

Jimmy Colbert Memorial Award

“By their works you shall know them.”

James (Jimmy) Colbert was a Charter Member of Maryland Chapter B, and served in several positions during his GWRRA tenure. At the time of his passing (1997) Jimmy served as the Maryland Assistant District Director and was looking forward to moving up to District Director. Jimmy loved GWRRA and he promoted GWRRA to whomever he met. Jimmy met no strangers, and he was always willing to lend a helping hand to those that needed.

To honor the memory of Jimmy in 1998 the MD District established the Jimmy Colbert Memorial Award. This award is presented to an outstanding person or couple in the Maryland GWRRA each year. While it is recognized that all members within GWRRA are outstanding, there remain those few, who continue to go beyond in helping others and exemplifying the GWRRA motto, “Friends for fun, safety and knowledge”. This award is presented to the best of the best in recognition for their contributions.

Only one award is presented each year, and it is presented at the Maryland District “Winterthing”. The member(s) receiving this award does not have to prove him or herself by any type of test or oral presentation, nor do they have to present themselves in any way after they have been nominated. In fact, it is preferred that it be kept a secret from the person(s) who have been nominated.

A committee is appointed by the District Director each year to select the recipient from those that have been nominated. Upon selection, the nominator will be contacted to ensure that the recipient(s) attends the District Winterthing for presentation of the award. At Winterthing, the awardee(s) will be recognized as follows:

- The recipient’s name(s) and year of the award is engraved on the large Jimmy Colbert Memorial Award Plaque, is displayed at Winterthing.
- The recipient(s) receives a personal engraved plaque indicating the award.
- The recipient(s) receive an engraved Jimmy Colbert Award Medallion.

The following persons have been honored as recipients of the Jimmy Colbert Memorial Award:

1998 - Charles & Jean Schappet, Chapter I
1999 - Mike & Brenda Harley, Chapter I
2000 - Dave & Virginia Bohrer, Chapter F
2001 - Allan & Judy Phillips, Chapter D
2002 - Fred & Judy Haynes, Chapter A
2003 - Bruce & Julia Malson, Chapter B
2004 – Hampton & ShaRon Conway, Chapter B
2005 – Charles & Shirley Dorsey, Chapter B
2006 – Alan and Gwen Willingham, Chapter J
2007 – Dave and Gloria Pumphrey, Chapter C
2008 – Ray and Cheryl Hartman, Chapter I
2009 – Dan and Brigid Kenney, Chapter I
2010 – Tom and Gail McCormick, Chapter A
2011 – Rick and Gerry Yager, Chapter I
2012 – Sue Miller, Chapter H
2013 – Bob and Julie Ahearn, Chapter I
2014 – Bruce Hill and Regina Smith, Chapter B
2015 – Lillian Cruz, Chapter B
2016 – Kenneth and Deidre Trass, Chapter B
2017 – Terry Gardner, Chapter J

RULES FOR THE JIMMY COLBERT MEMORIAL AWARD ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Nominee(s) must be a full or associate member(s) of GWRRA, Maryland District with membership fees paid in full for the year they are nominated.

Nominator(s) need not necessarily be GWRRA officers, but they must be a full or associate member(s) of the GWRRA, MD District, with membership fees paid for the year in which they submit their nomination.

Nominator(s) must compile a nomination package that consists of:

- A written dissertation giving reasons why they believe the person(s) nominated should receive this award. Be as comprehensive as possible, giving as many details and reasons that support the nomination.
- The nominator's GWRRA Membership Number, as well as the nominee's GWRRA Membership Number; and
- The nominator's address and phone number must be included as part of the nomination submission.

The nomination packages must be forwarded the District Director to be received at the District Director's address. The District Director will establish a selection committee who will review all nomination packages received no later than November 15th. Each committee member will review and grade each nomination package, using the attached grading sheet. Each committee member will return the nomination packages and completed grading sheets to the District Director no later than December 1st, with their recommendation for the Jimmy Colbert Award recipient(s). The nominee with the most committee votes will be the recipient of the Jimmy Colbert Award.

You may submit your nominations at any time before the due date, but please remember that the **all submissions must be received by the District Director NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15th.**