

# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT



GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA  
SCOUTING

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 times;  
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.

# 2025 Year in Review

**79,462**

*Total  
Advancements*

**28,135**

*Scouts Served*

**5<sup>th</sup>**

*Largest Council*  
IN SCOUTING

OUT OF 233 COUNCILS

TOP 3  
*Merit Badges*

First Aid  
Swimming  
Citizenship in  
the Community

**\$302,690**

*Financial Assistance  
Provided*

**1,893,637**

*Scouting for Food*

Total Items Collected For

**622**

Local Pantries and  
Hunger Relief Programs

**5,706**

*Scouts Served*  
IN OUTREACH PROGRAMS

**456**

*Eagle Scouts*

**531**

*Chartered Partners*

**8,951**

*Total Camp  
Experiences*

At Summer Camp and Discovery Base



GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA  
SCOUTING

# A Message From The **KEY THREE**



Children today, and many adults, face more challenges than ever. We live in an era of skyrocketing levels of mental health issues like anxiety, depression, and loneliness. People are more technologically connected than ever and often feel more isolated than ever. Scouting is the solution! During Scout activities, campouts, and meetings, Scouts learn in a safe environment by doing. They work together as a team, gain leadership skills, learn how to fail, but have the endurance to try again, and achieve group and individual goals. This is all built upon the firm core values anchored in the Scout Oath and Scout Law which is brought to life through fun and meaningful activities.

You are part of the largest youth development movement in our region. We change individual lives on a large scale. Whether you are a volunteer, donor, or community partner – thank you for advancing Scouting’s mission. As you see in this annual report, there is much for which to be thankful. However, our work is not complete. Children need Scouting and there are many young people who have not yet had the opportunity to join.

Together we can serve all young people with programs that prepare them for life. Thank you for believing in our mission with us. You are building a brighter future. Let’s celebrate the amazing impact and use it as a springboard. Because of you, Scouting is changing lives and positively impacting our communities.

**Karen M. Vangyia**  
Council President

**Ronald Stephens**  
Council Commissioner

**Joseph D. Sadewasser**  
Scout Executive/CEO



**18,637**  
Cub Scouts



**584**  
Venturers



**7,014**  
Scouts



**8,115**  
Adult Leaders



**1,900**  
Explorers

# This Is **Scouting**



## **CUB 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.

(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**

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**

Exploring serves two different age groups, both coed. Exploring clubs serve middle schoolers, aged 10 - 14, in 6th - 8th grades. Exploring posts serve older youth 14 - 20 years old. The program model is the same for both age groups - hands-on and interactive character and career activities are facilitated by trained business leaders in your local community.

2023-2025

# STRATEGIC PLAN



In 2025, a team of 8,115 adult volunteers gave leadership to programs that reached 28,135 youth across 63 counties and the City of St. Louis. This is clear evidence of Scouting's profound impact in our communities. This strategic plan outlines the essential framework to sustain and enhance that reach.

## 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



# 2025 SUCCESSES



- Increased Arrow of Light Scout to Scouts BSA crossover rate by 14% over 2024.
- 86% of packs and troops are actively using Scoutbook, the official record-keeping and communication tool for Scouting.
- Launched the District of the Future pilot, laying groundwork for a more effective district model.
- Discovery Base at Beaumont more than tripled its reach compared to 2024, serving over 3,800 local students.
- Mobile STEM Lab (Trailer) served an additional 11 outside groups, a 55% increase over last year.
- Began a comprehensive gifts campaign to support capital, endowment, and outreach.

**80%**  
Scouting units achieved a health rating of A or B, achieving the goal

Far exceeded the goal of  
**1.5 million**  
social media impressions

# SCOUTING IS A PATH TO SUCCESS

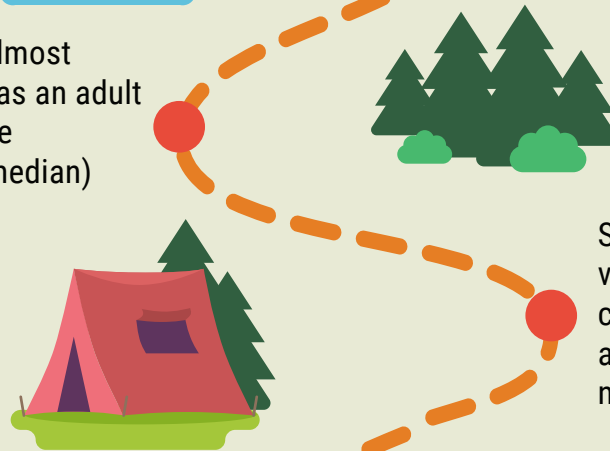


Scouts are **TWICE** more likely to get a bachelor's degree (75.6% of Scouts alumni compared with 36.0% national average)



Scouts are **TWICE** more likely to get an advanced graduate degree (29.0% of Scouts alumni compared with 13.4% national average)

Scouts are more likely to make almost **DOUBLE** of the personal income as an adult (\$62.5k individual median income compared with \$33.7k national median)



Scouts are more likely to have very good or exceptional (750+) credit scores (55.7% of Scouts alumni compared with 39.7% national average)

Scouts are more likely to move up in their socio-economic status. Scouts that come from low-income family background are, on average, more likely to make almost twice the personal income as an adult compared to their non-scout peers with similar childhood family background.



## SCOUTS ARE CHANGE AGENTS

Scouting strives to bring larger, broader, and longer social impact. The Scouting values (Character, Leadership, Citizenship, and Fitness) imprinted during childhood go a long way. Scouting alumni continue to change the world by taking more leadership roles in organizations, engaging in more entrepreneurial activities, and undertaking more civic duties.



GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA  
SCOUTING

STLBSA.ORG  
314-256-3000

Scouts  
**IN ACTION**



**7,069**  
New Scouts  
Recruited



**28,135**  
Total Scouts Served

Scouts  
**IN ACTION**



**30%**  
Growth in New  
Youth Recruited



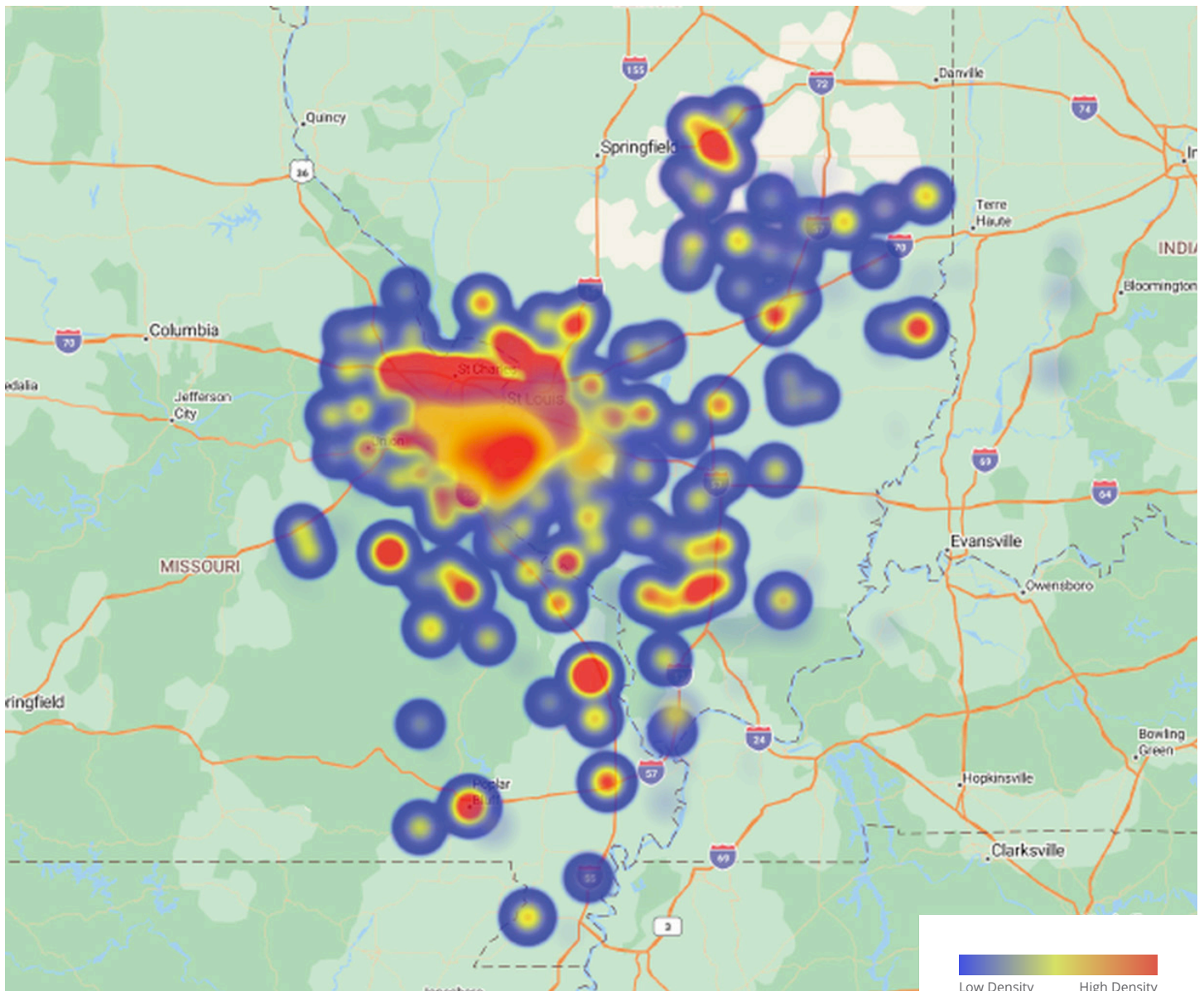
**531**  
Chartered Partners

# Membership **HEAT MAP**



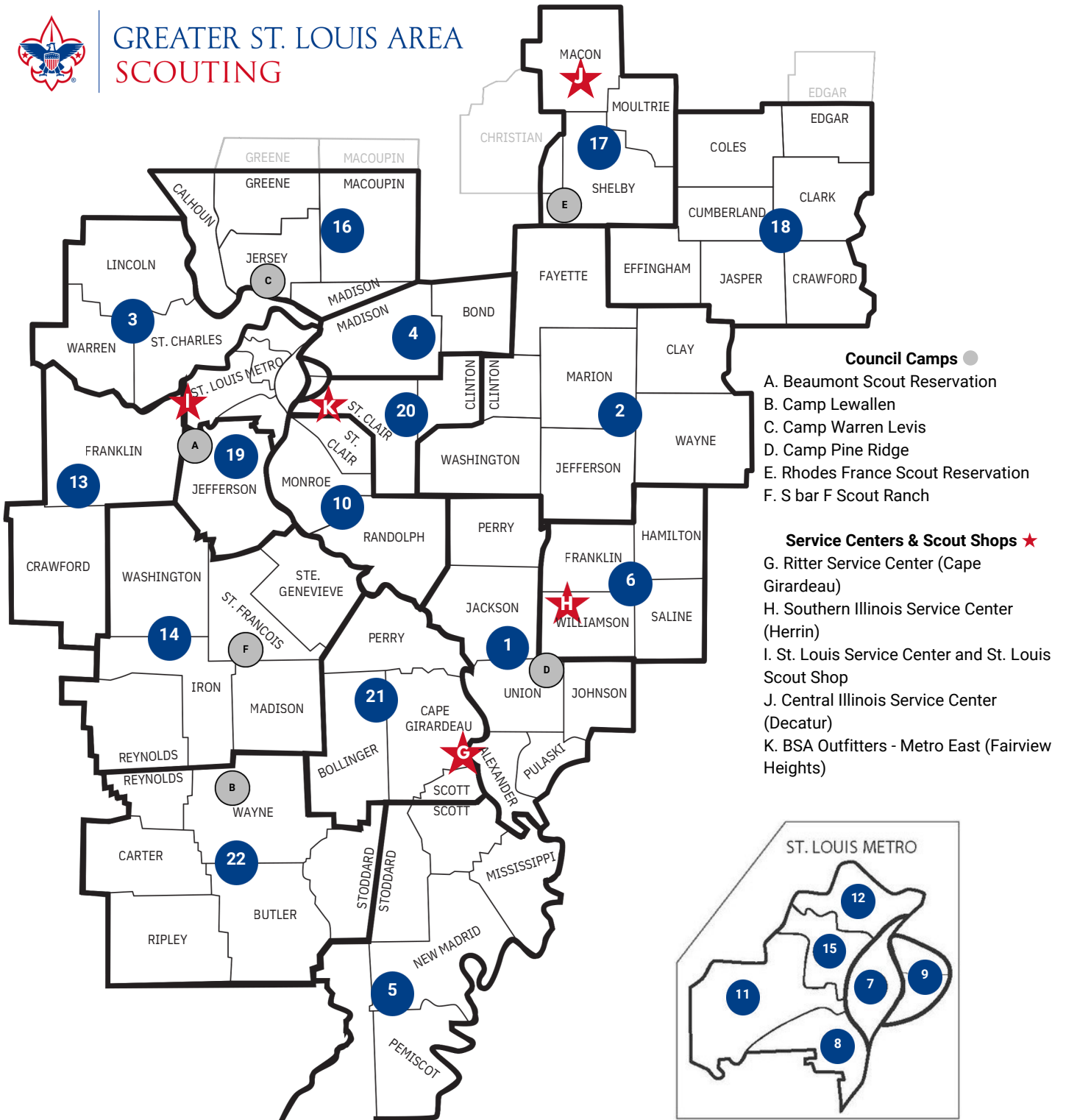
This map illustrates the vibrant Scouting presence across Illinois and Missouri. It highlights areas where initiatives flourish, showcasing Scouting's robust presence.

This map also identifies key growth opportunities, targeting underserved regions where new Scouting units can thrive. By focusing on these areas, we aim to extend Scouting's positive impact in the coming years.





# GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA SCOUTING



## Greater St. Louis Area Scouting Districts ●

- |                            |                           |                                 |                            |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 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            |                            |

Updated May 2026

Scouts  
**IN ACTION**



**53,086**

Community Service  
Hours Reported



**21,990**

Merit Badges  
Earned



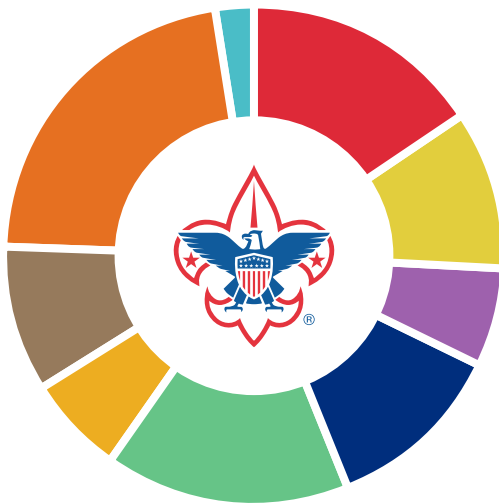
**49,750**

Cub Scout  
Adventures Earned

# Financial STATEMENT



## SUPPORT & REVENUE



- ANNUAL GIVING **\$2,011,574**
- UNITED WAY **\$1,295,252**
- SPECIAL EVENTS **\$813,331**
- FOUNDATIONS, OTHER, PROJECT SALES **\$1,533,056**
- CAMPING **\$2,083,252**
- ACTIVITIES **\$764,878**
- PRODUCT SALES / SALE OF SUPPLIES **\$1,186,096**
- INVESTMENT INCOME **\$2,755,146**
- OTHER **\$274,438**

**TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE \$12,717,023**

## EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES	<b>84.7%</b>
MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL	<b>4.8%</b>
FUNDRAISING	<b>10.5%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$12,706,505</b>

2025

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## Officers & Executive Committee

Karen M. Vangyia  
**Council President**

Louis B. Eckelkamp III  
**Chairman of the Board**

Ronald Stephens  
**Council Commissioner**

Joseph D. Sadewasser  
**Scout Executive**

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Kenneth W. Dobbins

L.B. Eckelkamp, Jr.

Jeffrey R. Hoelscher

Nevada A. Kent IV

Kevin McDaniel

David L. Steward

Jack E. Thomas

Michael J. Scully

Harold R. Burroughs

Paul T. Combs

James D. Eckhoff

Lindsey J. Graves

Michael C. Marchal

Mark J. Fronmuller

Mark T. Fulford

John Goodwin, Jr.

William A. Gray

Danette Greer

Keith B. Guller

Duane Gulley

Mark A. Hinrichs

Brad Hodson

Christopher M. Hohn

Joseph F. Imbs III

Francella D. Jackson

Tyler W. Johns

Karen M. Jordan

Stephen R. Kappel

Paula D. Knight

C. Eric Lobser

James D. Marchbank

Richard H. McClure

Art J. McCoy II

James B. Morgan

Dean Mueller

John R. Musgrave

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

Ross Toohey

Craig A. Unruh

Carlos Vargas

Carm C. Walgamott

David G. Wasinger

Thomas Welge

James E. Williams, Jr

William Christopher Ziebold

## District Chairs

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Mark Barnes

Howard Benyon

Andrew Carruthers

Carlynda Coleman

Joel Evans

Jay D. Gatrell

Neil A. Giffhorn

Kyle Grate

Deborah Graves

Ravi S. Johar

Tamara Lackland

Julia Pusateri Lasater

Sandy Lucy

Kirk Overstreet

Mark Steele

Ken Trzaska

Keith Zorowski

## Advisory Board

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G. Kenneth Capps

Harry L. Crisp II

John E. Cunningham

Doug Fabick

Douglas E. Hill

Charles Maris

John A. Mathes

William C. Norton

Rick R. Parks

Rick L. Stevens

Douglas J. Wilks

Dennis R. Wright

## Executive Board Members

Hope K. Abramov

Kelvin R. Adams

Tommye Austin

Kristie L. Bailey

Blackford F. Brauer

Winston Calvert

Keith Davidson

Joseph S. Davis

Robert J. Dierberg

Joseph R. Dively

Dirk G. Elsperman

Dwight D. Erdbruegger

Ronald G. Evens

Flint W. Fowler

Ronald A. Fromm



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SCOUTING

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