

Jack Ambler
2009 Recipient
Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal

A distinguished Second World War combat veteran with the Royal Air Force, Regina's Jack Ambler has devoted an extraordinary amount of volunteer time and effort to ensure that the tremendous sacrifice of the thousands who died in service of their country will not be forgotten. His contributions to community life include:

- Commanding Officer #40 Squadron, Moose Jaw Royal Canadian Air Cadet Civilian Committee
- Treasurer and member, Royal Canadian Air Force #601 Wing Moose Jaw
- Past President, Saskatchewan Group President and member of the National Executive Council, Royal Canadian Air Force #600 Wing, Regina
- Past Saskatchewan Chair, Royal Canadian Air Force Benevolent Fund, assisting disabled veterans and their families
- Founding member and volunteer manager, South Saskatchewan Community Foundation
- Founding member and secretary, City of Regina Community Grants and Appeals Board
- Chairman of the Battle of Britain Commemorative Committee
- Vice Chair, South Zone Recreation Board
- Instrumental in the development of marking all former British Commonwealth Air Training Plan airfields in Saskatchewan
- Board Member, City of Regina Transit Advisory Committee
- Board Member, Society for Children with Emotional Problems
- Member, War Memorial Committee; South Saskatchewan Commissionaires; United Way of Canada Professional Advisory Council; Regina Masonic Temple
- Volunteer consultant, Canadian Executive Services Organization, completing seven projects with First Nations business organizations in Saskatchewan and overseas projects
- Awarded: Saskatchewan Centennial Medal; Canada 125 Commemorative Medal; Governor General's Caring Canadian Award; Commemorative Memorial Medal of Honour by the Netherlands Airborne Commemorative Foundation; 1993 Volunteer of the Year for the Society for Children with Emotional Problems; and the Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation for volunteer work with veterans

Telephone: (306) 586-3504

Regina

Dennis F. Bleier
2009 Recipient
Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal

Prince Albert's Dennis Bleier has exhibited a lifetime of volunteerism. A community leader, he has worked with a number of charitable organizations that benefit the people of Saskatchewan, with particular emphasis on those less fortunate. His contributions to his community and our province include:

- Grand Knight, Financial Secretary and member of the 1st and 4th Degree Exemplification Team, Prince Albert Knights of Columbus
- Chair, Prince Albert Knights of Columbus Centennial Committee
- District Deputy, former Special Olympic Program Director, and Family Life Program Director, Saskatchewan Knights of Columbus
- Charitable Foundation member, Saskatchewan Knights of Columbus
- Director, Prince Albert Columbian Club, and senior citizens high rise, KC Centre Inc., Knights of Columbus,
- Past Chair and member of board of director, Mont St. Joseph Foundation
- Treasurer, Prince Albert Catholic Education Foundation
- Team member and sponsor, Roman Catholic Adult Initiation Program
- Member, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Council, Finance Committee, Improvement Program Committee, and lay ministries
- Volunteer, Stewardship Committee, Bishop's Annual Appeal, Roman Catholic Diocese of Prince Albert
- Volunteer Selection Committee, Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres
- Volunteer, Herb Bassett Nursing Home
- Awarded: Catholic Education Service Award

Telephone: (306) 763-6982

Prince Albert

Sergeant Keith W. Briant
2009 Recipient
Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal

Sergeant Keith Briant has a passion for community service. He has the ability to establish positive relationships with ethnic and First Nations communities, to accomplish tasks that others find difficult, and to help others recognize their unlimited potential. He has served his community in the following ways:

- Spearheaded the creation and development of community centers for underprivileged kids in two locations, the Youth Co-op and the Kinsmen Activity Place
- Established the Community Activity, Training and Service (KAP) Group, whose mandate is to create safe and respectful places for community members to participate in activities
- President and member, Silverwood Heights Community Association
- Past President and member, Lawson Heights Suburban Advisory Board
- Fundraising Chair, Sister O'Brien Parent Council
- Board member, Saskatoon United Way
- Board member, Saskatoon and District Safety Council
- Board Chair, Leisure Services Advisory Committee, City of Saskatchewan
- Member, Canadian Armed Forces Primary Reserves
- Member, Saskatoon Police Pipe and Drum Band and the North Saskatchewan Royal Regiment Band
- Member, Saskatoon Shrine Club
- Board of Trustees, Saskatoon Public Library
- Member and instructor, Canada Safety Council Defensive Driving Course, 55 Alive
- Awarded: Police Exemplary Service Medal; Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal; Community Policing Award, Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police; and the Community Builders Award, City of Saskatoon

Telephone: (306) 934-4506

Saskatoon

Denis C. Chisholm
2009 Recipient
Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal

Decorated Canadian veteran and former Regina Deputy Chief of Police, Denis Chisholm has exemplified dedication to his province throughout his life. His unwavering faith in children and youth has steered his work, ensuring that they are aware of opportunities to build our province and its future by service to their country and province, in all forms. He has served his community and province in the following ways:

- Honorary Chair, Vigil 1914-1918, 2008
- Charter member, Queen City Kiwanis Club
- Instrumental in forming the Regina Police Junior Band
- Instrumental in establishing the Mobile Family Services Society
- Life Member, Royal Canadian Legion Branch No.1
- Member, Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police
- Member, National Parole Board of Canada
- Member, Royal Regina Rifle Regiment Association
- Member, Armisticians
- Member, Saskatchewan Safety Council
- Member, Federal Corrections Services Committee – Western Region
- Member, South Saskatchewan Division, Corps of Commissionaires
- Volunteer, Multiple Sclerosis Society, MS 150 Bike Tour and the Pasqua Palliative Care Bike Tour, raising nearly \$14,000
- Volunteers to support disabled veterans
- Member Boy Scouts of Canada; YMCA; Imperial Order of Frontiersman; Junior Chamber of Commerce; Red Cross Blood Drive; Regina United Appeal
- Elder, Rosemont United Church
- Visits schools across the province to raise awareness about past and current conflicts and the role that Saskatchewan played and continues to play
- Volunteer entertainer at seniors' residences
- Awarded: Good Servant Medal, Canadian Council of Christians and Jews; Kiwanis Clubs Service Award; and Police Exemplary Service Medal

Telephone: (306) 586-0984

Regina

Sidney A. Katzman
2009 Recipient
Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal

Saskatoon financial advisor Sid Katzman's community involvement is infectious. One of his greatest leadership strengths is his ability to "rally the troops," creating a huge network of individuals committed to volunteering. He is driven by the belief that it is not about what you can do for others, but to show people what they can do for themselves. His contributions include:

- Co-Founder and current program director, Care and Share Saskatoon Inc.
- Past Club Captain and Board Member, Riverside Country Club
- Fundraiser for golf tournaments including the highly successful Shot Master Classic raising almost \$70,000 in its first year in Saskatoon
- Past President, member and fundraiser, Canadian Progress Club
- Past President, B'nai Brith Lodge #739
- Past Chair, B'nai Brith Silver Plate Fundraising Dinner
- Volunteer Canadian Hemophilia Society helping to raise \$20,000 in 2003
- Member, Big Brothers and was instrumental in raising funds to build the Big Brothers House, today the home of Big Brothers, Big Sisters and Boys' and Girls' Club of Saskatoon
- Member of the Care and Share Holiday Lunch Program, a program that continues to serve approximately 6000 meals in 17 inner-city schools annually
- Worked with Inuit in various Northwest Territories communities to establish viable cooperative initiatives
- Volunteer liaison between the University of Saskatchewan and federal inmates taking classes at the Prince Albert Penitentiary
- Volunteer for the Care and Share Mentorship Program, Dignity Fund, Kids Inner-City Coed Soccer League, Kids Inner-City Curling League, Learn to Bowl Program, Eye Glasses Program, Choir Program, Babysitting Course, Care and Share Law Enforcement Guardians Bicycle Program
- Awarded: Saskatchewan Centennial Medal

Telephone: (306) 665-4743

Saskatoon

Marie Knutson
2009 Recipient
Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal

Marie Knutson of Eston has devoted countless hours of her time and energy fundraising for many programs. She has travelled on several missions to many different parts of the world, inspiring citizens of all ages to become involved in worthy causes. Her contributions to church, school, health care and community are as follows:

- Instrumental in coordinating the Eston-Liberia School Project, and sending containers destined for schools in Liberia and Uganda
- Fundraiser for the non-governmental organization “Safe Water for Life and Dignity” and instrumental in having a pipeline from a clean water source built to a village in Tanzania
- Board member, Larry Thorne Fitness Centre
- Board member, Schizophrenia Society of Canada and the Schizophrenia Society of Saskatchewan
- Board Member, Schizophrenia Society of Canada Foundation
- Secretary and member, Catholic Women’s League, Provincial Council
- Secretary and member, Eston Catholic Women’s League
- Group member of missions to Guatemala, Nicaragua and La Loche
- Member, Grandmothers for Grandmothers
- Past Member, Eston School Board
- Member, Sacred Heart Parish
- Board Member, Sacred Heart Pastoral Council
- Coordinator for youth group and catechism program
- Volunteer at a Tanzania orphanage
- Volunteer driver taking seniors to appointments
- Volunteer, Saskatoon Friendship Inn

Telephone: (306) 962-4425

Eston

Judy Lyons
2009 Recipient
Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal

Regina business owner, Judy Lyons has supported numerous charities and organizations through active hands-on service. Her volunteer commitment is to give back and to help those less fortunate. She has tirelessly given service to her community, provincially and nationally in many areas including:

- Past President and Community Service Chair, Canadian Progress Club Regina Assiniboine
- Area coordinator, Canadian Cancer Society, Daffodil Residential Campaign,
- Coordinator and volunteer, Canadian Cancer Society, Relay for Life, and Survivor Committee
- Coordinator of Volunteers, Canadian Cancer Society's "Jail N Bail" for 24 years raising more than \$3 million
- Fundraiser and participant, "Walk of Hope," Ovarian Cancer Canada,
- Volunteer fundraiser for the Saskatchewan Ovarian Cancer Survivors for "Listen to the Whispers" and "Survivors Teaching Students" programs
- President, Ladies Senior Basketball
- Assistant coach, Luther High School Junior Basketball
- Coach, Regina Community Basketball Association
- Volunteer, Regina Dragon Boat Festival
- Volunteer, after-school program for children of an inner city school
- Volunteer, Annual champagne Classic Golf tournament raising \$400,000 for the Pediatric Unit at the Regina General Hospital
- Volunteer: Transition House, Sofia House, Isabel Johnson Shelter, Visitation House, Chili for Children, Soul's Harbour Mission, Santa's Anonymous, Regina Therapeutic Riding Association, Special Olympics Canada, Rainbow Youth Centre, Carmichael Outreach, MacKenzie Infant Care Centre, Children's Wish Foundation, Regina and District Food Bank, Hospitals of Regina Foundation, and the Heritage Community Association, Autism Resource Centre.
- Awarded: Saskatchewan Centennial Medal; Mayor's Community Volunteer Award; Lieutenant Governor's Award of Distinction; National Outstanding President's Award, Canadian Progress Club; and the Heritage Community Association Volunteer Recognition Award

Telephone: (306) 522-3700

Regina

Thelma R. Poirier
2009 Recipient
Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal

Through her work, Thelma Poirier of Glentworth has encouraged individuals from many backgrounds to become involved, bringing people together through drama, art, music and writing. Programmer, historian, curator, fundraiser and lobbyist, she has devoted countless years to ensure that the Wood Mountain History is told and retold. Her contributions to her community include:

- President, Secretary, Wood Mountain Historical Society
- Advisor on various Grasslands National Park of Canada management committees such as the Grasslands Paleontological Presentation and Protection Plan Committee and East Block Visitor Experience Focus Groups
- Volunteer tour guide, guiding park visitors and sharing stories of the land
- Spearheaded the drive to set up an ethnic house paying tribute to people of diverse EuroCanadians backgrounds
- Brought First Nation peoples together with others in creative projects including exhibits and art
- Completed several historical research and writing projects relative to Lakota people and was given the name *Wiyaka Skawin*, meaning White Feather by a Lakota Elder in 1977
- Co-operative works in these areas have resulted in exhibits, products, programs, and special events such as the Centennial and Millennium and community anniversary celebrations
- Programmer, historian, curator, fundraiser, lobbyist, preparing grants and turned the sod for the Rodeo-Ranch Museum
- Volunteer, planning exhibits, gathering artefacts, archives to preserve the history of Wood Mountain
- Awarded: Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal; Honorary Lifetime Achievement Award, Saskatchewan Museum Association; Saskatchewan Writer's Guild Award for Children's Literature and Creative Non Fiction

Glentworth

April E. Sampson
2009 Recipient
Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal

Retired educator, April Sampson of Weyburn is a promoter of community enrichment and a cultural ambassador for Saskatchewan and Canada. She is a patron of the arts and has a love of beauty, nature, music, theatre and books. Her efforts know no boundaries and she enthusiastically participates in life in her community and province. Her contributions include:

- Founding Member, Weyburn Committee Against Family Violence, now Envision Counselling
- Founding member, Weyburn and Area Council on Child Abuse, now The Family Place
- Past Chair and Co-Founder Weyburn Humane Society
- Chair for 2010 Souris School Centennial Committee
- Instrumental in saving the old hospital and turning it into Signal Hill Arts Centre
- Supporter of the Globe Theatre, Crocus 80 Theatre and the Saskatchewan Drama Festival
- Director and accompanist, Weyburn Men's Chorus
- Co-organizer of the Old Time Fiddle Contest
- Judge for science fairs, school debates and Idols Contests and commentator for the Fair Parade.
- Supporter of Nature Society
- Former Member, Weyburn Arts Council; Weyburn United Way; Weyburn Housing Authority, Communities in Bloom, Helen Davidson Scholarship Award, Signal Hill Arts Centre and Tommy Douglas Centre, Royal Reds of Weyburn and Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
- Honorary Member, Weyburn Rotary Club,
- Organist at Knox Presbyterian Church and Grace United Church
- Octavius singer for more than 20 years, and sings with group "Magic"
- Volunteer, plays piano and organ at public events, performances
- Awarded: Lifetime member, Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan Weyburn Chapter; April Sampson Appreciation Night; Quota Clubwoman of the Year - Community Service, Saskatchewan Culture and Recreation; Volunteer Award, South East Saskatchewan Association for Culture, Recreation and Sport; Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan Celebration of the Arts Award; and the Wheatland Souris Regional Recreation Association Volunteer Award

Telephone: (306) 842-4322

Weyburn

Vaughn C. Schofield
2009 Recipient
Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal

Businesswoman, Vaughn Schofield of Regina Beach has contributed to the well-being of our province through her work in business, the arts, education, broadcasting, corporate governance, crime prevention and community involvement. As Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of 16 Saskatchewan Service Battalion, a reserve army unit, she provides leadership and support to the unit and to the Canadian Forces Reserve, in particular to those returned from Afghanistan. She assists reservists to gain support from their employers or educational institutions. Her contributions to community include:

- Chair, Canadian Forces Liaison Council
- Honorary Director, Saskatchewan Roughriders Football Club and Member of the 2003 Grey Cup Committee and Chair for Security Volunteers
- President, Vice President and Member, Royal United Services Institute
- Board Member, Saskatchewan Cancer Agency
- Member of the Board of Governors, St. John Ambulance Saskatchewan
- Member, Regina Airport Authority, The Hospitals of Regina Foundation and Salvation Army
- Member, MacKenzie Art Gallery, Conexus Arts Centre Advisory Board, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Program and Opera Saskatchewan
- Member, College Avenue Projects Committee, Canadian Association of International Affairs
- Member, Canadian Military Museums Organization, Canadian Association Family Enterprises
- Member, Building Owners/Managers Association, Regina and Regina Beach Chambers of Commerce and Enterprise Club
- Member, Assiniboia Club, Tourism Regina and Tourism Saskatchewan, Wascana Country Club and Living Hope Alliance Church
- Saskatchewan Business Ambassador
- Awarded: Saskatchewan Centennial Medal

Telephone: (306) 757-4555

Regina Beach