

**2022 Annual General Meeting of the Éire Philatelic Association
October 15, 2022**

Our AMG was held in-person and virtual via Zoom. a virtual format via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by President Ray Murphy at 3:05 pm (EDT). As our newly-elected president, Dave Brennan, was unable to attend, there was no official passing of the gavel.

Our AGM had 17 in attendance. The first order of business was a moment of silence for six departed ÉPA members:

W.J. O'Donnell (0710)	John Brinckloe (0928)
Tom O'Hagan (2176)	Bill Tatham (2232)
Kevin Drury (2606)	John Huffman (2719)

The **Secretary** determined that a quorum was present and the Minutes of our last AGM (October 10, 2020) were approved. The Secretary indicated that the ÉPA had a decrease in membership of 16 since our last AGM for a total membership of 268. (The treasurer has reported a membership of 276 due to recent reinstatements).The following officers were elected for the term 2022-2024.

President - David Brennan
Vice President North America - Michael S. Canavan
Vice President Europe - Brian Warren
Directors - Brian Callan, Barney Clancy, Philip Kane
Richard Kelly, Ray Murphy, Timothy O'Shea

Thanks were given to all who have served and continue to serve the ÉPA.
Tax forms were filed at the State and Federal levels for the fiscal year 2021.

The new website, developed by Wordpress, is up and running. We are now able to deliver our Revealer in an online formate and implement the new dues structure. In addition, we are no longer limited to the size of the revealer on the website, or any exhibits that we post.

The Secretary receives many inquiries about collection disposal. I always encourage people to join the EPA and sell their material through our auction. Bob Kemper has put together an informative info sheet on collection disposal. Please send an email to me for a copy.

Treasurer's Report – Bob Benninghoff Paying membership declined from 289 to 276. The cost of printing and mailing the Revealer remains steady at \$1760 per issue, for an annual expense of \$7100. Total real income (as of 9/1/22) was \$10,433; total expenses were \$24,185, more than half of which was for the new website. Our net worth is \$24,994.87. It remains to be seen how the increase in dues with an online option will effect our overall income. Bob Kemper's Stellar efforts as our Auctioneer continues to be our greatest source of revenue. We need to help the Association by more vigorous biding in the EPA auctions.

Bob thanked those members who included a contribution with their membership dues. They will be receiving a souvenir from Stampa compliments of Bob.

President's Report. The Secretary reported on our Board meeting for president Brennan. reported on our virtual Board Meeting of October 14, 2022.

Auction Manager's Report. ÉPA commission generated through the ÉPA Auctions for the current Reporting Period (September 2021 - August 2022) have totaled \$2751.77– an average of \$687.94 per auction. Consignments of quality material have been declining and some of our long-term Consignors are running low on additional material to consign. Additional consignments and/or donations are required to maintain the level of benefits for the ÉPA being achieved the past few years. Without these additional consignments and/or donations, I anticipate a significant drop off in auction benefits to the ÉPA over the next year. (The total ÉPA benefits from the first auction in our next Reporting Period were the lowest total since Auction #190 in 2018.) Donated material plays a major role in generating revenue for the ÉPA. While several Members have donated. Bob indicated that the EPA must look for another auction manager, as he is planning to retire after eight years of service. **Please send in material for our auction.**

Awards Committee Chair Mike Canavan announced the ÉPA Awards. Mike thanked the members who served on the three committees.

The Vincent A. Linnell Award for the best *Revealer* article in 2021 was awarded to Robert Benninghoff for his article “Ireland and Her Wars”. Secretary Sharkey presented Robert with the Linnell Award certificate.

The 2022 Linnell Award was awarded to Mike Doherty for his article “Back to County Dublin”. His past articles on the counties of Ireland were also recognized.

The 2021 Clark Award for service to the ÉPA was awarded to Brian Warren for his outstanding contributions to the ÉPA, including his series “That Was The Year That Was”. There was no Clark Award for 2022.

The 2022 Field Award for contributions to Irish philately was awarded to Robert Benninghoff. The citation was read by past-president Rich Kelly, who presented Robert with the Field Award certificate.

[The Board has since received an email from Robert indicating that he was honored and humbled by these awards and that he accepted the awards on behalf of his wife Jean and himself and thanked members of the ÉPA and the Board

The Revealer. Articles are needed for the Revealer. Steve does not have enough material for the winter edition. researched or popular articles, long or short, are most welcome. Steve entered The Revealer in the Literature Competition at Capex 22 and it won a silver medal. Congratulations to Steve and all of our authors.

New Business. At the recommendation of Past-President Ray Murphy, a thumb drive, containing a searchable database of past Revealers from 1951 to 2020, will be sent to the American Philatelic Society Research Library for their digitization project. [This item has been sent by the Secretary to the APS]

A brief discussion was held on future AGMs. Suggestions included:

Have Nojex for the home base of our AGMs

Have regional or chapter meetings at Nojex (John Barry Chapter?, Northeast regional meeting?)

Because of increasing costs, have only virtual AGMs via Zoom.

More discussion is needed.

Our 75th anniversary is coming up in 2026. This is the same year as the International Show in Boston (society tables will cost \$500). We should plan for a special souvenir. The GPO and Stamps helped us to celebrate our 50th anniversary.

Concluding Remarks were going to be presented by Ray Murphy but we lost audio contact. His written comments are attached to these Minutes.

A motion to adjourn was approved at 3:40 pm (EDT).

The meeting was followed by an excellent PowerPoint presentation by Bob Benninghoff entitled “**Telling History Through Philately**”. The presentation will be available for viewing on the ÉPA web-site www.eirephilatelicassoc.org.

Respectfully submitted,
John B. Sharkey,
ÉPA Secretary,
November 10, 2022