

Travelers

tpa TRAVELERS
PROTECTIVE
ASSOCIATION

The Magazine of The Travelers Protective Association | April 2023 | Vol. 61 Issue 1

**Hilton Head Harbour
Town Lighthouse**

Feature State:

SOUTH CAROLINA



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ALBERT M. SHOEMAKER, JR.
Chief Administrative Officer

I hope this message finds you and your family healthy and safe. With new vaccines, booster shots, and therapeutics, the rate of coronavirus infections is decreasing, and there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Prior to the pandemic, serving in the role of chief administrative officer allowed me to visit with members across the country. As the world begins to reopen, I would be honored to attend your post and division events in 2023.

Please remember that new members can join online. I encourage you to visit our website at www.tpahq.org. In 2022 we had more than 16,300 new visitors on our website that generated new memberships and unsolicited online donations. To help retain membership, current members can easily renew online.

The board approved continuation of The Excitement Program through April 30, 2023, our current membership incentive program. It's time to get excited about writing new members! Membership is the key to future success, and I encourage you to take advantage of this lucrative program. Turn to pages 24-25 of this magazine for details and requirements.

Your board of directors is dedicated to the betterment of the Association by exhibiting prudent financial management, sound investing strategies, and increased investment in resources and technology. As I write this article, we have just completed our statutory financial statement filings with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners and our state regulators. We closed our books and ended the 2022 fiscal year with \$13.2 million in assets and \$12.0 million in surplus.

We continued our commitment to improving the quality of life in the communities we live in through community service and safety programs, to our members in need through The Homer T. Wilson Humanitarian Fund, and to those with hearing loss through Hearing Trust grants. In 2022 we served our communities by raising \$41,742 in donations and issuing \$54,800 in grants. I am proud of you for your efforts, hard work and loyalty.

I hope to see you at the 133rd Annual Meeting in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina from June 4-8. The Beach Cove Resort offers the best in affordable oceanfront condos and suites. All accommodations include a private oceanfront balcony, kitchen, utensils, and cookware. Barefoot Landing is a mile away and offers more than 40 stores, restaurants, and attractions. To learn more, turn to pages 20-21 of this magazine.

Business sessions will be held on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. There have been no proposed amendments filed, so any proposed amendments must be brought from the floor on Monday. Tuesday is a free day with no TPA commitments so you can enjoy the local attractions, shopping malls, restaurants, pools, and the beach. Turn to page 22 of this magazine to see the schedule of events.

It is because of outstanding members like you that TPA can continue to offer the support, hope, protection, and fraternalism that allows us to improve the quality of life for our members and their communities. I sincerely thank you.

Fraternally,
Albert M. Shoemaker, Jr.
Chief Administrative Officer

E.L. Reed, President
Joel Lederman, Vice President

Albert M. Shoemaker, Jr.,
Chief Administrative Officer

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I became a member of Post K when I graduated from college. I have now been a member for 64 years and during this time I have seen the attitude and the meaning of TPA change. We in Post K had bicycle rodeos where members taught children bike safety and inspected their bikes. We gave smoke alarms to people who needed one. Post K sponsored baseball teams for youth. We also sold Christmas trees to raise money for our projects. TPA had the same prestige as Rotary, Jaycees, Lions Clubs and other major organizations that help others.

The last 10 years I have been on the State Board and then the National Board of Directors before serving as President for two years. It has been an honor to be your president and the two years have gone by quickly.

Over the last 10 years I have come to realize that TPA HAS TO CHANGE from the bottom up and from the top down. The "good old days" are gone.

Some of you use the TPA National Convention as a summer vacation. The convention this year is our 133rd and it will be in North Myrtle Beach from June 4-8, 2023. The 2024 National Convention will be in San Antonio. These are two good vacation spots so let's have fun along with the business sessions.

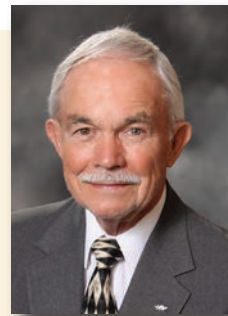
It is because of you, the members of TPA of America, that we can improve the quality of life for our members and the communities we live in across the nation.

A big thank you to all of you for your help, your ideas, your suggestions, and all the work each of you have done in your own way for the two years I have served as President.

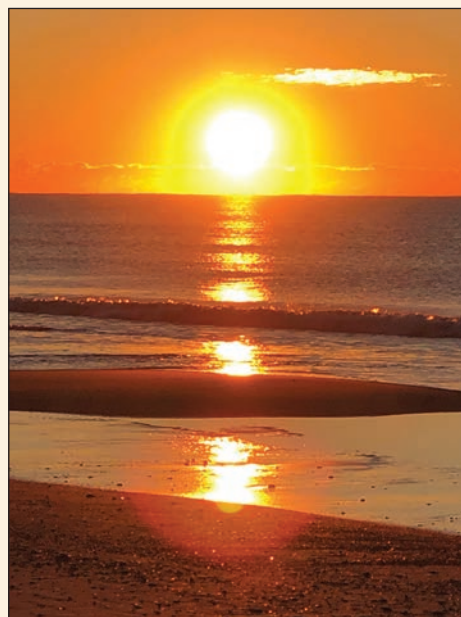
WORK FOR A NEW TPA!

I hope to see all of you in
North Myrtle Beach.

Fraternally yours,
E.L. Reed
National President



E.L. REED
National President



Through My Eyes

BY PAULA SHOEMAKER

I distinctly remember my first question ... What is TPA?

Through my eyes, I've seen TPA from several aspects. It started out with gaining knowledge of TPA as my husband and now CAO, Al Shoemaker, started the interview process. I remember the long wait the day of his final interview with the job offer following. The first time I visited the office on Lindell Boulevard, I took in the size and history of the building. The history of TPA was displayed from the moment you walked in the door and in each and every room, I truly got a walk down memory lane.

Al's first day on the job was the national convention in Branson. I had no idea what to expect or how to prepare for the trip, so of course I just jumped in and was immediately introduced to so many people sharing how many years they have been attending convention and as a member of TPA. I thought, what is it about

TPA that keeps people as members for years and years?

After learning about the organization, it was time to get involved on the post level.

After more than a decade, we opened a new post in the Missouri Division, Post SC (Saint Charles) where I serve as post secretary, community service, communications, and safety chairperson. It was important to have a post open in the same area as the national office to engage in the community and to spread awareness of TPA.

The perspective from this level gave me another view of TPA, the posts do so many things in the states we serve. I've seen BINGO games and late-night cookie baking in Pennsylvania, can tab collection, sock and food drives in Michigan, community fair and bike giveaway in Kentucky, and Fourth of July community celebration in Colorado, to name a few. I started thinking and talking to our new post members and we jumped in and started our first 5K Walk for the Hearing Trust, donating over \$1,000 each year until we had to pause for the pandemic.

During COVID-19 our post came together to provide bags of food for our first drive-by food giveaway in the national office parking lot, and other posts followed with food drives and donations. We had to do something to help our

communities in this uncharted territory of COVID-19 ... and we did!

Another view of TPA has been serving as a state board of director and being a part of the decision-making process for the division. This helps with communication, changes and updates coming from national and going to the division members.

And yet another view of TPA is from being asked to serve the national board of directors on a committee that reviewed special projects and was appointed by the national president.

An additional view of TPA is from the state secretary's point of view. I recently took the position and quickly saw the responsibilities of accounting, application processing, reporting and communication on a greater level. The state secretary is the voice of the division.

One more view of TPA is as a member of the SEAT (State Executive Advisory Team) Committee, this is an appointed position by the national president to represent and discuss best practices for all states.

Another point of view is getting to know the national presidents and their spouse/partner. We spend time together in the stressful situations and in fun times. We grow relationships and trust. We meet kids and family members, find lost keys, help with boarding passes, make phone calls for emergencies, and help with a few unexpected hospitalizations. The number of behind-the-scenes duties and tasks to help in any way makes this a very unique view.

A treasured view is getting to see the national office staff make everything happen. I get to see the hard work that takes place at every convention to make it a great event. From the early-early mornings to the late-late nights, this dedicated team makes EVERYTHING happen.

My favorite view throughout the years with TPA is wife and partner to CAO, Al Shoemaker!

I've had the privilege of traveling with Al and meeting and making lifelong friends, helping with conventions and state meetings, and getting to share ideas and ways to make TPA better. Sharing after board meeting dinners and discussions, early morning flights and late-night meetings in the hotel lobby and hallways have all been a part of this journey.

The giving heart and passion to help others fuels my heart and soul and continues to do so with the TPA members in each of the communities we serve.



Dear TPA Members:

My name is Joel Lederman, and I am appealing to you as chair of the Planned Giving Committee and past national president of the Association.

Our committee asks for your consideration to create a planned or deferred gift created by a donor and communicated to the Travelers Protective Association of America. Gifts may be designated for the TPA Hearing Trust and/or the Homer T. Wilson Humanitarian Fund.

Gifts or donations to these funds are tax deductible as both funds are 501(c)(3) tax exempt charities. We are happy to provide sample bequest language below to assist you in leaving a gift to communicate your legacy; it tells a story of what you hold as very important and valuable in your life and community.

Leaving a gift to the Homer T. Wilson Humanitarian Fund and/or the TPA Hearing Trust through your will or trust, life insurance proceeds, or individual retirement account (IRA) is an easy and impactful way to sustain the work of the funds helping our members in dire need and helping those with hearing issues that need assistance.

Note the sample language below that shows how a bequest can be accomplished. This is not provided as legal advice and we suggest you contact your legal counsel.

UNRESTRICTED GIFT

A Gift that can be used by the fund where need is greatest.

I give to the Homer T. Wilson Humanitarian Fund (tax ID #43-6195695), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation located in St. Charles, Missouri the sum of \$ _____, for helping TPA members in need.

I give to the TPA Hearing Trust (tax ID #51-0173451), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation located in St. Charles, Missouri the sum of \$ _____, for helping individuals that are deaf or hard of hearing.

The mission of the TPA Hearing Trust is to provide financial aid to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing for resources that will allow them to achieve their full potential. To date the Trust has provided over \$2.4 million, benefitting more than 6,100 individuals. Recipients utilize the funding from these grants to obtain the assistance and resources needed, including technology, assistive services, specialized services, specialized education and classes, interpreters, and much more.

The mission of the Homer T. Wilson Humanitarian Fund is to provide financial assistance to TPA members in need. Funds come from voluntary contributions and investment income. Many TPA members have been helped confidentially in previous years and recently with damages to their homes from storm disasters in various states.

If you need assistance with your estate, we recommend contacting your family attorney or a qualified financial advisor dealing with estate planning in your community.

General questions may be addressed to me, Kay Aycok, Tom Davis, E.L. Reed, or Albert Shoemaker by email at joell55@yahoo.com, mksba@aol.com, tdavismayor@hotmail.com, elreed37@gmail.com and ashoemaker@tpahq.org.

Lastly, again our committee sincerely thanks you for helping either or both worthwhile TPA charities.

Fraternally yours, Joel Lederman, Chair
Planned Giving Committee

Embracing the EMPTY nest

Are you an empty nester? Congratulations! You've just entered a new stage of life that can be incredibly exciting and fulfilling. You're free from the day-to-day duties of raising children, but what are some of the best ways to make use of this newfound freedom? Here are eight great ideas for how you can make the most out of being an empty nester, presented by the Travelers Protective Association.

Eight Ways to Enjoy This New Phase of Life



1. Traveling

One of the great things about being an empty nester is that you have the time and resources to travel more. Nowadays, there are so many ways to travel without breaking the bank. Whether it's taking a road trip with your partner or planning a bucket list vacation with friends, now is your chance to explore new places and experience different cultures.

2. Learning a New Hobby or Skill

With all this extra time on your hands, why not take up something new? Take cooking classes online or enroll in a local painting class. If you don't have time for an ongoing course, try exploring YouTube tutorials or joining an online forum dedicated to your hobby. It's never too late to pick up something new!

3. Enrolling in an Online Class

Taking an online class offers a great opportunity to explore subjects and topics that you have always been passionate about. From learning more about history or diving into the depths of philosophy, take a look at this and take the time

to explore courses and classes across a wide range of fields! With limitless knowledge to be explored, you can expand your skillset, learn something new and open up countless doors with the power of engaging with these digital classes. It's an exciting adventure waiting for you!

4. Decluttering Your Home

Now is also a great time for decluttering and downsizing your home. Start by donating clothes, furniture, books, and other items that you no longer need—you can even get creative by repurposing old furniture pieces into art projects! Once you've cleared out some extra space in your home, consider renting out a room on Airbnb as a way to make some extra money while still getting plenty of quality family time at home.

5. Starting a Garden

If you're looking for something calming yet productive, gardening may be right up your alley! Plant vegetables if you want fresh produce throughout the year or flowers if you want vibrant colors blossoming outside your window each springtime—the possibilities are

continued on next page

endless! Gardening is also great exercise and will help keep both your body and mind active during retirement age.

6. Socializing More

With all this free time on your hands, why not start taking advantage of those group activities that were put off due to the lack of available hours before? Join book clubs, weekly potluck dinners with friends, and paint nights at local galleries—the possibilities are truly endless when it comes to socializing more now that you're an empty nester!

7. Volunteering

Not only is volunteering rewarding in itself but it can also introduce you to like-minded individuals who share similar interests or values as yourself. Plus it's a great way for busy people who don't have full-time jobs anymore (like empty nesters!) to stay engaged with their community while still giving back in meaningful ways.

8. Starting a Business

Last but certainly not least—why not explore starting a business of your own? Many retirees find that they have newfound energy after no longer having kids at home all day long and can dedicate more attention towards their hobbies than ever before which could lead them down the path towards starting their business venture. Explore different avenues such as selling homemade products or offering services related to fields such as tutoring or photography depending on what interests you most!

Being an empty nester doesn't mean life has come to an end—it means that life has just begun again! Now is the perfect opportunity for embracing this next stage by doing something special with all this newfound freedom such as traveling more often; learning new hobbies; enrolling in online classes; decluttering; starting gardens; socializing; volunteering; and even starting businesses of your own if desired.

Story submitted by guest contributor Tyler Evans and Pexels Photo by Marcus Aurelius.

2023 State Convention Dates

State	Date	Contact	Phone	Location
Colorado	April 12, 2023	Rocco Astuno	303-232-4760	Astuno Residence, 3154 Routt Street, Lakewood, CO 80215-7026
Illinois	TBD	Dixie Burdett	309-565-7778	
Indiana	TBD	Steve Sternberger	260-415-0008	
Kentucky	TBD	Boyce Hager	270-304-9350	
Louisiana	April 29, 2023	Alfred Moore	713-202-1061	Cajun Tales Seafood, 501 N. Adams Street, Welsh, LA 70594
Maryland	TBD	Herbert Struder	410-744-8532	
Michigan	May 6-7, 2023	Mark Cassis	616-677-1436	Amway Grand Plaza, 187 Monroe Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Minnesota	May 7, 2023	Suzanne Bursh	763-221-1903	
Missouri	April 29, 2023	Paula Shoemaker	573-645-7047	Waters Edge HOA, 35 Water's Edge Court, Lake Ozark, MO 65049
Nebraska	TBD	David Steffen	402-312-8020	
North Carolina	TBD	Bailey Bledsoe	336-681-1448	Embassy Suites, 204 Centreport Drive, Greensboro, NC 27409
Ohio	TBD	Marlene Beaver	440-497-8426	
Oklahoma	TBD	Fred Berry	405-248-4338	
Pennsylvania	May 13, 2023	Carol Ruffner	717-821-5849	Saint Mark's UCC, 426 North 8th Street, Lebanon, PA 17046
Rhode Island	April 20, 2023	Ron Bedard	401-821-9286	Tomaselli's at Rosario, 17 Rosario Drive, Providence, RI 02909
South Carolina	TBD	Bill Mills	803-351-7588	
Tennessee	TBD	Danny Harman	423-646-2360	
Texas	TBD	Julie Kupper	432-425-2757	
Virginia	May 17, 2023	Harrell Jory	757-380-2598	Wilson Bros. Barbecue, 1224 West Danville St., South Hill, VA 23970
Wisconsin	May 20, 2023	Wayne Warnecke	920-207-1804	Mineshaft Restaurant, 2041 South Koeller St., Oshkosh, WI 54902



President **Joel Lederman**

Representing the Colorado Division

Joel Lederman joined the Nebraska Division June 1, 1961 and has been a member for 62 years. He became an active member in the Kearney Post and wrote 10 to 25 applications during the years he lived in Nebraska. Joel served as post president, post secretary, state president, and served on the post and division board of directors. In 1982 he was elected to the national board of directors and completed his two-year term as finance chairman and served on other committees. In 1985 Joel and his family relocated to Colorado where he operated his own demolition and asbestos abatement firm successfully for 20 years. Joel was honored to be elected in 2012-2013 to the national board of directors from the Colorado Division. In 2014 he was elected national vice president and in 2015 was elected national president of TPA and completed his year successfully as national president in 2016.

Joel has stayed active in his division and on a national level by continuing as a director on the national board, working as a trustee for the TPA Hearing Trust and attending national conventions. In June 2022 Joel was elected as vice president for a second time at the annual convention in Michigan.

Joel has been honored to serve as a trustee for the TPA Hearing Trust for many years and is a Platinum Level contributor. It is his favorite charity, which helps youth and adults obtain grants to assist with the cost of medical expenses associated with hearing loss.

He knows and works well with national headquarters staff, CAO Al Shoemaker and Doug Johnson. Joel is in good health and able to devote all the time necessary to serve as president. He continues to improve membership, and if invited, will promote community service and safety with trips to posts and divisions. Joel promotes TPA charities including the Homer T. Wilson Humanitarian Fund and TPA Hearing Trust. Over the years of being active in TPA he has made very close and wonderful friends in our Association from all over the United States.

Your support to elect Joel Lederman as national president at the 2023 national convention will be most sincerely appreciated and you will have his full-time effort to continue running TPA as smoothly as possible and to work to reverse membership loss in our Association. Thanks for your support everyone and may you all be blessed with good health and happiness in the coming years.

If anyone has any questions, Joel would love to hear from you at any time. His phone number is 303-505-9236 and email is joell55@yahoo.com.



Vice President **Julie Kupper**

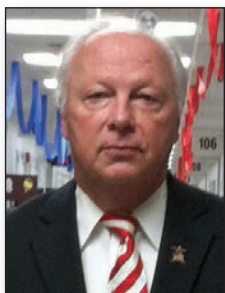
Representing the Texas Division

Having "grown up" in TPA due to my dad's commitment and belief in all that TPA stands for, I became a member in 1993 (when women were invited to be members). I became the Texas Division Secretary in 2010 and since that time, I

have also served on the national board of directors. During my years as a director, I served on the finance committee, membership committee and bylaws committee, both Fraternalist of the Year and Merit Award, as well as being appointed a trustee for the TPA Hearing Trust, where I have been honored to serve as chair for several years.

My professional career included 35 years as an elementary school teacher, 19 years in physical education, four years as a classroom teacher and 12 years as the librarian. I have also served as an adjunct at the University of Texas Permian Basin where I have taught methods classes and supervised both student teachers and interns. The grand total of my professional service is 51 years during which time I learned to work with a variety of personalities, including teachers, administrators and students.

My goal for the organization is to be a team player, support the division secretaries as well as the national board and members of this "wunnerful" organization. I am asking for the opportunity to serve again and would greatly appreciate your support.



National Director

Thomas E. "Tom" Davis

Representing the Kentucky Division

Tom has been a member of TPA for 53 years. Tom's history with TPA began in his early teen years when attending multiple national conventions where his father, James E. "Snoz" Davis, was

the sergeant-at-arms for many years.

Tom has been serving as the president of the Kentucky Division for eight years and as Post C president for 10 years. He is a graduate of Western Kentucky University and used his business degree to have had three careers in finance, politics and the hospitality industry that has led to his living from coast to coast in the United States. He has served as president and

chief executive officer of three different credit unions, vice president of operations of an Indian casino company and president-owner of a restaurant/convention center company. His political career started as chairman of the Henderson County Tourist Commission which led to his serving as city commissioner and the mayor of his hometown of Henderson, Kentucky. He also served his community as chairman of the United Way of Henderson County and currently serves as a member of the board of directors of the Henderson War Memorial Foundation representing veterans in Henderson.

Tom is responsible for the Kentucky Division of TPA and Post C being the primary sponsors of the State Deaf and Hard of Hearing Spelling Bee for middle school and high school students in the state of Kentucky. As a member of the Baptist faith, Tom has served his community, his local Post C, the Kentucky Division and wishes to continue serving on the board of directors of the Travelers Protective Association.



National Director

John Chmielewski

Representing the Michigan Division

John Chmielewski of the Michigan Division is seeking a term as a national director. John has served as your national president 2008-2009, president elect 2007-2008, national director 2005-2007, was appointed to

replace Barry Palmer in 2009-2011, and served again from 2016-2018. He has served as your Group 6 community service chair, Michigan Division president, communications committee

chair and Post A (Grand Rapids) president and director. His past national TPA committee positions were Publicity and Public Relations chair, Ritual chair and was appointed to the committee that finalized and presented the current format of the constitution and bylaws. He attended over 25 national conventions and sponsored 25 or more members 14 times. At the division and post levels John has been elected to or appointed to virtually every position. John's past business experience, educational background, and involvement with many nonprofits such as credit union, church, Knights of Columbus, Junior Achievement, and others have been documented many times and serve as a solid foundation for this position.



National Safety Chair

Kay Aycock

Representing the North Carolina Division

I fully consent to give the time and effort required to serve as the national safety chair for the 2023-2024 year. I will strive to increase our participation in and recognition for the many volunteer service projects undertaken by TPA.



There are no Proposed Amendments this year. The deadline has passed and none were received.



Travelers Protective Association Awards \$13,400 in Financial Aid to Deaf and Hard of Hearing

The TPA Hearing Trust issued 17 grants, totaling \$13,400, to applicants requesting assistance during the fourth quarter of 2022. Established by TPA in 1975, the mission of the TPA Hearing Trust is to provide aid to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing for resources that will allow them to achieve their full potential.

“With roughly 20% of Americans being deaf or hard of hearing, we want to continue making sure they receive the support they need and the respect they deserve,” said Albert Shoemaker, TPA’s Chief Administrative Officer. “The goal of the Trust is to aid and assist people. With the help of our generous donors and members of our communities, we know that we will continue increasing the number of individuals we can offer support to.”



Harley Atwood

Grants this quarter varied in size from \$400 to \$1,000, benefiting recipients from 13 states and ranging in age between three and 87 years old, including grant recipient Harley Atwood from Simpsonville, South Carolina. Harley’s family intends to use her grant for cochlear implant surgery.

Harley’s mother, Katherine Atwood said: “We found Harley had hearing issues from the hospital as she did not pass her hearing test. She has been a blessing to our family and has quite the personality. She loves to cook, bake, paint and craft. She is very fluent with technology and we hope to get her coding soon. She just started her Pre-K deaf and hard of hearing class and is making new friends with similar issues. Harley does speech therapy twice a week and we love hearing her develop new words as she signs. Harley is getting bilateral cochlear implants this spring. We are so thankful to TPA for selecting us for the grant, it has helped us immensely.”

An independent 501(c)(3) organization, the TPA Hearing Trust accepts tax deductible donations from TPA members, posts and divisions, nonmembers, businesses, foundations and all other legal entities. To learn more, make a contribution to the TPA Hearing Trust or to apply for aid, please visit www.tpahq.org/tpa-hearing-trust/.

About Travelers Protective Association of America

Originally founded in 1890 as a fraternal benefit society to provide fellowship and insurance to traveling salesmen, The Travelers Protective Association of America (TPA) is a nonprofit organization of men and women who are committed to improving the lives of others. In addition to providing exclusive benefits to nearly 14,000 members, TPA provides programming through its 118 posts across the nation. These post locations promote the betterment of families and communities through child safety initiatives, community service projects and personal development opportunities. TPA is licensed in 29 states to provide accident, disability and death benefits to its members and their beneficiaries. To learn more, please visit www.tpahq.org or contact TPA Headquarters at 636-724-2227.



Donor Recognition

Donor Recognition as of March 13, 2023

**DOUBLE
PLATINUM LEVEL**
(\$2,000 and above)

PLATINUM LEVEL
(\$1,000 – \$1,499.99)
Joel Lederman
Harold S. Rhodes Estate

SILVER LEVEL
(\$250 – \$499.99)
Karen Miller

CONTRIBUTOR
(\$10 – \$99.99)
Amber Heinle

Terry & Kathryn Hoeppner
Charles Liberty
Virginia Miller

Albert & Paula Shoemaker
Pennsylvania Division
Post H – Illinois Division

Post P – North Carolina Division
AmazonSmile

**PLATINUM
GOLD LEVEL**
(\$1,500 – \$1,999.99)

GOLD LEVEL
(\$500 – \$999.99)
Edwin & Dolores Miller Foundation

BRONZE LEVEL
(\$100 – \$249.99)
Janet Stanley Mooneyham
Post L – Virginia Division

To donate to the TPA Hearing Trust online go to tpahq.org/donate/

To whom it may concern

Thank you for the grant. My name is Kiernan. I am 9 years old. The school I go to is Indain creek elementary. We bought a charger and equipment for my cochlears.

Thank you

Kiernan Feldman



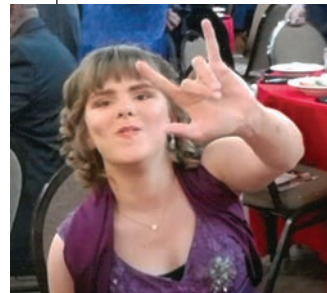
1-31-2023

Dear TPA Hearing trust,

Thank you for giving me
The \$500 to attend services
Source. I go to a day Program
and They have supported me with a
Job Coach. I work at McDonalds and
won a Community award for
Working one Year!

Thank you
Kathleen Jensen

The picture is from the
awards dinner, Oct. 20,
2022



TPA and Amazon Partnership Discontinued

When AmazonSmile was launched in 2013, their hope was to make it easier for customers to support their favorite charities. However, after almost a decade, the program has not grown to create the impact that Amazon had originally hoped.

Amazon discontinued AmazonSmile at the end of February 2023. To help organizations that have been a part of the AmazonSmile program with this transition, they will provide them with a one-time donation equivalent to three months of what they earned in 2022 through the program.

TPA is grateful to all who participated in this program. The amount earned by our members has made a difference.

amazon
smile

2023 Most Glamorous Cities in America

Many of us dream of a five-star lifestyle: the mansion, the Bentley, the Rolex, the country club membership. But which U.S. cities serve up ritz and glitz versus Ritz crackers and grits?

Ahead of New York Fashion Week, *LawnStarter* ranked 2023's Most Glamorous Cities.

We compared the 200 biggest U.S. cities based on six categories broken down into 39 glam factors. They include metrics like the share of million-dollar homes, access to Michelin-starred restaurants, and the number of exclusive yacht clubs.

See which 10 cities put the extra in extravagant (and which 10 are more down-to-earth) below, followed by some highlights and lowlights from our report.

The Most Glamorous Cities Are:

- 1 New York, NY
- 2 Los Angeles, CA
- 3 San Francisco, CA
- 4 Miami, FL
- 5 Chicago, IL
- 6 Las Vegas, NV
- 7 Houston, TX
- 8 Atlanta, GA
- 9 Dallas, TX
- 10 Washington, DC

The Least Glamorous Cities Are:

- 1 West Valley City, UT
- 2 Warren, MI
- 3 Bridgeport, CT
- 4 Brownsville, TX
- 5 Laredo, TX
- 6 Moreno Valley, CA
- 7 Cape Coral, FL
- 8 Columbus, GA
- 9 Waco, TX
- 10 North Las Vegas, NV

Highlights and Lowlights:

- ***The Wealth of Nations:*** New York, the world's richest city, is our 2023 Glamour Capital. According to a recent report, the total private wealth held by New York's residents exceeds three trillion USD, higher than the total private wealth held in most major G20 countries.



Unsurprisingly, the Big Apple aced our “Status and Wealth” test and dominated another four of our six ranking categories. Ironically, one of the “Big Four” fashion capitals of the world could use some polishing in Beauty (No. 61).

- ***If You've Got It, Flaunt It:*** To see or be seen, head to fourth-placer Miami, where appearance matters most. One of the settings of “The Real Housewives” topped our Beauty category and finished fourth in Fashion.

However, some of the Magic City's flashy finishes could be a mere illusion. Miami sank to 177th place



in share of upper-income households (when measuring net worth against local cost of living). Perhaps the exclusive amenities serve only those at the very top of Miami's economic food chain.

- **Lackluster Lone Star Cities:** Houston, Dallas, and Austin are Texas' most well-heeled cities, but Laredo,



Brownsville, and Waco are more well-booted. Only Texas had more than one city among our 10 least glamorous.


In general, there's relatively little wealth here. Outward beauty isn't a big priority, and exclusive cultural amenities are lacking. But there's sparkle in these cities if you look hard enough. Waco, for one, has transformed into a shiplap-clad travel destination for fans of Chip and Joanna Gaines' "Fixer Upper" on the Magnolia Network.

Our full ranking is available here:

<https://www.lawnstarter.com/blog/studies/most-glamorous-cities-in-us/>

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Photos: dreamstime.com



Writers Club

as of March 13, 2023

Edwin Miller
Pennsylvania Division

Wayne Wentworth
Michigan Division

Sandy Wentworth
Michigan Division

Dolores Miller
Pennsylvania Division

Revonda Brady
North Carolina Division

Office of Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire

Insurance Company's Annual Statement for Publication

For the Year Ending December 31, 20 22 NAIC# 56006

Kind of Insurance: Fraternal Benefit Society - Accident Injury Only

Of the condition of: The Travelers Protective Association of America Insurance

Company of: Saint Charles Organized under the laws of the State of Missouri

Made to the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Georgia in pursuance to the laws of said State:

2041 Exchange Drive	Saint Charles	Missouri	63303
Street Address (P. O. Box Not Acceptable)	City	State	Zip Code
Total Assets (Actual Cash Market Value)	\$ 13,263,683.00		
Liabilities: Cash Capital Paid Up	\$ 0.00		
Surplus Over All Liabilities	\$ 12,001,160.00		
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,262,523.00		
Income 12 Months 20 <u>22</u>	\$ 810,475.00		
Disbursements 12 Months 20 <u>22</u>	\$ 126,481.00		

A copy of the Act of Incorporation, duly certified, is in the Office of the Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner.

Designated Authorized Responsible Party Signature: Walter W. Wentworth Jr. Date: February 16, 2023

Personally appeared before the undersigned who being duly sworn, deposes and says that he/she is the
Chief Administrative Officer of The Travelers Protective Association of America and that the foregoing statement is correct and true.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 16 day of February, 2023
In the County of Saint Charles State of Missouri
Notary Public: Revonda Brady (My Commission Expires 9-11-2023)

NOTE: The above affidavit may be made by the Chief Officer of the Company, or Agent residing in this State. Attention is called to the extract which follows from the Act of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, entitled "Georgia Insurance Code of 1965," approved March 8, 1965: "At the time of filing such statement with the Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner, each company shall publish at its own expense in a newspaper of general circulation published in this State a copy of the statement in short form showing Income, Assets, Expenditures, and Liabilities in Gross, as of December 31, preceding, to be sworn to by the officer or agent making the same."
NOTE: This statement will not be considered as filed with the Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner until the published statement required by the above-cited act accompanies it.
IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please attach to this form, the Affidavit of Publication. The Affidavit should contain the name of Newspaper and Date of Issue.
GA-1 Line 107 Filing

American Flag Program

The Community Service Committee has the responsibility of promoting patriotism through the "American Flag Program." We do this by displaying and distributing the American flag at various events within our local community whenever possible. Not all events will display the American flag. Points are given through the reporting form for each American flag that is displayed or distributed. We encourage every post and division to participate in this commendable program.

The Life and Legacy of June Carraway Carr

1929 - 2022

June Carr was a dedicated member of TPA and was one of the first women allowed to become a member in the Association. She was active in TPA along with her husband, Marshall Carr, even before women were allowed to become members. She was one of the first women to serve as president of the North Carolina Division. Each year June would donate one of her hand-made quilts to the state and national conventions for the Hearing Trust fundraising auction. These quilts were the top fundraiser for many years. There are several current and former members who own one of June's quilts. It's fair to say that June made more stitches in cloth than any other TPA member! June never sat idle, even when Marshall served on the national board of directors in St. Louis, she was on the sidelines quilting on her current project. She never sold any of her quilts or wall hangings for profit. All were giveaways and she made hundreds of them.

During her time as a TPA member, June established a North Carolina Post T collection of soft drink can pull tabs to be donated to the Ronald McDonald House. This project quickly became a statewide project with many of the other posts donating tabs to June for this cause. She donated many, many pounds of tabs to the organization. This program is still active in her memory.

Marshall and June attended many of the North Carolina state and national conventions all over the country as long as her health allowed them to travel. With June's help, Marshall wrote applications and helped grow TPA by more than 300 members over the years.

June grew up in Greene County, North Carolina near the town of Snow Hill. She attended East Carolina

Teachers College, now East Carolina University, and graduated in 1952 with a degree in home economics. She taught school for three years, after which she became a home extension agent in Wilson County for the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, serving the county for 27 years, teaching women in the county to cook, sew, and even quilt. June had a passion for quilting and started a Quilters Guild in Wilson. That passion for quilting was shared with family and friends.

June was dedicated to her church, First Presbyterian Church of Wilson, since their move to Wilson in 1956. She served as a Sunday school teacher when her children were young, was an ordained Deacon and was honored by the Women of the Church with an honorary lifetime membership. June was assisted by several other women

to design and quilt massive religious banners which adorn the 20-foot walls of the Fellowship Hall in the church and other banners for the sanctuary. June also designed and handmade banners for a church in another city.

June and Marshall were married in 1952 and have three children—Diane, Alan, and Brian. They also have seven grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. They celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in 2022. June went home to our Lord and Savior on November 5, 2022, at the age of 93. Her casket pall was a three generational quilt started in the 1800s by Marshall's grandmother. Later his mother added squares and June added the last two or three squares to the beautiful quilt.

Submitted by Marshall Carr



**TPA HOLDS AN ANNUAL MEMORIAL
SERVICE EACH JUNE TO HONOR ALL
OF THE MEMBERS WHO ARE NO
LONGER WITH US.**

Donald Hoepfner—Celebrating 55 Years with TPA

Donald (Don) Hoepfner was born in Milwaukee and graduated from Washington High School in 1949. He was inducted into



his alma mater Hall of Fame on November 22, 2022. Don lettered in tennis and played high school football. He also contributed to the success of a championship intramural basketball team at the University of Wisconsin.

After finishing college at the University of Wisconsin, Don was drafted into the U.S. Army and sent to North Carolina. After retiring from the Army, Don moved back to Wisconsin and owned an accounting business in Wauwatosa for many years while raising his family. During this time, he played sports with his church and participated in adult baseball and basketball leagues. He stayed active with his wife, Nancy, by playing shuffleboard, horseshoes and lawn bowling.

When Don retired as a CPA, he made a goal to remain active throughout his life. Don made the decision to join a new senior softball league that led him to participating in the Wisconsin Senior Olympics. Don estimates that he has earned more than 600 medals locally and nationally. He was inducted into the Wisconsin Senior Olympics Hall of Fame for playing senior basketball, where he was the very first

athlete to ever be recognized with this award in the state of Wisconsin! The National Senior Games Association (NSGA) presented a Personal Best Award to Don, who is described as a “man who never met a man or sport he didn’t like.” He qualified and competed in all but two of the national multi-sport championships.

Don has participated in many programs throughout his life including spending 70 years as a Boy Scout troop leader. He was the founder, coach and board member of the Tosa Youth Baseball League which now has approximately 600 members. Don received the Dedicated Service Award from the Tosa League for his hard work. His dedication is proven by his actions—he has spent hundreds of hours organizing sports teams and getting involved in his local community. He is a perfect example of retaining optimum health and serving as an inspiration to others.

Don presently serves as treasurer and board member of Post B in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Don proves himself a dedicated member of society repeatedly through his life achievements. Donald is celebrating his 55-year anniversary with TPA, and we are honored to have such an incredible human among our ranks.

The story was submitted by Terry Hoepfner, Don’s brother.



The Treasures of

South Carolina



Charleston Harbor

While you're in South Carolina attending the 2023 TPA Annual Meeting, be sure to add a few extra days to your trip to enjoy some of the state's many attractions. From walking trails at local parks to cobblestone streets of historic towns, you're sure to find something for everyone in your family.

Explore sea forts at Charleston Harbor

Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park is a must-see historic landmark. Charleston Harbor played an important part in every war from the Revolutionary War to the Civil War. One of the oldest standing forts on the East Coast, Fort Moultrie played a key role in protecting Charleston from the British Navy. This site, located on Sullivan's Island, has five areas to tour that represent five different historical periods. Take a

short trip across the harbor to visit Fort Sumter, which is accessible only by ferryboat. Explore the fort at your own pace with a self-guided tour, or simply sit back and enjoy the view of the harbor. There is a cost for the ferryboat so purchasing tickets in advance is highly recommended. Both forts also have visitor centers which feature educational exhibits where you can learn about their history.

Anchors aweigh at this historic site

The Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum offers a unique experience. With your admission you will be able to explore three retired U.S. Navy ships, including the WWII aircraft carrier USS Yorktown, the destroyer USS Laffey and the submarine USS Clamagore. You will also be able to see 28 historic aircraft, a three-acre Vietnam

Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum



Experience and the Medal of Honor Museum. Don't stop there. You can learn about naval life firsthand by participating in Operation Overnight. As the name suggests, this program provides you with the opportunity to spend the night aboard the USS Yorktown. You will be able to sleep in the same berthing compartments and have your meals in the same galleys used by the sailors.

Get sand in your toes at Hilton Head

Named one of the top 10 family beaches in the United States, Hilton Head has miles of sandy

beaches along the Atlantic Ocean. The warm water and soft sand are perfect for your favorite activities. You can enjoy the ocean from the deck of one of the many cruise ships, which offer dining, sunset and dolphin watching cruises.

Sand on the beach is one thing, but you'll want to avoid the sand traps if you visit one of the 23 championship golf courses Hilton Head has to offer. Make your reservations now to enjoy some of the country's top courses.

Take in the local culture by exploring the galleries, shops, theaters, bakeries and museums located in Hilton Head. You can sit back and enjoy live music at one of many venues. At the end of the day, these activities are sure to make you hungry. From casual to candlelight, you will find the perfect restaurant to enjoy delicious seafood and other local cuisine.

Walk on the historic side in Columbia

Columbia is not only the capital of South Carolina, but it's also a popular vacation destination. Take a self-guided tour of historic Columbia where you can view 19th century architecture and explore the city's beautiful gardens. If you're in a walking mood, try the paved trails along the old towpath of the Columbia Canal. This city park provides beautiful scenery along the river's edge and ends at the canal diversion dam and waterfall.

Learn everything you've ever wanted to know about the state at the South Carolina State Museum. With four floors of exhibits, the museum covers South Carolina's natural history, art, culture, science and

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Hilton Head Island



technology. Some of the museum's permanent displays include dinosaurs, prehistoric fossils, the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, African American history and more. Watch out for "Finn," the giant prehistoric megalodon shark replica. Sit back and enjoy a movie in their state-of-the-art 4D theater or sit among the stars in their planetarium.

The Riverbanks Zoo and Garden is home to more than 3,000 animals. For a small fee you can see everything from tigers to tortoises. At the zoo's Riverbanks Farm, you can get up close and personal with a variety of farm animals. The Riverbanks Botanical Garden has plants in bloom all year long. The 70-acre garden includes a children's garden, which features a water play area, tree houses and dino dig.

Downtown Columbia is home to some unusual, larger-than-life outdoor art by longtime Columbia artist Blue Sky. The Neverbust Chain links together two large downtown office buildings. The large steel links are beautifully crafted and span more than 10 feet. You'll also want to see the famous outdoor mural TunnelVision. The 50x75-foot large mural invites you to look into a tunnel that leads to another world. You will also find the Busted Plug fire hydrant sculpture. Made to look massive but broken, it stands more than 40-feet high and is made of concrete and steel.

Gather for fun in Greenville

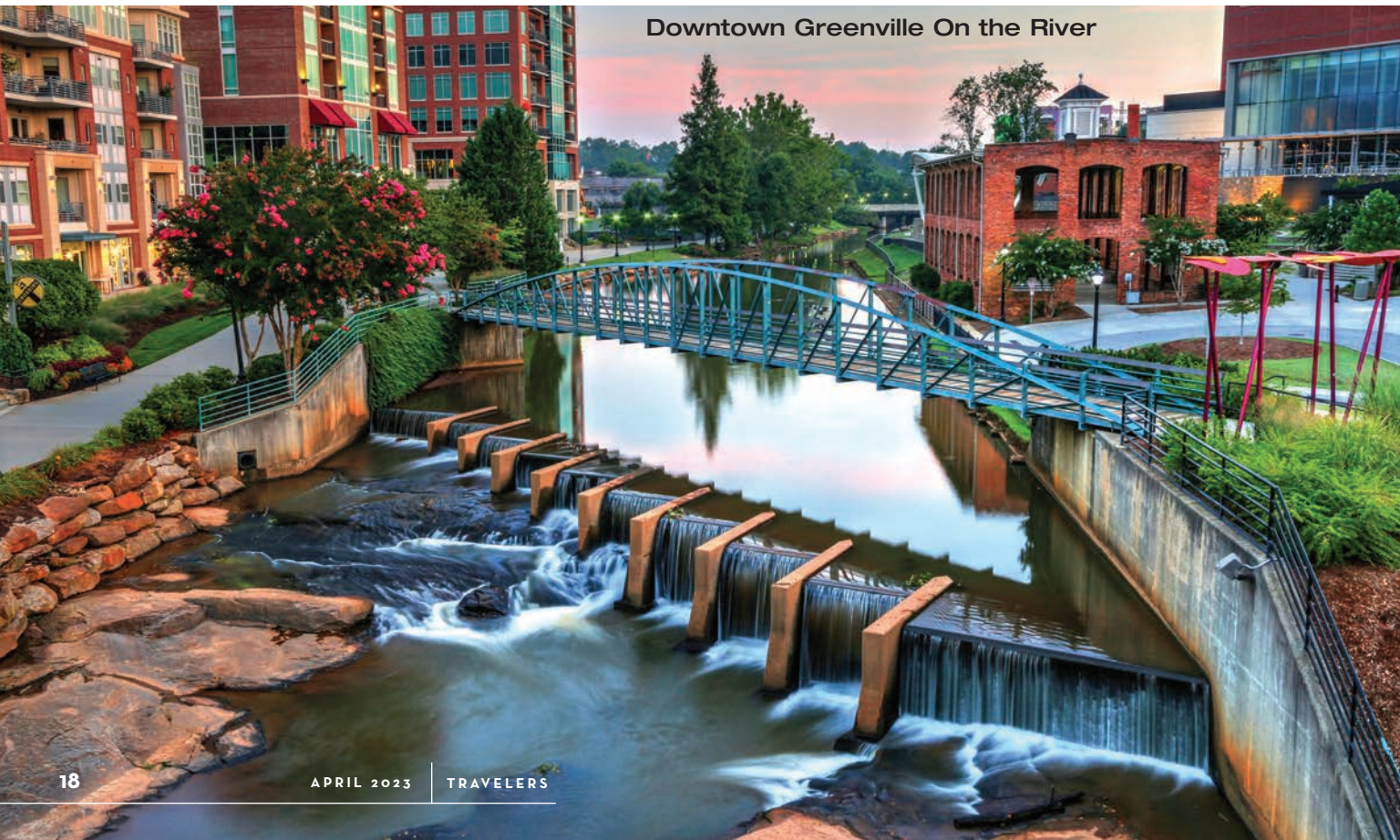
Greenville was named one of the "52 Places to Go in 2023" by *The New York Times*. Its main street offers the perfect mix of southern hospitality and busy cosmopolitan cool. You'll find coffee shops, boutiques, book shops, bakeries, restaurants and more. Give your feet a rest while you enjoy a carriage ride through the historic streets. Be sure to come back at after dark, when the trees and shops along Main Street are decorated with thousands of twinkling lights.

Greenville also offers what they call an "open-air museum" where you will find more than 125 outdoor works of art throughout the city. Some of the sculptures include the Rose Crystal Tower and Fall Lake Falls.

While you're in downtown Greenville, be sure to visit Falls Park on the Reedy. Bring your family to see the beautiful Reedy River waterfall and the surrounding gardens. The best way to view the waterfall is by walking across the Liberty Bridge. This pedestrian bridge is nearly 350-feet long and is a one-of-a-kind suspension bridge with cables on one side.

Sources: [nps.gov](https://www.nps.gov), [hiltonheadisland.org](https://www.hiltonheadisland.org), [patriotspoint.org](https://www.patriotspoint.org), [planetware.com](https://www.planetware.com), [riverbanks.org](https://www.riverbanks.org), [atlasobscura.com](https://www.atlasobscura.com) and [visitgreenvillesc.com](https://www.visitgreenvillesc.com)

Photos: [dreamstime.com](https://www.dreamstime.com)



Downtown Greenville On the River

Myrtle Beach SkyWheel

Take a ride on the 187-foot tall observation wheel overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. It is the sixth-tallest Ferris wheel in the United States.

Family Kingdom Amusement Park

The seaside amusement park has 37 rides and go-karts. There is no admission price to enter the park, and ride tickets may be purchased separately.

Barefoot Landing

The large shopping and dining complex is located just across the street from the Beach Cove Resort. The tourist attraction has more than 40 stores and restaurants.

Myrtle Beach State Park

The 312-acre state park includes camping, a fishing pier, the beach and equestrian trails. The pier stretches into the Atlantic Ocean to prime fishing. A South Carolina fishing license is not required, but you will have to pay a daily fishing fee.

Alligator Adventure

Watch live feedings where 15-foot alligators leap out of the water and clamp their powerful jaws down on dinner. Sometimes "The Croc Doc" will be there to answer your questions.

Myrtle Beach Boardwalk

The oceanfront boardwalk stretches for more than a mile. In the summer, it is home to festivals and events, and always a family favorite. The boardwalk offers spectacular views of the beach line and has numerous shops and restaurants along the way.



Myrtle Beach Boardwalk
Photo Credit: Dreamstime.com

Duplin Winery

The winery offers the perfect way to end the day, with a glass of something cool and sweet. Their \$15 wine tasting allows you to sample 10 preselected Duplin wines, homemade crackers and gourmet cheese dip.

Alabama Theatre

The theatre has been entertaining locals and tourists with variety shows on the Grand Strand since 1993. Check out some of the biggest stars while visiting Myrtle Beach.



Alabama Theatre
Photo Credit: Albert Shoemaker

Sunset Cruise

Myrtle Beach is known for its clean, sandy beaches and captivating shorelines. You can take in the astonishing beauty by taking a sunset cruise through the saltwater Murrells Inlet.

Ripley's Aquarium of Myrtle Beach

Enter into the underwater world of Ripley's located at the beach. Travel along the moving glide to see rays, sea turtles, penguins, exotic fish, barracudas, eels and sharks. For the brave, they even have touch tanks. The Glass Bottom Boat Adventure launches every 20 minutes.

Dolphin Watching

Myrtle Beach offers dolphin watching and ocean sightseeing cruises. Look for Atlantic Bottlenose Dolphins and other aquatic life playing in the ocean.

Sunset Happy Hour Cruise

For \$35 – \$39 you can enjoy unlimited wine, beer, soft drinks, and punch, with a cheese and fruit tray from the deck of a boat.

Oceanfront Dining

Enjoy a steak, shellfish or gourmet burgers while enjoying the views of the Atlantic Ocean.



for the 2023 TPA National Convention

Beach Cove Resort

4800 S. Ocean Boulevard
North Myrtle Beach
South Carolina 29582

Phone 888-974-5531
www.beachcove.com

June 4 – June 8, 2023

\$115 Room Rate + fees and taxes

Weekend rates \$140 + fees and taxes



Join us for the four-day convention starting with the Sunday Night Welcome Party. The business session begins on Monday, with a day off on Tuesday to enjoy the area attractions. The business session will resume on Wednesday and concludes with the officer and director elections on Thursday morning.

Beach Cove Resort is conveniently located in North Myrtle Beach, close to all the Grand Strand has to offer. With easy access to Barefoot Landing and other Myrtle Beach area attractions and amusements, this North Myrtle Beach resort is one of the most popular in the area. Featuring all oceanfront suites and condos, guests can enjoy fabulous views of the Atlantic Ocean and all the familiar comforts of home.

Guests will experience the very best of North Myrtle Beach resorts at Beach Cove Resort. Amenities are plentiful and include three outdoor pools, oceanfront whirlpools, kiddie pool and a 350-foot lazy river, all surrounded by lush landscaping. Indoor water features allow for relaxation in the whirlpool, pool or sauna. Guests also have access to the exclusive Town Center featuring dining, a state-of-the-art arcade and more. The resort amenities at Beach Cove are endless. Relax and get away from it all with your family and loved ones at Beach Cove Resort in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Town Center

Exclusive for our guests, the Town Center is a fun and exciting hub for families of all ages! Featuring the Winner's Circle arcade and Grab N' Go Grill & Coffee Bar, the Town Center is the place for families to unwind after a day at the beach and enjoy the cool

continued on next page



air-conditioned fun zone. Watch the game on large flat-screen TV's and grab a pizza or 12 wings while you sit back and relax!

Oceanfront Condos and Suites

Beach Cove Resort offers the best in affordable North Myrtle Beach oceanfront condos and suites. Perfect for any visitor, our oceanfront suites are available in one, two and three bedrooms, and the three bedroom suites sleep up to 10 people! All accommodations include a private oceanfront balcony, kitchen with utensils and cookware, and complimentary WiFi.

Reservations should be made by the individual guests, making their own reservations at Beach Cove Resort by calling 888-974-5531 and referencing the group name, Travelers Protective Association—TPA. Oceanfront executive suites weekday rates are \$115 plus fees and taxes totaling \$150.08 per night, and weekend rates are \$140 plus fees and taxes totaling \$178.08 per night. The room block will be held until May 12, 2023. Be sure to make your reservations early! Check-in time is 4:00 p.m. and check-out time is 11:00 a.m. Convention attendees will be given a free parking pass when they check in.

Air Transportation

Myrtle Beach International Airport (airport code MYR) serves the air travel needs of the community. Air service is provided by Allegiant, American, Avelo, Delta, Frontier, Porter, Southwest, Spirit, Sun Country, and United. The airport is conveniently located approximately 16 miles from Beach Cove Resort.

Attractions

Barefoot Landing is a mile away and offers more than 40 stores, restaurants and attractions. Relax, unwind and browse to your heart's content as you discover a wealth of unexpected treasures, from ice cream, candies, pretzels and fudge, to pastas, pizza, seafood, burgers and tacos. Barefoot Landing is home to an impressive selection of area restaurants and eateries. Visit the many national retail shops and unique boutiques as you stroll around the outdoor setting, exploring fun and fashion. Catch a live show at Alabama Theatre, the only live entertainment theatre in North Myrtle Beach and one of the best in the area. Enjoy live music at House of Blues, or take a scenic walk along the Intracoastal Waterway. The excitement never ends, there's always something new and exciting to do at Barefoot Landing.

See you in North Myrtle Beach!

TPA Annual Meeting — Schedule of Events

Beach Cove Resort

North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2023

9:30 – 10:50 am	National Board of Directors Meeting	Coral Room
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	TPA Hearing Trust – Trustees Meeting	Coral Room
1:00 – 4:00 pm	Registration – Delegates and Guests	Center Foyer
1:00 – 4:00 pm	Sunday Hospitality Room	Coral Room
4:30 – 5:00 pm	Worship Service – Richard Martin	Coral Room
7:00 – 10:15 pm	TPA Hearing Trust Live Auction	Palmetto Ballroom
	7:00 pm – Dinner (<i>Ticket Required</i>)	
	7:00 pm – Disc Jockey Chris James	

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023

9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Business Session	Sea Pines Ballroom
	Mayor Marilyn Hatley – North Myrtle Beach	
	Memorial Service	
	Exemplification of Ritual	
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Youth Program	Town Center – Arcade Games
1:00 – 1:45 pm	State Secretaries Group	Coral Room
1:45 – 3:00 pm	Open Training with Doug Johnson	Coral Room

TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023

Free Day – no TPA commitments

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2023

9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Business Session	Sea Pines Ballroom
	Meet the TPA Hearing Trust Recipient	Atwood Family
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Youth Program	Lazy River – Pool
12:15 – 1:15 pm	TPA Past and Present Officers Group – Luncheon	Coral Room
	National President's Banquet	
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Happy Hour	Palmetto Foyer
6:30 – 7:00 pm	Speech	Palmetto Ballroom
7:00 – 7:45 pm	Dinner (<i>Ticket Required</i>)	
7:45 – 10:30 pm	Entertainment	Disc Jockey Chris James

THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2023

9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Business Session	Sea Pines Ballroom
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Youth Program	Beach
1:00 – 3:00 pm	National Board of Directors Meeting	Coral Room
	All holdover and newly elected directors	

leadership opportunities

The Traveler's Protective Association of America has many open opportunities to get involved and fill an important role in guiding the decisions made in this great organization! Become a member of your State Board of Directors to serve as a leader and create a positive impact in your local community. If you are interested in running for office, please contact your State Secretary for more information. You can find your State Secretary's information online at www.tpahq.org or via the table below.

Division	State Secretary	Phone Number	Email
Arizona	Albert Shoemaker, Jr.	636-724-2227	ashoemaker@tpahq.org
California	Albert Shoemaker, Jr.	636-724-2227	ashoemaker@tpahq.org
Colorado	Rocco Astuno, Jr.	303-232-4760	tpacodiv@gmail.com
Florida	Albert Shoemaker, Jr.	636-724-2227	ashoemaker@tpahq.org
Georgia	Albert Shoemaker, Jr.	636-724-2227	ashoemaker@tpahq.org
Illinois	Dixie Burdett	309-657-3614	tpaildiv@yahoo.com
Indiana	Steven Sternberger	260-415-0008	tpaindiv@gmail.com
Iowa	Albert Shoemaker, Jr.	636-724-2227	ashoemaker@tpahq.org
Kansas	Albert Shoemaker, Jr.	636-724-2227	ashoemaker@tpahq.org
Kentucky	Boyce Hager	270-304-9350	tpakydiv@gmail.com
Louisiana	Alfred Moore, Jr.	337-564-4672	tpaladivision@gmail.com
Maryland	Herbert Struder	410-744-8532	tpamddiv@gmail.com
Michigan	Mark Cassis	616-677-1436	tpamidiv@gmail.com
Minnesota	Suzanne Bursh	763-533-1663	tpamndiv@gmail.com
Missouri	Paula Shoemaker	573-645-7047	tpamodivision@gmail.com
Nebraska	David Steffen	402-721-6220	tpanediv@gmail.com
North Carolina	Bailey Bledsoe	336-378-1383	tpancdiv@gmail.com
Ohio	Marlene Beaver	440-497-8426	tpaohdiv@gmail.com
Oklahoma	Fred Berry	405-248-4338	tpaokdiv@gmail.com
Pennsylvania	Carol Ruffner	717-821-5849	tpapadiv@gmail.com
Rhode Island	Ron Bedard	401-821-9286	tparidiv@gmail.com
South Carolina	Bill Mills	803-351-7588	tpascdiv@gmail.com
Tennessee	Danny Harman	423-646-2360	tpatndiv@gmail.com
Texas	Julie Kupper	432-425-2757	tpatxdiv@gmail.com
Utah	Albert Shoemaker, Jr.	636-724-2227	ashoemaker@tpahq.org
Virginia	Harrell Jory	757-934-0061	tpavadivision@gmail.com
Washington	Albert Shoemaker, Jr.	636-724-2227	ashoemaker@tpahq.org
Wisconsin	Wayne Warnecke	920-207-1804	tpawidiv@gmail.com

Additional Leadership Opportunities!

If you are interested in becoming a State Secretary in the following states, please contact Albert Shoemaker, Jr. via the contact information listed above: Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Utah or Washington.

If you are interested in becoming a State President in the following states, please contact the State Secretary for your division via the contact information listed above: Ohio or Wisconsin.

LET'S GET EXCITED ABOUT 2022-2023 Membership Incentive Program

Starting Date: May 1, 2022 -

Post and Division Awards

The prize money will be based on the Membership count as of April 30, 2022.

Post Award: \$3.00 per member

Write 5 applications in your Post and receive ONE THIRD of the prize money.

Write 10 applications in your Post and receive the SECOND THIRD of the prize money.

Write 15 applications in your Post and receive the FINAL THIRD of the prize money.

Division Award: \$3.00 per member

Write 10 applications in your Division and receive ONE THIRD of the prize money.

Write 15 applications in your Division and receive the SECOND THIRD of the prize money.

Write 20 applications in your Division and receive the FINAL THIRD of the prize money.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE LONG-TERM TO QUALIFY!!!

Note:

- Your Post and Division will earn an extra \$2,500.00 when 25 applications are written.
- Your Post and Division will earn an extra \$2,500.00 when 50 applications are written.
- Your Post and Division will earn an extra \$2,500.00 when 75 applications are written.
- Your Post and Division will earn an extra \$2,500.00 when 100 applications are written.
- Applications that you write into other Posts do not count for prizes in your Post.
- A written request for prizes must be submitted in writing to the CAO from the Division Secretary.
- Prizes will be paid semiannually in November and May.

MEMBERSHIP LOSS

We will also strive to cut membership loss again this year. If you cut membership loss from last year the prizes will be as follows:

- Cut your membership loss by 25%, a total of \$300.00 will be awarded;
- Cut your membership loss by 50%, a total of \$400.00 will be awarded;
- Cut your membership loss by 100%, a total of \$500.00 will be awarded.

Awards can be achieved and disbursed at the Post and Division level.

The first three phases of the 2022 – 2023 Excitement Program are increased by \$0.25 per member for all posts and divisions with 100 members or less as of April 30, 2022. The increase does not apply to 25 Applications Written and Membership Loss.

ent Program

WRITING NEW APPLICATIONS! Program—Goal of 2,500 new applications

— Ending Date: April 30, 2023

Note:

- The Posts and Divisions will receive their prize money after qualifications are met.
- All applications must be approved by National Headquarters to qualify.
- Posts **MUST** notify their State Secretaries when they have qualified for any level of prize money. Their request will then be forwarded to National Headquarters for processing. The Division Secretaries shall notify the CAO in writing by either U.S. Postal mail or email when they qualify.
- Prizes for reduction in membership loss will be paid at year-end and mailed no later than July 31, 2023.
- Applications for either contest **MUST** be post marked from your State Secretary no later than April 30, 2023 to be eligible.
- Remember, there are no limitations on the number of applications that can be written by a sponsor.
- Posts and Divisions **MUST** be in 100% compliance with all reporting, including financial statements, bank statements, and minutes in order to receive membership incentive funds.

INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR AWARDS FOR THE 2023 NATIONAL CONVENTION

- Write 2 new long-term members and receive \$20.00 in expense money.
- Write 5 new long-term members and receive \$50.00 in expense money.
- Write 10 new long-term members and receive \$100.00 in expense money.
- Write 15 new long-term members and receive \$150.00 in expense money.
- Write 20 new long-term members and receive \$200.00 in expense money.
- Write 25 new long-term members and receive \$250.00 in expense money.
- Write 50 new long-term members and receive \$500.00 in expense money.
- Write 100 new long-term members and receive \$1,000.00 in expense money.
- Write 500 new long-term members and receive \$5,000.00 in expense money.

The deadline for submitting all requests for prizes will be June 30, 2023.

Note:

- Convention attendance is required to receive your prize for individual sponsor awards.
- Prizes for individual sponsor awards will be paid at year-end and mailed no later than July 31, 2023. Awards are not cumulative.
- This program has been approved through April 30, 2023.

Fraternally submitted, The Membership Committee

**TOGETHER
WE
ACHIEVE
MORE**

NOTE: This program will end on April 30, 2023. Deadline for submitting all requests for prizes will be June 30, 2023. The new 2023 - 2024 Membership Incentive Program, effective May 1, 2023, was modified by the national board of directors at the January 2023 board meeting.

We're Going National!

Divisions and posts are encouraged to participate in TPA's National Backpack Project, which is a wonderful and easy way to get involved in an amazing cause—helping children!

The goal is to have all backpacks delivered before school starts in August of 2023.

How it Started: Missouri Backpack Project

The Missouri Backpack Project started with the goal of providing backpacks filled with supplies to elementary students in need. Local schools provided a list of the supplies that are commonly needed such as crayons, notebooks, markers, pencils and glue. The Missouri Division purchased 50 backpacks for each post with the TPA logo for \$8 per backpack. Every backpack included an invitation packet and CHAD stickers from the division. The posts were charged with purchasing the supplies and hand-delivering the filled backpacks to local schools. The schools and student recipients of these backpacks were extremely grateful, which made this project fulfilling and worthwhile.

How to Get Involved

Start by sharing this article with your division and post members! Put together a plan of action that includes: who will participate; who is paying for what; and how you plan to execute the project. We encourage you to be creative and operate how you feel is best for your division and post. For example, divisions may simply want to purchase the backpacks and give the bag itself

away. Maybe all posts in a division pool their resources to buy supplies and have an even greater impact to fill bags with more supplies. You get to decide which schools will receive these wonderful donations! Some states, counties or schools may require clear backpacks for safety reasons so remember to check with them first before placing an order. While you are in contact, ask for the list of items needed most for kids their age! For more information on how to get started, contact:



Cloth TPA logo backpacks are available for \$8.00 each.



Clear TPA logo backpacks are available for \$11.89 each.

Albert Shoemaker
ashoemaker@tpahq.org
 636-724-2227



PENNSYLVANIA

Post W elected to make a \$200 Christmas donation to the West End Christian Community Center in Williamsport. The center offers services for underprivileged citizens. After speaking with the center's Secretary, Janet Walters, it was concluded that TPA has a common mission of embracing and serving the needs of those in the community. Both organizations aim to participate in great causes such as supporting civic organizations, schools, kids' programs and community fundraisers.

Pictured left to right: Hugh McGee and Janet Walters.



Pat Palencar

Members of Post L held their annual picnic in North Catasauqua. The gathering included a recognition for Dale Stevens celebrating his 90th birthday and three members celebrating their 50th anniversary with TPA! Congratulations to Thomas Hendricks, Charles Schiffert, and Donald Breining. Patricia Palencar, the 2021 TPA Merit Award winner, was able to spread awareness of the Association's goals by stating, "Our organization has led the charge for societal change that protect the health, safety and well-being of children."



Dale Stevens



Pictured left to right: Charles Schiffert; Donald Schwartz; and Thomas Hendricks.

MISSOURI



Pictured left to right: Debbie Medley; Donna Badgley; Albert Shoemaker; and Amber Heinle.



Members of Post SC filled 15 bags with signed Valentine's Day cards and lots of candy! The special occasion treats were delivered to friendly-faced individuals who attended the All Generations Adult Day Center in Saint Charles. Post SC members met these wonderful neighbors during their Halloween community service event and deemed celebrating another holiday with them fitting. The post continues to grow local relationships with community members such as Tiffany Mays, the owner and director of the day care.



ILLINOIS

The Illinois Division accepted a challenge to collectively bring 200 pairs of new socks to their meetings for donation to Sophie's Kitchen. Members of Post E and Post H worked together and victoriously surpassed their goal by piling up 215 pairs for donation! This divisional challenge was a fun and worthwhile cause, as the socks will go toward keeping the homeless protected during the chilling winter season.

Pictured is Bill Hamilton preparing to deliver the donated socks.

Post E of the Illinois Division held their annual Christmas party at the Lariat Club in Peoria. The members gathered for a short meeting while enjoying a delicious meal. The group opted to do a white elephant gift exchange and had a cheerful evening spending time together. Post E sets an amazing example of how meetings can be both meaningful and fun for everyone involved.

Pictured are Post E members and their white elephant gifts.



MICHIGAN

Members of Post I partnered with Hubbardston Fire Department to host a Truck & Treat event. TPA members provided bags for children to carry their candy, 70 frisbees, two packs of CHAD stickers and information packets. Volunteers Richard Thomas, Jessica Mitchell, Kelly Ann Martin, Ashlynn Martin, Jonathan Martin, and Alex McGinn assisted during the event.

Pictured are children gathering candy at the event.



INDIANA



Post A of the Indiana Division participated in the Allen County Safety Fair. The event had over 40 booths and numerous hands-on safety activities that served to prepare families in case of an emergency. Post members handed out CHAD stickers and demonstrated where to place the stickers on car seats. TPA's Safety Programs closely align with the mission of the safety fair, which encourages families to learn about risks and take important steps to be prepared during any crisis.

Pictured is Tim Replogle preparing to pass out CHAD stickers at the TPA booth.

IOWA



Post O in Ottumwa participated in ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at Fareway Grocery. They had a large turnout in post participation to include Tony Miller, Will Reece, John Hunolt, John Maines, Ken Venables, Shelley Little, Bob Swanson, Chris Cunningham and Jim Carlson. Funds raised for this worthy cause were totaled at a whopping \$2,500! These donations will make a huge difference to those in need during the holiday season. These efforts serve as proof that the division members are dedicated to improving the lives of others in their local community throughout all seasons of the year!

Pictured left to right: Bob Swanson and Chris Cunningham.

NEBRASKA

Members of the Nebraska Division held a board meeting and holiday dinner party in Fremont. They reviewed some of the issues TPA is facing as an organization and in their division. The board also discussed their goals for the year ahead as they enjoyed a nice meal and fellowship together.

Pictured left to right: Arlene Vyhldal; Stan Vyhldal; Erv Steffen; Shirley Calvin; David Steffen; Mitch Bridges; and Karen Uettwiller.



NORTH CAROLINA

Members of Post P filled Halloween bags with treats and delivered them to local police and fire departments. The first responders were happy to receive the bags and expressed appreciation for support from their community. The kids who helped deliver the bags got their own special Halloween treat by meeting Rosie, a K-9 employee of York City Police.

Pictured left to right: Officer House and K9 Rosie; Chief Brian Trail; Lawson McAteer; Lyric McAteer; Leslie McAteer; Lilajaye Huey; and Landon Williams.



Members of Post P donated six boxes of school supplies to Lingerfeldt Elementary School. The donations were presented to Amy Efird, assistant principal, which included 400 CHAD stickers for students to use on bike helmets and skateboards. Post P also provided snacks and fruit drinks to 70 students participating in an after-school tutoring program.

Pictured left to right: Fonda Denton; Audrey Hunt; Amy Efird; Linda Payseur; and Becky Dickson.

WISCONSIN



Board members in Post B of the Wisconsin Division held their fall meeting at the Arboretum Senior Community in Menomonee Falls. Sub sandwiches were enjoyed while important business within the post was discussed. The directors' decision to visit a new location to include a member who has difficulty traveling is an outstanding example of TPA's purpose of using fraternalism to help and support fellow members.

Pictured left to right: Terry Hoepfner; Fred Ebling; Jane Ebert; and Don Hoepfner.

Post I of the Wisconsin Division worked closely with Crystal Dubey, social worker for Howe School, to donate to the children of the Green Bay School District. The post purchased a variety of school supplies and snacks for the students. Post I's dedication to helping their youth gain access to everyday essentials embodies TPA's mission to have a positive impact on community and quality of life for citizens of all ages.

Pictured: Howe School students with donated supplies.



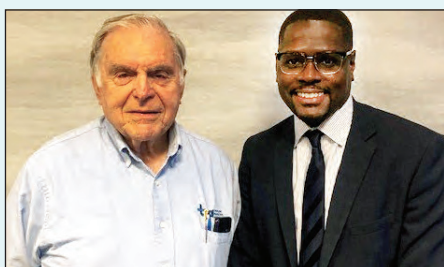
KENTUCKY



The Kentucky Division co-sponsored the State Deaf and Hard of Hearing Spelling Bee in Elizabethtown. There were 22 schools represented from across the state, where children from grades one through 12 participated. There was a large turnout at the event, and it was estimated to have around 200 spectators!

Pictured is Boyce Hager presenting and donating a check to help cover event expenses.

VIRGINIA

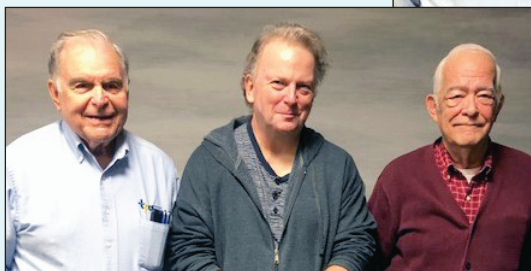


Dr. Jerry Wallace, President of Danville Community College, was the speaker at a Post D monthly meeting in South Boston. He described his experience as president and highlighted the rise in enrollment at DCC. Dr. Wallace discussed the implementation of new programs that will be available for students in the future. TPA shares a common goal of supporting youth programs and education in all areas of the country and hopes to use relationships with key community members, like Dr. Wallace, to have the opportunity to generate interest in our organization.

Pictured left to right: Carlyle Wimbish and Dr. Jerry Wallace.

Marsha Hite was the speaker at a recent Post D monthly meeting in South Boston. She is a board member of the Halifax County Cancer Association that has been helping local cancer patients since 1957. Ms. Hite highlighted the Cancer Association's history, services offered to patients, and emphasized that all money raised stays in Halifax County to help their local citizens. TPA shares a common goal of helping those in need through community service, safety programs and local events.

Pictured left to right: Carlyle Wimbish; Marsha Hite; and Gary Newcomb.



Jay Stephens, Director of Halifax County South Boston Public Libraries, was the speaker at a Post D monthly meeting in South Boston. He described the expanded services the library now offers and their relationship with other libraries across the state.

Pictured left to right: Carlyle Wimbish; Jay Stephens; and Bill McCaleb.

Barbara Bass, President of Halifax County Historical Society, was the speaker at a recent Post D monthly meeting in South Boston. She explained how her upcoming book titled "By Some as the Forgotten War" focuses on Halifax County citizens and their involvement in World War I. She uses her extensive knowledge in historical research to gather the important facts detailed in her writing. It is important to remember the great impact past heroes and organizations have made on their local community. It is TPA's mission to have the same lasting impact throughout the country as posts dedicate their time and energy implementing new and exciting community service projects!

Pictured left to right: Carlyle Wimbish; Barbara Bass; and Gary Newcomb.



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED.



Western
Poison Oak



Eastern
Poison Ivy



Western
Poison Ivy



Eastern
Poison Oak



Poison
Sumac

POISON IVY, OAK & SUMAC

Poison ivy, oak, and sumac have different foliage, but produce the same irritating chemical, and thus, identical rashes. In certain areas there is enough sunlight every week of the year to keep this chemical in these plants every day of the year even when there are no leaves on them and a foot of snow on the ground! It is not necessary to have direct contact with the plants to get the oil-like substance on you. It can be transferred from tools, animals or clothing, but you must have contact with the chemical. It is not blown through the air; rarely, droplet vaporization may occur when the plants are burned. The water from blisters does not spread poison ivy. This water is just normal tissue fluid brought to the skin surface by the allergic response in sensitive people.

About 85% of the population is allergic to the oil common to all three of these plants. Everyone will become sensitive to this material if exposed to it long enough. At present, there are no satisfactory desensitization shots or pills to prevent susceptible persons from getting poison ivy rash. In fact, some of the older shots or pills could be quite dangerous. The more allergic you are, the more oil you get on you, and the longer it remains on your skin, the worse your reaction will be.

- ⇒ The best policy is learn to identify the plants and avoid them, even when without leaves.
- ⇒ When you cannot avoid contact, or suspect you've touched something which may have the oil on it, wash promptly with a strong bar soap like Fels-naptha. It is possible to wash soon enough not to develop a rash.

WHEN THE ABOVE MEASURES ARE NOT ENOUGH, REMEMBER:

There are extremely effective medicines to keep you comfortable and heal the rash promptly. The earlier they are given, the more they help. Usually all you get by delaying treatment is more of a rash.

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