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

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 Mehrten
C. 314-276-3033
kmehrtens@yahoo.com

Activities
Dawn/Dave Fansler
dmf138@aol.com

Advancement
Phil Tilghman
C. 314-401-2339
7778sm@sbcglobal.net

Training
Gary Dedeko
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Camping
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STEM & Communication
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Camping
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Leadership
Mike Eschbach
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Venturing
Michael O’Donnell
eaglescout721@gmail.com
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 its 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 Scouts 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 livestock 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

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.

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

“The Six “P’s” of Recruiting”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Six “P’s” of Recruiting</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purpose</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Have a clear purpose for your recruiting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Plan</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Involve everyone in the plan</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Promote</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>New Scouts will rarely find you—you have to go find them</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Present</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have a clear, upbeat presentation ready</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Parents</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Scouts with involved parents are much more likely to stay in Scouting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Persistence</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This one speaks for itself...</td>
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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](https://example.com/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 charted by a Cycling Shop and every month the Scouts will have the opportunity to lean 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.

“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 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 1st, 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 online?

- 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!
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 Mcecy, 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