****

**Bobby Schmidt Congeniality Award**

Robert “Bobby” Schmidt was the heartbeat of the Valley Lodge Trail Ride, serving as Trail Boss from 1989 to 1992. Bobby’s leadership was defined not only by his skills and dedication but also by his extraordinary ability to connect with people. He possessed a unique gift for fostering camaraderie and goodwill among the members, making everyone feel valued and included.

Bobby's congenial nature and infectious humor created an atmosphere of warmth and friendliness that permeated the entire Valley Lodge Trail Ride. His quick wit and joyful spirit brought laughter and lightness to every gathering, strengthening bonds and making the trail rides more enjoyable for everyone. His genuine kindness and approachable demeanor set a standard for the Valley Lodge.

The Bobby Schmidt Congeniality Award honors his legacy by recognizing those who exemplify the same spirit of friendliness, warmth, humor, and inclusivity that Bobby embodied. This award celebrates individuals who, through their positive attitude, enhance the sense of community and camaraderie within the Valley Lodge Trail Ride. By sharing their infectious humor and kind spirit, they continue Bobby’s tradition of making everyone feel at home.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Award** | **Year**  | **Recipient**  |
| Bobby Schmidt Congeniality Award | 2023 | Deborah Black  |
| Bobby Schmidt Congeniality Award | 2024 | Carin Trant  |