

Philatelic Achievements:

Ken Lawrence

Bellefonte, Pennsylvania

apsken@aol.com

Below is the 2004 citation from the United States Philatelic Classics Society. In addition to and updating that information:

Ken completed his most recent term as Vice President of the American Philatelic Society in August 2005, and as Trustee of the American Philatelic Research Library in 2007. He is a columnist and contributing editor for *Scott Stamp Monthly*. He owns a philatelic consulting firm whose clients include some of America's best known and most successful exhibitors and dealers.

Ken served four terms on the Board of Governors of the Bureau Issues Association, and many additional years as publication chairman for the BIA (renamed United States Stamp Society); his philatelic scholarship and exhibits have won awards at every level from bronze to gold and platinum nationally, two international large vermeil medals for his exhibit of Holocaust mail, an international vermeil with felicitations of the jury for his book *Linn's Plate Number Coil Handbook*, as well as special prizes that include the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors' Creativity Award; the American First Day Cover Society's Philip H. Ward Jr. Award (twice) for best first day cover articles; the American Philatelic Congress's Helen August, Jere. Hess Barr, Erani P. Drossos, and Dorothy Colby Memorial Awards; and the APS Research Medal.

Ken was twice the winner of the Earl P.L. Apfelbaum Memorial Award for the year's best article in *The American Philatelist*. He is editor and co-author with Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz and C. David Eeles of *The Liberty Series*, published by APS, and co-author with Scott R. Trepel of *Rarity Revealed*, published by the Smithsonian National Postal Museum.

Citation for the United States Philatelic Classics Society's
Distinguished Philatelist Award for 2004

If there is anyone today who could be called a Renaissance man of philately, Ken Lawrence is probably one deserving of that title.

He has been collecting stamps since the age of 11, and is recognized today as a specialist and expert in modern U.S. stamps and postal history, including but by no means limited to the coil issues. His knowledge has led him to several major finds, among them the unique horizontal pair of the U.S. 1910 3¢ deep violet imperforate coil stamp. He is a nationally qualified philatelic and literature judge, internationally qualified in philatelic literature, and a member of the APS Expert Committee. As the APS Board of Directors liaison to the Expert Committee, he introduced the use of forensic science in philatelic expertizing and was instrumental in obtaining funding for purchase of the Committee's new equipment.

As an exhibitor, Ken Lawrence was welcomed for his ground-breaking and highly popular Walt Disney exhibit, titled "The Sun Never Sets on Mickey Mouse." He currently maintains an exhibit of Holocaust mail, "The Nazi Scourge," which is frequently shown on college campuses, at community centers and in libraries. His exhibits have won awards at every level from national bronze to gold and platinum, and to international vermeil with felicitations and large vermeil, as well as a wide range of special prizes.

Ken Lawrence is probably best known to the hobby as a writer. He served six years as editor of *The Philatelic Communicator*, quarterly journal of the APS Philatelic Writers Unit 30, and raised the attention-getting quotient of that publication to a level never attained before or since. He had a regular column in *The American Philatelist* until 1999, one of the most well read and clipped columns in that journal; he is now a regular monthly columnist for *Scott Stamp Monthly*. He has published articles in most of the major U.S. philatelic publications, including three submissions to the *American Philatelic Congress Book*, and in more than 20 stamp specialty publications world-wide. For seven years he wrote the "Stamps and Stamp Collecting" articles for two major encyclopedia yearbooks. For these and other contributions as philatelic author, editor and contributor he was elected to the APS Writers Hall of Fame in 1998.

He also serves. At the local level, he had two terms as vice-president and two as president of the Jackson (Mississippi) Philatelic Society. He was APS Director-at-Large, 1991-93; APS Secretary, 1993-95; chairman of the APS Board of Vice-Presidents from 1995-97 and is currently serving another two-year term as APS Vice-President. He is a member of the APRL Board of Trustees. Ken has taught full courses and electives at the APS/Pennsylvania State University summer seminars on philately, presented judges' accreditation seminars on philatelic literature and traditional philately, and has taught seminars in specialized U.S. stamp collecting at APS and BIA (now United States Stamp Society) annual meetings. He has been an active member of countless national and specialist society committees, boards and ad hoc groups.

In recognition of his exceptional and diversified accomplishments, and the strong positive impact he continues to have on U.S. philately, the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society is pleased to welcome Ken Lawrence as a Distinguished Philatelist.