

Thanks you, Fred. When you listed off all the positions, committees and offices I have held with the IES, I couldn't help but think ... wow, you can get a lot done in 55 years!

Back in 1961 when I first joined the IES, I did not fully appreciate that I was on a journey that would lead me to the acceptance of this very special and impactful award. At the time, I wanted to be a part of an organization that could teach me about lighting awareness and that could help me educate others on the importance of quality lighting.

You see, I was never the kind of salesperson who just looked at what I could *GET FROM* CUSTOMERS. It seemed only right that I should *GIVE BACK* too. The salesperson who operates on the fringes of any industry won't be a salesperson for very long. You have to jump in with both feet!

So, I started attending Chicago Section meetings. It was there I became aware of the tremendous reach of the IES, touching all organizational levels, interacting nationwide, representing lighting to the government, and educating consumers. I wanted to do more!

At this point, it is only right that I acknowledge the unwavering support of my wife, n. As I got more involved in the IES, there were many evenings spent away from home attending committee meetings, regional meetings, and the national conference. In a way, Norma is just as committed to the IES as I am.

Over the years, I have witnessed dramatic change...in the lighting industry as well as in the IES itself. I served on the Selection Committee, which eventually led to the selection of Bill Hanley, who preceded Tim Licitra, as executive vice president.

I've seen LightFair grow from a fledgling event held by the New York Section to the leading lighting trade show in North America. We are fortunate that revenues generated by LightFair have created stability and growth for the Society.

As the first Chairman of the Marketing Committee at the national level, and then Chairman of the International Relationships Committee, I began to really appreciate the fact that our lighting organization has counterparts all over the world ... and that we are part of a global community dedicated to quality lighting.

A.L.P. has been, and will remain, a Gold Sustaining member of the IES, supporting the country's lighting professionals in the manner they deserve. Much as my sons have taken on increasingly prominent roles in our company, I expect them to capably carry out the commitment with the IES as well.

I am grateful to so many people for the impact they have had on my journey. They are too numerous to thank individually. I would not want to omit someone accidentally, because to name all of them would be impossible. Simply ... THANK YOU!

No pun intended, but the future is bright for the IES, and I intend to remain involved to enjoy it. The IES initiatives targeting Young Professionals are inspiring, as they are truly the future of our Society. The proliferation of new concepts in solid state lighting borders on mind boggling. The challenges facing the IES have changed dramatically since I joined in 1961, and I am a changed person for my involvement in it all.

Once again, I would like to acknowledge my wife Norma for her support; my friend Boyd Corbett who has been my friend since his family and ours became intertwined; and also thank Peter Hugh, whose recommendation of my name for this award has been genuinely appreciated. My family has obviously supported me along the way, and by family I also mean the extended family that is A.L.P. and the lighting community as a whole.

I believe that every true professional owes a special gratitude to the organization that gives voice to our capabilities and our needs.

Having the support of a world-class professional organization of the caliber of the IES can help us achieve a winning situation for all involved.

Thank you again for allowing me the opportunity to work with and for an exceptional organization. Thank you!