



Roger Burgess, earliest Scoutmaster of the Mohawk Valley, receiving gifts from Scoutmaster James Kurkowski, leader of Troop 14, Richfield Springs.

(Monte Smith photo)

Scout troop fetes first scoutmaster

RICHFIELD SPRINGS — The first Scoutmaster in the Mohawk Valley area, 91-year old Roger Burgess, was honored during Boy Scout Week when Troop 14, Richfield Springs, brought him a box of gifts at the Bella Vista Nursing Home.

Mr. Burgess headed the first Boy Scout Troop in this section over 60 years ago when he took over as Scoutmaster of the Frankfort Scout Troop.

Since that time he continued as an active participant in scouting for as long as his health permitted, serving as a Scoutmaster and a committee and General Herkimer Council member.

A recipient of the Silver Beaver award, highest recognition given to adults in scouting, he now resides in the Richfield Springs nursing home.

Scoutmaster James Kurkowski presented the Troop 14 gifts to the veteran scouter.