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SPORTS PHILATELISTS, AMERICAN TOPICAL **TO MEET AT TEXPEX 05**

Dallas, Texas – Sports Philatelists International (SPI) and the American Topical Association (ATA) will hold meetings at TEXPEX to be held from April 8-10, 2005 at the Doubletree Hotel Near the Galleria (LBJ Freeway at Midway Road.) TEXPEX is an American Philatelic Society World Series of Philately show and is known as “The Best Stamp Show in Texas.”

SPI will hold its convention, exhibits and awards presentations at TEXPEX 05. For the first time the ATA is organizing a special regional meeting at TEXPEX. ATA Executive Director Ray Cartier maintains the ATA’s headquarters in nearby Arlington, Texas.

SPI and ATA join the Texas Philatelic Association and the TPA Foundation who hold annual meetings and award presentations at TEXPEX. TEXPEX 05 will mark the 109th meeting of the TPA who is a leading sponsor of TEXPEX.

“Dallas has long been considered one of the world’s leading sports cities so we find it appropriate to have the Sports Philatelists bring their meeting here,” said Tom Koch, chairman of TEXPEX. “While SPI includes all sports they are particularly impressive in collectors of Olympic Games material. Texas and Dallas have had a significant share of home grown Olympic athletes. It should be fun.”

Koch added that Cartier and the ATA have long been friends of TEXPEX and the show welcomes that organization’s formal participation. “SPI is an affiliate of the ATA so that makes for a nice pair,” he said.

TEXPEX is also the site of the bi-annual meeting of the Texas Postal History Society, the North Texas Chapter of the American First Day Cover Society, the Fleet Admiral Nimitz Chapter of the Universal Ship Cancellation Society and the C.R. Smith Chapter of the American Air Mail Society.

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TEXPEX is organized and presented annually by the Southwest Philatelic Foundation. It is sponsored by the TPA and TPA Foundation with support from the Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society, the Mid-Cities Stamp Club, the Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library at the University of Texas at Dallas, the Collectors Club of Dallas and the American First Day Cover Society North Texas Chapter.

For additional information:

The TEXPEX website is <http://users.waymark.net/texpex/index.html>

The SPI website is <http://sportsphilatelists>

The ATA website is <http://americantopicalassn.org>

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