

Award Classifications:

Heroism Award - Performance of an act, rescue or attempted rescue under conditions of extreme personal risk by an individual or group at an emergency on a airport or at an aircraft emergency or by an airport fire department individual or group at any emergency. This award is a plaque.

Merit Award - Performance of an outstanding act of public service which displayed superior intelligence and/or effort in an unusual circumstance of stress and/or danger by an individual or group at an emergency on an airport or at an aircraft emergency or by an airport fire department individual or group at any emergency. This award is a plaque.

Certificate of Commendation - Performance of an act of public service by any member of an authorized airport fire rescue unit be it civilian or military which brings a high degree of credit to the individual and/or the airport fire rescue profession in general.

Certificate of Appreciation - Performance of a commendable ARFF-related act which brings credit to the individual, group and/or the aircraft rescue and firefighting profession in general.

The Karl Beeman Award for Technical Achievement - Recognition of technical, manufacturing or engineering achievement which resulted in the development of new or improved vehicles, tools, safety equipment, etc., for the aviation fire protection profession.

Who Was Karl Beeman?

Karl was a member of the ARFFWG for many years and served on the Board of Directors. He was the driving force of many of the changes made to the personal protective equipment (PPE) that is worn by Airport Firefighters. He did research on the proximity gear that was worn by ARFF firefighters nationwide for civilian airports and the US military. In his research, he discovered that the manufacturing process and changed which in turn actually degraded the proximity gear, which caused it to become unreliable in many cases. These changes caused the silver material to delaminate and virtually render the gear non serviceable. With his research demonstrating that structural PPE was as safe in the ARFF environment as proximity gear, many departments opted not use proximity PPE. His research caused ARFF fire departments to do risk assessments in order to prove that structural gear was better suited for ARFF. Karl was always pushing the envelope to improve PPE. In addition to conducting research, he also spent time educating those within the industry about the findings so that personnel could remain safe.

Certificate of Journalistic Excellence - Recognition of any journalist publication, radio or television whose efforts bring a high degree of credit or assisted in the creation of training aids for the aviation fire protection profession.

Outstanding Service Award - Awards that are individual in nature, and/or do not fit into the above categories. Only requested by the Board of Directors and always approved by the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman. These awards need not be approved by the Awards Committee. They are normally presented during the ARFFWG Annual Symposium or Section Seminars. They can be approved during any time of the year. Each award will be tailored for the recipient. This award is a plaque.

Circle of Excellence Award - The Circle of Excellence is not a standard award. It is only given to outgoing Board Members that have shown their commitment and determination in making the ARFF Working Group the best organization it can possibly be.

Award Classifications Cont'd

Honorary Member Award - Honorary members are those persons who in the determination and recommendation of the Board of Directors, have rendered to aviation fire protection exceptional service of the highest order over a substantial period of time.

"The Brian Pugh Outstanding ARFF Training Officer Award"

The individual who receives this award will be one who goes above and beyond just making sure their department passes a government inspection. This person will be recognized for taking the initiative to institute new technologies and/or procedures which will make a difference in his/her airports ARFF Training Programs.

Please give specific examples and provide documentation to back-up this award.

Who Was Brian Pugh?

Brian J. Pugh passed away November 8, 2005 while attending the Annual ARFF Working Group Int'l Educational Conference in Dallas, Texas. Brian was born November 15, 1951. He humbly served his community as a firefighter for 30 years. Brian originally served in Salt Lake City and excelled to the rank of Fire Chief at the Port of Portland. Always willing to help in any way, he truly loved to serve his fellow man. Brian had a lot of intuition as to the people he taught and their abilities. He was a constant encourager and pushed people to become the best that they could be. Bryan was a good leader, he believed in safe affective training and he empowered the people around him to become great and then to share that with the ARFF community