

Report to Illinois District Board 01/15/2011

From the Awards Committee

1. The Illinois District Awards Committee has procured the final plaques for the 2010 Fall Convention winners. Plaques were sent to **Steve Davis** to present:
 - MECA Plaque (1) to Northbrook
 - Ed Wilson Plaques (4) to Gadzooks of NorthbrookTo **Mark Betczynski** to present:
 - Frank Thorne Plaque (1) to Lake County
 - MECA Plaque (1) to Lake CountyTo **Greg Grey** to present:
 - Novice Plaques (4) to SOS from Bloomington Chapter
2. Preparations are underway to gather 2010 quartet and chorus charitable giving for the Sol Gamis and Charles Hecking awards. ABE award nominations will also be sought for the 2011 Spring Convention presentation.
3. Dickie Johnson has done a fabulous job on the award plaques and trophies, including the reinstated Frank Thorne Award. Thanks to Bob Squires for his work to research the history of this award and outline the criteria for selecting the winner.
4. There was significant discussion regarding reinstatement of the SMAG-Fest. The Awards Committee commends that two decisions be made Saturday: 1) Under what district committee or individuals direction should the SMAG-Fest be handled? 2) Should the SMAG-Fest be held twice a year at each convention or should it be held only at one convention?
5. The Awards Committee suggests that the SMAG-Fest be held only once a year and be under the purview of the VP Events, not the Awards Committee. Awards presented at the SMAG-Fest could be supplied by the Awards committee, and would likely consist of a generic medal/ribbon (with no date) ordered in reasonable quantity for Fests in the future.
6. Mike Bagby has transitioned his responsibilities for the Awards Committee to new chairman Mark Betczynski. The Awards Committee wishes to recognize Mike's tireless efforts to ensure all award activities were executed smoothly during the 2010 Spring and Fall Conventions.

Submitted by Mark Betczynski