Sam Houston Area Council Boy Scouts of America

2015 Annual Recognition Reception



Chapelwood United Methodist Church

October 27, 2015

2015 Annual Recognition Reception

Master of Ceremony Bill Balleza	
OpeningTroop 641	
Tribute to Service	
Roll Call to ServiceRich Eichler, Chairman of the Board Sam Houston Area Council	
Lifesaving AwardsJudge Edith Jones	
William H. Spurgeon III AwardChad Srader	
Silver Beaver Awards PresentationDiane Cannon Member, Executive Committee	
Karen O'Toole	
Council Advancement and	
Recognition Chair	
Challenge to ServiceBrian Foster	
Council Commissioner	

Reception immediately following in the Fellowship Hall.



Distinguished Eagle Scout Award

The National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America established the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award in 1969. Since its inception, this prestigious award has been presented approximately 1500 times nationally.

The Sam Houston Area Council's Distinguished Eagle Scout Award recipients are equally representative of the character and successful lifetime achievement and service necessary to be recognized for this honor.

The elite list of Distinguished Eagle Scouts named below from the Sam Houston Area Council exemplifies the Eagle Scout Challenge as an example of their lifetime achievement.

Honorable Lloyd N. Bentsen, Jr.

Nelson R. Block

Gerald P. Carr

M.L." Sonny" Carter

George M. Fleming Michael E. Fossum

Orville D. Gaither, Sr.

Dr. Robert M. Gates

Carlos R. Hamilton, Jr., M.D.

Major General Hugh W. Hardy, USMC

Robert R. Herring William G. Higgs

Honorable David Hittner

Harold S. Hook

Lawrence W. Kellner

Thomas A. Krouskop

Jack L. Lander, Jr.

James A. Lovell, Jr. William P. Lucas

Douglas G. MacLean

Carrington Mason

Thomas M. Orth

Robert W. Scott

Bobby S. Shackouls Howard T. Tellepsen, Jr.

C. Travis Traylor, Jr.

John B. Walker

David M. Weekley

Honorable Louie Welch

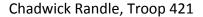
John V. Wheat

Lifesaving and Meritorious Action Awards

Upon nomination by the Sam Houston Area Council, the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America has authorized the presentation of Lifesaving and Meritorious Action Awards to the following:

Honor Medal

The Honor Medal may be awarded to a youth member or adult leader who has demonstrated unusual heroism and skill in saving or attempting to save a life at considerable risk to self.



Medal of Merit

The Medal of Merit may be awarded to a youth member or adult leader who has performed some outstanding act of service of a rare or exceptional character that reflects an uncommon degree of concern for the well-being of others.



Nicholas Caylor, Troop 598

William H. Spurgeon III Award

The William H. Spurgeon III Award is the highest recognition for individuals and organizations contributing significant leadership to the



Exploring program. The award is designed for council use to recognize individuals or organizations contributing significant leadership to the Exploring program.

Denito S. Berry Paul Jukes



2015 Silver Beaver Award

The Boy Scouts of America, acting through the National Court of Honor and upon the nomination of the Sam Houston Area Council presents the Silver Beaver Award to persons for their distinguished service to youth. The Sam Houston Area Council makes a limited number of nominations each year, according to the total number of units registered in the council.

This award is bestowed for noteworthy service of exceptional character to youth by registered adult volunteers who have been nominated by their Scouting peers.

Upon nomination by the Sam Houston Area Council, the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America has authorized the presentation of the Silver Beaver Award to the following Scouters:



James Beesley

James Beesley has been an active Scouter in Raven District and Transatlantic Council for 38 years. He is currently the district chair.

James has previously served as Cubmaster, pack committee chair, crew Advisor,

Scoutmaster, assistant Scoutmaster, chartered organization representative, district training committee and committee, unit commissioner and camp-o-ree chair.

James is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow. He has earned the District Award of Merit, Raven District Lifetime Achievement Award and the St. George Emblem.

James is active in his church and has volunteered with the Freemasons, Masonic organizations, Shriners, Junior Achievement, Rotary Club and the Canada House orphanage in Cambodia.



Brian Bernelle

Brian Bernelle has served Scouting for 24 years in the Raven and Eagle Trail Districts. He serves as a troop committee chair and district quartermaster.

Past leadership positions include pack committee chair, den leader, Webelos leader,

troop committee chair, chartered organization representative and assistant Scoutmaster.

Brian is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, has attended Powder Horn, and is Wood Badge trained. He has been honored with the District Award of Merit, the district Most Valuable Leader, Spark Plug Award and Family of the Year.

Brian is active in the school booster organizations, volunteers for the Girl Scouts and coaches several youth sports programs.



Al Blendermann

Eagle Scout Al Blendermann has been an adult leader for the past 13 years in the Orion and Exploring Districts. He serves as the council law enforcement exploring chair, Exploring advisor, crew committee chair and assistant Scoutmaster.

His leadership resumé includes Cubmaster, pack committee chair, Webelos leader, crew Advisor, unit commissioner, district committee vice chair, Scoutmaster, assistant Scoutmaster for the National Jamboree and crew advisor for two Philmont Scout Ranch treks

Al is a Brotherhood member of Order of the Arrow. He has received the Scoutmaster's Key, Harris County Sheriff Office Value Award for Merit Exploring Programs and the William H. Spurgeon Award.

He is active with the Harris County Sheriff's Office Junior Mounted Posse and was previously with the Houston Livestock Show.



Andy Clark

Andy Clark has been in Scouting in both the Tomahawk and Thunder Wolf Districts for over 20 years. He is currently the Thunder Wolf district commissioner.

Andy's volunteer credits include pack committee member, Cubmaster, crew

Advisor, Scoutmaster, day camp staffer, Friends of Scouting chair, training team member and National Youth Leader Training staffer.

He is Wood Badge trained and has been recognized with the Commissioner Arrowhead Honor, District Award of Merit, Scoutmaster's Key, William D. Boyce New Unit Organizer Award, Tomahawk award and Thunder Wolf award.

Andy is also a dedicated community volunteer working with youth sports, American Red Cross, United Way and his church.



Johnny Danesi

Johnny Danesi has served Scouting for 13 years as an adult volunteer leader in David Crockett District. He currently serves as troop committee member.

Previous leadership positions include den leader, pack committee member, assistant

Scoutmaster, troop committee chair, crew committee member, unit commissioner, day camp staffer, Wood badge staffer, camp-o-ree chair, and district advancement, membership, and training committee member.

Johnny has been honored with the District Award of Merit, Unit Leader Award of Merit and Den Leader Training Award. He is an Ordeal member of the Order of the Arrow.

He has volunteered for many groups including little league, church, project graduation, Rotary Club, citizen on patrol, stay in school programs, band booster club and Junior Achievement.



Mark Dieckmann

Mark Dieckmann has been a registered Scout volunteer for more than 14 years in Aquila and Golden Arrow Districts. He is the Aquila District Chair, an assistant Scoutmaster, associate crew Advisor and pack trainer.

Mark has previously served as den leader,

pack committee chair, troop committee member, Webelos Woods chair and district committee member. He has served on staff at day camp, Cub Leader PowWow, Fun with Son and winter camp.

Mark is the recipient of the Den Leader Award, the District Award of Merit, Unit Service Award, Scoutmaster's Key, and Den Leader Award. He is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow.

Mark is active in the booster club, coaching little league and helping the United Way and the YMCA.



Jose Duarte

Jose Duarte has been involved in the Raven District for over 16 years. He currently serves as the district membership chair, unit commissioner and crew Advisor.

Previous leadership positions include Cubmaster, crew and ship committee

member, Cub Scout roundtable staffer, day camp staffer, Exploring leader, district membership chair, SHAC Corps volunteer and a staffer for Powder Horn, Fun With Son and University of Scouting.

Jose has a Bachelor of Commissioner Science and has attended the Kodiak Challenge Course and Wood Badge. He has been recognized with the adult religious award, Commissioner's Arrowhead and numerous district awards.

Jose helps other projects outside of Scouting such as ROTC, project graduation, teaching youth how to vote, teaching youth firearm safety and community beautification projects.



Alan El-Lahham

Eagle Scout Alan El-Lahham has been an active Scouter for over 14 years. He is an assistant lodge adviser.

He has previously served as an assistant Scoutmaster and as a staffer for National Youth Leadership Training, the National

Order of the Arrow Conference and University of Scouting.

Alan is a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow. He has received the James E. West Fellowship Award, Order of the Arrow Founder's Award, Colonneh Lodge Numbered Certificate and the Order of the Arrow Centurion Award.

He has volunteered for his church, Junior Achievement and Habitat for Humanity.



Chris Green

Chris Green has served Scouting as an adult leader for seven years in the Big Cypress District. He is currently the district commissioner, an assistant Cubmaster, Cub Scout Leader Pow Wow chair and troop committee member.

Chris has served as a Cubmaster, den leader, district committee member, day camp chair, district trainer and Friends of Scouting presenter. He has staffed Fun with Son, University of Scouting, Wood Badge, Philmont Leadership Challenge and the inaugural Summit Leadership Challenge.

He has earned the Master of Commissioner Science Commissioner's Key and been honored with the District Award of Merit, Unit Leader Award of Merit and multiple district awards.

Chris coaches multiple youth sports teams and is a member of the Parent Teachers Organization.



Sandra Green

Sandra Green has been a volunteer in the Raven District and Three Rivers Council for 25 years. She serves as the Raven District advancement chair, and as advancement chair for a troop, crew and ship.

Past leadership positions include den leader,

pack committee member, Webelos leader, Cub Scout and Boy Scout roundtable staffer and day camp staffer.

Sandra is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow. She is the recipient of the James West Fellowship, adult religious service award, and the district Most Valuable Leader Award, Family of the Year Award and Spark Plug Award.

Sandra has been a longtime volunteer with many different local youth sports and band programs.



Steve Greenlee

Steve Greenlee has been on the Sam Houston Area Council board of directors since 2009. He is currently the council vice chair of development and a Friends of Scouting presenter.

He has served as the council Friends of Scouting chairman and emceed the

Distinguished Family Awards Dinner.

He is currently chair of the University of Houston Energy Advisory Board, advisory board member of the Baker Institute Energy Forum, and member of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists and the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. He has served as the chairman of ExxonMobil's United Way Campaign.



Bill Griffin

Bill Griffin has been a Scouter in the North Star, Tomahawk and Arrowhead Districts for over 25 years. He currently serves as the North Star District training chairman, unit commissioner and assistant Scoutmaster.

He has been involved in Scouting as a den

leader, Cubmaster, pack committee chair, assistant Scoutmaster, troop committee chair and Friends of Scouting presenter. He has staffed many district events, National Youth Leader Training, National Jamboree and Wood Badge.

Bill has received the Cub Scouter award, Cubmaster Award, Boy Scouter Award, Commissioner's Key, Arrowhead Honor, District Committee Key, District Award of Merit and the William D. Boyce New Unit Organizer Award, just to name a few.

His service to youth includes many years dedicated to coaching various youth sports programs. Bill is also an active volunteer with his church and a longtime member of the Rotary Club.



Kim Groce

Kim Groce of the San Jacinto District has been a Scouting volunteer for 12 years. She is a troop committee member, associate crew Advisor and district religious emblems coordinator.

She has served as a council campmaster, National Youth Leadership Training staffer, Wood Badge staffer and Order of the Arrow Trail Crew staffer.

Kim is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow and has attended Powder Horn. Kim has been recognized with the Scroll of Honor and Bronze Pelican.



Kenneth Groue

Kenneth Groue is an Eagle Scout and has been a Scout leader for 19 years in the Golden Arrow and Aquila Districts. He is currently serving as a Venture crew Advisor, assistant Scoutmaster, merit badge counselor and Boy Scouts of America Swamp Base

external adviser.

Past leadership positions include Scoutmaster, den leader, high adventure trek leader, high adventure crew Advisor, day camp staffer and district committee member.

Kenneth is an Ordeal member of the Order of the Arrow and is Wood Badge trained. During his tenure in Scouting, he has been honored with the Den Leader Award, District Award of Merit, Scouter's Key Award, Tiger Cub Den Leader Award, Unit Leader Award of Merit and Webelos Den Leader Award.

Outside of Scouting, Kenneth is involved with the Houston Museum of National Science.



Charlotte Heki

Charlotte Heki has been in Scouting for 22 years in Copperhead and Rising Star Districts and Greater Yosemite and Golden Empire Councils. She serves as a unit commissioner and committee member for a pack, troop, team and crew.

Past leadership positions include assistant Cubmaster, assistant den leader, assistant Webelos leader, pack committee chair, pack committee member, pack advancement chair and pack trainer.

Charlotte is Wood Badge trained. She has received the District Award of Merit, Commissioner Award of Excellence, Commissioner Key, Den Leader Training Award and, Distinguished Commissioner Award.

Charlotte has served various roles as a volunteer with her church and continues to support the school band.



David Krusleski

David Krusleski has served as a Scout leader for 15 years in Brazos District. He is currently a Scoutmaster, district committee member, council health and safety chair and council first aid meet chair.

David has previously served as Cubmaster, pack committee member, assistant Scoutmaster, troop committee member, SHAC Corps volunteer, National Jamboree staffer and

Webelos Woods chair.

David is a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow and is the recipient of the District Award of Merit, several district awards and the James E. West Fellowship Award.

David is active with his church, teaches first aid skills through various youth organizations and volunteers with the Girl Scouts.



Lynn McKee

Eagle Scout Lynn McKee has been a Scouter in Polaris and Phoenix Districts for over 25 years. He is an assistant Scoutmaster, crew associate Advisor, ship Mate, Order of the Arrow associate chapter adviser and the Phoenix District training committee member. Lynn has served as crew Advisor, district

Venturing training chair, University of Scouting staffer and National Jamboree staffer.

Lynn is a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow and is Wood Badge and Sea Badge trained. He has been awarded the District Award of Merit, district Jack of All Trades award, the Unit Service Award and the Faithful Servant Religious Award.

He is an active in the youth ministries of his church, Sons of the American Revolution and the patriot guard, which provides motorcycle escorts for funeral processions for veterans, police officers, and fire fighters.



Richard Merz, Ir.

Richard Merz has been a registered adult for 21 years in Soaring Eagle, Big Cypress and Copperhead Districts. He currently serves as a district committee member and chartered organization representative.

His previous service includes Cubmaster,

crew Advisor, district training team, University of Scouting trainer and Philmont Training Center staffer.

Richard is an Ordeal member of the Order of the Arrow and is Wood Badge trained. He has been honored with the District Award of Merit, Adult Religious Service Award, Unit Leader Award of Merit, William D. Boyce New Unit Organizer Award and the Philmont Training Center Masters Knot.

Richard is active in his church serving as a Sunday school instructor and helping the youth group camping program.



Jeff Minson

Jeff Minson has committed over 25 years in service to Scouting as an adult volunteer, serving youth in both Eagle Trail and Raven Districts. He is currently a unit commissioner.

Jeff has previously served as a Cubmaster, pack committee member, chartered organization representative, pack trainer, troop committee chair and Scoutmaster.

He has received the District Award of Merit and Family of the Year award.

Jeff has served his community by holding many positions with his church. He is also a volunteer for the Special Olympics Parent Booster Club.



Vickie Oehring

Vickie Oehring has served Scouting for 28 years as an adult volunteer leader in the Soaring Eagle District, Circle Ten Council and Scouts Canada. She serves as the district commissioner.

Past leadership positions include pack

committee chair, Tiger Cub den leader, den leader, Webelos den leader, troop committee chair, crew committee member, assistant district commissioner, day camp chair and Wood Badge staffer.

Vickie earned the Master of Commissioner Science, and has been awarded the District Award of Merit, Commissioner Award of Excellence, Commissioner's Key, Den Leader Training Award and Distinguished Commissioner Award.

Vickie is a longtime dedicated volunteer with her church, youth sports programs and Parent Teacher Associations.



Wanda Rauscher

Over the past 24 years, Wanda Rauscher has been a Scouting volunteer in the Golden Arrow and Twin Bayou Districts and Bay Area Council. She currently serves as a troop committee chair.

Past leadership positions include Cubmaster, pack trainer, Cub Scout roundtable commissioner, unit commissioner and Cub Scout Leader Pow Wow trainer.

She has completed training in Wood Badge and earned the Bachelor in Commissioner Science. Wanda has been honored with the Shofar Award, Arrowhead Honor, Distinguished Commissioner Award and District Award of Merit.

Wanda has volunteered with the American Chemical Society.



Harriet Robinson

Harriet Robinson has been active in the Skyline District for 25 years. She currently serves as a Cubmaster and troop committee member

Her service includes den leader, Tiger Cub den leader, Webelos leader and district cub-o-ree chair.

Harriet is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow and has been recognized with the District Award of Merit.

She has earned the Den Leader Training Award, 20 Year Veteran Award and the Skyline District Blume-Hogue-Hardcastle Award.

She is a dedicated volunteer in her church and has held numerous positions including Sunday School teacher.



Alicia Rodenberger

Alicia Rodenberger has served Scouting for 12 years for both Big Cypress and Rising Star Districts. She is the Big Cypress District training chair and an assistant Scoutmaster.

Her leadership resumé includes den leader, chartered organization representative, pack

advancement chair, chartered organization representative, day camp staff, Friends of Scouting presenter, district membership committee member and National Jamboree staffer.

She is an Ordeal member of the Order of the Arrow and is Wood Badge trained. Alicia has been recognized with the District Award of Merit, Den Leader Award and Webelos Den Leader Award.

Alicia is a longtime active volunteer in her church and supports many local school youth programs.



Elizabeth Scherer

Elizabeth Scherer has been a Scouter in Mustang and Texas Skies Districts for 12 years. She is a council training committee member and troop committee member.

Elizabeth has served as pack committee chair, assistant Scoutmaster, troop

advancement chair, roundtable staffer, district activities committee member, unit commissioner, day camp staffer, district training team member, Cub Scout Leader Pow Wow trainer, National Youth Leadership Training Scoutmaster, University of Scouting trainer, Wood Badge staffer and district event chair.

Elizabeth has been honored with the District Award of Merit, district Family of the Year, Den Leader Training Award, Scouter's Training Award and Cub Scouter Award.

She has also been a volunteer with Junior Achievement, Parents Teacher Association and many church youth activities.



David Sweeney

David Sweeney has been an active adult leader in Arrowmoon District for 22 years. He is the district committee chair.

David has previously served as Cubmaster, pack committee chair, assistant Scoutmaster, troop committee member, crew committee

chair, crew Advisor, assistant district commissioner, district commissioner, day camp chair, district vice chair, Friends of Scouting presenter, campmaster, Cub Scout Leader Pow Wow trainer, University of Scouting trainer and Wood Badge staffer.

He is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow and has received the Unit Leader Award of Merit.

David serves the youth of his church teaching sacramental preparation class for confirmation and helping with the children's choir.



William Wescott

William Wescott of the Mustang District has served Scouting for 19 years. He serves as the district program chair and unit commissioner.

Past leadership positions include assistant Scoutmaster, Scoutmaster, troop committee

member, district training team member, Wood Badge staffer, Philmont Scout Ranch staffer and National Jamboree staffer.

William is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, is Wood Badge and Powder Horn trained and has a Bachelor of Commissioner Science. He is the recipient of the District Award of Merit, James E. West Fellowship Award, Scoutmaster's Key, Unit Leader Award of Merit and the Episcopal St. George Award.

William is active with his church, volunteers in the school science program and has coached several youth sports teams.



Zachary Whitehurst

Eagle Scout Zach Whitehurst is an 11-year veteran of Texas Skies District. He serves as an assistant Scoutmaster, associate crew Advisor and associate lodge adviser of Colonneh Lodge.

Past leadership positions include Fun with Son volunteer, council campmaster, National Youth Leadership Training Scoutmaster, University of Scouting trainer, Wood Badge staffer and council aquatics committee chair.

Zach is a Vigil member of the Order of the Arrow and has been recognized with the Order of the Arrow's Founders Award and the James E. West Fellowship Award.

He is president of the Katy A&M Club.



Pat Whitnel

Pat Whitnel has served Scouting as an adult leader for 24 years in Mustang District. He is currently a unit commissioner, district training chair, council youth protection champion, council camp director, and campmaster.

Pat has previously served as a pack committee member, assistant Scoutmaster, high adventure trek leader, troop committee chair, district activities committee member, Friends of Scouting presenter, district training committee member, Wood Badge staffer and camp-o-ree chair.

Pat has been awarded the District Award of Merit, Colonneh Lodge Numbered Certificate, Bachelor of Commissioner Science, Arrowhead Honor and Commissioner Gold Star. Pat is very active in his church.



Jim Woods

Jim Woods is an Eagle Scout and has been a Scouter in the Orion District for six years. He currently serves as Scoutmaster, district program chair, assistant district commissioner, chapter associate adviser and council shooting sports committee member.

His leadership resumé includes Cubmaster, unit commissioner, assistant Scoutmaster, district activities chair, district popcorn kernel and Tellepsen Scout Ranch planning committee member.

He is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, has earned the Master of Commissioner Science and is Wood Badge trained. Jim has been honored with the District Award of Merit, James E. West Fellowship Award and Unit Leader Award of Merit.

Jim has been active in his church and local school booster clubs.



Robert Zetelski

Robert (Zeke) Zetelski is an Eagle Scout who has been active in Scouting as an adult for over 43 years in the George Strake and Polaris Districts. He is an assistant district commissioner, troop committee member, council religious emblem coordinator and national Catholic committee member.

He has been Cubmaster, pack committee chair, assistant Scoutmaster, troop advancement chair, crew associate Advisor, roundtable staffer, unit commissioner, district training committee member, National Jamboree staffer and Webelos Wood chair.

Zeke is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, has earned the Master of Commissioner Science. He has received the District Award of Merit, Commissioner Award of Excellence, Jerusalem Cross Award, Bronze Pelican Award and Scroll of Honor.

He has been an active volunteer in his church, various youth sports teams, Knights of Columbus and booster clubs.

2014 Highlights Sam Houston Area Council

Registered Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers and Explorers Youth participants in the curriculum/school based (includes special

MEMBERSHIP

57,488

47,180

8,846

1,462

Total youth served

program

can receive.

RECOGNITION

needs) Learning for Life programs

Youth participants in the Exploring program

19,160	Registered volunteer adult leaders
1,712	Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity and Venturing units
63	Exploring posts
24.4%	"At-Risk" youth served by Scouting through Scoutreach
CAMPING	
32,992	Total campers number of days camped at the council's five camps
7,410	Acres available for youth camping maintained and operated by the council
PROGRAM	
22,344	Cub Scout ranks earned
8,712	Boy Scout ranks earned
1,017	Scouts earned the Eagle Scout rank
30,332	Total advancements earned
39,799	Merit badges earned
30	Silver Beaver recipients
20	Order of the Arrow Vigil Honor recipients
248,485	Pounds of food donated during Scouting for Food
465,000	Estimated community service hours
FINANCE	
\$12,970,227	Operating expense
2.8%	Excess revenue over operating expense
\$144,509,287	Total assets
\$4,454,485	New gifts for permanently restricted endowment
\$225	Estimated dollar amount spent to support each youth involved in a

Sam Houston Area Council achieved the Gold Level status in the National Journey to Excellence program, the highest level a council

BSA Mission Statement: The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Sam Houston Area Council's Mission Statement: "Leading Youth to Lifelong Values, Service and Achievement."

Scout Law: A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.



Sam Houston Area Council 2225 North Loop West, Houston, TX 77008

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713-659-8111

Thank You!

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