

**JAJOS HISTORY**, by Clete Delvaux in 2019,  
*Supplemented by the APRL and edited by Cynthia Scott in 2024.*

**Journalists, Authors, and Poets On Stamps** (JAPOS) celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2024. On **July 16, 1974**, JAPOS became a Study Unit of the American Topical Association. The first issue of the quarterly JAPOS Bulletin was published at the same time. JAPOS later became affiliate #68 of the American Philatelic Society and chapter #54 of the American First Day Cover Society.

JAPOS started with 60 charter members and continued to add new members for several years. As with many philatelic societies, membership ebbs and flows. Our March 23, 2024 count is 34.

The original editor of the JAPOS Bulletin was **Gustav Detjen, Jr.** When he died, finding an editor became a problem. After a series of short-term editors (Cynthia Scott, Lin Collette, Fred Greene, Jim Yeaw) attempted to resurrect and maintain the bulletin, Clete Delvaux, took over the reins of editorship for the summer 2001 issue and continued through autumn 2023. Other positions changed over the years as members were willing to assume a role. Elections were a formality because, as is common in small clubs, never more than one candidate volunteered at a time for each office.

#### **List of Officers and Their Dates of Service**

**Presidents:** Harold Woodman, Andrew Kwiatkowski, Clete Delvaux (Pro-Tem), Caxton Foster. Clete Delvaux accepted the presidency in 1994; he would like someone new to take over now.

**Vice Presidents:** Barbara White & Lawrence Loveless, Edna Cummins & Helen Cushman, and Clete Delvaux. Mark Winnegrad began his VP role in 1994 and continues today.

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Gustaf Detjen, Jr. until 1988, Cynthia Scott Spring 1990-Autumn 1991, Louis Forster Winter 1991- Spring 2000, Sol Baltimore Summer 2000 – Spring 2003, Lee Straayer Summer 2003 - Summer 2010, Sol Baltimore interim 2010 – 2017, Christopher Cook Spring 2017 to present. Chris would like someone new to take over this role.

**Publisher/Printer:** Sol Baltimore 1998 to 2020, Christopher Cook 2020 to Oct 2023, Cynthia Scott January 2024 to present. Until 2017, publishing was a separate function from editing.

Methods of publishing changed from photocopying to hiring a commercial printer. The current editor prints color hardcopies of the bulletin at home in addition to producing electronic PDF versions.

Early issues of the bulletin were filled with Andrew Kwiatkowski's checklist, which was published separately in a ring binder around 1983. It was soon out of date. In 2013 we learned that a member, **Marianne Gelbert**, had a country and **author checklist** of JAPOS material. She still maintains it and can customize it for members wanting a certain author or poet at a per page nominal cost.

One of the most prolific contributors of articles to the JAPOS Bulletin, Jeff Dugdale (until passing in Aug. 2021), was the first to scan and make PDF versions for the editor to email to members. Another member, **Joyce Poole**, has been maintaining an author **index of all articles that have appeared in the Bulletin since 1991**. It is in Microsoft Excel 1997-2003 format and can be sent to any member upon request.