

Coast Guard Aviation Association



The Association President

IN RECOGNITION *of notable services that have greatly contributed to the preservation of the history of Coast Guard Aviation* takes pleasure in presenting the

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

to

Mr. John E. "Bear" Moseley

September 14, 2017

James C. Van Sice
Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard (Retired)
President

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The President of the Coast Guard Aviation Association (CGAA) takes pleasure in presenting the President's Award to Mr. John E. Moseley, in recognition of his unwavering dedication in preserving Coast Guard Aviation history as the Historian of the Association for over 25 years. His actions contributed to the Coast Guard Aviation Association being recognized as a respected custodian of Coast Guard Aviation history, and a venue for mentoring young Coast Guard Aviators and Aircrew. Mr. Moseley invested over 7,000 hours authoring the "*Chronological History of Coast Guard Aviation*," that captures significant Coast Guard Aviation events and milestones from its inception in 1916 to the present. These 160 vignettes detail the recruitment and training of aviation personnel, acquisition of aircraft, construction of air stations, and significant events, that reflect the professional growth and performance of a truly multi-mission Service arm. The extensive research and interviews he conducted, are invaluable references for the Coast Guard Historian's staff. In 2005, his recommendation was responsible for 11 Coast Guard helicopter pilots, who fought in Viet Nam as part of the USCG/USAF exchange program, to be inducted into the CGAA Hall of Honor, recognizing their heroism and exceptional performance. Realizing that a gap existed in the Coast Guard Awards Manual, Mr. Moseley researched and submitted a proposal for a *Coast Guard Shield* medal, with appropriately high precedence, to recognize acts by Coast Guard officer and enlisted personnel for "extraordinary heroism" in a non-combat environment. His recommendation ultimately evolved into the creation of the *Coast Guard Cross* medal. Mr. Moseley was a prime contributor to the creation of a 2009 Coast Guard Aviation exhibit entitled "*Into the Blue*" at the Museum of the Albemarle in Elizabeth City, North Carolina. His guidance and enthusiasm were invaluable to the museum director and curator. That same year, he participated in a Coast Guard history walk at Arlington National Cemetery for the aviation commanding officers conference, speaking to the accomplishments of Coast Guard Lieutenant Jack Rittichier, who was killed in action on June 9, 1968, flying as a USAF exchange combat SAR helicopter pilot in Viet Nam. In 2010, Mr. Moseley was a prime mover working with the city of Jacksonville, Florida, in planning an exceptional annual CGAA "Roost" convention, that showcased the Coast Guard's Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron (HITRON), the cutter *Mohawk* with deployed HH-65 helicopter, and Commander, Atlantic Area Coast Guard as guest speaker. During 2016, he authored weekly history "blogs", to inspire public appreciation for the 100th anniversary of Coast Guard Aviation. Most recently, he was pivotal in rewriting content, archiving photographs and personal histories of notable CG Aviation personnel for the updated Association CG Aviation History website, bringing our rich heritage to life across the globe. Mr. Moseley remains accessible to all Coast Guard Aviation personnel, young or old, encouraging dialog and preservation of historical artifacts. His dedicated volunteer service and exceptional leadership are most heartily commended, and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Association and the United States Coast Guard.