

Circle of Service Award



Lately you have been hearing a lot about the Circle of Service Awards being given to our dancers for their dedication, service and support of our dancing community.

What is a Circle of Service Award, who awards it and who receives the honor?

The Circle of Service Award is a dancer award, only given to a dancer(s) by one who has previously been awarded the Circle of Service Award themselves. It is a nationally recognized award. The award consists of a framed award certificate and a pin. The pin is proudly worn by dancers who for three years or more have made a significant contribution to the square and round dance community. This award began in 1985.

The Circle of Service pin shows the stellar hub of the circle formed by a pattern of arcs and symbolizes the importance of each such person to the total picture. The same circular shapes flow outward to stylize musical symbols. This linear interplay suggests the strong bond between square and round dancing.

Many of the recent awards have been given to our Federation clubs and Federation leadership who through their dedication and diligent efforts, brought their clubs back to the dance floor safely and kept dancing alive in Western New York following the Covid Pandemic. The intention of the Circle of Service Award is to honor and recognize those individuals or couples whose accomplishments have gone unrewarded.

Within the past few years, the Federation Board voted to pay for all the costs related to both the Daphne Norma Award and Circle of Services Awards, previously it was the presenter paying for the awards, pins, plaques, etc.

For a Circle of Service Award recipient to give the award to another person, they just need to contact Debbie & Jeff Blood, Co-Presidents of the Federation, to arrange for the framed award certificate and pin. The Bloods maintain the master list of all the Circle of Service awards given to our members along with copies of all presentations. In honor and appreciation of receiving the award themselves, you will find several previous Circle of Service Award recipients attending these award presentations for others.

Circle of Service Awards Recipients of our WNYF Clubs

- 1987 Walt and Sally Baechle
Al and Lois Tenny**
- 1992 Andy and Marge Hamlin**
- 1995 Chuck and Gerry Prister**
- 1998 Ken and Kay Georger**
- 2000 Ed and Sybil Briggs
Bill and Bobbi Shepherd**
- 2002 Bill and Edith Thomas**
- 2004 Betty and Andy Ludwick
Rita and Ken Tucker**
- 2006 Bill and Ann Eubelacker**
- 2010 Don Hunger**
- 2013 Irma and Dick Halstead**
- 2015 Toni and Sidney Marshall**
- 2016 Ruth and Russ Uhrenholdt
Shirley Barnum**
- 2018 Sally and Peter Emmel**
- 2019 Jim and Sally Lee
Warren and Doreen Olson
Carl and Susan Thomas**
- 2022 Debbie and Jeff Blood
Linda and Glynn English
Donna and Rick LaDonna
Carol Ann and George Stahl
Anne Granger and Don Naulin
Mary Martin and Phil LaRussa**
- 2023 Henry and Jodi Capron
Chuck and Cindi DeNardo
Jim Gotta
Mary Jo and David Webster**

2024 Lucy Pietrzykowski
Missy Frendak
Polly Losito & Norm Courtemanche
Kay & Andy Anderson
Lorraine & Gary Granath
Phyllis & Charlie Smeltzer
Donna & Gary Etherton
Nancy Mirabal
Joann Baxter
Sharon Meyer
Sue Sepkowski

2025 Carl Webster
Sue & Bruce Green
Jean Whitmore

2026 Bonnie Allen
Pat Santacroce