



The Jeff Clark Scout Spirit Award



Jeff Clark was a member of Troop 166 in Fox River Grove, Illinois.

He reached the rank of Eagle Scout on Oct. 24, 1995, one day before he and six of his Cary Grove High School classmates were tragically killed when an express commuter train hit their school bus in Fox River Grove, Illinois.

Jeff was involved in Scouts for eight years from Cub Scouts through Eagle in both his native state of Washington and here in Illinois. He truly loved nature and the outdoors and he liked the fact that Scouting provided him many opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. Whether it was a Troop camp out or a high adventure outing to places like Philmont, Jeff always had fun, met new people and discovered new learning experiences.

Jeff lived his life honoring the Scout Oath and Law. In Jeff's memory a special Sycamore District award has been established. All active Scouts in the District are eligible to participate and attempt to earn this award. Scouts just need to complete the enclosed application. **The award recipients will receive a framed certificate, an engraved plaque, and their choice of a free summer camp or a \$200 savings bond.** If the free summer camp option is selected the recipient will receive a credit at the Council Office equal to the early registration amount at a Council camp. The credit amount can also be applied to any out of Council camp or to a high adventure trip.

This annual award will honor and recognize two to six Scouts in the District who, like Jeff Clark, really show their Scout Spirit. Are you a Scout that lives by the Scout Oath and Scout Law and actively participate in your Troop by attending outings, summer camp, earning rank advancement and merit badges, holding positions of responsibility, etc?

Show that your Scout spirit is soaring high like Jeff's by completing the application before March 15th.



The Jeff Clark Scout Spirit Award

Dear Scoutmaster,

The establishment of the **Jeff Clark Scout Spirit Award** is intended to accomplish two important objectives. The award is intended as an additional way for the Sycamore District to recognize those Scouts who are really involved in Scouting, those who are doing the right things, and like Jeff, those who personify Scout Spirit. Additionally, the award will be a perpetual memorial which is a way to make Jeff's memory continue to live on for the Scouts and Scout Troops of the Sycamore District.

All active Scouts in the Sycamore District are eligible to participate. Each Troop can submit one nominee each year to a special committee established by the District. Applications will be accepted between January 1 and March 15 each year. The committee will complete the judging and selection process by April 15. Each year there will be two to six winners selected. The recipients will be formally recognized at a Troop Court of Honor, and either the District Spring Camporee or the May District Roundtable meeting. A picture of the recipient will also appear in the June issue of the Courier.

The award will consist of a framed certificate, an engraved plaque, plus the recipient's choice of a free summer camp or a \$200 savings bond. If the winner selects the free summer camp, a credit will be given at the council office if attending a council camp for an amount equal to the early registration fee. The credit can also be applied to an out of council camp or a high adventure outing.

Criteria for receiving the award will include such things as living the Scout Oath and Law, Scout Spirit, Rank Advancement, Merit Badge work, attendance at summer camp, leadership positions, high adventure activities, leadership training as a participant or on staff, and community service work. Scouts who want to participate must complete an application which will be a short Scouting biography or resume. In addition, they must write a short piece on "*What Scouting Means to Me.*" Your Troop Committee Chairman and yourself will review applications and select one to submit to the District. You should also include a brief recommendation along with the application.

Applications for the **Jeff Clark Scout Spirit Award** will be distributed to you at the November roundtable and are also available at the Council Office.

This is an excellent way to keep your Scouts' spirits soaring high like Jeff's and provide you an additional recognition opportunity. Please cover this information with your Scouts so they can be prepared to apply for the award.

If you have any questions, contact your Unit Commissioner or check the District Web Site, www.sycamorebsa.com.

Application For The Jeff Clark Scout Spirit Award

(Please print or type.)

Name of Scout _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone & Area Code _____

Troop Number _____ Troop Partner Organization _____

Date became a Boy Scout _____ Number of Years as a Cub Scout _____

Current Rank and Date Obtained _____

Merit Badges Earned in the Last 12 Months (list) _____

Order of the Arrow Member Yes No When _____

O/A Brotherhood O/A Vigil

Current Position of Leadership and Date Started _____

Previous Positions of Leadership and Dates _____

Leadership Training Completed (list type & date) _____

Served on Training Staff (list type & date) _____

Awards or Other Achievements (list type & date) _____

Summer Camps Attended (list name & year) _____

High Adventure Activities (list type & date) _____

Community Service Activities (list type & date) _____

Other Information _____

Scoutmaster Approval

Please provide the awards committee a brief paragraph regarding the qualities, character, etc. of your troop nominee for the Spirit Award. You may use this form or use a separate page.

Scout Signature

Scoutmaster Approval

Troop Committee Approval

