

2018 Hall of Fame Celebration Memories!



Mike Beck, DJ Associates, helping out Ray Ferrell at registration



Canopy Piloting Forum  
Ian Bobo & Albert Berchtold



Lew Sanborn  
D-1



Hall of Fame Inductees  
Tribute Jump  
SOCOM



Path of Excellence Acceptance  
Laurence Sams & Jim Captain



SkyHigh Forum Sponsored by  
Para Gear Equipment Co.  
Art Thompson, Alan Eustace  
& Joe Kittinger



Jerry Bird & Dan BC  
deep in conversation



SOCOM holding Path of Excellence Flags



Matt Leonard landing on raft during  
"For the Legends" Freestyle Canopy  
Piloting Meet Powered by Sun Path



Pioneers Lunch  
Sponsored by Strong Enterprises

**Pioneers of Sport  
Parachuting Reunion Lunch**  
Honoring Ted Strong  
**Strong Enterprises**  
The parachute company with imagination  
[www.StrongParachutes.com](http://www.StrongParachutes.com)

Katie Crone and Handsome Dave Dewolf  
at Gear Thru the Years  
Sponsored by PIA and Dave Dewolf



10-Way Speed STAR WARS Sponsored  
by Skydive Perris 1st Place  
Jerry Bird (Meet Div),  
(bottom left) Rambo Calladere,  
Melanie Curtis, Chris Wagner,  
Jeff Bodin, Helele Runaner,  
(back left) Doug Pinkham,  
Celine Pelletier (Captain),  
George Katsoulis (Photographer),  
Dan BC, Scott Latinis, Bob Bonitz



Canopy Piloting Meet Awards  
Curt Bartholomew, Jason Clay Sanders,  
Tony Uragallo & Jesse Weyher



Bill Booth modeling his first rig  
with Krasi Ilev from Bulgaria



Photos by Andrey Veselov

# 2018 Hall of Fame Celebration in ZHills Breaks Record!

“We’re going to need a bigger tent!” President and CEO James F. “Curt” Curtis III made this comment when he eyed the dinner venue at ZHills and looked at the size of the list for the induction ceremony. And so a bigger one was ordered, and the more than 400 people who registered signified a record-breaking crowd for the ninth annual event on the weekend of Nov.1–3. The event is projected to raise more than \$100,000 for the museum fund.

Not only were there more people attending, there were more events, more activities, more seminars, and more participants, as well as the “Jumpers Over Seventy” (JOS) world record attempt for formation skydiving. The elder skydivers did not get a record, but they had fun trying (despite a washout day on Friday due to a rainstorm), and they managed to fill nearly seven tables at the Saturday night banquet and induction ceremony.

This year’s class of 10 incoming Hall of Famers was the largest since the inaugural of 2010. Ray Cottingham, Daryl Henry, Leslie Irvin (posthumously, represented by Rob Sinclair and Elizabeth Johnson of Airborne Systems), Susan Hunter-Joerns, Domina C. Jalbert (posthumously, represented by his grandson Craig Oldre), Coy O. McDonald Jr., Roger Ponce de Leon, W.L. Jay Stokes, Tony Uragallo, and Henny Wiggers were honored at the dinner gala sponsored by PIA.

During the evening’s festivities, the 1988 Seoul Olympic Skydiving Exhibition Team was anointed with the museum’s first Path of Excellence Award. This new honor recognizes a group, company, organization, or team for a significant contribution to the international skydiving community. Thirty years ago, the team performed at the opening ceremony of the XXIV Olympiad in Seoul, South Korea. The National Accuracy champions from around the world and the Korean Army Parachute Team performed a no-contact canopy formation gliding into the Olympic stadium. This was followed

by the famous 30-way formation of the five Olympic rings. This was the first transmission of live images originating from a freefall videographer broadcast worldwide.

Phil Chiochio was the recipient of the Trustees’ Award, not only for his lifetime contributions to the sport, but also for creating and presenting the Hall of Fame and Museum’s inductee audio-visual programs.

The marquee event was the 10-Way Speed STAR WARS competition with Hall of Famer Jerry Bird as the honorary meet director. There were 11 entries, including a pickup team captained by incoming Hall of Famer Jay Stokes. After three rounds, the California Gold Rush from Skydive Perris took first-place honors (Celine Pelletier, captain); Z Land XP from ZHills was second (Derek Thomas, captain); and third place

went to Insane Speed (James Saine, captain).

The “For the Legends” Freestyle Canopy Piloting Meet Powered by Sun Path drew a large contingent of spectators who lined up to watch high-speed pond swooping. The meet was also supported by Kenneth Wasley/Children of Fallen Heroes and Superior Flight Solutions/Greg Windmiller. The sponsors gave away \$10,000 in prize money to competitors in several categories. The three rounds of Freestyle winners were first place—Curt Bartholomew; second place—Max Kossidowski; and third place—Jay Sanders. The Raft landing was won by Max Manow and Matt Leonard; the Inductee Choice was won by Curt Bartholomew, Jay Sanders, and Jesse Weyher.

The weekend’s activities also included the SkyHigh Forum by Joe Kittinger, Alan Eustace, and Art Thompson (sponsored by Para Gear Equipment Co.) and the Canopy Piloting Forum featuring Ian Bobo and Albert Berchtold. Kittinger, Norman Olson and Hall of Famers Dan Brodsky-Chenfeld and Jackie Smith held a book signing, and “Gear Thru the Years,” an annual fashion-show presentation, was sponsored by the Parachute Industry Association and Dave DeWolf.



*Congratulations to the Hall of Fame Class of 2018! (from left) Daryl Henry (represented by friend Buzz Bennett), Henny Wiggers, Coy O. McDonald Jr., Ray Cottingham, Jay Stokes, Roger Ponce de Leon, Leslie Irvin (represented by Rob Sinclair and Elizabeth Johnson of Airborne Systems), Dom Jalbert (represented by his grandson Craig Oldre), Tony Uragallo, and Suzie Hunter-Joerns (Photo by Andrey Veselov)*



*Photo by Andrey Veselov*