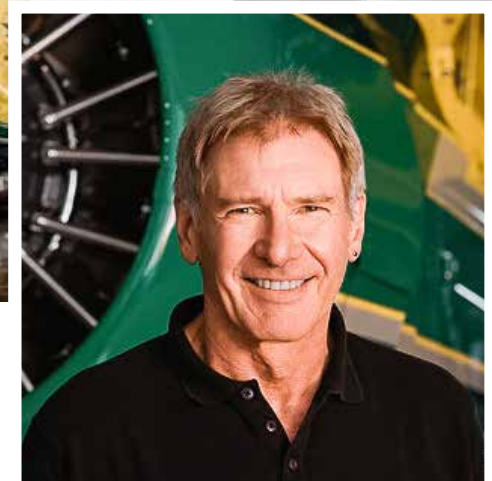


The Aileron

June, 2022

Official Publication of the Aero Club of Southern California



HARRISON FORD

43rd Howard Hughes Memorial Award Winner

Harrison Ford, a renowned actor, is also a licensed fixed-wing aircraft and helicopter pilot. He began flight training in the 1960s flying in a Piper PA-22 Tri-Pacer, but at \$15 an hour, he could not afford to continue the training. In the mid 1990s, he bought a used Gulfstream II and asked one of his pilots, Terry Bender, to give him flying lessons. They began flying a Cessna 182 out of Jackson, Wyoming, later switching to flying a Cessna 206, the aircraft in which he made his first solo flight.

He is involved in numerous humanitarian efforts including commanding a 2010 Operation Smile medical volunteer and supply airlift for Haiti earthquake victims. He is an honorary board member of the humanitarian aviation organization, Wings of Hope.

Mr. Ford is a Teton County, Wyoming, volunteer search and rescue helicopter pilot. He has flown his helicopter to rescue sick and stranded hikers.

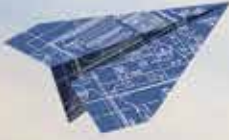
Mr. Ford shared his love of flying with young people serving as the Experimental Aircraft

Association (EAA) Young Eagles program chairman for five years. During this time, he flew more than 280 children in his DHC-2 Beaver. In 2016, he flew the 2 millionth Young Eagle at the EAA convention. He traveled to Washington, D.C. multiple times to fight for pilots' rights.

Mr. Ford currently serves as Vice Chair of Conservation International, an organization whose mission is to spotlight and secure the critical benefits that nature provides to humanity.

Congratulations to Harrison Ford

43RD ANNUAL HOWARD HUGHES MEMORIAL AWARD



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The Aero Club of Southern California is the oldest aero club west of the Mississippi, promoting and supporting aviation and aerospace advancement since its inception in 1908. Last year, we recognized USAF veteran, pilot and out-of-the-box thinker, Richard 'Dick' Rutan as our 2021 Howard Hughes Memorial Award (HHMA) recipient in a beautiful virtual event.

This year, we recognize aviator, Harrison Ford. Well known for his acting career, Mr. Ford is honored this evening for his volunteer and humanitarian efforts, including serving as Experimental Aircraft Association Young Eagles program chairman for five years and volunteering as a search and rescue helicopter pilot. It is our privilege and honor to present Harrison Ford with the 2022 Howard Hughes Memorial Award.

Our annual scholarship and general meeting was held in person at the Flight Path Museum and Learning Center at LAX last November. For the first time in two years, 53 members, guests and scholarship winners enjoyed each other's company, a lovely meal, and conducted club business. Nine high school and college students were presented \$60,000 in scholarship awards.

We are excited to host the 2022 HHMA gala in the stunning Samuel Oschin Space Shuttle Endeavour Pavilion! For the past two years the world changed and we changed with it. When our previous venue wasn't able to commit to hosting events, the Board identified the California Science Center as a perfect place to bring our club and vision into the 21st century. It is fitting we meet and celebrate those who contributed to our nation's aviation and aerospace growth under the wings of NASA's Space Shuttle Endeavour.

The Spruce Goose HK-1 was one of Howard Hughes' greatest aviation contributions. When the Hughes family explored a permanent home for it to reside many museums wanted a piece of it, but none were willing or able to accommodate the complete aircraft. The family sold the aircraft to the Aero Club with the understanding the Club would use the proceeds to finance high school and college scholarships in Mr. Hughes's name. To date, the Aero Club has awarded more than \$535,000 to students pursuing an education in Aviation and Aerospace. Thank you Howard Hughes Family!

This year is the 75th anniversary of the Spruce Goose's flight. The Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum in McMinnville, OR is hosting an event on November 5th to celebrate this achievement. We will share information with members when we receive it.

After 43 years of honoring space and aviation notables the beautiful HHMA trophy needed a make-over. Film maker and artist Jesse Brunt transformed our tired trophy into a piece of artwork again. We're proud to display it here tonight and permanently at Flight Path Museum and Learning Center. Thank you, Jesse!

A bit of additional History:

In 1979, ballooning enthusiasts in Southern California, revived the Gordon Bennett Balloon Races which were held internationally until WWII. Aero Club Board Member, space scientist, and balloonist Thomas Heinsheimer, with the help of other enthusiasts, resurrected the races off the Queen Mary in Long Beach Harbor.

These races are sanctioned by the National Aeronautics Association, USA's representative to the Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI). The Aero Club of Southern California supported these races as stewards and provided control center coverage. In 1989 after the same winner won the race three times, the trophy was theirs to keep and it went to Europe. The Aero Club became the sole sponsor of the last Trophy. It currently resides with the Howard Hughes Memorial Trophy at the Flight Path Museum and Learning Center.

Thank you Aero Club Board of Directors, Executive Officers, and Committee Directors for hours of volunteer work bettering this great organization. The Aero Club is financially solid and able to support important programs into the future. This is your club, we need your involvement and ideas to improve everyone's experience. If you are not a current member, please consider becoming a member and joining us in our ongoing support of Aviation and Aerospace.

Best Regards,

George Butts
President

TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

WELCOME

Suzanne Fuentes
HHMA Director

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

David Zabalaoui
Board Member

INTRODUCTION

George Butts
President

DINNER

AERO CLUB HISTORY

George Butts
President

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Julie Sims
Scholarship Program Director

TRIBUTE

Patrick Carey
Vice President

AWARD PRESENTATION

George Butts
President

RESPONSE

Harrison Ford

CLOSING REMARKS

George Butts
President

THANK YOU

Harrison Ford,

Allegro Catering and Events **Emran Rashid,** Bell Event Services **Michael J. Bell**

Film Makers **Jesse and Michelle Brunt,** California Science Center, Experimental Aircraft Association,
Los Angeles County Supervisor **Holly J. Mitchell** 2nd District, **Bob Smith** Administrator

Studio Printing's **Ed Su, Jen Cullen William** Communications Strategist



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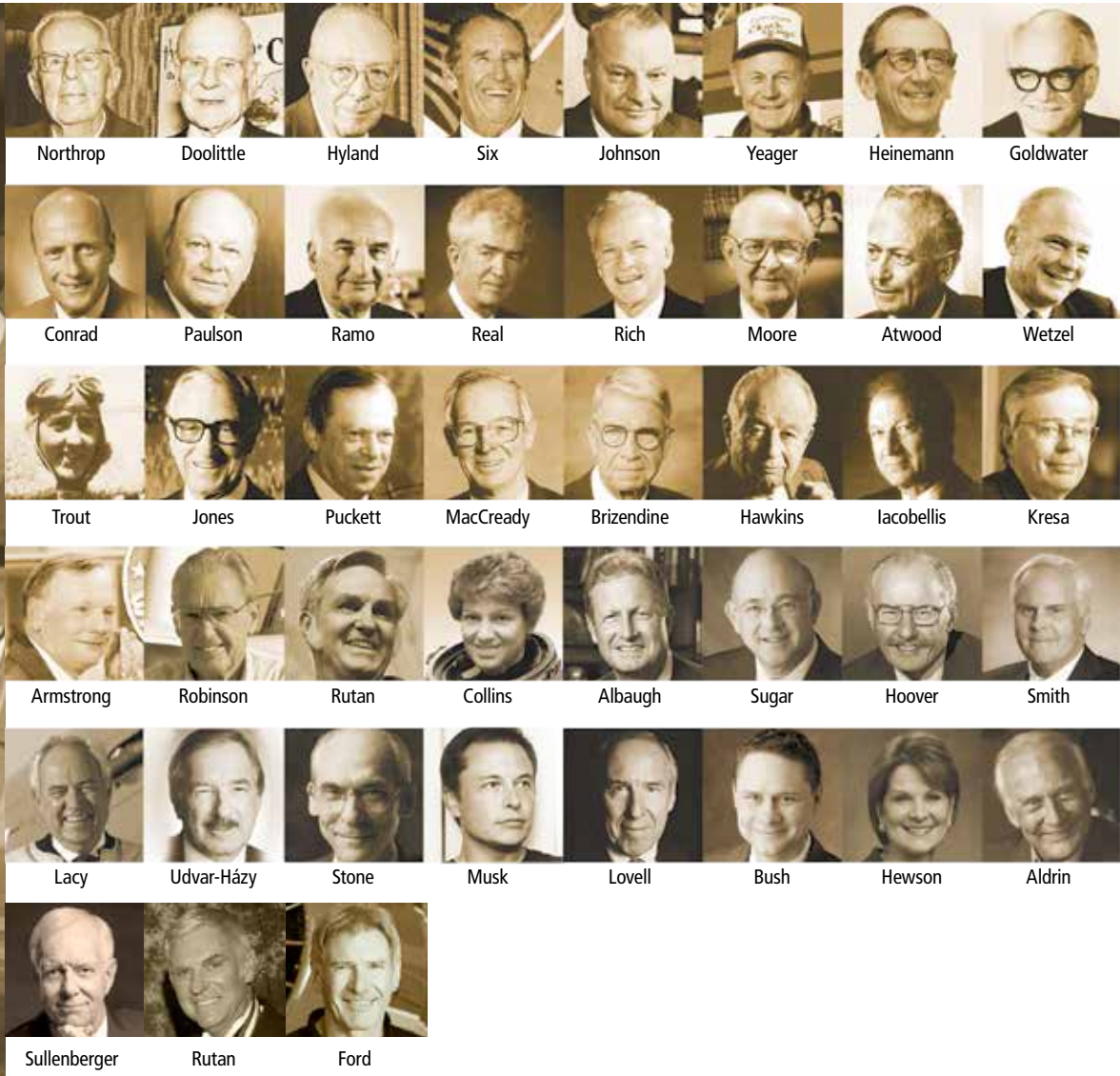
Alvin Leung

Robert E. Smith
Administrator

Raymond Wolfe

David Zabalaoui

The Howard Hughes Memorial Award



The Howard Hughes Memorial Award, created in 1978, is presented annually by the Aero Club of Southern California to an aerospace leader whose accomplishments over a long career have contributed significantly to the advancement of aviation or space technology. The Award was a tribute to Hughes by his first cousin William R. Lummis, chairman and CEO of Summa Corporation.

The 42 recipients, who are pictured above, are a veritable "hall of fame" of industry achievers and luminaries.

The permanent trophy, housed in the Flight Path Learning Center & Museum at LAX, is a globe and vehicle sculpture with the names of

recipients engraved on its base. A solid silver medallion, cast from silver from Hughes' Nevada mines, is presented to each Honoree. It depicts Hughes from the era when he was designing and flying his famed Flying Boat, setting world records, dressed in his familiar brown fedora, open shirt and two-toned sports jacket. The reverse side signifies aspects of Hughes' varied life—the oil drilling bit, a reel of film, a landing falcon, the state of Nevada, the earth with a circle of stars symbolizing his round-the-world record, the first communications satellite and the Flying Boat as it crested the waves of Long Beach Harbor.

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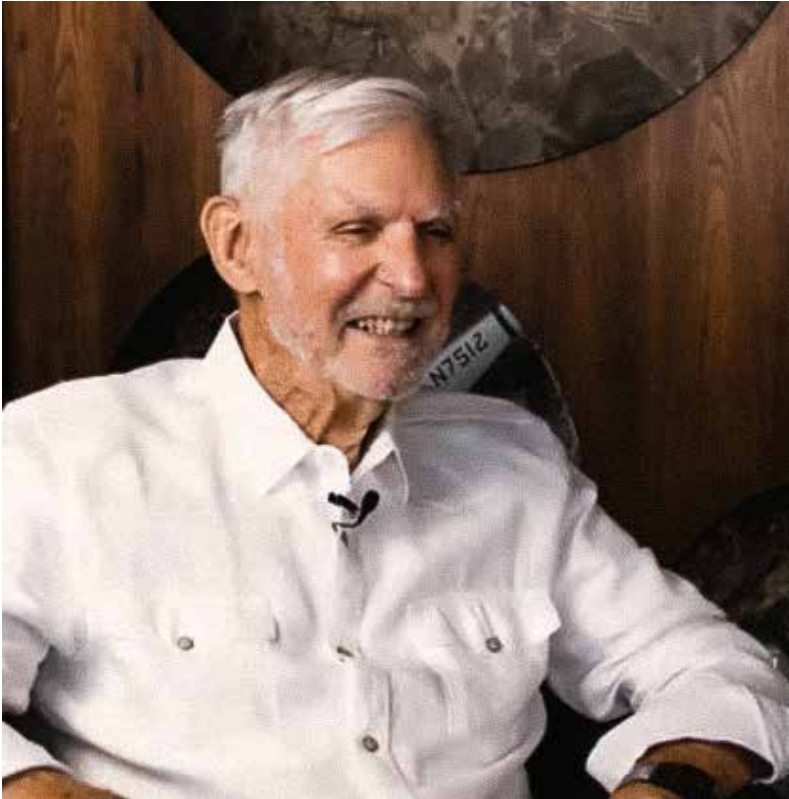
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Western Museum of Flight
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Richard 'Dick' Rutan Awarded 42nd Howard Hughes Memorial Award



Dick Rutan



Colonel Richard 'Dick' Rutan and Aero Club President William Withycombe



Dick Rutan, Mike Machat

Record setting pilot Colonel Richard 'Dick' Rutan was honored in a unique virtual Howard Hughes Memorial Award ceremony on June 17, 2021.

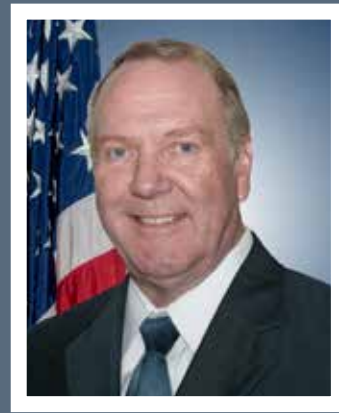
Viewers from around the country participated in the event celebrating Dick Rutan, who flew his aircraft Voyager around the world nonstop without refueling. Dick was interviewed by Board Member Mike Machat who began the interview with an interesting insight about important brother teams in aviation; the Wrights, the Loughheads (Lockheed), the Granvilles and Dick and Burt Rutan.

When asked about his favorite aircraft, Dick chose Voyager "for what it did", "not its flying qualities, which were atrocious...". Dick shared he, Burt and technician Bruce Evans didn't

have sponsors, they built Voyager themselves laying each individual carbon fiber in two years, with what they "could beg, borrow or steal". Five and half years after the original plan was sketched out at the Overpass Café in Mojave, Dick took off on Voyager's historic flight. He reminisced about the aircraft's capabilities, the long flight and his successful landing after circumnavigating the globe.

Aero Club President William Withycombe presented Colonel Rutan with the silver Howard Hughes Memorial Award medallion. Dick accepted the award and expressed gratitude to the Aero Club for bestowing the honor on him. President Withycombe thanked everyone who participated and supported the award event.

Thank you, William Withycombe



The Aero Club of Southern California's Board of Directors has a proud tradition of being comprised of aviation and aerospace leaders. Past President William 'Bill' Withycombe is no exception. Bill assumed the office of President during a difficult time when board members departed due to illness, death and the challenging COVID shutdown. He answered the call, stepping in as our new President and leading us through challenging times.

As former Federal Aviation Administration Regional Administrator, Bill was no stranger to challenging leadership roles. His background and experience in aviation policy and operations served the Aero Club well through these tough times.

During his tenure, Bill recruited accomplished board members who assisted in keeping the club, not only afloat, but thriving during tough times.

Bill, along with his Board of Directors Dream Team, facilitated a strategic plan for the club, grew our scholarship award program, awarded the Howard Hughes Memorial trophy in virtual format, retained membership, sustained the club's financial growth, and facilitated a seamless transition for our new president George Butts.

The Aero Club will always be grateful for Bill Withycombe's leadership and tutelage. We are a stronger organization because of Bill, a true leader, friend, and colleague. We are proud and lucky to have Bill on our team. Thank you Bill!

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Aero Club of Southern California Awards \$60,000 in STEM Scholarships to Eight High School and College Recipients This Year!

Over the past 41 years, the Aero Club awarded more than \$500,000 to 198 students.



Front row: Valen Rasmussen, Jack Ahrens, Jack Saan, Scholarship Program Director, Julie Sims, Robert Peltekov.
Back row: President George Butts, Jammal Yarbrough, Breece Phipps, Loren Newton.

Aero Club's Annual Meeting and Scholarship Banquet was held in person at Flight Path Museum & Learning Center on November 12, 2021.

Aero Club Scholarship Program Director Julie Sims and the Scholarship Program Committee awarded \$60,000 to eight students selected for their academic achievements in aviation and aerospace related activities.

In 2021, Henry and Paulette Matson, and Gary Burdorf, President of Helicopter Technology Company, generously donated to the Aero Club's Scholarship fund providing additional scholarship funds. We are grateful to them!

\$4000 High School Scholarship Recipient

Valen Rasmussen - Marsha Toy Scholarship

Valen has many achievements related to aviation and aerospace including saving his money to take flight lessons to obtain a private pilot license. He enrolled in an Applied Science class, where students conduct independent research projects. His first project, focused on improving fuel efficiency with a novel winglet, received a recognition award at the Los Angeles County Science and Engineering Fair.

\$6000 College Scholarship Recipients

Owen Colombo - Gary Burdorf Scholarship

Owen attends California Baptist University majoring in Aviation Flight Dynamics. He obtained his Private Pilot Certificate and is currently in training to obtain his Instrument Flight Rating. Owen co-lead Safe Landings, a humanitarian mission team trip to Tepic, Mexico to restore and make remote mountain airstrips safer.

Trinity Parascandola - Nissen Davis Scholarship

Trinity completed her high school Honors Aerospace Engineering Pathway last year. She currently studies Astronomy at the University of Hawaii in Hilo.



President George Butts, Scholarship Donor Paulette Matson, Henry and Paulette Matson Scholarship Winner Loren Newton, Scholarship Donor Henry Matson, and Scholarship Program Director, Julie Sims.



Scholarship Donor Gary Burdorf

Jack Ahrens - Nissen Davis Scholarship

Jack currently majors in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Southern California. He interned at two Los Angeles aerospace companies the past few years. His first intern project included leading the design, build, and testing of a small U.S. Navy autonomous aircraft. His second project supported a subscale test campaign to validate electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) technology required to enable dual-vehicle rendezvous and docking.

Jammal Yarbrough - John Durant Scholarship Award

Jammal attends the College of the Canyons where he is the electrical lead for the Aerospace and Astronomy Club. He is responsible for engineering the Aerospace and Sciences Team flight computer.

Loren J. Newton - Henry and Paulette Matson Scholarship

Loren is currently a Ph.D candidate in Aeronautics and Astronautics at Stanford University. He earned joint-major degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science and Engineering from UC, Berkeley and a master's degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics at Stanford University, specializing in flight dynamics and control and conducting research in nonlinear online aircraft system identification. Loren is private pilot with an instrument rating.

Robert Peltekov - Jack Real Scholarship

Robert attends UC Berkeley. He worked on the SpaceX Starlink fleet management team as a software engineering intern. He focused on anti-collision system improvement to automatically detect potential conjunctions, and redirect and reposition satellites in orbit.

Jack Saan - Jack Real Scholarship

Jack attends Cal Poly University San Louis Obispo majoring in Aerospace Engineering. He worked on a NASA Communications Service Project and, along with his team, wrote a technical proposal for a new nanosatellite constellation to support datalink and data storage/processing in space, eliminating the need and dependence upon infrastructure on the ground (cell towers), decreasing communication latency significantly.

Breece Phipps - William Schoneberger Scholarship

Breece majors in Astronautical Engineering at the University of Southern California. As a lead researcher in Satellite Formation Flying, Breece's research contributed to Satellite Formation Flying knowledge by investigating radio frequency (RF) navigation systems to acquire accurate measurements.



Aero Club

OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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Congratulations Harrison Ford 2022 Aero Club of Southern California Howard Hughes Memorial Award Honoree

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Harrison Ford, the 2022 Recipient of the
Howard Hughes Memorial Award for his
aviation advocacy, humanitarian and
aircraft rescue efforts.**