



HEADQUARTERS  
**ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION**  
**CIVIL AIR PATROL**  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY  
640 NORTH 2360 WEST · SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84116



15 May 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL RMR MEMBERS

FROM: RMR/CC


SUBJECT: Rocky Mountain Region 2023 Of the Year Awards Announcement

1. We wish to extend sincere gratitude to all the personnel who worked diligently to recommend and submit fellow airmen as annual award candidates within their respective wings. There were a significant number of submissions to evaluate this year and as each was reviewed, we were impressed with the caliber of all members put forward. Thank you all. It is with great pride that the region wishes to announce the following members as the Rocky Mountain Region Annual Award recipients for calendar year 2023:

- Cadet of the Year – **C/Col Makenna R. Dinkins** - Colorado Wing
- AFSA Outstanding Cadet NCO of the Year - **C/2nd Lt Samantha Lopez** - Colorado Wing
- Senior of the Year - **Col Merle Starr** - Idaho Wing
- Squadron of Distinction - **Nampa Composite Squadron** - Idaho Wing
- John V. "Jack" Sorenson Cadet Programs Officer of the Year - **Lt Col Beverly Carlson** - Wyoming Wing
- Aerospace Education Teacher of the Year - **Lt Col Charles Carlisi** - Utah Wing
- Maj Gen Jeanne M. Holm Aerospace Officer of the Year - **Maj Kambiz Kamiab** - Idaho Wing
- Frank G. Brewer Memorial Aerospace Award - Cadet - **C/1st Lt Sophie Fox** - Wyoming Wing
- Frank G. Brewer Memorial Aerospace Award - Senior - **2nd Lt Timothy Durzuweit** - Utah Wing
- Frank G. Brewer Memorial Aerospace Award - Organization - **Shep-Rock Foundation** - Idaho Wing
- Frank G. Brewer Memorial Aerospace Award - Lifetime - **Lt Col Steven Ellis** - Wyoming Wing
- Order of the Daedalians Flight Instructor of the Year - **Maj Ray Rawlins** - Utah Wing
- Lt Col T. Keith Riddle Aircrew Member of the Year - **Lt Col Rodney Burnett** - Wyoming Wing
- Col Dion E. DeCamp Ground Team of the Year - **Maj Kent Borchelt and Capt Mark Borchelt** - Colorado Wing
- Col Edwin W. Lewis Jr Incident Staff Member of the Year - **Lt Col Henry Eng** - Colorado Wing

- Col David Kantor Operations Staff Officer of the Year - **Lt Col Robert Ditch** - Wyoming Wing
- Communicator of the Year - **Lt Col Michael Collett** - Utah Wing
- Character Development Officer of the Year - **Capt Harald Duell** - Idaho Wing
- Chaplain Maj Gen Robert Preston Taylor Chaplain of the Year - **Capt Camille Barlow** - Utah Wing
- Director of Finance of the Year - **Maj Gregory Schreurs** - Wyoming Wing
- Education and Training Officer of the Year - **1st Lt Margaret L Hess** - Utah Wing
- Health Services Officer of the Year - **Lt Col Harlan Ribnik** - Wyoming
- Col Lester E. Hopper Historian of the Year - **Lt Col Charles Young II** - Wyoming Wing
- Inspector General of the Year - **Col Merle Star** - Idaho Wing
- George Texido Legislative Officer of the Year - **Lt Col Harold Reed** - Wyoming Wing
- Col Robert V. "Bud" Payton Public Affairs Officer of the Year - **Capt Stephanie Payton** - Idaho Wing
- Property Management Officer of the Year - **Maj Jon Hight** - Utah Wing
- Safety Officer of the Year - **Maj James Ormsby** - Wyoming Wing

2. Congratulations to each of the above awardees and thank you for your selfless and exceptional service to the Civil Air Patrol and the example you set. Good luck to each as you are considered further for selection nationally. Let us all look to these exemplars as we all continue to achieve many great things in 2024 and beyond.



JASON R. HESS, Col, CAP  
Commander

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All RMR Members