



RANDY OLSON

Memorial Scholarship

In October 1987, the Boy Scouts of America lost a great and dedicated volunteer. His name was Randy Olson. He lived his 40 year lifetime guided by the Scout Oath and Law. Randy began his Scouting career in Indiana achieving the rank of Eagle Scout while only 13 years old. At age 18 he started his own Explorer Post. The ethics and standards he learned during his Scouting days continued into his adult life and his professional career. Randy began his career in the San Francisco Bay area where he became an advisor for an Explorer Post emphasizing engineering careers. He eventually transferred to Fresno where he once again volunteered his time to the Boy Scouts. Randy became a member of the Sequoia Council Executive Board and worked with the top 10% of the Scouts that were members of the Order of the Arrow. He also spent three years guiding the local Exploring Division. He served as Vice President of the Council's properties, which included real estate holdings, camping properties, and the office building. Randy's community interests were not limited to just the Boy Scouts. He was a member and past president of the Fresno Jaycees and later joined the Rotary Club of Fresno. In 1984 Randy was named one of the ten finalists for Fresno's Volunteer of the Year award. Randy was active in the Church of Christ and had at one time served as a staff member at Camp Chawanakee. Throughout his life, Randy was known for his dedication to the principles and ideals of the Boy Scouts of America in both his personal and professional life. Randy was awarded the Silver Beaver Award, the highest award a local council can bestow on one of its volunteers for his involvement in the Scouting program as well as other community groups and activities. It is the goal of the Sequoia Council to further Randy's exemplary achievements by establishing the Randy Olson Memorial Scholarship Fund and to recognize those individuals that exemplify this spirit by assisting them in their educational aspirations.

Who is Eligible: Any registered youth member of the Boy Scouts of America who is recommended by his or her unit leadership.

The purpose of the scholarship fund is to recognize young Scouts ages 7 through 20 who have shown exceptional promise in the Scouting program. The annual awards will not necessarily be based on need or achievement but on each applicant's determination to fulfill their potential.

Applications detailing measurable self-improvement in the applicant's life by his/her use of the Tiger Cub Promise, Cub Scout Promise, the Scout Oath and Law, the Varsity Pledge, the Venturing Pledge, and the Exploring Code will be given top consideration.

The scholarship must be used to support the educational aspirations of the applicant. Examples of these would include Scout camp; Scout training courses; National or World Jamboree; university studies; vocational schools; computer training; leadership training; field trips; high-adventure trips, etc.

The scholarship award will be generally no more than \$500. A person may receive an award more than once but only one per calendar year. The total amount available to present depends on the growth of the Olson Fund and not to exceed 5% of the fund amount per year. The original corpus of the fund was established at about \$20,000 and has grown over the years. As of October 2009, the Olson Fund and a separate fund called Gundelfinger were invested together in a mutual fund with Wells Fargo Advisors and is governed as a part of the endowment funds of the Sequoia Council, BSA via the Investment Committee. The percentage of the combined fund for Olson is 58% and Gundelfinger is 42%.

Application Process: The candidate should complete the application being careful to secure the certification of:

- Unit Leader
- Head of Chartered Organization
- Parent or Guardian
- Sequoia Council CEO/Scout Executive

He/She should then submit the application and a copy of each of the following documents:

- Most recent school report card
- A letter of recommendation from a person outside of Scouting

Deadline: The application and all associated documents must be postmarked no later than December 31st. Send applications along with the other paperwork to:

Sequoia Council, BSA
6005 N Tamera Ave
Fresno, CA 93711

Sequoia Council, BSA
230 NW Third Ave.
Visalia, CA 93291

Selection Process: a panel of volunteers appointed by the Council President will conduct the selection. Recipients will be advised of the selection in a reasonable time following the selection committee meeting.

Randy Olson Memorial Scholarship Application

Part One: Personal Data

Name _____ Nickname _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Age as of December 31 _____ Date of Birth _____

Father's name _____ Mother's name _____

Guardian's name _____

Applicant's signature _____

Part Two: Educational Data

School now attending _____ Grade level _____

Planned educational school or courses scholarship will help to finance:

1. _____ Location _____ Cost _____

Part Three: Statement of Need

Write a statement on "How Scouting has helped me improve my life". Additional sheets may be attached to the application.

Part Four: Certification

The following individuals hereby certify the applicant for the Randy Olson Memorial Scholarship has used the ethics and standards of the Tiger Cub Promise, Cub Scout Promise, Boy Scout Oath and Law, Varsity Scout Pledge, Venturing Pledge, or the Explorer Code to improve his or her life. Signatures of the following individuals verify that the scholarship funds will be used by the applicant to further his or her educational aspirations as outlined in this scholarship application.

Unit Leader's signature _____ Date _____

Head of the Charter Organization signature _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian's signature _____ Date _____

CEO/Scout Executive's signature _____ Date _____

Scholarship Trustees

David Gilmore
David Kyle Jeff Tolladay
Sequoia Council President ex-officio
Sequoia Council CEO/Scout Executive or designee ex-officio

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In Living Memory

Randy Olson

Memorial Scholarship Application