

Iroquois Trail Council Celebrates Volunteer Service at Annual Dinner

At the January 30 Annual Awards Dinner the Iroquois Trail Council was pleased to recognize many individuals and units for their outstanding work to support our Scout youth.

2010 marks the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. The Awards Dinner kicked off the start of a year of celebration.

Quality Council and District Awards

Thanks to the efforts of Scouting volunteers at all levels, the Council has qualified for the prestigious Quality Council Award for 2009. Additionally, each of our 3 districts has qualified for the 2009 Quality District Award. 2009 highlights include:

- growth in membership, including an increase of more than 100 Cub Scouts
- 24% increase in Cub Scout resident camp attendance
- a double-digit increase in the percentage of trained leaders
- continued major investments in our camp properties
- continued financial stability with a balanced operating budget

Local Scouting Units were recognized in several categories:

Membership

Highest Youth Retention Rate: Pack 3008 (Cambria)

Greatest % Growth Dec 08 – Dec 09: Pack 3018 (Gasport) and Troop 8 (Cambria)

Camping

Highest % Attendance – Cub Resident Camp at Sam Wood: Pack 3094 (Kendall)

Highest Combined % Attendance – Cub Scout Camping: Pack 6069 (Batavia)

Highest % Attendance – Boy Scout Camp Dittmer: Troop 25 (Lyndonville)

Popcorn Sales

Highest Average Sales per Youth Member: Pack 3004 (Lockport)

Troop 6066 (Indian Falls)

Pace-Setters – Our Packs with the largest gain in sales: Pack 6017 (Elba)

Pack 6467 (Pembroke)

Pack 3004 has the distinction of top unit sales for 2009, with sales of more than \$26,000. This is the 3rd consecutive year that the pack has achieved this honor.

Two youth members were also recognized as the newest members of the **“Trail’s End Scholarship Club”** with qualifying sales of more than \$2,500. In addition to the dollars these boys raised for their Scout programs, each has also qualified for a national college scholarship program. Recognized were Cub Scout Robbie Pugh (Lockport) and Cub Scout Ryan Barnard (Pavilion).

Several Scouters were recognized with veteran awards for their long-tenured Scouting membership, including Jack Vosburg (Silver Springs) who received special mention for 50 years of service, and Charlie Lenhard, who received special mention for 50 years of service as Scoutmaster of Corfu Troop 6067.

Silver Beaver Awards

Two volunteers were honored with the Council's highest award, the Silver Beaver Award. Honorees are Shawn Tiede (Batavia), and Melvin Sonnleitner (Hunt).

The Silver Beaver is awarded by the local Council for distinguished service to youth. Each of this year's recipients is a long-tenured volunteer who has also made significant contributions by way of service to his local community.

Shawn Tiede is a graduate of Leadership Genesee, past president of the Kiwanis Club of Batavia, and a member of the Iroquois Trail Council Executive Board and the Wyoming County Youth Board. He is the past recipient of numerous honors, including Eagle Scout, Order of the Arrow Vigil Honor and Founder's Award.

Mel Sonnleitner's service to youth includes nearly 15 years as Cubmaster of Pack 4747 in Fillmore. He has also served as a trainer for volunteer leaders and chaired numerous Cub Scout events. Mel is also a member of the Fillmore American Legion Post 1155. Past honors include numerous training awards and the District Award of Merit.

Silver Antelope Award

Since our last awards dinner, the National Council at its annual meeting has awarded Executive Board Member Vito Gautieri with the prestigious and rare Silver Antelope Award. The Silver Antelope recognizes service to Scouting beyond the local council territory. Vito has long served as a board member and patron of the Iroquois Trail Council. His annual contribution makes our Batavia Service Center possible. He recently completed a 2-year term as President of the Northeast Region Area 3 and currently serves on the Northeast Regional Board.

Endowment Support

The James E. West Fellowship Award is a National recognition for individuals who contribute or are honored with a contribution of \$1,000 or more in cash or securities to their local council endowment fund. This contribution is in addition to the donor's annual gift to the council's "Friends of Scouting" Campaign. The award is named after the first Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America.

The Council was pleased to present 5 James E. West Awards:

David Hawley; Dr. Thomas Madejski; Stephen Moulton – in honor of his father James Moulton; and Ronald & Tracy Boyd – in memory of Austin J. Boyd (this award was made possible by several members of the Council's Executive Board); Margaret J. Quinn