

LEE I. BINKLEY SPIRIT SCHOLARSHIP

As the summer camping season at Canyon Camp came to a close, the final Family Night produced a surprise for Lee Binkley. This was Lee's 40th consecutive year of service as a member of the Canyon Camp staff. Co -Camp Director Dick Reynolds brought the scouts to the dance ring early and proceeded to surprise Lee with several announcements.

With wife Nina by his side, daughter Ericka watching from the audience & son Matt on the hill in readiness to send the arrow to light the traditional fire beside Coon Lake, Lee was first recognized with the presentation of a James E. West Award. The recognition was made possible by the dozens of Spirit Scholarship Endowment contributions made by many individuals who served with Lee on the Canyon Staff. Many of the donors were in the audience and joined in a standing ovation for Lee.

Ron Spielman then announced that the endowment contributions had now made it possible to create a third named Spirit Scholarship...the Lee I. Binkley Spirit Scholarship. Like the Troy Larson Spirit Scholarship and the Dennis W. Pratt Spirit Scholarship' the Lee I Binkley scholarship has been endowed to be given to future Canyon Staff in perpetuity.

Dwight Held of Montana changed his summer schedule so he and wife Cec and his mother Viola Held could be at camp for Lee's night of recognition. With a drum brought from Montana, Dwight performed a solo Honor Song for Lee in recognition of his longtime friend, fellow drummer and singer.

Mike Beeth could not attend Lee's special night, but Mike gave focus to the months of effort to increase the Spirit Scholarship Endowment. Mike and his wife Theresa Duren will both receive James E. West Awards for their personal support of the Spirit Scholarship Endowment. Beeth & Duren will receive their West Awards at the Woodcutter's Ball scheduled for Canyon Camp on Saturday, October 6, 2007.

At the Staff Dinner Lee was able to present the first ever Lee I. Binkley Spirit Scholarship to Matt Galusha who will continue his education at UW Platteville.