

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: [Gravoi Trail Website](http://stlbsa.org/gravoistrail/)

Shawnee Lodge of the Order of the Arrow website can be found here: [Shawnee](http://shawneeoa.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 !

Summer is almost upon us. That means Memorial Day Good Turn, Summer Camps, NYLT and more. Stay informed by checking out the GT website and Facebook page. Also - be sure to check the GT website for information presented at the June 7th Program Review

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

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District Directors Corner

Happy Summer Everyone,

I hope everyone is ready for an exciting two months of Summer Camp! I know that I am! There are plenty of opportunities for a Scout of any age to participate in any number of camps. There are three day camps for Tigers through Webelos. Parent n' Pal camps for Cub Scouts from Tigers to Bears. Parent and Pal is an exciting 24 hours of camping at various Scouting properties. Then there are the Cub Scout Resident camps for Webelos I and Webelos II.

Boy Scouts going to summer camp have a number of discounts available for second and third weeks of camps. Plus, opportunities for OA Summer camp, Horse Camp, and STEM Camp. All are exciting and available to any Boy Scout regardless if his Troop is attending or not.

Let Suzie and I know if you have any questions. For more information regarding Camping opportunities this summer please go [HERE](#)

Where ever your summer plans take you please be safe, have fun, and Safe Scouting.

YiS,

Josh

Training

NYLT National Youth Leadership Training:

Why Should you send your Scouts to NYLT?

Through this weeklong outdoor training, male and female Scouts grow and improve their leadership skills while following the guidelines of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. NYLT is conducted during summer camp. **NYLT spots still available !** Go [HERE](#) for more info

Scouts earning the NYLT shield are better prepared to interact with adult leaders and face the challenges and demands ahead.

Boy Scouts:

Requirements to attend NYLT, a Scout must be:

- A current registered member of the BSA who has attended long- term Boy Scout camp for a minimum of two years.
- First Class rank of higher.
- Twelve years old.
- A member of a troop whose Scoutmaster has completed the adult Boy Scout Leader Basic Training Course.
- A current or prospective your leader approved by the Scoutmaster.

Venturing:

Requirements to attend NYLT:

- Must meet all of the above but the First Class requirement.

A Scout need only attend one of the weeks to successfully complete the NYLT course. The Scout must be at camp for the entire week to complete the program.

Course Dates:

- June 12-18, 2016
- June 19-25, 2016
- June 26-July 2, 2016
- July 10-16, 2016
- July 17 -23. 2016 (This week is for Venturing only!)

NYLT Course options: (Both options are offered each week)

- Land based
- Pack and Paddle

Land Based:

The land based course is hosted at Camp Sakima at S-F Scout Ranch. Scouts will learn leadership skills, while improving their camping, fire building, cooking and time management skills.

Pack and Paddle:

The Pack and Paddle course is conducted at the S-F Scout Ranch backcountry on Nims Lake. Scouts will learn the same leadership skills offered at the land based camp plus, practice low-impact camping, hiking, canoeing and learn the proper use of a compass for navigation.

All participants must stow food, crew gear, shelter, personal items and any other essential equipment in their packs. It's important to remember, that this is a physically demanding course.

To attend Pack and Paddle, a candidate must:

- Meet all NYLT requirements,
- Be 14 years of age by date of summer camp,
- Pass the BSA swim test (swim 100 yards using strong strokes)

Open slots for these courses are still available. Visit the council Web site for applications and additional information.

Remember, Scouting is a Youth led program. Why not give them the necessary Leadership Skills to make them successful?

Enjoy your summer and Good Scouting!

Gary Dedeker
District Training Chairman

Camping

As always, Summer brings lots of great camping opportunities



Upcoming Camping Opportunities:

Summer 2016 Cub Scout Day Camps

The dates are now available! Reserve your spots while you can.

STEM Twilight Camp
June 27-30

Simpson Park Shooting Sports
July 12-14

Bee Tree Fishing Camp
July 19-21

Register [HERE](#)

Membership

Another school year is finally over and summer is upon us. Even though we are still down a little we are hopeful and looking forward to a stellar school night recruitment in the fall.

I hope to see every scout in the district at the August Roundtable where we will go over our strategy for this years recruitment. In the mean time it is crucial we all have summer programs to keep the scouts active in scouting.

If you need any help or ideas for summer activities please feel free to call or email me.

YIS,

Ken McFadden
GT District Membership Chair

Activites

As usual, the annual Memorial Day Good Turn is well represented by Gravois Trail Scouts and Venturers. St Louis and Southern Illinois communities get to see the character of our Scouts.

For more than six decades, approximately 4,000 Scouts have gathered at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery prior to Memorial Day to decorate each of the 190,000 graves with an American Flag. The tradition, entering its 67th year, is one of the longest running Memorial Day events within the Boy Scouts of America.



Venturing

Gravois Trail Venturing excellence continues to reach out into the larger Venturing community

Each year the Central Region Area 3 Venturing Officers Association selects 4 officers to lead the 11 councils in the four states that make up Area 3. This year 3 of those 4 officers are Gravois Trail Venturers.



Emma O'Donnell is the 2016-2017 Central Region Area 3 Venturing President. Emma previously served as the 2014-2015 Area 3 Venturing Vice President for Administration.

Emma is a member of Venturing Crew 2648. In the past, she has served as the President of Crew 2648, and she has also served as the Gravois Trail District VOA Vice President of Administration and Program.

Emma has earned the Venturing Outdoor Bronze Award, Venturing Gold Award, and Venturing Silver Award. She has been recognized with the Council and Area Venturing Leadership Awards. Emma currently has her Discovery Award and is working towards the Summit Award.



Pamela Petterchak will serve as the Vice President of Administration. Pamela is currently the Vice President for Communication in the Gravois Trail District of the Greater Saint Louis Area Council and President of Crew 2821 and she is a sophomore at Affton High School.

Pamela has earned her Discovery Award and is working on Summit. She is a part of her school's swim team, band and Student Council. She hopes

to help Venturing become a well known organization.



Maddy Agers will serve as the Vice President of Communication. Maddy is currently the Vice President of Communication in the Greater Saint Louis Area Council and is a sophomore in high school. She is a former Girl Scout and is currently working toward her Summit Award. She is the editor for "The Digital Breakdown", an online media outlet she designed and operates.

Advancement

This month's advancement focus is on CSAW/BSAW.

The Cub Scout Advancement Workshop and Boy Scout Advancement Workshop are aimed at helping scouts advance by focusing on Service, Diversity and.. Fun !

They are the perfect options for Scouts working toward earning their rank advancements and merit badges. These workshops can be a great resource when a Scout needs to catch up; a qualified merit badge counselor is required in a specialized area or if a struggling troop needs some experienced guidance.

Many young people in the St. Louis area don't have the family or neighborhood support needed to fully participate in the Scouting program.

Through the CSAW/BSAW workshops, boys still have the opportunity to advance to their next rank while having fun, learning life skills and growing as a Scout.

These workshops

- Follows a syllabus
- Are a one Saturday morning program
- Fast-paced and fun

Gravois Trail will be hosting the February 11, 2017 session