

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL





COMMITTED TO THE *Ideals of Scouting*

The Scout Oath

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 time;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.



The Scout Law

A Scout is:

TRUSTWORTHY. Tell the truth and keep promises. People can depend on you.

LOYAL. Show that you care about your family, friends, Scout leaders, school and country.

HELPFUL. Volunteer to help others without expecting a reward.

FRIENDLY. Be a friend to everyone, even people who are very different from you.

COURTEOUS. Be polite to everyone and always use good manners.

KIND. Treat others as you want to be treated. Never harm or kill any living thing without good reason.

OBEDIENT. Follow the rules of your family, school, and pack. Obey the laws of your community and country.

CHEERFUL. Look for the bright side of life. Cheerfully do tasks that come your way.
Try to help others be happy.

THRIFTY. Work to pay your own way. Try not to be wasteful. Use time, food, supplies,
and natural resources wisely.

BRAVE. Face difficult situations even when you feel afraid. Do what you think is right despite
what others might be doing or saying.

CLEAN. Keep your body and mind fit. Help keep your home and community clean.

REVERENT. Be reverent towards God. Be faithful in your religious duties. Respect the beliefs of others.

A MESSAGE FROM *the Key Three*

Positive youth development is about more than just meeting young people's needs and building competencies. It's about forging positive relationships, instilling character, strengthening soft and technical skills, and developing leadership skills. It's about recognizing that young people possess innovative ideas and the energy to build better communities and engage productively with their schools, organizations, peer groups, and families. When this happens in a safe and fun environment, amazing individual and collective impact occurs—this is Scouting!

This annual report includes significant findings from a Harris Poll titled The Scouting Edge, which examines ethics and character in America. The findings underscore the positive outcomes of Scouting experiences on character development and civic engagement.

In an unprecedented era of societal division, youth mental health crisis, and the seemingly ever-quicken pace of life, Scouting serves as a beacon of hope for the future. Our goal in the Greater St. Louis Area Council is to serve all youth with relevant programs to prepare them for life. What a noble opportunity and responsibility we all carry to help prepare the next generation to live productive and fulfilling lives and to lead our communities and nation.

Thank you to each of you for your role in serving young people through Scouting. Whether you are an active volunteer working directly with scouts, a volunteer supporting other volunteers, a financial contributor, or a community advocate, your efforts matter and make a significant difference. Young people desperately need Scouting—thank you for helping advance our mission!

Louis B. Eckelkamp III
Council President

Joseph D. Sadewasser
Scout Executive/CEO

Ronald Stephens
Council Commissioner





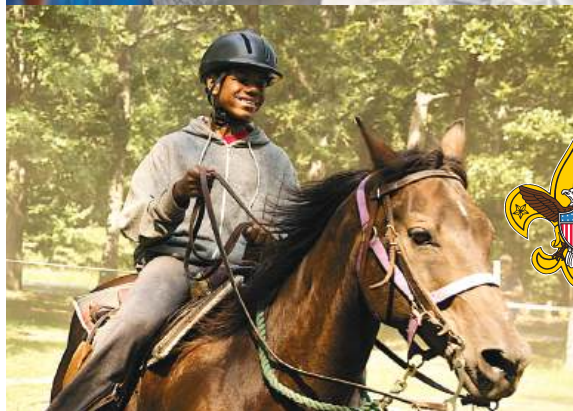
THIS IS Scouting



CUB SCOUTS

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.

(boys and girls in grades k-5)



SCOUTS BSA

Scouting is the ultimate form of learning by doing. Youth lead their own activities and participate in service, outdoor adventures, and leadership development programs. Scouts are introduced to countless hobbies, interests, sciences, and even future career choices.

(boys and girls ages 11-17)



VENTURING

Provides positive experiences through exciting and meaningful youth-run activities for pursuing special interests, growing by teaching others, and developing leadership skills.

(young women and men ages 14-20 or 13 years old and completed 8th grade)



EXPLORING

Career exploration and work force development program. Youth gain practical insight and hands-on knowledge in a career field of their choice.

(young women and men ages 14-20 or 13 years old and completed 8th grade)

2023 Year in REVIEW



GREATER ST. LOUIS
AREA COUNCIL

I CAN DO THAT!

Scouting
FOR FOOD
1,743,841
items of food donated

STEM
2,877
Attending STEM events



1,133 Nova awards
70 Supernova Awards
164 reservations for
the STEM lab and van

23.85%
Growth in Female Scouts

16.28%
Growth in African American Scouts

27.93%
Diverse membership

National Rankings

- #1** in serving African Americans
- #2** in serving Venturing
- #3** in serving Cub Scouts
- #3** in Exploring
- #4** in starting New Units
- #5** in serving Females
- #5** in serving Scouts BSA

Scout ADVANCEMENTS

56,842 **23,882**

Cub Scout
Adventures

Merit Badges

10,413 **496** **5,165**

Cub Scout
Advancements

Eagle Scouts

Scouts BSA
Advancements

Summer EXPERIENCE

Number of Scouts to have a
youth Summer Camp Experience

Cub Scouts

2,715

7,206

Total

Scouts BSA & Venturing

4,491

Non-Scout FACILITY USE

438

Total non-Scout users
receiving program at
a GSLAC camp

266

Students attending
Discovery Base
@ Beaumont

Youth MEMBERSHIP

577

Venturing

1,395

Exploring

16,006

Cub Scouts

7,379

Scouts BSA

25,357

Total



5,558

Youth served through
outreach programs

2023-2025 *Strategic Plan*

With 9,104 adult volunteers giving leadership to programs that serve 25,357 registered youth members across 63 counties and the City of St. Louis, the impact of Scouting is profound. The strategic plan lays out the framework necessary to maintain and expand this impact.

ONE VISION. ONE JUST CAUSE.

Serve all youth with relevant programs to prepare them for life.

Driven by that cause, the shared vision of the desired future includes four aspirations.



Greater relevance to today's youth



Elevated identity in the region



Strengthened long-term viability

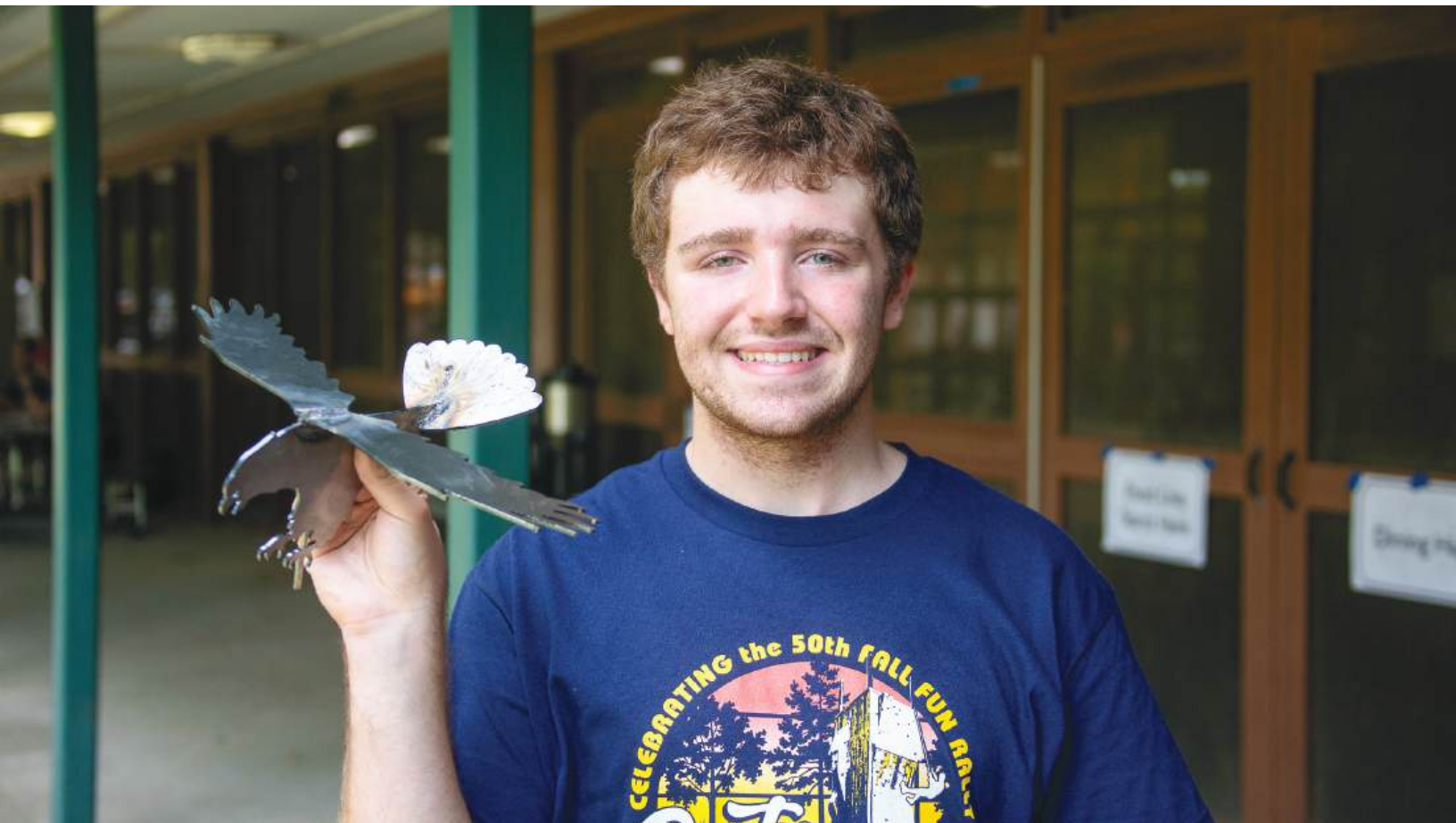


Key partner in the ecosystem of youth-serving organizations



2023 Successes

- 84% of Scouting units achieved a health rating of A or B, exceeding the goal of 80%
- Female membership increased by 24%
- Discovery Base at Beaumont was launched and served 266 students from area schools
- Mobile STEM trailer was booked for 13 weekday programs and funding was secured for a new STEM vehicle to serve the central Illinois region
- Garnered 22,000 unique (new) visitors to stlbsa.org, exceeding the goal of 12,000
- Marketing strategy highlighting the benefits of volunteering was launched in November
- Individual staff development plans were presented in December
- Test launch of a new progressive web app (PWA) was approved
- District nominating committee process was revised





The Scouting Edge:

A STUDY OF ETHICS & CHARACTER IN AMERICA

Introduction

As society changes, American values continue to be influenced by technology, media, and politics. Yet, one thing is constant: The enduring value of Scouting, which continues to give youth an edge in life and places them on a path toward success.

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) has collaborated with the Harris Poll to delve into the ethical and character dimensions of Americans, comparing and contrasting Scouting vs. non-scouting populations. The insights gained are instrumental in understanding the evolving ethos of both the young and the old.



**SCAN HERE
TO READ THE FULL STUDY**

Key Findings

Americans report a wide satisfaction gap between their personal lives and the state of the country/ world. Despite this, Americans express general pride in living in the USA, and several key ideals bind people together.

- Hard work is shared “American” and “Personal” value.
- There is strong agreement that civic duties such as voting and fighting for our country are important – those who can do these... should.
- Americans are overwhelmingly positive about what lies ahead; at least 7 in 10 adults and youth share feelings of hopefulness, optimism, or excitement about their future.
- More than half of Americans report that the values instilled in them growing up match the current values of most Americans today.
- Parents play a critical role in instilling values in their children, leading to a strong consensus that older people should be respected.
- Reverence continues to be relevant to Americans today as more than 7 in 10 Americans claim primary religion, although fewer report attending religious services regularly.
- A strong majority of Americans report a belief in God or a higher power, and they connect with something bigger than themselves.
- Selflessness and kindness towards others are celebrated and viewed as important components of being a good citizen.





THE IMPACT OF *Scouting*



When it comes to the “Scouting Edge,” there is no question that Scouting positively impacts those who participate. 98% of alumni and 93% of Scouts agree that Scouting has positively impacted their lives. It gives them an “edge” in life and helps increase their chances of success. Scouting alumni indicate the skills, confidence, and character gained as youth participants carry through into adulthood. They say they are better parents, employees, and citizens due to their involvement in Scouting. They have that little something that gives them an extra leg up on the general population. They have that edge... the Scouting Edge.

So, what advantages do Scouting alumni and Scouts attribute to being a Scouting member?

- 99% of alumni and 95% of Scouts agree that Scouting helps character development.
- 95% of alumni and 90% of Scouts agree that Scouting helps youth respect the differences of other people.
- 96% of alumni and 96% of Scouts agree that Scouting has had a positive effect on their leadership abilities.
- 95% of alumni and 91% of Scouts agree that Scouting has had a positive effect on their ability to work with others.
- 76% of Scouts and 72% of alumni indicate that Scouting has had a great deal of impact in their willingness to volunteer in their community.

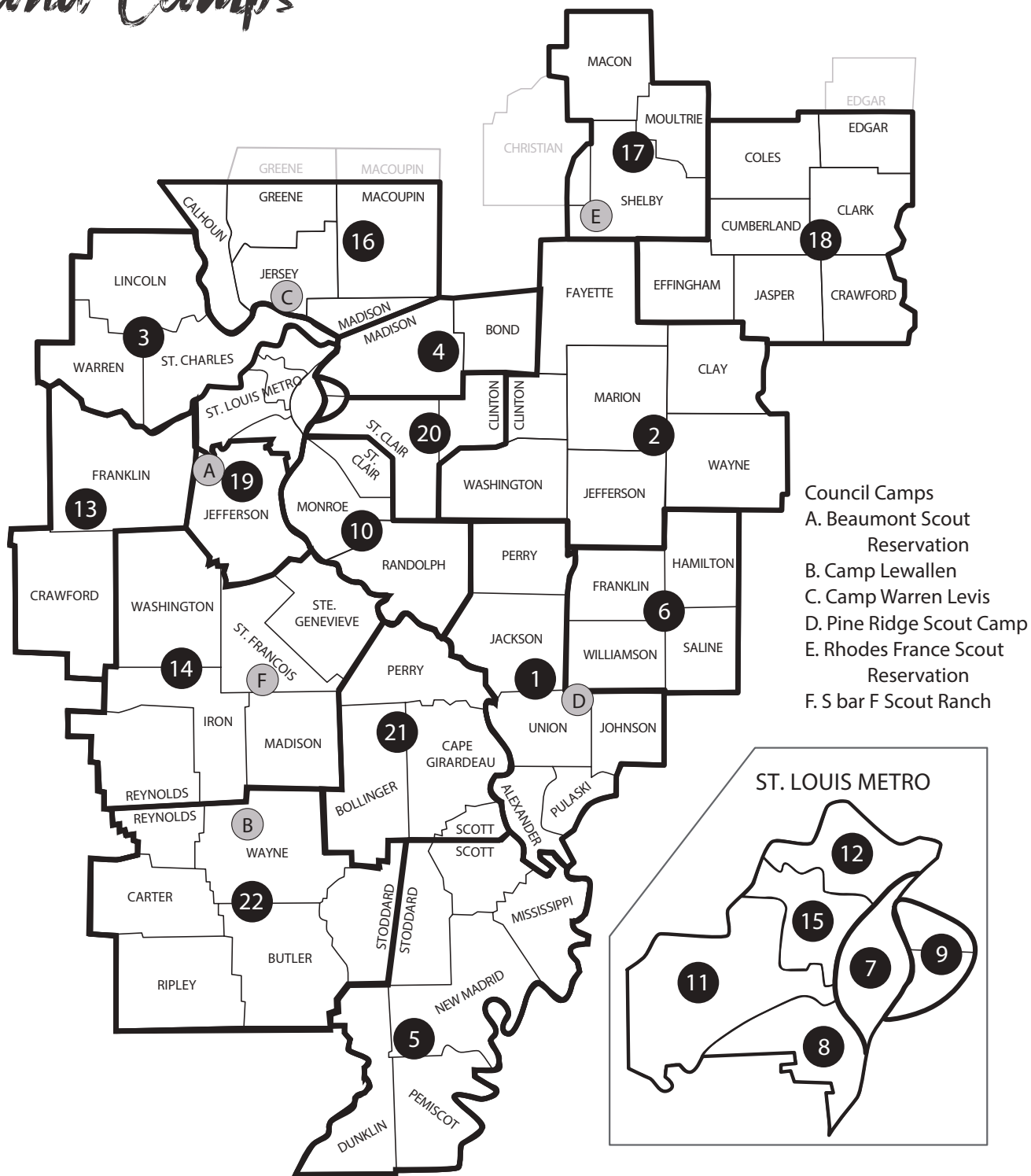
Even non-Scouts agree! Scouting has a positive impact on its members.

- 91% of non-alumni adults and 83% of non-Scout youth agree that Scouting helps character development.
- 86% of non-alumni adults and 82% of non-Scout youth agree that Scouting helps youth respect the differences of other people.
- 82% of non-alumni adults and 84% of non-Scout youth agree that Scouting had a positive impact on its members’ ability to work with other people.
- 81% of non-alumni adults and 82% of non-Scout youth agree that Scouting had a positive impact on its members’ leadership abilities.



COUNCIL DISTRICTS

and Camps



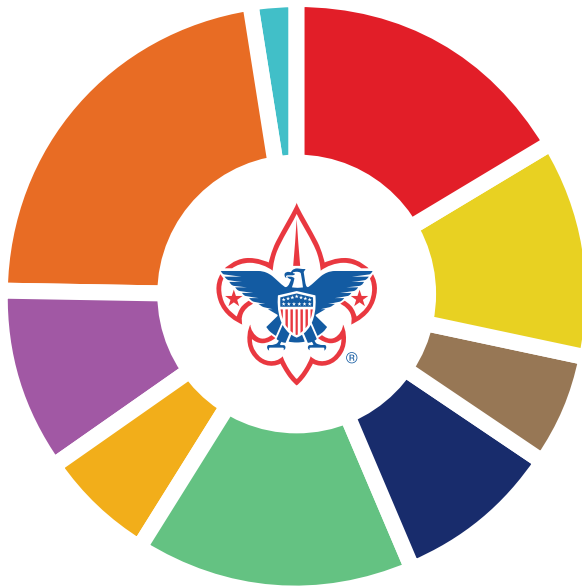
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|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Big Muddy District | 7. Keystone District | 13. Osage District | 19. River Trails District |
| 2. Black Gold District | 8. Gravois Trail District | 14. Ozark Trailblazers District | 20. Soaring Eagle District |
| 3. Boone Trails District | 9. Illini District | 15. Pathfinder District | 21. Shawnee District |
| 4. Cahokia Mounds District | 10. Kaskaskia District | 16. Piasa Bird District | 22. Sioux District |
| 5. Cherokee District | 11. New Horizons District | 17. Arrowhead District | |
| 6. Egyptian District | 12. North Star District | 18. Redhawk District | |





FINANCIAL

Statement



SUPPORT & REVENUE

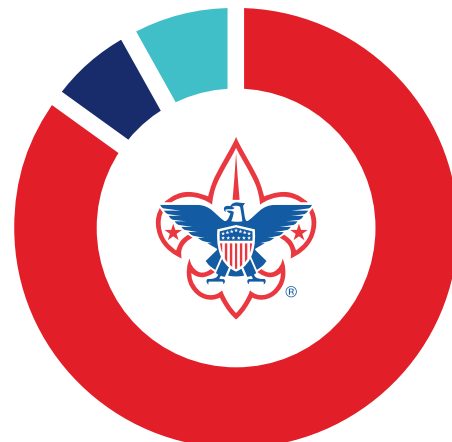
- FRIENDS OF SCOUTING **\$2,069,220**
- UNITED WAY **\$1,462,833**
- SPECIAL EVENTS **\$789,494**
- FOUNDATIONS/OTHER DIRECT/PROJECT SALES **\$1,127,932**
- CAMPING REVENUE **\$1,904,930**
- ACTIVITY REVENUE **\$793,066**
- PRODUCT SALES **\$1,244,255**
- INVESTMENT INCOME **\$2,787,151**
- OTHER **\$276,866**

TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE \$12,455,747

EXPENSES

- PROGRAM SERVICES **\$10,304,953 (85%)**
- MANAGEMENT & GENERAL **\$879,096 (7%)**
- FUNDRAISING **\$1,025,611 (8%)**

TOTAL EXPENSES \$12,209,660



2023 Board

Officers & Executive Committee

Louis B. Eckelkamp III - **Council President**

Michael J. Scully - **Chairman of the Board**

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Paul T. Combs

Kenneth W. Dobbins

L.B. Eckelkamp Jr.

James D. Eckhoff

Lindsey J. Graves

Mark A. Hinrichs

Jeffrey R. Hoelscher

Michael B. Kennedy, Jr.

Nevada A. Kent IV

Michael C. Marchal

Art J. McCoy II

Kevin McDaniel

Ronald Stephens

David L. Steward

Jack E. Thomas

Karen M. Vangyia

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Kelvin R. Adams

Tommie Austin

Kristie L. Bailey

Blackford F. Brauer

Steven Burghart

Winston Calvert

LaTonia Collins-Smith

Keith Davidson

Joseph S. Davis

Reginald D. Dickson

Robert J. Dierberg

Joseph R. Dively

Dirk G. Elspersman

Dwight D. Erdbruegger

Ronald G. Evens

Sean Fleming

Flint W. Fowler

Ronald A. Fromm

Mark J. Fronmuller

Mark T. Fulford

John Goodwin Jr.

Thomas L. Ray

William A. Gray

Danette Greer

Keith B. Guller

Joseph F. Imbs III

Francella D. Jackson

Tyler W. Johns

Karen M. Jordan

Stephen R. Kappel

Paula D. Knight

James D. Marchbank

Charles Maris

Derek L. Martin

Richard H. McClure

James B. Morgan

Dean Mueller

John R. Musgrave

Kendall Norris

Stephen M. O'Loughlin

Robert E. Palmer

Steven P. Rasche

Thomas L. Ray

Brian Satterthwaite

Kurt Schroeder

James H. Simpson

Robert C. Smith

Kristin Sobolik

David L. Steward II

John L. Strube

R. Philip Stupp Jr.

Timothy T. Tyler

Craig A. Unruh

Carlos Vargas

Carm C. Walgamott

David G. Wasinger

Douglas J. Wilks

James E. Williams Jr

Dennis Wilmsmeyer

William C. Ziebold

Joseph D. Sadewasser - **Scout Executive**

District Chairs

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Andrew Carruthers

Carlynda Coleman

Clarence Dula

Robert W. Francis

Joel Evens

Jay D. Gatrell

Neil Glass

Wesley Gozia

Glenn T. Hay

Sandy Lucy

Kevin McClain

John L. Parish Jr

Todd Richardson

Blake Stewart

Ken Trzaska

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G. Kenneth Capps

Harry L. Crisp II

John E. Cunningham

Doug Fabick

Sam Fox

Douglas E. Hill

John A. Mathes

William C. Norton

Lawrence K. Otto

Rick R. Parks

Rick L. Stevens

Denny R. Wright





GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL

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