

# MARINE NAVAL FLIGHT OFFICER OF THE YEAR



## THE ROBERT GUY ROBINSON AWARD

Presented by THE MARINE CORPS AVIATION ASSOCIATION to

Established in Memory of  
**Medal of Honor Recipient**  
 Robert Guy Robinson,  
 a WW I Marine Aviator and Pioneer  
 of the Naval Flight Officer Specialty.

In Recognition of The Most Outstanding  
 Contribution Made to Marine Aviation,  
 Whether in Combat, Research and  
 Development, Weapons Employment or to  
 Overall Marine Aviation, by a Naval Flight  
 Officer in Marine Aviation.



**NORTHROP GRUMMAN  
 AEROSPACE SYSTEMS**

- |                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2010 Capt John Cimina        | 1990 Maj John A. Blum            |
| 2009 Capt Brian A. Adams     | 1989 Capt Mark F. McKeon         |
| 2008 Maj Anthony Baggs       | 1988 Maj Terry L. Breithaupt     |
| 2007 Maj H.W. Qualkinbush    | 1987 Maj Michael I. Mott         |
| 2006 Capt J. L. Purdon       | 1986 LtCol Joseph C. Garbrous    |
| 2005 Capt M. D. Williams     | 1985 LtCol Richard C. Kindsfater |
| 2004 Capt Charles B. Dockery | 1984 LtCol James E. French       |
| 2003 Maj Joseph E. Maybach   | 1983 Maj Wayne A. Stanley        |
| 2002 Maj J.A. Craft          | 1982 Maj David Vanesselstyn      |
| 2001 Maj John H. Pylant      | 1981 Maj George P. Sweeney III   |
| 2000 Maj Chris Pappas, III   | 1980 Capt Gary P. Newell         |
| 1999 Maj David A. DeMorat    | 1979 Maj Richard G. Hoopes       |
| 1998 Capt John P. Farnam     | 1978 Maj Leonard R. Fuchs Jr.    |
| 1997 Capt Francisco M. Ball  | 1977 LtCol Gerland C. Lindgren   |
| 1996 Maj Justin B. Orabona   | 1976 Maj O. E. Hay               |
| 1995 LtCol Jeffrey A. White  | 1975 CWO3 Don E. Diederich       |
| 1994 Maj Barry B. Bizzell    | 1974 Maj William T. Bridgham Jr. |
| 1993 LtCol Terry G. Robling  | 1973 CWO3 John C. Bardon         |
| 1992 Maj Henry J. Krauss     | 1972 Capt William D. Carr Jr.    |
| 1991 Maj Richard J. Findlay  | 1971 Capt John D. Cummings       |

MAJOR

**MARC E. BLANKENBICKER**



### Award Citation

Major Marc E. Blankenbicker's coordination with outside agencies provided crucial feedback on system improvements and integrations, ultimately facilitating the first deployment of the aircraft while serving as KC-130J Harvest HAWK (Hercules Airborne Weapons Kit) program and training development officer and Fire Control Officer from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2010. His efforts improved aircraft reaction time to target attack requests and directly contributed to the first combat Hellfire missile employment from a KC-130J, resulting in five Enemy Killed in Action. Major Blankenbicker developed the Training and Readiness manual, planned and executed the first Harvest HAWK flight training syllabus, and provided instruction on weapons systems and Close Air Support tactics and procedures. Under his leadership, Harvest HAWK crews completed 25 certification sorties and executed 15 laser guided missile shoots. In combat, the aircraft executed 30 close air support sorties, totaling over 150 hours. Major Blankenbicker's initiative, perseverance, and total dedication to duty reflected great credit upon him and upheld the highest traditions of Marine Corps aviation.



21 May 2011