Show and tell!

At its Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly in November, ASWB will once again recognize standout contributors in the field of social work regulation.

You know who they are: the colleagues you admire and aspire to emulate because they show leadership, are committed to public protection, and make a difference serving on your board or being indispensable as a staff member. If you know them, now is your opportunity to show and tell ASWB why they should receive ASWB’s highest awards: the Sunny Andrews Award for board members and the Board Administrator Award for board staff. Nominations for the awards come from peers, which makes the accolade an even higher honor.

ASWB’s awards recognize board members and staff for service to their individual jurisdictions, rather than to ASWB, another reason those working closely with the nominee are in the best position to give the details about the candidate’s achievements. But time is running out! The nomination window closes on July 31.

At the 2013 Annual Meeting, ASWB recognized Kenneth Middlebrooks of Minnesota with the Sunny Andrews Award for Outstanding Commitment to Social Work Regulatory Board Service. Middlebrooks’ contributions were worthy of the award name, with his tenure of leadership as a public board member, board officer, and member of his board’s Legislative Task Force, Complaint Resolution Compliance Committee, and four other committees.

Also recognized in 2013 for outstanding dedication was Richard Hazel of Saskatchewan, who received the Board Administrator Award. Hazel, then newly retired executive director of the Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers, was praised for ensuring that the association flourished under his leadership from September 2002 to May 2013, as well as for his instrumental role in the creation and development of the Canadian Council of Social Work Regulators, and his greatly valued and appreciated “mediation” skills in dealing with interest groups who took issue with the furthering of regulation.

The ASWB Board is once again looking for nominees with the same level of commitment to the field. Any member or staff member of an ASWB member board, a member of the ASWB Board of Directors, or an ASWB staff member is eligible to nominate either a board member for the Sunny Andrews Award or a board staff member for the Board Administrator Award.

Because the awards are such an esteemed and competitive honor in the social work regulation community, nominating someone requires more than just submitting a name. The ASWB Board of
Directors, which makes the decision on the winners, needs thorough information about why a nominee should be chosen. Those nominating someone should advocate for that nominee and give complete details about their attributes and contributions.

Submission guidelines, nomination criteria, and forms are available online or from the ASWB office. Nominations are due by July 31, and the Board of Directors will make its decisions at its August meeting.

Forms may be sent to ASWB, 400 Southridge Parkway, Suite B, Culpeper, VA 22701; faxed to 540.829.0562, Attn: Melissa Ryder, or emailed to mryder@aswb.org. For questions, contact Melissa Ryder at 800.225.6880, ext. 3060.