

ABMA LIVING LEGEND AWARD

The AB Living Legend Award was created several years ago to recognize those folks who have made a significant impact on the AB community, AB's in general, etc. This award is intended to recognize our personal heroes, those folks that made an impact on our personal lives and career — this is the guy who took you when you were a "greenie," still wet behind the ears and turned you into a professional, dedicated Sailor. The AB Living Legend Award is awarded to those legends still living. Chances are, if there was someone who made a substantial impact in others lives. This is our opportunity to recognize that AB.

A separate award is given posthumously to an AB who has made an impact but has subsequently passed away. See below for particulars.

"Awarded in recognition of those who have gone before and made our way easier."

The AB Living Legend Award is presented annually during the ABMA Symposium. The recipients name will remain undisclosed until the actual presentation.

Eligibility:

- Must have served on active duty as an Aviation Boatswain's Mate.
- Must have performed service(s) which had impact on the AB community, the ABMA, or the Naval service.
- Must be honorably separated or retired for a period of not less than five years.

Selection:

- Selection board will be staffed by five active duty and retired AB's only appointed by the ABMA President.
- Names of potential recipients will be received from the AB community at large.
- Nominations shall include name, length of service, separation/retirement date, and a brief biography of service.
- Nominations must be received by the ABMA President no later than 1 June of the year of nomination.
- Nomination inputs not selected during a particular symposium will remain in the nomination pool and reviewed annually with new nomination inputs.

Posthumous Legends

AMENDMENT AUGUST 1994

All the above criteria applies, but of course this award is unique in that we will now have the family of the deceased accepting this award for our posthumous AB. This award will be due by 1 May annually, and will go back in the selection if not selection for the award. The selection is made by late May so family members can make advance plans to attend the August symposium to accept the award if they desire.

SEE GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION.

AB LEGENDS NOMINATION GUIDELINES

1. Enlist the help of a close relative of the nominee. So much of the information that should be included is in the possession of the nominee. Since the nomination is to be kept a secret, you need some means of access to factual data, e.g., a close relative (spouse, son, daughter, etc.).

2. Navy career should be listed chronologically from date of enlistment, such as:

2-60 to 12-61 Boot Camp, Airman School "A" School	AR - AN
1-62 to 4-63 USS BOGUS	AB3
5-63 to 12-66 USS MIDWAY	AB2

3. List all awards (civilian and military) received.

4. List all organizations the nominee is involved in.

5. List anything above and beyond that the nominee may have done for the ABMA, e.g., served on the Board of Directors; regional or chapter officer; organized a symposium, supported the organization of local chapters, etc.

6. List any and all outstanding accomplishments during the nominee's Naval career. These might include the implementation of a particular program that improved safety, etc.

7. Once you have all the facts, you need to make a personal statement about the nominee. This personal statement is the heart of the nomination and carries the most weight; the facts merely support this statement of worthiness. You need to put in your own words what this individual has contributed to the AB community that makes him eligible to receive one of our highest accolades. It may be something as simple as a history of turning young Airman into dedicated, loyal professionals, or it may be something as complex as saving lives during a catastrophic flight deck fire. It may also be as it was with our first recipient of the AB Living Legend Award — there isn't a person around who has devoted more time and energy, more of himself to the ABMA, than Willie Gann — Willie is the ABMA and a true "AB Living Legend."

In summary:

If you have recognized that there is indeed a Living Legend in your life, we recommend you take the time and effort to put into words your feelings, observations, and facts that made you come to your conclusion. You need not be eloquent, but you must tell us what it is that makes this nominee a "legend" in your own eyes. Keep in mind what Webster says about the words "legend" and "legendary":

"Legend — a notable person whose deeds or exploits are much talked about in his or her own time; and, the stories told about the exploits of such a person..."

"Legendary — remarkable; extraordinary..."