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# Firestone NEWS

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**OUTSTANDING SCOUT**—Ralph Quinn Jr. receives from general manager Harold Mercer the Harvey S. Firestone Jr. Scouting Award for 1960. Looking on: Winner's father (left), and Troop 35 Scoutmaster Lee McCarter. Silver Medallion is engraved with names of all 15 winners since the awards program began here in 1945.

## CAMP FIRESTONE

### Lakeside Retreat In Season

Lake James, on the shore of which is located Camp Firestone in the Blue Ridge Mountains, is one of eight Duke Power Company lakes featured in a recently-published colorful booklet, "Catawba River Powerland."

In Burke and McDowell counties, Lake James is the northwesternmost body of water in the Duke Power chain that extends into South Carolina, terminating with Wateree Lake above Columbia. Other lakes in between are Rhodhiss, Hickory, Mountain Island, Catawba, Fishing Creek, and Rocky Creek. Lake Norman is proposed as the ninth in the vast system.

The "Powerland" booklet describes Lake James as containing a surface area of 6,510 acres and having 150 miles of shoreline. It has a generating capacity of 25,000 kilovolt amperes.

But of particular interest to Firestone employees is the fact that Lake James is a sportsman's paradise. Boating, fishing and aquatics are the leading attractions. Regular family picnic

areas and some picnic hide-aways, accessible only by boat, add interest to camping and hiking trips in the shore areas.

Principal fish are largemouth bass, white bass, rock fish, crappie, bream, catfish, and carp.

Camp Firestone opened its 25th consecutive season in May, and will accommodate employees and members of their families into the "color" season of October. Applications for visits at the wildwood retreat are made through the Industrial Relations office.

**Sign in front yard: "You are welcome to use our lawnmower, providing you don't take it out of the yard."**

## Chemical Fibers

### On Increase

New specialized adaptations of chemically-produced fibers are expected to enter the textile picture within the next few years. An official of one of America's larger synthetics producers said recently that as much as two-thirds of his company's fiber products on the market five or six years from now would be developments or additions to the fibers now being produced. He foresees no completely - new, general - purpose fibers; rather, expects new fibers to be adapted to specialized uses.

## 35 Scouts Honored



### Ralph Quinn Jr., Medallion Winner

"Impressive." That was the word used more than once to describe a record of excellence for Ralph E. Quinn Jr. at the annual Scouting Awards Banquet in the Firestone Recreation Center May 26. The 13-year-old Eagle Scout became the 15th boy in the Gastonia area to receive the Harvey S. Firestone Jr. Scouting Award.

A member of Troop 35 in Gastonia, young Quinn was presented the engraved silver Medallion—symbolic of the award named for the company chairman and chief executive officer. He was the first to enter the contest for the top company honor, based on excellence of Scouting record during the past year.

AT THE banquet, 34 other Scouts of the area also came up for commendation. Each received from the company a Merit Certificate and a check for \$27.75 to be applied on expenses for a two-week stay at Camp Lanier for Piedmont Council Scouts, near Tryon—or for purchase of Scouting equipment of the winner's choosing.

The top winner this year is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph E. Quinn. The father is a maintenance engineer at North Carolina Orthopedic Hospital here. In addition to the Medallion, Ralph Jr. received a Certificate

of Merit, a \$100 U. S. Savings Bond, and a check for \$27.75 toward expenses for two weeks at the Lake Lanier camp.

—More on page 2

## Summer Recreation Program Variety

Varied activities are on the calendar of the plant sports and recreation program for the summer. Already underway are the usual leagues in Little League Baseball, prep baseball, golf, summer bowling, softball, and fishing club activities.

A wildlife and boating club, in process of organization, is to be a new feature of the year-round sports and recreation program.

Two dozen men are participating in partner's golf league play this season. The four teams of the Harold Mercer Little Tar Heel League are again representing Firestone in inter-industry competition this summer.

Firestone has teams in three adult softball leagues: American, Women's, and Second Shift; and Teeners, for boys 13-15 years of age.

## THIRD YEAR OF PROGRAM

### 1,024 Autos In Checklanes

In the third annual auto safety inspection program at the Gastonia plant, 1,024 motor vehicles were processed, May 23-27. The project promoting safety on the highways was conducted here as a part of a nationwide program during May and June in almost 1,000 communities within the 34 states which do not have a law requiring motor vehicle inspection.

The Firestone company took part in the extensive safety effort in a number of cities where it operates factories and maintains sales facilities. This year's program was a part of off-the-job safety observance during May.

At Gastonia, each vehicle which passed inspection on all ten points of safe-driving condition got a "Circle of Safety" windshield sticker. Most of the cars which did not meet the test were repaired and brought back to the lanes for approval.

Every person bringing a vehicle through the lanes received a record-of-inspection approval, and printed materials on highway safety.

For added interest, the company sponsored a daily prize of a \$10 certificate, redeemable in merchandise at the Firestone Stores.

Awarded a \$10 merchandise certificate were James G. Dixon Jr., Twisting (synthetics); Mrs. Earl Nivens, Mrs. Roy J. Bradley, Cleo Screws and Frank Grant, all of Gastonia.

#### Those Who Helped

Assistant industrial relations manager A. V. Riley and plant engineer W. G. Henson were chairmen of the local checklane program. Also assisting in the free inspection for Firestone employees and other motorists of the general public were:



**EARLY**—Among those first to come through the checklane—following the example set by general manager Harold Mercer—was Mrs. Raymond Varnadore, whose husband works in the Shop. Plant officer Samuel Crawford (left) and W. B. Nivens of Firestone Stores made sure the motorists had her record-of-safety inspection card.

Ralph Johnson, safety supervisor; Bob Purkey, recreation supervisor; Thomas A. Grant, methods-standards engineer; Samuel Crawford, plant officer, and Charles Clark, photographer, both of industrial relations; and J. L. Parks Jr., mechanical department technician.

## 'We Need T & C To Have ER'

A portion of the \$225 in merchandise money deposited in the "piggy bank" for this year's safety contest very well could be earmarked for you. That was the amount that went into the general collection at the end of May. It represented close to 1,500,000 manhours free of a lost-time injury at the Gastonia plant.

"We're glad to have well exceeded our first plateau of safe operation this year," said safety manager Ralph Johnson. "Each person on the job deserves praise for helping to make it possible.

"To keep up with the contest, we need to remember this formula: T + C = ER—Teamwork and Cooperation from everyone bring Efficient Results."

#### In Second Year

This is the second-year version of a repeating safety campaign at Gastonia. Standing rules of the contest provide that the company contribute a "nest egg" of \$200 when the first million injury-free manhours is reached. During the remainder of the year, \$25 is added for each month the plant operates without a lost-time injury. If an accident occurs—no money in the "piggy" for that month.

At year's end, names of all employees, excepting supervisory personnel, are included in a drawing. The ten persons whose names are drawn share ten per cent each of the total money accumulated, converted to merchandise.

Improved features of the 1960 contest over that of last year are:

- More money for prizes — \$200 to begin with. Last year it was \$100.
- More winners — a total of ten this year. Last year there were five.
- Merchandise for prizes. Last year it was a cash giveaway.

Also assisting were Charles Moore, manager of Firestone Stores here, and W. B. Nivens of the company store; Alan Matthews and Larry Locke, students of the Gaston County Industrial Education Center.

The auto safety inspection —More on page 5