



The Honorable Greg Smith

Oregon House of Representatives
District 57

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
March 9, 2006

Representatives Smith Honors Scout Volunteers Friday Night

SALEM, Ore. – “This will be an exciting evening for Scouts, parents and other supporters of the organization,” said [State Representative Greg Smith \(R-Heppner\)](#). Smith is the keynote speaker at the Annual Columbia River District Awards Dinner. Up to 150 people are expected to attend the event which starts at 6 PM Friday March 10th at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Stake Center in Hermiston, 850 Southwest 11th St.

“Scouting has been such a huge part of my family, I feel it is important to give back to the organization whenever possible,” explained Smith. He earned his Arrow of Light as a Webelos, which means he completed all the requirements for a Boy Scout badge at a young age. Smith received his Eagle Scout, scouting’s highest honor, when he was just 14. Since then he has gone on to earn five Palms for his community service and troop leadership. He was also elected to the Order of the Arrow, the National Honor Society of scouting.

Every year hundreds of volunteers give their time and energy to the Columbia River District. This event includes announcement of the District Award of Merit, the highest honor the district hands out, recognizing the significant contributions made by volunteer leaders in 2005. Several other awards will also be presented including Cub Scouter of the Year, Scoutmaster of the Year, and Scouter of the Year.

“I am flattered to be invited to speak to this wonderful group. We need to do all we can to encourage our young people to join scouting and persuade other adults to participate,” noted Smith. Several years ago when Smith was Cub Master for Heppner Pack 661 it grew from a handful of scouts to more than 35. He remains active as a Councilor for the three Citizenship Merit Badges required to become an Eagle Scout.

Representative Smith has three boys involved in Boy Scouts. He pointed out, “the youngest just finished the requirements for his Bobcat rank. The middle son is completing his Arrow of Light award, and the oldest has almost reached a Star Scout ranking,”

The Columbia River District represents packs in Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla and Wheeler counties in Oregon, in addition to Kennewick, Washington. It is part of the Blue Mountain Council. To learn more about the Columbia River District contact Executive Andrea Nuccio (800) 821-4939 or (509) 735-7306. For more on the National BSA go to www.scouting.org.

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CONTACT:
Representative Greg Smith
503-986-1457
rep.gregsmith@state.or.us