

Fred “Ernie” McClain Memorial Pavilion Dedicated at Seven Mountains

A new pavilion at Seven Mountains Boy Scout Camp was dedicated in memory of long time Scouter Fred “Ernie” McClain of Rockhill Furnace last Sunday. Over 40 friends and family members were present for the dedication. The pavilion was constructed near the camp health office and will serve as an instructional area for Scouts working on First Aid related merit badges and skills.

For 25 summers, Fred McClain served as health officer at camp. As such, every Scout, adult leader, and staff member passed before Fred for a health screening almost immediately upon entering summer camp. That number was estimated to exceed 10,000 people. As a youth, Fred earned his Eagle Scout rank in Troop 76 in Mt Union. He continued to serve Scouting as an adult. In addition to his service on staff at Seven Mountains Scout Camp, Fred was an Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 237 in Orbisonia. He served in many other Scouting positions including Oneida District Commissioner, Oneida District Chairman, Advisor to the Order of the Arrow Honor Camper Society, and member of the Juniata Valley Council Board of Directors. He was a Vigil Honor member and Founder’s Award recipient of Monaken Lodge, Order of the Arrow. Fred was posthumously awarded the 100th Anniversary Centurion Award by the Order of the Arrow as one who inspired others to follow in his footsteps. In addition, he received many other honors during his Scouting career including the Silver Beaver, District Award of Merit, Doctor of Commissioner Science, Distinguished Commissioner, and Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award. Fred exemplified the values of Scouting in his life and touched the lives of many youth and adults, He will be remembered for his caring, openness, and sense of humor.

In addition to Scouting, Fred was active with the Orbisonia Rockhill Emergency Medical Service and many Masonic Bodies.