Well, just as we’re all still recovering from Thanksgiving and all the food that goes along with it, along comes the Christmas season. This year’s season is shorter than most, so there is a lot to do and so little time to do it in.

Also, because of the holiday season, The Trail will be a bit shorter than normal this month. Look for lots of new info next month.

The District Committee would like to wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season!

As a reminder, below is contact info for all the committee chairpersons for the GT District:

Commissioner: Neil Phipps  
C. 314-560-2836  
phippsna@prodigy.net

Activities: Jean-Marie Nilges  
C. 314-504-7733  
jnilges@jwterrill.com

Advancement: Jere Strobl  
C. 314-780-5256  
jere_strobl@sbcglobal.com

Camping: Gil Kauffmann  
C. 314-910-3994  
gilkauffmann@gmail.com

OA: Janet Nelson  
(314) 799-2548  
jdsnelson@charter.net

Membership: Ken McFadden  
H. (720) 530-5800  
Ken.mcfadden@mcfaddens.us

Training: Paul Leicht Sr.  
C. (314) 409-7063  
paulleichtsr@aol.com

Communications: Jerry Fix  
C. (636) 221-4368  
jerry.fix@gmail.com

Development: Keith Guller  
kguller@essexind.com

Venturing: Michael O’Donnell  
eaglescout721@gmail.com

Happy Holidays!
The Trail

District Directors Corner

We have recently created a new online form for units to quickly and easily log their community service hours.

The information gets sent directly to us so that we can log the information through national’s good turn site. This eliminates the need for units to remember their username and password.

Flyers will be distributed at upcoming roundtables directing units to the new Kintera site. A badge and link is also located on the front page of our website for “Log Service Hours” which will take them to the same place.

Please help us spread the word and encourage your units to log their hours. Click HERE to visit the site.

Scouting For Food

Thousands of Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts performed a good turn for the needy Saturday when they gathered 1,811,354 food items during the 30th annual Scouting For Food drive.

Thanks again to all who helped out for yet another incredible showing of Scouts living the Scout Law!

Membership

It has been an exciting year for Membership within the Gravois Trail District. We will soon be starting a new year and with that we will once again be focusing on retention along with Spring Recruitment. For those still working on their registration packages, the membership coordinator should be focusing on the Unit Resources (Scouts) and ensuring they are accurate and up to date to ensure a smooth registration process and also to ensure your registration is also accurate.

Please remember this registration process must be complete by 15 December 2014. If any unit is having any issues with their registration I encourage you to please seek assistance from either your Commissioner Staff or myself as soon as possible and not wait until the last moment, as either of us will be more than capable to assist you.

With that I can’t thank each of you enough for your support and wish each of you a safe and blessed holiday season.

Yours in Scouting,
Ken McFadden
Gravois Trail Membership Chair

Camping

WHAT WOULD YOU DO FOR A KLONDIKE?

The annual Klondike Derby is coming up January 31st - February 2nd 2015. More info will be coming soon and the camp manual will get posted online.

Order of the Arrow

WINTER FELLOWSHIP BANQUET

“Celebrating The Legacy”
December 15th, 2014
Machinists’ Hall in Bridgeton, Missouri

Featured Catering by St. Louis’s Sugarfire Smoke House

Tickets are $18 on or before December 7th and $20 after.

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Yours in Scouting,
Ken McFadden
Gravois Trail Membership Chair
FINAL RECHARTER REMINDER!!

Leaders,

Less than two weeks remain in the recharter process. The entire recharter process needs to be completed by Monday, December 15th to be on time. A completed recharter is one that has:

- Completed all steps of the online process and submit the recharter online
- Printed the signature form and obtained signatures of the Unit Leader and Chartered Organization Executive Officer (Council Representative does not need to be signed)
- Signature form and full payment turned in to Council (may be turned in to the Council Service Center, BSA Outfitters, or at Roundtable)
- No errors found on the recharter and all registered adults have current Youth Protection Training

Remember, if your unit’s recharter is not completed by December 31st, your unit will no longer be registered on January 1st. This means your unit will no longer be insured, your Scouts cannot earn awards or advancement, you may not use GSLAC facilities, etc. Essentially, all unit activities must cease.

Please reach out to your Unit Commissioner, Assistant District Commissioner (ADC) or District Commissioner if you have any questions (find your Commissioner HERE). We are here to help!

JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE

After you have completed the recharter process, please complete the Journey to Excellence form for your unit and turn it in to Council or your Commissioner. Forms need to be completed and signed are due by December 31st. The forms are not required to complete the recharter process, and may be turned in with your recharter or after. The 2014 Journey to Excellence forms are found HERE.

Advancement

The Automotive Maintenance Skill Center was a success with 31 Scouts going through the course.

My thanks to Shan Herwig and Charles Curry at Mungenast Honda for hosting the skill center and especially to Charles Curry who conducted all of the instruction and to merit badge counselor Dave Mayer for working with so many Scouts.

District Dinner

The District Dinner will be held January 23rd at Andre’s South Banquet Facility (4254 Telegraph Rd St. Louis, MO 63129).

The dinner will start at 6:30 pm. The two highlights of the evening will be the SPARK PLUG Award presentations for the those Pack/Troop/Crew volunteers who show that extra spark when delivering the program to the youth.

The second highlight of the evening will be the presentation of the District Award of Merits. The District Award of Merit is a Council level award that can be bestowed on District level volunteers for their service above and beyond to the youth of the District. Nomination forms can be found on the District Website. To register for the dinner go HERE. The Cost for the dinner is $26/person which includes dinner and drinks. This is a non-uniformed adult event.
**Venturing**

**District & Council Venturing/Older (14+) Activity Calendar**

**SAVE THE DATES!!!**

**Hunger Games Venturing Recruiting Event**
- Friday, December 12th 6-10PM
- Beaumont Scout Reservation
- Bring a friend who’s interested in joining your crew
- Click [HERE](#) for more info

**STEM University**
- Saturday, December 27 8AM-4PM
- University of Missouri – St. Louis
- $15/Scout
- Click [HERE](#) for more info

**Central Region Area 3 Venturing Conference**
- Saturday, January 10th 8AM-4PM
- Centennial Christian Church 1219 East Grove St. Bloomington, IL
- Learn to make Venturing fun and exciting for more teens
- $15 before 1/1/15, $20 after that
- Click [HERE](#) for more info

**Climb the Night Away Council Lock-in**
- Friday, January 16th – Saturday, January 17th 8PM-5:30AM
- Upper Limits, West County, 1874 Lackland Hill Parkway
- Enjoy the climbing gym, play some games and eat some pizza
- $30/person, must be received by January 7th
- Click [HERE](#) for more info

**University of Scouting**
- Saturday, January 24th, 8:30AM-4PM
- Fox High School, 745 Jeffco Blvd, Arnold, MO
- Pick from a ton of classes about Venturing, Scouting and more
- Adults $20, Youth $10 until January 10th, add $5 after that
- Click [HERE](#) for more info

**Gravois Trail District Venturing/Older Scout Snow Tubing Event**
- Saturday, February 21st, 6-10PM
- Hidden Valley Ski Resort, 17409 Hidden Valley Dr, Wildwood MO
- Have a blast doing the Polar Plunge with all of your friends
- $22/person for 3-hours, must be received by February 14th

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**Training**

**University of Scouting** is a full day of classes and training opportunities for adult leaders and youth. Registration starts at 7:45 a.m. and classes start at 9 a.m. Consider taking a couple classes to help expand the program you are delivering to your unit. There are a number of different courses that could help benefit you or the youth in your Pack/Troop/Crew. For more information please see the flier [HERE](#).

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**Awards**

**The Silver Beaver Award** is the highest recognition a Boy Scout council can bestow on an adult volunteer leader.

The award is presented to those volunteers who have provided noteworthy service that impacts the lives of youth and has made outstanding contributions to the Scouting program.

The Awards are presented at the Council Annual Business Meeting and Recognition dinner in late May/Early June. If you know of a Volunteer who has gone above and beyond countless times for Scouting consider completing a nomination form.

The form will be posted on the Council website soon. Please keep an eye out for more information.
University of Scouting will update your skills and help you provide a fantastic program to your Scouts.

January 24, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Fox High School
745 Jeffco Blvd.
Arnold, 63010

Don’t miss out!

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS NOV. 15!

See other side for sessions and fees.
**Boy Scout College**

- BSC-1 EFFECTIVE Youth Leader Training in Your Troop
- BSC-2 The REAL Patrol Method
- BSC-3 Retention of Older Scouts
- BSC-4 Real World Solutions to Challenging Issues in Troops  — NEW
- BSC-5 First Class First Year
- BSC-6 The Successful Annual Unit Plan
- BSC-7 Webelos to Scout Transition
- BSC-8 Games Leadership
- BSC-9 Unit Board of Review Training
- BSC-10 The Challenge of Dealing With “Challenging” Scouts
- BSC-11 The Effective Unit Committee
- BSC-12 Making the Order of The Arrow Meaningful in Your Unit
- BSC-13 Been There, Done That. Now What?
- BSC-14 Intentionally Developing Eagle Scouts
- BSC-15 Making Summer Camp the Centerpiece of Your Unit Program!

**Commissioners College**

All course offerings in Commissioners College are open to all Scouters and are not limited to commissioners.

- CC-1 Unit Commissioner Basic Training
- CC-2 Administration of Commissioner Service
- CC-3 Selecting Quality Leaders
- CC-4 STEM and the Unit Commissioner
- CC-5 The Commissioner’s Toolkit — NEW
- CC-6 Seminar: Contemporary Unit Issues
- CC-7 New Commissioner Tools — NEW
- CC-8 Unit Membership Chair — NEW
- CC-9 Youth Recruitment and Retention — NEW
- CC-10 Venturing and the Commissioner — NEW

**Cub Scout College**

- CSC-1 “Outside the Box”
- CSC-2 Growing the Pack
- CSC-3 History and Lore
- CSC-4 Cub Scout Advancement
- CSC-5 The Art of Story Telling
- CSC-6 Beyond the Badge
- CSC-7 "Outing” in Scouting
- CSC-8 Flag Etiquette

**High Adventure College**

- HA-1 BSA High Adventure: Philmont Overview
- HA-2 BSA High Adventure: Sea Base Overview
- HA-3 BSA Sea Base Training for 2015 Crew Advisors
- HA-4 Water and Cooking Tips for High Adventure Outings
- HA-5 BSA Philmont Training for 2016 Crew Advisors
- HA-6 Safety Afloat and Safe Swim Defense
- HA-7 Trek On Safely
- HA-8 Backpacking Stoves
- HA-9 Leave No Trace
- HA-10 Boots and Socks
- HA-11 Backpacks, Sleeping Bags, and Pads
- HA-12 “Eve” on the Trail
- HA-13 Wilderness First Aid — The Primer
- HA-14 How to Add Scuba Diving to Your Scouting Program

**Leadership College**

- LC-1 Red Cross First Aid Training (additional $30 fee required)
- LC-2 Successful Succession: Finding Your Replacement
- LC-3 District Eagle Board of Review Seminar
- LC-4 What Now?
- LC-5 Addressing Adult Conflicts and Leadership Concerns
- LC-6 Merit Badge Counselor Orientation
- LC-7 Scoutmaster vs. Chairman: A Perspective
- LC-8 Scouting Need Not Be Taxing
- LC-9 Letting Go at All Ages

**Special Needs College**

- SNC-1 Special Needs Overview
- SNC-2 Special Needs Scouting for All Scouts
- SNC-3 ABC’s of Attention Deficit Disorder
- SNC-4 Advancement for the Special Needs Scout
- SNC-5 Scouting for Scouts With Learning Disabilities
- SNC-6 Camping for Scouts With Disabilities
- SNC-7 Panel Discussion
- SNC-8 Managing Boys’ Behavior

**STEM College**

- STEM-1 Nova Counselor and Supernova Mentor Training
- STEM-2 STEM Unit Coordinator Training
- STEM-3 Hands-on STEM for Cub Scouts — NEW
- STEM-4 Hands-on STEM for Boy Scouts — NEW
- STEM-5 Hands-on STEM for Venturing — NEW

**Technology College**

- TEC-1 Beyond Basics in Word and Excel for Scouting Leaders
- TEC-2 Creative Use of Photography in Scouting
- TEC-3 Managing Your Scout Unit Data in the Cloud
- TEC-4 Online Social Networking
- TEC-5 GPS Technology for Scouts and Scouters
- TEC-6 Advanced Digital Photography in Scouting

**Trainers College**

- TC-1 Basic Trainer Skills
- TC-2 Promoting Training
- TC-4 Trainer’s EDGE 1 – Communication
- TC-5 Trainer’s EDGE 2 – Directing Traffic and Thoughts
- TC-6 Trainer’s EDGE 3 – Effective Teaching Methods
- TC-7 Youth Protection / Youth Protection Presentation Skills
- TC-9 Trainer’s EDGE 4 – Presentation Workshop / Practical Application
- TC-10 Public Speaking Effectively

**Venturing College**

- VC-1 Venturing 101: The Nuts and Bolts of Venturing
- VC-2 How to Start a Venturing Crew
- VC-3 Is Your Crew Dying? Want to Fix It?
- VC-4 Crew Program Planning — NEW
- VC-5 Venturing Awards and Recognition — NEW
- VC-6 Team Building Games
- VC-7 Personal Safety Awareness — NEW
- VC-8 How to Develop Your Troop, Crew and Ship Youth Leaders
- VC-9 Putting the WOW Into Your Crew’s Program
- VC-10 Goal Setting and Time Management — NEW
- VC-11 Eve on the Trail (female youth only)
- VC-12 Sea Scout Adult Leader Basic Training
- VC-13 Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews
- VC-14 Kodiak Challenge Course Director’s Conference
- VC-15 Roundtable Discussion of Day’s Learning
- VC-16 Adult Leader Bridge Session — NEW
- VC-17 Committee Challenge — NEW

**Youth Leadership College**

- YLC-1 You Don’t Have to Be SPL to Lead: Scouts
- YLC-2 Where to Find the Fun Leadership Roles in Scouting
- YLC-3 Patrol Method: The Only Way
- YLC-4 Have Fun in the Order of the Arrow
- YLC-5 Training Youth Leaders at the Unit Level
- YLC-6 Where Are My Resources???
- YLC-7 Troop Program Roundtable
- YLC-8 Communicating With Adults
- YLC-9 Eagle Scout and Beyond
- YLC-10 Communicating With Youth
- YLC-11 More Than High Adventure

**Commissioners College Registration Information**

- By January 10:
  - Adults $20 / Youth $10
- By January 22:
  - Adults $25 / Youth $15
- After January 22, including walk-ins:
  - Adults $30 / Youth $20

Online registration begins November 15: scoutingevent.com?2015UniversityofScouting