

2024 Marion & Matty Penick Outstanding Community Service Award

Name of Nominee: Shannon Graham

Name of Nominators: Jay Dee Huddleston and Jim Rudd

Shannon Graham deserves the 2024 Outstanding Community Service Award for all the contributions he has made to Beavercreek. He exemplifies service above self as it is rare for the Beavercreek Rotary Club to have an event in which Shannon isn't actively involved. He is also a great leader and role model to the youth of this community and is always setting the example by which to live. His contributions to Rotary and the greater community are described below.

Rotary Contributions: Shannon has been active in the Beavercreek Rotary Club throughout his 12 years of membership. His past leadership roles include Club President, Member of the Board of Directors, Foundation President, and Member of the Board of Trustees. He worked the Rotary booth at the Beavercreek Popcorn Festival while he also helped his Boy Scout troop run a booth at the car show. He and his teenage son helped set up the Beavercreek Rotary "Tour de Gem" station along with passing out water and refreshments to the bicyclists. He passed out dictionaries to 3rd graders and coloring books to 2nd graders to help spread the word about what it means to be a Rotarian. He was one of the judges for the "Four-way test" speech competition at Beavercreek High School. He wrapped and delivered Christmas gifts as part of the annual Beavercreek Rotary Christmas Basket Project. Shannon served as a Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) facilitator spending at least four hours per quarter facilitating the RLI course. He also led the district's Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) events which is usually attended by over 50 high schoolers. His teenage daughter has also been in attendance to help with his event. He has been a regular participant in and key contributor to the success of many other club activities such as the Pancake Breakfast, Flags for Heroes Program, Memorial Golf Outing, and Pig Roast/Halloween Party.

Greater Community Contributions: Shannon has made significant contributions to the greater community throughout his life. He has been a scout leader for over 12 years. He spent over six years leading both young girls and boys in Cub Scouts. He met at least twice a month with the youth and taught them scout and leadership skills. Shannon was the Scout Master of Troop 42 in Beavercreek for six years, meeting weekly and having monthly campouts. The pancake breakfast the boys put together during the council's klondike campout was a great example of his leadership. With his guidance seven scouts camped in tents the night before the pancake breakfast, got up at 5:00 a.m., prepared, cooked, and served over 100 meals. Then after breakfast they competed in scouting events to demonstrate the scout skills they had learned. The boys may not have won the event that day, but they were able to do more than any other troop. Shannon also helped lead and guide the young men during the special events. He participated in both Flags across America and Wreaths across America for six years by helping the youth place flags and wreaths at the Dayton VA cemetery during Memorial Day weekend and winter holidays. He also led the youth in performing landscaping at the Family Violence Prevention Center of Greene County annually for four years.

Shannon is a great role model for both the members of the Beavercreek Rotary Club and the youth of this community. He is always volunteering for projects that directly benefit the youth by getting them involved in the community. Through the utilization of his leadership skills and his practice of Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self", the Beavercreek Rotary Club and the greater community benefits from his efforts and example. The youth will develop to be great leaders of this community just like him.