

Previous Lasswell Award winners

2006

Gary Ford, PEO C4I/PMW-170
ATI Stephen Ryan, AIMD North Island
LT Stephen Vossler, SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific

2007

ET1 Christopher Cooke, SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific
Gerald Robertson, Marine Corps Base 29 Palms
CDR Kurt Rothenhaus, PEO C4I/PMW 750

2008

LT Christopher Anderson, SPAWAR Systems Center, Pacific
Major Billy Cornell, USMC, Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity
Callis Goodrich, SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific

2009

Keith Askew, Fleet Readiness Center Southwest
Richard Caccese, Commander Naval Surface Forces
Wendy Massey, SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific
Kris Witbrodt, SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific

2010

LCDR Ernan S. Obellos, Fleet Industrial Supply Center
LT Derrick Rolland, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific
Thomas Tanin, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific
Donald Tomasoski, Commander Naval Air Forces

2011

CW03 Thomas Muschamp, USMC, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing
FC2 Joshua Murphy, USS Dewey (DDG 105)
FC2 Orion Foeller, USS Dewey (DDG 105)
Captain James Regan, Marine Corps Tactical Support Activity
CW02 Justin Mosley, USMC, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing

2012

ITCS Jeremy Morris, SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific
CWO3 Hobert Reid, SPAWAR
Captain Peter Young, Marine Corps Tactical Support Systems Activity

2013

Denny Duong, SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific
Minh-Van Oyama, Amphibious Vehicle Test Branch
Jodi Visosky, Fleet Readiness Center Southwest

2014

ENS David W. Goulet, Naval Special Warfare Command
Ryohei Kinoshita, SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific
Andrew Palek, Fleet Readiness Center Southwest
IT1 Joe Tran, Naval Special Warfare Command

2015

SSgt Derik Holley, VMM-161 (REIN)
STG1(SW) Matthew Land, USS Sampson (DDG 102)
STGC(SW) Benjamin Lebron, USS Fitzgerald (DDG 62)
AT1 Jonathan Lukesh, USS Essex (LHD 2)

2016

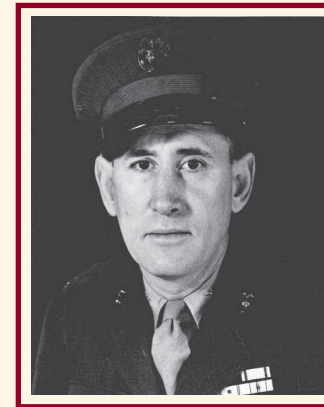
GySgt Jacob Anderson, MACG-38
Brett Gardner, Fleet Readiness Center Southwest
CWO2 Emedin Rivera III, I MIG 9 Comm Bn
Robert Sparks, Naval Sea Systems Command

2017

CTR1 (SW) Edward Davis, Naval Special Warfare Command
Major Scott Fortner, MCTSSA
Taryn Gillion, PMW-790
Todd Jarvis, FRCSW

2018

SWO 1st Class Bradley Denn, USN, Naval Special Warfare Command
Major Paxton Miller, USMC, Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity
Stephen Cox, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific
Tamika Clay-Jefferson, Fleet Readiness Center Southwest



The A. Bryan Lasswell Award for Fleet Support October 8, 2019

Presenting Officer
Rear Admiral Fred I. Pyle
Commander, Carrier Strike Group Three

This award recognizes mid-level military and government employees who have changed outcomes for the fleet through technology innovation or in-service engineering.



NDIA San Diego Chapter
www.ndia-sd.org





Dennis Bermeo
Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific

The ability for our submarines to detect sensitive radio signals is critical to their role in surveillance operations. Making sure that the antennas supporting this mission are operating at peak efficiency is essential. As the leader of the Submarine Mast Broadband Antenna (SuMBA) group at Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific, Mr. Dennis Bermeo led a team of engineers and technicians in rapidly designing, prototyping, and demonstrating at sea a new broadband antenna with increased sensitivity. Showing technical innovation, he optimized a new antenna lens design

and mentored his design team in the adaptation of new and imaginative approaches to implementing the new design. He advocated the use of additive manufacturing to accelerate the design/test cycle and conducted comprehensive performance testing to ensure the system delivered to the warfighter was robust, reliable, and cost effective. The rapid prototyping processes adopted by the SuMBA team cut the development costs of this antenna by a factor of eight. By 3-D printing and metal plating prototype antenna parts during the design process, the team was able to cut development time from months to weeks. This time savings allowed the SuMBA team to rapidly transition to fleet experimentation, enhancing warfighter effectiveness by allowing previously undetectable signals of interest to be detected, identified, and exploited. Mr. Bermeo's technical understanding and leadership led to the award of three patents for SuMBA antenna design. Mr. Bermeo's leadership took SuMBA antenna redesign from concept to installation in under 18 months. The team's close work with stakeholders and their skill in leveraging in-house expertise on rapid prototyping, demonstrated efficiency and rapid deployment was recognized at the highest levels of Navy. ■



Captain Benjamin Brida, USMC
Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity
(MCTSSA)

When Captain Benjamin Brida graduated with a dual major in Physics and Mathematics from Johns Hopkins University, he little knew these interests would help him change the way the United States Marine Corps gathers the information it needs. In 2018, after receiving an MS degree in Electrical Engineering from Naval Postgraduate School, Captain Brida was sent to MCTSSA and established a Tactical Artificial Intelligence Cell (TAIC). The pilot project for the Cell was inspired by a need to

provide situational awareness of world events for the I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) Commanding General. A read-board was established however it required multiple analysts and many labor hours to develop, format and disseminate each report. Captain Brida knew there had to be a better process to generate a read-board for I MEF. He observed the workload and understood that technical solutions could be developed to automate this task. Capt Brida was assigned a small team of civilian computer scientists with no background or experience in this discipline. He trained, guided and led the team to successfully deliver this capability in a just a few months.

Today, the read-board is fully automated and produced in under 10 minutes. The daily product is accurate and complete. The total man-hour savings devoted to this task exceeds 1,000 hours and grows every day. The Marine Corps has benefited from an enhanced readiness state due to the man-hour savings associated with performing this task, enabling Marines to focus on efforts of greater significance. ■

Alyssa Zamora

Fleet Readiness Center Southwest (FRCSW)

The United States Navy's most prolific jet fighter and land attack plane, the F/A-18 Super Hornet, had experienced critical failures to its jet engine bay door, limiting the combat capability of the USS STENNIS Aircraft Carrier Strike Group. Three Super Hornets had been grounded awaiting repairs, which depending upon the availability of advanced composite materials, special repair equipment, and certified technicians took between 3 weeks and 6 months. Also, post repair inspection failure rates had approached nearly 50%, exacerbating an intolerable situation. The Super Hornet Fleet Support Team approached Ms. Alyssa Zamora, a Materials Engineer with NAVAIR Fleet Readiness Center Southwest, to see if she could develop a solution. Ms. Zamora wasted no time in assembling a team of technicians to quickly create new repair and inspection procedures that improved repair times by 30% and reduced inspection failures to than 10%. Her team conceived of a long-term solution that replaced the highly complex doubled-sided carbon-fiber repairs with a patch created from a 3-D printed mold. These new repair kits and procedures reduced repairs from 3 weeks to 3 days, and reduce failure rates to less than 5%. Finally, Ms. Zamora set out to address the limiting factor of only a few highly trained and certified engine bay door repair technicians, none of whom were Fleet personnel. She developed a pilot program to certify a 1st Class Petty Officer Aircraft Mechanic, along with an apprenticeship path for additional on-the-job training, resulting in the first Navy Sailor ever to be depot level certified for composite structural repair of the Super Hornet. Ms. Zamora and her team's efforts restored three ground Fleet assets and substantially improved the operational availability of the Navy's fleet of Super Hornet aircraft. ■



LT Angeli Rodriguez, SC, USN

Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), Aviation, San Diego

For decades the Naval Air Force averaged between 250-260 Mission Capable F-18 Super Hornets. In August of 2018 Commander Naval Air Force set a goal of 341 MC aircraft out of 545. The Navy Sustainment System was examining how repair turnaround time (RTAT) could be reduced. The goal was to establish an optimal repair parts availability to reduce material delays. Using industry component repair best practices, the piece parts, tools, fixtures, and other required materials and information, known as a Build-Set or Kit, were made available to the artisan within the immediate work area. The concept is using these Build-Sets for each repair to drive RTAT lower. LT Rodriguez was assigned to spearhead the planning and implementation of the Build-Sets using the Hydraulics shop as the pilot. She organized a tiger team with key personnel from DLA Aviation, DLA Distribution, Naval Supply Systems Command, Weapons Systems Support and Fleet Readiness Center Southwest to effectively and efficiently review Bill of Materials to conduct supportability analysis, and re-warehouse inventory in order to support production. Once the Kits were complete and processed in the system, they were moved into the cage next to the artisan's shop for daily use. The pre-positioned material promoted immediate material availability, more visibility on high demand requirements, and ultimately succeeded in a higher rate of component repairs for Fleet use. Today, enabled by LT Rodriguez' efforts, there are over 300 Mission Capable Super Hornets. ■

