

Service to Youth

1995 - Mike Spiller, the Pied Piper of Gymnastics. Where you see Mike, you will see kids and a game getting started.

Heritage Awards

1995 - Robert Cowan, Indianapolis, Indiana. Serviced Texas gymnastics 1967-1984, he served for 9 ½ years as the Nat. Dir. of the Programs for the USGF at Indianapolis. In Texas, Robert was the President of THSGCA; a Nat. HS Coach of the Year; Officer of the NMSGCA; and Pres. of GAT 1973-1974. His energy and love of gymnastics were legendary. He received the GAT Distinguished Service Award twice and GAT honor award six times, elected GAT Life Member in 1984. A new base for athlete dev. was built in schools & private clubs while collegiate programs slowly diminished. This "new base for athlete dev." is the star in Robert's crown as Nat. Men's Dir. for shepherding that transition. He was the Floor Dir. for the 1984 Olympics, an Intern.-level Judge, member, & officer of the FIG, and worked actively in the production of nat. teams for the Pan American Games, World Championships, & the 1988 and 1992 Olympics. The major intern. events held in the USA in his period of service were only successful because of Robert's dogged determination to "get things right" & to do things which would benefit the sport & the athletes.

Distinguished Service

1995 - Cori Rizzo, USAG Women's State Chairperson, Brevet judge 1995 - Bob Sanderson, 20 years as HS teacher & coach, National rated judge, National HS Coach of the Year, and GAT Treasurer

1995 - Bill Foster, Wisdom & Direction at the highest level for the development of the Texas Men's Program

1995 - Becky Mann, the "lady in charge" of the host committee for the 94 & 95 GAT Gatherings.

THE HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

1995 - William Cornelius, Ph.D. University of North Texas, Denton, a former Arizona State Gymnast in the 1960's. he began teaching at North Texas State University (physical education dept) in 1965 and became director of gymnastics in 1970. Bill's service to Texas gymnastics has been three fold. His men's collegiate competition program was a strong player in the 1970's Texas college scene. Secondly, his long-time physical education professional program has produced many talented teachers and coaches of gymnastics. And, thirdly, he has been a prolific researcher and writer in biomechanics, with numerous articles in professional journals and the USAG's "Technique" publication. He was Director of the pioneering Texas Biomechanical Task Force, 1980-83.

1995 - Michael "Mike" Osborn, Abilene YMCA. After three early career years at the Arlington & Galveston YMCA's, 1970-73, Mike found a home at the Abilene YMCA. He has served as Gymnastics Coach, Physical Director and Director, a record of stability few community programs can obtain. Since 1973 he has held the chairmanship of the Texas YMCA Gymnastics Council, one of the last great "thankless jobs" in Texas. He has held a YMCA Council meeting at the GAT meeting every year since 1979. Through his more than twenty years of dedicated effort, YMCA athletes have been a part of the gymnastics mainstream in Texas. He has served twice as Vice President of GAT, once as President-elect of GAT, 1991-92, and GAT President 1992-93. He has received the Distinguished Service Award from GAT twice, in 1987 and 1993 as well as a number of National YMCA recognitions.