



Air Force Association National Awards 2009

National Aerospace Awards

Award

H. H. Arnold Award

AFA's highest honor in national security to a member of the armed forces

W. Stuart Symington Award

AFA's highest honor in national security to a civilian

John R. Alison Award

AFA's highest honor for industrial leadership

AFA Chairman's Aerospace Education Award

For long-term commitment to aerospace education

Lt. Gen. Claire L. Chennault Award

Outstanding performance in aerial warfare tactics

David C. Schilling Award

Outstanding contribution in flight

Theodore von Karman Award

Outstanding contribution in science and engineering

Gill Robb Wilson Award

Outstanding contribution in arts and letters

Hoyt S. Vandenberg Award

Outstanding contribution in aerospace education

Thomas P. Gerrity Award

Outstanding contribution in systems and logistics

Department of Veterans Affairs Employee of the Year

Outstanding performance by VA employee

Recipients

Gen. John D. W. Corley, Commander, Air Combat Command, Langley AFB, Va.

Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, Utah

General Atomics Aeronautical Systems Inc., MQ-9 Reaper

ExxonMobil Foundation

Maj. David C. Lyons, 57th Wing, Nellis AFB, Nev.

US Air Forces Central, headquartered in Southwest Asia, Lt. Gen. Gilmary M. Hostage III, commander

Laser Joint Direct Attack Munition Team, Eglin AFB, Fla.

The United States Air Force Band, Bolling AFB, D.C.

Robert F. Collings, founder of The Collings Foundation, Stow, Mass.

Maj. Chad A. Holt, commander, 355th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.

Kendra Betz, physical therapist, VA Rocky Mountain Network, Glendale, Colo.

Professional, Management, Civilian, Environmental, and Safety Awards

Gen. Billy Mitchell Award for C4 Excellence; Capt. Scott A. Weed, 3rd Combat Communications Gp., Tinker AFB, Okla.

Gen. George C. Kenney Award; Hq., Air Force Special Operations Command, Lessons Learned Team, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

CMSAF Thomas N. Barnes Award; SSgt. Jonathan W. Scheets, 4th Aircraft Maintenance Sq., Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.

Paul W. Myers Award for Physicians; Maj. William Hannah, Keesler Medical Center, Keesler AFB, Miss.

Verne Orr Award for Human Resources; 33rd Rescue Sq., Kadena AB, Japan

Juanita Redmond Award for Nursing; Capt. April J. Dunlevy, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska

Stuart R. Reichart Award for Lawyers; David W. Chappell, Air Force Legal Operations Agency, Arlington, Va.

Civilian Wage Employee of the Year; Brigido G. Serrano, 355th Logistics Readiness Sq., Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.

Civilian Program Specialist of the Year; Gary J. Parker, 45th Space Wing, Patrick AFB, Fla.

Civilian Program Manager of the Year; Kenneth E. Bandy, 308th Armament Systems Wing, Eglin AFB, Fla.

Civilian Senior Manager of the Year; Jeffrey J. Braun, 77th Aeronautical Systems Wing, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

AFROTC Cadet of the Year; Wesley W. Carr, University of Arkansas

CAP Aerospace Education Cadet of the Year; Victor R. Traven, Maryland Wing, Civil Air Patrol

Joan Orr Award for Air Force Spouse of the Year; Michelle L. Storch, Hill AFB, Utah

Air Force Chaplain Service Award; Capt. Andrew L. Thornley, Andrews AFB, Md.

Management Award—Executive Division; Gary Williams, 308th Armament Systems Wing, Eglin AFB, Fla.

Management Award—Middle Division; Michael W. Campbell, 308th ASW, Eglin AFB, Fla.

Management Award—Junior Division; Capt. Waldine W. Messmore, 308th ASW, Eglin AFB, Fla.

Gen. E. W. Rawlings Environmental Award—Mgmt.; Douglas Owen, 4th Civil Engineer Sq., Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.

Gen. E. W. Rawlings Environmental Award—Tech.; TSgt. Mark T. Burns, 99th LRS, Nellis AFB, Nev.

SECAF Safety Award—Category I; US Air Forces in Europe, headquartered at Ramstein AB, Germany

SECAF Safety Award—Category II; Air Force Operational Test & Evaluation Center, Kirtland AFB, N.M.



Gen. John Corley (third from left), H. H. Arnold Award recipient and former commander, Air Combat Command, is joined by (l-r) AFA Board Chairman **Joseph Sutter**, USAF Chief of Staff **Gen. Norton Schwartz**, and Secretary of the Air Force **Michael Donley**.



W. Stuart Symington Award recipient Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) (left) and Lifetime Achievement Award recipient James Schlesinger, former Secretary of Defense.



Thomas Cassidy Jr. (l) accepted the John R. Alison Award on behalf of General Atomics Aeronautical Systems Inc. Here, he speaks with Sen. Orrin Hatch.

Crew and Team Awards

Airborne Battle Management Crew; Crew Two, 16th Airborne Command & Control Sq., 116th Air Control Wing, Robins AFB, Ga. Best airborne battle management crew.

Brig. Gen. Ross G. Hoyt Award; Crew of Rescue 5828, 67th Special Operations Sq., RAF Mildenhall, England. Best air refueling crew.

Gen. Curtis E. LeMay Award; Crew of Bone 11, 37th Bomb Sq., 28th Bomb Wing, Ellsworth AFB, S.D. Best bomber aircrew.

Gen. Jerome F. O'Malley Award; Crew of Python 75, 38th Reconnaissance Sq., 97th Intelligence Sq., 55th Operations Support Sq., Offutt AFB, Neb., and 390th IS, Kadena AB, Japan. Best reconnaissance crew.

Gen. Thomas S. Power Award; Crew 201, Capt. Stephen M. Gringage and Capt. Benji L. Johnson, 91st OSS, 91st Missile Wing, Minot AFB, N.D. Best missile combat crew.

Best Space Operations Crew; Alpha Crew, 4th Space Control Sq., 21st Space Wing, Holloman AFB, N.M. Best space operations crew.

Lt. Gen. William H. Tunner Award; Crew of Torque 05, 40th Airlift Sq., Dyess AFB, Tex. Best airlift aircrew.

Lt. Gen. Howard W. Leaf Award; A-10C Precision Engagement Operational Test Team, Nellis AFB, Nev. Best test team.



Photo by Chris Cross

Gerald McElvy, ExxonMobil Foundation president, accepts the AFA Chairman's Aerospace Education Award on behalf of the foundation.

Citations of Honor

For the outstanding contribution of an individual or organization to the development of aerospace power.

Recipients	Achievement
4th Air Support Operations Gp./Campbell Barracks, Germany	Supported operations in both Iraq and Afghanistan through 12 months of continuous deployment; directed, through its tactical air control party airmen, 7,100 close air support sorties, supporting US soldiers and marines and coalition forces.
11th Intelligence Sq., Hurlburt Field, Fla.	Processed, exploited, and disseminated full-motion video from the MQ-1 Predator unmanned aerial vehicle, handling 60 percent of MQ-1 missions and breaking new ground with its unique pattern-of-life analysis.
703rd Aeronautical Systems Gp., Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio	Provided fast development, fielding, and sustainment of the MQ-1 Predator, enabling USAF to more than double combat sorties, and enabled combat fielding of the new larger MQ-9 Reaper hunter-killer at the same time.
Enterprise Operations Sq., Office of Space Technology, Secretary of the Air Force/National Reconnaissance Office, Chantilly, Va.	Achieved 99.998 percent availability rate in managing NRO's global communications infrastructure, including 19,000 circuits across more than 775 sites, employed by 53,000 users supporting DOD, the Intelligence Community, and allies.
563rd Rescue Gp., Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.	Sustained continuous deployment for Southwest Asia and Horn of Africa operations during 2008; supported disaster relief efforts during hurricanes Gustav and Ike; orchestrated the Angel Thunder personnel recovery exercise, helping train nearly 900 US and foreign personnel.

Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Command Awards

Award	Recipient	Achievement/Employer
CMSgt. Dick Red Award	SMSgt. Kerry A. James, 176th Aircraft Maintenance Sq., Kulis ANGB, Alaska	Best ANG maintainer
Maj. Gen. Earl T. Ricks Award	Aircrew of Torque 95, deployed to Bagram AB, Afghanistan	Best ANG unit airmanship
Outstanding ANG Unit	148th Fighter Wing, Duluth Arpt., Minn.	Top ANG unit of the year
George W. Bush Award, Officer	Capt. Jonathan D. Ness, Washington ANG	Microsoft Corp., Redmond, Wash.
President's Award for AFRC	Team McChord, 446th Airlift Wing, McChord AFB, Wash.	Best AFRC aircrew of the year
AFRC Unit Award	336th Air Refueling Sq., March ARB, Calif.	Best AFRC unit of the year
AFRC Citizen Airman Award, Officer	Maj. Michael V. Bautista, 728th Airlift Sq., McChord AFB, Wash.	Southwest Airlines, headquartered in Dallas
AFRC Citizen Airman Award, Enlisted	MSgt. Daniel A. Schultz, 911th Aircraft Maintenance Sq., Pittsburgh Arpt./ARS, Pa.	Reed & Witting Co., Pittsburgh

2009 AFA Membership and Activity Awards

AFA Member of the Year



David Cummock (l), AFA's 2009 Member of the Year, chats with AFA National Director Jerry White.

D. W. Steele Sr. Memorial Award

(AFA Unit of the Year: Paul Revere, Mass.)



Angela Dupont, president of the Paul Revere Chapter, and Donald Harlin, AFA chaplain and 2009 Gold Card Recipient, play around with Harlin's service dog, Goldie.

Arthur C. Storz Sr. Membership Award

Presented to the AFA chapter or individual member producing the highest number of new members during the 12-month period ending June 30, 2009, as a percentage of total chapter membership as of July 1, 2008.

Chapter Award

Fairbanks Midnight Sun, Alaska

President Harry Cook

Gold Card Recipient

Donald J. Harlin

Georgia

AFA National Aerospace Teacher of the Year

William L. Austin

Sumter, S.C.



President Harry Cook (r) received this year's Storz Membership Award on behalf of the Fairbanks Midnight Sun Chapter (Alaska). Also shown: AFA Treasurer Steven Lundgren.

Distinguished Sustained Aerospace Education Award

Mary Anne Thompson

Massachusetts

2009 AFA Membership and Activity Awards (cont.)

Jack Gross Awards

Presented to the chapter in each size category with the highest number of new members as a percentage of chapter size at the beginning of the membership year. A minimum of 10 is required.

Small Chapter
Charlemagne, Germany
President Nick Popp

Medium Chapter
Fairbanks Midnight Sun, Alaska
President Harry Cook

Large Chapter
Gen. B. A. Schriever Los Angeles, Calif.
President Chris Kalivas

Extra Large Chapter
Montgomery, Ala.
President James Dotherow

Chapter Larger Than 1,500
Lance P. Sijan, Colo.
President George T. Cavalli

EDUCATION AWARDS

Aerospace Education Excellence Award

Presented to one chapter in each of the AFA size categories annually for excellence in aerospace education programming. To qualify, a chapter must have received the Aerospace Education Achievement Award this year.

Small Chapter
 Northern Shenandoah Valley, Va.

Large Chapter
 Hurlburt, Fla.

Extra Large Chapter
 Gen. E. W. Rawlings, Minn.

Aerospace Education Achievement Award

Presented to chapters for outstanding achievement in aerospace education programming.

Albuquerque, N.M.
 Brig. Gen. James R. McCarthy, Fla.
 Blue Ridge, N.C.
 C. Farinha Gold Rush, Calif.
 Cape Canaveral, Fla.
 Central Florida, Fla.
 Cheyenne Cowboy, Wyo.
 Chicagoland-O'Hare, Ill.
 Cochise, Ariz.
 Col. H. M. "Bud" West, Fla.
 Col. Loren D. Evenson, Fla.
 Donald W. Steele Sr. Memorial, Va.
 Danville, Va.
 Gen. David C. Jones, N.D.
 Eglin, Fla.
 Falcon, Fla.
 Gen. E. W. Rawlings, Minn.
 Central Oklahoma (Gerrity), Okla.
 Gold Coast, Fla.
 Hurlburt, Fla.
 Jerry Waterman, Fla.
 Lance P. Sijan, Colo.



Outstanding State Organization

Florida
President John T. Brock

Outstanding Chapters by Size

Small Chapter
 (20-200 members)
 Gen. David C. Jones, N.D.
President Ronald L. Garcia

Extra Large Chapter
 (901+ members)
 Lance P. Sijan, Colo.
President George T. Cavalli

Medium Chapter
 (201-400 members)
 Roanoke, Va.
President James H. McGuire

Unit Exceptional Service Awards

Best Single Program
 Alamo, Tex.
President Gary L. Copsey

Community Relations
 Eglin, Fla.
President Jeffrey L. Fanto

Communications
 Hurlburt, Fla.
President Dann D. Mattiza

Overall Programming
 Wright Memorial, Ohio
President Kent D. Owsley

Community Partners
 McChord, Wash.
President Robert Branscomb

Veterans' Affairs
 Central Florida, Fla.
President James E. Callahan

Special Recognition—Sustained New Member Recruitment

Sixty-two chapters have attained the quarterly new member recruitment goal for three consecutive quarters, extending from October 2008 to June 2009. The full listing can be found online at www.afa.org/members/mawds.asp

Special Recognition—Chapter Growth

Sixty-eight chapters have realized a growth in total membership from June 2008 to June 2009. The full listing can be found online at www.afa.org/members/mawds.asp

Special Recognition—State Growth

These states have realized a growth in total membership from June 2008 to June 2009.

Alabama
 Alaska
 Arizona
 Arkansas
 Florida
 Indiana
 Louisiana
 Mississippi
 New Mexico
 North Dakota
 Rhode Island
 Tennessee
 Virginia

Special Recognition—Region Growth

These regions have realized a growth in total membership from June 2008 to June 2009.

Florida
 South Central
 Southwest

Langley, Va.
 McChord, Wash.
 Miami, Fla.
 Montgomery, Ala.
 Gen. Nathan F. Twining, Fla.
 Northern Shenandoah Valley, Va.
 Red Tail Memorial, Fla.

Roanoke, Va.
 Swamp Fox, S.C.
 Thomas W. Anthony, Md.
 Wright Memorial, Ohio

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Community Partner Membership Awards

Gold Award

Presented in the field to chapters whose Community Partners represent at least six percent of overall chapter membership, with a minimum number of Community Partners.

Altus, Okla. Central Oklahoma (Gerrity), Okla. Cheyenne Cowboy, Wyo. Col. H. M. "Bud" West, Fla. Contraills, Kan. Enid, Okla. Fairbanks Midnight Sun, Alaska Fort Dodge, Iowa Fort Wayne, Ind. Gen. Charles L. Donnelly Jr., Tex. Gen. David C. Jones, N.D. Lance P. Sijan, Colo.	Leigh Wade, Va. Lloyd R. Leavitt Jr., Mich. McChord, Wash. Mercer County, N.J. Meridian, Miss. MiG Alley, South Korea Montgomery, Ala. Northeast Texas, Tex. Richard D. Kisling, Iowa Steel Valley, Ohio Swamp Fox, S.C. William J. "Pete" Knight, Calif.
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Achievement Award

Presented in the field to chapters whose Community Partners represent at least three percent of overall chapter membership, with a minimum number of Community Partners.

Brig. Gen. Bill Spruance, Del. Alamo, Tex. C. Farinha Gold Rush, Calif. Carl Vinson Memorial, Ga. Chautauqua, N.Y. Cochise, Ariz. David D. Terry Jr., Ark. Del Rio, Tex. Florida Highlands, Fla. Frank Luke, Ariz. Gen. B. A. Schriever Los Angeles, Calif. Gen. Bruce K. Holloway, Tenn. Golden Triangle, Miss.	Highpoint, N.J. Hurlburt, Fla. Joe Walker-Mon Valley, Pa. Langley, Va. Maj. Gen. Charles I. Bennett Jr., Calif. Miami, Fla. Paul Revere, Mass. Richard I. Bong, Minn. Robert H. Goddard, Calif. Shooting Star, N.J. Ute-Rocky Mountain, Utah Red Tail Memorial, Fla. Total Force, Pa.
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Individual Awards

Presented for outstanding service.

Chairman's Citation

Ronald Adams, Mass. Joseph Bisognano, Mass. George Cavalli, Colo. Terry Cox, Okla. James Diehl, Okla. Dennis Moran, Fla. James Simons, N.D. Eric Taylor, Pa.	Blair Ellis, Va. Kevin Jackson, D.C. James McGuire, Va. Curt Osterheld, D.C.
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Far West Region

Medal of Merit

Ron Azarcon, Calif.
Philip Barger, Calif.
Robert Barrow, Calif.
Rick Chisholm, Calif.
Jan Clawson, Calif.
Norman Marous, Calif.

Exceptional Service Award

Nora Ruebrook, Hawaii

Florida Region

Medal of Merit

Michael Clark, Fla.
Jeff Fanto, Fla.
Michael Liquori, Fla.
Clifford Palmer, Fla.

Central East Region

Medal of Merit

Gary Austin, Md.
Rene Bergeron, D.C.
Carl Bess, Va.
Norm Brander, Va.
Peter Jones, Va.
Bob King, Del.
Tom Moncure, Va.
Wade McRoberts, Va.
Terry Young, Va.

Exceptional Service Award

Keith Ebert, Va.

Shirley Pigott, Fla.
Ricardo Soria, Fla.
Jeff Spraggins, Fla.
Exceptional Service Award
Michael Emig, Fla.
Grady Jordan, Fla.
Jeri Ann Martin, Fla.
William Palmbly, Fla.

Great Lakes Region

Medal of Merit

Renee Albright, Ohio
Anthony Boehm, Ohio
James Fultz, Ind.
Glenn Harland, Ind.
Julie Livingston, Ohio
Brandon Monticue, Ind.
Sharon Murner, Ohio
Jane Lori Stone, Ohio

Exceptional Service Award

William Draper, Ind.
Marjorie Feedback, Ind.
William Grider, Ind.
Everett Odgers, Ohio

Midwest Region

Medal of Merit

Lang Anderson, Neb.
Diane Bartels, Neb.
Raymond Cain, Iowa
Charles Carlson, Iowa
Deann Faiferlick, Iowa
Steven Plamann, Neb.

Exceptional Service Award

Robert Tovado, Neb.

New England Region

Medal of Merit

John Christopher, Mass.
Peter Colerico, Mass.
Linda Jean, Mass.
Marian McGovern, Mass.
Luis Nunez, Mass.
Keith Taylor, Mass.
Robert Wilkinson, R.I.

Exceptional Service Award

John Hasson, Mass.
Yvonne Thurston, Mass.

North Central Region

Medal of Merit

Daniel Becker, N.D.
Clark Culbertson, N.D.
Bonnie Goldschmidt, N.D.
Paul Goldschmidt, N.D.
Kellie Lewis, N.D.
Heidi Priestly, Minn.

Exceptional Service Award

Milton Arneson, N.D.

Northeast Region

Medal of Merit

Charles Harker, Pa.
George Henderson, Pa.
Nick Mullaney, N.J.
Judith Nunamann, N.J.
Ray Wienk, N.Y.
Gary Wolbert, Pa.

Exceptional Service Award

Al Parise, N.Y.
Cathy Ward, N.Y.

Northwest Region

Medal of Merit

Gary Brackett, Wash.
Robert Branscomb, Wash.
Art Cornelius, Ore.
John Lee, Ore.
Vicky Mohler, Wash.
Phil Szymkowicz, Ore.

Exceptional Service Award

Laird Hansen, Wash.

Rocky Mountain Region

Medal of Merit

Henry Baird, Colo.
Rick Peterson, Colo.
Hank Scarangella, Colo.
Dusty Thein, Wyo.
David Tobin, Colo.
R. J. Schultz, Colo.

Exceptional Service Award

Debbie Estrem, Colo.
Kevin Estrem, Colo.
Walter Saeger, Utah
Gayle White, Colo.

South Central Region

Medal of Merit

Morris Cash, Ark.
James Dotherow, Ala.
John Phillips, Ala.
Andy Potter, Ala.

Exceptional Service Award

Susan Mallett, Ala.

Southeast Region

Medal of Merit

Matthew Dunn, Ga.
Sam Finklea, S.C.
David Klinkicht, N.C.
Nick Lacy II, Ga.
Will Newson, Ga.
Ronald Powell, S.C.
Arthur Rooney, S.C.

Exceptional Service Award

Ralph Hightower, N.C.

Southwest Region

Medal of Merit

Luisa Bailey, Ariz.
Ernest Denecke, N.M.
Frederick Harsany, N.M.
Sharon Marvin, Ariz.
Donald Sexton, Nev.
Harold Thomas, Ariz.

Exceptional Service Award

Gerald Ashley, Ariz.

Texoma Region

Medal of Merit

Deborah Bates, Okla.
Douglas Chown, Okla.
William Coggins, Tex.
Joan Lopez, Tex.
Michael Nishimuta, Tex.
David Pope, Tex.
Bruce Shelton, Okla.
Adam Walker, Tex.
Debra Westmoreland, Tex.

Exceptional Service Award

Joyce Habina, Tex.
Kelly Jones, Tex.
Dan Ohnesorge, Okla.
Martha Ribeiro, Okla.