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Carter Award Nominations Committee
American Philatelic Society
100 Match Factory Place
Bellefonte, PA 16832

Dear APS Nominations Committee,

I am pleased to write a strong letter of nomination for **Richard 'Dick' Colberg** for the *2015 Nicholas Carter Local Volunteer Recognition Award* of the American Philatelic Society. Starting at age eight with a worldwide collection, Dick has demonstrated a solid presence with several philatelic organizations through his vision, leadership, exhibiting, scholarship and publication, mentorship, promotion, and presentation. His collecting areas are numerous, with several country collections and other specialized collections (U.S. and foreign) along with postal history, also foreign and domestic. Over time he has transformed many of these collections into award winning exhibits. While his philatelic resume is quite substantial, his volunteer contributions are just as impressive.

Through the compilation of a postal history exhibit of Lititz, PA, Dick joined and then became a leading member in the **Pennsylvania Postal History Society**. This resulted in his election as treasurer, which he has held for the last nine years. He is involved in many noteworthy contributions related to PAPH's meetings, its journal, special issues, and others. He desires a strong philatelic organization to promote to other PA hobbyists.

Dick gives his time to the **Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (PSLC)** in a variety of ways; whatever is needed, he is willing from bringing snacks to assisting collectors. He is our resident philatelic scholar, always engaging new members with their questions about collecting while he mentors our regulars as needed. He's involved with our annual stamp show, Lancopex, and this includes the man-handling of the exhibit frames followed by placing the exhibits where needed. He did the same in 2012 when the **American Topical Association** held its National Topical Stamp Show in Lancaster, one of the few club members able to help us with the frames. Dick provides an educational presentation each year or two. For our 2014 annual open house Dick gave a presentation to the community on *Commercial Overprints on Great Britain's Stamps*, and this past July (2015) he gave a PowerPoint to the club on *The Express Companies of Mexico: 1855-1907*. He contributes to the *PSLC Newsletter* with abstracts, links, opinion pieces, and more for which the editor is grateful. Most interesting are his reports from France on the state of the hobby there and on his experiences with their various societies. His input at our club's business meetings is always thought out, and he is eager to answer the myriad of hobby related questions that come up from both new and experienced collector members and visitors.

Dick has been president of the **Lebanon Stamp Club** for over twenty years and serves as their APS representative, among other functions. While Lebanon is a smaller club than Lancaster, it is very different. The members are an eclectic group of advanced collectors, and almost all are exhibitors. As such, much of their time is dedicated to critiquing each others' material with the purpose of improving the exhibits. Their results are substantial, and Dick has won several gold awards and helped lead other club members to the same.

Dick and Nancy Colberg spend several months each year in France where he is a member of the **Bernay Stamp Club**. In addition to helping with many of their club's responsibilities, he has become a goodwill ambassador to these French collectors. Between his visits abroad, he obtains for them the stamps/covers, literature, and supplies that are hard for them to come by. Beyond this volunteer spirit abroad, Dick also attends French postal history and stamp shows and conferences when able. He has exhibited locally and nationally in France. The latter included the French National Championship Stamp Exhibit in Amiens in 5/13 where his exhibit *Postal Cards of Mexico* (one of his newer exhibits) won a large silver award. He published a featured article on the topic of American postal history in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* and some shorter pieces in the area's stamp club newsletters.

Volunteer Week at **American Philatelic Society** is on Dick's calendar every summer. As an APS Rep, he promotes membership and service with this organization to all his clubs. He would really like to see others participate in this summer volunteer experience. When in France a while back, he purchased a new set of Yvert & Tellier catalogs for donation to APRL.

On the topic of scholarship and publication, Dick wrote a weekly philatelic column in our local evening newspaper, the **Lancaster New Era** from 1990-2000. This promoted the hobby greatly and indirectly brought new members to PSLC. The high level of Dick's scholarship is further reinforced by his presentations at the **Collectors Club of New York** (where he is a member) and publishing in **The American Philatelist**.

In conclusion, I am pleased to make this nomination for Dick Colberg for APS's Local Volunteer Recognition Award. For over 60 years, philately has been the hub of his life, and as much as he has enjoyed collecting and researching, he has been a dedicated mentor and promoter of the hobby to many collectors, novices and advanced, across several venues and geographical areas.

Sincerely,
Paul Petersen