

LAMA's Dual Award

August 8, 2019

For only the second time, the association awarded two persons their highest honor, the Presidents Award for Outstanding Individual. A few years ago, a rare tie produced a dual award. This year, voting for the 28th year of the [LAMA](#) award, resulted in another dual award. Hundreds of members of the business community for light aircraft offered nominations. The person with the most such wins; it's a very simple system to recognize hardworking, creative people who helped move light aviation forward.



Kerry Ritcher (L) and Scott Severen won the LAMA President's Award for 2019. photos by Randee Laskewitz

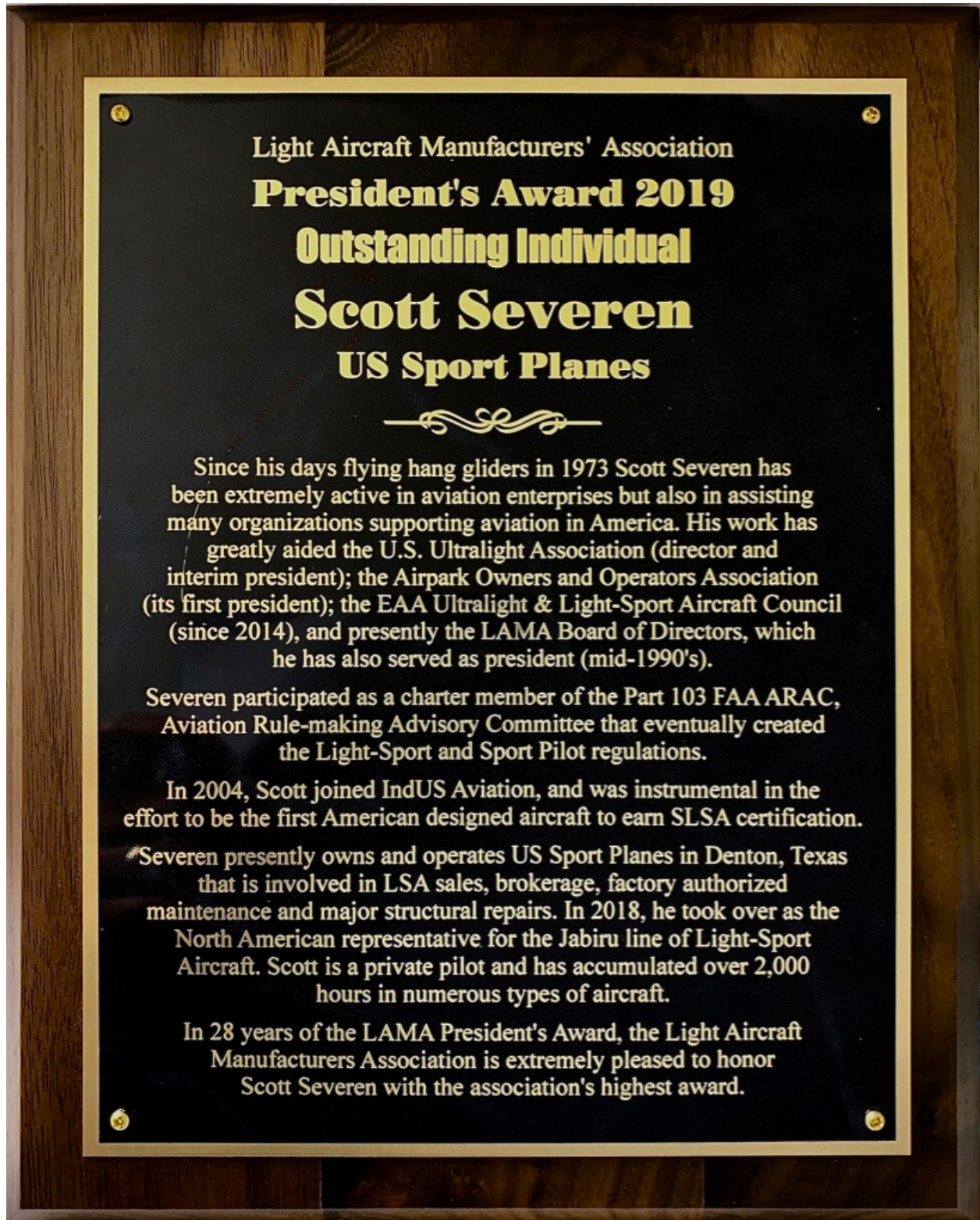
One of this years winners was **Kerry Ritcher**. With his father, Wayne, Kerry founded three aviation companies. He started manufacturing aircraft in 1977 and his enterprises have produced a total of more than 3,000 aircraft, continuing to the present. His best known design is the SeaRey from [Progressive Aerodyne](#) based in Tavares, Florida.

A Private Pilot with over 12,000 hours, Kerry has designed a dozen varied aircraft including Hi-Nuski; Cobra; King Cobra; Sea Wolf; Carrera; Carrera 180; Buccaneer SX; Catalina; Colibri; SeaRey; Stingray; and, SeaRey LSX/LS. The latter are in active production by the company he founded.

The second awardee is also a LAMA board of directors member. **Scott Severen** started flying hang gliders in 1973 and has since been active in several aviation enterprises. He also assisted many organizations supporting light aviation including the U.S. Ultralight Association; the Airpark Owners and Operators Association; the EAA Ultralight & Light-Sport Aircraft Council, and the LAMA board.

In 2004, Scott joined IndUS Aviation, and was instrumental in the effort to be the first American designed aircraft to earn SLSA certification.

Severen presently owns and operates [US Sport Planes](#), involved in LSA sales, brokerage, factory authorized maintenance and major structural repairs in Denton, Texas. In 2018, he took over as the North American representative for the Jabiru line of Light-Sport Aircraft. Scott is a private pilot and has accumulated over 2,000 hours in numerous types of aircraft.



Light Aircraft Manufacturers' Association

President's Award 2019

Outstanding Individual

Scott Severen

US Sport Planes



Since his days flying hang gliders in 1973 Scott Severen has been extremely active in aviation enterprises but also in assisting many organizations supporting aviation in America. His work has greatly aided the U.S. Ultralight Association (director and interim president); the Airpark Owners and Operators Association (its first president); the EAA Ultralight & Light-Sport Aircraft Council (since 2014), and presently the LAMA Board of Directors, which he has also served as president (mid-1990's).

Severen participated as a charter member of the Part 103 FAA ARAC, Aviation Rule-making Advisory Committee that eventually created the Light-Sport and Sport Pilot regulations.

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In 28 years of the LAMA President's Award, the Light Aircraft Manufacturers Association is extremely pleased to honor Scott Severen with the association's highest award.