

# The Trail

Cub Scouts - Boy Scouts - Venturing



## Check Out The New Website & Facebook

In case you hadn't noticed it, the Greater St Louis Area Council has a new website. It's got a great new look, and lots of great functionality. Hopefully you find it easier to use and more helpful.

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

Also, for those of you comfortable with Facebook, Gravois Trail has a Facebook page located here: [Gravois Trail Venturing](#)

Finally, don't forget to send your email address to us so we can be sure you are on our mailing list:

Josh Bollam: [joshua.bollam@scouting.org](mailto:joshua.bollam@scouting.org)  
Jerry Fix: [jerry.fix@gmail.com](mailto:jerry.fix@gmail.com)

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

## Happy Holidays !

Well, just as we're all still recovering from Thanksgiving and all the food that goes along with it, along comes the Christmas season. This year's season is shorter than most, so there is a lot to do and so little time to do it in.

Also, because of the holiday season, The Trail will be a bit shorter than normal this month. Look for lots of new info next month.

The District Committee would like to wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season !

As a reminder, below is contact info for all the committee chairpersons for the GT District:

Commissioner: [Neil Phipps](#)  
C. 314-560-2836  
[phippssna@prodigy.net](mailto:phippssna@prodigy.net)  
Activities: [Jean-Marie Nilges](#)  
C. 314-504-7733  
[jnilges@jwterrill.com](mailto:jnilges@jwterrill.com)

Advancement: [Jere Strobl](#)  
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[eaglescout721@gmail.com](mailto:eaglescout721@gmail.com)

## District Directors Corner

We have recently created a new online form for units to quickly and easily log their community service hours.

The information gets sent directly to us so that we can log the information through national's good turn site. This eliminates the need for units to remember their username and password.

Flyers will be distributed at upcoming roundtables directing units to the new Kintera site. A badge and link is also located on the front page of our website for "Log Service Hours" which will take them to the same place.

Please help us spread the word and encourage your units to log their hours. Click [HERE](#) to visit the site.

## Scouting For Food

Thousands of Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts performed a good turn for the needy Saturday when they gathered 1,811,354 food items during the 30th annual Scouting For Food drive.

Thanks again to all who helped out for yet another incredible showing of Scouts living the Scout Law !

## Membership

It has been an exciting year for Membership within the Gravois Trail District. We will soon be starting a new year and with that we will once again be focusing on retention along with Spring Recruitment. For those still working on their registration packages, the membership coordinator should be focusing on the Unit Resources (Scouts) and ensuring they are accurate and up to date to ensure a smooth registration process and also to ensure your registration is also accurate.

Please remember this registration process must be complete by 15 December 2014. If any unit is having any issues with their registration I encourage you to please seek assistance from either your Commissioner Staff or myself as soon as possible and not wait until the last moment, as either of us will be more than capable to assist you.

With that I can't thank each of you enough for your support and wish each of you a safe and blessed holiday season.

Yours in Scouting,  
Ken McFadden  
Gravois Trail Membership Chair

## Camping

### WHAT WOULD YOU DO FOR A KLONDIKE?

The annual Klondike Derby is coming up January 31st - February 2nd 2015. More info will be coming soon and the camp manual will get posted online.

## Order of the Arrow

### WINTER FELLOWSHIP BANQUET

*"Celebrating The Legacy"*  
December 15th, 2014

Machinists' Hall in Bridgeton, Missouri

Featured Catering by St. Louis's Sugarfire Smoke House

Tickets are \$18 on or before December 7th and \$20 after



# The Commissioners Report



## FINAL RECHARTER REMINDER !!

Leaders,

Less than two weeks remain in the recharter process. **The entire recharter process needs to be completed by Monday, December 15th to be on time.** A completed recharter is one that has:

- Completed all steps of the online process and submit the recharter online
- Printed the signature form and obtained signatures of the Unit Leader and Chartered Organization Executive Officer (Council Representative does not need to be signed)
- Signature form and full payment turned in to Council (may be turned in to the Council Service Center, BSA Outfitters, or at Roundtable)
- No errors found on the recharter and all registered adults have current Youth Protection Training

Remember, if your unit's recharter is not completed by **December 31st**, your unit will no longer be registered on January 1st. This means your unit will no longer be insured, your Scouts cannot earn awards or advancement, you may not use GSLAC facilities, etc. Essentially, all unit activities must cease.

Please reach out to your Unit Commissioner, Assistant District Commissioner (ADC) or District Commissioner if you have any questions (find your Commissioner [HERE](#)). We are here to help!

## JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE

After you have completed the recharter process, please complete the Journey to Excellence form for your unit and turn it in to Council or your Commissioner. **Forms need to be completed and**

**signed are due by December 31st.** The forms are not required to complete the recharter process, and may be turned in with your recharter or after. The 2014 Journey to Excellence forms are found [HERE](#)

## Advancement

The Automotive Maintenance Skill Center was a success with 31 Scouts going through the course.

My thanks to Shan Herwig and Charles Curry at Mungenast Honda for hosting the skill center and especially to Charles Curry who conducted all of the instruction and to merit badge counselor Dave Mayer for working with so many Scouts.

## District Dinner

**The District Dinner will be held January 23rd at Andre's South Banquet Facility (4254 Telegraph Rd St. Louis, MO 63129).**

The dinner will start at 6:30 pm. The two highlights of the evening will be the **SPARK PLUG Award** presentations for the those Pack/Troop/Crew volunteers who show that extra spark when delivering the program to the youth.

The second highlight of the evening will be the presentation of the **District Award of Merits**. The District Award of Merit is a Council level award that can be bestowed on District level volunteers for their service above and beyond to the youth of the District. Nomination forms can be found on the District Website. To register for the dinner go [HERE](#). The Cost for the dinner is \$26/person which includes dinner and drinks. This is a non-uniformed adult event.



## Training

**University of Scouting** is a full day of classes and training opportunities for adult leaders and youth. Registration starts at 7:45 a.m. and classes start at 9 a.m. Consider taking a couple classes to help expand the program you are delivering to your unit. There are a number of different courses that could help benefit you or the youth in your Pack/Troop/Crew. For more information please see the flier [HERE](#)

## Awards

**The Silver Beaver Award** is the highest recognition a Boy Scout council can bestow on an adult volunteer leader.

The award is presented to those volunteers who have provided noteworthy service that impacts the lives of youth and has made outstanding contributions to the Scouting program.

The Awards are presented at the Council Annual Business Meeting and Recognition dinner in late May/Early June. If you know of a Volunteer who has gone above and beyond countless times for Scouting consider completing a nomination form.

The form will be posted on the Council website soon. Please keep an eye out for more information.

## Venturing

District & Council Venturing/Older (14+) Activity Calendar  
**SAVE THE DATES!!!**

### Hunger Games Venturing Recruiting Event

- Friday, December 12th 6-10PM
- Beaumont Scout Reservation
- Bring a friend who's interested in joining your crew
- Click [HERE](#) for more info

### STEM University

- Saturday, December 27 8AM-4PM
- University of Missouri – St. Louis
- \$15/Scout
- Click [HERE](#) for more info

### Central Region Area 3 Venturing Conference

- Saturday, January 10th 8AM-4PM
- Centennial Christian Church 1219 East Grove St. Bloomington, IL
- Learn to make Venturing fun and exciting for more teens
- \$15 before 1/1/15, \$20 after that
- Click [HERE](#) for more info

### Climb the Night Away Council Lock-in

- Friday, January 16th – Saturday, January 17th 8PM-5:30AM
- Upper Limits, West County, 1874 Lackland Hill Parkway
- Enjoy the climbing gym, play some games and eat some pizza
- \$30/person, must be received by January 7th
- Click [HERE](#) for more info

### University of Scouting

- Saturday, January 24th, 8:30AM-4PM
- Fox High School, 745 Jeffco Blvd, Arnold, MO
- Pick from a ton of classes about Venturing, Scouting and more
- Adults \$20, Youth \$10 until January 10th, add \$5 after that
- Click [HERE](#) for more info

### Gravois Trail District Venturing/Older Scout Snow Tubing Event

- Saturday, February 21st, 6-10PM
- Hidden Valley Ski Resort, 17409 Hidden Valley Dr. Wildwood MO
- Have a blast doing the Polar Plunge with all of your friends
- \$22/person for 3-hours, must be received by February 14th



# SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE.

**University of Scouting will update  
your skills and help you provide a  
fantastic program to your Scouts.**

**January 24, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.**

Fox High School  
745 Jeffco Blvd.  
Arnold, 63010

Don't miss out!

**ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS NOV. 15!**

See other side for sessions and fees.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
Greater St. Louis Area Council

[scoutingevent.com?2015UniversityofScouting](http://scoutingevent.com?2015UniversityofScouting)



# University of Scouting 2015

## Boy Scout College

BSC-1	EFFECTIVE Youth Leader Training in Your Troop
BSC-2	The REAL Patrol Method
BSC-3	Retention of Older Scouts
BSC-4	Real World Solutions to Challenging Issues in Troops — <b>NEW</b>
BSC-5	First Class First Year
BSC-6	The Successful Annual Unit Plan
BSC-7	Webelos to Scout Transition
BSC-8	Games Leadership
BSC-9	Unit Board of Review Training
BSC-10	The Challenge of Dealing With "Challenging" Scouts
BSC-11	The Effective Unit Committee
BSC-12	Making the Order of The Arrow Meaningful in Your Unit
BSC-13	Been There, Done That. Now What?
BSC-14	Intentionally Developing Eagle Scouts
BSC-15	Making Summer Camp the Centerpiece of Your Unit Program!

## Commissioners College

All course offerings in Commissioners College are open to all Scouters and are not limited to commissioners.

CC-1	Unit Commissioner Basic Training
CC-2	Administration of Commissioner Service
CC-3	Selecting Quality Leaders
CC-4	STEM and the Unit Commissioner
CC-5	The Commissioner's Toolkit — <b>NEW</b>
CC-6	Seminar: Contemporary Unit Issues
CC-7	New Commissioner Tools — <b>NEW</b>
CC-8	Unit Membership Chair — <b>NEW</b>
CC-9	Youth Recruitment and Retention — <b>NEW</b>
CC-10	Venturing and the Commissioner — <b>NEW</b>

## Cub Scout College

CSC-1	"Outside the Box"
CSC-2	Growing the Pack
CSC-3	History and Lore
CSC-4	Cub Scout Advancement
CSC-5	The Art of Story Telling
CSC-6	Beyond the Badge
CSC-7	"Outing" in Scouting
CSC-8	Flag Etiquette

## High Adventure College

HA-1	BSA High Adventure: Philmont Overview
HA-2	BSA High Adventure: Sea Base Overview
HA-3	BSA Sea Base Training for 2015 Crew Advisors
HA-4	Water and Cooking Tips for High Adventure Outings
HA-5	BSA Philmont Training for 2016 Crew Advisors
HA-6	Safety Afloat and Safe Swim Defense
HA-7	Trek On Safely
HA-8	Backpacking Stoves

HA-9	Leave No Trace
HA-10	Boots and Socks
HA-11	Backpacks, Sleeping Bags, and Pads
HA-12	"Eve" on the Trail
HA-13	Wilderness First Aid — The Primer
HA-14	How to Add Scuba Diving to Your Scouting Program

## Leadership College

LC-1	Red Cross First Aid Training ( <i>additional \$30 fee required</i> )
LC-2	Successful Succession: Finding Your Replacement
LC-3	District Eagle Board of Review Seminar
LC-4	What Now?
LC-5	Addressing Adult Conflicts and Leadership Concerns
LC-6	Merit Badge Counselor Orientation
LC-7	Scoutmaster vs. Chairman: A Perspective
LC-8	Scouting Need Not Be Taxing
LC-9	Letting Go at All Ages

## Special Needs College

SNC-1	Special Needs Overview
SNC-2	Special Needs Scouting for All Scouters
SNC-3	ABC's of Attention Deficit Disorder
SNC-4	Advancement for the Special Needs Scout
SNC-5	Scouting for Scouts With Learning Disabilities
SNC-6	Camping for Scouts With Disabilities
SNC-7	Panel Discussion
SNC-8	Managing Boys' Behavior

## STEM College

STEM-1	Nova Counselor and Supernova Mentor Training
STEM-2	STEM Unit Coordinator Training
STEM-3	Hands-on STEM for Cub Scouts — <b>NEW</b>
STEM-4	Hands-on STEM for Boy Scouts — <b>NEW</b>
STEM-5	Hands-on STEM for Venturing — <b>NEW</b>

## Technology College

TEC-1	Beyond Basics in Word and Excel for Scouters
TEC-2	Creative Use of Photography in Scouting
TEC-3	Managing Your Scout Unit Data in the Cloud
TEC-4	Online Social Networking
TEC-5	GPS Technology for Scouts and Scouters
TEC-6	Advanced Digital Photography in Scouting

## Trainers College

TC-1	Basic Trainer Skills
TC-2	Promoting Training
TC-4	Trainer's EDGE 1 — Communication
TC-5	Trainer's EDGE 2 — Directing Traffic and Thoughts
TC-6	Trainer's EDGE 3 — Effective Teaching Methods
TC-7	Youth Protection / Youth Protection Presentation Skills
TC-9	Trainer's EDGE 4 — Presentation Workshop / Practical Application
TC-10	Public Speaking Effectively

## Venturing College

VC-1	Venturing 101: The Nuts and Bolts of Venturing
VC-2	How to Start a Venturing Crew
VC-3	Is Your Crew Dying? Want to Fix It?
VC-4	Crew Program Planning — <b>NEW</b>
VC-5	Venturing Awards and Recognition — <b>NEW</b>
VC-6	Team Building Games
VC-7	Personal Safety Awareness — <b>NEW</b>
VC-8	How to Develop Your Troop, Crew and Ship Youth Leaders
VC-9	Putting the WOW Into Your Crew's Program
VC-10	Goal Setting and Time Management — <b>NEW</b>
VC-11	Eve on the Trail ( <i>female youth only</i> )
VC-12	Sea Scout Adult Leader Basic Training
VC-13	Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews
VC-14	Kodiak Challenge Course Director's Conference
VC-15	Roundtable Discussion of Day's Learning
VC-16	Adult Leader Bridge Session — <b>NEW</b>
VC-17	Committee Challenge — <b>NEW</b>

## Youth Leadership College

YLC-1	You Don't Have to Be SPL to Lead: Scouts
YLC-2	Where to Find the Fun Leadership Roles in Scouting
YLC-3	Patrol Method: The Only Way
YLC-4	Have Fun in the Order of the Arrow
YLC-5	Training Youth Leaders at the Unit Level
YLC-6	Where Are My Resources???
YLC-7	Troop Program Roundtable
YLC-8	Communicating With Adults
YLC-9	Eagle Scout and Beyond
YLC-10	Communicating With Youth
YLC-11	More Than High Adventure

By January 10:  
Adults \$20 / Youth \$10

By January 22:  
Adults \$25 / Youth \$15

After January 22, including walk-ins: Adults \$30 / Youth \$20

Online registration begins November 15:

[scoutingevent.com?2015UniversityofScouting](http://scoutingevent.com?2015UniversityofScouting)

**FEES**