

SOARING SOCIETY OF AMERICA AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL NATIONAL SOARING CONTEST

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Some of the awards presented annually at the National Soaring Contest are, (L. to R.) Douglas Trophy, Barringer Trophy, Aeroquip Trophy, Du Pont Trophy, Eaton Trophy, and the Silvaire Trophy.

Three major contest performance awards are made at each National Soaring Contest.

1. *The Richard C. du Pont Memorial Trophy*

This is the first and most important of the contest awards, going, of course, to the National Champion as determined at the National Soaring Contest. The du Pont trophy is a perpetual trophy, and passes to successive winners from year to year. Each winner's name is engraved on the trophy, in addition he receives for his permanent possession a bronze medalion bearing upon its face a bas-relief representation of the trophy itself.

The du Pont trophy was presented to the Soaring Society of America by Allaire du Pont, a former soaring pilot herself, in memory of her husband who died in a wartime glider accident in 1943 while he was in charge of the Army Air Forces' glider program. Richard du Pont also was a National Soaring Champion, and the third President of the Soaring So-

ciety of America. This trophy was first awarded in 1947. National Soaring Champions who have held the du Pont Trophy are: Richard J. Comey, 1947; Paul B. MacCready, Jr., 1948, 1951, 1953; Richard Johnson, 1949, 1950, 1952, 1954; and Kempes Trager, 1955. This trophy succeeded the Edward S. Evans National Championship Trophy which became the permanent possession of John Robinson in 1946 when he won it for the third time.

2. *The Larissa Stroukoff Memorial Trophy*

This is the newest of the perpetual trophies awarded at the National Contest, and comes from a fund left by Larissa Stroukoff, President of the Stroukoff Aircraft Corporation. The trophy is awarded each year to the winner of the goal-and-return event in the National Soaring Contest. The winner's name is engraved on the trophy which he holds for the year. In addition, he receives a cash award and an engraved certificate to keep.

This trophy, competed for at the 1955 contest for the first time, was won by Mr. Stephen J. Bennis.

3. *The Donald W. Douglas Trophy*

This trophy, given to the Soaring Society by Mr. Donald W. Douglas, President of the Douglas Aircraft Corporation, is awarded each year to the organized group or club whose members amass the greatest number of contest points during the National Contest. The name of the winning group each year is engraved on the trophy. First won in 1948 by the Philadelphia Glider Council, it has been held by the Airhoppers 1949. The Texas Soaring Association 1951, The Metropolitan Airhoppers 1953, the Associated Glider Clubs of San Diego 1954, and the Elmira Area Soaring Corporation in 1955.

Other Awards Made at the Time of the National Soaring Contest

It has become the custom during the past years to use the National Contest Awards Banquet as the occasion for announcing the winners and presenting other trophies and awards pertaining to gliding and soaring of which the Soaring Society of America is custodian. Among these are:

The Warren E. Eaton Memorial Trophy

This is a perpetual trophy presented by Mrs. Warren E. Eaton in memory of her husband killed in a glider accident in 1934. Warren E. Eaton was a founder and the first President of the Soaring Society of America. This trophy is awarded annually to the person who in the opinion of the Board of Directors of the Soaring Society of America has done the most for the art, sport, or science of soaring in the United States during the previous calendar year. It was first awarded in 1932 to Richard C. du Pont. In 1941 it was awarded to the current SSA President, Floyd J. Sweet. No awards were made during the World War II years, however last year the Directors voted to award