King Schools owner earns Henderson Award for 2005

Martha King, the co-chairman and co-owner of King Schools, one of the leading providers of training courses for pilots, won the Cliff Henderson Award for Achievement.

The Henderson Award is given each year to an individual or group whose vision, leadership or skill has made a significant and lasting contribution to the promotion or advancement of aviation.

King, with her husband John, appears in the company’s courses and television productions, which are viewed by half of each year’s new crop of private and instrument pilots. King Schools, which has been in operation for 30 years, has delivered millions of tapes, CD-ROMs and DVDs to pilots as they learned to fly. King holds every category and class of FAA pilot and instructor certificates – she is believed to be the first woman to accomplish that feat.

Today she still flies everything from jet and piston airplanes to helicopters and powered parachutes. She is also a backup pilot for the Fujifilm blimp. Beyond her work with King Schools, king has been a crusader in the cause of improving the risk management practices of general aviation pilots and speaks to thousands of pilots each year on aviation safety. She also works with FAA's National Aviation Safety Program in producing safety videos.

King has earned many honors in her career, including being honored at the first flight centennial as one of the 100 Distinguished Aviation heroes, where she shared a stage with the likes of Neil Armstrong, John Glenn, Chuck Yeager and Patty Wagstaff.