

Thomas J. Alexander to Receive 2007 Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award



The Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award for 2007 will be presented to Thomas J. Alexander of Kansas City, Missouri, at the Collectors Club Annual Awards Banquet, which will be held at the Cornell Club in New York on May 9, 2007. Mr. Alexander has had a distinguished career in philately, most notably as an author.

His effort to complete the work started with his long-term colleague Creighton Hart, on the United States 1847 Cover Census has provided a major resource to the collectors of those popular classic issues. Tom's interest in the early years of United States philately saw print in articles in the *American Philatelic Congress Book*, the *American Philatelist* and *The Chronicle*, the journal of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society.

As author, he has also produced two booklets for the National Postal Museum of the Smithsonian Institution; *The 1847s: America's First Stamps*, for the exhibit by Guido Craveri, and *The Queen's Own: Stamps that Changed the World*, to accompany the exhibit from The Royal Philatelic Collection. In 1979 he produced *Simpson's U.S. Postal Markings 1851-61*. His current effort is to complete an analysis and publication of recently rediscovered Post Office Department records relating to the production of U.S. postage stamps from 1847 to 1910. This last project was started with the late experts George Brett and W. Wilson Hulme.

Tom Alexander has long offered his services to various philatelic organizations. A recipient of the 1985 Luff Award for research from the American Philatelic Society, he later joined the Luff committee and currently rejoined as a member to fill a vacancy. He has also chaired both the A.P.S. Ethics Committee and the Insurance Committee. He is currently a trustee of the Philatelic Foundation and a member of the Council of Philatelists of the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum.

With his philatelic interests centering on classic U.S. issues, it is natural that Tom would have close connection with the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society. Indeed, he served as vice president, then president in the early 1980s and is now an ex officio member of the Board of Directors. For over 20 years he has served as the editor of the 1851 section of *The Chronicle*. Committee service includes the Nominating Committee, Awards Committee, Publications Committee and the Distinguished Philatelist Committee. The society has recognized his service in various ways, including awarding him the Ashbrook Cup (1979), the Chase Cup three times, the Brookman Cup (1984) and the Distinguished Philatelist Award (1989).

Other awards Tom has received include the James and Corita Cryer Award (2000), the Elizabeth C. Pope Medal (2002) and the Smithsonian Philatelic Achievement Award. It was with pleasure that the Board of Governors of the Collectors Club selected Thomas J. Alexander to receive the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award to add to honor his long and distinguished service to philately.