

It gives me great pleasure to nominate **Dr. Charles J. DiComo** of the Philatelic Society of Lancaster County for the **APS 2019 Carter Volunteer Recognition Award**, and he has agreed to have his name put forward for this nomination. Dr. DiComo has done so much in his volunteer efforts that it is hard to know where to start. He is an individual who truly loves his hobby and his local club. He is the future of the stamp club in Lancaster.

Dr. DiComo is in his early 50s and has been a life long-philatelist, a member of APS for 30 years. He specializes in the U.S. classics and postal history but has expertise in a host of other areas, especially exotic covers with a routing mystery to be solved. He has been a prolific writer in a variety of journals (nine articles in the last three years) and newsletters, and just recently he began non-competitive exhibiting for the local shows.

One could talk about his work with the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum or his planning activities with NY-2016 while still living in New York. He hasn't stopped since. There is the *Chairman's Chatter*, which he edits, along with his three (3) websites. As a Webmaster, he has done so well that all three websites won Gold Awards of the 2018 APS Website Competition! A few years ago he resurrected our club's webpage and turned it into a model site for other stamp clubs (see www.lcps-stamps.org). Here you'll find an informative club history, local documents, a photo gallery, numerous resource and society links, journal archives, presentations, research requests, and more.

Dr. DiComo joined PSLC in 12/13, and he will start his third one-year term as president in January. Needless to say, his leadership is effective, appreciated, and respected. Beyond the website, he upgraded our stamp show program booklet, advertising cards, Facebook page, club banner, and even this year's Christmas Dinner program because he understands the importance of solid branding and the effective use of color as a means of outreach.

At 2019 APS Summer Session he gave a well reviewed elective on using the club's site for communication and growth. He has been asked to consider editing the *Journal of the Pennsylvania Postal History Society*. He is founding member of the Philatelic Gathering that meets at the Chester County Historical Society. Locally he is the first to arrive and last to leave our monthly meetings and annual stamp shows, as he is always ready to set up tables, chairs, and exhibit frames. He handles all our digital media needs very effectively. With all of our outside speakers and guests, he has the gift of hospitality.

Beyond all the above accomplishments, it is his desire to promote other collectors and clubs. Whenever one has a philatelic question, Dr. DiComo is the go-to person, and he will do the research to assist the seeker and help them to learn the research methods. He is working with several members with their projects right now; one in particular is a younger member, new to the club with an interest in plating. He has helped me on several occasions with postmarks and auxiliaries, as well as helping a host of others.

Further Dr. DiComo promotes other stamp clubs, if they so desire, by including them on our website with a page of their scheduled events and an archive for their newsletters. He has also included the local picture postcard club on our site, and this has had many positive returns from the collecting community.

In conclusion, Dr. DiComo has demonstrated his capacity as an asset to our stamp community and beyond. His reach is regional, local, and personal, while his upgrading of our club's brands and activities is short of phenomenal. His networking through the website will only take us higher.

Paul Petersen, Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (PA)