



News from the American Philatelic Center  
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## Nominations Open for the First USSS-Mueller Award and APS Volunteer Recognition Awards

Nominations are now open for the first annual United States Stamp Society – Barbara R. Mueller Award for the best article to appear in 2007 in *The American Philatelist*, monthly magazine of the American Philatelic Society. The award includes a cash payment of \$1,000 and recognition on a permanent plaque in the APS editorial offices at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania.

APS members can vote by completing and mailing the form available at the bottom of the inside front cover of the January 2008 issue of *The American Philatelist*. Members can also vote online at [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org). For a list of the 78 articles by 46 authors in the 2007 *American Philatelist* that qualify to be considered for the award, go to the APS home page at <http://www.stamps.org> and scroll down to “Vote for Your Favorite AP Article.”

Votes for the best article of 2007 must be received by March 1, 2008. The USSS-Mueller Award Committee will select the winner from the top five as voted on by APS members and the top five as selected by the staff of *The American Philatelist*. The 2007 USSS-Mueller Award winner will be announced in the August 2008 issue of *The American Philatelist*, and at APS STAMPSHOW 2008, on August 14-17, in Hartford, Connecticut.

The United States Stamp Society founded the award not only to promote research and philatelic writing, but also to promote the USSS, its goals and its mission — to expand the study of and knowledge about U.S. postage and revenue stamps — to the more than 43,000 members of the APS, approximately 80 percent of whom collect U.S. material. *The American Philatelist*, which has been the journal of the society for the past 120 years, publishes articles on the stamps, postal history and collecting specialties of all nations, and goes to APS members in 110 countries around the globe. The award is named for the USSS and for one of its most prominent members, authors and editors, Barbara R. Mueller. Among her many other honors in six decades of devotion to philately, Mueller, a member of the Halls of Fame of both the USSS and APS Writers Unit 30, was the recipient of the APS John N. Luff Award in 1956 for Distinguished Philatelic Research.

At the APS General Membership meeting in Riverside, California, on February 10, 2007, APS President Janet Klug announced approval by the APS Board of a proposal originally put forward by Nick Carter to create APS Volunteer Recognition Awards “for those unsung heroes that serve the hobby at the local and regional level, as well as awards for outstanding young adult philatelists and young philatelists ages 15 to 24 who have served philately. The goal is to motivate potential hobby leaders



and reinvigorate their interest. Those who serve the hobby should not be unsung and we believe these awards will recognize their dedication.”

Nominations are now open for these awards in four categories, “to recognize volunteers that contribute their talents to benefit stamp collecting:”

- National Promotion/Service — maximum of five recipients each year
- Local Promotion/Service — maximum of ten recipients each year
- Outstanding Young Adult Philatelist (ages 25-40) — one award each year
- Outstanding Young Philatelist (ages 15-24) — one award each year

All these awards require at least five years of service, though APS membership is not required. APS board members, staff, and Luff Award winners are not eligible. National Promotion/Service Award winners cannot subsequently win the Local Promotion/Service Award, and each award can be won only once. Winners of these awards will receive a pin and a certificate.

In addition to providing their name and contact information as well as those of the nominee, nominators should include details including length of service and positions the nominee held with local clubs, philatelic organizations and shows, including mentoring, promotion and leadership roles, as well as citing evidence of excellence, initiative and persistence.

Information and nomination forms for the APS Volunteer Recognition Awards are available on the APS website at [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org). The awards information is in the Almanac section, available using the rightmost tab at the top of the APS home page. You can also send a letter requesting nomination a form to APS Volunteer Recognition Award Nomination, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte PA 16823. The deadline for receipt of nominations is April 1, after which any nominations received too late for consideration in 2008 will be considered for 2009.