

## **2012 Table Sponsors**

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Quentin Knauer, MD  
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Artek Oil Company  
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In Memory of William G. Nicolozakes  
In Memory of Jack Youngs  
Nicolozakes Trucking

## **Past Recipients of the Distinguished Citizen Award**

**Bob Amos\* - 1995**

**Jack Taylor - 1996**

**William G. Nicolozakes\* - 1997**

**Sam Speck - 1998**

**Dr. Dayle Snyder - 1999**

**Clark Armstrong - 2000**

**James "Peanut" Carpenter - 2001**

**Harold\* & Rose Ann Davis - 2002**

**Captains Bob & Alice Sears - 2003**

**Darrel Cubbison - 2004**

**William Hartley, Jr.\* - 2005**

**Tom & Dale\* McMullen - 2006**

**Jack Youngs\* - 2007**

**Tom & Marj Tribbie - 2008**

**Dr. Quentin & Mary Knauer - 2009**

**Art Clemenson - 2010**

**Judge David & Annette Ellwood - 2011**

**Muskingum Valley Council, B.S.A.**

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# **Distinguished Citizen Dinner**

## **Honoring**

## **William "Bill" Baker**



## **April 26, 2012**

**Muskingum Valley Council, BSA**

**Banquet Chair: Dr. Dayle Snyder**



**William Baker:** Bill was born in the old Swan Hospital, Cambridge, and lived with his parents, Joseph and Mabel Baker, in Old Washington. He attended grade school and high school in Old Washington. Bill began his work experience by pumping gas, changing oil, and fixing flat tires at the family gas station. His father was a general contractor and by age fourteen, Bill became a proficient operator of construction equipment.

He was also proficient in the game of basketball and it was due to this that he earned a scholarship to Muskingum College. To help pay for his room and board during college, he worked in the Fort during his time at Muskingum. He was a member of

the Sphinx Fraternity.

After graduating from Muskingum College in June 1957, Bill started his venture in the business world in an old Quonset hut owned by his parents. Southeastern Equipment Company was formed on October 1, 1957. It was through dedication to his company and to his manufacturers that it has been rewarded with growth to the Southeastern as we know it today. Southeastern has 19 locations throughout Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and Michigan with over 200 employees. Southeastern remains the world's largest privately-owned J.I. Case Construction Equipment dealership. Bill has also served as President of the Case Dealer's Council.

Personally, Bill has served two terms as mayor of the Village of Old Washington, President of the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce, and President of the Kambri Shrine Club of the Aladdin Temple. He is a member of Lodge 66 - Valley of Cambridge and in August 2011 became a 33rd degree Mason.

In 1988, Bill and his family built a parsonage adjacent to the Old Washington United Methodist Church. They were also instrumental in building an addition to the church. He is Chairman of the Church Board and carries on the support of the church as his parents had done in their lifetime.

Attentive to the needs of the community, Bill solely developed the Baker Athletic Complex for the East Guernsey Schools; consequently hundreds of children have benefitted from that addition to the school. The Buckeye Trail/East Guernsey Athletic Hall of Fame Award was presented to him on October 15, 2004, with notation that he had served the school, that he was a veteran of the athletic program prior to the consolidation, and that he held "All County" athletic status during his high school years.

With great concern for the condition of the Friends Cemetery in Quaker City, Bill has contributed to that facility with the donation of ideas, equipment, and money for the future construction of a combined meeting room, updated bathroom facilities, and equipment storage.

In 2011, Zane State College gave Bill an honorary degree of Associate of Public Service. He continues as a contributor to Zane State College in support of their shop equipment as well as contributing for the proposed expansion to the facility.

As a developer, with the annexation of personal real estate property along Route 209 South, Bill made numerous trips to Bentonville, AK, urging Wal-Mart to develop a store in Guernsey County. Genesis HealthCare, Baymont Inn, and the Ohio Bureau of Workman's Compensation soon followed. These are just a few of the businesses that Bill has brought into the community, helping to employ several hundred people.

Bill and his wife, Nancy, have been married for 55 years. They have two children and three grandsons.

## 2012 Distinguished Citizen Dinner Honoring William "Bill" Baker Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center

Welcome ..... Judge David Ellwood

Pledge of Allegiance & Scout Oath ..... Members of Troop 510  
Chartered by New Concord United Methodist Church

Invocation ..... John Kaplet

### Dinner

Introduction of Table Captains ..... Judge David Ellwood

Salute to Scouting ..... Ed Mulholland

Recognition of Past Honorees ..... Judge David Ellwood

Honoring Bill Baker:

Tom Orr  
Richard Riesbeck  
Judge David Ellwood  
The Family

Presentation of Awards ..... Ed Mulholland

Honoree's Remarks ..... Bill Baker

Closing Remarks ..... Judge David Ellwood

Benediction ..... John Kaplet