

DOT News

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Annual Awards Issue

MARK ARON RECEIVES DOT'S HIGHEST HONOR

Medal Given To Legal Aide

Deputy General Counsel Mark G. Aron has received the Secretary's Award for Outstanding Achievement, the highest employee award given by the department.

The award was given in recognition of Aron's legislative, managerial, and leadership skills, which assisted in enactment of the Motor Carrier Act of 1980, developed a standard of excellence in the Office of General Counsel, and increased equal employment opportunities in the legal profession.

Aron, 37, became Deputy General Counsel on August 12, 1979. He had previously served as Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, where his efforts helped to develop the Surface Transportation Act of 1978, the Airline Deregulation Act, and other major departmental legislative programs.

A native of Hartford, Conn., Aron graduated from Trinity College and Harvard Law School. He taught law in Toronto and practiced in Boston before coming to DOT in 1972 to work in the Office of



ARON

Regulations, working on hazardous materials regulations. It was in that job that he first began drafting legislation and helping the department to explain proposed legislation on Capitol Hill.

Aron received the Secretary's Silver Medal for meritorious achievement in 1975 and 1978.

Goldschmidt Presents Awards To 162 Employees

Calling the Department of Transportation's success "the sum total of the dedicated efforts" of its people, Secretary Neil Goldschmidt paid tribute to DOT employees at the 13th annual awards ceremony on September 3.

Beginning with the gold medal, the Secretary presented 162 awards in eight categories for exceptional performance, valor, or special achievement.

Noting the large number of awards for 1980, Secretary Goldschmidt said he "would be disappointed if it were otherwise. These awards attest to the competence within this Department."

"I have great appreciation for what we can do as a team. I have great confidence in our collective ability to take on any transportation problem and either solve it or shrink it."

The Secretary followed praise with challenge. "The agenda for the 80s," he said, "requires that we continue to make exceptional performance a Department of Transportation tradition."

On a warm and sunny day, a large crowd of employees and relatives and friends of the award winners witnessed the colorful outdoor presentation in the DOT courtyard.

The Gold Medal for outstanding achievement, the highest employee award, was presented to Mark G. Aron, Deputy General Counsel. It was the first DOT gold medal awarded in the past two years.

The Secretary's Award for Valor was given to James H. Morse, a Kalamazoo, Mich., air traffic controller; and to Woodrow W. Dejerette, Jr., a Canal Zone FAA airway facilities branch mechanic. Morse was honored for his rescue of a woman trapped in a capsized sailboat, and Dejerette for his action in preventing a robbery in Balboa, Canal Zone.

Goldschmidt gave the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Coast Guard's highest aviation award for heroism, to Lt. Cmdr. Robert A. Melvin, who piloted a helicopter that rescued eight men from a tug disabled in the Atlantic Ocean during a winter storm.

Capt. David E. Giancaglioni, a Coast Guard helicopter pilot, received the Air Medal for a rescue mission in the Gulf of Mexico. Three Coast Guard enlisted men also were given awards for bravery at the ceremony. They were Chief Warrant Officer Samuel L. Wilson and Petty Officer 1st Class Matthew C. Greer, who received the Coast Guard Medal for heroism; and Chief Boatswain's Mate John A. Foster, who received the Meritorious Service Award with Operational Distinguishing Device.

These five men were selected to represent their helicopter or boat crews and

other Coast Guard personnel who had been given heroism awards since the 1979 DOT awards ceremony.

Sixty-three DOT employees were presented the department's Silver Award for Meritorious Service. Awards for excellence went to 71 men and women, while 18 employees were singled out for the Secretary's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Equal Opportunity.

Robert J. Sturla, a Coast Guard recreation assistant at the Petaluma, Calif., training center, was named DOT's outstanding handicapped employee.

"There are no barriers to the kinds of high professional achievement we honor here today," Secretary Goldschmidt said, "no barriers of age or physical condition, of race or rank, of education or position—as the range and variety of these awards demonstrate."

The Secretary also recognized Thomas J. Creswell, former Director of FAA's Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center, who had earlier received the President's Management Improvement Award for 1979. The award was presented by James T. McIntyre, Director of the Office of Management and Budget and by Alan K. Campbell, Director of the Office of Personnel Management, in a ceremony last month.

John J. Collins, Assistant Chief Counsel for Legislation and Regulation in the Urban Mass Transportation Administration, was named winner of the Schneider Award, presented annually for special competence as a practicing attorney.

The awards ceremony, Secretary Goldschmidt said, "looks forward, not backward. We are here to honor achievement, but that is behind us. Our commitment is to the future, and to the challenge before us."

"Our job," he said, "is to go after the problems that are obvious, address the needs that are basic, and fight for the things that make life better for people."

Robert L. Fairman, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration, served as master of ceremonies for the event, welcoming the employees and their guests and commenting on the awards and their significance.

Deputy Secretary William J. Beckham introduced the other DOT officials on the platform. Besides Goldschmidt, they included Admiral John B. Hayes, Coast Guard Commandant, top officials of the operating administrations and senior executives of the Office of the Secretary. The administrators and assistant announced the awards for their own employees, and Secretary Goldschmidt congratulated the award winners.

Music was provided by the U.S. Navy band and the Coast Guard presented the colors to open the ceremony.



63 Are Given Silver Medals

Sixty-three Department of Transportation employees were presented the department's award for meritorious service, the Silver Medal, at the 13th annual awards ceremony.

The medal is awarded for exceptionally meritorious service or exceptional achievement.

The employees who received Silver Medals were:

Office of the Secretary

Robert C. Ashby, attorney, Office of the General Counsel, for contributions in the field of civil rights.

Karen L. Borlaug, economist, for contributions in achieving the President's trucking regulatory reform goals.

Gary M. Broemser, director, Office of Regulatory Policy, for leadership in achieving the President's trucking regulatory reform goals.

Robert H. Bruton, transportation analyst, for leadership in the development of a national rural transportation policy.

Sarah C. Campbell, program analyst, for excellence in implementing the President's and the department's urban policy.

Camille H. Cleveland, environmental program analyst, for improving policies and procedures for the environmental review of transportation projects.

Warren L. Dean, Jr., attorney, Office of the General Counsel, for contributions to the department's efforts in international trade and antitrust law.

John Alan Devierno, attorney, Office of the General Counsel, for efforts in support of the Administration's legislative program to reform the economic and safety regulation of the trucking industry.

Norman H. Emerson, special assistant to the Secretary and Century Freeway Corridor Project Coordinator, for his efforts to improve the environment within the Los Angeles Century Freeway Corridor area.

Joseph J. Genovese, assistant inspector general for audits, for leadership in changing the department's audit operations to meet the objectives established by the Inspector General Act of 1978.

Thomas W. Herlihy, Jr., deputy assistant general counsel for legislation, for achieving the department's objectives in railroad legislation.

Carolina L. Mederos, chief, Transportation Assistance Division, for excellence in the review and evaluation of the department's assistance programs and budgets.

Bobby B. Oakley, director, Office of Regional Programs, for leadership in the department's implementation of audit requirements issued by the Office of Management and Budget.

Frederick C. Pease, intergovernmental affairs coordinator, for accomplishments that resulted in the passage of major railroad legislation.

Laurence T. Phillips, acting chief, Regulatory Analysis Division, for contributions in achieving the President's trucking regulatory reform goals.

Wilfred R. Pieper, chief, International Secretariat, Office of Policy and International Affairs, for skilful diplomacy in assisting the Secretary at home and abroad in pursuit of departmental objectives.

Edward H. Rastatter, chief, Regulatory and Legislative Coordination Division, for contributions in achieving the President's trucking regulatory reform goals.

Raymond J. Sander, director, Office of Management Planning, for leadership in meeting the department's equal opportunity goals.

U.S. Coast Guard

Kenneth R. Bitting, mechanical engineer, for achievements in research and development in the dynamic properties of synthetic materials for marine use.

Paul J. D'Zmura, program analyst, for exceptional accomplishment of facility planning and policy responsibilities.

Jeffrey P. High, supervisory facilities planning specialist, for contributions to shore facilities planning.

Daniel J. Laurent, contract specialist, for achievement as a contract specialist for the cleanup of the Bay of Campeche oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

David L. Motherway, mechanical engineer, for developing operational techniques to prevent polluting discharges of hazardous chemical cargoes from damaged vessels.

Federal Aviation Administration

Robert J. Aaronson, associate administrator for airports (acting), for leadership and direction of the department's airports program and in the development of proposed post-1980 airport and airway legislation.

James E. Chestnut, procurement officer, Logistics Division, for leadership which has contributed to the achievement of the department's socio-economic goals.

Walter E. Faison, chief, Policy Analysis Division, for leadership in collision risk analysis which contributed to six major decisions involving airspace usage.

Rosalind Halpern, general engineer, Airway Facilities Division, for performance while serving as the Regional On-Site Coordinator of FAA's New York Terminal Radar Approach Control Facility at Garden City, Long Island, N.Y.

Charles J. Hoch, chief, Energy Division, for achievements in developing an effective energy conservation program for the FAA and the national air transportation system.

Raymond Johnson, chief, Spectrum Management Branch, for leadership in spectrum management at the 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference.

SILVERS, continued on p. 3



AARONSON ASHBY AYRES BATCHELDER BAUTZ BITTING BOEHLI

BORLAUG BROEMSER BRUTON CAMPBELL CHESTNUT CLEVELAND COLEMAN

DEAN DEVIERNO D'ZMURA EMERSON FAISON GENOVESE HALPERN

HAMMER HEDLUND HERLIHY HICKMAN HIGH HITCHCOCK HOBBS

HOCK HODGE JOHN JOHNSON JONES, J. JONES, T. KEESLING

KELLEY LAURENT LIBURDI LOFTUS McBEE McCONNELL MEDEROS

MOTHERWAY OAKLEY OBERLANDER ONSTAD PARKER PEASE PHILLIPS

PIEPER PLISSNER POZESKY RASTATTER REAGLE REICHAH ROACH

SANDER SCHULMAN SHARP SHAW TAYLOR THOMPSON WOMACK

EEO Awards Given to 18

Eighteen employees received the department's award for Outstanding Achievement in Equal Opportunity.

The award honors employees, supervisors, and managers having no specific EEO duties who promote equal opportunity through unusually effective skill, leadership, and perseverance.

Cora E. Tyler, a contract specialist in the Office of the Secretary, received the award for her contributions to the Minority Business Enterprise Program.

U.S. Coast Guard employees receiving the award were: **Viola S. Barfield**, management assistant, New York City, for contributions in promoting EEO programs in both the federal and private sectors. **Patricia A. Del Vecchio**, personnel specialist, New Orleans, La., for promotion of equal opportunity goals and leadership in EEO activities. **Capt. John M. Duke, Jr.**, Commanding Officer, Marine Inspection Office, New Orleans, La., for EEO achievements and support of the department's EEO program. **Burton S. Mullins, Jr.**, personnel management specialist, Washington, D.C., for efforts in developing and implementing the upward mobility and equal opportunity recruitment programs. **Capt. Clyde E. Robbins**, program division chief, Washington, D.C., for contributions to equal opportunity in numerous Coast Guard programs such as the housing program for military personnel and the civilian upward mobility program.

Federal Aviation Administration employees receiving the award were: **Frank Babiak, Jr.**, Area Coordinator, Anchorage, Alaska, for achievements in improving minority employment. **Grady M. Carter**, air traffic control supervisor, Atlanta, Georgia, for contributions to civil rights and equal employment opportunity in FAA's Southern Region. **Ezequiel E. Lopez**, supply systems analyst, Washington, D.C., for providing leadership and service to Hispanic Americans in the department and the community in achieving equal employment opportunities. **Vina L. Showers**, supply systems analyst, Washington, D.C., for dedication to EEO and accomplishments for federally employed women. **Barbara J. Smith**, air traffic controller, Boston, Mass., for efforts in assisting the agency to achieve its EEO goals. **Karl D. Trautmann**, air traffic control supervisor, Atlanta, Georgia, for leadership in achieving the agency's EEO goals. **Fred Williams**, electronics technician supervisor, Kansas City, Mo., for assisting minorities and women to enter new professions with greater career opportunities.

Receiving the award in the other administrations were: **Richard K. Bader**, pool liaison engineer in the Federal Highway Administration, Denver, Colo., for outstanding performance as an EEO counselor and engineering technician program coordinator. **Joseph W. Walsh**, Associate Administrator for Safety, Federal Railroad Administration, Washington, D.C., for contributions to the department's EEO program. **Gordon G. Lindquist**, Regional Administrator for the National Highway

Traffic Safety Administration's Region 5, in Chicago Heights, Illinois, for leadership in promoting equal employment goals. **Muhammad Hatim**, transportation planner for the Urban Mass Transportation Administration in New York City, for efforts to encourage minorities and young women students in high school to enter the field of transportation engineering. **Leslie Tuttle-Hollingsworth**, sociologist, Research and Special Programs Administration, Cambridge, Mass., for contributions to the department's EEO program.



BABIAK



BADER



BARFIELD



CARTER



DEL VECCHIO



DUKE



HATIM



LINDQUIST



LOPEZ



MULLINS



ROBBINS



SHOWERS



SMITH



TRAUTMAN



TUTTLE-HOLLINGSWORTH



TYLER



WALSH



WILLIAMS

SILVER MEDALS

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Seymour Oberlander, executive officer, Southern Region, director's staff, for resource management resulting in fiscal and personnel cost reductions without loss of program effectiveness.

Clark H. Onstad, chief counsel, for leadership in improving the safety of the U.S. aviation system.

William A. Plissner, director, Office of Budget, for outstanding performance in developing and administering the FAA budget.

Martin T. Pozesky, deputy director, Systems Research and Development Service, for scientific and managerial contributions to FAA's research and development programs.

John B. Roach, deputy regional director, New England Region, for leadership in promoting aviation safety, especially among commuter air carriers.

John E. Shaw, deputy regional director, for outstanding leadership while serving as the deputy regional director of FAA's Central Region, headquartered in Kansas City, Mo.

Federal Highway Administration

Donald E. Hammer, division administrator, for leadership in advancing the federal-aid highway program in Pennsylvania.

David B. Kelley, division administrator, for leadership and effective management of the federal-aid highway program in Vermont.

John W. McBee, division administrator, for outstanding performance of duties in dealing with national and agency programs, particularly in Ohio.

Barbara K. Reichart, chief, Ridesharing Branch, for leadership in furthering the department's national energy conservation program for ridesharing.

John C. Sharp, executive officer, San Francisco, for leadership in administering regional, national, and international highway programs.

Federal Railroad Administration

Jeremy J. Coleman, director of federal assistance, Southwest Region, for contributions to the department's success in achieving a private-sector solution to the Midwest rail crisis.

William E. Lofus, associate administrator for federal assistance, for contributions to the department's success in achieving a private-sector solution to the Midwest rail crisis.

Louis S. Thompson, director, Northeast Corridor Project, for exceptional leadership as Director of the Northeast Corridor Project.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

William Boehly, chief, Integrated Vehicle Research Division, for engineering and managerial skill in developing and demonstrating research safety vehicles.

James H. Hedlund, mathematical statistician, for leadership in supervising the advancement of NHTSA's crashworthiness rulemaking program.

Barbara Lee Hickman, personnel officer, for leadership in improving personnel programs, policies, and procedures.

Ralph J. Hitchcock, chief, Crashworthiness Division, for leadership in dealing with the challenging issues of occupant crash protection.

Stanley M. Keesling, regional administrator, Region IV, Atlanta, Ga., for leadership and administrative management and for diplomacy in handling sensitive and critical grant management problems.

George L. Parker, chief, Crash Avoidance Division, for leadership and professionalism in crash avoidance rulemaking.

George L. Reagle, director, Office of Driver and Pedestrian Programs, for leadership in planning and directing highway traffic safety programs.

John Gamble Womack, Jr., assistant chief counsel, for successful consolidation and management of the general law and legislative divisions in the Office of Chief Counsel.

Urban Mass Transportation Administration

Margaret M. Ayres, chief counsel, for outstanding legal support in developing policies and programs.

Robert W. Batchelder, assistant chief counsel for litigation and opinions, for skill in representing UMTA during litigation that had a profound impact on the nation's mass transportation programs.

James A. Bantz, program manager, for developing a new program to demonstrate the value of paratransit and ridesharing services and to promote the use of these services nationwide.

Thomas M. Jones, senior program analyst, for contributions in the development of the department's 1980 legislative amendments to the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964.

Lillian C. Liburdi, deputy administrator, for leadership in implementing the urban mass transportation program.

Lawrence L. Schulman, director, Office of Policy Development, for contributions in the development of the department's 1980 legislative amendments to the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964.

John K. Taylor, associate administrator for transit assistance, for efforts in managing a financial aid program for public transportation and in encouraging cooperation between federal and local governments.

Research and Special Programs Administration

Stewart B. Hobbs, director, Office of Ground Systems, for leadership in the development and direction of the Transportation Systems Center's ground systems programs.

John D. Hodge, associate administrator for policy, plans and program management, for leadership in the department's implementation of the Civil Service Reform Act and establishment of innovative management processes in the Research and Special Programs Administration.

Richard R. John, director, Office of Energy and Environment, for leadership and technical direction contributing to the success of the cooperative automotive research program.

James Enoch Jones, chief, Approvals Branch, for expertise in achieving safe transportation of compressed gases in seamless steel cylinders.

Donald P. McConnell, mechanical engineer, Cambridge, Mass., for exceptional technical contributions leading to the development of new cost effective track safety standards.



71 Employees Are Honored For Superior Performance

Secretary Goldschmidt gave 71 employees the department's award for excellence at the awards ceremony.

The Secretary's Award for Excellence is granted to employees who have been outstanding in all aspects of their work. Eligibility for the award is limited to employees in grades GS-1 through GS-9 and wage board equivalents.

Employees who received the award were:

Office of the Secretary—Emilie J. Betz, Clara L. Brewer, Marion M. Brooks, Elizabeth A. Brown, Deborah D. Butler, Barbara B. Cameron, Joyce R. East, Beverley Y. Kelly, Dorothy D. Lewis, Anton Lilly, Oneida Luciano, Matthew L. McKoy, Cleveland Montgomery, Sylvia L. Moore, Clarence H. Parker, Leonardo Ramsey, Theresa A. Simon, and Stephanie J. Watermeier, all of Washington, D.C.

U.S. Coast Guard—Warner O. Baxter, Groton, Conn.; Anita C. Dauphin, Otis AFB, Mass.; Margaret A. Fall, Boston, Mass.; Aimee L. Lane, Yorktown, Va.; and Bea Foster, Freida A. Parkins, and Pearl B. Poteat, of Washington, D.C.

Federal Aviation Administration—Hazel M. Aleshire, Fremont, Calif.; Joan M. Gillis, Anchorage, Alaska; Jacqueline F. Clemens, Helen I. Dear, William E. Hood, and Margo L. Inskeep, of Washington, D.C.; June M. Gaffney and Barbara J. Pratt, of Burlington, Mass.; and Helen C. O'Hare and Carol A. Woodman, of Berkeley, Mo.

Federal Highway Administration—Marian E. Davenport, Columbus, Ohio; Lou Ella Fain, Denver, Colo.; Joann Kinart, Ames, Iowa; Laura M. Kirby, Austin, Texas; M. Ruth Vloebergh, Albany, N.Y.; Dovey K. Cherry and Donna R. Friend, of Washington, D.C.; and Nancy M. Daughtridge and Freda J. Eder, of Baltimore, Md.

Federal Railroad Administration—Mary M. Marburger, Pittsburgh, Pa.; and Margaret A. Bridge, Marvel Louise Coleman, Barbara J. Horton, Barbara A. Kenefake, Martha R. Marshall, Mary Clare Strange (deceased) and Marcella A. Ward, of Washington, D.C.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration—Elizabeth R. Seaborn, White Plains, N.Y.; and Mary Coyle, Marlene Hardester, Mary A. Joynt, and Linda O'Connor, of Washington, D.C.

Urban Mass Transportation Administration—Marion S. Jackson, Penny S. McDonald, Doris H. Scaife, Christine M. Tarpley and Doris A. Williams, of Washington, D.C.

Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation—Elaine F. Barrett, Dominic A. Tricase and Jacquelyn A. Williams, of Massena, N.Y.; and Dorothy M. Boone and Mary E. Daniel, of Washington, D.C.

Research and Special Programs Administration—David Donaldson, Washington, D.C.; and David M. Daley, Mary T. Moran and Patricia M. Rudman, of Cambridge, Mass.



WOODMAN

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Secretary Goldschmidt congratulates Thomas J. Creswell

Creswell Receives President's Award

Thomas J. Creswell, former Director of FAA's Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center at Oklahoma City, Okla., has received the 1979 President's Management Improvement Award.

The award was presented in Washington, D.C., on August 6, 1980, by James T. McIntyre, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and Alan K. Campbell, Director of the Office of Personnel Management. Secretary of Transportation Neil Goldschmidt also attended the ceremony to congratulate Creswell.

Creswell was cited for saving the government a quarter of a million dollars by improving operations at the Aeronautical Center. Improvements included staff reduction with no loss in production, cost savings and increased energy conservation through controlled use of government vehicles, reduced printing, reproduction, and telephone costs, and efficiencies in the purchase order distribution system.

Since his retirement from the Aeronautical Center last year, Creswell has worked from time to time as a management consultant for the Center.

Established in 1970, the President's Award is given to military and civilian personnel who have made the year's most exceptional contributions to management improvements. Creswell is the third DOT employee to win this high honor. Other winners were Harold Harriman in 1970 and Sanford P. LaHue in 1975.

For 1979, President Carter selected 13 winners whose combined efforts contributed more than \$27 million in measurable benefits to taxpayers.

2 FAA Employees Receive Award for Valor

Two Federal Aviation Administration employees received awards for personal bravery at the department's annual awards ceremony.

Secretary Goldschmidt presented the Secretary's Award for Valor to James H. Morse and Woodrow E. Dejernette, Jr.

Morse, a 32-year-old air traffic controller at the Kalamazoo, Mich., Municipal Airport, rescued a woman who was trapped inside a capsized 30-foot sailboat on a large lake near Battle Creek, Mich.

The rescue occurred on October 28, 1979 in windy 50-degree weather.

Morse and his friend, Mike Barger, an air traffic controller at the Kellogg Regional Airport, had just loaded Barger's boat onto a trailer when they were told that a boat had overturned in the middle of the lake. Morse and Barger immediately unloaded the boat and sped toward the center of the lake, where they found three men standing on the hull of an overturned boat.

They were informed that Sharon Greenman, wife of one of the three men, was trapped inside the boat. Noise coming from the boat indicated Mrs. Greenman was still alive.

Morse removed his life jacket and dove into the cold water to search for an opening into the cabin. Unable to hold his breath for more than 15 to 20 seconds, Morse surfaced several times. On his fifth attempt, he was able to reach the women and pull her to safety.

An Air Force veteran with air-sea rescue experience, Morse said, "It was just luck that we were still there. We had been delayed by engine problems."

A native of Saginaw, Mich., Morse served four years in the Air Force. Following his

military service, he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Saginaw Valley College. He joined the FAA in 1977 as an air traffic controller and has been assigned to the Kalamazoo Airport control tower since August 1979.

For his heroic action, Morse has received the Kalamazoo County Safety Council's "Flame of Life Award" and a Certificate of Merit Award from the Kalamazoo Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Dejernette, a 35-year-old mechanic at the Airway Facilities Branch, Balboa, Canal Zone, prevented a robbery and possible assault on a woman in Balboa.

On the afternoon of June 16, 1979, Dejernette observed two knife-wielding men and four other unarmed men attempting to take the purse of Nancy Mayfield. Disregarding the odds, Dejernette rushed to her aid and grabbed one of the armed men.

The man stabbed Dejernette in the chest, but the scuffle continued until Dejernette had wrested the knife from the attacker. During the scuffle, the other five men fled from the scene. Dejernette succeeded in holding the attacker until the police arrived. Afterward, he was treated at the emergency room of the local hospital and released.

Mayfield said, "Dejernette disregarded his own personal safety to prevent the crime and to save me from possible harm."

Dejernette was born in the Canal Zone and has spent most of his life there. He began his federal service in 1963 as a student assistant with the Panama Canal Company. After a tour of duty with the U.S. Navy, he was employed by the U.S. Army as a plumber. He joined the FAA in 1974 as a support systems mechanic.



MORSE



DEJERNETTE

Lawyer Award Is Presented To UMTA Aide

John J. Collins, Assistant Chief Counsel for Legislation and Regulations in the Urban Mass Transportation Administration, received the department's 1980 Schneider Award.

He was honored for his distinguished and dedicated legal counsel in connection with the Department of Transportation's mass transit program.



COLLINS

The award is named for Lawrence R. Schneider, chief counsel of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration from 1971 until his death in 1974. The annual award is presented to a practicing attorney who has shown special competence and productivity. Only attorneys who have practiced less than 10 years are eligible.

Collins, 31, joined the department in 1975 as the Urban Mass Transportation Administration's first Regional Counsel, serving Region III in Philadelphia, Pa. He received his bachelor's degree in engineering from Princeton University in 1971 and his law degree from J.D. Temple Law School in Philadelphia in 1975, both with honors.

A native of Wallingford, Conn., Collins and his wife, Kathleen, live in the District of Columbia.

Heroism Awards Presented to 5 Coast Guardsmen

Two Coast Guard helicopter pilots and three other Coast Guardsmen were presented heroism awards by Secretary Goldschmidt at the annual Department of Transportation awards ceremony.

The five men represented not only their own crew but also the other Coast Guard personnel who have been honored since the 1979 awards ceremony.

Goldschmidt gave the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Coast Guard's highest aviation award, to Lt. Cmdr. Robert A. Melvin; the Air Medal to Capt. David E. Ciancaglini; Coast Guard Medals for heroism to Chief Warrant Officer Samuel L. Wilson and Petty Officer 1st Class Matthew C. Greer; and the Meritorious Service Medal with Operational Distinguishing Device to Chief Boatswain's Mate John A. Foster, Jr.

Melvin was cited for his extraordinary achievement as a helicopter pilot during a perilous rescue mission. On January 5, 1980, he and his crew rescued eight crewmen from the tug *A. W. Guill*, which had lost its steering and collided with a barge during a fierce storm in the Atlantic Ocean about 180 miles northeast of Norfolk, Va.

Melvin's crew, who have been awarded the Air Medal, were Lt. Tommy G. Perkins, Aviation Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Michael J. Nolan, and Aviation Electronics Technician 3rd Class David J. Burt.

Ciancaglini was presented the Air Medal by Goldschmidt for meritorious achievement as a helicopter pilot during a dangerous rescue mission in the Gulf of Mexico on November 1, 1979. Five seamen were saved by two Coast Guard helicopters from the burning merchant vessel *Mimosa*, which had collided with a tanker near Galveston, Texas.

Previously, the Air Medal had been awarded to Lt. Cmdr. Jerome C. Cobb II, pilot of the mission's other copter, and crewmen Lt. j.g. Christopher S. Kilgore, Aviation Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Thomas W. Wynn, and Aviation Electronics Technician 3rd Class Kevin C. Dannaway.

Wilson was honored for a nighttime and early morning rescue on November 8 and 9, 1979, when he assisted in removing the crew of a Japanese fishing vessel which had been grounded by a storm beneath the cliffs of Tolstoi Point, St. Paul Island, Alaska.

Chief Warrant Officer Edward H. Wassell, Jr., the rescue boat's skipper, also has been awarded the Coast Guard Medal.

Petty Officer Greer was cited for his efforts as coxswain of a Coast Guard motor lifeboat engaged in the rescue of two men from a barge which had been

grounded in a severe storm near Little Egg Inlet, N.J., on January 5, 1980.

The lifeboat's other crewmen receiving Coast Guard Medals were Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Christopher P. Truppa, Machinery Technician 3rd Class Eric M. Langstaff, Seaman Darryl G. Quinn, and Seaman Apprentice Robert M. White.

Foster received his award for outstanding meritorious service in December 1979 while serving as coxswain of a Coast Guard motor lifeboat which was involved in the rescue of nine men from a tug foundering in stormy weather and drifting into shallow water off Absecon Inlet, N.J.

Other Coast Guard personnel who have received the Air Medal since late 1979 were Lt. Cmdr. John H. Burger, Lt. Cmdr. Kyle E. Jones III, Lt. Cmdr. Michael P.



MELVIN



CIANCAGLINI



WILSON



GREER



FOSTER

Lovett, Lt. Charles R. Brown, Lt. Stephen P. Ziomek, Aviation Machinist's Mate 1st Class Michael K. Holland, Aviation Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Kevin J. Steinbrink, and Aviation Machinist's Mate 3rd Class David L. Miller.

Others receiving Coast Guard Medals in the last year were Chief Warrant Officer John S. Miller, Chief Boatswain's Mate David N. Duren, Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Robert S. Walters, Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Dave Edwards, Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class William R. Swank, Machinery Technician 2nd Class Jeffrey A. Kleuskens, Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Charles C. Weaver III, Seaman Michael A. Rhodes, and Seaman Apprentice Michael D. Gray.

Awarded the Meritorious Service Medal with the Operational Distinguishing Device were Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Charles E. Bartell and Electrician's Mate 3rd Class Larry C. Clutter.

Handicapped Worker Honored

Last year's handicapped award winner said that a handicapped person has to do more than others in order to prove himself. This year's winner probably would have done more than others, even if he weren't handicapped.

Robert L. Sturla has proven himself time and time again by going that extra mile in his duties as Recreation Assistant at the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center in Petaluma, Calif. As a result, he has been chosen as the Department of Transportation's outstanding handicapped employee.

Since joining the Coast Guard on a full-time basis in January 1978, Sturla has shown a tremendous amount of courage and inspiration in helping other young people get involved in sports activities, even though he no longer can participate in sports.

The 23-year-old employee was injured during a junior varsity football scrimmage at the age of 15 and was paralyzed from his neck down. He is classified as a quadriplegic, with no motor use of his hands and legs, and is restricted to a wheelchair for mobility.

Sturla says of the accident, "I made up my mind immediately that I would become self-sufficient and not a burden to society." He continued with his school class and graduated in June 1974. For three summers, he worked as a summer aide in the gymnasium at the Coast Guard Training Center in Petaluma.

He obtained an Associate of Arts Degree in 1977 and is currently working towards his Bachelor of Arts degree in management at Sonoma State University.

His superiors are quick to point out that Sturla's pleasant attitude and good humor are contagious. He is an inspiration to all the young people at the Petaluma Center.

Sturla lives with his parents in Petaluma. His hobbies include watching all kinds of sports. He particularly enjoys swimming meets and is a season ticket holder for the San Francisco 49ers. Sturla also enjoys reading athletic journals, short stories, mysteries, and economics and management research books. He has two sisters who are living away from home.



STURLA

