

Lester B Dill Award History, Purpose, Selection, Eligibility, and Funding

History

In 1972, the Late Lester B. Dill endowed an award to be presented annually at the spring MVOR to a caver making a significant contribution to speleology during the last calendar year. The first Award was presented at the spring 1972 MVOR to Jerry Vineyard.

Purpose

The purpose of the award is to give credit and draw attention to cavers who have spent considerable time or effort in increasing our knowledge of the speleological field.

Award

The award consists of a nickel or chrome-plated carbide lamp mounted on a walnut base. Attached to the base is a plate where the following will be inscribed, but not in this particular order or format:

For Significant Contributions to Speleology
Lester B. Dill Award
Recipient's name
Year

Selection of Recipients

An award committee consisting of the MVOR executive board, two board appointed members, and one revolving member of the Spring MVOR host group will solicit award nominations throughout the year. Nominations can be solicited by posting notices in the MVOR pre-registration flyers or electronic communication.

The committee will then select a recipient, and the host group of the Spring MVOR will present the award at the business meeting.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the award, the following guidelines should be met.

1. The recipient should be from or active in the Mississippi Valley Ozark Region.
2. The recipient should have made outstanding and significant contribution to speleology during the calendar year preceding the award presentation. In exceptional cases the award may be presented on the basis of contributions made two or more years in the past. The type of contribution made by the recipient does not matter beyond being with the realm of speleology (science, history, archeology...). The quality or quantity of the contribution should be considered most important to selection of a recipient.

As the final authority in the selection process, the Award Committee may consider other factors relevant to a nominee's eligibility or qualifications, and may choose to waive or alter the above guidelines.

Funding

At the spring 1993 MVOR business meeting a motion was passed providing \$75.00 from the regions proceeds of each convention to be placed in a special account for the sole purpose of funding the purchase, plating, assembly, and engraving of the Dill Award. Obtaining funds for these purposes should be done through the MVOR treasurer and the Award Committee.