



SOUTHWEST CHAPTER of the AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF AIRPORT EXECUTIVES



Awards History

1953-2023

Airport Executive of the Year

The Airport Executive of the Year Award is the highest honor and award presented by the Chapter and recognizes an airport executive who has demonstrated exceptional performance. Nominations may be based on (but not limited to) the following elements:

1. Courage.
2. Leadership.
3. Mission, Vision, Goals and Objectives.
4. Demonstrable impact on airport, industry, and business in general.
5. Innovativeness.
6. Moral dimension, personal character (Is there a coherent "higher" purpose?).
7. Executive's respect/beacon of excellence/reputation.

2023 James E. Jenkins	2000 Karen Ramsdell	1977 Stephen Schmitt
2022 Gary P. Mascaro	1999 Chris Kunze	1976 Robert Goodman
2021 Mark Witsoe	1998 Rodney L. Murphy	1975 Nicholas Ford
2020 No Recipient	1997 James Monger	1974 Nicholas Dallas
2019 Barry Rondinella	1996 Roland Elder	1973 Robert Bresnahan
2018 Richard Smith	1995 Robert Broadbent	1972 Roy Bayless
2017 Gladys Brown	1994 John Swizer	1971 John Dickenson
2016 Brendan O'Reilly	1993 Doyle Ruff	1970 Marvin Scott
2015 No Recipient	1992 Ray Beninga	1969 Edwin Thurmond
2014 John Martin	1991 Robert Olislagers	1968 William Barnard
2013 Scott Malta	1990 Charles Foster	1967 Harry Sham
2012 Todd McNamee	1989 Ralph Tonseth	1966 Delmar Canady
2011 Gary Petersen	1988 Thomas Greer	1965 David Zebo
2010 Lynn Kusy	1987 David Andrews	1964 No Recipient
2009 Jon Stout	1986 Hal Wight	1963 Harry Culver
2008 Leander Hauri	1985 William Partain	1962 No Recipient
2007 Carl Honaker	1984 Dan Sabovich	1961 No Recipient
2006 Rod Dinger	1983 Howard Corbin	1960 No Recipient
2005 Klaasje Nairne	1982 Clifford Moore	1959 No Recipient
2004 Barry Rondinella	1981 James McCall	1958 Wilmer Garrett
2003 Ray Bishop	1980 William Critchfield	1957 No Recipient
2002 Kryz Bart	1979 William Brodek	1956 No Recipient
2001 Robert Trimborn	1978 Wallace Berry	1955 James Nissen

Corporate Award of Excellence

SWAAAE recognizes the benefits Corporations provide to the airport industry and the Chapter. Corporations, airports, and SWAAAE are not mutually exclusive. Corporations complement and move the airport industry forward in strategic and sometimes unimaginable ways while providing critical support to airports and SWAAAE.

The "Corporate Award of Excellence" is awarded to a Corporation who has demonstrated outstanding visionary, innovative, and strategic thinking through its contributions toward the advancement of the airport and aviation industry as well the goals and objectives of its clients. The award recognizes that Corporation who has exemplified its success consistent with the vision and values of the Association.

2023 No Recipient	2012 C&S Companies	2004 Parsons Brinkerhoff
2022 No Recipient	2011 Pro DIGIQ	(PB Aviation)
2021 Armstrong Consultants	2010 No Recipient	2003 No Recipient
2020 ADK Consulting	2009 Kimley-Horn & Associates	2002 CommuniQuest
2019 No Recipient	2008 Steve Bultman,	2001 Erect-A-Tube
2018 Curt Castagna	Michael Hotaling,	2000 Pavement Consultants
2017 No Recipient	Lance McIntosh, & Mike Shutt	1999 No Recipient
2016 No Recipient	2007 Z&H Engineering	1998 Z&H Engineering
2015 Mead & Hunt, Inc.	2006 Moore & Associates	1997 Shutt Moen Associates
2014 CommuniQuest	2005 Mead & Hunt	1996 Coffman Associates
2013 No Recipient		

Wanamaker Award

The Robert "Wanamaker Award" was established by the California Association of Airport Executives (CAAE), the forerunner organization to SWAAAE, to honor the memory of Robert Wanamaker, a long-time member of the association and Executive Emeritus. Robert Wanamaker was the owner of the airport in El Monte, Los Angeles County from 1954 through 1971. He joined the CAAE in 1958 and served on numerous committees and as President in 1964. As an attorney, Robert Wanamaker gave generously of his time to the solving of legal matters for the CAAE.

The Wanamaker Award recognizes individuals who are not currently exercising active responsibility for the management, general supervision, or administration of a public-use airport who have devoted their skills, talent, personal resources, time, or alliances in the betterment of airports or aviation in its entirety.

2023	No Recipient	2008	Bill Critchfield	1993	Jay C. White
2022	No Recipient	2007	Ralph Tonseth & Howard Cook	1992	Spyridon N. 'Speedy' Sideris
2021	No Recipient	2006	Mark McClardy	1991	Don Smith
2020	No Recipient	2005	Howard Cook	1990	Joseph Irvine
2019	No Recipient	2004	Jim McCue	1989	Tim Merwyn
2018	No Recipient	2003	No Recipient	1988	John L. Pfeifer
2017	No Recipient	2002	No Recipient	1987	Mark Mispagel
2016	No Recipient	2001	Robbin Stoddard	1986	No Recipient
2015	Senator Jean Fuller	2000	Ginne Mistal	1985	No Recipient
2014	Chris Kunze	1999	Raymond Bucher	1984	No Recipient
2013	James Lite	1998	Nancy Benjamin	1983	Herman Bliss
2012	John L. Pfeifer	1997	Norene Hastings	1982	No Recipient
2011	No Recipient	1996	Jerome T. Bennett	1981	Gen. William Fox
2010	Michael Alan Shutt	1995	Sylvia L. Paoli	1980	Walter Gillfillan
2009	Anne-Marie Guay	1994	Jack Kemmerly	1979	No Recipient

Award of Distinction

The Award of Distinction recognizes those few members of the Chapter who have served SWAAAE and/or promoted the Chapter or aviation with uncommon dedication. The criteria for this award is intentionally general to allow for extraordinary efforts and achievements over time that are not otherwise recognized in other award categories.

2023	No Recipient	2011	No Recipient	1999	No Recipient
2022	Jon Stout	2010	No Recipient	1998	Richard C. 'RC' Smith
2021	No Recipient	2009	Todd McNamee	1997	Ralph G. Tonseth, Neilson A. 'Dutch' Bertholf, Jr., & Robert N. Broadbent
2020	No Recipient	2008	Klaasje Nairne	1996	No Recipient
2019	Joseph Husband	2007	Randy Berg, & Gary Petersen	1995	No Recipient
2018	No Recipient	2006	No Recipient	1994	James Magnus 'Jim' Nissen, Delmar 'Del' Canady, & Joseph R. 'Joe' Crotti
2017	Eric Perterson	2005	Walt Gillfillan		
2016	Mark Bautista	2004	No Recipient		
2015	Rod Dinger	2003	Barclay Dick, & Tom Greer		
2014	Jon Faucher	2002	No Recipient		
2013	No Recipient	2001	Herman Bliss		
2012	Mark Witsoe	2000	No Recipient		

Aviation Excellence

The "Aviation Excellence Award" is intended to recognize those airport management professionals who are not primarily responsible for the operation of the airport or in cases where the airport is part of a system of airports, the candidate is not responsible for the system of airports. The award recipient is a person of exceptional qualities who is positioned second in command and below. This includes but is not limited to administration, engineering, planning, environmental, operations, maintenance, and emergency response type functions.

2023	No Recipient	2013	Mike Dikun	2003	Barry Bratton
2022	No Recipient	2012	No Recipient	2002	Hazel Johns
2021	No Recipient	2011	No Recipient	2001	A.W. 'Jack' Schelter, Jr.
2020	No Recipient	2010	Kevin Mentzer	2000	No Recipient
2019	Wayne Reiiiter	2009	No Recipient	1999	William Menard
2018	Carmen Williams	2008	No Recipient	1998	Debbie Klein
2017	No Recipient	2007	Skip Polak	1997	Tracy L. Williams
2016	Jennifer Maples	2006	No Recipient	1996	James E. Bennett
2015	Casey Denny	2005	No Recipient	1995	Robert R. Erickson
2014	Jorge Rubio	2004	No Recipient	1994	Krys Bart

President's Award

The President's Award is presented during the Awards Banquet at the Summer Conference. The Award is given at the discretion of the President, and the recipient is chosen by the President. The Award is intended to recognize a member who has provided outstanding service to SWAAAE during the past year.

2023	Alice Bimrose	2010	Alex Kovach	1994	Hal Bostic
2022	Michael Hill, Judy Ross & Cole Hartfiel	2009	Mark Witsoe	1993	Robert Trimborn
2021	Harry Barret Jr., Tai Jye Chen, Tony Gwinn & Lisa Watada	2008	Rod Dinger	1992	Phil Lock
2020	Joseph Husband, & Michael Hotaling	2007	Scott Malta	1991	Dave Andrews
2019	Jeff Leonard & Jorge Rubio	2006	Christine Eberhard	1990	Henry 'Hank' Dittmar
2018	Jon Faucher	2005	Charles Mangum	1989	Jack Kemmerly
2017	John Pheifer	2004	Todd McNamee	1988	Ray Burdick
2016	Gladys Wiggins	2003	Klaasje Nairne	1987	Phil Lock
2015	Arpit Malaviya	2002	Gary Petersen	1986	Bob Bloom
2014	Jessica Mullen	2001	Charles Mangum	1985	Thomas Leonard
2013	Jennifer Maples	2000	Mark Witsoe	1984	No Recipient
2012	Jennifer Mills Pysher	1999	Klaasje Nairne	1983	Robert Mandeville
2011	Eric Peterson	1998	Brent Shiner	1982	Ralph Tonseth
		1997	No Recipient	1981	Jack Ewald, & Barbara Hunter
		1996	No Recipient	1980	Jack Tippie
		1995	Larry Gesell	1976	Edwin Thurmond

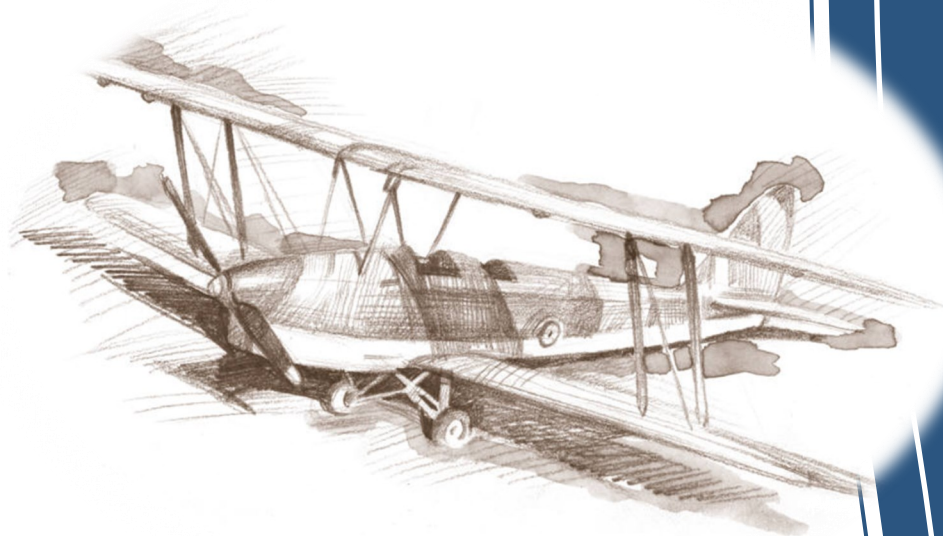


Young Professional Award

The SWAAAE Young Professional Award is to recognize young airport industry professionals who are 40 years of age and are judged to have attained significant professional achievement. The recipients of this award represent the future of the industry and will set new standards for the support and growth of airport industry, as well as the SWAAAE brand. They are valuable assets in their organization, communities, and are moving the airport industry forward.

By developing and recognizing future leaders, SWAAAE is laying the foundation for the industry to continue to innovate, grow, and inspire future generations of SWAAAE members.

2023 Welton Trang
2022 Cole Hartfiel
2021 Sean Moran



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The Awards History booklet is a compilation of award designations and recipients gathered from the SWAAAE archives. It is only as complete and correct as the historical records allow. The Awards Committee deeply apologizes for any missing or incorrect information and welcomes corrections and/or additional information that will improve the accuracy of this publication.