

NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER LEADERSHIP AWARD



THE JAMES E. NICHOLSON AWARD

Presented by THE MARINE CORPS AVIATION ASSOCIATION to

Established in Honor of James E. Nicholson, Considered the "Father of the MCAA," Who Served with Distinction as a Member of the First Aeronautic Company during WW I.

In Recognition of
The Most Significant Example of Leadership Demonstrated by a Noncommissioned Officer in Marine Aviation.



RAYTHEON

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|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2009 Sgt Thomas M. Reed | 1992 SSgt Robert G. Meserve |
| 2008 GySgt Arthur W. Cochran | 1991 GySgt William R. Shearer |
| 2007 GySgt Brian J. O'Toole | 1990 MGySgt John E. Merchant |
| 2006 Sgt E. J. Amezcuitazamora | 1989 MGySgt Robert D. Targett |
| 2005 GySgt Anthony Garcia | 1988 GySgt George C. Johnson |
| 2004 GySgt Marvin M. Magcale | 1987 MSgt Tommy Lane Jr. |
| 2003 GySgt Vincent F. Young | 1986 MSgt William R. Griffith |
| 2002 GySgt R. J. Watson | 1985 MSgt Daniel Smith III |
| 2001 SSgt Daniel W. Annunziata | 1984 MSgt James W. Varney |
| 2000 SSgt Trisha A. Schmidt | 1983 Sgt John A. Lopresti |
| 1999 MGySgt Jeffery A. Davis | 1982 MSgt Robert MacLaughlin |
| 1998 SSgt Rosa A. Clarke | 1981 GySgt John K. Jones |
| 1997 Sgt Sarah L. Hart | 1980 MSgt Donald J. Turk |
| 1996 Sgt Daniel C. Gutierrez | 1979 MSgt Hershal A. Buchann |
| 1995 GySgt Clayton T. Kribs | 1978 MSgt Edward D. Boyd |
| 1994 GySgt Timothy P. Hinger | 1977 Sgt David L. Ford |
| 1993 SSgt Michael A. Hoffman | |

SERGEANT RYAN FUSS



Award Citation

Sergeant Ryan Fuss demonstrated meritorious service while serving as Team Leader, Expeditionary Airfields Branch, Airfield Operations Company, Marine Wing Support Squadron 371, Marine Aircraft Support Group 37, 3d Marine Aircraft Wing from 01 January, to 31 December 2009. Sgt Fuss was directly responsible for leading 22 EAF Marines in the installation of over 2.3 million square feet of Aluminum Matting Two (AM2) during both peacetime and in support of Operation Enduring Freedom 9.01, which included the second largest AM2 expanse ever constructed--the largest in a combat environment--located at Joint Operating Base Bastion, Afghanistan. Throughout, Sgt Fuss ensured that motivation and efficiency never dropped despite the difficult conditions, harsh environment, minimal resources, and demanding timelines. In addition, Sgt Fuss's leadership in conducting helicopter landing zone site surveys throughout the Helmand Province had a direct impact on the aviation response time to Marines on the ground for both casualty evacuation and close air support operations. Sergeant Fuss's initiative, perseverance and total dedication to duty reflected credit upon him and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.



22 May 2010