Margie Hobbs and Wanda Garner Receive Herb Gross Presidential Awards

Two outstanding AMATYC members were recognized with Herb Gross Presidential Awards at the AMATYC Annual Conference in Denver. This award is the top service award to recognize exceptional service to AMATYC and to our profession.

Margie Hobbs had a lifetime of accomplishments within AMATYC. She served on committees, as program and conference chair, regional vice president, treasurer (not once but twice), and conference coordinator.

Tragically Margie left this world in March, leaving her family and AMATYC members in a state of shock. A tribute to Margie can be found in the April 2016 issue of the AMATYC News.

The Denver conference may be the only AMATYC conference Margie has missed since her first conference in 1980. The award was accepted by Margie’s daughter, Holly Hobbs, and sister-in-law, Pam Cox.

After Holly and Pam accepted Margie’s award, it was announced that the AMATYC Board and Foundation unanimously voted to create the Margie Hobbs Award to be given annually starting in 2017 to an AMATYC member who is attending his or her first conference and has been selected to present a regular session or workshop.

In looking at AMATYC’s history documents, one would first see Wanda Garner’s name appearing in 1985 when she was a regional vice president. Fast forward 30 plus years and she is still as involved as ever as AMATYC’s Executive Director. In the meantime she has served as secretary, in the three presidential positions, and twelve years as Program Coordinator. This is truly dedication and exceptional service.

In her role as Executive Director, Wanda is on the receiving end of a lot of emails, phone calls, texts, and requests to look into something further. She is a great sounding board and has no qualms saying that an idea is crazy or that it just might work. Wanda’s knowledge of all things AMATYC is a strong asset that has proven to be invaluable to the Executive Board and to the President.

Wanda has been and continues to be instrumental as a resource for the AMATYC leadership, giving of her time to further AMATYC’s mission as well as increasing our visibility in the mathematics community.