

Continued from page..... 5

This is turning out to be a special day for one of our New York #1 Lodge members. Earlier, Tom Meir announced that New York #1 member Bryan Blomquist was selected for the prestigious Drug Awareness award. At this time I'm pleased to announce that New York Lodge #1 member Bryan Blomquist has also been selected as our State Association nominee for the Grand Lodge Youth Volunteer Award. Congratulations Bryan!

As I reflect upon my experience as Youth Chair, I'm most proud and impressed with the diverse and unique opportunities our Lodges provide. To mention just a few: Ticonderoga's youth fishing Derby, Potsdam's Community Inflatable Rides, Poughkeepsie's Karate Classes for Disabled Children, Massena Fresh Air program, Oswego's NFL Punt, Pass and Kick contest, Cathage's Dodge Ball Drug Awareness fundraiser, a trip to Washington DC by the Liverpool Jr. Elks, Lowville's Father/Daughter banquet, Camillus and Wolcott Youth Bowling leagues and haunted houses sponsored by Esperance, Haverstraw and Boonville. And many, many more too numerous to mention.



Ticonderoga Lodge #1494 - The Crown Point Cub Scout Master asked the Ticonderoga Elks Lodge #1494 to provide Judges for their Pinewood Derby. In keeping with the Elks involvement with the area youth, the following Lodge members volunteered to judge the event. Robin Nowc - Exalted Ruler - Jeffery Nowc - Lodge Treasure, Richard Nadeau - PER, and Peggy Lamb - Lodge Photographer. In addition to Judging the event Peggy provided the photo coverage and gave the Cub Scouts a CD



Mid Westchester Lodge #535 sponsored a Pine Wood Derby for the Mohican District of the Boy Scouts of America. An ENF Promise Grant funded this Program. 150 Cub Scouts participated in the derby. There were an equal number of parents and 15 adult Scouts in attendance. Trophies were given out to the first, second and third place winners for each of the four races broken down by scout rank. Medals were given out to all 150 scouts participating. After each race, that group of scouts and parents were treated to grilled hot dogs and beverages provide by the Elks. The Elks grilled 500 hot dogs. A special treat, Dave Carr, PSP and GER designee was in attendance. Dave Carr told the story of the song "God Bless America". He relayed that Irving Berlin, who was an Elk, and Kate Smith donated all the royalties from the song to the

Boy Scouts of America. Pictured above with the cub scouts L to R; ER Ron Rezza, PSP Anthony Gilberti, PSP< GL GER Designate David Carr, Scout Master, Penny Carr and PDDGER Tom Maloney.

Colonie Lodge #2192 conducted the Lodge's Teenager of the Year Awards. The Lodge held this event in compliance with Grand Lodge's guideline that May is set aside to honor youth on a national level. The Teenager program is designed to recognize and honor outstanding young men and women for their achievements in school and community service. Our criteria for winning is based on students who excel in scholarship, citizenship, performing arts, fine arts, hobbies, athletics, club and community service.

The winner from South Colonie was Kelsey Roberts. Academically, Kelsey was on the honor roll from 2003 to the present. She was a member of the National Honor Society and a semifinalist for the 2010 National Merit award. She participated in numerous school clubs such as The Art Club of which she was President. Kelsey volunteered at the Albany Nursing Home where she transported the seniors and helped them with their activities. She will attend Columbia University in the Fall.

The winner from North Colonie was Roseanna DeFillippo. Academically, Roseanna was a member of the Nationally Honor Society and a member of the National Student Leadership Conference. She attended the Law and Advocacy program in Washington D. C. where she played the part of a defense attorney in a murder trail She received honors in English, History and Biology. She participated in numerous school clubs such as the Bison Newspaper where she was the Editor of Photography. She also ran an event called Harmony for Haiti where she raised over 100 dollars for the relief effort in Haiti. She also participated in the Colonie Youth Court. Roseanna will attend St. Joseph's University with the goal of becoming a high school teacher and then progress into Administration.

A ceremony was held at the Town of Colonie Supervisor's Office with Paula Mahan, Town of Colonie Supervisor, and Ron Galinski, Colonie Youth Chair Proclamations from the NYS Assembly floor were presented and a proclamation on behalf of the Town was presented. The Colonie Elks Lodge presented each winner with a savings bond.



Beacon Lodge #1493 visited Forrestral Elementary School in Beacon New York with dictionaries for the third grade class. The third grade class has 242 students and this brings the dictionary donation from the Beacon lodge to over 2000 in the last eight years. The lodge has also donated 240 thesauruses to the sixth grade class for the last eight years. Pictured in the back row dictionary chairperson and Loyal Knight Carl Oken, Dorothy McArthur PER, Conner McArthur, Elk Carol Wager and Elk Greg Tavern with students from the Beacon School District.

YOUTH RECOGNITION AWARDS PRESENTED BY STATE CHAIRMAN TIM WELPE AT THE STATE CONVENTION



Kevin Merriman – Syracuse Lodge #31



George Manor – Esperance Lodge #2507



Richard Long – Poughkeepsie Lodge #275 Host State Hoop Shoot accepted by ER Jim Gordon



Bryan Blomquist – New York Lodge #1 State Association nominee for the Grand Lodge Youth Volunteer Award. Accepted by ER Anita Butler



Oswego Lodge #271 Host of the NY State Soccer Shoot

Hoop Shoot Past National Champions from New York State 1983-84: Tricia Pelnik (New Hartford NY) 1984-85 David Sickler (Waverly NY) 1985-86 David Sickler (Waverly NY) 1999-2000 & 2001-2 Alyson Johnson (Malone, NY) 2001-2002 Robert Baumgarten (Hornell, NY) 2002-2003 T.J. Meyerson (Poughkeepsie, NY)