

# FRIENDS EMBLEM

Recognition Program for Adults working with  
Scouting/Guiding Programs



**Friends Committee on Scouting**

**Friends World Committee for Consultation  
Section of the Americas**

**First Month 2012**

## Purpose

The FRIENDS Emblem is an adult recognition program sponsored by the Friends Committee on Scouting, an affiliate of Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas. The purpose of this program is to recognize outstanding contributions to the spiritual and social development of our Young Friends through Quaker programs and through the Scouting and/or Guiding programs.

## The Emblem

The FRIENDS Emblem incorporates an eight-pointed star, known as the *Quaker Star*, with a scriptural quotation central to Quaker beliefs, “*A light that shines in the dark.*” The red and black Quaker star dates back to work performed by English Friends during the Franco-Prussian War of 1872. It has long been associated with Quaker relief service worldwide. The scriptural passage comes from the first chapter of the Gospel of John, fifth verse. It refers to the light of God, which shines in all humanity.

## Eligibility

The Friends Emblem may be presented to any adult working with any Scouting and/or Guiding program. The emblem may be given to any recorded member or attendee of the Religious Society of Friends, or to adults of other faiths rendering service to our Young Friends through one of these programs.

## Standards of Evaluation

The following guidelines are used to evaluate nominees:

1. Supports instruction and spiritual nurture in the family.
2. Gives significant service to local Friends Meeting/Church, particularly in leadership positions.
3. Demonstrates a Quaker example that is highly regarded by others in the local Friends Meeting/Church.
4. Encourages youth to participate in Scouting and/or Guiding programs, as well as religious growth programs.
5. Provides leadership in local, district, regional or national Scouting and/or Guiding program(s).
6. Is recognized by leaders in Scouting and/or Guiding program(s) as a person of exemplary character and integrity, consistent with Quaker values and heritage.

*NOTE: work accomplished and dedication, rather than a specific number of years' service, should be the criteria for receiving this emblem. However, it is assumed that the nominee has tenure of consistent service and intends to continue.*

***ALL information should be typed and submitted in English.***

*The Friends Committee on Scouting is interested in your reaction to this recognition. Please send your comments and suggestions to:*

Friends Committee on Scouting: <http://www.quakerscouting.org>      [clerk@quakerscouting.org](mailto:clerk@quakerscouting.org)  
FCS is an affiliate of FWCC Section of the Americas, 1506 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102    (215) 241-7250

## **Resume of Candidate's Activities**

Submit a separate resume of the nominee's Meeting/Church and Scouting and/or Guiding program(s) involvement using an outline form. The following elements should be included:

1. Monthly Meeting/Church
  - a) Name and address (postal and email) of Meeting or Church
  - b) Name and address (postal and email) of Clerk/Pastor or local Meeting leader
  - c) Service rendered and tenure in leadership positions
2. Scouting and/or Guiding Organization(s)
  - a) Name and address (postal and email) of group(s)
  - b) Name and address (postal and email) of supervisor in the organization(s)
  - c) Past and present leadership positions
  - d) Leadership training courses attended as a learner or instructor
  - e) Youth and adult awards received for service to the organization(s)
3. Other Service Experience
  - a) Name and address (postal and email) of organization(s)
  - b) Name and address (postal and email) of supervisor(s)
  - c) Description of nature of services rendered
4. References
  - a) List two additional references from Monthly Meeting/Church who may be contacted to verify information sent
    - a. Name and addresses (postal and email) for each
  - b) List two additional references from Scouting and/or Guiding organization(s) who may be contacted to verify information sent
    - a. Name and addresses (postal and email) for each

## **Letters of Recommendation**

Submit letters of recommendation from the following:

1. Clerk/Pastor or other representative of either Monthly Meeting, Quarterly, Yearly Meeting, national or international Quaker body of which candidate is a member or attendee. List information on candidate's participation in worship life, programs and other services rendered.
2. Knowledgeable and influential adult at the council, regional, national or international level of the Scouting and or Guiding program(s), or any other organization(s). Cite service of the candidate as an adult volunteer, trainings taken and adult awards received.

**All of the above documentation along with the separate FRIENDS EMBLEM NOMINATION FORM and appropriate fees (in US funds) must be sent to:**

**P.R.A.Y., 11123 South Towne Square, Suite B, Saint Louis, MO 63123  
PHONE: (314) 845-3318 or (US only) 1-800-933-PRAY (7729), FAX: (314) 845-0038**

## Review Procedure

Approval of the Friends Emblem is not automatic and is not done by an administrator. Approval is done by the Friends Emblem Review Committee, an international committee, which reviews all the material, reflects, and consults before approval. One should expect to allow 3 to 4 weeks for committee approval not including time for mailing and shipping via P.R.A.Y., and perhaps longer if the application is incomplete or the committee has questions that need additional information from the nominator or anyone who has submitted supporting documentation. International orders should allow up to 6 weeks for approval, and longer for shipping – depending on distance.

The following steps will be used to process a nomination for the FRIENDS Emblem:

1. Upon receipt by P.R.A.Y., the nomination will be checked for legibility and completeness. If deficiencies are noted, the nominator(s) will be contacted and asked to correct them. Processing will begin only when a nomination is complete.
2. The nomination is then sent to the Friends Emblem Review Committee for evaluation. If any additional information is needed, the Committee will request it. A recommendation to recognize or not recognize the application is subsequently made.
3. The nominator is notified of the Friends Emblem Review Committee's decision.
  - a) If the nominee is to be recognized, the nominator will be sent the award and certificate for presentation, from P.R.A.Y.
  - b) If the nominee is not to be recognized, the nominator will be sent a brief report outlining the reasons for the decision. The judgment of the Friends Emblem Review Committee is final. However, the nominator may resubmit the candidate's name at a later date.

## Presentation Suggestions

The nominator(s) should consult with the Overseers of the local Friends Meeting/Church to determine the best manner for presenting the FRIENDS Emblem to the successful nominee. This presentation may take place during Monthly Meeting for Business, Meeting for Worship, or during another Meeting/Church event in which a large number of the membership are present.

The local Friends Meeting/Church may also wish to present or recognize the successful nominee during an appropriate Scouting and/or Guiding event, such as a District, Council or National recognition program/dinner. A brief write-up of the nominee's service to youth should additionally be submitted to the local organization's publication and any other newspaper of local interest. Copies of any printed accounts should be forwarded to the Friends Committee on Scouting.

Presentation should be brief and simple in nature. Service to Quaker youth should be stressed, so that Young Friends are encouraged to serve their brothers and sisters through the Scouting and/or Guiding programs.

The nomination must be accompanied by the following:

1. Nomination form.
2. Resume of nominees activities within Religious Society of Friends and Scouting/Guiding.
3. Letter of recommendation from a Quaker body.
4. Letter of recommendation from the Scouting/Guiding organization(s).
5. Nominating fee of \$35.00 plus the appropriate shipping/handling fee (in US funds) – contact P.R.A.Y. for the amount, check payable to P.R.A.Y. A reimbursement of \$20.00 will be made if nomination is unsuccessful.