

Scouts, adult leaders honored at 40th annual Quest weekend



The 40th annual Quest Weekend was held Feb. 15 – 17 at Sacred Heart Cathedral School. The theme was “Brave the Journey.” There were 17 youth in Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts and 12 adult leaders who participated in the activities.

The scouts attending Quest 2018 used the retreat weekend to work toward requirements for religious emblems and medals. Some youths begin work on the requirements at one Quest weekend, work on service projects and other requirements

throughout the year, and complete the program the following year at Quest. The award programs cannot be completed in a weekend.

Guest speakers included Father Wesley Schawe, pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and director of seminarians for the Diocese of Dodge City spoke on discerning one’s life vocation. Adam Urban, director of Youth Ministry spoke on the retreat topic “Braving the Journey.”



Morgan Wenzl, from the Cathedral parish, received the Spirit Alive medal. This program is designed to enable young women to understand that the Holy Spirit plays a big role in living out their faith daily, and that it is through the Holy Spirit that their faith comes alive in witnessing to others.



Isaac Moreland, from St. Helen, Hugoton and Ethan Hirschfeld from St. Andrew, Wright received the “Ad Altare Dei” emblem. This program is designed to equip Boy Scouts in the seventh grade through high school to take their place in the world as maturing Catholics. The scout lives and applies the things he believes to his daily life and gains a deeper understanding of what it means to be a follower and disciple of Christ. The scout discovers that through the sacraments, he becomes a maturing disciple of Christ.



Ethan Fischer, from St. Dominic, Garden City, and Cody Farra, from the Cathedral parish, received the International Catholic Awareness patch. This program helps youths understand more about scouting and Catholicism in other countries and how they may differ from scouting and Catholicism in the United States; and enhances the spiritual dimension of Scouting in the World Scout Movement.

Bishop, layman recognized with Silver Beaver awards



The Santa Fe Trail Council of Boy Scouts of America annually recognizes individuals who make an impact on the lives of youth through the Silver Beaver distinguished service award. On Feb. 2, at the Council banquet in Garden City, seven individuals were recognized with this award. Bishop Brungardt, who was unable to attend, and Fred Jones from Lakin were recognized at the conclusion of the Quest awards ceremony on Feb. 17. Michael Stewart, at left above, is the executive director of the SFTC.

Bishop John B. Brungardt was recognized with the Silver Beaver Award for his support of scouting and youth. Bishop John was a teacher, prior to his ordination as a priest, and continues teaching as one of the responsibilities of his ministry as bishop. He oversees a diocese of 28 counties in southwest Kansas with 48 parishes and a Catholic population of 50,000. He visits at least 20 parishes annually conferring the sacrament of confirmation on more 800 young men and women. He considers youth ministry a priority and has directed resources for hiring directors of both youth ministry and young adult ministry and the implementation of local mission program known as Prayer in Action. He is supportive of scouting and the three-day Quest retreat. Bishop Brungardt is well aware of the benefits of scouting in the lives of youth. He is quick to point out that two of the current seminarians studying for the priesthood are Eagle Scouts and former participants of the Quest retreats.

Fred Jones, one of the other recipients who received the Silver Beaver Award at the council banquet. He is an active parishioner of St Anthony Church in Lakin and serves on the Catholic Committee on Scout and is involved with the Quest retreat. He currently serves as Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 35 in Lakin; as the Conestoga District Commissioner; and as a member of the Santa Fe Trail Council Executive Board.

Adult leaders recognized for contributions to youth ministry through scouting



Left to Right): Cindy Trombley, an adult Girl Scout leader from the Cathedral parish, was awarded the St. Anne Medal. The St. Anne Medal is awarded to adults who model the highest ideals for young people and who work tirelessly to mentor youth. Trombley has been actively involved in Girl Scouts for more than 10 years. She is co-leader for her daughter’s troop and has been a Quest counselor for the Marian metal since 2014. She is a volunteer backstage manager for Little Feet Dance Academy. She was a room parent at Sacred Heart Cathedral School when her children attended school there. She continues to serve the church as a member of the Altar Society, Daughters of Isabella, and a script volunteer at the Cathedral Parish.

Roy McGregor, also from the Cathedral parish, was presented the Bronze Pelican Award. This award is conferred upon an individual who provides unselfish and generous service to youth and scouting. McGregor has served as an adult leader in both the Cathedral parish Cub Pack and Boy Scout Troop for 10 years. During his years with the Pack 162 he served as a den leader, an assistant cubmaster and then cubmaster. He is now an assistant scoutmaster

in Troop 162. He and his wife, Mendy, assist the Troop in fundraising activities as co-chairs for the troop’s flag and popcorn programs. McGregor also served a three-year term on the School Council for Sacred Heart Cathedral School, serving in his last year as Council President.

Chris Ricketts, from St. Alphonsus Parish, Satanta, received the St. George Award. This emblem is the highest national recognition for adults who have made a significant contribution to the spiritual development of Catholic youth involved in Cub/Boy Scouting organizations. Ricketts is the father of six Eagle Scouts. He has served as cubmaster for the Pack in Sublette and helped the Troop there with many campouts and trips to summer camp at Spanish Peaks. He has encouraged his sons and the other scouts from the Sublette/Satanta area to attend Quest to work on their religious emblems. He assisted his sons’ Eagle Scout projects with appropriate parental supervision that benefitted St. Alphonsus Church by fixing and installing kneelers, new stained glass windows with wood frames, a new baptistry, and an outdoor Marian grotto.