

# Who Do You Know?

In response, you'd most likely say "depends on why you want to know." The answer is quite simple as today I'd like you to focus on your photographic friends and associates. In particular, it's time to recognize those you know where you and others appreciate their support and commitment to our photographic experience. We're looking for those PSA members who regularly volunteer at your local camera club, national association or PSA. We've all encountered many individuals who are always there when help is needed. Just look around and I'm sure you know many who serve but often don't receive recognition for their volunteer work that enables us to expand our enjoyment of photography.

PSA and your local camera club would not exist without volunteers. Now it's time to award them with the recognition they so well deserve. And that's where you come in, looking to those you know who are among the volunteers who make things happen for the benefit of all of us.

The purpose of this article is to **inform you about and encourage YOUR participation in the Honors program as a Proposer or Endorser of a PSA volunteer you think should be recognized for his/her service.** The Honors program has a primary purpose to reward deserving volunteers who promote photography, serve organizations (clubs, chapters, councils, federations and societies) worldwide, and in turn, introduce photography and provide opportunities to people of all ages who are interested in learning about image making or improving their skills. The PSA's Honors program is not about the skill and excellence of a member's photographic images. We already have many programs that recognize photographic excellence, i.e. Star Ratings, ROPA, etc. Rather, the Honors program is a recognition of their service.

## PSA Needs Your Help

The important thing is that PSA needs your help in locating those people who serve others in photography. PSA depends upon its members to honor its hard-working volunteers. All PSA members, except for members of the PSA Board of Directors and members of the Honors Committee, may initiate Proposals, find Endorsers, and develop a candidate's record. We, the Honors Committee, want to invite you to spend some time thinking about those who you know who serve in any capacity, "in the trenches," or in leadership positions. It takes some time, but it is not hard work. Consider the time that your chosen volunteer puts into their work.

## Reference Materials

At the top of the PSA Website Home Page is a tab for "**Recognition.**" The third tab in the dropdown list contains information about **PSA**

**Honors.** Honors Committee Chair **John M. Davis, HonPSA, MPSA**, states that "*PSA recognizes individuals who have contributed services to PSA and/or the entire Photographic Community by bestowing honors upon them.*" References are added regarding **Types of PSA Honors, Procedure for Proposing PSA Honors, and Resources to guide the Honors procedure.**

## History, Importance of Honors

PSA has long recognized those who provide services to help fulfill the PSA mission to pursue the advancement of photography within and outside of PSA. The PSA Honors program began nearly 80 years ago. **As a volunteer-run organization, service has been valued, indeed necessary, to the continued existence of the Society and the accomplishment of its mission.**

## Some Highlights of the Honors requirements follow

- There are four (4) levels of Honors: Associate (APSA); Fellow (FPSA); Honorary Member (HonPSA) and Honorary Fellow (HonFPSA), each level having specific and increasing service and other requirements. Is there a volunteer you know who could be eligible for an APSA? Or is there a volunteer you know who already has an Honor but now might be eligible for the next higher Honor (FPSA, HonPSA or HonFPSA)?
- Proposers, and Endorsers should read and carefully follow the instructions when preparing a Proposal, Endorsements, and a Candidate's Record.
- Forms and information can be downloaded from the PSA Website.
- December 1 each year is the deadline for receipt by PSA HQ of the Proposal Packet;
- Be sure you carefully review the materials that are available.
- The Honors Committee is comprised of eight PSA members, all Honorees themselves, that broadly represent the interests and activities of the Society. They review and vote on the Proposal Packets and accept Candidates for Honors in the winter/spring, which are then presented at the PSA Annual Conference.

**Please think seriously about proposing volunteers for an Honor.** From the time you read this in the September 2019 *Journal*, you will have 90 days to go through the proposal process, from start to finish. That is enough time to act. Don't wait until the last minute, as there are several important steps which will take some time.

**There are few things more satisfying than knowing that you have helped a volunteer receive a well-deserved honor.** ■



**Terry Carroll, FPSA  
Vice Chair, Honors  
Committee**