

The 2011 Annual Meeting

The Winzeler Award

On August 27, 1925 eight company owners gathered to form the Tool, Die, Special Machinery, and Manufacturing Association. Max Heinze was elected as the first president. Johnny Winzeler joined the association in 1927 with his company Reliance Die and Stamping. Max and Johnny were association pioneers.

Johnny Winzeler's son, Harold, and Max's grandson approached TMA in 1971 to establish awards to recognize our industry and association leaders. Originally two awards, one for service to the industry and one for service to TMA were ultimately combined into the Heinze-Winzeler Award. In 2008, the Awards Committee changed the name to the Winzeler Award recognizing that for the last 20 years the Winzeler family has been the sole sponsor of this award.

The Awards Committee is comprised of previous Award winners, Tim Doran, Joel Goldberg, Gregg Panek, Paul Prikos, and Bob Weisheit. This year the Committee voted to honor Dick Steininger as the 2011 recipient.

Sko-Die, Dick's family business, was started in 1947 by Dick's father, Joe, and his partners. Ultimately Joe became sole owner. Sko-Die joined TMA in 1948. As often happens in TMA family businesses, Dick was raised in the business and was attracted to the industry, eventually joining Sko-Die after completing school. Dick became a journeyman die maker and worked a variety of technical and engineering positions eventually becoming

president. Ultimately, son Patrick joined the company after completing business school and has applied his accounting and business knowledge to continue to grow Sko-Die.

During Dick's career he made a major investment of his time in TMA. His significant contributions include, twenty-six years on the Prayer Breakfast Committee and twenty-three years on the Education Foundation Committee. Dick also served on the Government Relations Committee, the Metalforming Education Committee, and the Legislative & Public Affairs Committee. He was Chairman of the Board in 1998. Dick, through his company, Sko-Die, has been a generous donor to the Association for many years, pledging money to both the Education Foundation & PAC. His commitment to TMA has helped to maintain the focus on two major areas that benefit members: education and government affairs.

Dick and Karen have been married for 53 years. They have 4 children, Amy, Betsy, Katy & Patrick, who have given them 12 grandchildren ranging from 5 years to 26 years old. Dick has since retired from the business and is enjoying watching Sko-Die continue to grow and prosper under his son Patrick's leadership.

On behalf of the Winzeler family, TMA members and staff, it is an honor to recognize Dick Steininger with this Swiss Atmos clock in recognition of outstanding service to the industry and TMA.



Winzeler Award Winner, Dick Steininger and his wife, Karen

photo courtesy of Todd Schuett, Creative Technology Corp.