

2009 Texas Aviation Conference Held In Austin

On May 11-13, the 2009 Texas Aviation Conference was held at the Austin Hilton Inn in Austin, Texas. Sponsors for the event included the Texas Department of Transportation Aviation Division, the Texas Airports Council and the Texas Aviation Association. Over 500 attendees enjoyed the conference.



The conference started on Monday the 11th of May with golf and bowling tournaments followed by vendor set up and social hour at the hotel. There were 70 vendors displaying their wares and services.

On Tuesday the 12th, the meat and potatoes of the conference began with general sessions, guest speakers, breakout sessions and concluding with a happy hour and the banquet ceremony.

Kid's International Art Contest

At the banquet ceremony, the audience viewed special awards for the 2009 International Aviation Art Contest. Steve Hadley, regional representative for the National Business Aviation Association, presented the winners of three categories with special framed certificates.

Texas 1st Place Winners

2nd Place

3rd Place

Category I Ages 6-9

Dylan Vogel – 9
Burleson Adventist
Burleson, Texas

Morgan Bland –8
Burleson Adventist
Burleson, Texas

Sara Jahn - 8
Burleson Adventist
Burleson, Texas

Category II Ages 10-13

Lorenzo Diaz – 11
Hacienda Heights Elem.
El Paso, Texas

Alondra Santoyo - 11
Maple Lawn Elem.
Dallas, Texas

Rebekah Hernandez-12
Clark Middle School
Laredo, Texas

Category III Ages 14-17

*Ismael Roman-14
Palo Duro High School
Amarillo, Texas

Hye Sun Yu – 16
Lewisville High School
Lewisville, TX

Brandon Kaestner - 14
Burleson Adventist
Burleson, Texas

*Ismael also won 1st Place National and is being Judged internationally in April



Kids and their families enjoy the TAC banquet

TXAA General Aviation Lifetime Achievement Award

Ken Koock, past president of the Texas Aviation Association presented a special lifetime achievement award to general aviation legend Stan Shannon of Fredericksburg, Texas. Over the past three decades Stan Shannon accomplished the following:

- Technical Counselor for the Experimental Aircraft Association
- Helped 70 Persons build their aircraft
- Owned over 30 aircraft
- Restored a Super Cub
- Built Three Vans RV's
- RV-6 RV-9 RV-9A
- Presently Building a Bush Caddy R-80
- Led the Southwest Regional Fly In for 10 years
- Donated Funds to the Tony Bingelis Foundation
- Sponsors Youth Interested in Aviation



General Aviation Legend Stan Shannon

A special plaque from TXAA was presented which read:

**Texas Aviation Association
Lifetime Achievement Award**

Presented To

Stan Shannon

For His Outstanding Leadership, Vision, and Advancement of General Aviation
Texas Aviation Conference
May 12, 2009



Stan was unable to attend the conference and TxDOT Safety Director Bill Gunn accepted the award in his stead. Bill read to the audience a prepared statement from Stan.

"I am greatly honored to be the recipient of this award from the Texas Aviation Association. It has been a joy and privilege to serve aviation for over 30 years. This award also honors my family who has supported me in my efforts as well as the many volunteers who helped make possible the Southwest Regional Fly-In, EAA Young Eagle Program, EAA Chapter Activities and special aviation events at the Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg. I am sorry to be with you but want to thank my friend, Bill Gunn, for accepting the award in my behalf.

Given this May 12TH, 2009

Stan Shannon
Fredericksburg, Texas

This award was followed by a delicious meal provided by the catering department of the Austin Hilton Inn. Following the feast, the program continued with awards for:

THE 2009 GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD

IS PRESENTED BY THE
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AVIATION DIVISION
TO
TERESA LYONS, MANAGER
HEREFORD MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, HEREFORD, TEXAS

THE 2009 MOST IMPROVED AIRPORT AWARD

IS PRESENTED BY THE
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AVIATION DIVISION
TO
PORT LAVACA, CALHOUN COUNTY AIRPORT
PORT LAVACA, TEXAS

THE 2009 AIRPORT OF THE YEAR AWARD

IS PRESENTED BY THE
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AVIATION DIVISION
TO
HONDO MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
HONDO, TEXAS

THE 2009 RELIEVER AIRPORT OF THE YEAR AWARD
IS PRESENTED BY THE
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AVIATION DIVISION
TO
STINSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

THE 2009 RAMP COORDINATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD
IS PRESENTED BY
THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AVIATION DIVISION
TO
GILBERT JORDON, EL PASO DISTRICT

The 2009 Texas Aviation Conference concluded on Wednesday the 13th. TxDOT event coordinator Becky Vick said that this event was the most successful one with record attendance. Next year's TAC will be held on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, April 7, 8, 9, 2010 in The Woodlands at the Waterway Marriott. Stay tuned to TXAA!