Background and Purpose

The Gilbert and Kathleen Wrenn Award for a Humanitarian and Caring Person honors an ACA member who gives to others without fanfare or expectation of reward other than the personal satisfaction of seeing other people made happier. The award includes an honorarium of $1,000.

Dr. and Mrs. Wrenn provided the initial funding for this award as a personal testament to their love and admiration for those who truly care for the welfare of others and who care about social issues and problems.

Criteria and Requirements

The thoughts and intentions of Dr. and Mrs. Wrenn in establishing the award are the principal guide in evaluating award nominations:

“Caring is the action of the verb care—action, involvement, doing something about another’s or society’s troubles or problems. A humane and caring person becomes involved in what is happening to others for their sake. ‘To have concern for,’ and ‘to be solicitous about’ are synonyms for ‘caring’ and in a sense caring means ‘the absence of indifference’ and implies ‘involuntary involvement’ in the welfare of someone else.”

“Caring is communicating that you care by saying so, giving time, and listening completely. It is rejoicing with another who is happy as well as being fully with another who is troubled and, accordingly, fitting to the other’s mood. Caring is reinforcing another person. Being available fully, keeping promises, and giving of one’s self without expectation of return. Caring is also empathizing with another while effecting a change in the other’s feelings or behavior, not merely expressing concern.”

“A humane and caring person expresses concern for social injustices or a sordid situation in our society or the world’s society by throwing one’s self into the situation—time, thoughtful effort, money, exemplary behavior, and true concern for change that will improve the lot of those who are starving, abused, imprisoned, discriminated against, or powerless.”

“The person selected should have evidenced concern about human beings in special ways through caring behavior, documented and generally recognized by peers. The award should typically, but not invariably, be for a person concerned with all humans and their joint welfare, as well as caring for another or others in a personal way. The person selected will have been observed in unselfish involvement over time in a cause or situation that benefits others, not self. The person selected will have been effective in communicating their caring.”
Nomination Guidelines

In your nomination submission, take into account the description of the criteria for the award and briefly:

- Describe the actions, incident(s), or behavior that illustrates the nominee’s caring in a personal way.
- Describe the actions or incident(s) that illustrate the nominee’s caring through social action.
- Describe how the nominee has been unselfishly involved in efforts that benefit others rather than self.
- Describe how the nominee effectively communicates his/her caring for others.

Nomination Checklist

- Nominee Biography
- Nomination Letter
- Supporting Materials
- Maximum of two supporting letters

Submit your nomination(s) online by Nov. 12, 2017.