

# AWARDS PRESENTED BY THE TEXAS PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

The awards program of the Texas Philatelic Association (TPA) is broad in scope and is intended to honor all contributions to Texas philately. It can be categorized as individual awards, chapter/unit awards, and exhibition awards. The following is a brief description of the various awards by category, with a comment on their current status (as of September, 2010)

## INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

### *Honorary Membership*

The TPA in recognition of outstanding service awards Honorary Memberships on occasion, by a member. In accordance with the TPA Bylaws (Article II, Section 1, paragraph b) the Board of Directors, by simple majority vote of those voting, may confer upon any person an Honorary Membership which may be for life or for a specific term of years. (Still an active award. None have been awarded in several years.)

### *The Forcheimer Philatelic Literature Award*

This award was established after the death of Leon C. Forcheimer, 1906-1974. At the tender age of fifteen, he began a journalism career that spanned more than fifty years. He wrote the stamp column for *The Houston Post* from 1964 to 1972 and was TPA Secretary-Treasurer from 1971 to 1974.

All original articles appearing in *The Texas Philatelist* during a calendar year are eligible for this award. A committee of three accomplished writers and philatelists is appointed to judge the articles. The awards are presented at the TEXPEX Awards Banquet. The awards are \$150 for the best article, \$75 for the second best and \$50 for the third best. Each recipient also receives a certificate. (Changed from one to three awards at the TPA Foundation Board meeting 9/18/2010 in Humble, TX.)

(Active)

### *Distinguished Philatelic Texan Award*

Established in 1974 to honor members of the Texas Philatelic Association for contributions of service to philately, to the TPA or to the study of Texas Postal History. Recipients must be members of the TPA and qualify in two of six categories, one of which must be from "Class A." The class categories are summarized below:

- A-1: Distinguished Service to the TPA over a sustained period of time as an officer or appointee.
- A-2: Distinguished Contributions to the Science of Philately by publication of original studies, lectures on philatelic topics at club meetings or seminars, or frequent presentations to non-philatelic organizations.
- A-3: Distinguished Contributions to Texas Postal History by publishing several original studies or articles, or of a single handbook relative to some phase of Texas Postal History.

- B-1: Distinguished Service to Organized Philately by having served as an editor or officer for a national, specialist or international philatelic organization for a sustained period of time.
- B-2: Distinguished Service for Philatelic Exhibitions reflected by winning major awards at five state or national shows, serving as a judge at ten or more state, regional, national, specialist or international shows, or having made major contributions to five philatelic exhibitions.
- B-3: Recognition by other Philatelic Organizations such as selection to a national level stamp advisory board, or having been recognized with an honor award by other national or international societies.

The award itself is a 2-inch gold medallion on a plaque, and a 1½-inch gold medallion attached to a red, white, and blue ribbon that only can be worn the three days of TEXPEX. An Honorary Lifetime Membership accompanies this award. The selection committee consists of all former award winners, who may choose to not give an award if no one qualifies.  
(Active)

### ***Deceased Member Honor Roll***

Established in 1976, the purpose of the Honor Roll is to provide a means of honoring those who have served the TPA and have since passed away. The original committee established guidelines that granted future Boards of Directors flexibility in presenting the honor. The guidelines are as follows:

1. The Candidate must have died while a TPA member in good standing.
2. The Candidate must have been deceased for a period of at least two years before his/her name is placed on the Honor Roll.
3. The Candidate must have contributed to the welfare of the TPA in at least one of the following categories:
  - Personal enrollment of new members in quantity,
  - Publicizing the TPA by work with the media,
  - Contribution of articles to *The Texas Philatelist*, or
  - Enhancement of the TPA image by virtue of his/her own personal character.

(This award has not been active for several years.)

## **CHAPTER/UNIT AWARDS**

### ***The Spalding Trophy***

Awarded each year to the TPA chapter or unit whose members recruit the most new members during the year. Each year's winner has their name inscribed on a plate attached to the base. The Spalding Trophy is on permanent display at the Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library at UT Dallas in Richardson, Texas. The award is based on the number of new members who join in the time between the TPA annual meetings at TEXPEX.  
(Active)

### ***The Galveston Award***

In 1964, an anonymous donor provided a trophy to promote interest in the Texas Postal History project. A small replica of the trophy was to be awarded to the Chapter which, by decision of the Board of Directors, has accomplished the most in this field during the year. The first award went to the Galveston County Philatelic Society.  
(Not currently active.)

### ***The Col. Donald P. Spalding Memorial Award***

This award is made to the chapter or unit earning the greatest point total at the annual TPA meeting exhibition (TEXPEX). Chapters and units earn points for exhibits by their members. A first-place award receives 3 points, a second award receives 2 points, and a third-place award receives 1 point. Chapters must have three exhibits to qualify. An exhibitor who is a member of more than one chapter must designate the chapter to which their exhibit is assigned.

The San Antonio Philatelic Association in honor of one of their past-presidents, Col. Spalding, who was killed in an accident in 1972, donated this Award.  
(Not currently active)

## **EXHIBITION AWARDS**

### ***Texas Philatelic Association President's Award***

Given at TEXPEX and local stamp shows for the Best Exhibit by a TPA Member. Local chapters and units holding shows must apply to the TPA President for the award. The President's Award is a certificate. The winner at TEXPEX also receives a trophy (usually a Texas-themed item.)  
(Active)

### ***Exhibition Medals and Awards***

The Texas Philatelic Association provides the awards presented at the annual TEXPEX exhibition. The awards, consisting of gold, vermeil, silver, silver-bronze and bronze medals, with the TPA seal on their face, are awarded at the discretion of the exhibition jury. TPA also provides the Grand and Reserve Grand awards for TEXPEX.  
(Active)

### ***Cryer Cup***

The Cryer Cup is a memorial to the late Mr. and Mrs. J.C.M. Cryer, of Port Lavaca, Texas. It is awarded to the best exhibit of 19th century United States material at the annual TEXPEX exhibition. Each year's winner has their name inscribed on a plate attached to the base of the Cryer Cup. The Cryer Cup is housed at the Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library at UT Dallas, in Richardson, Texas. The winner receives a separate award to retain.  
(Active)

***The TEXAS SERIES***

Each TPA Chapter or Unit that holds an annual show is invited to send one exhibit to TEXPEX to participate in the TEXAS SERIES. The selected exhibits are entered into the TEXPEX exhibition free of fees, and the local winners receive a certificate and a free year's membership in the TPA. Their exhibits become eligible for the "Best of the TEXAS SERIES" Award, and are also eligible for all other awards at TEXPEX. At TEXPEX, the award certificate is given with a trophy (usually a Texas-themed item). The TEXAS SERIES is only active when there are three or more club exhibitions scheduled in the time period between TEXPEX shows (effective after TEXPEX 2011). (Changed at the TPA Foundation Board meeting 9/18/2010 in Humble, TX.)

(Active)

***The Joe T. Fincher Memorial Award***

To be given to the highest scoring Texas Postal History exhibit, or if none, the highest scoring Postal History exhibit presented by a TPA member.

(Awarded as late as 1984, but not lately.)

***State Youth Championship Trophy***

A special State Youth Championship Trophy for the best junior exhibit in statewide competition is provided to TEXPEX annually by the Texas Philatelic Association.

(Not currently active.)