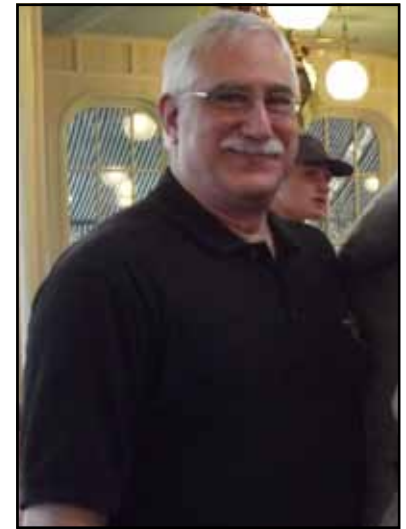




Patricia Kaufmann



Charles Neyhart Jr.



Richard Martorelli

Patricia Kaufmann Wins 2017 Helbock Prize

By Peter Martin

Confederate specialist Patricia A. Kaufmann took top honors in the voting for the 2017 Richard W. Helbock Prize that is awarded to the best postal history article appearing in the previous year's *La Posta: The Journal of American Postal History*.

Kaufmann, a resident of Lincoln, Delaware, won for her "Confederate Postal History: California Overland Mail to a Confederate Prisoner of War" article that appeared in the Third Quarter 2016 *La Posta*.

The article traces the background of an 1861 cover from Nevada City, California, to a Confederate prisoner of war held at the Rock Island, Illinois, prison. It is a story of a rare intertwining of Civil War postal history with the Western mails.

Kaufmann, who has been a professional philatelist since 1973, is a stamp dealer who specializes in Confederate stamps and postal history. She is a prolific author and researcher and a regular contributor to *La Posta*.

She edged out three-time winner Charles Neyhart Jr., whose articles finished in second and third place.

Neyhart's "East Portland, Oregon: A Postal Heart Still Beats" (Fourth Quarter 2016 *La Posta*) was the runner-up, while his "Missed Connections? The May 15-21, 1938, Air Mail Week in San Diego" (Second Quarter 2016 *La Posta*) was third.

Richard D. Martorelli took fourth place with "The U.S. Postal Service's '90-Day Wonder' Rates" and Jesse Spector and Robert Markovits garnered fifth place with "Espionage and Sedition in America in the First World War."

Receiving honorable mentions were: "The Postmarks of Sandy Spring, Maryland, and Its

Adjacent Villages" by Wayne Anmuth; "A World War II Cover to My Parents Found Online" by Joe Crosby; "Unusual Auxiliary Markings on Outgoing International Mail" by John Hotchner; "Special Delivery Markings Used at Washington, D.C. Substations" by Dennis Pack; and "The Drummond Island, Michigan, Post Offices" by Paul Petosky.



Bill Helbock

The top three finishers receive cash prizes.

Neyhart's "Play It Again, San Diego—The 1935 California Pacific International Exposition," won the 2016 Helbock Prize; "A Knife in the Back' The 1915 San Diego Panama California Exposition" won in 2015; and "The 1905 Portland, Oregon, Lewis & Clark Exposition Postal Stations" took the 2014 prize.

Neyhart retired in 2001 as emeritus professor of business from Oregon State University and lives in Portland.

Richard Hemmings won the inaugural Helbock Prize in 2013 with, "New York City's Cortlandt Street: One Way to the River."

The selections were based on voting by the *La Posta* editorial staff and the Patron, Benefactor and Sustaining subscribers of *La Posta*.

The Richard W. Helbock Prize is named in honor of the founding editor of *La Posta* who died from a heart attack in 2011. Helbock founded *La Posta* in 1969 and continued to edit the journal for more than 42 years until his death.