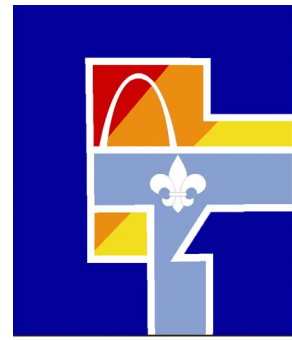


The Trail

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](http://stlbsa.org)

The home for Gravois Trail can be found here: [Gravois Trail Website](http://stlbsa.org/gravoistrail/)

Shawnee Lodge of the Order of the Arrow website can be found here: [Shawnee](http://shawneelodge.org)

Or the Facebook page located here: [Gravois Trail Venturing](https://www.facebook.com/gravoistrail/)

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 !

Don't hesitate to contact us when ever you have questions. There's a lot going on and if you don't see an answer to your question here, just give us a call or email.

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

Commissioner: [Neil Phipps](mailto:neil.phipps@prodigy.net)
C. 314-560-2836
neil.phipps@prodigy.net

Activities: [Debby Noah](mailto:debby.noah@gmail.com)
C. 636-222-2751
debby.noah@gmail.com

Advancement: [Jere Strobl](mailto:jere.strobl@sbcglobal.com)
C. 314-780-5256
jere_strobl@sbcglobal.com

Camping: [Gil Kauffmann](mailto:gil.kauffmann@gmail.com)
C. 314-910-3994
gilkauffmann@gmail.com

OA: [Janet Nelson](mailto:janet.nelson@charter.net)
(314) 799-2548
jdsnelson@charter.net

Membership: [Ken McFadden](mailto:ken.mcfadden@mcfaddens.us)
H. (720) 530-5800
[Ken.mcfadden@mcfaddens.us](mailto:ken.mcfadden@mcfaddens.us)

Training: [Paul Leicht Sr.](mailto:paul.leichtsr@aol.com)
C. (314) 409-7063
paulleichtsr@aol.com

Communications: [Jerry Fix](mailto:jerry.fix@gmail.com)
C. (636) 221-4368
jerry.fix@gmail.com

Development: [Keith Guller](mailto:kguller@essexind.com)
kguller@essexind.com

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

District Executive Corner

As most of you know, we have a new District Executive. Suzie Redington has joined the Gravois Trail staff. We asked her to tell us a bit about herself....

Dear Gravois Trail Scouters,

As the new District Executive of Gravois Trail, I wanted to take a moment and introduce myself to you.

I am so excited and pleased to have the opportunity to serve the Gravois Trail area. I am looking forward to a successful new year where we will all grow together in fellowship and membership.

A little about my background... I graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia (Go Tigers!) with a Bachelor's degree in psychology and attended graduate school at UMSL where I studied education.

In my graduate studies, I found my passion for youth development programs in non-profit organizations. Outside of work you can find me running, hiking, cooking, playing with my dog, and planning my next adventure.

Since 1910 the Boys Scouts of America has worked to enhance the lives of youth and I feel truly honored to have the chance to contribute to such a wonderful and promising organization.

If you see me around at the next event or roundtable please introduce yourself. I would love to get to know you and how you contribute to the Scouts.

Sincerely,
Suzie Redington
Gravois Trail District Executive

Activities

Day Camp

Hey, Cub Scouts. Are you looking for some fun? Gravois Trail has three day camps this year coming up in June & July. Now is the time to register and insure there will be a spot just for you. We will be at the shooting range and some great fishing, along with camping over night at Beaumont. What a great way to make new friends while spend time outdoors, learn fun new skills and take part in once-in-a-lifetime experiences.

Simpson Park Shooting Sports Twilight, at Simpson Park, Fenton
June 23rd thru 25th
From 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm - 3 days – Fee - \$65

Bee Tree Fishing Twilight, Oakville at Bee Tree Country Park
July 21st thru 23rd
From 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm - 3 days – Fee - \$65

Gravois Trail Webelos Twilight at St. John's UCC Church
July 27th thru 29th and July 31st thru August 1st overnight at Beaumont
From 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm - 5 days – Fee - \$65

Save \$10 if you register by March 2nd.

Camp fee includes camp T-shirt, patch and program supplies.

All Application must have a completed Annual Health and Medical Record parts A & B attached

Sign up online [HERE](#) Frequently Asked Questions are [HERE](#)

District Dinner

What a wonderful evening. The 2015 Gravois Trails District Volunteer Recognition Dinner was held at Andre's South Banquet Facility on January 23rd. 107 people attended with Terry Madden, Master of Ceremonies, keeping us laughing all the way thru the night. We had a special guest, Jamie Lamprecht, join us from Council. It was very nice to meet him. Thank you for coming.

Neil Phipps gave the State of the District Report and we are saying Good-bye to him this year. However, he has reassured us that we will see him with his son in coming years. Can't believe he has a count down to sign his boy up for scouting. Thank you for all you have done for us, Neil.

Garrett Knapp, OA Chapter Chief, did the Installation of Officers. Thank you for all who have stepped up to help make Gravois Trail District an exciting place to learn and have fun for all the Scouts.

We had three District Awards of Merit, they went to:

Alan Hautly, Tony Pozzo, and Jan Veinfurt

A special thank you also needs go out to Robb Young for providing his talents with music.

Thank you, Sherry Myers, for organizing this year's dinner.

The Commissioners Report



Welcome Our New District Commissioner !

The face of the Unit Commissioner Staff has changed ... a little.

Paul Leicht, Gravois Trail Training Chair and Assistant District Commissioner, has accepted the role of Gravois Trail District Commissioner. Paul replaces Neil Phipps, whose term as District Commissioner ended in January.

With 19 years of Scouting experience, including 8+ years on the Commissioner staff, Paul brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the job. In addition to his Commissioner service, he has also served 8 years on the Gravois Trail training staff, and served at the Pack and Troop levels as a Den Leader, Webelos Leader, Scoutmaster and Committee Chair. Among his many recognitions, Paul has received the



Distinguished Commissioner Award and is a District Award of Merit recipient for Gravois Trail. When you see him at Roundtable, congratulate him on his new role.

Paul and the entire Commissioner staff are here to support your unit. Please take advantage of this valuable resource to help you provide an excellent program to our Scouts.

Training

Hello the "Trail"

Let me introduce myself. I am Gary Driver and I have the honor of being the new Training Chair for Gravois Trail. I have some pretty big shoes to fill after the great leadership of Paul Leicht. My plan is to bring to Gravois Trail now and in the future the opportunity for all unit leaders to be trained in their position.

On Saturday (January 24), the Greater St. Louis Area Council conducted the University of Scouting, providing scout leaders and training staff personnel an enjoyable day of learning about the most up to date policies and training guidelines for the scouting community. It is a time to learn new ideas and share those with other scout leaders. I really think this is the program to attend for all scout leaders to meet the best trainer in their field of expertise in the council. There is the opportunity to learn not just new training guidelines, but all areas of scouting. I was very pleased with all the Training Staff that attended and saw many other scouters from Gravois Trail.

I will use the "Trail" every month to keep everyone in Gravois Trail informed of upcoming training opportunities both at the District and the Council level. You can get the full Spring Training schedule [HERE](#)

One of the best ways to stay informed is to attend your monthly Roundtable which is the first Tuesday of every month. Here you will not only find out about training but what else is going on in your district. Look for the spring training dates that are offered in the district so you can mark them on your calendar. If you have any question about training, feel free to contact me at [314-799-4758](tel:314-799-4758) or see me at Round Table. If you have question about any of the following areas of Training, you can contact the person in charge of that program for dates and places;

Cub Scout Training
Boy Scout Training
Venturing Scout Training-
Roundtable-Met Life Building;

[Jason Sciaroni-314.489.8527](tel:314.489.8527)

[Ed Mills-314.960.5081](tel:314.960.5081)

[Gary Dedeker-314.631.7478](tel:314.631.7478) or [Michael A. O'Donnell-314.960.3129](tel:314.960.3129)

Cub Scouts-[Alexia Arensmeier-636.282.0027](tel:636.282.0027)

Boy Scouts-[Tom Zeuner-314.849.8343](tel:314.849.8343)

Venturing-[Michael A. O'Donnell-314.960.3129](tel:314.960.3129)

See you down the "Trail",
Gary Driver

Membership

All,
At this time every unit should already have started the Webelos transition process.

This is to include both Packs and Troops. If you are a Pack or Troop and have not started this process please let either myself or your Unit Commissioner know as soon as possible. We are here to assist you in any way possible.

YIS,
Ken McFadden

Order of the Arrow

Don't forget about the chapter banquet this month.

This year it will be on February 11th. Dorrs open a 6pm for fellowship, and dinner starts at 6:30.

It's being held at the Genesis Banquet Center, 2651 Telegraph Rd. St. Louis, MO 63129

The cost is \$13 before Feb1st and \$15 after Feb 15th.

If you have any questions contact Garrett Knapp at 314-401-2839.

Venturing

Dear Venturing Crew Advisors,

It seemed so far away, back in September at the Fall Fun Rally, when we first started discussing a push to recruit Venturers in February, but we are finally there. As we've been discussing, we are going to conduct an outreach to 8th graders in our sponsoring institutions because most 8th graders have now met the requirements to join Venturing or are within 90 days of meeting them.

The program is going to work similarly to the School Night to Join Scouting program to recruit new Cub Scouts at the start of every school year. Each Crew Advisor and Committee will work closely with Josh and Suzie to coordinate a time and date with your sponsoring institution where they can give brief presentations to 8th grade classes or setup an information booth at our larger middle schools or high schools during lunch periods.

The key obligation, on the part of your crew, is that there be plan in place, with an open house, some sort of affordable (no-cost or low-cost) event for the prospect to attend and a commitment to follow-up to ultimately get the teen to join.

The hope is to make this an annual program to strengthen all of the existing crews in the district with a yearly influx of new members. You've heard it said at our meetings, "if you're not recruiting, you're dying". Just imagine if your crew was able to recruit two new Venturers from this program for each of the next 3 years, your crew would have 6 additional teens.

Who wouldn't love to have 6 more members right now?

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Michael O'Donnell
Venturing Advisor
Gravois Trail District
EagleScout721@gmail.com





GRAVOIS TRAIL

CUB SCOUT, BOY SCOUT, VENTURING, & VARSITY

ADULT TRAINING FOR **SPRING 2015**

BECAUSE EVERY SCOUT DESERVES TRAINED LEADERS!

WHAT: Cub Scouts Leader Specific Training

WHEN: Saturday, **April 18, 2015**

WHERE: Peace Lutheran Church, 737 Barracksvue Road, St Louis, 63125

REGISTRATION: 8:00 AM TRAINING: 8:30 AM

Cost: \$20.00 for all materials and some of the best training in Greater St Louis Area Council!

WHAT: Boy Scouts Committee Specific Training

Varsity Committee Specific Training

WHEN: Saturday, **April 18, 2015**

WHERE: Peace Lutheran Church, 737 Barracksvue Road, St Louis, 63125

REGISTRATION: 8:00 AM TRAINING: 8:30 AM

Cost: \$25.00 for all materials and some of the best training in Greater St Louis Area Council!

WHAT: Venturing Leader Specific Training

WHEN: Saturday, **April 18, 2015**

WHERE: Peace Lutheran Church, 737 Barracksvue Road, St Louis, 63125

REGISTRATION: 8:00 AM TRAINING: 8:30 AM

Cost: \$20.00 for all materials and some of the best training in Greater St Louis Area Council!

WHAT: Boy Scout Leader Training – Scoutmasters & Assistant Scoutmasters

Varsity Leader Training -- Coaches

WHEN: 3 Wednesday indoor sessions, **Apr 8, Apr 15, Apr 22, 2015**

WHERE: St Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church, 1420 S Sappington Road, Crestwood, 63126

REGISTRATION: 6:30 PM TRAINING: 7:00 PM

1 Saturday to Sunday outdoor session, **May 2 – May 3, 2015**

WHERE: Beaumont Scout Reservation

ARRIVE: Sat, 7:00 AM Depart: Sun, 12:30 PM

Cost: \$25.00 for all materials and some of the best training in Greater St Louis Area Council!

PREREQUISITE: "Youth Protection Training" -- available on line from the local council website – www.stlbsa.org. Click on TRAINING on the top menu. Then look for the "YOUTH PROTECTION AND ONLINE TRAINING" link on the left side. Upon completion you will be asked to print a certificate indicating completion. Bring the certificate with you to registration to receive credit.

Boy Scout Scoutmaster and Varsity Coach positions are the same with the exception of the leadership names. Therefore training is combined for both positions. This training will qualify you to hold either position.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Cub Scouts: Jason Sciaroni – 314-560-8527, didactical@gmail.com

Boy Scouts: Ed Mills – 314 960-5081, mills_ed@att.net

Venturing / Varsity: Gary Dedeke – 314 631-7478, woodyccs4@sbcglobal.net