



## **Outstanding Scoutmaster -- Eric Zillmer**

As Scoutmaster, this volunteer has put in countless hours delivering Scouting to more than 100 young men -- and 21 Eagle Scouts -- since the fall of 2010. He was never a Scout as a boy and wasn't involved as a leader during his son's Cub Scout years. That absence of experience might intimidate many people from even considering filling any major role in the Troop, but when his son's Unit needed a new Scoutmaster, he was willing to step up to the challenge and learn to fill the Scoutmaster's shoes. He jumped right in; taking all the basic training and extra courses he could to better understand the program.

He stands behind Troop traditions, while injecting new ideas to keep it lively. He used his technical background to help create the Troop's first website. He used his travel savvy to make high adventure treks accessible and affordable; and has helped 16 young men learn the ropes of being Senior Patrol leader and keeping the Troop rolling along. He encourages his youth leaders to seek out new camping venues, fun merit badge opportunities and fresh fundraising methods.

He's been an integral part of a Troop that consistently receives glowing JTE results. This June he is stepping down as Scoutmaster. The Troop will miss his guiding hand and constant presence, but will continue to feel his heartbeat in the legacy he will leave the Troop and its Scouts.

The Lake Minnetonka District joins Minnetonka Troop 430 in hoping the weather gods shine on Eric Zillmer, an Outstanding Scoutmaster.