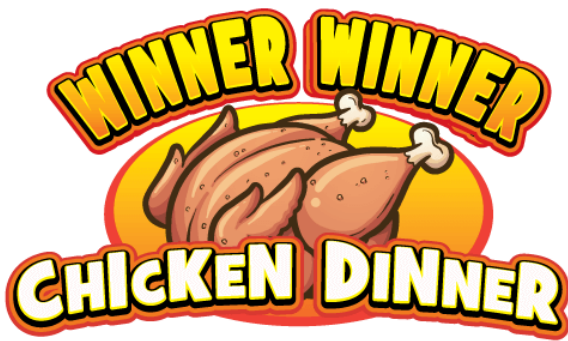
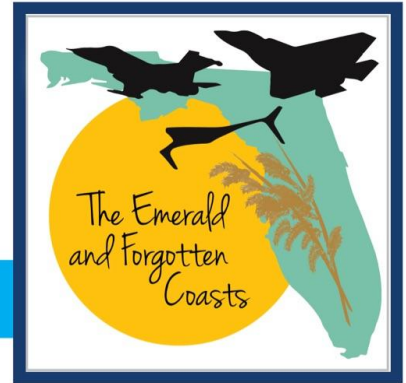




**NORTHWEST FLORIDA SECTION**



## Fall 2021 Newsletter

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Micah Reese, Ryan Sherrill

Micah Reese and Ryan Sherrill, editors

## Another Year, Another List of Awards

Not trying to brag or anything, but our AIAA section **just...keeps...winning!** Here's our list of awards for this year:

Outstanding section award: 1st Place

Communication award: 1st Place

Membership award: 1st Place

Public Policy: 3rd Place

STEM K-12: 1st Place

Section-Student Partnership: 1st Place

Young Professional: 1st Place

## Up Front

Want to be part of the winning team (besides just being outstanding members)? You can be like Philip Thomas who just joined us as the new Membership Chair. We still have vacancies for Honors & Awards Chair and Communications Chair. Just email us at [nwfl.aiaa@gmail.com](mailto:nwfl.aiaa@gmail.com) if you're interested.

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## LOCAL ACTIVITY

### Awards Banquet

The Northwest Florida section honored two professional members and three educator associates during our section's end-of-the-year banquet. On the professional side, **Dr. Daniel Reasor** won Professional of the Year for his extraordinary dedication, creativity and leadership in the development of modeling and simulation capabilities to advance hypersonic airframes. **Dr. John Fay** won the Achievement Award in recognition for his sustained and outstanding contribution to STEM Outreach, measured by volunteer hours, miles driven to rural schools, and emails sent to university sections. The section also honored **Dr. Scott Morton** who won the national AIAA Aerodynamics Award for a career devoted to extending the application of CFD to challenging unsteady aerodynamic phenomena, such as transonic flutter, complex vortical flowfields, and maneuvering flight. The AIAA conference where Scott was to receive his award was cancelled due to COVID so the award was presented by Dr. Ryan Sherrill, NW FL AIAA Chair and by Dr. Angela Diggs, NW FL Vice Chair.



On the Educator Associate side, the section honored **Mr. David Williams** of Bethlehem High School in Holmes County, FL who started one of the first AIAA high school chapters and who's students can earn dual enrollment credit and industry certification. Additionally, he sponsors multiple programs such as the SeaPerch underwater rover competition, the Drone Swarm Programming competition, Higher Orbits, and the Great American Paper Plane Contest. The section also honored **Ms. Marian Gilmore** who is a teacher at Silver Sands, a Special Day School in Okaloosa County FL who registered her school to be a part of Civil Air Patrol's Aerospace Connections in Education (ACE) program, winning National ACE School of the Year in 2020-2021. During the weeks leading up to the Perseverance's Landing on Mars, Ms. Gilmore invited and hosted, virtually, former NASA Astronaut Don Thomas to talk to all the classes about the upcoming rover landing on Mars, sponsored a STEM virtual night, and invited Ms. Janet Ivey of Janet's Planet and President of Explore Mars, who led them virtually through making Lunar Landers. Finally, the section honored **Ms. Alyson McCullough**, a teacher at Hilliard Middle Senior High School in Nassau County FL. She has written and received over fifteen thousand dollars in grant funding to take a two acre field and turn it into a poultry and fruit tree farm and made three quarter acre rotation beds to teach students about crop sustainability. Using the Florida State Standards for Agriculture, students are prepared to take the Agriculture Education Services & Technology certification test which allows students to be set apart from their peers as they work to gain access to on the job training programs, and complete their five credit hours towards Florida Bright Futures Gold Seal Scholarships.

The section award announcements for 2021-2022 will be posed to Engage in the coming weeks.

## Associate Fellows



Two NW FL section members were among this year's class of AIAA Associate Fellows. According to AIAA's bylaws, associate fellows are persons who have accomplished or been in charge of important engineering or scientific work, or who have done original work of outstanding merit, or who have otherwise made outstanding contributions to the arts, sciences, or technology of aeronautics or astronautics. **Dr. Ryan Sherrill** and **Dr. Kevin Brink** are both employees of the Air Force Research Laboratory and also serve as section officers. Having two associate fellows recognized in the same year is a big win for our section! Drs. Sherrill and Brink will be formally inducted January 3, 2022 during the AIAA SciTech Forum.

## UPCOMING NATIONAL AIAA EVENTS

### [2022 AIAA Science and Technology Forum and Exposition \(AIAA SciTech Forum\)](#)

3 JANUARY - 7 JANUARY 2022

San Diego, CA and Online

### [2022 AIAA Defense and Security Forum \(AIAA DEFENSE Forum\)](#)

19 APRIL - 21 APRIL 2022

Laurel, Maryland, USA

### [2022 AIAA Aviation and Aeronautics Forum and Exposition \(AIAA AVIATION Forum\)](#)

27 JUNE - 1 JULY 2022

Chicago, Illinois and Online

[See more at the AIAA Events page](#)

## OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

This is a new section of the newsletter! We recognize that there are many relevant events outside of AIAA. If you know of any and want to spread the word, let us know: [nwfl.aiaa@gmail.com](mailto:nwfl.aiaa@gmail.com)

### [2022 IEEE Aerospace Conference](#)

5 MARCH - 12 MARCH 2022

Big Sky, Montana, USA

## ABOUT THE SECTION

The Northwest Florida Section of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Inc. (AIAA NWFL) is home to 289 members (as of May 2019): 124 professionals, 141 educator associates, and 24 students. The section spans 24 counties across northern Florida from Pensacola to north of Jacksonville. These counties are: Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Holmes, Washington, Bay, Jackson, Calhoun, Gulf, Gadsden, Liberty, Franklin, Leon, Wakulla, Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Hamilton, Suwanee, Lafayette, Columbia, Baker, and Nassau. Most of the aerospace-related activities in the AIAA NWFL section are at military installations in the western panhandle.



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## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

### Chair

Ryan Sherrill

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### Vice Chair

Angela Diggs

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### Secretary

Micah Reese

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### Treasurer

Kevin Diggs

[kevin.diggs@us.af.mil](mailto:kevin.diggs@us.af.mil)

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### Program Chair

Eugen Toma

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### Technical Chair

Kevin Brink

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### Membership Chair

Philip Thomas

### Career Enhancement/Young Professionals Chair

Alex Straub

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### Education/Pre-College Outreach Chair

Judith Sherrill

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### Education/College Outreach Chair

John Fay

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### Honors & Awards Chair

**Vacant - looking for volunteers**

### Public Policy Chair

Michael Kelton

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### Communications Chair

**Vacant - looking for volunteers**