Springfield Good as Gold Distinguished Volunteer Award Criteria

The Good as Gold Committee will select up to five finalists from among the nominees. From these five finalists the committee will select one Distinguished Volunteer. Nominations for this award will be compared in three major areas: 1) Duration, commitment, and leadership 2) Impact, and 3) Spirit of Service. We do not expect nominations to cover all of the criteria, but the more of these criteria that are covered, the stronger the nomination will be. The following bullets provide some descriptions of the types of things that fall into each area.

Duration, Commitment, and Leadership

* Total span of volunteer efforts
* Approximate weekly hours committed to service
* Leadership roles in events, organizations, or evidence that they have sought to initiate improvements/innovations/advancements toward a goal
* Success in the leadership/initiative roles taken

Impact

* Approximate number of people assisted, youth mentored, houses built, etc.
* Number of events supported, organizations volunteered for, fundraisers, etc.
* Evidence of having a transformative effect on a person, program, neighborhood, etc.
* Evidence of being integral to the success of an event, organization, fundraiser, etc.

Spirit of Service

* The nominee gave freely without seeking personal gain
* This person was inspirational, motivational to others
* This person shared their passions and talents

Volunteer History Template

The template on the next page provides examples of two types of volunteer history entries (bullet point entries, and narrative entries). Either format is acceptable.

One of our greatest challenges is an incomplete nomination. We can only base our decision on the information provided in this application. Because this award is intended to recognize a long-term commitment to service, which in many cases will extend beyond the nominators scope of knowledge of the nominee, we encourage you to talk to the person you are nominating (we recognize that this may ruin the surprise) as well as their friends, family, and/or colleagues at organizations they have worked with over the years. This will help you create a more complete Volunteer History and improve your nominees chances of getting the recognition they deserve.

**Ann X. Ample**

**Springfield Example School 2003-2011**

**Volunteer Teacher’s Aide for Grades 3-5**

* Spent approximately 15 hours a week at the school
* Worked with three teachers each having a classroom of approximately 20 students
* 3rd Grade teacher Janice Max said of Ann “without her, bulletin boards would not be done, reading time would be chaos, and so much of the time I spend working with students would have to be spent at the copy machine. I don’t know what I would do without her.
* Former student John Smith has entered his second year of college and had this to say of Ann, “She taught me so much and never asked anything in return. She is the reason I became interested in seeking a degree in education. I want to be able to provide that learning opportunity for kids that need a little extra one-on-one time, like I did.”

**Springfield Example Museum 2000 – Present**

**Museum Guide and Fundraising Chair**

* Spent approximately 10 hours a week at the museum from 2000 – 2003 giving tours
* In 2003 Ann joined the museum board as the fundraising chair
* Since 2003 she has helped organize 7 fundraisers that have combined for over $25,000 of donations to the museum
* Ann has been willing to ask her personal friends and family to support the fundraising efforts of the museum and this has led to a significant increase in the number of individual donors we have seen giving

**Sangamon Parks 1978-2003**

**Organized park cleanup projects with grade school students**

Ann organized projects to bring approximately 15 grade school students one Saturday each month to spend 2 hours at a local park learn about the importance of parks and to have the students help maintain the grounds. In fact, when we lost part of our grant money in 2000, Ann focused her efforts and Starks Park and helped make one of our least maintained areas become one of our brightest examples. These clean-up efforts were not an existing program in the 70s and 80s, Ann took this upon herself. However after over 25 years of her efforts the clean-up programs have become one of our most popular events with many other organizations now planning clean-up projects like Ann’s.