

125th commemorative medal

Scouts Canada rewards Jean Layman

By JANET BAINE

Staff writer

Jean Layman, a Scouts Canada volunteer for over three decades, has been recognized by the Chief Scout of Canada — Governor-General Ray Hnatyshyn — for all her hard work.

It's a commemorative medal for 125th anniversary of Confederation.

Layman was among 300 scouting adults who were selected from across Canada for the award which was presented to Layman by Elaine Hannah, the District commissioner of scouts at the Optimist's Hall in Georgetown, recently.

"It was a surprise. As a matter of fact, I was a few minutes late that evening," Layman says.

In her acceptance speech, Layman told fellow scouts gathered at the meeting that she wishes everyone had receive a medal, because it takes teamwork to carry out all the activities organized for the scouts.

This isn't the first award Layman has received for her efforts. She was Georgetown Citizen of the Year in 1985 and received the Medal of Merit, a national scouting award, last year.

Layman became interested in scouting at the World Jamboree held at Niagara-on-the-Lake in 1955. She lived nearby and brought

fruit from the family farm. She and other local residents gathered at the jamboree in the evenings — just to see what was going on, and she even corresponded with some of the people she met there, including a Cuban and a prince.

When her son was old enough in 1957, she enrolled him as a cub and began her work in the movement. In fact, husband Jack, and her son and daughter have all been involved in scouting.

From 1960 to 1979, Layman helped with the 1st Georgetown pack at St. John's Church. In 1980 she helped with an out-of-town unit and from 1980 on she has been involved at the district level.

Layman enjoys working with

the kids and coaching new leaders. She received a letter about a teacher in Ottawa which says, "he attributes his decision to be a teacher working with kids to you and cubbing. He wants to give children something special and fun, just like he experienced."

Layman says she enjoys the friendships she has formed through scouting and plans to continue her involvement in the future.

Two other local residents also received the award:

- Ric Symmes has been president of the Ontario Council for the last three years and;
- John Ollivier is involved at the regional level.



JEAN LAYMAN

Turf Tips



Duncan Atkinson
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SPRING LAWN ROLLING

The problems far outweigh the benefits when considering rolling an established lawn.

Lawn rolling in early spring is something that many people do simply because their family always did it. Others do it for exercise. We suggest another form of exercise...

The only beneficial effect of lawn rolling would be to flatten small bumps and slightly level the soil surface. Instead, lawn rolling severely compacts soil and eliminates beneficial air pockets which are required for proper growth and development of turfgrass. This effort can be particularly harmful in the case of heavy clay soils. Once it has been compacted, clay soil will not open again until after the freezing and thawing effect has taken place the following winter.

If you wish to roll your lawn, we suggest you wait until June (after a heavy rain is best). By this time all of the younger grass plants will be mature enough to withstand the pressure of a 150 lb. roller, rolling on top of them. However, because of the compaction created when rolling, aeration would help to relieve some of the compaction. So remember, if you want to roll your lawn, wait until June, and aerate afterwards.

NEXT WEEK: WHY AERATE YOUR LAWN?

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Town plans green pickups

Once again the Town of Halton Hills Public Works section has implemented a full scale program to collect these "green" yard and garden materials and divert them from the landfill site.

The program started on Monday, April 5 and continues on selected Mondays throughout the spring and summer.

To date over 145 tonnes of grass clippings, brush, flower stalks and other organic materials have been collected and disposed of at Scott's composting farm in Hornby. In 1992 a total of 374 tonnes was collected over the course of the entire year. The town pays a tipping fee of \$67.50 to dump the waste on site. This compares quite favorably with the \$150 a tonne that would be charged at the landfill in Milton. It is anticipated that once the region has firmed up plans for the erection of a centralized compost facility that these "green wastes" will be banned from the landfill.

On April 19, over 43 tonnes of material was collected at the curb-side. This tremendous response made it impossible for the hard working employees from the Public Works section to get to all the materials left out for collection. Town staff explained that because they have the luxury of employing a spare truck for the remainder of the week, that residents who do not get their materials picked up on the specified days should leave the waste at the curb for pick up at a later time, hopefully within a couple of days.

"The unusually wet fall last year and a similarly wet and snowy March made clearing the yard very difficult for most residents. The result was that the first nice weekend of the spring happened to coincide with the April 19 pickup. We're very sorry for any inconvenience we may have caused to residents," explained Paul Sargent, Refuse Reduction coordinator for the town.

Town staff would also like to remind residents to put their lawn and garden waste in clear plastic bags or re-usable containers as it makes identifying the material much easier. The town is also recommending that residents leave their grass clippings on the lawn after cutting when possible. This is not only cost effective in terms of collection and disposal but also beneficial to your lawn.

The diversion of these wastes from the average home can reduce the amount of refuse going to landfill by almost 40 per cent. Using these curbside programs in addition to the composting program and the Blue Box, most residents can divert up to half of the normal everyday refuse that is going to the curb thereby attaining the Province's target for the year 2000.

Composters are available for \$17 from the town. If you would like more information on obtaining a backyard composter or any of the other waste reduction initiatives provided by the town, please contact the town at 873-2600, ext. 374.

The yard and garden program continues on the following days: May 17, June 7, June 14, June 28, July 5, July 12.

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