

Randy L. Neil has been named the **2018 Summer Seminar Distinguished Philatelist!** This award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated dedication, leadership, and commitment to the hobby. Randy will be recognized for his philatelic achievements at a banquet in his honor on Thursday, June 28, 2018, during the *39th Annual Summer Seminar on Philately* at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania.



Randy L. Neil's background in the stamp collecting hobby began when he was 14 years old and became a columnist for the old *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* magazine. A proponent for progress in the hobby, Randy founded the MIDAPHIL national stamp show and the Collectors Club of Kansas City in 1971 and, with John Hotchner, the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors in 1986. Randy served as the organization's first president.

An exhibitor since 1955, Neil has earned more than 65 gold medals and five national grand awards. While president of the American Philatelic Society (1993-97), Randy originated its John K. Tiffany Endowment Fund and brought a youthful group of new leaders and committee chairmen to the then 107-year old organization.

He has written and/or published five books in the hobby. In 2000, he received, in the same year, the APS's John N. Luff Life Achievement award, the U.S. Philatelic Classic Society's Distinguished Philatelist Award---and was inducted into the APS Writers Unit Hall of Fame. In 2017, he received the APRL's Charles J. Peterson Award for life achievement in philatelic literature.

In 2006, Randy was the founding editor and designer of *The American Stamp Dealer & Collector* magazine, published by the American Stamp Dealers Association. He is also founding editor (2014) of *Kelleher's Stamp Collector's Quarterly*, the 80-page general interest stamp magazine distributed worldwide...and editor of *The Philatelic Exhibitor* (AAPE).

Congratulations to Randy L. Neil, **2018 Summer Seminar Distinguished Philatelist.** He is to be commended for his dedication, leadership, and commitment to philately.