

6 February 2017

Mr Erich Klein  
Columbia Scientific Balloon Facility  
PO Box 319  
Palestine, TX 75802-0319

Dear Mr. Klein:

It is my pleasure to inform you that you have been selected to receive the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Otto C. Winzen Lifetime Achievement Award for 2017. This award is presented for outstanding contributions and achievements in the advancement of free flight balloon systems or related technologies. Your nomination was submitted by Dr. Henry Cathey of New Mexico State University.

The citation reads, "In recognition of a career dedicated toward advancing scientific balloon launch support equipment including the padded spool vehicle, LSDS launch tower, and Antarctic Launch Vehicle." The award consists of an engraved medal and a certificate of citation.

You are cordially invited to receive the award during the WEDNESDAY 7 June 2017 Recognition Luncheon being held in conjunction with the AIAA Aviation and Aeronautics Forum and Exposition (AVIATION 2017), 5-9 June 2017, at the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Denver, Colorado. Further information about the conference may be found at <http://www.aiaa-aviation.org/>

As an award recipient, you will receive one complimentary conference registration to the Forum including sessions Monday–Friday, Cybersecurity Symposium, DEMAND for UNMANNED, Tickets for the following: One Recognition Lunch (Tuesday or Wednesday) or Aeroacoustics Banquet, Tuesday reception in the Exposition Hall, Thursday lunch in the Exposition Hall, and single-user access to the online conference proceedings. Kindly advise whether special arrangements are necessary due to dietary restriction or disability.

Your name, job title, and company as shown below will be included in promotional outreach such as the award announcements, *Aerospace America*, AIAA's web site, etc. If this is not correct, please advise!

Erich Klein  
Balloon Engineer Specialist (retired)  
Columbia Scientific Balloon Facility  
Palestine, Texas

It is important that you immediately confirm your attendance and forward the following materials to Ms. Carol Stewart, AIAA Honors and Awards Manager, at [carols@aiaa.org](mailto:carols@aiaa.org).

1. Color electronic photograph at least 500 dpi
2. Brief biography (50 words or less)
3. If you would AIAA to prepare and distribute a press release, please complete and submit the form at [www.aiaa.org/AwardsAndRecognitionAnnouncementForm/](http://www.aiaa.org/AwardsAndRecognitionAnnouncementForm/).
4. Advise whether one guest will accompany you to the recognition luncheon
5. Confirm pronunciation of your name:

Erich = Air-Rick

Klein = rhymes with "Mine"

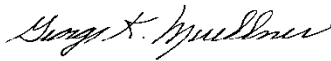
You will receive an email with a registration barcode about 1 month prior to the Forum start date. In order to most quickly and efficiently pick up your badge and conference materials, make sure to print the email that includes your ExpressPass barcode, and bring it with you to the conference. Simply scan the ExpressPass barcode at one of the ExpressPass stations at the AIAA Registration and Information Center to print your badge and receive your meeting materials. Be sure to bring your photo ID and/or school ID to the AIAA Registration and Information Center when picking up your badge and materials.

Please note that photographs and video taken by or on behalf of AIAA of event activities and attendees shall be the property of AIAA. By registering for an AIAA event, you consent to the use by AIAA of any photograph or video in which you appear, including for promotional purposes, in print, digital, or other format, without notice or compensation to you.

Photos from the Forum will be available approximately 1-2 weeks after the Forum at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/aiaaevents/sets/>

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Stewart directly at [carols@aiaa.org](mailto:carols@aiaa.org) or at 703/264-7538. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor!

Sincerely,



George Muellner  
Honors and Awards Chairman

CC: Henry Cathey, Nominator  
Shirley Brandt, Region 4 Deputy Director-Honors & Awards  
Jennifer E Wells, Chair, AIAA Houston Section  
Koh Murai, Balloon Systems TC Awards Chair