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APS Nominations  
100 Match Factory Place  
Bellefonte, PA 16832

Dear APS Nominations Committee,

This letter is submitted in support of the attached nomination form for James G. Boyles of the Lancaster County Philatelic Association for the 2009 APS Volunteer Recognition Award for local promotion/service. He has been the force behind the success of the Lancaster Club and our Lancopex show for many years. Further, he is a proficient and award winning exhibitor with expertise in early city and county postal history. Most recently in his semi-retirement he has become active as a well respected part-time stamp dealer.

In 2000 I returned to the hobby and subsequently joined the LCPS in 2002. From that moment it was obvious that Jim was the major player in the organization with an average of 30-40 meeting attendees from a membership around seventy. Early on I learned how he kept the club going through some challenging times, performing a variety of roles including seven years as president. Through his input and guidance, many successful club leaders have emerged to maintain and grow LCPS as a most viable philatelic organization.

Jim started collecting stamps as a child through adolescence and returned in the mid-1970s, as he said, "for stress relief." After years of study, he has gained great expertise and reputation in Lancaster County and City postal history. He has similar proficiency in early US postage and revenues and is developing a worldwide collection.

My own impression of Jim is shared by both Lancaster club members and others outside the area. With my recent retirement I have had the opportunity to attend more stamp shows and the 2008 Summer Session at APS. From these travels, I have met collectors, dealers, and judges. When they realize that I am from Lancaster, PA, many ask if I know Jim Boyles, and always follow up with positive remarks based on their associations with him.

Jim's leadership in the club is obvious to those of us who benefit from his presence, and it is Lancopex where he has added to such a strong regional reputation. We are a modest venue; at our annual April event we host at least 25 dealers (with waiting list), and just this summer, Jim purchased additional frames from APS for the club to house the ever growing competitive exhibits. All one has to do is to work the front desk during Lancopex to meet collectors from nearby states who comment how much they look forward to this show each year.

It is ironic that when Jim conceived the idea of Lancopex in the mid-eighties, he started from scratch without prior experience in stamp shows. And now comments on the dealer feedback forms always note Jim's leadership and organization as the reason for the show's continuing success.

Mentoring must be discussed, as this is Jim's strong point. When I suddenly became president a few years ago (the current president had to take family leave for the year), Jim's advice was very valuable as I took the helm to plan the year's programs and other assorted activities.

As another example of this, Jim has worked with a relatively new collector over the last several years to develop his collection with an interest in early US, and the Washington-Franklins in particular. He says that Jim's direction has been invaluable to the building of his collection, his philatelic library, and his own knowledge of the area. In fact, he was recently asked by the club president to give a PowerPoint on this topic.

Over the last few years Jim has identified and mentored key club members for planning and conducting various aspects of Lancopex, and he is working with current leadership to compile a Lancopex Handbook, an essential reference source for future club members and shows.

Finally, over the last year or so, Jim has provided another service to hobby participants through his a bimonthly First Sunday Stamp Bourse. This daylong 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.

Overall, I am pleased to make this nomination of Jim Boyles for the APA local Volunteer Recognition Award. For over 30 years Jim has been the hub for the philatelic hobby in Lancaster County and environs. He has promoted APS, the Lancaster club, individual collectors, and leadership in the hobby. He has done this in a low key and behind the scenes manner that many should emulate.

Sincerely,

## **Philatelic Resume of James G. Boyles • December 2008**

**Length collecting:** 30+ years

**Collecting interest:**

Lancaster County and City postal history  
Early US postage and revenues  
Generalized worldwide

**American Philatelic Society:** (1975-present)

Board of Judges for Presidential and VP elections  
Lancaster Club Representative/Liaison (1982-present)  
Summit-Washington 2006

**LCPS Membership since:** (1978-present)

President: 1982-1987, 2002  
Liaison with APS

**Lancopex:**

Founded county stamp show in 1986  
Coordinator and Co-Coordinator (1986-present)  
Exhibits, dealers, awards, judges, publicity, snacks, rentals, security, snacks & meals, frame storage, finances, and others

**Other Philatelic Associations:**

Pennsylvania Postal History Society (2002-present)  
Director: 2008-09  
York Stamp Club (2005-present)  
Lebanon Stamp Collecting Club (2005-present)  
Collector's Club of New York (2000-present)  
Keystone Foundation (1982-1994)  
Secretary most of these years  
Specialty Society Memberships:  
ATA, FDC Society, US Classics Society, Am. Revenue. Assn

**Presentations:**

Co-presenter with Dick Colberg on the topic of PA Postal History for the NY Chapter of the US Classics Society at CCNY. (2004)  
Many other presentations to the York and Lancaster clubs on postal history and general methodology (i.e. using the perf gauge, grills, etc.)

**Exhibiting:** Lancaster City and Lancaster County exhibits have won golds and other special awards at Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition; NYC MegaEvent; Lancopex; York Stamp Show. Also won the US Classics Society Award and the Yeager Award (Postal history)