



**PIA Standard Operating Procedure 322 v.1.7 Attachment B**  
**Parachute Industry Association Publications**  
August 19, 2016

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Parachute & Skydiving awards presented by other organizations for which PIA members may be eligible

The PIA Awards Committee shall recommend nominees for PIA consideration for major national and international awards, medals and other special recognition.

Awards given to PIA members by other organizations bring attention and credibility to the PIA.

**Štefan Banič Gold Medal**

Description: Štefan Banič (pronounced Bawnish)(1870-1941) was granted the first parachute patent (No. 1,108,484) August 25, 1914. A native of Slovakia, he emigrated to the U.S. in 1907 to work in the coalmines of Greenville, Pennsylvania.

**Eligibility:**

1. The applicant for the Gold Medal must serve at least 35 years in the skydiving community or airborne units as: parachute instructor, parachute rigger, DZ owner/Operator, jump plane pilot.
2. For invention, recognized by the parachute industry, of a device or process that either improves the safety of the sport, functionality of equipment, or creatively enhances the sport in a safe manner.
3. For a single act of bravery enacted with the sole desire to prevent serious injury or death to a fellow skydiver.
4. For exemplary service(s) exhibited to promote awareness of Štefan Banič and the foundation via organizing, supporting, sponsoring or hosting parachute competitions and other special events with the goal to promote the sport of skydiving and/or Štefan Banič.

**Special Considerations**

1. The Gold Medal can be awarded to VIPs from any nation that is directly involved in Štefan Banič skydiving memorial events, promotions and/or celebrations.
2. Donations to the National Skydiving Museum are encouraged in remembrance of Štefan Banič. See: <https://skydivingmuseum.org/> to make a donation.

**Awarded by:** Štefan Banič Parachute Foundation, Slavo Mulik

**Past Recipients:**

1998: Ted Strong  
1999: Bill Booth  
1999: (VIP) Pavel Kanis, Minister of Defense (Slovakia)  
2000: Col. Joe Kittinger, Jr.  
2001: Dan Poynter  
2001: (VIP) Gov. Tom Ridge PA  
2002: Ladislav Platko (SK)  
2003: Jerry Schrimsher  
2004: Bill Morrissey  
2005: B.J. Worth  
2006: Larry Bagley  
2007: Michael Truffer  
2008: Bobby Coker  
2009: Jay Stokes  
2010: Pres. George H.W. Bush  
2011: Jerry Bird  
2012: Curt Curtis ( James F. Curtis III.)  
2013: Dori Bachman  
2014: John “Rod” Murphy

**Submission procedures:**

Submit with details outlined to Štefan Banič Parachute Foundation.  
The Board of Directors of the Štefan Banič Parachute Foundation will give all applicants fair consideration.

**Deadline date:** none

**Annual FAA Aviation Mechanic Safety Award** (After a search on the FAA website as of this revision date, we see no reference to this award.)

**Eligibility:** Given to the aviation mechanic (presumably including parachute riggers) making the most outstanding contribution to air safety by maintenance practices. See AC 60-2N

**Awarded by:** Federal Aviation Administration and the aviation industry

**Past Nominees and Recipients:**

1988: PIA nominated Mike Smith  
1991: PIA re-nominated Mike Smith.

See <http://www.faa.gov/about/initiatives/awards/> for available FAA Awards.

## **SAFE Award for Career Achievement**

**Eligibility:** Presented to the person who, throughout his or her career, has made significant contributions to the field of safety.

**Awarded by:** SAFE Association, Post Office Box 130, Creswell, OR 97426-0130  
Tel: (541)895-3012; Fax: (541)895-3014

### **Past Recipients:**

1993: Captain Harold T. Pheeny  
1994: Professor Guy Illich Severin  
1995: Basil Macnab  
1996: Richard H. Frost  
1997: MCPO Larry Farmer  
1997: Orland Wilcox  
1997: Robert J. Zimmerman  
1998: William J. Sears, Ph.D.  
1999: Dominic Spinosa  
1999: J. A. "Tony" vanHaastert  
2000: E. R. Richard (Dick) Atkins  
2001: Homer D. (Sonny) Reihm  
2002: B. M. "Bev" Brewer  
2003: Samuel W. Alderson  
2003: John H. Starnes  
2004: Robert Billings  
2004: Ronald W. Oates  
2005: Walter R. Peck  
2005: Ray E. Smith  
2006: Richard R. (Dick) Higgins  
2006: John Frazier  
2007: William (Bill) Martell  
2008: Fred F. Patten (posthumously)  
2008: Cal Crochet  
2009: Richard F. (Dick) Healing  
2010: Richard (Dick) A. Brower  
2011: Raymond Weiss

**'Submission procedures:** The person making the nomination must be a current SAFE member or Corporate Designee. Nominee need not be a SAFE member. For nomination form, see <http://www.safeassociation.com>

**Deadline date:** August 16.

## **SAFE Award for Individual Achievement**

**Eligibility:** Presented to the person who has made recent outstanding contribution in the field of safety. This may have been through leadership or through advancement in the knowledge, science or engineering associated with a significant improvement in safety or survival.

**Awarded by:** SAFE Association, Post Office Box 130, Creswell, OR 97426-0130  
Tel: (541)895-3012; Fax: (541)895-3014

1993: Larry Specker  
1994: Joseph L. Haley, Jr.  
1995: H. Lee Task, Ph.D.  
1996: Roy R. Rasmussen  
1997: Danny Filipovich  
1998: Curtis D. White  
1999: James O. Lair  
2000: John A. Plaga  
2001: No Recipient  
2002: No Recipient  
2003: Gregory F. Zehner, Ph.D.  
2004: Colonel Albert F. Burnett  
2005: William B. Albery, Ph.D.  
2006: Dawn McGarvey-Buchwalder  
2006: Joseph P. Notaro  
2007: Cecil "Tim" Moore\  
2008: Gregory K. Askew  
2009: Dr. Andy McKinley  
2010: None given in 2010  
2011: James Barnaba

See <http://www.safeassociation.com/> for future updated list of SAFE awards.

**Submission procedures:** The person making the nomination must be a current SAFE member or Corporate Designee. Nominee need not be a SAFE member. For nomination form, see <http://www.safeassociation.com/>.

**Deadline date:** August 16.

## **SAFE Award for Team Achievement**

**Eligibility:** Presented to the team that has made a recent outstanding contribution in the field of safety through advancement in the knowledge, science or engineering associated with a significant improvement in safety or survival.

**Awarded by:** SAFE Association, Post Office Box 130, Creswell, OR 97426-0130  
Tel: (541)895-3012; Fax: (541)895-3014

## **Past Recipients:**

- 1993: NAWC CBR Team
- 1993: Head/Neck Biodynamics Criteria Team
- 1994: K-36 International Test Team
- 1995: Finnish Air Force (FAF) Aircrew Equipment Evaluation Team
- 1996: NAWCADWAR Advanced Technology Crew Station Team
- 1997: Carl Naab and Stan Wojdan
- 1998: Fourth Generation Escape System Technologies Team
- 1999: Transportation Safety Board of Canada – Swiss Air 111 Team
- 2000: Hurricane Mesa Test Team
- 2001: U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory – Cockpit Air Bag Aeromedical Research Team
- 2002: Aerospace Engineering Test Establishment
- 2002: Total Contact, Inc., Burn Mask Team
- 2003: The Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) Head Case Research Team
- 2003: The Aircrew Integrated Life Support System (AILSS) Team
- 2004: 311 HSW – Aircrew Protection Division
- 2005: Paul Helig, Program Manager for the Navy Aircrew Common Ejection Seat Pre-Planned Product Improvement (NACES P3I) Team
- 2006: Multi-climate Protection (MCP) Systems Team
- 2007: The AFRL Rotary Wing Brownout Integrated Solution Study Team
- 2008: PHODS (Personal Helicopter Oxygen Delivery System) Team
- 2009: ACES 5 Team
- 2009: Improved Aviation Personnel Hearing Protection Team (HPT)
- 2010: Naval Aviation Survival Training Program Reduced Oxygen Breathing Device Training Development Team
- 2011: Gary Hardy & Aeromedical Test Laboratory Team

**Submission procedures:** The person making the nomination must be a current SAFE member or Corporate Designee. Nominee need not be a SAFE member. For nomination form, see <http://www.safeassociation.com/>.

**Deadline date:** August 16.

### **SAFE Meritorious Service Award**

**Eligibility:** Presented to the person or persons who demonstrate a recent outstanding contribution to survival through courage or bravery.

**Awarded by:** SAFE Association, Post Office Box 130, Creswell, OR 97426-0130  
Tel: (541)895-3012; Fax: (541)895-3014

## Past Recipients:

1969: Lou Abraham  
1970: Major James R. Yacobi  
1971: Donald Lee  
1972: Lt. Col. George C. Braue  
1973: Michael R. Grost  
1974: Lt. Col. Charles A. Lehman  
1975: Capt. Charles Nowlin  
1976: Gilbert A. Pelawook  
1977: Anthony Martino  
1978: Glen McDonald and John Kenney  
1979: CMSGT Ronald Ziegler  
1980: Richard Duran  
1981: Capt. C. Thomas Lindemann and Lt. Col. Alfred Schneider  
1982: Ms. Kelly Duncan  
1983: Cal Crochet  
1984: F-106 B Storm Hazards Research Flight Crew  
1985: Jean Gueridon  
1986: Bernard Lynch  
1987: Lewis T. Vinson  
1988: Harry W. Schmoll \*\*\*  
1989: Gregory T. Robertson \*\*\*  
1990: Captain Al C. Haynes  
1991: Captain Tom Cooper  
1992: SSGT Charles B. Wade  
1993: Major M. Maccauley, MWO; J.A.E. Maccauley, MWO, F.,J. Ritchie and crews  
1994: No recipient  
1995: 24MEU Tactical Recovery of Aircraft and Personnel Team  
1996: No recipient  
1997: Federal Express Flight 1406 Flight Crew and Federal Express Training Organization  
1998: No recipient  
1999: Helicopter Composite Squadron Two (CDR Scott White and Crew)  
2000: SSGT Richard D. Dixon and Captain Edward J. Lengel  
2001: 109th Air Wing – New York Air National Guard  
2002: No Recipient  
2003: No Recipient  
2004: No Recipient  
2005: No Recipient  
2006: Captain Chris B. Watson  
2006: Crew of “Spear 47”  
2007: Lt. Col. Peter J. Byrne  
2007: Captain Jeffrey H. Buckland  
2007: 1st Lt. Neil D. Lisowski  
2008: Lt. Col. Eugene V. Becker, USAF  
2009: Crew of U.S. Airways Flight 1549 (Chesley “Sully” Sullenberger, Jeffrey Skiles, Sheila Dail, Doreen Welsh and Donna Dent)  
2010: SSG Matthew Kinney  
2011: Alexander Guyton

\*Parachutists

See <http://www.safeassociation.com/> for future updated list of SAFE awards.

**Submission procedures:** The person making the nomination must be a current SAFE member or Corporate Designee. Nominee need not be a SAFE member. For nomination form, see <http://www.safeassociation.com/>.

**Deadline date:** August 16.

### **General Spruance Award**

**Eligibility:** Presented for outstanding contribution to safety through education.

**Awarded by:** SAFE Association, Post Office Box 130, Creswell, OR 97426-0130  
Tel: (541)895-3012; Fax: (541)895-3014

### **Past Recipients:**

1969: General William W. Spruance  
1970: A. Howard Hasbrook  
1971: SMSGT Thomas Linam  
1972: Stanley Pain  
1973: John X. Stefanki  
1974: No recipient  
1975: Staff, Physiological Training Branch, USAFSAM  
1976: Col. Giles W. Hall  
1977: Joshua S. Mann  
1978: Dr. Wayne Chesbro  
1979: U.S. Army Institute for Military Assistance, Military Free Fall Division  
1980: Col. Donald C. Choisser  
1981: Gerald L. Johnson  
1982: Dr. S. Harry Robertson  
1983: Dr. Ted S. Ferry  
1984: Division of Aviation Safety Management and Training (Department of the Interior)  
1985: Robert McLaughlin  
1986: TSGT Cecil Ginger  
1987: CMSGT William W. Wood  
1988: Jimmy L. Whitley  
1989: No recipient  
1990: Professor William D. Waldock  
1991: Michael A. Acosta  
1992: Charles O. Miller  
1993: Kent K. Gillingham, M.D., Ph.D.  
1993: Dr. James W. Turnbow  
1994: Kevin Hiatt  
1995: Captain Scott O'Grady, USAF  
1996: Charles "Skip" Goodman  
1996: Ted Putnam, Ph.D.  
1997: Captain Alan Price

1997: John H. Starnes  
1998: RADM Frank M. "Skip" Dirren  
1999: Captain B. J. Smith  
2000: Richard F. Healing  
2001: Joseph Licina  
2002: No Recipient  
2003: James B. Burin  
2004: Jeffrey Hogue  
2005: Naval Air Systems Command FAILSAFE Program Team  
2005: Eric S. Doten  
2006: Denis Rioux  
2007: Major Bernard (Barney) K. Hill  
2008: Dan McCune  
2009: United States Parachute Association  
2010: Robert L. Beaman  
2011: Reynaldo Gutierrez

See <http://www.safeassociation.com/> for future updated list of SAFE awards.

**Submission procedures:** The person making the nomination must be a current SAFE member or Corporate Designee. Nominee need not be a SAFE member. For nomination form, see <http://www.safeassociation.com/>

**Deadline date:** August 16.

### **M.P. Koch Award**

**Eligibility:** In recognition of those members of industry who have made significant contributions in the advancement of hardware for safety and survival applications.

**Awarded by:** SAFE Association, Post Office Box 130, Creswell, OR 97426-0130  
Tel: (541)895-3012; Fax: (541)895-3014

### **Past Recipients:**

1973: Ralph E. Darling, Sr.  
1974: Kenneth A. Marks  
1975: John Tillman  
1976: C. Donald Bateman  
1977: John C. Goodell  
1978: Leslie Irvin \*\*  
1979: Bernard Mazelsky  
1980: Maurice W. Connell  
1981: Douglas Aircraft Co.  
1982: Byron Solomonides  
1983: Clifford Bonn  
1984: Richard H. Frost  
1985: Homer D. Reihm  
1986: Harold G. Watson  
1987: Donald G. Davis



1988: Everett B. Skinner  
1989: Morry L. Schimmel  
1990: David L. Heitman  
1991: Walter R. Peck  
1992: Brian L. Carnell  
1993: Francis Miller  
1994: Robert L. Cramer  
1995: No recipient  
1996: Peter Zatezalo  
1997: James W. Duncan  
1998: W. Harvey Jagoe  
1999: Roy Spaulding  
2000: John Henneman  
2001: Samuel Levin  
2002: Gary F. Bradley  
2003: Rick Stewart  
2004: James Phlipot  
2004: Alfonso S. Gonzalez  
2005: David E. Bryson  
2006: Robert A. Denton  
2007: Joseph S. Jones  
2008: Barry Batcheller  
2009: John A. Winship  
2010: PARASIM® Team, Systems Technology, Inc.  
2011: Leon Rhodes

\*\* Parachutist

See <http://www.safeassociation.com/> for future updated list of SAFE awards.

**Submission procedures:** The person making the nomination must be a current SAFE member or Corporate Designee. Nominee need not be a SAFE member. For nomination form, see <http://www.safeassociation.com/>

**Deadline date:** August 16.

### **Michael R. Grost Award**

**Eligibility:** Presented to individual(s) who have made significant contributions to the life sciences area through leadership and evolutionary accident investigation using scientific mishap analysis, investigative study, and historical documentation, leading to system design improvements that enhance the life-saving potential of aircraft/spacecraft egress systems or life support systems.

**Awarded by:**

**SAFE Association**, Post Office Box 130, Creswell, OR 97426-0130  
Tel: (541)895-3012; Fax: (541)895-301

## **Past Recipients:**

2000: Bob Swaim  
2001: John A. Goines III  
2002: John Goglia  
2003: Greg Feith  
2004: 311 HSW – Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory  
2005: Mitch Mackenzie for the NAVAIR Mishap Investigation Support Team (MIST)  
2006: Robert L. Campbell  
2007: Intermountain Health Care Life Flight (IHC/LF) Maintenance Team  
2008: Charles R. “Dick” O’Rourke  
2009: Peter B. Mapes, Col., USAF, MC, CFS  
2010: None given in 2010  
2011: None given in 2011

See <http://www.safeassociation.com/> for future updated list of SAFE awards.

**Submission procedures:** The person making the nomination must be a current SAFE member or Corporate Designee. Nominee need not be a SAFE member. For nomination form, see <http://www.safeassociation.com/>

**Deadline date:** August 16.

## **USPA Achievement Award**

A. Introduction (See <http://www.USPA.org>, *Governance Manual*.)

1. Perhaps the most respected honor that is offered by the United States Parachute Association is the USPA Achievement Award, which was originally conceived and created in 1970, as a result of an initial gift of \$3,000 from an “Anonymous Donor.”
2. The sum was eventually enlarged to a total of \$30,000 over a period of years and the funds were placed on deposit with the National Aeronautic Association, which agreed to administer them on behalf of the United States Parachute Association, for the purpose of underwriting the cost of a variety of perpetual competition trophies; as well as the Achievement Award.
3. The fund ceased to exist in 1982 when the final money available was used to construct the floor-to ceiling display cases at USPA’s new Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, in which all USPA trophies are now displayed.
4. The agreement signed on May 13, 1970, between Attorney John Kerr Wilson, acting for the “Anonymous Donor;” General Brooke E. Allen, Executive Director of the National Aeronautic Association, acting for the National Aeronautic Association; and Dr. Edward A Fitch, president of the United States Parachute Association, acting for USPA, stipulates (among other things) that at any time on or after May 13, 1975 the “Anonymous Donor” may identify himself and direct that any and all awards created through his gift carry his name. To date the “Anonymous Donor” has not seen fit to utilize this privilege.

B. Qualifications for the Award: The May 13, 1970 agreement, as accepted by USPA, describes the award itself and the qualifications required of recipients, using this language: *“To provide a bowl or other suitable trophy to be known initially as ‘The United States Parachute Association Achievement Award’, which shall be perpetual and will be awarded annually to an expert active or retired sport parachute jumper in recognition of outstanding sportsmanship, skill, or personal contribution to the sport of parachuting and the United States Parachute Association, its goals and purposes. The recipient of such award will be selected by the board of directors by a majority vote during a closed regular or special meeting. In the event a majority of the board of directors cannot agree upon a recipient of such award on account of a lack of preeminence of the sport parachutist in any one year, the award will be made at least once each two years. Such trophy will be kept permanently in an appropriate location to be determined by the board of directors.”*

C. Description of Trophy:

1. The trophy itself is a sterling silver bowl, 15 inches in diameter, seated on an octagonal teakwood base which bears carved wooden replicas of the USPA emblem on four faces and sterling silver plates listing the names and qualifications of recipients of the award on the other four faces.
2. Traditionally, each year the recipient receives a smaller, eight-inch diameter replica silver bowl as his or her personal possession.

D. Other Considerations:

1. Following the vote of the USPA Board of Directors selecting a recipient, the Chair of the USPA Membership Services Committee or some other volunteer prepares an article for *Parachutist* Magazine explaining the merits of the recipient and the reasons for the decision of the board.
2. The award is presented at an appropriate occasion where many USPA members are likely to be present. Traditionally the award is made for the year prior to the year in which it is presented.
3. While the deed of gift requires that the award be given only to an individual, in 1974, the presentation was made to the United States Army Parachute Team, which suggests that the language in the deed is usable more as a guideline than as a strict requirement.
4. The Membership Services Committee and the board has usually regarded the statement, “In recognition of ... personal contribution to ... the United States Parachute Association, its goals and purposes” as an overriding requirement (i.e., achievements in sport parachuting unrelated to the United States Parachute Association would normally not be considered sufficient to qualify a recipient, lacking specific contributions to USPA).
5. While the deed of gift states that the award must be made at least once every two years, neither in 1991 nor in 1992 was a recipient named, thereby again suggesting that this particular language serves more as a guideline than as a requirement.
6. No current member of the USPA Board of Directors may be recommended for the USPA Achievement Award during his or her term as a member of the board.

- a. In practice, this requirement has been extended to forbid a nomination for at least two full years after the end of board service
- b. It is enlarged to include as ineligible current or former USPA employees, also until at least two years after their employment ends

**Eligibility:** (See above)

**Awarded by:** USPA, 5401 Southpoint Centre Blvd., Fredericksburg, VA 22407

**Past Recipients:**

- 1971: Joe Crane (posthumously)—“For unselfish and dedicated service as Founder, president, and Chairman of the Board of the National Parachute Jumpers and Riggers and its successor, the Parachute Club of America.”
- 1972: Lew Sanborn, D-1—“For originating safe and reliable parachute equipment, for pioneering work in freefall photography, and for many other contributions to the sport and USPA.”
- 1973: Steve Snyder, D-5—“For pioneering contributions through the years to the saving of lives and the improvement of parachute equipment.”
- 1974: United States Army Parachute Team—“Generous and dedicated sportsmen, celebrated competitors, respected leaders who since 1961 have introduced parachuting at its best to worldwide millions and have brought honor and distinction to the sport.”
- 1975: Lowell Bachman—“For service to the United States Parachute Association and all competitors as judge and chief judge at countless national championships, and as a dedicated leader in the development of judging excellence.”
- 1977: Russ Gunby—“A founding spirit who saw the future when others doubted. As author, executive director, and PCA president, he gave countless hours to build the early framework of our sport.”
- 1978: Len Potts—“In recognition of personal sacrifice and countless contributions to skydiving and this organization spanning our decades as a sport. His past is our present.”
- 1980: Dan Poynter—“Prolific author, distinguished instructor, preeminent parachutist, whose service to skydiving spans more than 20 active years.”
- 1981: Norman E. Heaton—“In eleven years of devoted service as executive director, he contributed substantially and uniquely to USPA’s greatest growth.”
- 1983: James F. “Curt” Curtis—“A total contributor to our sport and USPA: competitive champion, headquarters executive, drop zone owner, safety officer, director, board chairman.” (For some reason, his service as USPA president was not recorded.)
- 1984: Chuck MacCrone—“In recognition of outstanding contributions to sport parachuting and as a testament to his unparalleled service as president, FAI-IPC.”

- 1986: Jack Bergman (posthumously)—“USPA Director 1967-1984, Treasurer 1967-1984, National Championships Meet Director 1975-1984. With selfless devotion he gave a quarter century to skydiving and USPA.”
- 1987: Carl Boenish (posthumously)—“A prolific and talented skydiver whose lifetime of pioneering freefall photography brought unforgettable images and better understanding to fellow jumpers and the public.”
- 1989: J. Scott Hamilton—“For service to USPA and the skydiving world 1967-1979, a Collegiate League director, Safety and Training Committee chairman, and USPA president.”
- 1990: Ken Coleman (posthumously) — “World and national champion who created the accelerated freefall program.”
- 1993: Loy Brydon, D-12 — “In recognition of major contributions to parachuting in the development of equipment, freefall techniques and competition—an original role model of the total skydiver.”
- 1994: William H. Ottley, D-298 — “In recognition of more than three decades of dedicated service to skydiving and USPA, as board member, vice-president and executive director.”
- 1995: Dick Barber, C-2375—“For dedicated service to all competitors as a judge at countless U.S. Nationals and world championships, and for the inspiration provided to judges.”
- 1997: Clint Vincent—“Selfless service for the betterment of all aspects of skydiving and in support of all skydivers.”
- 1998: Patrick M. Moorehead—“For unselfish dedication to the United States Parachute Association since 1969 as an ambassador extraordinaire while traveling the world as a member of the board of directors and as a professional skydiving performer.”
- 2002: Sherry Schrimsher (with Jerry Schrimsher) –“For their selfless dedication to USPA's competition and instructional programs and as leaders of the community while serving on USPA's board of directors.”
- 2002: Jerry Schrimsher (posthumously) (with Sherry Schrimsher) –“For their selfless dedication to USPA's competition and instructional programs and as leaders of the community while serving on USPA's board of directors.”
- 2003: Al Krueger – “For almost 40 years of dedication to the sport and especially USPA as a board member, U.S. Nationals meet director, world skydiving champion, and inspirational visionary.”
- 2004: Gene Paul Thacker – “For over 40 years of contributions to USPA and the sport of skydiving, particularly in the Style & Accuracy community as an athlete, coach, leader, inspiration, volunteer, conscience and catalyst.”

2007: Jacques-Andre Istel – “In recognition of his pioneering spirit as he promoted skydiving in America, United States Parachute Teams, and collegiate parachuting competition while serving the United States Parachute Association and its predecessors.”

2010: Chris Needels – “For almost a half-century of total commitment to USPA as a board member, officer, executive director, and skydiving museum trustee, providing unparalleled leadership, vision and lasting stability.”

2011: Paul Sitter – “For nearly three decades of service to the U.S. Parachute Association and its members, particularly in the area of safety and training by helping to educate and improve safety for skydivers everywhere.”

See <http://membership.uspa.org/Awards/USPA-Lifetime-Achievement-Award> for updated list of USPA awards.

**Submission procedures:** (see above)

**Deadline date:**

### **USPA Gold Medal for Meritorious Achievement**

A. Background:

1. Second only to the USPA Achievement Award in prestige, the USPA Gold Medal for Meritorious Achievement was established on July 13, 1997 by the USPA Board of Directors.
2. The award given to the recipient is in the form of a struck brass medal which measures three inches in diameter, weighs approximately five ounces and is slotted at the top for attachment of a 30” gold fabric ribbon.
3. For permanent display at USPA Headquarters is a large wooden plaque measuring two feet by four feet and adorned with an exact replica of the medal along with brass metal strips bearing the name and date of each recipient.

B. Criteria for the award:

1. The USPA Gold Medal for Meritorious being considered from those nominations presented by the selection committee.

F. Presentation Of the Award: The USPA Gold Medals for Meritorious Achievement are presented annually at a time and place selected by the President of the United States Parachute Association.

G. Nomination Procedures:

1. Identify the nominee, including address and telephone number
2. Prepare the citation in 30 words or less capturing the essence of the achievement for which the nominee’s name has been submitted

3. Give complete, concise details justifying the award to the nominee, with pertinent background information to assist the selection committee

**Eligibility:** (See above)

**Awarded by:** USPA, 5401 Southpoint Centre Blvd., Fredericksburg, VA 22407

**Past Recipients:**

1997: Lorrie Young—“In recognition of outstanding achievement as a National and International Judge in all skydiving disciplines. Her unwavering dedication to fairness and integrity brought honor, as well as equality, to the judging profession.”

1999: Jimmy Godwin—“For outstanding and meritorious service to the skydiving community and for sharing his knowledge for over three decades as a Drop Zone owner, rigger examiner, pilot, instructor and Conference Director.”

1999: Jerry Bird—“For outstanding and meritorious service to the skydiving community for over thirty years, inspiring jumpers into becoming competitors and for unselfish training and organizing in the field of relative work.”

2000: Sandra Williams – “For your unparalleled encouragement to women's participation in skydiving and helping set the benchmark for achievement in our sport.”

2001: Dave DeWolf – “In recognition of your decades of service to the sport as a rigging school operator, seminar host and mentor.”

2002: Ted Strong – “For almost a half-century of contribution to the skydiving community as a competitor, a sponsor of numerous US parachute teams, and, most notably, his unique innovation in parachute equipment design including the tandem skydiving system and its importance to the growth of the sport in general and USPA in particular.”

2002: Bill Booth – “For over three decades of quality parachute equipment design and manufacture, especially his personal contribution to the concept and promotion of the tandem skydiving system.”

2003: Tom Morrison – “in recognition of more than 40 years as an ambassador for the sport of skydiving worldwide and for serving as an inspiration to skydivers of all ages.”

2003: Fredrick W. Bill Wenger – “For over 30 years of leadership and support of the skydiving competition community as a board member, judge, team coach, and national and world champion.”

2004: Michael J. McGowan – “For promoting our sport through professional aerial photography as a freefall cameraman, and for his innovation in developing freefall photography techniques.”

2005: Tom Sanders – “For over a quarter of a century of promoting skydiving in general and USPA in particular as a professional aerial photographer, contributing often to the USPA calendar and Parachutist magazine.”

- 2006: James (Jim) Wallace – “In recognition of almost 40 years dedicated to the skydiving community, and especially USPA, with boundless energy and enthusiasm as an instructor, demonstration jumper, U.S. Team member, and movie stuntman.”
- 2006: Norman Kent – “For nearly 30 years of contributions to skydiving and the USPA. Norman’s work has put the highest artistic touch on images of our sport that have been seen by millions.”
- 2006: Michael Truffer – “For service to the USPA membership as national director and for his vision and guidance in establishing the U.S. Parachute Team Trust Fund, which has and will continue to support those teams for many years.”
- 2007: Judy Celaya – “For almost three decades of dedicated contributions to the worldwide skydiving community as a national and international competition judge, judge course director, and ambassador of the sport.”
- 2007: Chris Gay – “For innovations that have redefined the discipline of canopy formation. Chris Gay made the USA the dominant force in international competitions, improved safety and was instrumental in the 100-way world record organization.”
- 2007: Mike Lewis – “For being one of CRW's original pioneers. Mike Lewis has been an integral part of every aspect of the discipline's development including safety, equipment, training, competition and organizing the 100-way world record.”
- 2011: Bill Wood – “For acting as a true worldwide ambassador of skydiving as both a demonstration jumper and leader of the Parachutists Over Phorty Society, and for earning an international reputation as a traveling good-vibes skydiver.”
- 2011: Jeff Steinkamp – “For nearly four decades of service to the competition community as a nationally rated judge and to the accuracy community in particular as an innovator of accuracy events and scoring systems.”

See <http://membership.uspa.org/Awards/USPA-Gold-Medal-for-Meritorious-Service> for updated list of USPA awards.

**Submission procedures:** (See above)

**Deadline date:**

**The Paul Tissandier Diploma and Group Diploma of Honor** of the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI)

- a. Annual awards of the FAI carry world-wide distinction. Skydivers are eligible for only two of the various FAI citations: the Tissandier Diploma and the Group Diploma of Honor.
- b. The Tissandier Diploma is usually awarded to an individual while the Group Diploma of Honor, as its name implies, honors achievement by groups or organizations.
- c. Both are awarded for “during the previous years, serving the cause of aviation in general, and private and sporting aviation in particular, by their work, initiative, and devotion in other ways.”



**Eligibility:** (See above)

**Awarded by:** Fédération Aéronautique Internationale Headquarters, Avenue Mon Repos 24, 1005 Lausanne, Switzerland. <http://naa.aero/>.

**Past Recipients:** See <http://www.fai.org/awards> for updated list of FAI awards.

**Submission procedures:** See <http://naa.aero/> for information to submit nominations.

**Deadline date:** April 30

**The Leonardo Da Vinci Diploma** and the FAI Parachuting Gold Medal are special awards for which only parachutists are eligible and which are awarded by the International Parachuting Committee (IPC) each year.

a. The Leonardo Da Vinci Diploma is awarded by the IPC to a male or female parachutist who has (any of the following):

- (1) At least three times consecutively won a National Overall Championship title
- (2) At least once won the World Absolute Individual Parachuting Championship and twice the title of Combined Champion (male or female) at a recognized international parachuting competition
- (3) Or served twice as chief judge at a recognized international competition and at least once at a recognized World Parachuting Championships, or served at least three times consecutively as an international judge at a recognized World Parachuting Championships
- (4) Established at least three world parachuting records
- (5) Or served at least twice as meet director at a recognized international parachuting competition and at least once at a recognized World Parachuting Championship
- (6) Or been nominated as honorary president of the International Parachuting Committee (IPC)
- (7) Served for at least ten consecutive years, including the current year, as a national delegate to the IPC

b. Only one Leonardo Da Vinci Diploma is awarded annually, and each year each active member of the FAI may propose one candidate from his or her country, such submission to be signed by the president or vice president of the FAI member organization.

**Eligibility:** (See above)

**Awarded by:** International Parachuting Commission (IPC) of the FAI. Fédération Aéronautique Internationale Headquarters, Avenue Mon Repos 24, 1005 Lausanne, Switzerland

**Past Recipients:** See <http://www.fai.org/awards> for updated list of FAI awards.

**Submission procedures:** (See above)

**Deadline date:** April 30

**The FAI Parachuting Gold Medal** and The Leonardo da Vinci Diploma and are special awards for which only parachutists are eligible and which are awarded by the International Parachuting Committee (IPC) each year.

The Parachuting Gold Medal is awarded annually by the IPC to honor “an outstanding accomplishment in connection with parachuting,” which “could be in the realm of sport, safety, or an invention.” Each year each active FAI member may propose one candidate from his country, who however may not be a currently seated member of the IPC, such submission to be in writing and signed by the president or vice president of the FAI member organization.

**Eligibility:** (See above)

**Awarded by:** International Parachuting Commission (IPC) of the FAI. Fédération Aéronautique Internationale Headquarters, Avenue Mon Repos 24, 1005 Lausanne, Switzerland

**Past Recipients:** See <http://www.fai.org/awards> for updated list of FAI awards.

**Submission procedures:** (See above)

**Deadline date:** April 30

**The Frank G. Brewer Trophy of the National Aeronautic Association (NAA)**

a. The NAA, U.S. representative of the FAI, itself sponsors certain coveted awards in the American aviation world.

b. Among these is the Frank G. Brewer Trophy, for which nominations are accepted from any division of NAA. See <http://naa.aero/>

c. The Brewer Trophy, awarded annually, is given to an individual, group or organization “for the most outstanding contribution to the development of air youth in the field of education and training.”

d. The Frank G. Brewer Trophy was established in 1943 by Frank G. Brewer in honor of his two sons and the one and a half million other American youths put into the air by World War II. NAA has administered the Trophy since it was founded.

**Eligibility:** (see above)

**Awarded by:** National The Frank G. Brewer Trophy Selection Committee is appointed annually by the President of the National Aeronautic Association. The size of the Selection Committee is determined by the President of NAA.

**Past Recipients:** See <http://naa.aero/> for the updated list of recipients.

**Submission procedures:** (See above). See <http://naa.aero> for the nomination guide.

**Deadline date:** Nominations and endorsement letters must be received by December 31. They should be sent to National Aeronautic Association at Reagan Washington National Airport, Hangar 7, Suite 202, Washington, DC 20001. While FAXED nominations will be accepted, they are discouraged since the quality of the print can be marginal. Fax number is 703-416-4877. All materials submitted become property of the NAA.

**Presentation of Award:**

The Frank G. Brewer Trophy is presented at an appropriate ceremony as determined by the President of the National Aeronautic Association, usually at the National Congress on Aviation and Space Education.

**The Robert J. Collier Trophy of the National Aeronautic Association (NAA)**

- a. The NAA, U.S. representative of the FAI, itself sponsors certain coveted awards in the American aviation world.
- b. Among these is the Robert J. Collier Trophy, for which nominations are accepted from any division of NAA. See <http://naa.aero>.
- c. The National Aeronautic Association's Collier Trophy is named for Robert J. Collier. In addition to an aviator, humanitarian, and sportsman, Mr. Collier was a prominent publisher whose family created the popular "Colliers Weekly." Robert Collier commissioned the trophy in 1910 with the intent to encourage the American aviation community to strive for excellence and achievement in aeronautic development.

In recognizing the worth and future of aviation, Mr. Collier proclaimed the ideal that, "The flying machine should be unselfishly and rapidly developed to its ultimate potential for America's economic advancement." In support of his statement, Collier was the first person to purchase an airplane from the Wright brothers for personal use. Shortly thereafter, he "loaned" his aircraft to the U.S. Army for flight evaluations at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas, which led to the first military orders for a flying machine.

Robert J. Collier died in 1918 after completing his military service in World War I. By resolution of the National Aeronautic Association, successor to the Aero Club of America, the trophy was named for him.

**Eligibility:** (See above).

**Awarded by:** National Aeronautic Association

**Past Recipients:** In 1911, the very first recipient of the NAA's Collier Trophy was Glenn H. Curtiss for his achievements in the development of the hydro-aeroplane. Since then, NAA has annually selected those responsible for the greatest accomplishments in aviation and space and honored them with the Collier.

The history of the Collier Trophy is very much the history of American aviation. Collier winners compose the who's who of flying world -- Orville Wright, Elmer Sperry, Lawrence Bell and Chuck Yeager, Neil Armstrong and "Buzz" Aldrin, and Jeana Yeager and Burt Rutan to name just a few of the individuals.

See <http://naa.aero> for the updated list of recipients.

**Submission procedures:** (See above). Nominations must be made through USPA or another NAA division.

**Deadline date:** June 30.

### **The Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy of the National Aeronautic Association (NAA)**

- a. The NAA, U.S. representative of the FAI, itself sponsors certain coveted awards in the American aviation world.
- b. Among these is the Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy, for which nominations are accepted from any division of NAA. See <http://naa.aero>.
- c. Origin. In 1948, the National Aeronautic Association (NAA) established this award to honor the memory of both Orville and Wilbur Wright. The association created the Wright Memorial Trophy, which has been awarded by the President of NAA annually on the anniversary of the historic first flight.
- d. Criteria. The Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy is awarded annually to a living American for "significant public service of enduring value to aviation in the United States." The words "public service" are interpreted to include either (1) public service whether as a full time employee of government or as an unpaid volunteer serving on a government commission or agency, or (2) service which made a major contribution of enduring value to the public. The word "aviation" should be interpreted broadly to include aerospace activities.
- e. Presentation. The Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy Is Presented Annually By Agreement On, Or About, The 17th Of December (Anniversary Of The First Successful Flight Of An Airplane) By The President Of The National Aeronautic Association At The Aero Club of Washington's Annual Wright Brothers Memorial Banquet.

**Eligibility:** (See above).

**Awarded by:** National Aeronautic Association

**Past Recipients:** See <https://naa.aero/> for the updated list of recipients.

**Submission procedures:** (See above). Nominations must be made through USPA or another NAA division. The Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy Selection Committee is appointed annually by the President of the National Aeronautic Association and consists of seven members, which includes the President, Chairman, Administrator, or a representative of each of the following:

National Aeronautic Association  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)  
Air Transport Association  
Aerospace Industries Association  
American Institute of Aeronautics & Astronautics  
Aero Club of Washington  
The Aviation Press

**Deadline date:** Nominations must be received at the offices of NAA not later than AUGUST 30. In fairness to others, nominations received after this date will not be considered.

### **The Katherine & Marjorie Stinson Trophy of the National Aeronautic Association (NAA)**

- a. The NAA, U.S. representative of the FAI, itself sponsors certain coveted awards in the American aviation world.
- b. Among these is the Katherine & Marjorie Stinson Trophy, for which nominations are accepted from any division of NAA. See <http://naa.aero/>
- c. This award from the National Aviation Club recognizes a living woman for an outstanding and enduring contribution, a meritorious flight, or a singular technical development in the fields of aviation, aeronautics, space, or related sciences.

**Eligibility:** (See above).

**Awarded by:** National Aeronautic Association

**Past Recipients:** See <http://naa.aero/> for an updates list of recipients.

**Submission procedures:** (See above). Nominations must be made through USPA or another NAA division.

**Deadline date:** June 30.

### **The Cliff Henderson Award of the National Aeronautic Association (NAA)**

- a. The NAA, U.S. representative of the FAI, itself sponsors certain coveted awards in the American aviation world.
- b. Among these is the Cliff Henderson Award, for which nominations are accepted from any division of NAA. See <http://naa.aero>.
- c. This award from the National Aviation Club recognizes an individual or group whose vision, leadership, or skill has made a significant and lasting contribution to the promotion and advancement of aviation or space activity. .

**Eligibility:** (See above).

**Awarded by:** National Aeronautic Association

**Past Recipients:** See <http://naa.aero> for an updated list of recipients.

**Submission procedures:** (See above). Nominations must be made through USPA or another NAA division.

**Deadline date:** June 30.

### **The Katherine Wright Memorial Award of the National Aeronautic Association (NAA)**

- a. The NAA, U.S. representative of the FAI, itself sponsors certain coveted awards in the American aviation world.
- b. Origin. This award was established in 1981 by the Gates Learjet Corporation. The original intent was that this award would be made annually to a woman who, behind the scenes, provided encouragement, support and inspiration to her husband, and thus was instrumental in his success.
- c. The award is now made annually to a woman who has:  
Provided encouragement, support and inspiration to her husband and thus was instrumental in his success or made a personal contribution to the advancement of the art, sport and science of aviation and space flight over an extended period of time.

**Eligibility:** (See above).

**Awarded by:** The National Aeronautic Association annually solicits nominations for this award from among aviation organizations and interested individuals throughout the United States.

**Past Recipients:** See <http://naa.aero> for updated list of recipients.

**Submission procedures:** (See above). See <http://naa.aero> for the nomination guidelines.

**Deadline date:** The selection is made in April of each year by a Committee appointed by the President of NAA.

#### **Presentation**

The formal presentation of the award takes place at the annual meeting of the Ninety-Nines, Inc. which is normally scheduled in July or August. The Trophy itself is on display at the offices of The Ninety-Nines, Inc. in Oklahoma City.

### **The Mackay Trophy of the National Aeronautic Association (NAA)**

- a. The NAA, U.S. representative of the FAI, itself sponsors certain coveted awards in the American aviation world.
- b. Among these is the Mackay Trophy, for which nominations are accepted from any division of NAA.

**Eligibility:** (See above).

**Awarded by:** National Aeronautic Association

**Past Recipients:** See <http://naa.aero> for an updated list of recipients.

**Submission procedures:** See <http://naa.aero> for the nomination guidelines.

Deadline date: June 30.

**The Elder Statesman of Aviation Award of the National Aeronautic Association (NAA)**

a. The NAA, U.S. representative of the FAI, itself sponsors certain coveted awards in the American aviation world.

b. Among these is the Elder Statesman Award, for which nominations are accepted from any division of NAA. See <http://naa.aero>.

c. Origin

The Elder Statesman of Aviation Award was established on October 16, 1954, by the Board of Directors of the National Aeronautic Association. The award is in the form of a handsome parchment certificate, suitably mounted, certifying the recipient's election as an Elder Statesman of Aviation.

d. Criteria For Award

The purpose of the Elder Statesman of Aviation Award is to honor outstanding Americans, who by their efforts over a period of years, have made contributions of significant value to aeronautics, and have reflected credit upon America and themselves.

A nominee for consideration as an Elder Statesman of Aviation shall:

a. Be a citizen of the United States, who, for at least 15 years, has been actively identified with aeronautics and has made contributions of significant value to aeronautics;

b. Have exhibited qualities of patriotism, integrity, and moral courage worthy of emulation;

c. Be at least 60 years of age; and

d. Be well and favorably known as a person of ability and character.

**Eligibility:** (See above).

**Awarded by:** National Aeronautic Association

**Past Recipients:** See <http://naa.aero> for an updated list of recipients.

**Submission procedures:** See <http://naa.aero> for the nominations guideline.

**Deadline date:** June 30.

**The Leo Stevens Medal of the Leo Stevens Award Committee** (This award was not found on the NAA Awards website. An Internet search shows that the last presentation of this award was in 1959.)

The Leo Stevens Award Committee, an independent group not affiliated with FAI or NAA, describes the medal as the “principal parachuting award,” given annually to the “individual or group who has made the most distinguished contribution to the saving of lives in aerial navigation by perfecting the parachute or other means of bringing individuals or disabled aircraft in safely to the ground, or in training and developing the art and use of such means.”

**Theodor W. Aerodynamic Decelerator Systems Award** (Formerly known as AIAA Aerodynamic Decelerator Systems Award)

See <https://www.aiaa.org/> for the updated list of recipients.

See <https://www.aiaa.org/> for nominations guidelines.

**Awards offered through The American Institute of Aeronautics & Astronautics (AIAA)**

See [https://www.aiaa.org](https://www.aiaa.org/) for the full list of awards and recipients.

See <https://www.aiaa.org/> for nominations guidelines.

**Note** the AIAA has more than 50 awards divided into ten categories. Each category directs attention to a particular area of AIAA activity and has its own set of procedures for selection and bestowal.