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# GREATER LOWELL DISTRICT 2009 BUSINESS MEETING ANNUAL RECOGNITION DINNER LIVE BAND

TEWKSBURY ELKS CLUB, 777 SOUTH STREET  
TEWKSBURY, MA

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2008  
7:00 PM  
6:30 RECEPTION

AWARDS  
BUFFET DINNER  
ENTERTAINMENT  
CASH BAR

COME RECOGNIZE THE SCOUTERS  
THAT HAVE MADE THIS A QUALITY DISTRICT  
ENJOY A BUFFET DINNER AND A LIVE BAND  
"Shed"

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## For Consideration of Adult Recognition and Awards

send documentation via email to [dabush@bsamail.org](mailto:dabush@bsamail.org)

or mail to YCCBSA, 36 Amesbury Rd., Haverhill, MA 01830

"an institution is the lengthened shadow of one man."  
Ralph Waldo Emerson

This booklet contains information on the different types of adult recognition available to Scouters and the requirements for each. A separate nomination must be utilized for each award. Each nomination must contain the noteworthy service upon which the nomination form is based. Remember that a lot depends on the accuracy of your write-up. If you do not do your research and provide accurate information, it could result in the person not being considered.

(exception: Certificate of Appreciation where a list will do just fine)

Please try to not let the person you are nominating know that they are being nominated for a specific award. This can be difficult as you are trying to glean information. As an example, you tell John Smith that you need information so that you can nominate him for the District Award of Merit. Then, at the Recognition Dinner, John is presented with a Spark Plug Award. It is a nice award and represents lots of hard work, but John feels slighted because he did not get the award he thought he was nominated for. Instead of this being a plus for this dedicated volunteer, it becomes a minus. It would be great if we could all do award nominations and never let the person know we are doing them. What might be good however, is that one does not let the nominee know what award that they are being nominated for.

The awards section is being sent via email to our units. Please forward it freely so that all may participate.

The link to the many BSA Adult Training Awards (Knots) is: <http://www.scouting.org/media/forms.aspx>  
please do not overlook this important recognition item.

There are many additional awards that can be found. We cannot list them all. Should you find an Award that you feel someone in your unit should be recognized for, bring it forward!

The Awards highlighted are:

### **National Awards**

National President's Scoutmaster Award of Merit  
Scouter Training Awards  
W. D. Boyce Award  
Recommendation for Lifesaving or Meritorious Action Award (Youth & Adult)  
Hornaday Awards  
Young American Award  
Service Pins

### **National Religious Organizations**

Adult Religious Awards

### **Community Awards**

**Alpha Phi Omega:** Herbert G. Horton Service to Youth Award  
**American Legion:** American Legion and Scouting Award  
**BPOE (Elks):** Marvin M. Lewis Award  
**DoD:** Department of Defense Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal  
**Freemasons:** Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award  
**Rotary International:** Cliff Dochterman Award  
**VFW:** VFW Scouters Achievement Award

### **Council Awards**

Silver Beaver Award  
James E. West Fellow  
Friends of Scouting Recognition Patch

### **District Awards**

Award of Merit  
New Scouter(s) of the Year  
Certificate of Appreciation -- Extra Miler Awards  
Spark Plug Award

### **National President's Scoutmaster Award of Merit**



All trained Scoutmasters can earn this award. This nomination is made by the Senior Patrol Leader and the Troop Committee to recognize excellence as a Scoutmaster. It can come early in a Scoutmaster's tenure. Receiving this takes a bit more time since the award must be processed in Irving, Texas. This award can be submitted at any time during the year. The requirements are as follows:

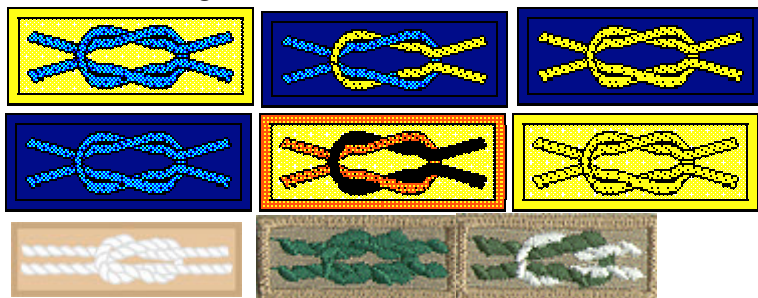
- Be currently registered as Scoutmaster and have served in that position for at least 18 months.
- Have achieved Quality Unit at least once during the period of tenure.
- Completed Fast Start and training course for Scoutmasters (new or old courses)
- Have a record of proper use of the Boy Scout advancement program resulting in a majority of his Scouts attaining First Class.
- Have a record of:
  - Development of boy leadership through the patrol method
  - Positive relations with the troop's charter organization
  - Extensive outdoors program including summer camp
  - Positive image of Scouting in the community
  - Troop operation that attracts and retains Scouts

This application can be made any time during the year and should be sent to the district office. A copy of the application is included in the appendix. An original form is in the Scoutmaster Handbook.

Forms are available in the Council office and online at

<http://www.scouting.org/boyscouts/resources/ScoutmasterAwardofMerit.aspx>

## Scouter Training Awards



BSA has training awards for just about every position in Scouting. The forms with the requirements for the various awards are all available on the internet. Most can be filled out any time during the year and approved by the district training chairman (you can send them to the district office and they will be forwarded). Each award has tenure and training requirements. (note: Webelos Leader Awards now carry a one year tenure requirement rather than two that is listed on some cards) Each award also carries practical responsibilities that should be carried out. Some tenure requirements will prevent eligibility for other awards. Forms are available in the Council office and online at <http://www.scouting.org/media/forms.aspx>

## William D. Boyce New-Unit Organizer Award



The William D. Boyce New-Unit Organizer Award is presented to recognize volunteers who organize one or more traditional Scouting units. The award may be worn on the adult uniform. The award is a square knot placed over the three colors representing the three phases of our program—Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, and Venturing. A volunteer can earn the knot by organizing one traditional unit, and a program device can be earned for up to three additional units organized. You may nominate yourself for this award by simply downloading the form, filling it out, and turning it in to your District Committee Chair.

## Lifesaving Awards

The awards for saving a life or heroic actions and can be presented to any registered youth member or adult volunteer. The level of detail is quite high. The award is approved at the district level, council level, and finally national level and takes considerable time to process. There are also several categories of awards depending on the level of personal risk involved. Forms are available in the Council office and online.



## William T. Hornaday Award



The William T. Hornaday Award recognizes Scouts, Venturers and Scouters for their service to conservation and ecology efforts in their communities. To earn the Hornaday Award as an individual, youth members must earn a series of merit badges followed by a concentrated series of conservation and/or environmental education projects to be conducted in the member's community or nearby, under the advisement of a trained conservation, naturalist, or environmental engineering expert. The present adult Gold Award is nominative in nature, and extends over at least a ten-year span of working in or with conservation or environmental education/reclamation efforts in the community, state or nation. Self-nomination automatically disqualifies a candidate.

<http://www.scouting.org/Media/FactSheets/02-568.aspx>

## Young American Award

First presented in 1968, the council-level award is given to college students student age 19 through 25 to highlight publicly the importance of their excellent achievements and service to their community, state and nation. The council-level Young American Award consists of a plaque to be awarded at an appropriate council ceremony. The council office typically extends the application process in September to appropriate council units and community youth-serving organizations, which then submit nominations on behalf of their young adult constituents. Recipients are not required to be a member or a participant of a local council unit or program. The national-level award consists of a ribbon medallion and an unrestricted cash award of \$5,000. <http://www.scouting.org/Awards/YoungAmericanAward.aspx>



## Service Pins



Applications for 5-, 10-, 15-, and 20-year veteran awards are processed and awarded by the local council. They are not sent to the national office. Applications for awards of 25 years or more only are processed and awarded by the national office. Veteran insignia may be worn as pins or tie tacs and may be ordered from your local council

## Religious Awards



These awards are presented by the religious organization in which a volunteer may be involved. It usually involves strong involvement in Scouting plus being very active within the religious organization. For most of the awards there is no checklist of what is required. Some of the nomination forms are in the Council office. Others are available from the religious organization. There is usually a cost involved with the award that is sometimes borne by the unit and/or the religious organization. Forms are available in the Council office and online [www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org)

## Community Organization Award



Boy Scout Community Organization Awards can be used by any community organization to honor its volunteers for Scouting. A community organization is permitted to create its own neck medallion and to award a purple square knot badge with a gold border. The following organizations have developed awards under this program:

**Alpha Phi Omega:** [Herbert G. Horton Service to Youth Award](#)

**American Legion:** [American Legion and Scouting Award](#)

**BPOE (Elks):** [Marvin M. Lewis Award](#)

**DoD:** [Department of Defense Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal](#)

**Freemasons:** [Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award](#)

**Rotary International:** [Cliff Dochterman Award](#)

**VFW:** [VFW Scouters Achievement Award](#)

*All the above links are to an external, non-official BSA location <http://www.usscouts.org>*

## Wood Badge



Wood Badge is a training course for Scouters which finally results in their receiving a certificate, a small neckerchief, a leather slide, and two small wooden beads on a leather thong. Wood Badge is Scouting's premier training course, designed it so Scouters could learn, in as practical a way possible, the skills and methods of Scouting. It is first and foremost, learning by doing. <http://www.woodbadge.org/>

## Council Awards Silver Beaver Award

**NOTE: The deadline for the 2009 Silver Beaver nominations is March 31<sup>st</sup>**



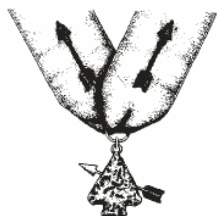
This award is a national award presented at the closing of our Annual Council Dinner in June. This award is made for noteworthy service of exceptional character to youth by registered adult leaders. A council may present one award for every 60 units as of 31 Dec. of the previous year. A volunteer may only receive this award once regardless of the council where the award is presented. Volunteers receiving this award normally have been very active in the BSA for at least 8 years, have participated at the unit, district and/or council level. The level of involvement is very high. The impact that they have had on youth within the area of the council is quite high. They are involved in other organizations outside of scouting. Volunteer involvement in other councils is also highly considered. Nominees should probably have received the Award of Merit. The level of detail for the nomination is very high. A volunteer selection committee composed of volunteers meets in March to select the awards. Forms are available in the Council office and online at <http://www.scouting.org/media/forms.aspx>

## Distinguished Commissioner



The Distinguished Commissioner Service Award is intended to recognize commissioners who provide quality service. The Distinguished Commissioner Service Award is presented to Unit, Assistant District, District, Assistant Council, and Council Commissioners whom have served actively as a registered commissioner for at least five years, have completed the Commissioner training courses, received the Arrowhead Honor Award, and whose units/District/Council has achieved a level of quality through the BSA's Quality Unit/District/Council program. Each council decides how to certify eligibility and keep records. There is no national application form for this award. Forms are available in the Council office and online.

## The National Order of the Arrow, Distinguished Service Award



Award to those Arrowmen who have rendered outstanding service to the Order on a sectional, regional, or national basis. It is given primarily for dedicated service to the Order and Scouting over a period of years. Only a limited number of awards can be presented. Arrowmen whose service records are the most outstanding and extend the farthest beyond the lodge level are usually selected. Young men under 21 and adults (volunteer and professional) are eligible for nomination.

## James E. West Fellow



James E. West was appointed to the position of Chief Scout Executive in 1910 by the founding leadership of Scouting in America. West worked with Sir Robert Baden-Powell, Daniel Carter Beard, Ernest T. Seton, and many interested community leaders to give direction to the infant program of Boy Scouts of America. On January 2, 1911, West and others formed the National Council, B.S.A. Under his leadership over the next 33 years, Scouting grew and matured into the program we recognize and enjoy today. The James E. West Fellowship Award is a recognition presented by the Yankee Clipper Council for individuals who contribute \$1,000 or more in cash or securities to the Yankee Clipper Council Endowment fund. This contribution is in addition to, and should not diminish or replace, the donor's annual gift to the Friends of Scouting Campaign. Organizations or individuals may contribute an award in honor of someone -- an Eagle Scout, a Silver Beaver recipient, Council, District or unit Scouter, or in memory of a departed loved one.

There can be no finer honor paid to a Scouter than to be named a James E. West Fellow, indicating that the nominee is in the same spirit and dedication to Scouting as was James E. West.

### **Yankee Clipper Friends of Scouting Council Strip Patch**

Given in recognition of financial support of the district program. Organizations or individuals may contribute an award in honor of someone whom they wish to recognize.



### **District Awards**

#### **Award of Merit**

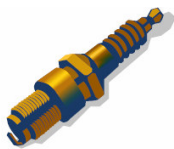


**NOTE: The deadline for the 2009 District Award of Merit nominations is April 2nd.**

This award will be presented at the District Recognition Dinner May 9. Greater Lowell District can present three awards based on the number of traditional units in the district (one per 25 or fraction thereof). The deadline for award nominations is the 3rd of April. Volunteers receiving this award normally are very active within the district. They usually have both Unit and District experience. One level of service is not given more regard than the other. Previous involvement in other districts and councils count strongly towards the award. The selection committee is comprised of volunteers who have previously earned the award. Level of detail is significant. Forms are available in the Council at <http://www.scouting.org/media/forms.aspx> or at

#### **Unit Spark Plug Award**

**NOTE: The deadline for the 2009 Sparkplug nominations is April 2nd.**



This award is presented to the adult leaders who provide "the spark" in each unit. This award can be given in conjunction with other awards. Please nominate your "Spark Plug" with a brief description of what this Scouter does to make your unit work!! Forms are available in the Council office and on the Greater Lowell District page. [www.yccbsa.org/districts](http://www.yccbsa.org/districts)

#### **Certificate of Appreciation --- The Extra Miler Award**

This certificate is added this year to recognize volunteers who help make the program work. We appreciate the efforts all of our volunteers put forth to help Scouting in our communities. Units will distinguish which volunteers should receive a Certificate and those that should receive the Spark Plug. Again a simple list with the correct spelling of names is appreciated. Please use the Spark Plug Award form, noting EXTRA MILER. Forms are available in the Council office and on the Greater Lowell District page. [www.yccbsa.org/districts](http://www.yccbsa.org/districts)

#### **New Scouters of the Year**

A certificate is presented to the volunteer(s) who in their first year as a registered leader (any position) have made a great impact on the program in their community. This is for first year, first time leaders. Normally the leaders have completed the training appropriate for their position. Deadlines are the same as for the Award of Merit. Level of detail should include what he or she has done to make such an outstanding contribution in the limited amount of time they have been a leader. Usually no more than 3 certificates are presented. Please use the Spark Plug Award form, noting NEW SCOUTER. Forms are available in the Council office and online on the Greater Lowell District page. [www.yccbsa.org/districts](http://www.yccbsa.org/districts)

## **TIPS FOR FILLING IN THE FORMS**

Please spell names correctly! When printing everything up, all care is taken to avoid any mistakes with names. However sometimes we do as it is next to impossible to make out "l" from "i" or "a" from "o" etc. Some units feel they should nominate everyone for the Award of Merit and let the committee select. The danger of course is when John Smith is selected by the committee to receive the District Award of Merit and Margaret Jones receives the Spark Plug Award, and everyone in Pack 999 knows that Margaret puts in 5 times the effort as John. We cannot know that distinction if they are both nominated for the same award. Also the volunteer committee has a tendency to move everyone down if a unit nominates 10 people for the Award of Merit and we can only give 3 in the entire district.

The level of detail provided should be enough that as we look at 40 nomination forms that we can spot what makes this person special among the top 10 to 15 Scouters. Units should look closely at the number of people they are nominating for awards. If one unit is nominating 10 people, it is probable that some of your leaders will be selected. It is also probable that our top choices may not be your top choices. It is no fun in a pack or troop to have presentations and watch someone who does a great job volunteering for an hour a week getting the trophy while the person who volunteers 50 hours a week gets a certificate. Let's not let that happen here.

The higher the award the more detail that is required. It is a shame to see nomination forms that read "John Smith, a great Scouter who gives much time and effort to Troop 123 and Greater Lowell District. He should get the Award of Merit." John may be well deserving of the Award of Merit but that write up will not help him. If a person has the Silver Beaver or the District Award of Merit they cannot receive the same award twice.

## **Who Selects the Award Recipients?**

Volunteers selected by the advancement committee make the selections for the various awards. Usually the committee is composed of volunteers who have been presented the Award of Merit. In some cases the committee invites key community volunteers to sit on the selection panel in order that no one area has a predominance of volunteers making the selection.

## **ALTERNATIVE AWARDS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

***Distinguished Service Award*** This award is typically for Scouters who have earned the Service to Youth Award and continue to provide outstanding support to the Scouting program in the District. Earning the Service to Youth Award is a prerequisite for this award, however on occasion when the Scouter has provided truly outstanding service and the volunteer may be leaving the committee has waived the Service to Youth requirement. The nomination should detail the additional service provided by this Scouter since receiving the Service to Youth Award.

***Service to Youth*** The volunteer selection committee typically sets the number of awards to be presented (usually 10 to 15, based on the number of total nominations). This award is for volunteers who have made significant contributions to the BSA program in the District or elsewhere. Key Den Leaders, Unit Leaders, Assistant Leaders, Committee Chairs, and Committee members make up the bulk of the recipients. A handsome color certificate is presented to recipients of this award. The written nomination should highlight how this person goes beyond the efforts of the "average" Scouter. Award deadlines are the same as for the Award of Merit.

***\*\*Please note that if you chose to register here online, a small convenience fee will be added by the Council's web service provider 'Doubleknot' as a passthrough fee. You can avoid this fee by mailing, faxing, or walking in your registration. This fee is applied only to credit card transactions that go through Doubleknot's interface and is not collected by the Yankee Clipper Council.\*\****