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Council Scouters Honored at the Annual Recognition Dinner

Lincoln Trails Council awarded Rob Buchanan, Gerald Wood, and Cynthia Newell with the Silver Beaver Award in a ceremony held April 20th during the Council Volunteer Recognition Dinner in Decatur. The Silver Beaver is the highest award a council can bestow upon a volunteer. The award is given for distinguished service to young people within a local Boy Scout council. One of the four 2007 Silver Beaver awards has not been awarded yet. The Council will feature the 4th recipient in a future edition of the Trailblazer.



Cynthia Newell



Gerald Wood

Rob Buchanan is an Eagle Scout and a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow. He has served in many positions at the unit level and has served Two Rivers District as a Unit Commissioner as well as District Commissioner. Rob is a Council Executive Board Member and a District Award of Merit Recipient. He has served at Rhodes France Scout Reservation as Business Manager and has chaired the Council's Shooting Sports for Scouting event since 2005. Rob is a devoted Scouter and family man who works hard to make Scouting an even better program.

Gerald Wood is an Eagle Scout and a member of the Order of the Arrow. Gerry has served in many unit positions throughout his Scouting career including Chartered Organization Representative, Cubmaster, and Assistant Scoutmaster. He is also a registered leader with the Girl Scouts. He has served as the Scoutmaster and Coordinator for the council's Brownsea Junior Leader Training Course. Gerald is a recipient of the District Award of Merit and has completed Wood Badge training. He is involved in many organizations and activities outside of Scouting including the Sullivan Rotary Club and the Sullivan Lions Club. He is currently serving as Scoutmaster for Troop 39 in Sullivan.

Cynthia Newell started in Scouting in 1991 as an Assistant Den Leader. She has since served as a Tiger Cub Coordinator, Den Leader, Assistant Cubmaster, Webelos Leader, Cubmaster, Committee Member, and Committee Chairman. Cynthia has also been the food drive coordinator for Pack 82 for 10 years. She has served as District and Council Popcorn Chairman and helped with many training events for the council. She is a recipient of the Scouter's Award, Cubmaster's Award, and the District Award of Merit. She has been involved in many activities outside of Scouting as well including softball coach, youth football treasurer, and as a youth football cheerleading coach. Cynthia is currently the Committee Chairman for Troop 82.



Rob Buchanan

Also during the dinner Dave Murphy, Redhawk District Commissioner, was presented the George Meany award for his service to Scouting. The George Meany award is a national recognition presented by the AFL-CIO Executive Council to adult union members who make significant contributions to their community through Scouting. Dave is the 19th recipient in Lincoln Trails Council.

Other awards presented at the Recognition Dinner included a Veteran Award presentation representing a total of 50 years of service to the Boy Scouts of America. The recipient was Jerry Lutz.

The council also recognized members of the 2007 class of Eagle Scouts with a commemorative Eagle Scout Council Shoulder Patch. Chairmen for last year's council events were presented with certificates of appreciation as well.

The dinner was attended by 97 people and was held at the Decatur Club in downtown Decatur. A special thank you goes out to all of the hard work performed by the staff at the Decatur Club. The council would also like to thank all of the award presenters, Rovena Knight, Brad McWilliams, Don Ornberg, Richard Nolte, Jim Kalapis, Rick Siemer, and Will Sudduth. A special thank you goes out to Kyle Cline for giving the invocation for the dinner and to Jim Livasy, Committee Chairman for Troop 202 in Decatur, for serving as the Master of Ceremonies for this event.



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