

adVenturing

APRIL 11, 2010

William T. Hornaday Award Silver Medal Presentation

M. ROBERT MARKS—HORNADAY SILVER MEDAL



*What about
crying whales*

*We're ravaging
the seas*

*What about
forest trails*

*Burnt despite
our pleas*

—Michael Jackson



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HORNADAY AWARD OVERVIEW

There are several kinds Hornaday Awards. Certificates can be earned by a unit or organization and an adult can be nominated for the gold award for distinguished and unusual service over a sustained period of at least 20 years. There are three youth awards: Badge, Bronze Medal and Silver Medal. Before starting on the award, a youth must be First Class in Boy Scouts, a Venturer or a Sea Scout and they must have a conservation advisor.

To earn the award as a Boy Scout, a boy must earn a number of merit badges from a required and an optional list. As a Venturer or Sea Scout, there are no merit badges – but the overall requirements become much more difficult! Because these youth tend to be older, the committee looks for more involved projects than they do for Boy Scouts. Instead of merit badges, they must complete the Conservation core requirement plus the Ecology and Plant & Wildlife elective requirements for the Venturing Ranger Award.

For the Badge, they must plan, lead, and carry out one significant project in natural resource conservation, from one of the project categories. For the Bronze Medal, they must complete three significant projects from three separate categories. And for the Silver Medal, they plan, lead, and carry out four significant projects, one each from four of the eight project categories.

Additionally for Venturers, a higher level of complexity and performance is expected. Extra requirements include more extensive research, a properly formatted bibliography, a review of the entire effort with alternatives considered and lesson learned, and more extensive documentation.

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ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR VENTURERS

Research must be performed in connection with the conservation projects undertaken and must be cited at the appropriate location in the conservation project documentation. A bibliography, formatted according to established standards, must be provided that lists sources cited.



The applicant's entire Hornaday effort is evaluated. In a separate section of the application, they must describe information on alternatives considered for each project and an explanation of why each specific conservation project was selected, procedures used, processes used, staffing levels used, funding requirements, and so on.

Lastly, the project documentation must contain a description of the lessons learned. This would include details about what the applicant, in hindsight, would do differently on each project. This should include recommended changes in project selection; procedures, processes, and staffing levels used; funding requirements; and evaluations of project effectiveness over time.

WILLIAM TEMPLE HORNADAY



William Temple Hornaday, Sc.D. (December 1, 1854–March 6, 1937) was an American zoologist, realtor, conservationist, author, poet and songwriter. He revolutionized museum exhibits by displaying wildlife in their natural settings, and is credited with discovering the American crocodile, saving the American bison and the Alaskan fur seal from extinction.

He spent 1.5 years, 1877-1878 in India and Ceylon collecting specimens. In May 1878 he reached southeast Asia and traveled in Malaya and Sarawak in Borneo. He served as chief taxidermist of the United States National Museum in 1882–1890. He helped found the Smithsonian National Zoological Park in Washington, D.C.

He was appointed director of the New York Zoological Park in 1896 and became president of the Permanent Wild Life Protective Association. He co-founded (with Theodore Roosevelt) the American Bison Society in 1905 and served as its president from 1907 to 1910. He was able to exert some influence which led to the passage of legislation which extended protection to wild birds, game, bison, seals, and wild life in general. Hornaday wrote many magazine articles and books.

SO MUCH CONCERN—Norman Rockwell



This 1975 calendar illustration of Scouts improving the environment by planting evergreen saplings reflects the Boy Scouts of America's long history of conservation initiatives. For this painting, Scout executives also requested a Scout with a foot brace and a crutch to be included in the composition to indicate that the Scout program is available to all boys regardless of physical ability. An interesting historical note: In 1978, *So Much Concern* was one of seven Rockwell's stolen from an art gallery in Minnesota. The painting and Rockwell's final Scout work, *The Spirit of 1976*, remained missing until 2001 when the FBI recovered them from a farmhouse in Rio de Janeiro, where they were being hidden.

Scouts from Troop 40 and Troop 26 of the Thomas A. Edison Council of Boy Scouts, New Jersey were used as models for the painting. The scene was shot in a nature preserve behind the BSA National office when it was located in North Brunswick, NJ.

APRIL 11, 2010

GARLIC MUSTARD—INVASIVE SPECIES PROJECT II

DANGER: Alien Plants are Invading our Forests!

Non-native species of plants can seriously disrupt the natural order of ecosystems in our forests and even in our own backyards. Garlic Mustard poses an especially severe threat. Once introduced to an area, garlic mustard outcompetes the native plants by aggressively monopolizing light, moisture, nutrients, soil and space. Wildlife species that depend on the early plants for their foliage, pollen, nectar, fruits, seeds and roots, are deprived of these essential food sources when garlic mustard replaces them. Humans are also deprived of the vibrant display of beautiful spring wildflowers. Garlic mustard also poses a threat to one of our rare native insects and is toxic to the beautiful West Virginia white butterfly.



PLEASE HELP US...

REMOVE THESE ALIEN PLANTS

WILDFLOWER RESERVE AT RACCOON CREEK STATE PARK

On Saturday, May 8, we'll be removing these "bad" plants from the park. It's very easy—just pull them out like weeds. *Your help would be greatly appreciated!*

DETAILS:

Saturday, May 8
9 AM to Noon

REGISTER:

Rob Marks
(412) 922-5475
RobMarks@verizon.net

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TRAIL CREW TREK PROGRAM AT PHILMONT

The Trail Crew Trek Program (TCT) is an exciting new program at Philmont Scout Ranch for Scouts and Venturers who have an interest in the environment and are committed to good stewardship of our natural world. Participants will enjoy a fourteen-day trek through a part of Philmont's 136,493 acres of rugged mountain wilderness in the Sangre de Cristo Range of the Rocky Mountains of Northeastern New Mexico.

The TCT Program will emphasize the William T. Hornaday Award. The Trail Crew Trek will help prepare participants to develop a path that will help them achieve the William T. Hornaday Silver Award upon return to their homes. This multiyear path will include advancement requirements and planning, leading and carrying out four significant projects that should contribute to sound conservation and environmental improvements in the local community, the region or the nation.

During the 14-day Trail Crew Trek, in addition to the William T. Hornaday Award, participants will:

- Learn about trail construction. You will experience both new trail construction as well as trail maintenance techniques in a variety of locations on the Ranch. These skills will prepare participants to help with trail projects in their home area.
- Leave No Trace Principles will be covered during the trek. Each participant will have the opportunity to earn the Leave No Trace Trainer recognition. This level of training will prepare the participant to lead LNT training in their local area.
- Leadership techniques will be taught and practiced throughout the trek. A wilderness setting is a wonderful environment to learn and practice skills of being a member of a team as well as leading the team.
- Advanced outdoor skills will not only be taught but experienced as the group shares a unique experience in a wilderness setting in all types of weather conditions.

More information: www.scouting.org/scoutsources/HighAdventure/Philmont/Camping/trailtrek.aspx



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GENERATION CONNECTIONS

Was your grandfather a Cub Scout, mom a Den Mother, uncle a Merit Badge Counselor? Or are you the first in your family to go down the Scouting trail? No matter what your Scouting legacy, you are invited to celebrate your family with the 100th Anniversary Generations Connection program.

For 100 years, Scouting has given American families opportunities to build memories, share experiences, and develop strong values. We invite all Scouting families to share your stories and continue the tradition. For those without a long history of Scouting, you can start today!

BSA 100TH ANNIVERSARY TREES

The tree is an important symbol of the family—a family tree, the life of a tree that spans generations, the belief that a tree will continue to provide, long after we're gone. The Boy Scouts of America has partnered with the Arbor Day Foundation to supply Centennial Trees to families.

For every BSA 100th Anniversary tree purchased from Arbor Day, another will be planted in Montana at the newly created Boy Scouts of America Centennial Forest. The Centennial Forest will aid replanting of the Flathead National Forest following recent fires. More information can be found at: <http://www.arborday.org/boyscouts>.

GPC 100TH ANNIVERSARY TREES

Everyone will be given an Eastern White Pine today to take home and plant with their families. This will allow you to have your own person Generations Connections family tree! There is a short ceremony and information on how tree markers to designate the event on the website: <http://scouting.org/100years/100years/GenerationsConnection.aspx>

Every family who sends Robert a picture and short story about their tree planting will receive a (free) Generation Connection patch to commemorate the special occasion. E-mail your picture to RobMarks@verizon.net.

HOW TO PLANT YOUR TREE

It is best to plant bare-root trees immediately, in order to keep the fragile roots from drying out. If you can't plant because of weather or soil conditions, store the trees in a cool place and keep the roots moist.

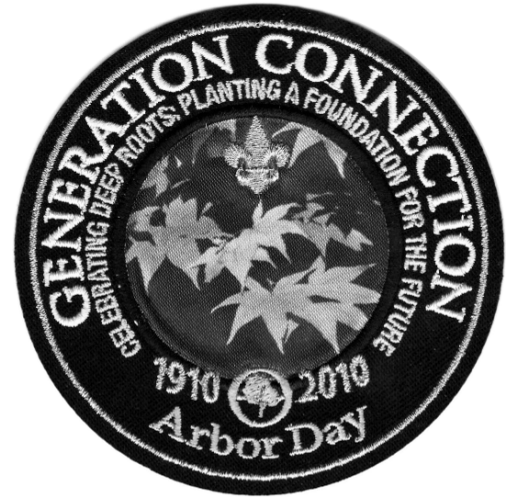
Unpack tree and soak in water 3 to 6 hours. Do not plant with packing materials attached to roots, and do not allow roots to dry out.

Dig a hole, wider than seems necessary, so the roots can spread without crowding.

Remove any grass within a three-foot circular area. To aid root growth, turn soil in an area up to 3 feet in diameter. Partially fill the hole, firming the soil around the lower roots. Do not add soil amendments. Shovel in the remaining soil. It should be firmly, but not tightly packed with your heel.

Construct a water-holding basin around the tree. Give the tree plenty of water. After the water has soaked in, place a 2-inch deep protective mulch area 3 feet in diameter around the base of the tree (but not touching the trunk).

Water the tree generously every week or 10 days during the first year.



It is horrifying that we have to fight our own government to save the environment.

-Ansel Adams

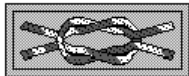
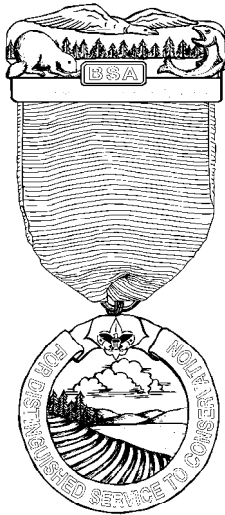


LEAVE NO TRACE

- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Camp & Travel on Durable Surfaces
- Pack It In, Pack It Out
- Leave What You Find
- Minimize Campfires
- Respect Wildlife
- Respect Others

PROJECT CATEGORIES

Each project must be unique and selected from eight different categories: Energy Conservation, Soil & Water Conservation, Fish & Wildlife Management, Forestry & Range management, Air & Water Pollution Control, Resource Recovery (recycling), Hazardous Material Disposal & Management and Invasive Species Control.



The Hornaday Award-Silver Medal is the most distinguished award in Scouting for exceptional conservation service.

HOW APPLICATIONS ARE JUDGED

Expectations

In their documentation, each applicant for the bronze and silver medals are expected to:

- ◆ Describe the origination of the idea.
- ◆ State the project's purpose and identify the conservation issue it addresses.
- ◆ Conduct research, investigation, and study.
- ◆ Develop project plans.
- ◆ Implement and manage the projects.
- ◆ Demonstrate leadership and involve others.
- ◆ Describe how the project influenced the attitudes of others.
- ◆ Record the time and resources devoted to each project.
- ◆ Explain the relationships among projects, if projects are interrelated. Each project, however, must be from a different category of conservation, as described earlier.

National Council Judging Criteria

For Hornaday Awards conferred by the National Council, Boy Scouts of America, these are the major criteria used in judging.

Projects

- ◆ Has the applicant completed substantial conservation projects in different categories?
- ◆ Was the time spent on each project indicated?
- ◆ Were the projects innovative?
- ◆ Does the applicant indicate the origin of project ideas?

Project Documentation

- ◆ Was each project described in detail, including illustrations and/or photographs of the work done?
- ◆ Did the applicant meet the expectations for project documentation? Include reasons for choosing each project, preparation, research, consulting others, design, planning, and approvals from land managers for each project.
- ◆ Were newspaper articles, letters of thanks or commendation, and other supporting materials included in one well-organized binder?

Planning

- ◆ Do the plans demonstrate excellence?
- ◆ Did these projects result in a positive impact on the local community?

Leadership and Involvement of Others

- ◆ Did the applicant give leadership and involve others in carrying out the projects?
- ◆ Did the applicant receive guidance from other organizations and professionals?
- ◆ Did the applicant help others learn about natural resource conservation?

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BOY SCOUTS & CONSERVATION

Since 1910, conservation has been an integral part of the program of the Boy Scouts of America. The BSA has been a positive force in conservation and environmental efforts. Scouts have rendered distinguished public service by helping to conserve wildlife, energy, forests, soil, and water. Past generations of Scouts have been widely recognized for undertaking conservation Good Turn action projects in

their local communities.

Scouts of today have grown up hearing words such as ecosystem, biodiversity, and climate change. They recognize the need for, and the benefits of, conserving natural resources. Scouts understand that we all must work together for the betterment of the land, forests, wildlife, air, and water.

Some of the Scouting conservation awards include:

- ◆ World Conservation Award (Cub Scout, Boy Scout and Venturing levels)
- ◆ Conservation Good Turn Award
- ◆ Leave No Trace Achievement Award for Boy Scouts or Cub Scouts

For more information:

<http://conservation-bsa.org/>



EASTERN WHITE PINE—INTERESTING FACTS

Eastern white pine (*Pinus strobus*) is a large pine native to eastern North America, occurring from Newfoundland west to Minnesota and southeastern Manitoba, and south along the Appalachian Mountains to the northern edge of Georgia. It is occasionally known as simply White Pine, Northern White Pine, or Soft Pine. It is also known as Weymouth Pine, especially in Britain. In addition, this tree is known to the Haudenosaunee Native Americans as the Tree of Great Peace.

Like all members of the white pine group, the leaves of the Eastern White Pine (needles) are in fascicles (bundles) of five (rarely 3 or 4), with a deciduous sheath. They are flexible, bluish-green, finely serrated, and 5-13 centimeters long, and persist for usually about 18 months.

Mature trees can easily be 200 to 250 years old. Some white pines live over 400 years. A tree growing near Syracuse, New York was dated to 458 years in the late 1980s and trees in both Wisconsin and Michigan have approached 500 years in age.

White pines prefer well-drained soil and cool, humid climates, but also grow in boggy areas and rocky highlands. In mixed forests, this dominant tree towers over all others, including the large hardwoods. It provides food and shelter for forest birds and small mammals.

During the age of sail, tall white pines with high quality wood were known as mast pines. Marked by agents of the Crown in colonial times with the broad arrow, they were reserved for the British Royal Navy.

White Pine needles contain five times the amount of Vitamin C (by weight) of lemons and make an excellent tisane (tea). The cambium (inner layers located between these tissues in the stem and root) is edible. It is also a source of resveratrol (natural phytoalexin that produces to stave off attacks by pathogens such as bacteria or fungi. Several experiments suggest that it triggers mechanisms that counteract aging-related effects in animals.)

In addition to its use for wood products, the White Pine is used many in products from cleaning solutions to waterproofing to medicinal uses. Pine tar mixed with beer can be used to remove tape-worms and roundworms. Pine tar mixed with sulfur is useful to treat dandruff.

The name "Adirondack" is an Iroquois word which means tree-eater and referred to their neighbors (more commonly known as the Algonquians) who collected the inner bark during times of winter starvation. The white soft inner bark was carefully separated from the hard, dark brown bark and dried. When pounded this product can be used as flour or added to stretch other starchy products.

The state tree of Maine and Michigan is an Eastern Pine. It also appears on the state flag of Vermont.

