James E. West Award





The James West Fellowship Award is probably the one award that sparks the most misunderstanding when spotted on a uniform. Some folks immediately assume that the award was simply purchased, which is not accurate. This award is a national recognition for individuals who contribute \$1,000 or more in cash or securities to the local council endowment trust fund. This contribution is in addition to, and does not diminish or replace, the donor's annual gift to our council's Friends of Scouting campaign. Only registered Scouters or youth members receive and wear the square knot.

The money may be given by a group of Scouters or individual Scouter to honor a fellow Scouter, as a memorial on the death of a Scouter, to recognize an achievement, or in memory of a loved one. For example, a group of Scouters could put the money together to recognize the outstanding efforts of an individual who spent years doing publicity work for a local Council through newsletters, press releases, web pages, etc., for which there is no official recognition. The award can also be given to an individual who makes a contribution on his/her own behalf. Regardless of the source of funding, the award is used by BSA to generate badly needed funds to support critical local Council and national programs that have suffered major losses due to diversion of funding for national-level resolutions of risk-management issues.

While it is a national recognition, the James E. West Award is authorized and presented by the local council. Appropriate national recognition is given at a special reception held in conjunction with the National Council Annual Meeting. All contributors receive special invitations to local Council and National West Fellowship Dinners, special publications, and a certificate in addition to some local Council plaques and other items.

The James E. West Award is an attractive 8- by 10-inch encased certificate personalized with the donor's name, date of gift, and council name. In addition, there is a distinctive lapel pin/chain and an embroidered square knot for uniform wear.

Baden-Powell Photo Gallery 5th World Jamboree, Netherlands, 1937



James E. West addresses Scouts as B-P looks on