

# The Trail

Cub Scouts - Boy Scouts - Venturing



## Where To Get Info

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: [Gravois Trail Website](#)

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

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

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

Contact us at:

Mike Eschbach: [mike.eschbach@scouting.org](mailto:mike.eschbach@scouting.org)

Jerry Fix: [jerry.fix@gmail.com](mailto:jerry.fix@gmail.com)

## Summer Scouting !

Summer is in full swing. That means summer camp, day camps, high adventure... the stuff that we all wait for anxiously during the rest of the year. Be sure to take advantage of all the activities that Scouting has to offer while the weather is nice (and hot !). Don't forget to contact the committee chairs listed below with any questions you may have.

### GT District Committees:

Commissioner  
Kris Mehrtens  
C. 314-276-3033  
[krismehrtens@yahoo.com](mailto:krismehrtens@yahoo.com)

Advancement  
Phil Tilghman  
C. 314-401-2339  
[T778sm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:T778sm@sbcglobal.net)

Camping  
Chris Merris  
C. 314-494-7794  
[merrisc@gmail.com](mailto:merrisc@gmail.com)

Activities  
Dawn/Dave Fansler  
[dmf138@aol.com](mailto:dmf138@aol.com)

Training  
Gary Dedeker  
C. 314-740-0986  
[woodyccs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:woodyccs@sbcglobal.net)

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

OA  
Brian Mischel  
[bmischel780@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bmischel780@sbcglobal.net)

Membership  
Joe Sartorious  
C. 314-402-3799  
[jsartorious@sbuniv.edu](mailto:jsartorious@sbuniv.edu)

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



*Ute Park Fire*

## Fire Can't Stop The Philmont Spirit

As most of you probably know, earlier in June, a fire which began in Ute Park, New Mexico spread fast and wide. At it's peak, it burned some 36,000 acres—with 26,000 of that on Philmont property. Treks were cancelled through July 14th—impacting many Gravois Trail Scouters that were planning treks for this year. At one point, Philmont staff was also evacuated.

This year, Gravois Trail Venturer Micah Fansler was a horse wrangler working at the ranch. He has been there throughout the fire. He sent a brief update of his time at the ranch so far this year.

"The Philmont Staff is busy completing projects across the ranch. We have a crew in the Valle Vidal doing invasive species work, a crew near the Lover's Leap turnaround doing timber stand improvement, and a crew in Cimarron helping with projects around town. Some Philmont Staff members have been temporarily reassigned to help in places like Northern Tier, and other Scout Ranches in Texas, Colorado and Wyoming. Our Wrangler Staff has been busy making needed repairs to fences and improvements to structures used for the more than 400 horses and other live-stock on the ranch.

Unfortunately since the fire is still active we have been unable to actually send work crews into the areas that have burned. Once the all clear is given from the State and Federal Fire Officials the Philmont Staff will then be dispersed to clear damaged trails and Program Areas. We are all anxious to get the Programs and Treks up and running.

I am enjoying my time at Philmont regardless of the situation. It's always been my dream to work here with the horses and serve the Scouting community."

Micah Fansler  
Philmont Wrangler  
GSLAC Venture Horse Crew 2720



### District Directors Corner

Happy Summer Everyone. It is a HOT one! I hope everyone is ready for an exciting two months of Summer Camp programs! 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 two Twi-light camps for Tigers through Webelos. Family camp 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...and Grizzly Camp. Boy Scouts going to summer camp may have discounts available for second and third weeks of camps. Plus, opportunities for specialized like and STEM Camp and "The Ozark Adventure – more info on Boy Scout Summer Camps [HERE](#) - a great opportunity with unfortunate cancellations of some Philmont Treks.

All are exciting and available to any Boy Scout regardless if his Troop is attending or not. Let us 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. This is what we do!

**And if you missed program preview – the presentation is [HERE](#)**





## Camping

As we head into the summer months most units will be hitting the road for some camping. Please send me some pictures and updates of your camping experiences this summer so we can showcase them in The Trail at [merrisc@gmail.com](mailto:merrisc@gmail.com).

In April Gravois Trail hosted its Spring Camporee. We had amazing weather and an even better program. All we needed were a few more scouts. Camp master Gavin Knapp, his Adult Advisor and the staff did a great job at S-F. One of the highlights was the Mountain Biking, they were out and about nearly every minute of the weekend. The Cardboard boat races were a blast and the scouts had a great weekend.

A special shout out to Quartermaster Gil

Kauffmann who kept us fed and in a great mood.

Make sure you come out for the Fall Pacao in October. Cody and his staff are planning a great program and his working theme is Wilderness Survival.

Yours in Scouting  
Chris Merris  
Camping Chair

*"Camp master Gavin Knapp along with his advisor and staff did a great job at S-F for the Spring Camporee"*

### The Six "P's" of Recruiting

#### Purpose

Have a clear purpose for your recruiting

#### Plan

Involve everyone in the plan

#### Promote

New Scouts will rarely find you—you have to go find them

#### Present

Have a clear, upbeat presentation ready

#### Parents

Scouts with involved parents are much more likely to stay in Scouting

#### Persistence

This one speaks for itself...

## School Night To Join Scouting—2018

School Night To Join Scouting is just around the corner. This is the single more important time of the year for recruiting new Scouts. A great way to get new participants in your pack or Troop is by letting the public know about the fun, exciting things that you are doing. During the months of August and September you should aim to blanket your community with Join Scouting promotions. The Council and District will also be helping to get the word out, but the majority of your success will come from grassroots marketing. Consider assigning someone from the pack to head your marketing effort and consider some of the following techniques: yard signs, posters in schools, posters in stores, posters at work. Posters where ever you can get them, signs in front of businesses, announcements in neighborhood newspapers, school newspapers, door hangers, promotion flyers, church bulletins, posters at private schools, etc.

2018 Dates are:

August 23- Mehlville School District

August 30- Lindbergh, Bayless and Affton

September 6- Rockwood and all Private and Parochial Schools

**PLEASE stick with these dates---this is a major coordination.**

What you need to do right now?

- Reserve your school and meeting room (or whatever they have available on that night)
- WATCH Council School Night Training [HERE](#)

**School Night to Join Scouting Training— August 7, 2018 Roundtable  
Beaumont Scout Reservation; 7:00 pm—Cubmasters and SNJS Coordinators are strongly encouraged to attend this training! We will discuss Lions and Girls Joining the Cub Scouts.**

## Fun Scouting Fact-oids

- 1. In 1920**, the BSA sent 301 Scouts to the inaugural world Scout jamboree in England, where they joined Scouts from 33 other countries. The American Scouts represented all 48 states plus the territory of Hawaii.
- 2. In 1933**, President Franklin Roosevelt requested the Boy Scouts' service in collecting 1.8 million items of clothing, household furnishings, foodstuffs, and supplies for victims of the Great Depression.
- 3. After the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor**, Hawaiian Scouts set up first-aid stations and emergency kitchens, helped evacuate civilians, served as messengers, and manned 58 air-raid sirens around Honolulu.
- 4. During a three-month drive** in the spring of 1942, Scouts collected 318,000 tons of paper for the war effort.
- 5. In a nationwide nonpartisan** get-out-the-vote campaign in 1956, Scouts distributed more than a million posters and 36 million Liberty Bell doorknob hangers.
- 6. Scouts collected** more than 1 million tons of litter on Scouting Keep America Beautiful Day in 1971.
- 7. The Soviet Union** turned to the BSA in 1993 for help in producing the first Russian Scout handbook.

## Advancement

### Council Eagle Packets/Eagle Project Reviews

Eagle Packets are given to Scouts when they begin the process of working on Eagle Rank. The packets have recently been reprinted with an addition on the cover requiring Scouts to make an appointment for the Eagle Project Review. The contact person for this telephone call is **Mike Nebel, 314-892-7606**. We would like Unit Leaders/Unit Advancement Chairmen/Eagle Project Mentors to make sure Scouts are making this phone call and to the correct person.

Project reviews are held monthly during the District Roundtable. Each Scout seeking a Project Review will receive one, regardless of the number Scouts present.

Scouts who are unable to attend Eagle Project Reviews on the scheduled dates should contact Mr. Nebel to arrange a day and time for a special review.

### Eagle Project Workbook

Life Scouts working towards the rank of Eagle should have their complete Eagle Project Workbook with them during any meeting regarding the performance of their Project. This includes the Life-to-Eagle Seminar, Eagle Project Review, Eagle Board of Review, meetings with beneficiaries, meetings with their Scout-

master and meetings with the Troop Committee.

The complete Workbook is 26 pages long. Pages 25-26 must be given to the beneficiary prior to receiving their approval for the project. The remaining 24 pages comprise the materials that should be presented.

The full Eagle Project Workbook is available in a fillable PDF on the Council's website in the Advancement tab [HERE](#). This fillable form must be used throughout the Eagle Project process.

### Merit Badge Counselor Registration

All merit badge counselors registered with a unit were automatically renewed as counselors during January – April. Counselors not registered with a unit should have received via mail a re-registration card. The card must have been returned to Council in order to maintain status as a counselor. Council Advancement checks both the registration and Youth Protection Training status of all counselors, and removes from the Council Merit Badge Counselor online directory anyone who is not currently registered in BSA and/or is not Youth Protection Trained.

If you have questions regarding your current registration as a counselor please contact Council Advancement.

### 2018 NOAC



The 2018 National Order of the Arrow Conference (NOAC) will be held from July 30th – August 4th, 2018. NOAC is the premier event that the Order of the Arrow has to offer. Several thousand Arrowmen are expected to converge upon the campus of Indiana University for a conference full of training cells, activities, and a multitude of brotherhood opportunities with Arrowmen from across the country.

If you are interested in more information about attending the 2018 National Order of the Arrow Conference as a Shawnee Lodge Contingent Member, please complete and submit this form. This will place you on our mailing list for updates about the conference and registration information as it becomes available.

## Cycling Venturing Crew Starting Up

A New Cycling Venture Crew Is Being Formed Now !

Do you have Scouts that love to ride bikes this is an opportunity to include Scouting with a lot of fun. Then you are in luck ! There is a new Cycling Venturing Crew being formed.

The plans are that there will be two rides every month locally and 3 rides a year out of St. Louis. We are being chartered by a Cycling Shop and every month the Scouts will have the opportunity to learn from an experienced mechanic how to repair and maintain your bike.

We are looking at adding campouts along with the bike rides. This is open to experienced riders as well as new riders. All you need is a bike and a helmet. We are also looking for parents interested to riding also. Please respond to [cyclingcrewgt@gmail.com](mailto:cyclingcrewgt@gmail.com).



---

*“Every month Scouts will have a chance to learn from an experience bike mechanic on how to maintain their bikes”*

---

## Training FAQ

**Why does the Council not have a record of training I completed online?**

Most often, if you have completed a course online and it does not appear in your Council training records, it is because you have not entered your BSA ID# in your profile in your online [myscouting.org](https://myscouting.org) E-Learning account. Get your **BSA ID#** from your ID# and add it to your profile. All training completed after your BSA ID# is added to your profile will automatically be added to your Scout record.

**When is the deadline for me to take the new online Youth Protection Training?**

October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, all leaders must take the new Youth Protection Training. (The new online training has three modules that must be taken

and requires about an hour and twenty minutes to complete.) Go [HERE](#) for YPT

**What other Additional Supplemental Training/Programs are available on line?**

- Weather Hazard: New direct contact leaders should complete the Hazardous Weather Training.
- Safe Swim Defense
- Safety Afloat
- Climb on Safely
- Trek Safely

Have a Safe and Fun Summer!



#### Interesting Eagle Facts

1. 181 NASA astronauts were involved in Scouting (57.4% of astronauts). 39 are Eagle Scouts.
2. 36.4 percent of the United States Military Academy (West Point) cadets were involved in Scouting as youth. 16.3 percent of cadets are Eagle Scouts.
3. 22.5 percent of United States Air Force Academy cadets were involved in Scouting as youth. 11.9 percent of cadets are Eagle Scouts.
4. 25 percent of United States Naval Academy (Annapolis) midshipmen were involved in Scouting as youth.



## Gravois Trail Eagles

Congratulations to the young men who earned the rank of Eagle Scout so far in 2018

### January

Griffin Hall	Troop 67
Noah Ake	Troop 826
Anthony Klutho, Jr.	Troop 169
Cody Going	Troop 708
Drew Ganley	Troop 824
Jacob Brunsman	Troop 780
Daniel Lang	Troop 67

### February

Matthew Folk	Troop 671
Matthew Chenot	Troop 166
Cade Jones	Troop 725
Jonathan Marie de Foy	Troop 725
Tyler Kilper	Troop 824
Callum Cunningham	Troop 584
Robert Mense III	Troop 661

### March

Adam Barney	Troop 177
Grant Nilges	Troop 25
Elijah Neely	Troop 67
Dylan Casteel	Troop 752
Maxwell Kriegshauers	Troop 161
Samuel Siess	Troop 165

### April

Tristan Noelke	Troop 824
Stephen Wilson	Troop 824
Conner Hamm	Troop 646
Luke Stange	Troop 708
Daniel Coombs	Troop 648
Michael Blaes	Troop 752
Michael Crunkleton	Troop 582

### May

Tyler Allison	Troop 61
Alexander Miller	Troop 67
William Voss	Troop 815
Jared Leist	Troop 645
Robert Wiegman	Troop 724

### June

Nathan Christopher Mecey	Troop 778
Steven James Polokonis	Troop 647
Anthony Martyn Bierman	Troop 331
Nicholas James Dendrinelis	Troop 646
Spencer Myles Anderson	Troop 721
Kyle Edward Kiser	Troop 725
Josef Michael Graf	Troop 67
Devon Arthur Roth	Troop 585
George Duncan Hall	Troop 61