AWCI to Give Special, “Outstanding” Awards to Industry’s Best in Toronto

The individuals and organizations who have done the most in the past year to advance the wall and ceiling industry will be singled out for special honors at AWCI’s annual convention in Toronto.

Named by their peers for special recognition, the awardees will join an elite group whose contributions have made the industry what it is today. In addition to AWCI’s annual Outstanding Awards, of course, the coveted Pinnacle Award will be made to the individual who has given unselfishly of his or her time and energies to benefit AWCI and the industry.

The identity of the Pinnacle Award winner, an award which dates back to 1964, is traditionally kept secret until the presentation ceremony. A comparable award, the McNulty Award, which is bestowed by the Wall and Ceiling Industry Foundation, will also be made at the ceremony. Although the McNulty Award winner is not kept secret, the individual to be honored had not yet been announced at press time.

OUTSTANDING AWARDS...

Winners of AWCI’s Outstanding Awards include:

Outstanding Committee Chairman

Urban Rump, Atlanta, GA, will receive this award in recognition of his work as Chairman of Technical SubCommittee No. 3 and for leading in the development of a new drywall finish document which earned the cooperation of CISCA, PDCA and the Gypsum Association on the project.

Distinguished Chartered Chapter

The Hawaii Chapter of AWCI will be honored in view of its support of national activities and the chapter’s continuing membership efforts. Hawaii is one of the few chapters which continue a prominent promotion program to architects, designers and developers whereby industry participants can get together and work on common problems.

Outstanding Association Executive

Don Morrice, general counsel to the Drywall and Interior Systems Contractors Association, has been instrumental in developing a unified organization in New Jersey, establishing numerous activities and educational programs including the chapter’s annual statewide convention.

Outstanding Regional Chairman

Michael J. Zellner, of Los Angeles, CA, showed how a convention caucus, in place of the old Regional Conference, could be made successful. Much of the success and attendance at the Western Region’s caucus held in Las Vegas was due to Mike’s personal efforts such as a meeting the night before and personal letters prior to the convention.

Outstanding Supplier Member

The founder and principal of Angeles Metal Company, Los Angeles, CA, Kingston Cable stands out as not only a supplier sponsor of AWCI’s new headquarters building and a regular exhibitor and sponsor, but as a participant in AWCI’s future planning efforts.

Outstanding Member Achievement Award

The son of contractor member Joe Feldner of McNulty Brothers, Duane Feldner has been a key member of the Academy Council and has been a regular speaker as well as a key planner for numerous Academy programs and educational sessions.

Unsung Hero

Kay Lamison, of Pittsburgh, PA, works for one of AWCI’s smallest
chapters, and has devoted considerable time to AWCI and ASA. She was very active in the negotiations for a new Carpenters agreement over the past two years and was instrumental in providing, via her computer, the differences between a series of prior agreements.

**Wining Spirit Award**

United States Gypsum Company has been a strong supporter for AWCI and the Foundation for a long time. For six years, USG provides the Foundation with a key executive to serve on the Foundation’s board of directors and has underwritten the annual report in the past. The first supplier to sponsor an event at AWCI Committee Week, USG also provides AWCI with a portrait of its president each year, and is always willing to provide information and expertise when asked.

**The Pinnacle Award**

As AWCI’s most prestigious and elite honors. The Pinnacle Award is presented annual to the individual who merits our industry’s recognition for major contributions to the betterment of the wall and ceiling industry. Not only are the candidates evaluated on their dedication to the industry, but also on their civic/community work and the excellence in their companies.

**The J.D. McNulty Award**

This year marks the first time the Foundation of the Wall and Ceiling Industry will select the winner of the J.D. McNulty Award for advancement in research and development, education, and information dissemination for the industry. The winner will be selected by a Foundation-appointed committee. He or she must be an individual contractor or contracting firm who has contributed toward improving the wall and ceiling industry in either technical or business management fields.

**New Members...**

At the same Annual Awards Breakfast, a ceremony sponsored at the convention, by Dryvit Systems, Inc., the association’s board of directors will also create three new Honorary Members of AWCI. These distinguished individuals include:

- Mace Coleman, president of Gold Bond Building Products, who is retiring this year;
- Robert Day, chairman of the board of United States Gypsum Company, who is also retiring this year.
- Robert N. Gulick, formerly Executive Director of the California Drywall Contractors’ Association, who recently retired after nearly three decades in that position.

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