

Vandenberg stars shine at banquet

By MASTER SGT. TY FOSTER
30th Space Wing Public Affairs

Team Vandenberg recognized their "best" during the annual awards banquet Feb. 21 at the Pacific Coast Club. More than 400 people were on hand to congratulate winners from the 30th Space Wing and associate units.

In early February, selection boards met to evaluate nomination packages for the airman, NCO, senior NCO, first sergeant and company grade officer categories. After conducting interviews with the nominees, the board members selected the top nominees from the 30th SW and associate units. From those two categories, the boards selected the Team Vandenberg winner.

The airman, NCO, senior NCO and first sergeant Team Vandenberg annual award winners were evaluated by 14th Air Force officials Feb. 22 as part of the Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year selection process.

Nominees for the Honor Guard, civilian and volunteer of the year categories are not interviewed by a selection board. Their selection is based on their nomination packages. Honor Guard nominees are constantly evaluated for dress and appearance, the number of details attended and performance during weekly practice sessions.

The 30th SW and associate unit winners are:

- ♦ Associate Unit Airman of the Year
Senior Airman Brett Fincher—533rd Training Squadron
- ♦ 30th Space Wing Airman of the Year
Senior Airman Eryn McConnell—30th Medical Operations Squadron
- ♦ Associate Unit NCO of the Year
Tech. Sgt. Edward Palacios—Det. 9, Space and Missile Systems Center
- ♦ 30th Space Wing NCO of the Year
Tech. Sgt. Eric Sandoval—30th Transportation Squadron
- ♦ Associate Unit Senior NCO of the Year
Senior Master Sgt. Andrew Cederle—614th Space Operations Squadron
- ♦ 30th Space Wing Senior NCO of the Year
Master Sgt. Steven Wilson—30th Range Squadron
- ♦ Associate Unit First Sergeant of the Year
Senior Master Sgt. Terry Sawyer—576th Flight Test Squadron
- ♦ 30th Space Wing First Sergeant of the Year
Master Sgt. Brian Robertson—30th Mission Support Squadron
- ♦ Associate Unit Company Grade Officer of the Year
Capt. Edmund Bohn—381st Training Support Squadron
- ♦ 30th Space Wing Company Grade Officer of the Year
2nd Lt. Christina Steele—30th Communications Squadron
- ♦ Honor Guard Airman of the Year
Senior Airman Romeo Orio—30th Civil Engineer Squadron
- ♦ Honor Guard NCO of the Year
Staff Sgt. Glenn McAlister—576th Flight Test Squadron
- ♦ Category One Civilian of the Year
Brenda Anderson—30th Comptroller Squadron
- ♦ Category Two Civilian of the Year
Regina Ward—533rd Training Squadron
- ♦ Active-Duty/DoD Civilian Volunteer of the Year
Master Sgt. Charles Gerard—2nd Space Launch Squadron
- ♦ Civilian/Family Member Volunteer of the Year
Darlene Horne—30th Mission Support Squadron



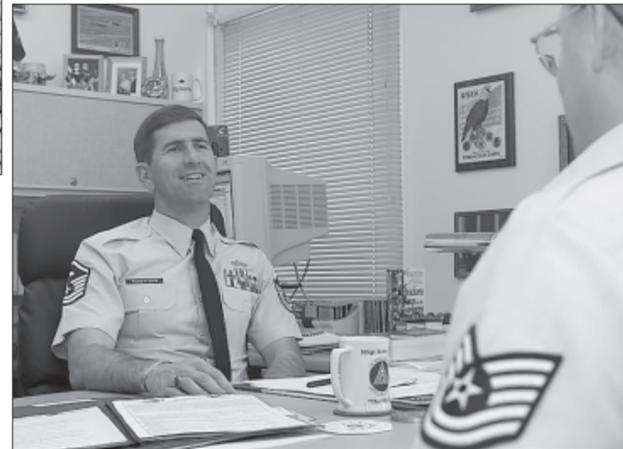
Staff Sgt. Glenn McAlister, Vandenberg Honor Guard NCO of the Year, is the NCOIC of generation flight information management in the 576th Flight Test Squadron.



Brenda Anderson, Category One Civilian of the Year, is a financial analyst with the 30th Comptroller Squadron.



Master Sgt. Steven Wilson (above right), Team Vandenberg Senior NCO of the Year, is the operations superintendent for the 30th Range Squadron.



Senior Airman Romeo Orio, Vandenberg Honor Guard Airman of the Year, is a utilities apprentice assigned to the 30th Civil Engineer Squadron.

(Right) Master Sgt. Brian Robertson, Team Vandenberg First Sergeant of the Year, serves the men and women of the 30th Mission Support Squadron and 30th Space Wing staff agencies.



Senior Airman Eryn McConnell, Team Vandenberg Airman of the Year, is a mental health services professional in the 30th Medical Operations Squadron.



Staff Sgt. Eric Sandoval, Team Vandenberg NCO of the Year, is a vehicle body mechanic assigned to the 30th Transportation Squadron.



Darlene Horne, Civilian/Family Member Volunteer of the Year, volunteers her time at the family support center's food pantry. She's been an Air Force volunteer for more than 30 years.



Capt. Edmund Bohn, Team Vandenberg Company Grade Officer of the Year, is the chief of the instructor training element for the 381st Training Support Squadron Faculty Development Flight.



Regina Ward, Category Two Civilian of the Year, is a resource adviser in the 533rd Training Squadron.



Master Sgt. Charles Gerard (right), Active-Duty/DoD Civilian Volunteer of the Year, is the NCOIC of the spacecraft section in the 2nd Space Launch Squadron.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
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