

2004 Phillippe Award for Robert L. Townsend

SCHENECTADY, N.Y., December 9, 2004 – Robert L. Townsend, Leader, Benefits Applications for GE Corporate Information Services, has been named a recipient of GE's 2004 Gerald L. Phillippe Award.

The Phillippe Award recognizes outstanding volunteer service by GE employees who are leaders in their communities and who apply their business skills to respond to community needs. These volunteer leaders receive a special crystal award and \$2,000 in grants to be given to the organizations of their choice.

Mr. Townsend was honored for his involvement over the past 17 years as a member on the Broadalbin-Perth Board of Education, the Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery Board of Cooperative Educational Services Board of Education, and his work in establishing a new Lions Club in the Broadalbin-Perth area.

Mr. Townsend's leadership in the Broadalbin-Perth Central School District has resulted in a successful merger of the Broadalbin and Perth school districts in 1987, the completion of a major capital project on schedule and below budget, the three-fold growth of his county's Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), and a precedent-setting capital project to co-locate the HFM BOCES Educational Center with the Fulton-Montgomery Community College in order to enhance services to the students of the area while reducing costs. He has served on the Broadalbin-Perth Board of Education for 15 years (1987-2002) and on the Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery BOCES Team since 1993 where he has been President since 1996.

As a charter member of the Broadalbin-Perth Lions Club, Mr. Townsend was instrumental in the establishment and charter of the not-for-profit organization, which focuses on the sight and hearing impaired members of the community. As Sight Chairman for the Club, he has set up the process and business relationships for sight-impaired students to receive eye exams and glasses, improving their quality of life and ability to learn. He also serves as treasurer of the organization.

Mr. Townsend has named the Broadalbin-Perth Lions Club as the recipient of his \$2,000 grant, and the money will be used to purchase eyeglasses for children in the Broadalbin-Perth and Mayfield communities who cannot afford them.



Bill Suchy, President, Broadalbin-Perth Lions Club (left) and Bob Townsend (right)



Dr. Geoffrey Davis, District Superintendent – Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery BOCES (left), Bob Townsend (center), Robert C. Munn, Superintendent – Broadalbin-Perth Central School District (right).