

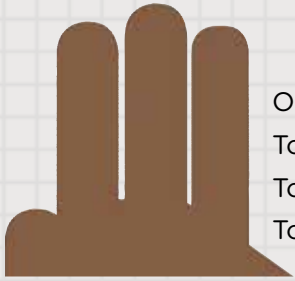
# GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2015





# MISSION

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.



On my honor, I will do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law;  
To help other people at all times;  
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

# SCOUT OATH



# SCOUT LAW

## A Scout is

Trustworthy  
Loyal  
Helpful  
Friendly  
Courteous  
Kind  
Obedient  
Cheerful  
Thrifty  
Brave  
Clean  
Reverent

# Be Prepared.

Every person in Scouting learns the motto “Be Prepared.” And while that can mean a lot of things to a lot of people, ultimately the Boy Scouts of America prepares young people for life. We prepare them for life by creating opportunities for learning and growth that foster and strengthen self-confidence, ethics, respect for others, academic skills, and leadership abilities. Lessons that stay with them their entire lives.

As we continue to evolve our programs and facilities to meet the needs of today’s families, we have the opportunity to change lives in dramatic ways. Our goal is and always has been to positively impact as many youth as possible with the Scouting program. Through expanded efforts to reach more at-risk youth and the launch of the STEM Scouts pilot, Scouting is able to reach more kids than ever before.

This past year, we unveiled a state-of-the-art dining hall at Camp Famous Eagle, celebrated 50 incredible years at S bar F Scout Ranch, welcomed more than 7,000 new families into Scouting, and delivered an exciting new ATV program at Camp Lewallen. While we continue to make improvements, we never risk losing focus on our core mission: to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

We are proud to work with the nearly 12,000 adult volunteers who deliver the Scouting program to more than 47,000 young men and women in the Greater St. Louis Area Council. We thank you for your time, your leadership, and — most of all — your unwavering passion to change lives.

Yours In Scouting...



Joseph F. Imbs III  
Council  
President



Louis B. Eckelkamp III  
Council  
Commissioner



Ronald S. Green  
Scout Executive/  
CEO



# PROGRAMS



## Cub Scouts

■ for boys ages 7-10 and their parents

Cub Scouting is a year-round program that introduces boys and their parents to the world of Scouting. Through fun activities, challenging adventures, and community service projects, Cub Scouts make new friends and discover the importance of cooperation, citizenship, responsibility, and physical fitness in their everyday lives.



## Boy Scouts

■ for boys ages 11-17

The Boy Scout program is designed to promote character, citizenship and personal fitness in boys while instilling the fundamental values of Scouting. Through peer group leadership and the assistance of adult volunteers, Scouts participate in a whole new exciting world of outdoor activities, service projects, and leadership experiences. Scouts are introduced to countless hobbies, interests, sciences, and even future career choices while working toward advancement and earning specific merit badges.



## Venturing

■ for young men and women ages 14-20

Venturing provides positive life experiences through exciting and engaging activities planned and supervised by the youth themselves. The program helps young people mature, build leadership skills, grow by teaching others, and pursue their own unique interests.



## Exploring

■ for young men and women ages 14-20

Exploring is about helping young adults make a more informed decision about future careers and determine if a particular career is the right one for them. In the Exploring program, youth gain unique, real-life opportunities to experience varied career choices. It's not about lectures and slide shows — it's about gaining practical insight and hands-on knowledge in a career field.



# Ferguson Fire Department Prepares Youth For Career

With the support of Ferguson community leaders and organizations, the Greater St. Louis Area Council is reintroducing the Boy Scouts of America to communities in north St. Louis County.

The council has added several new Scout groups to the area, including an Explorer Post with the Ferguson Fire Department.

Exploring is a co-ed program in the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women ages 14-20. The program is designed to help young adults make a more informed decision about future careers. Youth gain unique, real-life opportunities to experience various career choices. It's not about lectures and slide shows — it's about gaining practical insight and hands-on knowledge.

“Through all the happenings of Ferguson, the city decided it needed to reach out to the youth of Ferguson to prove to the world that we were not who we were made out to be,” said Douglas P., a fireman with the Ferguson Fire Department. “So we decided that we needed an Explorer Post. Our 27-man department has five Eagle Scouts and six firemen who had gone through the St. Charles County Explorer program that are now firemen for us. So there was no saying ‘no’. We knew one way to reach youth

was through Scouting.”

To date, the Ferguson Fire Department Exploring Post has 16 youth members from the city of Ferguson and surrounding areas. The group has been meeting for nearly a year.

“What made me join the program was I was looking for something positive to do despite all of the negative stuff that was going on in my community,” said Jason C., a junior at McCluer South Berkeley and one of the first students to join the Explorer post. “My favorite thing about the program is that I am learning about a career path I can choose to go into after I graduate high school. I’m not 100 percent positive what exactly I want to do after I graduate, but [being a firefighter] seems fun. I can see myself doing this.”

Students in the program are trained on basic EMT and rescue skills and can participate in ride-alongs. Belonging to the



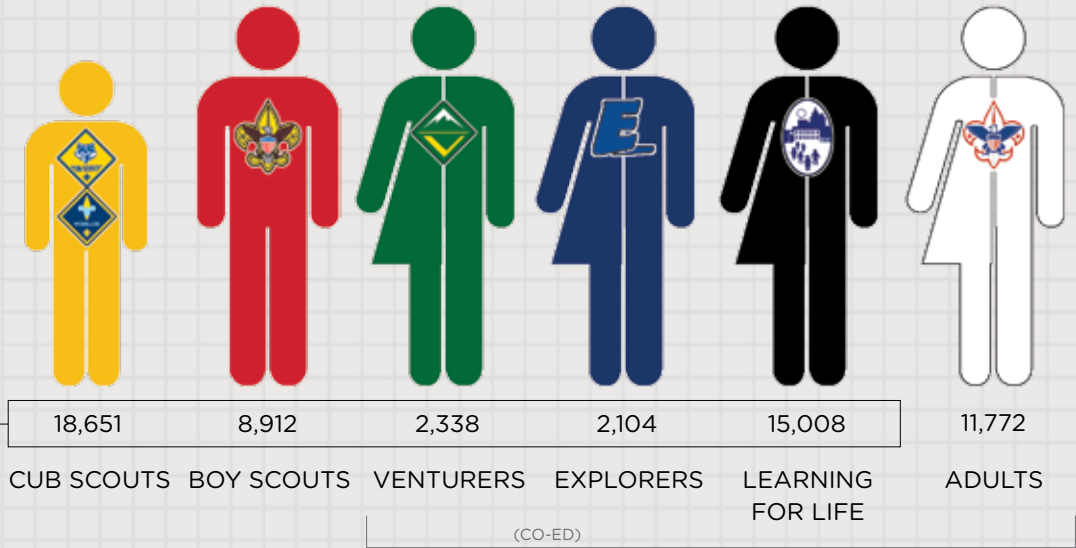
fire post allows them to experience much of the same training and get a taste of what it is like to be a firefighter.

“Actually, the first job I ever wanted, when I was about 5 years old, was a firefighter,” said Gaelen J., a senior at MICDS (Mary Institute and Country Day School). “It is great being part of this program. It’s like a childhood fantasy I get to live out. I’ve learned a lot about public service and community service as well, something that I am dedicated to. I think having the hands-on experience prepares us instead of just learning out of a book or out of Powerpoint. Having that hands-on experience is very valuable. I absolutely love it, and I’m so happy to be a part of it.”

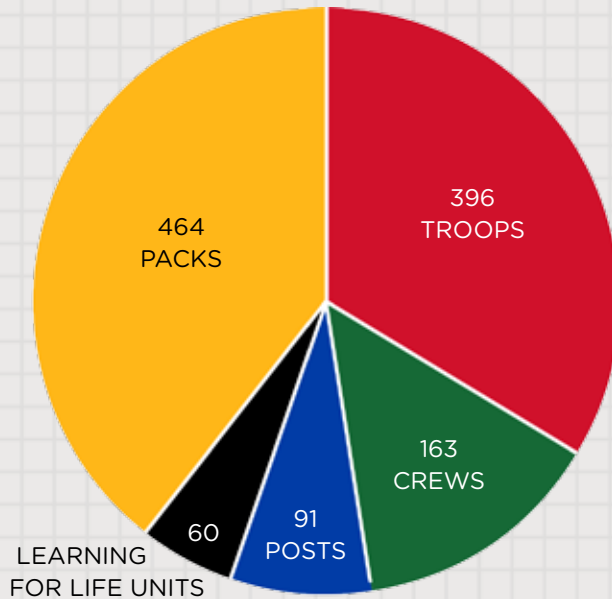
In addition to discovering new career opportunities, the Exploring program provides youth with positive social interaction, while character education emphasizes making ethical choices and fulfilling one’s responsibility to society as a whole. Students also learn about citizenship and gain a keen respect for the basic right of others.

# MEMBERSHIP

47,013



UNITS = 1,174



YOUTH  
RETENTION  
RATE  
**74.81%**

NEW UNITS  
IN 2015  
**75**

# Mom And Son Find New Experiences In Scouting

Erica Karraker grew up in a family of all girls and didn't know what to expect when she joined Cub Scouting with her son Kaleb last spring.

"My husband was a Scout as a kid and remembered doing pinewood derby, camping, and learning to shoot, and all that fun stuff," said Erica. "Kaleb is very much an outdoors kind of kid, so we knew it was going to be right up his alley."

Though new to the program, Erica

jumped right in, even signing up to be an assistant den leader with Boone Trails District Pack 972, chartered to Living Lord Lutheran Church.

"I like to know what's going on," Erica said of her desire to sign on as an assistant leader. "I'm very involved in our church, in our kid's school; and [Scouting] is just an extension of my son and I wanted to be involved."

Over the course of the year, Erica and her son enjoyed countless activities with their pack. The unit went on camping trips, participated in the Shoot-O-Ree, went ice skating, toured a fire station, and were getting ready to do a radio station tour.

"It seemed like the pinewood derby was really exciting for the kids," recalled Erica. "Anything that's hands-on and something they can do themselves, they really enjoy."

Although her first-grader has only been in Scouting for a year, she already sees some of the growth and positive changes inherent in the program.



"He has a lot more confidence in doing outdoors things," Erica said. "The Shoot-O-Ree was really good for him. Getting outdoors and being introduced to different things that he doesn't necessarily get from mom, like shooting, campfires, and fishing. Those kinds of activities just have given him confidence that he is wanting to do more and more on his own."

"I've had some friends of mine that want to get their kids in Scouts but their biggest concern is time. 'How much of my time is going to be consumed by Boy Scouts?' A lot of these boys are also in basketball, baseball, soccer, and other things.

"My response to them is, you get out of it what you put in. If you want to be busy, you can be. If you want to be involved in the camps and the outings and the pack meetings, you can be as involved as you want."

Among activities offered to Cub Scouts are Day One, Shoot-O-Ree, Fall Fright Fest, pack-level and district pinewood derbies, day/twilight summer camps, overnight camps, and much more.

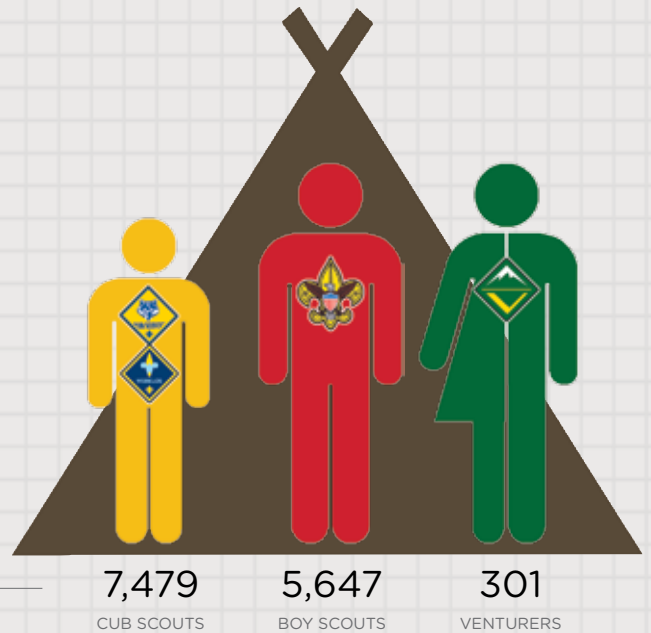




# CAMPING

SUMMER CAMP  
ATTENDANCE

**13,427**



Camperships were created to ensure that any youth with financial difficulties is not denied an opportunity to attend summer camp at a Greater St. Louis Area Council property.

The scholarship fund was established to recruit and retain summer-camp staff members of the highest caliber.

CAMPERSHIPS  
AWARDED  
**\$81,283.65**

CAMP STAFF  
SCHOLARSHIPS  
AWARDED  
**\$49,750**





The future Nims Lake,  
1964.

# 1965-2015 50 Years of The Ranch.



Troop 90,  
Camp Sakima, 1967.



Nims Lake,  
2014.



Webelos  
Mini-Camp, 1990.



Dedication, 1965.

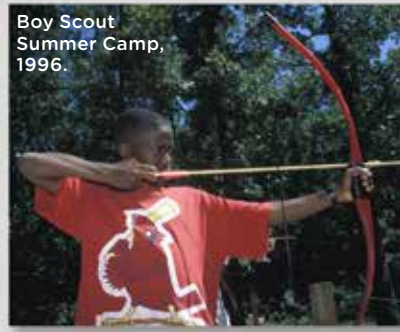


## Where It All Started...

In 1961, part of the Mine La Motte domain in Knob Lick, Mo., was acquired for the St. Louis Area Council-Boy Scouts of America with the help of the St. Joseph Lead Company and Elmer A. Jones, along with an initial gift of the Stix, Baer & Fuller Company by Arthur B. Baer. The next year, Scout Executive Russ Hart committed to the purchase of 3,800 acres for what would become S bar F Scout Ranch on the St. Francois/Madison county border.

For the next 50 years, The Ranch would continue to grow in size and offerings for campers. Traditional activities have endured: canoeing, hiking trails, horseback riding, outpost camping, rock climbing, shooting sports, and swimming. The adventure continued with the addition of challenge courses, Huck's Cove, kayaks, rappelling, sailboats, and waterskiing.

Hundreds of thousands of Scouts, Venturers, Explorers, and their adult leaders have camped at S bar F Scout Ranch in the last 50 years. More than 10,000 are expected to come to The Ranch each summer — many for the first time, but it won't be their last!



Boy Scout  
Summer Camp,  
1996.

# ADVANCEMENT & ACHIEVEMENTS



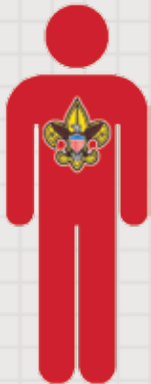
**1,955,525**  
SCOUTING FOR FOOD  
ITEMS COLLECTED  
FOR THOSE IN NEED



## CUB SCOUT RANKS

Tiger.....	2,051
Bobcat.....	3,402
Wolf.....	2,002
Bear.....	1,819
Webelos.....	1,593
Arrow of Light.....	1,350
Total.....	12,217

**RANK  
ADVANCEMENTS  
16,908**



## BOY SCOUT RANKS

Tenderfoot.....	963
Second Class.....	875
First Class.....	836
Star.....	735
Life.....	668
Eagle.....	614
Total.....	4,691

**NEW  
EAGLE  
SCOUTS  
IN 2015**

**614**



**MERIT  
BADGES  
EARNED  
22,959**

**COMMUNITY  
SERVICE HOURS  
RECORDED**

**118,690**



# Eagle Scout Awarded National \$25,000 Scholarship To Further His Education

The phone call came on April Fool's Day, but Frank Nash quickly realized this was not a prank call.

On April 1, 2015, Frank learned that he was the sole recipient of the National Eagle Scout Association's \$25,000 United Health Foundation college scholarship. According to its website, NESA receives more than 5,000 scholarship applications each year.

"I didn't really know what to think," recalled Frank. "It was a lot to take in at once. It's a great relief to have it. It's an honor to have it as well."

The United Health Foundation scholarship is one of two academic scholarships offered. It is awarded to an applicant who plans to pursue a career in the healthcare arena and is willing to reinvest his knowledge and skills in an underserved community. For Frank, an Eagle Scout from Troop 403 chartered to Arcadia Valley Elks No. 2330 in the Ozark Trailblazers District, the scholarship will take him to the University of Missouri-Kansas City next year. He will study biology and minor in Spanish.

When he arrives on campus, Frank will arrive at college having already earned more than 40 college credits through his high school's advanced placement program. In his senior year alone, Frank completed seven classes, including biology which is a five-hour class with a lab.

"As a mom, I don't know that I could be any more proud or happy or blessed," said Frank's mom, Desiree Crocker.

"You're always proud to see your children able to succeed and go after their dreams, but to realize that we're from a small town, population less than 2,000, and he was able to receive a scholarship on a national level, it's great to see that he's getting recognized elsewhere."

As if taking a handful of college courses isn't enough to keep Frank busy, his extracurricular schedule is just as lengthy and impressive. The Arcadia Valley High School senior is in the school math club, National Honor Society, common core, a community-service based club, Future Business Leaders of America, choir, and track. Oh, and he used to be involved in band and cross country as well.

With so many other things going on in Frank's life, it would have been easy to drop Scouting along the way too, but he stayed with the program from Tiger Cub all the way to Eagle Scout – and earned nine additional Eagle Palms.

"Really, the people that I've been in [Scouting] with and the experiences that I've had," Frank said of why he stayed involved in Scouting. "I've learned so many things. I've learned not only camping, fire, and cooking, but I've learned leadership, how to get along with others that I may not really talk to much in school. A teacher to younger kids to pass on some of the things I've learned and some of the tips that I've picked up along the way."



Frank's first pinewood derby



Frank and his mom



# ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



## In 2015,

### THE GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL...

- Opened a brand new, state-of-the-art dining hall at Camp Famous Eagle.
- Created a partnership with St. Louis Public Schools to introduce more urban youth to camp.
- Made several capital improvements at camp properties including the addition of an ATV program at Camp Lewallen, renovation of Musgraves Lodge at Pine Ridge, purchase of 80 new tents for all camps, and addition of a fun, new inflatable to the Camp May pool.
- Saw increased attendance at Boy Scout summer camp, National Youth Leadership Training, Cub Scout Day One, and Cub Scout Fall Fright Fest.
- Expanded its STEM programming and launched a STEM Scouts pilot program.
- Increased Scouting's presence in north St. Louis with the addition of three new troops and two Exploring posts in the community.
- Created a Cub Scout New Leader Guide and video series to help guide parents who are new to Scouting.



More Scouts earned their way to camp as Camp Card sales increased 146 percent and Popcorn sales increased 12 percent over last year.

# Venturer Earns Rare STEM Award

Earlier this year, Christopher Colletti joined an elite group as he became just the second Venturer in the nation to earn the Dr. Albert Einstein Supernova Gold Award. This third-level Supernova Award requires the Venturer to develop a research project for a current STEM-related concern and present a written report and oral presentation to the council Nova committee.

“I did research on autonomous vehicles, a glider, for flights in other atmospheres,” Christopher said. “My specific one was I looked at the atmosphere of Titan, which is a moon around Saturn, and analyzed the possibility of sending a glider mission to Titan to collect data on the atmosphere in Titan itself.”

If that topic sounds daunting, that’s because it was. Christopher, who is double majoring in both aerospace and mechanical engineering at Parks College, spent 10 weeks on the project logging approximately 400 hours on his research.

Helping Christopher along the way were two very dedicated mentors — STEM committee member Dr. Lisa Balbes and Dr. Ray LeBeau.

“He has much more advanced skills than our typical sophomore student does,” Dr. LeBeau, assistant professor at Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Engineering, said of Christopher. “Basically, I handed him a couple of books, a couple of references, and he started putting it all together. We talked a few times a week to go over a few things, but really he just took that ball and went with it. Getting that kind of dedication, that kind of interest is a rare thing, particularly for someone who hasn’t even finished his sophomore year and is still developing their technical skills.”

This summer, Christopher will continue to learn and develop his skills as he completes an internship at NASA, where he will be working on a vehicle analysis branch that uses composites in different ways in some of the systems on the vehicles.

“I hope to do vehicle design for defense,” Christopher said of his career aspirations. “Another option is just going down a more research side and working developmental technologies and different areas for that.”

Scout Executive Ron Green congratulates Christopher Colletti at Parks College, St. Louis University, in the shadow of a bronze statue of Apollo 13 Astronaut Jim Swigert.



Oh, and just in case you are wondering about his Supernova Gold Award project... turns out, sending a glider to Titan might actually be conceivable.

“Conclusion drawn was that it looks like it is possible and feasible to send a glider mission to Titan, and I’ve actually been talking to Dr. LeBeau and will be continuing to look into this possibility with other planets to see if this mission can be developed for more than just Titan.”

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2015 2014

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS – OPERATING FUND

Public Support		
Friends of Scouting	1,822,189	1,948,893
United Way	1,713,874	1,693,007
Special Events	488,835	389,799
Revenue		
Camping Revenues	1,862,999	1,910,206
Activity Revenues	851,409	776,347
Popcorn	985,668	873,118
Supplies – Net	18,391	11,440
Investment Income	1,813,568	1,545,529
Other Revenues	<u>443,520</u>	<u>368,031</u>

Total Public Support & Revenue \$10,000,453 \$9,516,370

Expenses		
Program services	7,759,783	7,837,826
Management and general	876,482	721,509
Fundraising	<u>626,599</u>	<u>635,891</u>
	\$9,262,864	\$9,195,226

Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets \$737,589 \$321,144

Increase (Decrease) in Restricted Net Assets \$(1,656,675) \$2,161,288

Sources of Income		
Friends of Scouting	18.2%	20.5%
Program Fees	27.2%	28.2%
United Way	17.1%	17.8%
Investments	18.1%	16.2%
Other	<u>19.4%</u>	<u>17.3%</u>
	100.0%	100.0%

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

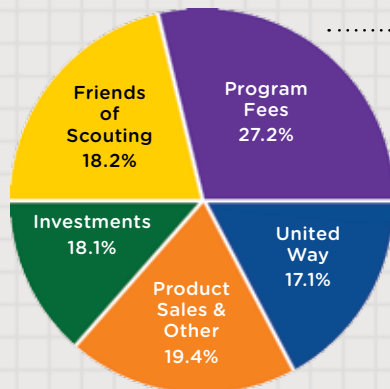
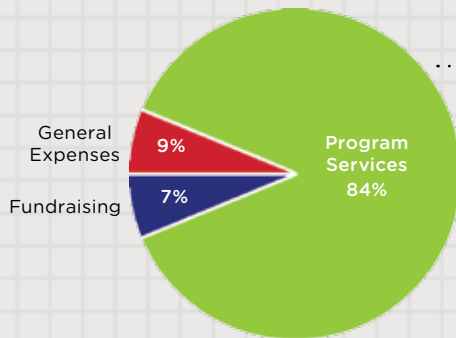
Operating Fund:		
Assets	6,627,574	5,740,944
Liabilities	1,750,058	1,523,510
Net Assets	<u>4,877,516</u>	<u>4,217,434</u>

Capital Fund:		
Assets	18,541,214	19,110,861
Liabilities	3,212,868	3,885,670
Net Assets	<u>15,328,346</u>	<u>15,225,191</u>

Endowment Fund:		
Assets	39,525,064	41,940,648
Liabilities	-	-
Net Assets	<u>39,525,064</u>	<u>41,940,648</u>

Total Net Assets: \$59,730,926 \$61,383,273

2015 2014





# COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

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### Council Commissioner

Louis B. Eckelkamp III

### Chairman of the Board

Richard H. McClure

### Council Vice Presidents

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L. B. Eckelkamp Jr.

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Thomas J. Minogue

Michael F. Neidorff

David L. Steward

Jack E. Thomas

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### Treasurer

Michael J. Scully

### Council Attorney

Steven P. Kuenzel, Esq.

### Scout Executive/CEO

### & Secretary

Ronald S. Green

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### Boone Trails

James Borchers

### Cherokee

James S. Starks III

### Egyptian

James Lawrence Sanders

### Grand Towers

Ronald C. Griffin

### Gravois Trail

Alan C. Hautly

### Kaskaskia

Dale O. Ritzel

### New Horizons

Jonathan F. Dalton

### North Star

Mark Behlmann

### Osage

Joseph W. Purschke

### Ozark Trailblazers

Paul Brockmiller

### Pathfinder

Harold R. Burroughs

### River Trails

Steven E. Meinberg

### Shawnee

James L. Welker

### Sioux

Kevin McCormick

### Thunderbird

Stephen R. Welby

### Exploring/Learning for Life

David DeVeydt



