

# *Wade Saadi to Receive Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award*



The Board of Governors have selected Wade E. Saadi to receive the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award at the annual awards dinner on May 6, 2015. The Lichtenstein award is the highest distinction that the Board can confer upon a philatelist and is awarded for exemplary service to philately. In making this selection the Board observed that Mr. Saadi's contributions span not only organizational leadership but also reflect outstanding scholarship, research and writing, and exhibiting.

Wade Saadi served the American Philatelic Society as a vice president, then stepped in to complete Nick Carter's term as president upon Mr. Carter's untimely passing. Elected to two full terms, Wade undertook to reform and restore APS finances at a particularly difficult time. He provided leadership for the Council of

Philatelists, Smithsonian National Postal Museum, as vice chairman and chair of the new initiatives committee. He was elected president of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society and has served for 17 years as a section editor of *The Chronicle* for 1847 and 1851 issues.

He was elected a governor of The Collectors Club in 1995, served as chair of several of the standing committees and continues as chair of the outreach committee. In 2005, he was elected president of the The Collectors Club. Of perhaps the greatest significance is his chairmanship for World Stamp Show-NY 2016. He has served as an F.I.P. commissioner at a number of world exhibitions.

Wade was elected to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 2010. A member of the Royal Philatelic Society London, he was elected a Fellow in 1995. The Philatelic Foundation awarded him its Neinken Medal in 2013. The Classics Society awarded him its Distinguished Philatelist Award (2014), the Susan M. McDonald Award (2013), the Tracy W. Simpson Cup (2011) and the Chase Cup (1997).

His exhibiting achievements parallel and feed his publishing efforts. His "Struck on Stamps - U.S. 1851-68," an eight-frame presentation on the evolution of cancellations and postal markings has garnered, to date, six F.I.P. gold medals. Wade published a three-part series on the 1847 issue for the *American Philatelist* as part of the 150th anniversary of the first U.S. general issue in 1997. He exposed the well-known "Knapp shift" as a fake, discovered and wrote the definitive article on the "T" crack, position 69R, on the 5 cent 1847 plate. He has conducted extensive research on the deliveries, shades and color varieties of the 5 cent 1847 issue.

In 2003, the Royal Philatelic Society London invited him to deliver the "Sir Daniel Cooper Lecture" on the 1847 issue.

For all these reasons, the Board considers Wade Saadi to have demonstrated the exceptional commitment to philately that characterizes a Lichtenstein awardee.

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destinations, through the blockade. Were it not for the intriguing straightline handstamp of J.B. Dutton, this colorful chapter of Civil War postal history may never have been known.

Wade E. Saadi