

2009 Nicholas G. Carter Volunteer Recognition Awards

In a salute to the backbone of organized philately, the VOLUNTEER, the American Philatelic Society takes great pleasure in recognizing the hard-working individuals who have contributed their time, talents, and energies to benefit both the hobby of stamp collecting and the Society. According to Dictionary.com: “a volunteer is a person who willingly offers himself or herself for a service or undertaking and without pay.” Our volunteers are the main ingredient in the recipe for a healthy future for the hobby.

The *Nicholas G. Carter Volunteer Recognition Awards* were named to honor APS President Nick Carter (1936–2008) whose dedication to the hobby and enthusiasm for all its facets were legendary.

This year’s awards will be presented at the General Membership Meeting at STAMPSHOW 2009 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 8 at 9 a.m. Each recipient will receive a pin, certificate of appreciation, and many thanks for a job well done.

There are four award categories:

- **National Promotion/Service**
— Maximum of five recipients per year.
- **Local Promotion/Service** —
Maximum of ten recipients per year.
- **Outstanding Young Adult Philatelist (Age 25–40)** —
One recipient per year.
- **Outstanding Young Philatelist (Age 15–24)** — One recipient per year.

The APS is proud to announce the second annual Volunteer Recognition Award recipients:

Alex Haimann • Bloomfield Hills, MI — Outstanding Young Philatelist (Age 15–24)

Alex spoke at the APS Tiffany Dinner this past February and has led the effort to initiate a Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship. He has worked with APS Director of Education Gretchen Moody on establishing the guidelines and has spearheaded fund-raising efforts encouraging APS chapters to sponsor fellows and his fellow dealers to sell material on eBay and give a portion of the proceeds to support the program.

Alex may have been the youngest dealer to ever take a booth at the APS STAMPSHOW when he first did so at age 14. Since that time he has become a regular at many shows around the country. Alex is a consultant for the Arago project for the Smithsonian’s National Postal Museum and represents Mystic Rare Stamps in a partnership with Don Sundman.

Alex serves on the Board of the American Stamp Dealers Association and also has exhibited competitively.

Daniel Piazza • Washington, DC — Outstanding Young Adult Philatelist (Age 25–40)

Daniel A. Piazza, Assistant Curator of Philately at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, collects and writes about the stamps and postal history of the United States during the Bureau period (1894–1978) and of the Italian peninsula. He sits on the board of governors of the Vatican Philatelic Society and edits its journal, *Vatican Notes*. He also has received the society’s *Veritas* and President’s awards (for scholarship and service, respectively).

Daniel served as Assistant Editor of the APS Writers Unit *Philatelic Communicator* and was a columnist for the *Stamp Insider* of the Federation of New



Nicholas G. Carter

York Stamp Clubs. He was active in the Syracuse Stamp Club prior to his move to the DC area and he now belongs to both the Washington Stamp Collectors Club, which he serves as webmaster, and the Baltimore Philatelic Society. He is also a board member and literature chairman for NAPEX.

Other national memberships include the American Philatelic Society, American Philatelic Research Library, American First Day Cover Society, and Writers Unit #30.

Kurt Albrecht, George Athens, James G. Boyles, Tom Current, Karl Deibel, Stan Fairchild, Deb Nicoll, Otto Thamasett, Charles A. Wood — Local Promotion/Service

Kurt Albrecht

Kurt has been a pillar of support for philatelic activities in the Milwaukee area for many years. He currently serves as Treasurer for the Milwaukee Philatelic Society and is a past Southeast Region Vice President for the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs. He has handled the jury, awards, and sometimes exhib-

its for many MILCOPEX shows. He also works to make the hobby attractive in many ways, including sharing his non-competitive five-frame exhibit "May the Force Be With You." Kurt was a volunteer for APS STAMPSHOW 1997 in Milwaukee and APS STAMPSHOW 2001 in Chicago. He was recognized by Milwaukee area clubs as a Distinguished Philatelist in 2001 for his many years of service, which continue today.

George Athens

At age 92 George Athens is once again President of the Venice, Florida stamp club for which he has been a driving force for many, many years. He is also active in the American First Day Cover Society, having staffed numerous recruiting tables at shows throughout Florida over the years. In addition, George served for many years as the Southwest Area representative for the Florida Federation of Stamp Clubs. He still arranges for speakers for a regional AFDCS meeting at the Sarasota show, where he staffs a booth for the AFDCS. Just as important as all these formal activities, however, George is also

the first to recognize the good work of others for the Venice Club.

James G. Boyles

Jim has been the force behind the success of the Lancaster Club and its LANCOPEX show for many years. He has kept the club going through some challenging times, performing a variety of roles including seven years as president. Jim has been a tremendous mentor to many collectors, and through his input and guidance many successful club leaders have emerged to maintain and grow LCPS as a most viable philatelic organization.

After years of study, he has gained great expertise and reputation in Lancaster County and City postal history. He has similar proficiency in early U.S. postage and revenues and is developing a worldwide collection. Further, he is a proficient and award-winning exhibitor who most recently, in his semi-retirement, has become active as a well respected part-time stamp dealer. Over the last year or so, Jim has provided another service to hobby participants through his

a bimonthly First Sunday Stamp Bourse. This day-long event now has ten dealers. It fills the void left by the closure of local philatelic shops. Through this and LANCOPEX, the Lancaster club has gained many new members.

Tom Current

Tom Current may not have become an active collector until his forties, but he has been a source of inspiration to Portland area collectors for the last forty years. A young 85, he remains APS representative for the Oregon Stamp Society and the Northwest Philatelic Library, which he helped found. He won the grand award at PIPEX in 1975 and since then has continued to churn out many new exhibits for most Portland area shows.

Along the way Tom also founded the Great Britain Collectors Club and was one of the leaders in making APS board meetings open to the membership.

Karl Deibel

Karl has introduced stamp collecting to more 2,000 youth in the past ten years. He has volunteered at Boys and

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Girls Clubs, providing more than fifty postage stamp workshops for each of the past ten years, resulting in more than 150 kids (ages 7-12) each year taking up the hobby of stamp collecting. He provides about 400 hours yearly to the Club's Postage Stamp group. He has organized youth to display topical stamps at the San Marcos Library; assisted a few in exhibiting at the three-week San Diego County Fair in 2001, 2002 and 2003; and has arranged for a U.S. Postal Service Art Director to discuss his work at least yearly. In addition, each year he has led a tour for the youth to the San Marcos Post Office.

Karl also works with the Boy Scouts. As a Stamp Collecting Merit Badge counselor he has annually devoted more than 300 hours and helped more than 450 scouts earn their merit badge over the past five years, arranged and led more than 180 one-hour workshops, and spoken about stamp collecting at more than fifty scout troop meetings.

Karl's valuable contributions have been recognized by the Boys and Girls Club Volunteer of the Year award in 2000 and 2007 and the National Boys and Girls club volunteer service award in 2008. His stamp activities have been recognized by the San Diego Football Chargers Community Service Award in 2002 and the Freedom Corps Community Service Award in 2008 for ten years of volunteer service to youth who collect stamps.

Stan Fairchild

Stan Fairchild has served his local Cuy Lor Stamp Club in almost every capacity possible, but he has not restricted his talents to the local area. He typically visits the American Philatelic Center at least a twice a year and always tries to time his visits to coincide with a meeting of the Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society, often volunteering to present a program. Stan also has offered programs in a digital format that can be shared with other APS chapters, and assists APS Circuit Sales, StampStore, and Expertizing as an examiner for Belgian and classic French stamps.

Deb Nicoll

Deb has been a stalwart of the INDYPEX show committee for at least twenty-five years. She cheerfully and competently handles the exhibitors and exhibits and does whatever else needs to

be done. She also has served as president of the Indiana Stamp Club and is an APS accredited judge.

Otto Thamasett

Otto joined the Springfield Stamp Club in the mid 1970s. He has served as its president twice and once as its vice president. He has been a member of the SPRINGPEX show committee since 1979 and produced the show cachets from 1990 through 2007. He was co-chair of the show in 1986 and 1987 and continuously since 2002. He joined NAPEX as a director in 2002 and has been in charge of covers and souvenir cards ever since. He was chairman of show sales for WASHINGTON 2006 and is current president of Graebner Chapter #17 of the American First Day Cover Society (Arlington, Virginia). Otto has been recognized for his service with the Washington Stamp Collectors Club (WSSC) Gantz Award for "outstanding philatelic service by a non-WSSC member to the Washington, DC local and regional area."

Charles A. Wood

Charles is well known among philatelists in the Metro Detroit area for his thirty years of volunteer leadership in several local and regional stamp clubs: WSSC, Peninsular State Philatelic Society, Ferndale Stamp Club, Collectors Club of Michigan, and Detroit Philatelic Society.

He has served in nearly every leadership role known to local stamp clubs. In many instances he has served in the same role multiple times. His many elected club offices include Vice President (1981-82) and President (1983-84) for the Ferndale Stamp Club; Secretary (1994), Vice President (1995 & current), and President for the Collectors Club of Michigan (1996 & 2001); and Director (1998) and Program Chairman (2004-current) for WSSC.

Additionally, Charles has served as chairman for the Plymouth Show (1992); bourse chairman for COLPEX (1991-current), the annual show sponsored by the Collectors Club of Michigan; and editor of the quarterly newsletter, *The Peninsular Philatelist* (2000-current), the official publication of the Peninsular State Philatelic Society.

Charles is generous with his time and energy when helping out with club activity. He always volunteers to help with set-up and tear-down of exhibits,

bourses, meeting rooms, and hospitality areas. He has been in charge of the Plymouth Show annual hospitality room since 1995, and is among the first to welcome new club members and help orient them to local club activities. He occasionally mentors new philatelists and encourages their participation in regional and national activities as well. His volunteer activities provide an excellent example to new club members on how they might participate and strengthen our hobby.

His volunteerism extends beyond local and regional clubs and shows. Charles volunteers annually to help with American Philatelic Society (APS) stamp shows. The most recent was helping set-up and take-down exhibits at the APS Hartford STAMPSHOW 2008.

Lloyd deVries, Jack Harwood, Jerry Kasper, Jay Stotts, and Robert Zeigler — National Promotion/Service

Lloyd deVries

Lloyd serves on the board of the American First Day Cover Society, is past secretary of the American Philatelic Society, and is the principal behind the Virtual Stamp Club. Lloyd also has championed cachetmaker bourses at APS shows, sponsored a computers in philately area at WASHINGTON 2006 and several APS shows, and served as a volunteer at APS shows.

Jack Harwood

Jack is probably best known for his development of the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition into a favorite winter destination for collectors (and one that has subsequently attracted many distinguished philatelists to retire in the area). He organized the famous 80th birthday party for Clyde Jennings in conjunction with the show, as well as the "Inverted Jennings" stamps. He also has arranged for many United Nations and foreign First Day ceremonies for the show.

Jack has served as president of the Sarasota Stamp Club, and for many years

provided regular transportation for individuals who no longer drove to attend the Sarasota and Venice Stamp Clubs. He has headed the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Circle and the Postal Order Society, and been active in the Florida Federation of Stamp Clubs..

Jerry Kasper

Jerry Kasper is a current director for the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors and is a frequent exhibitor with more than a dozen exhibits, most relating to aerogrammes or at least to postal stationery. Jerry frequently shares the knowledge he has gained from putting together his exhibits as articles in the pages of the United Postal Stationery Society's journal.

For many years Jerry and his wife Jean have handled dealer check-in at most of the APS winter and summer shows. They also have helped frequently with exhibit take down and the packing of exhibits for return by mail. Jerry recently has become more involved with the Federation of Southern California clubs and assumed a significant role in the planning and running of SESCAL/AMERICAS.

Jay Stotts

Jay served as president of the BIA/ USSS for three terms and served many more years on their Board of Governors. He also has written for the *United States Specialist*. He has served many years on the Garfield Perry March Party committee. Jay has served several terms on the Texas Philatelic Association Board and held many officer and show committee positions for the Euclid Stamp Club and the Houston Philatelic Society. An accredited judge, he has hosted many AAPE seminars and has helped numerous exhibitors by providing critiques outside of shows.

Robert Zeigler

Long a foundation rock of the Indiana Stamp Club and INDYPEX, Bob also has served on the APS board, the American Helvetia Philatelic Society, and as an

expert for the APS. In addition, he is an accredited APS judge.

Congratulations and thank you to all of the winners of this year's Volunteer Recognition Awards. The hobby would not be the same without your blood, sweat, tears, and laughter!

Do you know a deserving volunteer? December 15, 2009 is the deadline for nominations for next year's awards, which will be presented at STAMPSHOW 2010 in Richmond, Virginia. A nomination form is available online at www.stamps.org/almanac/VolunteerForm.pdf, or by calling 814-933-3803.

Eligibility requirements and restrictions:

- **Five or more years of service (three years for the Outstanding Young Philatelist),**
- **APS and APRL board members and staff are not eligible.**
- **Luff Award winners are not eligible.**
- **National Promotion/Service Award winners may not subsequently win the Local Promotion/Service Award.**
- **Each award may only be won once.**
- **APS membership is not required.**

When nominating a volunteer, please include years of service to philately, position(s) or office(s) held with local clubs or specialty organizations, mentoring services, and work with stamp shows. To make your nominee stand out, please cite evidence of excellence, initiative, and creativity.

Send your nomination(s) to APS Awards Nominations, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823, by fax to 814-933-6128, or by e-mail to apsinfo@stamps.org.



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