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FROM TEXPEX 2003

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**TEXPEX 2003 THEME TO RECOGNIZE**  
**“200 YEARS OF POSTAL HISTORY IN TEXAS”**

DALLAS – TEXPEX, the annual national stamp show in Dallas, will celebrate “200 Years of Postal History in Texas” at the 2003 exposition, April 11-13 at the Renaissance Dallas North Hotel, LBJ Freeway and Midway Road.

The show offers free admission and free parking to everyone. Included is a Youth Fun Center open to all youngsters, a bourse of 40 national and regional dealers, informative seminars by philatelic specialty groups, a three-day U.S. Postal Service substation with special show cancellation and philatelic items, and an awards banquet.

The major national stamp show is presented by the Southwest Philatelic Foundation with support from the Collectors Club of Dallas, the Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library at the University of Texas at Dallas, the Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society, the Mid-Cities Stamp Club and the American First Day Cover Society Chapter No. 56.

“Pieces of postal history have been preserved from the area known as Texas as far back as 1801 and 1803,” said Tom Koch, TEXPEX chairman. “The Texas Postal History Society, a group that specializes in these early postal covers and documents, meets annually at TEXPEX. Anyone interested in postal history or just Texas history in general is invited to attend their open meetings.”

Renowned Dallas collector Gordon Bleuler will present a special seminar about Texas postal history at 2 p.m. on Friday, April 11 in one of the TEXPEX meeting rooms. The TPHS meets at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 12.

The Texas Postal History Society was formed in 1975 for the purpose of increasing the understanding of Texas postal history through collections, research, publications and exhibitions.

(more on reverse)

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Members frequently display material at the TEXPEX exhibition and maintain an information table at the show. The group presents the prestigious Dr. William H.P. Emery Award to extraordinary exhibits about Texas postal history. A special U.S. Postal Service pictorial cancellation will feature the Texas postal history theme as will the show cachet and official program. Many of the collectible items relate directly to the early history of Texas including the Spanish period, Mexican period, Republic of Texas, statehood, Confederacy and Reconstruction in the 1800s.

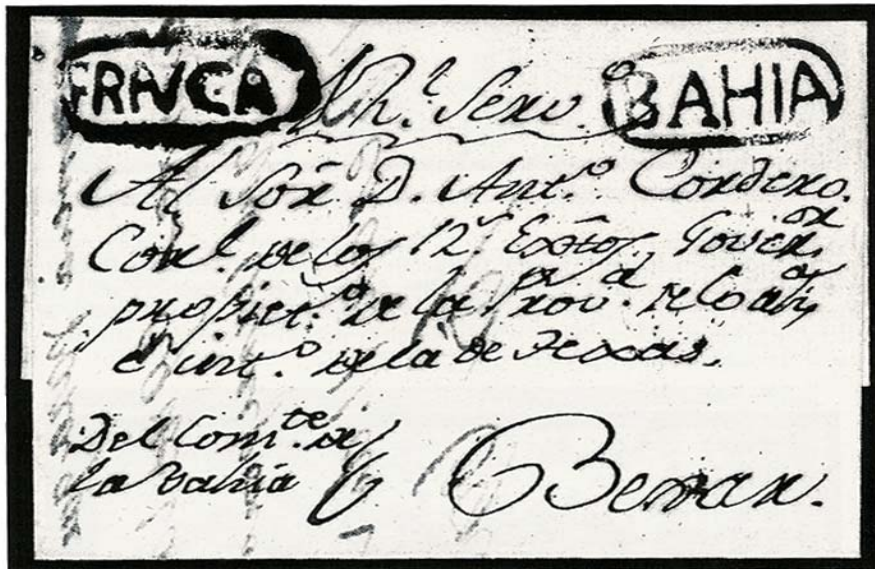
A special 16-page non-competitive exhibit will showcase the elements of Texas postal history collecting at this year’s show.

TEXPEX is a prestigious “World Series of Philately” show, sanctioned by the American Philatelic Society (APS). Exhibitors compete in the 188-frame TEXPEX exhibition that is judged by APS certified officials from across the United States. The Grand award winner qualifies for the APS Champion of Champions Philatelic exhibition in August.

The hotel’s show rate is \$89 single/double. Reservations must be made by March 11, 2003. Call 1-800-468-3571 for national reservations. The local number is 972-385-9000.

For show details call 972-883-4951.

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This letter, dated Aug. 11, 1807 during the Spanish period, was sent by the commander of La Bahia (Goliad) to the Governor of the Province of Coahuila y Texas, Don Antonio Cordero, in Bexar (San Antonio). “Franca” means the letter was pre-paid.