



NASAR AWARD DESCRIPTIONS

The Bob Wright Award

Establishment of the Award

This award was established in 1993 by the NASAR Board of Directors to recognize significant contributions to national search and rescue. The award is to focus recognition in the areas of exemplary “Youth Leader” and “Dedication to Education”. It is granted to and individual only and solely on merit. It does not have to be granted each year.

Basis for the Award

Any type of contribution to search and rescue shall qualify an individual as a nominee for the NASAR Bob Wright Award, providing the following criteria are met:

1. The contribution must be in the area of “Youth Leader”
2. Contributions must indicate that the nomination has proven to be “Dedicated to Education”. Education contributions can include, but are not limited to, Search and Rescue operations, Survival, Emergency Medicine, Urban Search and Rescue.
3. A contribution can be substantiated as having had a considerable consequence on search and rescue. Evidence must be included in the nomination substantiating or demonstrating such consequence.
4. The outcome or results, rather than the process of contribution must be described and substantiated.

The Hal Foss Award

Establishment of the Award

This award was established in 1974 by the NASAR Board of Directors to recognize significant contributions to search and rescue *at the national level*.

The award is granted solely on merit. It may be granted to an individual or to a “unit”. It may be granted posthumously and is the most prestigious award presented by NASAR.

Basis for the Award

Any type of contribution to SAR, on a national basis, shall qualify an individual/unit as a nominee for the NASAR Hal Foss Award, providing the following criteria are met:

1. The contribution can be substantiated as having a demonstrable consequence on national search and rescue. Evidence must be included in the nomination.
2. The contribution must be shown to be independent service to NASAR or to some other organization, although the contribution may have been rendered

- through such organization (i.e., the result of the contribution must have an end use beyond the organization).
3. Contribution must be clearly shown to go beyond the scope of a state or smaller political entity, or of an organization.
 4. The contribution must be shown to have had a positive consequence on the “victims” or potential “victims” of SAR.
 5. The contribution can be in the form of a single act or action, or sustained effort over a period of time.
 6. The outcome or results, rather than the process of the contribution, must be described and substantiated in the nomination package.

The Lois Clark McCoy Service Award

Establishment of the Award

This award was established in 1985 by the NASAR Board of Directors to recognize the person or unit who has made the most significant contribution to NASAR during the previous year or longer period of time. The award is granted solely on merit. It may be granted posthumously. It does not have to be granted every year. Originally called the NASAR Service Award it was renamed after Lois Clark McCoy in July of 2002.

Basis for the Award

Any type of contribution to NASAR shall qualify an individual/unit as a nominee for the NASAR Lois Clark McCoy Service Award, providing the following criteria are met:

1. A contribution can be substantiated as having a demonstrable consequence on the Association. Evidence must be included in the nomination substantiating or demonstrating such consequence.
2. Contribution clearly must be shown to have gone beyond the scope of that normally expected of members or those with designated responsibilities to the Association.
3. The contribution can be in the form of a single act or action, or of sustained effort over a period of time.
4. The outcome or results, rather than the process of the contribution must be described and substantiated.

The State and Province Award

Establishment of the Award

This award was established in 1974 by the NASAR Board of Directors to recognize significant contributions to search and rescue *at the state and province level*. In 1991, the Board of Directors expanded this award to include the Provinces of Canada. The award is granted solely on merit. It may be granted to an individual or to a “unit”. It may be granted posthumously.

Basis for the Award

Any type of contribution to search and rescue on a state/provincial basis, shall qualify an individual/unit as a nominee for the NASAR State/Canadian Province Award, providing the following criteria are met:

1. A contribution can be substantiated as having had a demonstrable consequence on search and rescue in the State/Province. Evidence must be included in the nomination substantiating or demonstrating such consequence.
2. The contribution must be shown to be independent of service to NASAR or to some other organization, although the contribution may have been rendered through such organization (i.e., the result of the contribution must have an end use beyond the organization).
3. Contribution clearly must be shown to have gone beyond the scope of a political entity smaller than the State/Province, or of an organization.
4. The contribution must be shown to have had a positive consequence on the “victims” or potential “victims” of search and rescue.
5. The contribution can be in the form of a single act or action, or of sustained effort over a period of time.
6. The outcome or results, rather than the process of the contribution must be described and substantiated.

The Valor Award

Establishment of the Award

This award was established in 1977. Originally called the “Zimmerman-Rand Valor Award,” it was the gift of the San Diego Mountain Rescue Team to NASAR, in memory of Ben Rand and Larry Zimmerman, two of their members killed in separate incidents. In 1990, on recommendation of the NASAR Board of Trustees, the Board of Directors approved the establishment of an unaffiliated valor award. The award is granted solely on merit to an individual or individuals selected by the Board of Directors who best represents, in their opinion, effort in the field of search and rescue that was above and beyond the call of duty, exemplifying the selfless, perhaps risky commitment to others embodied in the NASAR motto: “That Others May Live”. The award does not have to be presented each year.

Basis for the Award

Any type of contribution the search and rescue shall qualify and individual/unit as a nominee for the NASAR Valor Award, providing the following criteria are met:

1. The action on the part of the nominee clearly must be shown to have been out of the ordinary, beyond the reasonably expected behavior in undertaking a search and rescue activity.
2. The action must be shown to have alleviated a situation in which a “victim” was in substantial peril with the high potential for life-threatening injury or death.
3. The action must be shown to have occurred in such a way that in successfully carrying out the action, the nominee was required to place himself or herself in a situation potentially resulting in serious injury or death. However, it must be shown that the behavior on the part of the nominee did not exceed the bounds of good judgment and did not constitute reckless endangerment of his or her own well being or that of others.

The Instructor of the Year Award

Establishment of the Award

This award was established in 1994 by the NASAR Board of Directors to recognize significant contributions to search and rescue at the instructor level. The award is granted solely on merit to an individual selected by the Board of Directors who best represents, in their opinion, educational excellence in the field of search and rescue. The award will be granted every year. It will not be awarded posthumously.

Basis for the Award

Any type of educational contribution to the search and rescue community, and/or the general public as pertains to the preventative education shall qualify an individual/unit as a nominee for the NASAR Instructor of the Year Award, providing the following criteria are met:

1. The nominee will be a NASAR Instructor in good stead.
2. The nominee demonstrates the ability to teach people as documented by student evaluation.
3. The nominee attains/maintains current standards of materials, skills and techniques.
4. The nominee demonstrates in practice ideals set forth in teaching.
5. The nominee is motivated by the desire to increase the knowledge and skills of search and rescue responders.
6. The nominee demonstrates instructional influence beyond the scope of his/her community.
7. The nominee complies with instructor requirements as set forth by the Board of Directors in a timely manner.