

# *20 Fighter Wing Association*

## *Awards Program*



*Currently the Association is involved in several award programs. It is our greatest pleasure to identify worthy individuals and organizations which are actively preserving the 20<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's current and past heritage. **The below awards are currently bestowed on civilian and active duty individuals along with various museum's in England.***

### **Aerial Achievement Award**

The Aerial Achievement Award was created in 1997 to recognize noteworthy airmanship by a 20<sup>th</sup> FW pilot during the preceding calendar year. The type and character of airmanship shall be the sole discretion of the 20<sup>th</sup> FW Commander. The award consists of a trophy, inscribed with the name and unit of the winning pilot, a plaque similarly inscribed and a \$500 cash award (from the 20 FWA) that is given to the unit fund to support unit activities. . In addition, each award winner is invited to a 20<sup>th</sup> FWA Reunion. A maximum of \$500 travel money, two hotel nights, and the banquet dinner is provided for Award winner and spouse.

23 Pilots have earned the award through year 2019. The award for 2020 will be presented during the last half of 2021.

# Force MULTIPLIER Award

The Force MULTIPLIER Award was created in 2008 after Board discussion at the 2007 Denver Reunion. The idea was presented to Col. James Post, 20<sup>th</sup> FW Commander, who gave his approval. Criteria for the award shall be a noteworthy contribution to the mission of the 20<sup>th</sup> FW by an enlisted member of the "20<sup>th</sup> FW during the preceding calendar year. The type and character of this contribution shall be at the sole discretion of the 20<sup>th</sup> FW Commander". The Command Chief will also be involved in the selection process. The award consists of a trophy, inscribed with the name and unit of the winning enlisted person, a plaque similarly inscribed and a \$500 cash award (from the 20 FWA) that is given to the unit fund to support unit activities. In addition, each award winner is invited to a 20<sup>th</sup> FWA Reunion. A maximum of \$500 travel money, two hotel nights, and the banquet dinner is provided for award winner and spouse. 11 enlisted members have earned the award through 2018. Unfortunately, no award was presented for 2019. The award for 2020 will be presented during the last half of 2021.



Force Multiplier Award

Aerial Achievement Award

# *Base Support Enhancement Award Guidelines*

*The 20th Fighter Wing Association's Base Support Enhancement Award is targeted to DOD civilian or base volunteer who made a significant contribution to the overall mission, health, and moral of Wing personnel during the previous year. This award is to recognize "behind the scenes" personnel.*

*The selection process is initiated during the first month of the calendar year by the 20th Fighter Wing Commander with input from squadron/group commanders containing DOD civilians or volunteers. The method of selection is at the sole discretion of the Commander.*

*The winner will receive a personalized plaque that is engraved with their name and position. Additionally, the winner will select a federal charity such as the Air Force Assistance Fund (AFAF) or a "for us, by us" fund to receive a check for \$500 from the 20FWA. The 20th Fighter Wing Association will pay all costs for the Award. The award is presented by the 20th Fighter Wing Commander after the winner is selected, the personalized plaque is engraved, and the Federal charity has been identified.*



# *Wethersfield Airfield Museum Outstanding Service Award*



*Comments from Ross Stewart, Museum Curator*

*Wethersfield Airfield Museum, is honored to accept the award from the 20th Fighter Wing Association, we will display it with pride. For thousands of USAF personnel it would be home for 2 or 3 years, and a record number of Anglo American marriages took place, those families now when visiting England like to take a trip down memory lane. At the museum we try to make each visit as personal as possible, the volunteers have a wide range of knowledge and experience, there are items and stories on display and if possible a guided tour including a work place, married quarter, accommodation, social area or a drive on the runway is the highlight for many visitors. We hope when the MOD handover the base in 2025 the developers will include a permanent Heritage Centre where we can continue to preserve Wethersfield Airfield history and welcome visitors for many more years.*

# Upper Heyford Heritage Centre Outstanding Service Award



## Comments by Nick Forder, Center Curator

As the home of the 20<sup>th</sup> TFW/FW from 1970 until 1993, Upper Heyford will be very familiar to many of you. I am sure you will agree that it is an ideal place to remember the impressive aviation heritage of the 20<sup>th</sup> TFW/FW.

Building on previous volunteer efforts at Heyford we established a regular airbase tour program in 2018 and opened the Heritage Centre (Building 103) in 2019. We are now waiting for Covid Regulations to allow us to re-open and stay open.

We are always looking for Heyford photographs, uniforms, stories and memorabilia. We are collecting Heyford Veteran photos for our Upper Heyford Heritage Facebook page. We are looking for Veterans to be airbase tour guides. If you can help support us at all please contact us at [uhheritage@outlook.com](mailto:uhheritage@outlook.com) and we look forward to welcoming you as visitors.



# Bentwaters Cold War Museum Outstanding Service Award



## Comments from Simon Gladas, Museum Curator

The twin bases of RAF Bentwaters and RAF Woodbridge will be forever linked by their shared history. The Bentwaters Cold War Museum, located in the former Command Post at Bentwaters, is making every effort to record as much as possible to ensure it is not forgotten.

Back in 2003 a bunch of passionate Brits got together to form the Bentwaters Aviation Society and from that evolved the museum that opened in 2007 thanks to the support of the owners of the site, the same family that farmed some of the land before WWII.

We have a room dedicated to Woodbridge and a section on the 79th which we want to extend. The history of both bases is one of incredible variety and to have the 79th and its Tiger connection is another significant feature.

Collecting the stories, photos and memorabilia to record the history is our passion and we welcome anyone from the 20th to share these with us. Contact Simon Gladas via email [simon.gladas@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:simon.gladas@hotmail.co.uk) and check out the website [www.bcwm.org.uk](http://www.bcwm.org.uk) for more information.