2008 SIGAda Awards

In 1994, ACM SIGAda established an award program to recognize individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the Ada community and to SIGAda.

The two categories of awards are:

- **Outstanding Ada Community Contribution Award**
  For broad lasting contributions to Ada technology and usage

- **ACM SIGAda Distinguished Service Award**
  For exceptional contributions to SIGAda activities and products

The awards for 2008 were presented at the SIGAda 2008 Conference on October 30, in Portland, Oregon.

The **Outstanding Ada Community Contribution Award** honorees were ***Peter Amey*** (deceased) and ***John McCormick.***

The **ACM SIGAda Distinguished Service Award** honoree was ***Greg Gicca.***

The Ada language community and the SIGAda organization owe a debt of gratitude to these individuals for their dedication and many contributions. The following pages contain the citations that were read at the SIGAda 2008 conference's awards ceremony.

Ben Brosgol
On behalf of the ACM SIGAda Awards Committee

Outstanding Ada Community Contribution Award

Peter Amey (1954-2008)
Praxis High-Integrity Systems

The citation for Peter Amey, taken from his nomination statement, reads:

Sadly, Peter died after a long struggle with cancer on 3 April 2008.

Peter was closely involved in the Ada community and was intimately involved in a number of high-profile Ada projects. In particular, he was responsible for SPARK Ada's continuing success. I first met Peter in 1992 when he had just retired from the Royal Air Force and we both worked for Program Validation Limited, later acquired by Praxis Critical Systems.

Peter went on to become the Chief Technology Officer of Praxis. I think Peter would most want to be remembered for his association with SPARK. SPARK is an annotated subset of Ada, which together with its associated toolset, allows the construction of provably correct programs in Ada. Peter didn't invent SPARK, but he was responsible more than any other for its continuing success. Eurofighter Typhoon - the flight control system is written in SPARK; Lockheed C-130J – the mission computer is written in SPARK; Hawk, Harrier, Nimrod - the stores management systems are written in SPARK; Trent 900 - the engine monitoring unit is written in SPARK; even part of the UK air traffic control system - iFACTS - is now written in SPARK.

I think Peter would also like to be remembered for his role in the development of Praxis' software development methodology built around SPARK, called "Correctness by Construction". A study by the US Department of Homeland Security cited Correctness by Construction as one of only three software processes identified world-wide that has repeatably delivered software with less than 1 defect per KLOC.

Peter also loved jazz, cycling and Morris Minors (you have to be British to understand that last reference).

Outstanding Ada Community Contribution Award

John McCormick
Univ. of Northern Iowa

The citation for John McCormick reads:

- Active in many aspects of Ada

    – Teacher, user, promoter

    – Participant in WG9

- Well known authority/author on Ada

    – Conducts courses, tutorials, lectures

    – *Ada Plus Data Structures: An Object Oriented Approach*

- Internationally recognized educator

    – Real-Time Programming course based on model trains

- Active in SIGAda

    – Previously Treasurer

    – Currently Chair

    – Effective consensus builder

ACM SIGAda Distinguished Service Award

Greg Gicca
AdaCore

The citation for Greg Gicca reads:

- Active in Ada Semantic Interface Specification (ASIS)

    – Represents ASIS at ISO WG9 meetings

- Works on the commercialization and growth of Ada

- Dependable resource at SIGAda conferences

    – Organized Workshops/BOFs

    – Exhibits Co-Chair

    – Conference Co-Chair of SIGAda 2006, SIGAda 2009

    – "Goes the extra mile" for SIGAda

From his nomination statement:

"For the last ten years Mr. Gicca has energetically supported the successful organization of SIGAda International Conferences through various positions such as Exhibits Chair, Workshop/BOFs organizer, Conference Co-Chair etc. He is a longtime ACM and ACM SIGAda member."