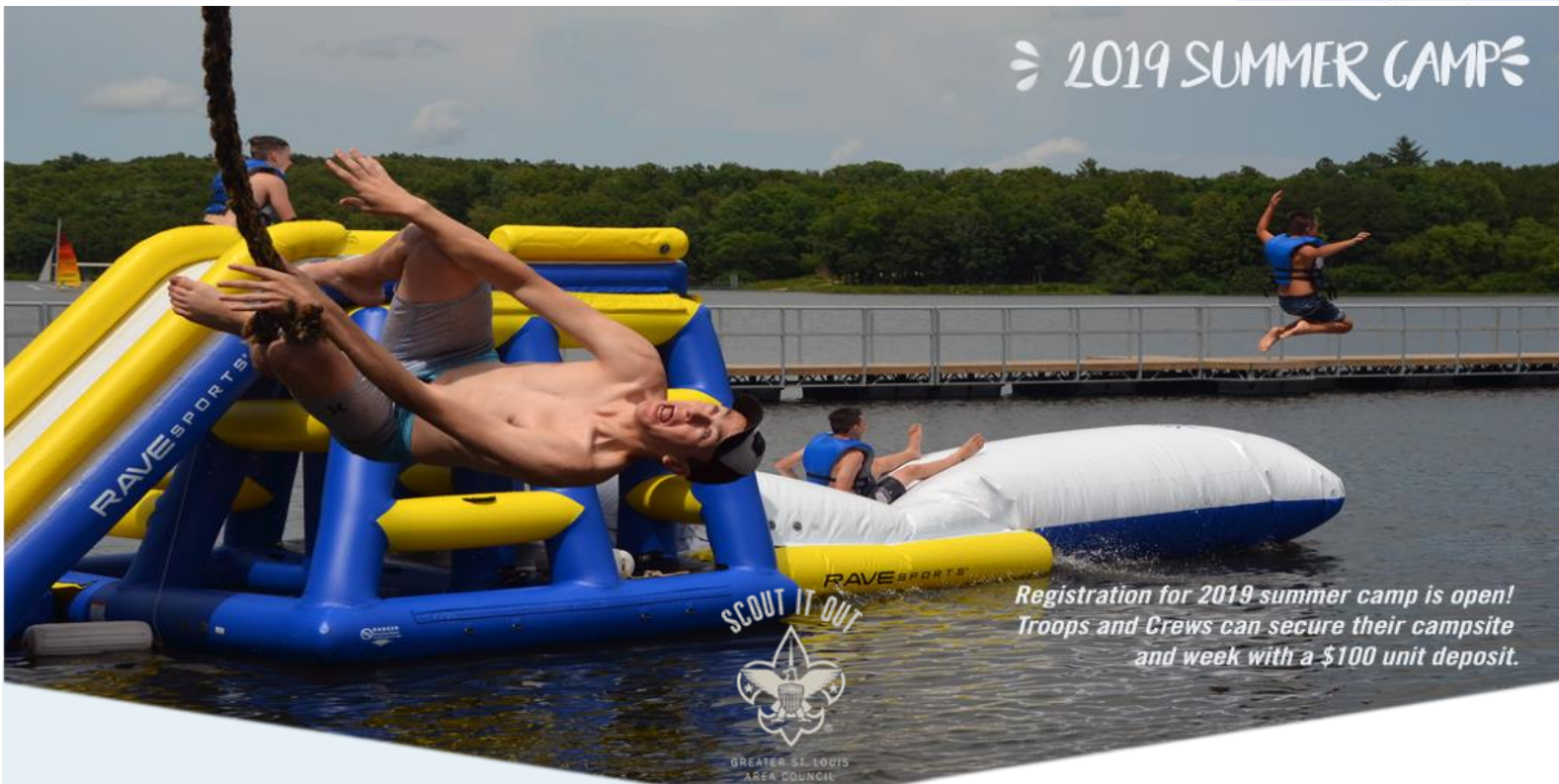


The Trail

Cub Scouts - Boy Scouts - Venturing



Registration for 2019 summer camp is open!
Troops and Crews can secure their campsite
and week with a \$100 unit deposit.

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

Jerry Fix: jerry.fix@gmail.com

Spring... Finally !

Ah, Spring... warmer weather, spring showers... and more showers... then some more showers... We can only hope these April showers bring May flowers. And with May comes the start of the Spring and Summer Scouting season. Camping and more... As always, don't hesitate to contact a committee chair with any questions.

GT District Committees:

Commissioner

Kris Mehrtens

C. 314-276-3033

krismehrtens@yahoo.com

Activities

Dave Fansler

dmf138@aol.com

OA

Dawn Fansler

dmf138@aol.com

Advancement

Laura Greeno

lauragreenogt1@hotmail.com

Training

Gary Dedeke

C. 314-402-3799

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Membership

Joe Sartorius

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Camping

Chris Merris

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STEM & Communication

Jerry Fix

C. 636-221-4368

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Venturing

Gil Kaufman

C. 314-910-3994

gilkauffmann@gmail.com

Roundtable Update

Hello Gravois Trail, I am **Angie Ellison**, new Scouts BSA Roundtable Commissioner. I wanted take this opportunity to communicate some changes coming up with roundtable.

First, Program Preview will be in **May** this year. We will be holding it at **Roger's Middle School on Mackenzie in the cafeteria**. I encourage ALL scoutmasters and SPLs to attend. This is a great way to get information for your annual planning meetings.

As I move forward in my new position I would like to move roundtable's emphasis back toward training and away from a simple announcement session. That being said I will need help from all of you to make this a worthwhile hour. I am need of help from the Troops of our District, I would like to have a new troop doing an opening ceremony every month. If your troop is interested please contact me at avalentine1971@yahoo.com or 314-482-6216.

Here is an overview of upcoming topics for roundtable through the Fall:

<u>Month:</u>	<u>Roundtable Topics:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
April	NYLT/OA vote for youth and adults	Rogers MS
May	Program Preview	Rogers MS
June	Social Meeting	TBD
July	No Meeting	-----
August	Ozark Trails (hiking & service)	TBD
September	TBD	Rogers MS
October	Wikki Scuba Program	Rogers MS

I am excited and honored to have the opportunity to act as your scouts BSA Roundtable commissioner. Hope to see you at the meetings

Yours In Scouting,

Angie Ellison



District Directors Corner

Greetings Scouters!

Please join me in welcoming **Artis "Artie" Coleman** as the newest member of the Greater St. Louis Area Council. Artis joins Team Three as the Gravois Trail District Executive working alongside Mike Eschbach, effective April 8, 2019.

Artis Coleman grew up in Pacific, MO. He is married to his beautiful wife Nicole of 11 years and they have two daughters Dori and Zoe.

Artis attended Missouri Valley College. While finishing his degree, Artis was introduced to the BSA through an informational visit to the Council Service Center for the Heart of America Council in Kansas City, MO.

Artis began his career with Four Rivers Area YMCA in Washington, MO, where he currently serves on the Board of Directors. His passion and roots are in serving the community. He looks forward to contributing to the team.

Please extend a warm welcome to Artis.

Yours in Scouting,

Mike Eschbach

314-256-3060

mike.eschbach@scouting.org



Life To Eagle

Just a Reminder:

Every Roundtable a Life to Eagle Seminar is taking place. This is an exciting time to get your almost Life Scout, new Life Scout or Life Scout preparing for Eagle. During the Life to Eagle we discuss the road to the Eagle Rank, leadership position, Eagle Projects, Eagle Review Boards and Eagle Ceremony. The Scout is able to ask questions and get ready to embark on an exciting time in his Scouting career. If you have any

questions you may contact Terry Madden at 314-229-5489 or lifetoeagle@gmail.com.

Interested in Being An Eagle Presenter:

Have you ever thought about the rewarding task of performing Eagle Ceremonies? There will be an Eagle Presenter Seminar held on May 19th at 7:00 p.m. and May 22 at 7:00 p.m. You only need to participate in one of the two. After you finish the seminar your name will be placed on a Gravois Trail Eagle Presenter list which will be given to the Eagle Scout after his successful completion of his Eagle Board of Review. The location will be announced at a later date. If you have any questions please contact Terry Madden at 314-229-5489 or terrymadden1@aol.com.

Life to Eagle Tip for May:

Wearing the uniform - or Neat in Appearance - It is preferred a Scout be in full field uniform for any board of review. As much of the uniform as the Scout owns should be worn, and it should be as correct as possible, with the badges worn properly. It may be the uniform as typically worn by the Scout's troop, crew, or ship. If wearing all or part of the uniform is impractical for whatever reason, the candidate should be clean and neat in appearance and dressed appropriately, according to the Scout's means, for the milestone marked by the occasion.

Board of Review Tip for May:

A Scout who has completed the requirements for any rank (except Scout rank) then appears before a board of review. Its purpose is to determine the quality of the Scout's experience and decide whether the requirements for the rank has been fulfilled. If so the board not only approves the Scout's advancement but also provides encouragement to continue the quest for the next rank. Because the board of review date becomes the effective advancement date, boards should be scheduled promptly as scouts are ready, or set up on a regular basis that assures Scouts are not delayed in beginning time-oriented requirements for the next rank.

Note that Scouts must be registered through the time they are working on advancement requirements.

OA

Chapter Meetings:

August 17, 2019

November 16, 2019

December —Lodge Winter Banquet

February 15, 2020

May 16, 2020

These Chapter Meetings will be at **St Dominic Savio in Affton, Saturday at 4:00.**

Go [HERE](#) for more info on Lodge happenings

Faith-Based Programs

Each year, thousands of parents and adult volunteer leaders and help Scouts earn the religious emblem of their faith.

The organization Programs of Religious Activities with Youth, or P.R.A.Y., has information on the religious emblems of almost every faith. The PRAY website, [HERE](#), has a complete listing of the awards, workbooks, emblems and other material.

For specifics on Scouting USA religious awards see these:

[Catholic Awards](#)

[Eastern Orthodox Awards](#)

[Jewish Awards](#)

[Protestant Awards](#)

[Lutheran Awards](#)

Camping

Spring Camporee

The weekend of April 26-28 the Gravois Trail Camporee was held at Camp Vandeventer in Waterloo, IL. This was the first time we have held a District Event at Camp Vandeventer, the property offered a new environment for the Scouts to Explore. Along with a nice dining hall and kitchen they have a dedicated hatchet throwing yard, access to natural climbing cliffs, archery range, BB range and 10 mile hiking trail. The Camp offered some challenges, but the 200 plus participants had a great time.

Congratulations to Camp Master Kyle Kiser, Adult Advisors David Fansler and Angie Ellison on putting on a great program!

The other highlight of the Camporee is that we welcomed two Scouts BSA Girl Units with a total 7 girls participating in the Camporee. Troop 725G and Troop 473G brought their girls out.

Make sure you register for some activities this summer and check out the program preview calendar to see the dates for all of next season's events. The next District Event will be the **Fall Pacao at Beaumont October 11-13**. The Camp Master's for the fall will be Kyle Kannawurf and Luke Kiefer, their Adult Advisor is Jason Knapp. More information on the Pacao will be forth coming. Any youth who are interested in staffing can contact me at merrisc@gmail.com and I will forward your information on to the Camp Masters.

We have been trying to get a better idea of our attendance prior to events. If at all possible we would like to see more Units utilizing the online registration system. The will prevent you from needing to write checks at the event.

Finally, please share you camping experiences from the summer with me, we love to hear what you are all doing.



Advancement

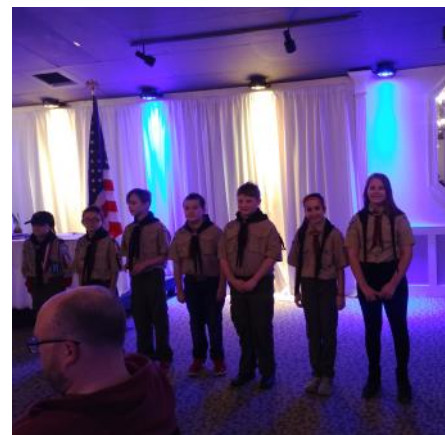
Congratulations to Parker Johnson, Reilly Adams, and Chinmay Kumar of Troop 580! They recently reached the rank of Eagle Scout!

If you would like to become a merit badge counselor, please utilize the new online application process located [HERE](#)

Troop Advancement Chairs.....please try to have a trained Eagle Coach in your Troop to help Scouts along their journey to Eagle. Encourage your Scouts to attend the Life-to-Eagle seminars that are held at Roundtable each month.

Always feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Laura Greeno
Advancement Chair



Pack 648 Crossover

Merit Badge Counselor Applications are Online

Upcoming Training

REMINDER: Roundtable will be held at Rogers Middle School:



Click map to link to larger map

Committee Members:

Encourage new leaders to be trained. If they are trained for the new position, they will have the confidence to move forward to deliver the Program! Below is a list of upcoming training opportunities offered by Gravois Trail.

UPCOMING GRAVOIS TRAIL- TRAINING & COUNCIL TRAINING DATES:

May 17 thru 19:

Wood Badge Course (Part 1) @ Beaumont

May 31, and June 1-2:

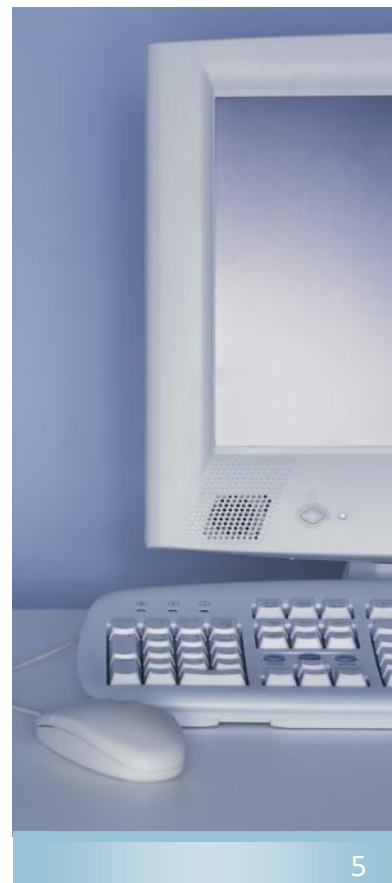
Wood Badge Course (Part 2) @ Beaumont

August 23 – 25:

Wood badge Course (Part 1) @ Lewallen

September 13-15:

Wood badge Course (Part 2) @ Lewallen



New GSLAC Camps

New Camping Opportunities

With the recent mergers of GSLAC with Lewis and Clark Council (IL) and Lincoln Trails (IL) come some new camps that offer unique summer camp opportunities:

Camp Joy

Located 45 miles east of St. Louis near Carlyle, Ill., Camp Joy is 165 wooded acres of Boy Scout paradise. The camp offers a lake for a wide range of aquatic activities, a full shooting sports program, and a Project C.O.P.E. ropes course. It also offers a full climbing tower program.

Rhodes - France

Rhodes-France Scout Reservation (RFSR) is located south east of Pana, IL and is 640 acres of Scouting paradise. With two lakes, an in-ground swimming pool, excellent shooting sports facilities, and a well-stocked trading post, Scouts will never be short of things to do!

Go [HERE](#) for the 2019 Parents Summer Camp Guide



Friends of Scouting

If you have not given me a date for your FOS presentation, please get it to me as soon as possible.

Thank you if you have given us your date.

Please let your families know we will be making a presentation and if you could give a little information. This is the councils fund raising event. All funds raised will remain with our council to help improve camps, camperships, scholarship, helps with keeps the cost of scouting down, just to name a few things.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or any crew members.

We have added a few new members and had many return from last year.

Thanks to: Gil Kauffman, Sue O'Connell, Patrick Givens, William (Max) Maxwell, Len Slovensky, Kate Smith, Phil Tilghman, Brett Delmez, Michael Cammann, Nicole Cammann, Terry Madden.

Thank You,

Jan Veinfurt
FOS Chair

STEM

STEM on CAMPus is a unique "camp" experience where Scouts BSA get a taste for college life! Sleep in the dorms, eat in the dining halls, and have fun each evening with a variety of activities including campus rec center nights! Scouts have the opportunity to earn up to 6 Merit Badges or NO-VAs at each camp. **Registration open now!**



Cape Girardeau, MO
June 2 – June 5
[REGISTER](#)



St. Louis, MO
June 5—June 8
[REGISTER](#)



Carbondale, IL
June 5—June 8
[REGISTER](#)

Memorial Day Good Turn

Scouts of all ages are invited to participate in the 2019 Memorial Day Good Turn on Sunday, May 26. Check-in for Jefferson Barracks Good Turn, hosted by the Gravois Trail District, runs from 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. **in front of Beasley Elementary School at the south side of the cemetery.** The procession from Beasley Elementary to the cemetery will begin at 12:30 p.m. Upon check-in, the unit leader will receive a unit participation ribbon. A Memorial Day Good Turn patch will be available for \$4; segment patch is \$1.

Sign up [HERE](#)

Here's some important information to know before you go:

- Plan for a hike. You will be walking 2-3 miles on the day of the event.
- The person who registers the unit should be your main contact person for the event.
- Please do not bring Unit or American Flags.
- No Parking will be allowed on the Cemetery Grounds. Plan on Parking in Sylvan Springs County Park on Sheridan Rd.
- Scouts and Scouters should be in uniform.
- Check the forecast before you head out. Bring rain gear, if necessary. The event is held rain or shine.
- Make sure you bring plenty of water for you and your Scouts. It's also a good idea to bring hats and sunscreen.
- Damaged Flags should not be placed on a site. Instead please return damaged flags to a flag box.

Remember the Scout Law and the purpose of the day. We are guests at Beasley Elementary and Jefferson Barracks Cemetery.

