office
Rochester, N. Y. 14604
Attention of: R. J. Stillman

EXHIBITION - CONVENTION - BOURSE
HOST
ROCHESTER PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Headquarters, MANGER HOTEL
Rochester, N. Y. 14604
JUNE 23-25, 1967

ATA Official Definition of TOPICALS
(Revised and accepted August 1964)

Topical Collecting is defined as forming a collection of STAMPS or Postal Markings, selected and arranged for subject of design or theme suggested, rather than by country of issuance or type of postal service rendered.

(a) The material of the collection shall pertain (generally) to one subject or one theme. (A theme is defined as a narrative or development of an idea.)

(b) The collection may include maximum cards, postal markings and covers, and stamp varieties such as perforations, watermarks, paper etc., provided the inclusion of these is necessary to develop the topical subject or theme.

(c) A collection using topical postal markings may include stamps not of a topical nature; however, a topical relationship between stamp and postal marking should be considered as adding to the collection.

(d) Inclusion of used (cancelled) stamps in a collection is acceptable, provided the obliteration does not obscure the important part of the design.

(e) Material such as seals, labels, poster stamps, publication clippings, photographs and similar items not issued for postal use are NOT considered of a topical nature for collecting; unless such material is included as "additional illustrative material or is used discriminately only as amplification of subject or theme in a manner that does not detract from the stamps themselves.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. This exhibition is open to any collector, regardless of society affiliations, to exhibit his own material, provided the entry meets the requirements for topical collection as given in the prospectus. All work on exhibit MUST be that of the exhibitor.

2. Because of the scope of topical subjects it is possible to collect, there will be no entry classifications. Each entry blank MUST give the TITLE of the exhibit and a brief description of not more than 30 words. Either in the TITLE or DESCRIPTION, the exhibitor must give the scope of the exhibit - i.e., What is the Story? What is Being Told by the Exhibit?
3. Exhibits must not show marks of identification or marks of ownership on the face of the pages or sheets exhibited. If the exhibit contains covers, the exhibitor must cover his name and address so it is not visible.

4. Each exhibitor must file with the Exhibition Committee a signed entry blank, which is attached, signifying acceptance of these rules and regulations.

5. All exhibits must be mounted on loose leaf album pages to fit frames holding 16 pages, 8½ x 11 inches, placed in 4 rows of 4 each. Album pages of larger size may be overlapped for exhibition purposes.

6. The entry fee will be $5.00 per frame of 16 album pages in sizes specified above, payable with application (entry blank attached), and forfeit upon failure to exhibit.

7. Any one exhibit will be limited to 3 frames.

8. In the event that frames are oversubscribed, the Exhibition Committee reserves the right to allocate frames or reject any exhibit in whole or in part in order to assure the best topical coverage. Entry fee and postage will be refunded for any exhibit which is rejected because of such oversubscription.


10. Remittance for exhibits, enclosed with entry blank properly filled out, must be made PAYABLE TO TOPEX '67.

11. Exhibits must be sent prepaid to: Lincoln-Rochester Trust Co., Midtown Plaza Office, Rochester, N.Y. 14604, attention of R. J. Stillman, and must be received by June 10th, 1967; unless other arrangements have been made.

12. If exhibits are not received before the agreed date of June 20th, 1967, the entry fee will be forfeited.

13. All exhibits will be mounted and displayed by the Exhibition Committee.

14. No exhibit or part thereof may be removed prior to the close of the exhibition, June 25, 1967.

15. Exhibits will be returned as soon as possible via Railway Express (at exhibitor’s declared valuation) at the expense and risk of the owner, unless other arrangements are made with the Exhibition Committee.

16. If the exhibitor desires his exhibit returned by some other means, the Exhibition Committee shall be so informed. If by mail, payment for postage, including registration or insurance, should be included with the entry application.

17. TOPEX '67 will provide all-risk insurance coverage above that carried by the owner not to exceed a maximum of $300.00 for each exhibit during the period the exhibit is in the possession of TOPEX '67, beginning June 10th, 1967.

18. No liability shall attach to the American Topical Association, the Rochester Philatelic Association, Inc., nor the Manger Hotel, nor any of their members, committees, appointees or employees for any loss or damage in any exhibit arising from any reason or cause whatsoever. Every precaution, however, will be used to safeguard the exhibits at all times.

19. A panel of judges will be prearranged with alternates to serve at last minute changes. The Chairman of the local Judges Committee will act as liaison between the selected Judges and the exhibition to arrange for settlement of all questions which may arise. The decision of the Judges will be final concerning the awards to exhibits.

20. The basis of judging will be as follows:

   I. PRESENTATION (of pages)
      General appearance .............. 20 points

   II. TOPICAL OR THEMATIC KNOWLEDGE
      a) Originality .................. 10 points
      b) Coverage (extent of treatment of theme) .......... 15 points
      c) Research (technical knowledge of theme shown) .......... 15 points

   III. PHILATELIC ELEMENTS
      a) Condition (of stamps, covers, etc.) ............ 10 points
      b) Philatelic Items (suitable, adequate material to theme) .... 10 points
      c) Scarcity .............. 10 points
      d) Philatelic Knowledge (research necessary to assemble material) ........ 100 points

21. An exhibition Award will be made on an “open basis”. These will be made:

- A Grand Award for the best exhibit of the show.
- The next ten best exhibits will receive First Awards.
- The next ten best exhibits will receive Second Awards.
- The next ten best exhibits will receive Third Awards.

The number of exhibits receiving first, second and third awards may vary at the discretion of the judges or the Exhibition Committee.

22. A Certificate of Participation as well as an Adjudication Sheet will be given to each exhibitor. The Adjudication Sheet will denote the composite opinion of the Judicial Panel.

23. Special Awards – donated by ATA Units, Chapters, individuals or non-affiliated organizations will be awarded. Such donors should be specific in their directions for what they wish the award to be made. However, no Special Award will be made unless there are two or more exhibits in the classification for which the award is presented.

JUNIOR AWARDS: Juniors 16 years of age or under may exhibit in a special competitive section in which several awards will be made. Juniors will be limited to 3 frames of six album pages each. Fee will be $1.00 per frame of six album pages. A Junior exhibitor will be subject to the same instructions as a regular exhibitor, and all material exhibited must be his or her own. Any Junior may exhibit in the regular exhibition in which case, he cannot compete in the Junior Section.

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS: Manger Hotel, Rochester, N.Y. 14604. Advance Hotel reservations can be obtained by writing to Mrs. S. Clark Place, 65 Amherst St., Rochester, N.Y. 14620, or by mailing the enclosed business reply card to the Manger Hotel.

EXHIBITION AND BOURSE: Arrangements are being made to operate a branch Post Office at the exhibition, at which a special postal cancellation will be applied to letters mailed at this branch. The bourse will be conducted by selected stamp dealers who will have stocks of stamps – topical, specialized or general -- for sale to collectors and visitors. A souvenir program will be issued early in June and will be made available to visitors and exhibitors at the show. Your advertisement or notice in the program will not only provide support for the ATA’s 16th annual Convention, but will also carry your message to visitors, guests and discriminating members of the American Topical Association. Rates and other details will be supplied upon request to the General Chairman, TOPEX '67.

ANNUAL BANQUET: The Anniversary Banquet and presentation of exhibition awards will be held on Saturday, June 24, 1967 at the Manger Hotel.