

## William A. Best, Ilion, Honored at Scout Dinner

MOHAWK—William A. Best, Ilion, long a leader in the Boy Scout movement, was presented the Silver Beaver award, highest a Scouter may receive, at the annual General Herkimer Boy Scout Council recognition dinner here last night.

Thomas Shearer, Sr., Herkimer, representing the Silver Beaver award winners' organization, made the presentation at the dinner held in the Legion Home.

Best is council vice president and president of Camp Russell, Inc. Through his work, Camp Russell has expanded with more land and more facilities to meet growing needs of the council.

A former camping and activities chairman, he served as Ilion finance chairman and has been a member of the executive board ten years. He is past president of the Ilion Little Theater Club and Shakespeare Club and is Republican village chairman. He is employed at Remington Arms.

County Judge Edmund A. McCarthy was toastmaster and the invocation was given by Rev. Walter Hendricks, Grace Episcopal Church, Mohawk, with benediction by Rev. Alfred A. Lamanna, Frankfort council chaplain.

Commander Thomas J. Keene, the guest speaker, discussed the Boy Scout movement in which he has long been active.

### Other Awards Presented

Many other awards were presented during the program. George Sehring, Herkimer, past president, presented gifts to Scouters who performed outstanding tasks during his term of office. Francis J. Skinner, Little Falls, received a flag set for leadership in the 1955 fund campaign and other activities.

First Class insignia paper weights went to Shearer, for leadership in the annual camporee at Mohawk Fish and Game Club; Commander Edmund Hollender, Herkimer, for "Operation Seabee" leadership at Camp Russell; C. W. Falkenhainer, Frankfort, leadership in "Project Amigos," under which two Scouts were sent to Puerto Rico for two weeks last summer, and two Puerto Rican Explorer Scouts will come here this summer.

Also Donald Hurley, Little Falls, leadership in the Colgate Trek; Harvey Wick, Herkimer, James Curtis, Ilion, and Walter Sube, Little Falls, directorship of the 1955 finance campaign in their districts; Mervyn Covell, Ilion, chairman of the western district which ranked first in membership, manpower and money; George Sluyter, Herkimer, and Alfred Costello, Ilion, chairmen of the relationship committee, Protestant Advisory Committee and Catholic Affairs Committee.

### Gets Tie Clasp

Edward Hess, Mohawk, received a 13-year veteran tie clasp for his work as finance chairman.

### Other awards:

Walter Farnholts, Little Falls, service as auditor; William Castalde, Ilion, cub pack leader instrumental in organization of additional packs; Andrew Little, Little Falls, Eastern division leadership; Paul Agrelus, Little Falls, leadership of training committee; Clarence Yule, Frankfort, outstanding leadership in advancement program.

Mrs. Allen Goldstein, Little Falls, for continuing the leanto project at Camp Russell after death of her husband; Mrs. Earl Golden, Herkimer, for her work in the larger financial campaign donations for several years.

Walter Isreal, Schuyler Lake, was presented a 40-year award in scouting in recognition of his long efforts in the movement.

The Mohawk Community Chest was thanked for its cooperation with the council. It is the only group in the county which consistently meets the budget quota, it was announced.

Also attending were Arthur Turner, West Winfield, council president; Arnold Blumberg, Little Falls, vice president; J. Frank Young, treasurer; Richard Rasch, commissioner; and Scout Executive Thomas E. Moore Jr.



**SILVER BEAVER WINNER**—The Silver Beaver award was given to William A. Best, left, last night at the annual General Herkimer Scout Council dinner, for outstanding service in scouting. Thomas Shearer, president of the Silver Beaver society, is seen here making the presentation. (Staff Photo)