



Excellence Awards

PRESIDENT'S LEADERSHIP AWARD

Township Officials Recognized for Dedication, Service to Their Communities

While many benefit from the behind-the-scenes efforts of local leaders, these public servants don't often get the praise they deserve. That changed 30 years ago when PSATS started recognizing those who have truly made a difference in their communities. Every year since, PSATS has presented the President's Leadership Award to two hard-working township officials whose accomplishments have made their townships better places to live and work.

BY JILL ERCOLINO / MANAGING EDITOR

Fred Krizinsky, a supervisor for Mineral Township in Venango County, and Larry Gregan, manager of Montgomery Township in Montgomery County, were honored with PSATS' 30th Annual President's Leadership Awards.

Presented during the Excellence Awards Ceremony at the 97th Annual Educational Conference and Exhibit Show, the honor recognizes township officials whose outstanding projects and programs have benefited their community and whose service to township government exhibits the highest standards of dedication, leadership, and creativity.

PSATS established the award, one of its highest honors, in 1990 and presents it at each conference to a township supervisor and an administrator.

Fred Krizinsky, Supervisor Mineral Township, Venango County

A supervisor for three decades and the township's roadmaster/foreman, Krizinsky joins an elite group of local government officials who have received this award.

"He's a truly dedicated township employee and wonderful human being," Hilary Buchanan, deputy director of the Venango County Regional Planning Commission, said.

A model of leadership and public service, Krizinsky was born and raised in the township, where he spent his summers working on the road crew while in high school.

"He learned the mechanics of road management, cutting brush, picking stones, and running off-road equip-

ment," said the township secretary who submitted the nomination. "In addition, he worked at a neighborhood trout hatchery. This experience contributed to his love of fishing while teaching the impact of weather conditions and water management on a successful harvest."

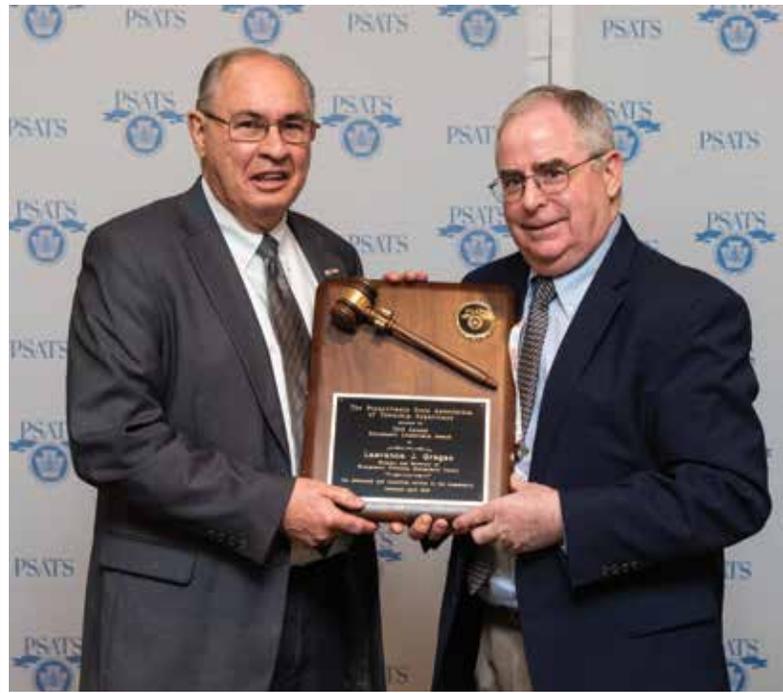
Over the years, many of Krizinsky's accomplishments have had a common focus: protecting water resources in his community and surrounding areas.

Whether helping to form a local watershed association, developing a treatment system to restore a native trout stream, coming up with innovative ideas to control runoff, or obtaining grants for stormwater projects, his philosophy about water can be boiled down to two goals: Tell it where to go and keep it clean.

Working with other municipalities,



Leadership Award winner Fred Krizinsky, right, a supervisor and roadmaster for Mineral Township, Venango County, has been described as a “a truly dedicated township employee and wonderful human being.” He is shown with PSATS First Vice President and Executive Board Chair Marvin Meter.



Larry Gregan, right, manager of Montgomery Township, Montgomery County, also received the Leadership Award for guiding his community through a number of important projects. He also is shown with PSATS First Vice President and Executive Board Chair Marvin Meter.

he helped form the Oil Region Council of Governments and represents the organization on the board of the Venango County Regional Planning Commission.

Such intergovernmental efforts are a common practice for this supervisor, who firmly believes in townships working together for the good of all.

“Through Fred’s leadership and willingness to work cooperatively with other organizations,” Lance Bowles, district manager of the Venango Conservation District, said, “he has been able to make a positive impact on greatly improving the infrastructure and water quality of Mineral Township and Venango County.”

Larry Gregan, Manager Montgomery Township, Montgomery County

A former staff sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserves, Gregan has more than three decades of experience working

in communities in southeastern Pennsylvania and Florida. He plans to retire at the end of 2019 after 12 years with Montgomery Township.

“I have watched Larry for years as manager of this busy and growing township balance the needs and desires of the businesses, the residents, and quite frankly, the considerable traffic, to help the board of supervisors achieve its vision of the township as a great place to live, work, and raise a family,” retired state Rep. Kate Harper said.

During his tenure, Gregan has:

- Overseen the construction of a 40,000-square-foot community and recreation center;
- Founded the Pennsylvania Stormwater Coalition, which has 45 municipal members in the southeast;
- Led the creation of the county’s tax collection committee;
- Helped the township preserve a piece of land next to the township park; and

- Directed multiple events to celebrate the township’s tricentennial.

“I have often said that being a township manager is one of the toughest jobs in the world, and Larry does it very, very well,” Harper said. “Larry Gregan is a superstar.”

Michael J. Fox, chair of the township’s board of supervisors, agrees: “Larry has been an immeasurable asset to our community. This is demonstrated through his leadership and experience in navigating the township through many important and challenging projects.”

In addition to his work for Montgomery Township, Gregan is active in the Montgomery County Consortium of Communities, the Montgomery County Association of Township Officials, the Association for Municipal Management, the International City Management Association, and the Montgomery County Tax Collection Committee. ♦