

On Receiving the 2012 Henry A. Hill Award

By Michael P. Filosa

First, I want to thank Dorothy and the Award Committee for choosing me for this award. I am very honored to receive this award at this monthly meeting in the presence of Tony Hill, Madaleine Jacobs, the 50-, 60- AND 70-year members who are also being honored, the NESACS board, guests and especially, my wife, Anne Marie. To receive an award in the memory of one of NESACS and the ACS's most illustrious members is a true and humbling honor.

The October Meeting has always been one of my favorite meetings. We often have an ACS leader such as Madeleine Jacobs or Bill Carroll as speaker, we honor our senior members, and we present the Henry A. Hill Award. In 2004 after a particularly difficult stretch at Polaroid, I attended the October Meeting to reconnect with the section after a few years away. At that meeting I had the pleasure of sitting with Vivian Walworth while my friend and former colleague at Polaroid, Don Rickter, received the Hill Award. In my previous tenure as an Alternate Councilor in 1998 I had not found a job I really connected with, although the Chairs during that period, Don Rickter, Michael Hearn, and Doris Lewis, (all Hill Award winners) had some suggestions.

However, I did begin to establish many relationships with the NESACS board at that time as I attended the board meetings. I distinctly remember the pride Arno Heyn, the 1986 Hill Award recipient, took as he circulated the proof of that month's *Nucleus* to the board. I had also always appreciated the link to section activities that *the Nucleus* provided.

Soon after the 2004 October Meeting, I was called by Myke Simon, the 2001 Hill Award recipient, and asked if I would consider being editor of *the Nucleus*. I would be taking over from Mark Spitler who was taking a new job in DC. Although editing the *Nucleus* is a demanding job requiring close adherence to a production schedule for 10 consecutive months, attendance at Board Meetings, and attendance at Board of Publications meetings, I accepted.

Myke took me to see Arno for his blessing a short two weeks before he passed away, and I was on my way to a major role in NESACS that excited and motivated me. Now it is almost 8 years and 80 issues later. Time does pass quickly.

I hoped to receive the Hill Award someday, just as many of my NESACS friends and colleagues have. I thought it would take more time and a broader leadership role in the section. Receiving this award tonight is evidence to me of how much *the Nucleus* is valued and appreciated by the Section and a validation of the energy and devotion I have given to it and NESACS.

Before I close, I also want to specifically thank, all who help me with the publication of *the Nucleus*, the Board of Publications composed of Mary Mahaney, Vivian Walworth, Mindy Levine, and Jim Phillips. Also Karen Piper, Vince Gale and Harvey Steiner who are integral to the business aspects of the publication, and all of my content providers led by Mort Hoffman with his photos and articles, the writings of Mindy Levine, and the calendar by Sheila Rodman.

Thanks again. I look forward to 2013 and the next presentation of the Henry A. Hill Award.