

The Trail

Cub Scouts - Boy Scouts - Venturing



Where To Find Things On The Web

There are some great resources on the web for Scouting in St. Louis

The Greater St Louis Area Website can be found here: [GSLAC Website](#)

The home for Gravois Trail can be found here: [Gravoi Trail Website](#)

Shawnee Lodge of the Order of the Arrow website can be found here: [Shawnee](#)

Or the Facebook page located here: [Gravois Trail Venturing](#)

The newsletter can also be seen online at: <http://stlbsa.org/gravoistrail/>

Contact us at:

Josh Bollam: joshua.bollam@scouting.org

Jerry Fix: jerry.fix@gmail.com

Contact Us !

As we head into Winter, there's still plenty of Scouting going on. Whether it's Scouting For Food, Winter camping, Klondike Derby... never a dull moment ! Don't hesitate to contact any of your district committee chairs if you have questions or suggestions

Below is contact info for all the committee chairpersons for the GT District:

Commissioner: [Paul Leicht](#)
C. 314-409-7063
paulleichtsr@aol.com

Activities: [TBD](#)

Advancement: [Phil Tilghman](#)
C. 314-401-2339
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Camping: [Gil Kauffmann](#)
C. 314-910-3994
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OA: [Janet Nelson](#)
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Membership: [Ken McFadden](#)
H. (720) 530-5800
Ken.mcfadden@mcfaddens.us

Training: [Gary Dedeke](#)
C.314-740-0986
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Communications: [Jerry Fix](#)
C. (636) 221-4368
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Development: [Keith Guller](#)
kguller@essexind.com

Venturing: [Michael O'Donnell](#)
eaglescout721@gmail.com

District Directors Corner

October and November have come to a close and together we have recruited almost 500 new youth in to the Scouting Program. Thank you for all your help.

The year is not over and every youth counts. Please continue to have events and activities that attract and retain new youth into the programs. If you ever need help please let Suzie and I know.

In other news October is the time of the year when a group of Scouters, Community, and Business Leaders get together to try and strengthen the rolls of the District Committee. This process known as the nominating committee seeks to add new individuals on our District level committee to keep Scouting moving in the right direction.

If you know of anyone that would be beneficial to this process of helping identify future leaders or could be one of those leaders please reach out and we can chat about the possibilities.

Yours in Scouting, Josh
314-660-9025
joshua.bollam@scouting.org

Training

Hello the Trail;

There are plenty of training opportunities coming up in the New Year. Below are just a few that are "must attend" events for training:

- Roundtable: Topic – "TBA" on 1/5/16, 7:00PM at Sperrung Middle School. (For additional information, contact Terry Madden 314-229-5489)
- University of Scouting: on 1/23/16, 8:00AM til 4:00PM at Fox High School, 745 Jeffco Blvd, Arnold, MO 63010. (For additional information, go to [HERE](#) or to register, go [HERE](#))
- Roundtable: Topic – "TBA" on 2/2/16, 7:00PM at Sperrung Middle School. (For additional information, contact Terry Madden 314-229-5489)

For everyone wondering "what is University of Scouting", whether you are a Scout, leader, commissioner or in Special Needs, you will find what you need for training at UoS ! Here are a just a few sessions you can attend:

Unit Commissioner Basic Training — This is your first step as a new unit commissioner. Here you will learn the responsibilities of this position and how to accomplish those tasks.

Red Cross First Aid Training – 2-hour course with prerequisites — You never know when someone is in need! You will learn the basics of First Aid and CPR such as rescue breathing, soft tissue injuries and broken bones.

Character Development — As a leader, you will learn how Cub Scouting is designed to help develop good character and positive attitudes in our youth. This session also discusses the 12 core values.

Add "Sizzle" to Your Unit Program — If your troop is bored with the same program year after year, you can spice things up with these tips for incorporating new and exciting events and activities!

BSA High Adventure – Philmont, Northern Tier and others — Learn about these great programs, registration procedures and preparation for participation, as well as other awesome high-adventure opportunities!

And much more.. so be sure to check it out !



OA

Spring Conclave

The Anpetu-We and Shawnee Lodge Spring Reunions will take place April 1-3. The Anpetu-We Spring Reunion is at Pine Ridge. The Shawnee Spring Conclave is at Beaumont. Stay tuned to future issues of the The Trail for more information.

Officers

Just to remind you, here are your officers for this year:

Shawnee Lodge:

Chief: Jon Rolfi
First Vice Chief: Spencer Laibe
Second Vice Chief: Levi Mills
Corresponding Secretary: Adam Woodward
Recording Secretary: Ukko Devos
Treasurer: Hayden Rosenthal
Service Project

Adult Advisors:

Adviser: Phil Combs
Associate Adviser: Tim Weaver
Staff Adviser: Tony Fouts

Newsletters

Don't forget to check out the The lodge newsletter, The Lookout. It's available electronically. In order to receive the newsletter, you need to register at the lodge website, [HERE](#). Paper copies will no longer be mailed, so make sure that all Brothers in your troop or crew register to receive the eLookout as soon as possible.



Advancement



There have been some significant changes to the advancement requirements for Boy Scouts. Below is a brief summary of the more significant changes

Timing

- Boys registered in a troop on or before Dec. 31, 2015, who are working on Tenderfoot through First Class ranks, may continue to use the old requirements through 2016, but they must convert to the new requirements upon attaining the First Class rank.
- Boys registered in a troop, team, crew, or ship on or before Dec. 31, 2015, who have completed the First Class rank may complete the rank they are currently working on with the old requirements through 2016, but then must convert to the new requirements for subsequent ranks.
- Any boy registering in a troop for the first time on or after Jan. 1, 2016, must use the new requirements.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2017, new requirements must be used for all ranks earned.

Key Boy Scout Changes

New

- Scout will become a rank

Additions

- Service at all ranks (conservation-related at Life)
- Healthy eating/habits requirements
- Some reordering in Tenderfoot to First Class
- Physical fitness at each rank, Tenderfoot to First Class
- Outdoor ethics — Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly
- Weather safety, risk assessment and mitigation
- Duty to God incorporated in requirement to show Scout Spirit.

Important Notes For Cub Scouts

On January 1st, 2016 the changes coming to the Boy Scout advancement program will impact Cub Scouts as well. The Scout badge now becomes a rank instead of a "joining" badge. As you make your troop visits, please make sure to discuss the upcoming changes and how it will affect your Webelos Scouts with the Scoutmaster.

The good news is that the Scout badge requirements are the same as Scouting Adventure, a required adventure for Arrow of Light under the new program.



For our current Webelos 2, if you stayed with the old requirements, I would highly recommend looking at the Scouting Adventure and using it as an elective. This way your Scouts will be well prepared for their first Boy Scout Rank when they crossover.

Venturing

Powder Horn

Is your unit struggling to create new programs to keep Scouts interested? Send a unit leader to Powder Horn in 2016.

Powder Horn is a resource management course designed to allow adults to experience program opportunities and bring back resources for events in our local area. This course has proven to lead to increase unit recruitment and retention by expanding the program of your unit. For more information, visit [HERE](#).

Registration is now open for the two course weekends. Attendance is only required for one weekend to complete the training.

April 28th-May 1st, 2016 at Beaumont Scout Reservation

May 12th-May 15th, 2016 at S-F Scout Ranch



Activites

Gravois Trail Volunteer Dinner

The Gravois Trail Volunteer recognition dinner will be held [Friday January 23, 2016 at Andre's South Banquet Center](#). The highlights of the evening include presenting the District Awards of Merit and the Unit Spark Plug awards. It'll be a great opportunity to socialize, congratulate our outstanding volunteers, and celebrate our accomplishments!

District Award of Merit:

The award is available to Scouters who render service of an outstanding nature at the district level. You can contact [Josh Bollam](#), [Suzie Redington](#) or [Terry Madden](#) for the forms.

Spark Plug Award

Each unit is encouraged to recognize volunteers who has made a significant contribution to the success of the unit over the last year -- every unit has a Spark Plug! You can contact [Josh Bollam](#), [Suzie Redington](#) or [Terry Madden](#) for the forms.

Membership

This year has been an amazing year for membership and I can't believe it is almost over. Where has all the time gone? I'd love to say we met our goal for the year, but I really wish we had a couple more months as I know we could if we had just a little more time. I know this is the season for gathering and fellowship where I encourage all to keep Scouting in their thoughts and challenge all those who are not already a part of Scouting as we have a program for all youth (both boys and girls). If you have any questions as to the other programs available please do not hesitate to contact me. But my utmost wish and prayer this season is for all of you to enjoy this upcoming holiday season and come back safely in the new year, all refreshed and ready for another fun filled year of Scouting. As everyone of you count, and without even one of you this program would not be the same. So stay safe!!!