



# Air Force Association National Awards 2011

## National Aerospace Awards

### Award and Recipients

#### H. H. Arnold Award

*For the most significant contribution by a military member to national defense*

**Gen. Duncan J. McNabb**, USAF, Commander, US Transportation Command

#### W. Stuart Symington Award

*For the most significant contribution by a civilian in the field of national defense*

**Rep. C. W. "Bill" Young (R-Fla.)**, US House of Representatives

#### John R. Alison Award

*For the most outstanding contribution by industrial leadership to national defense*

**United Launch Alliance**, for the Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle

#### David C. Schilling Award

*Outstanding contribution in advancing flight activity*

**USAF Aeromedical Evacuation Teams**

#### Theodore von Karman Award

*Outstanding contribution in science and engineering*

**Air Force Research Laboratory**, for alternative fuels

#### Gill Robb Wilson Award

*Outstanding contribution in arts and letters*

**TSgt. Nathan L. Gallahan**, 28th Bomb Wing, Ellsworth AFB, S.D.

#### Hoyt S. Vandenberg Award

*Outstanding contribution in aerospace education*

**Brig. Gen. Dana H. Born**, Dean of Faculty and **Collaborative Undergraduate Education Programs**, US Air Force Academy

#### Thomas P. Gerrity Award

*Outstanding contribution in systems and logistics*

**Lt. Col. Sean K. Tyler**, 436th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Dover AFB, Del.

#### Department of Veterans Affairs Employee of the Year

*Outstanding performance by VA employee*

**Col. Stephen R. Holt**, USAF (Ret.), Deputy Chief of Staff, VA North Texas Health Care System, Dallas

#### Gen. George C. Kenney Award

*Outstanding contribution in lessons learned*

**Air Force Fort Hood Follow-on Team**, Hq. USAF, Manpower, Personnel, and Services, Washington, D.C.

#### Lt. Gen. Claire L. Chennault Award

*Outstanding aerial warfare tactician*

**Capt. Joshua L. Kubacz**, 510th Fighter Squadron, Aviano AB, Italy

#### Gen. Larry D. Welch Award

*Outstanding contribution toward nuclear mission*

**Lt. Gen. Frank G. Klotz**, USAF (Ret.), former commander, Air Force Global Strike Command

#### CMSAF Thomas N. Barnes Award

*Most outstanding crew chief in the Air Force*

**SSgt. Bobby Elzie**, 8th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Kunsan AB, South Korea

#### Gen. Billy Mitchell Award for C4 Excellence

*Outstanding contribution toward warfighting capability*

**SSgt. Ira J. Begley III**, 1st Air & Space Communications Operations Squadron, Ramstein AB, Germany

## Professional, Civilian, Management, and Environmental Awards

### Award and Recipients

**Paul W. Myers Award for Physicians**; Lt. Col. Jeremy W. Cannon, 59th Medical Operations Group, Lackland AFB, Tex.

**Verne Orr Award for Human Resources**; 455th Expeditionary Aerial Port Sq., Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan

**Joan Orr Award for Air Force Spouse of the Year**; Sarah J. Greenlee, JB Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska

**Juanita Redmond Award for Nursing**; Capt. Angelique D. Simpson, 59th Medical Wing, Lackland AFB, Tex.

**Stuart R. Reichart Award for Lawyers**; David E. Spowls, Office of Judge Advocate General, Washington, D.C.

**Chaplain Corps Award**; Capt. Chad W. Zielinski, Chaplain, US Air Force Academy, Colo.

**Civilian Wage Employee of the Year**;\* Scott R. Reu, 315th Aircraft Maintenance Sq., JB Charleston, S.C.

**Civilian Program Specialist of the Year**;\* Christine E. Bushby, 42nd Force Support Sq., Maxwell AFB, Ala.

**Civilian Program Manager of the Year**;\* Isaiah Whittaker, 533rd Training Sq., Vandenberg AFB, Calif.

**Civilian Senior Manager of the Year**; Brenda W. Cook, 633rd Civil Engineer Sq., JB Langley-Eustis, Va.

**AFMC Management Award—Executive Division**; Col. William D. Hack, Propulsion Directorate, AFRL, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

**AFMC Management Award—Middle Division**;\* Dirk J. Anderson, Integrated Tactical Warning/Attack Assessment (NORAD), Peterson AFB, Colo.

**AFMC Management Award—Junior Division**;\* Joseph P. Lepine, B-52 Sustainment Div., Oklahoma City ALC, Tinker AFB, Okla.

**Gen. E. W. Rawlings Environmental Award—Mgmt.**;\* Damiano Rigo, 31st Civil Engineer Sq., Aviano AB, Italy

**Gen. E. W. Rawlings Environmental Award—Tech.**;\* Rodney T. Gilbert, 547th Intelligence Sq., Nellis AFB, Nev.

**AFROTC Cadet of the Year**; Cadet Col. Matthew B. Stazenski, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Prescott, Ariz.

**CAP Aerospace Education Cadet of the Year**; Cadet Capt. Robert J. Lewis, Great Mills, Md.

*\*Presented at recipient's location*

## Citations of Honor

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

Recipients	Achievement
James G. Clark, Director, ISR Innovations, Hq. USAF, Washington, D.C.	One of DOD's leading experts in the fields of mission planning, commercial imagery, UAV applications, and computer modeling and simulations. Conceived the world's first deployable commercial imagery downlink system—Eagle Vision—and developed and fielded the Receive-Only Video Enhanced Receiver (ROVER, also seen as Remote Operated VER).
William A. Davidson, Administrative Assistant to SECAF, Washington, D.C.	Senior career civilian advisor to the Secretary. Supports the 1,650-member Secretariat in the areas of manpower, organization, budget, supply, information operations, personnel and industrial security, security oversight for US treaty issues, special access programs, and anti-terrorism. Oversees the Secretary's contingency fund.
621st Contingency Response Wing, JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J.	Executed 674 taskings at 49 worldwide locations, supporting humanitarian relief, the Iraq drawdown, and continued operations under Enduring Freedom and New Dawn, as well as large-scale coalition and joint exercises. Provided some of the first responders after the Haiti earthquake and aided the Gulf oil spill disaster response operations.
42nd Attack Sq., Creech AFB, Nev.	Provided more than 17,000 hours of ISR and close air support coverage, resulting in 144 kinetic strikes. Located 45 enemy weapon caches. Delivered armed reconnaissance for a major drug operation in Afghanistan, enabling seizure of 16.5 tons of opium and eliminating a critical Taliban resource.
Richard P. Hallion	Noted airpower historian and air-minded thinker. Distills for the layman the policy dynamics and technical elements surrounding aerospace issues. Highly involved in key airpower policy discussions, helping ensure air-minded thinking informs and shapes the national security and aerospace debate. Has written extensively, including some 15 books, and edited numerous publications.
Lt. Gen. Donald C. Wurster, USAF (Ret.)	Air Force career spanned 38 years, including leading Air Force Special Operations Command. Inducted into Order of the Sword. Recognized for support to his enlisted force, for providing the best equipment and best training, and for investing in quality-of-life programs.

Photos by Chuck Fazio



**Gen. Duncan McNabb (r) receives the H. H. Arnold Award, from AFA Chairman of the Board Sandy Schlitt, for the most significant contribution by a military member to national defense.**



**United Launch Alliance President and CEO Michael Gass (center) receives the John R. Alison Award for outstanding contribution by industrial leadership to national defense, presented by Schlitt (l) and Alison's widow, Penni Alison.**

## Crew and Team Awards

**Airborne Battle Management Crew:** Crew 8, 128th Airborne Command & Control Sq. (JSTARS), 116th Air Control Wing, Robins AFB, Ga. Best airborne battle management crew.

**Brig. Gen. Ross G. Hoyt Award:** Crew of Woody 27, 9th Special Operations Sq., Eglin AFB, Fla. Best air refueling crew.

**Gen. Curtis E. LeMay Award:** Crew of Bone 21, 9th Bomb Sq., Dyess AFB, Tex. Best bomber crew.

**Gen. Jerome F. O'Malley Award:** Capt. Charles G. Cameron, 99th Reconnaissance Sq., Beale AFB, Calif. Best reconnaissance crew.

**Gen. Thomas S. Power Award:** Capt. Daniel R. Moore and 1st Lt. Stephen McVay, 90th Missile Wing, F. E. Warren AFB, Wyo. Best missile crew.

**Best Space Operations Crew:** X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle Operations Crew, 3rd Space Experimentation Sq., Schriever AFB, Colo. Best space operations crew.

**Lt. Gen. William H. Tunner Award:** Crew of Moose 85, 14th Airlift Sq., JB Charleston, S.C. Best airlift crew.

**Lt. Gen. Howard W. Leaf Award:** Dragon Spear Operational Test Team, 18th Flight Test Sq., Hurlburt Field, Fla. Best test team.

## AFA Lifetime Achievement Award

The award recognizes a lifetime of work in the advancement of aerospace.

Heavy bombardment crews of World War II

Commando Sabre Operation fast forward air controllers—Call Sign Misty

Gen. Larry D. Welch, USAF (Ret.), former Chief of Staff and head of Strategic Air Command

Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Stafford, USAF (Ret.), defense consultant, former astronaut, and test pilot

Natalie W. Crawford, senior fellow and Project Air Force director at RAND Corp.

## Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Command Awards

### Award and Recipients

#### CMSgt. Dick Red Award

*Best ANG maintainer*  
CMSgt. Randall K. Wilkison, 153rd Maintenance Group, Wyoming ANG

#### Earl T. Ricks Award

*Best ANG unit airmanship*  
Not awarded for 2011

#### Outstanding ANG Flying Unit

*Top ANG unit of the year*  
171st Air Refueling Wing, Pennsylvania ANG

#### George W. Bush Award, Officer

*Outstanding civilian employer*  
Lt. Col. Eric K. Pauer, Joint Forces Hq., Massachusetts ANG, and ITT Electronic Systems, Nashua, N.H.

#### George W. Bush Award, Enlisted

*Outstanding civilian employer*  
Not awarded for 2011

#### President's Award for AFRC

*Best AFRC flying unit of the year*  
Lt. Col. Michael J. Remualdo, Maj. Benjamin R. Evans, and SSgt. Ronald W. Davis, 465th Air Refueling Sq., Tinker AFB, Okla.

#### AFRC Unit Award

*Best AFRC unit of the year*  
452nd Air Mobility Wing, March ARB, Calif.

#### AFRC Citizen Airman Award, Officer

*Outstanding civilian employer*  
Maj. Tomas J. Sohayda, 96th Flying Training Sq., Laughlin AFB, Tex., and NetJets, Inc., Columbus, Ohio

#### AFRC Citizen Airman Award, Enlisted

*Outstanding civilian employer*  
TSgt. Jeffrey B. LaFreniere, 482nd Civil Engineer Sq., Homestead ARB, Fla., and AT&T, Coral Springs, Fla.

## 2011 AFA Membership and Activity Awards

### AFA Member of the Year



Steve Lundgren, Fairbanks, Alaska, was chosen as AFA Member of the Year. Lundgren served as National Treasurer for AFA for five years.

### D. W. Steele Sr. Memorial Award

(AFA Unit of the Year: Lance P. Sijan, Colo.)



Kevin Estrem (center) accepts the D. W. Steele Sr. Memorial Award for AFA Unit of the Year, on behalf of the Lance P. Sijan Chapter, Colo., from Justin Faiferlick (l), AFA Vice Chairman, Aerospace Education, and Schlitt.

### Arthur C. Storz Sr. Membership Award

Presented to the AFA chapter producing the highest number of new members during the 12-month period ending June 30, 2011, as a percentage of total chapter membership as of July 1, 2010. This award is based on both the quantity of new members and sustained new-member recruitment.

#### Chapter Award

Miami-Homestead, Fla.  
President Rodrigo Huete

### 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

MiG Alley, South Korea  
President Maria V. Leos

#### Extra Large Chapter

Paul Revere, Mass.  
President Joseph Magnone

#### Medium Chapter

Miami-Homestead, Fla.  
President Rodrigo Huete

#### Chapter Larger Than 1,100

Montgomery, Ala.  
President Larry Carter

#### Large Chapter

Robert H. Goddard, Calif.  
President Lee Barnby

## 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

Fort Dodge, Iowa - President Luke Ascherl

#### Medium Chapter

Lincoln, Neb. - President Mary McGahan

#### Large Chapter

Cheyenne Cowboy, Wyo. - President Irene Johnigan

#### Extra Large Chapter

Central Florida, Fla. - President William Yucuis

### Aerospace Education Achievement Award

Presented to chapters for outstanding achievement in aerospace education programming.

Montgomery, Ala.  
Lance P. Sijan, Colo.  
Central Florida, Fla.  
Hurlburt, Fla.  
Fort Dodge, Iowa  
Thomas W. Anthony, Md.  
Gen. E. W. Rawlings, Minn.  
John C. Stennis, Miss.  
Blue Ridge, N.C.

David C. Jones, N.D.  
Lincoln, Neb.  
Albuquerque, N.M.  
Wright Memorial, Ohio  
Langley, Va.  
Tidewater, Va.  
Billy Mitchell, Wis.  
Cheyenne Cowboy, Wyo.

## 2011 AFA Membership and Activity Awards (cont.)

### Outstanding State Organization

Florida - President James B. Connors

### Outstanding Chapters by Size

#### Small Chapter

Leigh Wade, Va.  
President Gary Metzinger

#### Extra Large Chapter

C. Farinha Gold Rush, Calif.  
President Paul Bonnier

#### Large Chapter

Paul Revere, Mass.  
President Joseph Magnone

### Unit Exceptional Service Awards

#### Best Single Program

Hurlburt, Fla.  
President Dann D. Mattiza

#### Community Relations

Eglin, Fla.  
President Howard Oakes

#### Communications

Central Florida, Fla.  
President William Yucuis

#### Overall Programming

Hurlburt, Fla.  
President Dann D. Mattiza

#### Community Partners

Meridian, Miss.  
President Wilburt Easom

#### Veterans' Affairs

Lt. Col. B. D. "Buzz" Wagner, Pa.  
President William Burns

### Community Partner Membership Awards

#### Gold Award

Presented to chapters whose Community Partners represent at least six percent of overall chapter membership, with a minimum number of Community Partners. The minimum number is determined by chapter size.

Altus, Okla.  
Cheyenne Cowboy, Wyo.  
Col. H. M. "Bud" West, Fla.  
Enid, Okla.  
Fairbanks Midnight Sun, Alaska  
Fort Wayne, Ind.  
Gen. David C. Jones, N.D.  
Happy Hooligan, N.D.  
Lance P. Sijan, Colo.  
Leigh Wade, Va.

Lloyd R. Leavitt Jr., Mich.  
McChord Field, Wash.  
Mercer County, N.J.  
Meridian, Miss.  
MiG Alley, South Korea  
Montgomery, Ala.  
Northeast Texas, Tex.  
Steel Valley, Ohio  
Swamp Fox, S.C.  
William J. "Pete" Knight, Calif.

### Individual Awards

Presented for outstanding service.

#### Distinguished Sustained Aerospace Education Award

Susan Mallett, Ala.

Lisa Pembleton, Va.  
Bill Thomas, Md.  
John Thomas, Md.  
Jim Tubbs, Va.  
Vince Wisniewski, Va.

#### Exceptional Service Award

Rene Bergeron, D.C.  
Nancy Cribb, Va.  
Frederick Knowles, Va.  
Gavin MacAloon, Va.  
Wade McRoberts, Va.  
Jimmy Ruth, Va.  
Stan Stevens, Va.

#### Chairman's Citation

Debbie Estrem, Colo.  
Carlene Joseph, Wash.  
Michael Peters, Calif.  
Ronald Powell, S.C.  
Walter Saeger, Utah  
Jerry West, N.C.  
William Yucuis, Fla.

#### Far West Region

**Medal of Merit**  
Eugene Alfaro, Calif.  
Lance Bleakley, Hawaii  
Rex Moen, Calif.  
Edward Nacey, Calif.  
Dominic Napoli, Calif.  
Kathy Phillips, Calif.  
Nora Ruebrook, Hawaii  
Sandy Stultz, Calif.

#### Central East Region

**Medal of Merit**  
Sam Bass, Md.  
Joyce Byington-Clark, Va.  
Timothy Callahan, Va.  
Gina Giles, Va.  
John Huggins, Md.  
Kevin Lavin, Va.  
Bill Oldham, Del.

#### Exceptional Service Award

Ron Azarcon, Calif.  
Ray Coughlin, Calif.  
Richard Stultz, Calif.

#### Florida Region

**Medal of Merit**  
Sharon Branch, Fla.  
Gary Cornell, Fla.  
Ransom Meriam, Fla.  
Megan Tucker, Fla.  
Barbara Walters-Phillips, Fla.  
Ernest Webster, Fla.

#### Exceptional Service Award

Dann D. Mattiza, Fla.  
Steve Czonstka, Fla.

#### Great Lakes Region

**Medal of Merit**  
Mary Bloyd, Ohio  
Richard Mrozinski, Ind.  
Gerald Romine, Ind.  
Natalie Ross, Ind.  
Craig Spanburg, Ind.  
Lori Stone, Ohio  
Robert Van Hook, Ohio

#### Exceptional Service Award

Jeff Liffick, Ohio

#### Midwest Region

**Medal of Merit**  
Luke Ascherl, Iowa

#### Exceptional Service Award

John Daly, Neb.  
Ron Major, Iowa  
Robert Tovado, Neb.

#### New England Region

**Medal of Merit**  
William Hassey, Mass.  
Marlene Jarvis, Mass.  
Christopher Jones, Mass.  
Paul Zauner, Mass.

#### Exceptional Service Award

Richard Codling, Mass.  
Amanda Gustafson, Mass.  
Alan Shoemaker, N.H.

#### North Central Region

**Medal of Merit**  
Bonnie Goldschmidt, N.D.  
Daniel Murphy, Minn.  
Lois Nelson, N.D.  
David Pohlen, Minn.

#### Exceptional Service Award

Ron Garcia, N.D.  
Paul Goldschmidt, N.D.  
Robert McGonigal, Minn.

#### Northeast Region

**Medal of Merit**  
Jo Bair, N.J.  
Emily Brand, N.J.  
Jerry Iacona, N.J.  
Howard Leach, N.J.  
Douglas Lengenfelder, Pa.  
Stephen Lipski Jr., N.J.  
Mary Lower, N.J.  
Norman Mathews, N.J.  
Joseph Pow, N.Y.  
Alfred Smith, N.Y.

#### Exceptional Service Award

William Burns, Pa.

#### Northwest Region

**Medal of Merit**  
Roger Cory, Wash.  
Jeannie Dougherty, Wash.  
David Lobban, Wash.  
Regina McDaniel, Wash.  
Bruce Seiber, Wash.

#### Exceptional Service Award

Robert Branscomb, Wash.

#### Rocky Mountain Region

**Medal of Merit**  
Judee Albert, Colo.  
Edward Felleson, Utah  
Carol Holland, Wyo.  
Charlie Parker, Utah  
Henry Scarangella, Colo.

Leslie Swidecki, Wyo.

Mary Thompson, Wyo.

#### Exceptional Service Award

Jeanin Damery, Colo.  
Robert George, Utah  
David Shiller, Colo.  
Brandon Strong, Utah

#### South Central Region

**Medal of Merit**  
Joe Andrew, Ala.  
Guy Broadhurst, Ala.  
George Carrithers, Ark.  
Gary Connor, Ala.  
Debbie Dahl, Ala.

#### Exceptional Service Award

Russell Lewey, Ala.  
Betty McCoy, Ala.  
Wes Padgett, Ala.  
Arthur Wellinger, Ark.

#### Southeast Region

**Medal of Merit**  
Michael Hartsfield, N.C.  
Alicia Hughes, N.C.  
Michael Hughes, S.C.  
Gilbert Slack, N.C.

#### Exceptional Service Award

Lew Feuerstein, N.C.  
Sam Finklea, S.C.

#### Southwest Region

**Medal of Merit**  
Jo Ellen Braner, Nev.  
Gene Fenstermacher, Ariz.  
Gregory Fertig, N.M.  
G. Dwight Harp, N.M.  
H. W. "Bill" Ryan, Ariz.

Daniel Whalen, N.M.

#### Exceptional Service Award

Harry Bailey, Ariz.  
Joe Marvin, Ariz.  
Thomas Rowney, Ariz.

#### Texoma Region

**Medal of Merit**  
Tammy Bryant, Tex.  
Mary Feightner, Okla.  
Stan Griel, Okla.  
Robert Kjar, Tex.  
David Pope, Tex.  
Douglas Nelson, Tex.  
Mark Tarpley, Okla.

#### Exceptional Service Award

Riq Baldwin, Okla.  
William Coggins, Tex.  
Kelly Jones, Tex.  
Jerry McMahan, Okla.  
Scott Northcutt, Okla.