



THE LIFESAVING FOUNDATION

Presentation of 2013 Ireland Medal to Professor Stephen J. Langendorfer PhD., USA



The Lifesaving Foundation's 2013 Ireland Medal was presented to American Professor Stephen J. Langendorfer PhD., Bowling Green State University, Ohio, in recognition of his long exceptional contribution to saving lives from drowning. The medal was presented by Rear Admiral Mark Mellett DSM, Deputy Chief of Staff, Ireland's Defence Forces, at a special function during the Lifesaving Foundation's 2014 International Drowning Prevention and Rescue Conference in Balbriggan, North County Dublin. Fifty of the world's leading drowning researchers attended the function.



Present at the ceremony were previous medal recipients and their representatives.



Receipt of the Ireland Medal is accompanied by a commemorative piece of original art consisting of calligraphy in the style of that in the ancient Irish Book of Kells manuscript and images related to the recipient's life and work. The commemorative parchment was jointly presented by

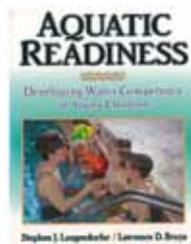
Rear Admiral Mellett and Royal Life Saving Society Ireland's Branch President Edward Duffy.

"Jeanne and I thoroughly enjoyed all of our time in Ireland. We found the ceremony to be a humbling experience and a wonderful honour for us both. We were very appreciative of the tremendous hospitality shown by everyone at the conference and during our entire stay in Ireland. Learning more about my Irish heritage and the history of Ireland was a particular thrill. Thank you all so much." (Professor Stephen J. Langendorfer)

Group Presentation Photo; Asst. Dublin Fire Chief Brendan McNicolas (representing 2009 medal recipient Dublin Fire Brigade), Asst. Garda Commissioner John Twomey (representing 2003 medal recipient An Garda Síochána – Ireland's police service), Professor Robert Stallman (The Lifesaving Foundation), Professor Stephen Langendorfer, John Connolly (2012 medal recipient & Lifesaving Foundation), Patricia Wilcox (2010 South Africa medal recipient), Mrs Jeanne Langendorfer, Brendan Donohoe (Chairperson, The Lifesaving Foundation), Rear Admiral Mark Mellett DSM.

IRISH HERITAGE

Stephen's great grandfather Patrick McNally was born in Co. Mayo in 1843. His great grandmother Mary Cunningham was born in Ireland in 1849. One of their daughters Katherine Teresa McNally married Stephen's grandfather John Francis Langendorfer.



Professor Langendorfer has served as a volunteer aquatic consultant to the American Red Cross since 1987 and is the author of numerous scholarly publications in developmental aquatics including co-authoring Aquatic Readiness:



Developing Water Competence in Young Children. He is the founding editor of the International Journal in Aquatic Research and Education (IJARE), a peer-reviewed scholarly publication focusing on the dissemination of non-competitive aquatic research from around the world.



LIFESAVING FOUNDATION BACKGROUND

The Lifesaving Foundation is an independent lifesaving charity based in Ireland. The Foundation has an open international membership that supports lifesavers in low and middle-income countries and promotes general research into drowning through encouraging research in developing countries and organising a regular drowning prevention and research conference. Its membership ranges from international university professors and world-leading medical doctors to members of small community organisations with few formal qualifications but a lot of practical experience. The Ireland Medal was introduced in 2004 in conjunction with the Royal Life Saving Society to mark the centenary of organised lifesaving training in Ireland and to recognise exceptional contributions to saving lives from drowning by Irish lifesavers or lifesavers of Irish descent. Eleven (11) medals have been awarded to eight (8) individuals from Ireland, USA, South Africa, United Kingdom and Australia and three (3) Irish organisations. The Foundation has a website devoted to the Ireland Medal which can be accessed at www.lifesavingfoundation.ie/irelandmedal/.



Professor Langendorfer sharing a joke with participants at the 2014 Lifesaving Foundation Drowning Prevention and Rescue Conference. Sitting are Professor Emeritus Robert Stallman (Norway) and Foundation Hon. CEO John Connolly.