

# The Trail

Cub Scouts - Boy Scouts - Venturing



PRE-REGISTER THROUGH OCTOBER 15

SCOUT IT OUT



GREATER ST. LOUIS  
AREA COUNCIL



THE LARGEST SCOUTING EVENT OF THE DECADE

## 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](http://stlbsa.org)

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

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 Face-book](https://www.facebook.com/gravois-trail)

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

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)

## Is Summer Over... Already ?

Well, maybe technically... but it still feels like summer. But, officially we're headed into Fall. That means Fall Camping, School Night To Join Scouting, Popcorn sales... you get the picture. So hopefully you got plenty of rest over the summer (ha !) 'cause you're going to need it for all the Scouting events coming up !

### GT District Committees:

#### Commissioner

Kris Mehrstens  
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#### Activities

Dave Fansler  
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#### OA

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#### Advancement

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#### Training

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#### Membership

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#### Camping

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#### STEM & Communication

Jerry Fix  
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#### Venturing

Gil Kaufman  
C. 314-910-3994  
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## Advancement

### 1. Policy on Unauthorized Changes to Advancement Program

No council, committee, district, unit, or individual has the authority to add to, or subtract from, advancement requirements. There are limited exceptions relating only to members with special needs. For details see section 10, "Advancement for Members With Special Needs."

### 2. Mandated Procedures and Recommended Practices

This publication clearly identifies mandated procedures with words such as "must" and "shall." Where such language is used, no council, committee, district, unit, or individual has the authority to deviate from the procedures covered, without the written permission of the National Advancement Program Team.

### 3. Link to the [NATIONAL GUIDE TO ADVANCMENT](#)

### 4. Leadership Positions - Troop Level

If you are assigning leadership positions to your Scouts at the TROOP level, BE SURE you are assigning a leadership role that is approved in the National Scouting Guidelines. EXAMPLE: "Keeper of the Eagle Plaque" is NOT an approved leadership position. Do not make up your own leadership positions to give to your Scouts, as this will prevent them from achieving Eagle Rank.

**ALL SCOUT LEADERS** - Please remember the we, as leaders, are here **FOR THE SCOUTS**. Troops are to be **SCOUT LED -- NOT ADULT LED**.

For questions regarding advancement, please contact Laura Greeno, District Advancement Chair, at 314.488.4449 or [lauragreenoGT1@hotmail.com](mailto:lauragreenoGT1@hotmail.com)

### 5. Advancement Record In ScoutBook

Here's a link to a short video on how to download a Scout's record via ScoutBook: <https://youtu.be/jKA76-FLESo>



## District Directors Corner

### Guest Update From Artie

Hello all. At this point I've had the pleasure of meeting most of you whether at Round table, Committee Meeting, District Meeting or Special Events .

This summer has been an enlighten experience thus far. Mike and I were fortunate to visit and participate in many of the summer camps. These camps include Camp Vandeventer(Camporee), S bar F, Beaumont, Bee Tree (fishing), Simpson Park (shooting). While observing these camps I've noticed that the Gravois Trail District has a rich scouting heritage, with loyal volunteers who exhibit great leadership.

With school just starting for the Fall, I'm looking forward to the fall recruitment/school night process. I'm sure you all know this is a very busy time of year, so any advice and/or support is welcomed. Lets have fun and close out 2019 with a bang.

Thanks,

Artie

[Artis.Coleman@scouting.org](mailto:Artis.Coleman@scouting.org)



## Life To Eagle

Each Eagle Candidate is to bring with them to their Eagle Review Board 5 letters of recommendations. A letter from a religious individual (if a Scout is not active in a religious institution, then a parent is then their religious reference), educational, employer (if the Scout does not have a job then draw a line through the word employer and use a third other reference).

The letters of recommendations should match the names listed on the Eagle Scout Rank Application (Requirement 2). These letters are NOT TO BE

OPENED BY ANYONE INCLUDING THE SCOUT.

The Board of review is looking for a well rounded idea about the Eagle Candidate along with different views in the Candidates life not just his troop or just his neighbors. If you have any questions you may contact Terry Madden at 314-229-5489 or [lifetoeaglegt@gmail.com](mailto:lifetoeaglegt@gmail.com).

### Is Statement of your Ambitions a requirement?

In preparation for your board of review, prepare and attach to your Eagle Scout Rank Application a statement of your ambitions and life purpose and a listing of positions held in your religious institution, school, camp, community or other organizations, during which you demonstrated leadership skills, include honor and awards received during this service.

Greater St. Louis Area Council Advancement answers "**Yes it is a requirement**". They suggest that if a Scout appears before his Eagle Board of Review with an inadequate statement the Board of Review should ask him to step out in the waiting area and compose a statement that will satisfy this requirement.

### What Does "Duty To God" Mean in a Board of Review ?

What happens if a Scout represent himself as Atheist (a person who disbelieves or lacks belief in the existence of God or gods.) or Agnostic (*a person who believes that nothing is known or can be known of the existence or nature of God or of anything beyond material phenomena; a person who claims neither faith nor disbelief in God*).

Boy Scouts of America Advancement answers that at that point the review should be **suspended** and the Scout should be told to go home and discuss his beliefs with his parents. He should make another appointment to continue his review.

Remember, a Scout does not have to believe in your God but in a superior being of some sort.

We hope this answers the questions you had at the Review Board Seminar. Please let us know if you have any other type of questions.

## STEM



**Saturday, September 14, 2019  
at 9 AM – 1 PM**

Join us at Amp Up Action Park to find out about great opportunities for scouts of the Greater Saint Louis Area in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math!

Meet with businesses and organizations from the Greater Saint Louis Area that offer Scouting programs and get a taste of what they have to offer. Sign up to attend workshops to earn STEM Awards, Adventures, and Merit Badges.

When you're done check out the awesome activities at our host venue: Amp Up Action Park!

Amp Up is offering awesome discounted packages for attendees.

More info and registration is [HERE](#)

## Camping

### Fall PACAO

Fall PACAO is coming up soon. Don't miss one of the best campouts of the Scout year.

The Fall Pacao will be October 11-13 at Beaumont Scout Reservation. The Scouts BSA Theme is "Back to the Future" and the Camp Master is Kyle Kannawurf. The Scouts BSA Manual will be posted



**Summery camp fun**

on the Gravois Trail Website and online reservations will be available. Cost is \$8.00 per scout or adult. Any Scout who would like to staff should contact Kyle at: [kekann@kandkonline.com](mailto:kekann@kandkonline.com).

Check back [HERE](#) soon for the camp manual and more information.

## Activities

### Popcorn Sales

Some early details for popcorn sales:

Sales started September 1  
Show n Sell pick up is at Fabick Cat





## Eagle Scouts

In May of 2019, three young men - who happen to be triplets - completed all the requirements for Eagle and passed their Eagle BOR. Then in late August they had a very unique Eagle Court of Honor. Congratulations to Norman, Gus and Laszlo Taylor !

Gravois Trail has had other Triplet Eagle Scouts. But the last time a set of triplet Scouts become Eagle in Gravois Trail was in 2008.



L → R Norman, Gus and Laszlo Taylor

## Congratulations Norman, Gus and Laszlo !

### Upcoming Training

REMINDER: Roundtable will be held at Rogers Middle School:



Click map to link to larger map

#### **September 2, 2019 Roundtable Meeting:**

District RT: Feature Topic; "Trails" and "Special Needs" and "School Night to join Scouting".

**OKPIC Cold Weather Camping Training:** (Boy Scouts) Limited to 48 participants!

- Troop meeting #1 – Dec 14, 2019, Beaumont Scout Reservation (indoor instructions)

- Troop meeting #2 – January 4, 2020, Beaumont Scout Reservation (this is an outdoor session)
- Troop meeting #3 – Jan 25-26, 2020, Beaumont Scout Reservation (this is outdoor overnight session)
- o Contact: [Scoutingevent.com](http://Scoutingevent.com) /312-2019okpiktraining
- George Kunkel [georgekunkel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:georgekunkel@sbcglobal.net)
- Cost \$55.00/ participant

#### **SPECIAL NEEDS AWARENESS**

##### **TRAINING:**

November 2, 2019, 9:00am until 2:00pm at Beaumont Scout Reservation.  
April 4, 2020, 9:00am until 2:00pm at Camp Warren Levis

- On line registration: <https://scoutingevent.com/312-specialneedsawarenesstraining>.
- Cost: \$10.00 (Early Bird Discount if paid in full before October 28, 2019 or March 30, 2020 the fee will be \$7.00.)
- Questions: Eleanor Phillips – 636-734-2925 or [philipselea-nor@gmail.com](mailto:philipselea-nor@gmail.com)



## Other News

### District Dinner

The Gravois Trail District Dinner will be held on [January 17th 2020](#).

Invitations will go out soon so mark your calendars. The dinner will be held at Andre's South on Telegraph Road.

This is a recognition dinner in which Scouters will be awarded the [Spark Plug Award](#) and the [District Award of Merit](#).

This is a great time to meet and talk to other Scouters from other Packs, Troops and Crews.

More info [HERE](#)

*(note that the date on the website is INCORRECT)*

## Order of the Arrow

Shawnee Lodge is hosting **Fall Reunion on September 6th-8th at S-F Scout Ranch**. Registration for the event is open now! Go to the Shawnee Lodge website or click [HERE](#) for more information and to register for the event.

The Gravois Trail District will be camping in the same section of the Camporee Field (near Famous Eagle) as always. We will be near the Shot Gun Range and that is where you will check in no earlier than 4:00pm. We have a very large number of Ordeal Candidates so we expect a full camp. Please, keep in mind that we are all there to enjoy the weekend together and that space will be tight, so we need to work together on only claiming as much space as your Unit actually needs.

**This is also our weekend for holding Youth Officer Elections for the next year.** If you are a Youth, or you have a Youth in your Unit who may be interested in becoming a District Officer you/**they need to make it known so names can be added to the ballots.** There are four Chapter Officer positions: **Chief, First Vice Chief, Second Vice Chief, and Secretary**

You can talk to one of us at the District HQ (opposite side of the field from the Shotgun Range) and/or tell us when you check in. **The election will be held on Saturday afternoon at the District HQ** in conjunction with our regular meeting. Additionally, we are always looking for Youth interested in participating on **Ceremonial Teams**.

***A big "thank you" to all of our current ceremonialists and Officers who have been serving our Chapter this past year.***

## Development

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22  
TAPAWINGO NATIONAL GOLF CLUB

# A CHAMPION IN THE MAKING

CELEBRATING LEADERSHIP, TEAMWORK, AND PERSEVERANCE

*A Benefit Dinner featuring keynote speaker  
Dan O'Neill, acclaimed Sportswriter and Author*

SPONSORED BY:

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Sponsorships and Tables Available - [Click Here](#)  
Proceeds benefit the Boy Scouts of America

A Gravois Trail BSA Community Friends of Scouting Event



## Troop 725G

The new Scouts BSA program is in full swing now. Gravois Trail has a number of girl unit that are up and running and the girls are getting to experience all the great activities and opportunities that are a part of the BSA programs.

This past summer, 725G spent a week at S-F and discovered the joy of Hucks Cove !

