



# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

## MIDNIGHT SUN COUNCIL



1400 Gillam Way  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
Phone: (907) 452-1976  
Fax: (907) 452-1977  
[www.midnightsunbsa.org](http://www.midnightsunbsa.org)

September 14, 2018

Each year the Midnight Sun Council, Boy Scouts of America honors an individual, or individuals, who have made substantial contributions to this community and the State of Alaska. In 2018, we will honor Jo and Steve Heckman as Distinguished Citizens of the Year.

Jo Heckman came to Alaska as a 17-year-old in 1975. Jo is a proud alumna of University of Alaska Fairbanks. She obtained her BBA degree in 1979 and her MBA in 1985. She started her banking career immediately after graduating from UAF in 1979. In 1986, she and a small group helped start the locally owned community bank, Denali State Bank, where she spent the next 26 years. Jo was the first female bank president in the state of Alaska. She guided her team for eight years as its CEO and President, from 2003 to 2011, retiring in December 2011. Jo currently is President of her own consulting company, DAS & Associates and serves as a regent on the UA Board of Regents.

Steve was born in Omaha, Nebraska in 1947. He grew up in Kearney, Nebraska, spending time in local scouting programs. He came to Fairbanks in 1968 to attend the University of Alaska and graduated with an undergraduate degree in education in 1971. Upon graduation, he served in the U.S. Army for two years and came back to teach in Anderson. Steve joined the Alaska State Troopers in 1974, and served for 25 years. Upon retirement, he went back to teaching. He taught for a total of 17 years, beginning at Old Main Junior High in Fairbanks. Later, he taught at Anderson Village State Operated School and finally, at Monroe Catholic Jr/Sr High. He also taught as an adjunct for the University of Alaska. Since retiring in 2012, Steve has been busy as a volunteer on various non-profit boards. In his spare time, he performs musically with a number of small local groups: Dry Cabin String Band, The Warblers, and North Star Strings. In May of this year, Steve was recognized by the Office of the Mayor of the North Star Borough as "Outstanding Senior Volunteer".

Jo and Steve first met while both were on the job, Jyotsna working in a bank and Steve visiting the bank on official Trooper business. A year later in 1983 they married. Their personal and professional lives have allowed time for them to raise two boys, Daniel and Andrew, both of whom were involved in Scouting programs in Fairbanks. Daniel continues to serve on the Executive Board for the Midnight Sun Council. Steve was an Assistant Scoutmaster during the years that Andrew was a Boy Scout.

The Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award Banquet honoring Jo and Steve Heckman will be held at the Westmark Fairbanks on Wednesday, December 12, 2018. Please mark your calendar for that date and join us as a Major Sponsor. Please respond with the enclosed response card. You may direct any questions to Stacy Brandon at the Earl and Pat Cook Council Service Center at 907-452-1976.

Thank you for supporting the Midnight Sun Council,

Jeff Cook

Bert Bell

Jim Lund



### STEERING COMMITTEE

Daniel Heckman	Tammy Tragis McCook	Bert Bell	Barbara Schuhmann	Jeff Cook	Heather Lambert
Bill Wright	Nancy Hanson	Jim Lund	Tasmine Stebbins	Bob Groseclose	Tammy Randolph