

By Henry Bury

The Intelligencer

Marion and Jack Andrews now have more than marriage in common.

They're also co-recipients of the 1997 Scouter of the Year award from the Belleville District Council of Scouts Canada.

The Belleville couple is the first husband-and-wife team to be honored with the top Scouter award.

The Andrews — both retired — were presented with their award at the council's annual Honor and Awards Night banquet Monday evening at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

Marion Andrews has spent the past 28 years in Scouting, doing everything from serving on provincial committees to leading various groups.

Jack Andrews, meanwhile, has been in Scouting for only the past two years.

Both are currently involved with the 19th Belleville Cub pack — Marion as leader and Jack as assistant leader. The pack meets weekly at its sponsoring organization, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on Palmer Road.

Marion acknowledged the award represents recognition for all her years' service to Scouting both locally and provincially. But she would have done it without any awards.

"I love Scouting," she said. "I'd like to do another 28 years because there's never a good time to leave.

"There's always one more thing you'd like to do with the youth."

Marion said she's always found Scouting "very honorable and very satisfying. The biggest thing is that it's fun and I enjoy it thoroughly."

Marion's involvement in

Scouting finally caught up to her husband two years ago.

"I used to do all the driving for Marion, to local activities and provincial events. I decided two years ago I might as well come in and help out with her Cub pack," Jack said.

And he's loved it.

"Scouting is exciting and fulfilling. There's something different to do all the time," he said.

Besides, added Jack, the kids are all eager to learn new things in Scouting. "There's a lot of satisfaction in instructing them in new things."

The Andrews said their award wouldn't have been possible without the help of the 19th Belleville's assistant leader, Rick Leslie, and parent volunteer Sandra Maracle.

"We're all in this together for the benefit of the youth," Marion said.

Also at the Honors and Awards banquet, the Rookie (Scouter) of the Year award was presented to Richard Manuel of the 18th Belleville Cub pack.

The Intelligencer was presented with a 'Friend of Scouting' certificate in recognition of years of continuous support of scouting in Belleville.

Five-year service pins were presented to Wayne Bates and Robert McEwen of 5th Belleville troop, George Murray of 19th Belleville, Thomas Reddick of 19th Belleville G.C. and Laurie Van Eck of 2nd Sidney G.C.

A 10-year service pin was presented to Peter Hodgson of 5th Belleville troop.

Fifteen-year service pins were handed out to Robert Haskin of 5th Belleville pack and Iris Haskin of 5th Belleville colony.

A 30-year service pin was presented to David Bentley, Belleville District Council treasurer, 11th Belleville pack and museum curator.