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GearJunkie and Wenger Honor Chris Skogen with Epic Award

Heroic, Majestic; Impressively Great

Orangeburg, NY – April 30, 2012 – GearJunkie, in partnership with Wenger, Maker of the Genuine Swiss Army Knife, today announced one of the six 2012 GearJunkie Epic Award Winners. The award, which recognizes adventurers, athletes, gear designers, activists, and artists who affect notable change in the outdoors world, was presented to outdoor enthusiast and Rochester, Minnesota native, Chris Skogen, founder of the Almanzo 100 gravel road race.



When Skogen founded the Almanzo 100, a 100 mile race on gravel roads across southern Minnesota, he wanted to share his passion for the outdoors, but didn't realize he'd be launching a movement. Garnering more attention each year, the Almanzo 100, which included just 12 participants in its first year, has grown tremendously with now more than 700 participants registered for its most recent race.

The race, declared 'a labor of love,' is free for participants and since its launch in 2005, has inspired a half-dozen new race directors to create similar gravel bike events around the Midwest. Now, there is a series of free or low-cost gravel races each year throughout the spring and summer.

The movement brings together roadies, mountain bikers, touring cyclists, and city riders in a gritty, underground venue where limits are pushed on tough, hilly courses for a true adventure event in the heartland of America. GearJunkie, in partnership with Wenger, salute Chris Skogen for achieving his dreams and encouraging others to do the same.

The Epic Awards are open to adventurers, athletes, gear designers, activists, artists, and anyone serving or lifting up the outdoors space in a real and "epic" sense. According to founder and editor, Stephen Regenold, GearJunkie hopes to give a nod of recognition to "a first-of-its kind, and undeniably admirable accomplishment in the sphere of outdoors adventure, design, gear innovation, athletic achievement, charity, or wilderness conservation."

Candidates for the Epic Award will be submitted and judged by the editors and staff of GearJunkie, as well as readers, friends and partners in the outdoors world. In an effort to keep this an open forum, everyone is invited to nominate friends, family, or connections in the outdoors space.

For more information on the GearJunkie Epic Award please visit, www.wengerna.com/gearjunkie-epic-award





About Wenger

Wenger is the exclusive United States and Caribbean marketer of Wenger Genuine Swiss Army Knives(tm), Wenger Swiss Watches(tm) and Wenger Swiss Military(tm) Watches. The Wenger name is a trusted brand known for its innovation, expert craftsmanship and precision. The company's web site is www.WengerNA.com.

Since 2000, Wenger has established relationships with a small number of industry leaders who began manufacturing Wenger-branded products that embody the characteristics of the world famous Swiss Army knife in the footwear, tent, backpack, sleeping bag, computer mobility and travel gear categories.

About GearJunkie.com

Launched in 2006, GearJunkie.com is regarded as a top blog and online publication for product reviews and news in the outdoors world. The site contains thousands of pages of content -- gear reviews, news, travel and adventure stories, a video section, photo galleries, and giveaway contests.

Gear Junkie is owned and operated by Monopoint Media LLC, a company founded in 2006 by Stephen Regenold and two business partners.

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