



Pine Belt PRAM Chapter Awards of Excellence

Bud Kirkpatrick

Practitioner of the Year (named in 2002)

Recognizing achievement in public relations and service to the chapter during the calendar year.

To qualify, the nominee must:

- Be a member in good standing with the chapter.
- Have practiced in the field of public relations for no less than three years.
- Have contributed to the success of the chapter, state PRAM and/or SPRF during the calendar year.
- Have realized successes in the practice or teaching of public relations during the calendar year.

Previous Bud Kirkpatrick Award Winners

1996 Bud Kirkpatrick	2007 Teresa (Martin) McCreery
1997 Barbara Shoemake	2008 Traci Rouse
1998 Leigh Ann Underwood	2009 Kelly Thornton
1999 Joanne Marsh	2010 Shawn Mercer
2001 Tracie Bertaut, APR	2012 Jim Coll
2002 Bud Kirkpatrick (Lifetime)	2013 Kurt Brautigam, APR*
2003 Christie (Miller) Walters	2014 Samantha McCain, APR*
2004 Burlain Walker (Lifetime)	2015 Cindy Blackwell, Ph.D
2006 Lydia Walters	2016 Amber Ross Hartfield

Note: The recipient of this award becomes the Chapter's nominee for the State's Professional Achievement Award the following calendar year, giving the individual time to prepare the required binder for judging. * indicates winner of State Award.

Pine Belt Public Image Award

This new award recognizes a Pine Belt area business or individual for an achievement in public relations which significantly improves the image of the Pine Belt on a regional or national scale, or which greatly increases the quality of life of a segment of the area's residents or the region as a whole.

To qualify, the nominee must:

- Be based in the greater Pine Belt area.
- Have engaged in a public relations activity or event which impacts the greater Pine Belt area. The greater the scale, response or effect, the more likely the nominee is to be chosen for this award.
- Have actively participated in the promotion and outcome of the public relations activity – i.e. simply entering a national contest and winning is not significant enough to win this award, unless considerable effort was made to engage the public on the part of the entrant.
- Be nominated by a PRAM member in good standing who did not participate in said public relations activity.

Previous Pine Belt Image Award Winners:

2014 Festival South 2015 William Carey Dinner Theater 2016 Signature's Best of the Pine Belt

Submission of Nominations

To nominate a person for any award, a member must submit a brief paragraph, not to exceed 250 words, stating why the recipient deserves the award. The following must be included:

- Nominee's name or business name
- Award for which they are nominated
- Nominator's name
- Nominator's phone number

Burlain O'Neal Walker

Professional Promise Award (named in 2010)

Recognizing future success in the field of public relations by a new or young practitioner.

To qualify, the nominee must:

- Be a member or student in good standing with the chapter.
- Practiced public relations for less than three years or be a student currently enrolled in a public relations curriculum.
- Demonstrate considerable promise in the field.

Previous Burlain O'Neal Walker Award Winners

1998 Susan (Taylor) Miller	2008 Jessica Wallace
1999 Grant Staples	2009 Nicole Ruhnke
2000 Pam (Tullis) Swain	2010 Amber Ross Hartfield
2001 Samantha Carman	2011 Samantha Andrus
2002 Sara Peterson	2012 Colleen (Donovan) Munkel
2003 Jennifer Rigney	2013 Olivia Ann Hurst
2004 Brooke Bryan	2014 Hanna Knowles
2006 Julie (DiFatta) Russum	2015 Joshua Wilson
2007 Lisa Bynum	2016 Tonya Williams

Other factors may also be used in consideration for these awards, including:

- Participation in other professional or pre-professional organizations.
- Professional development such as continuing education, seminars, conferences, etc.
- Public relations community service.
- Respect by peers evidenced by awards conferred.

Entries should be e-mailed by **Friday, December 1, 2017** to tonyawilliams@cooperativeenergy.com. All nominees will be judged by a panel of public relations professionals.

Additional Questions: Please contact Pine Belt PRAM Awards Chair Tonya Williams by calling 601.705.6608 or e-mailing her at tonyawilliams@cooperativeenergy.com.