



the fleur-de-lis

a quarterly newsletter update from
the greater st. louis area council, boy scouts of america



vol. 2, issue 2

June, 2023

from the desk of the scout executive

 **joe sadewasser, scout executive/c.e.o.**



The hustle and bustle of camper arrivals, the smell of sun-screen and bug spray, the sounds of campfire songs and laughter - summer camp season has arrived!

We are excited to see over 6,000 campers will be enjoying the great outdoors at our six camps over the next several weeks. From horses to hiking, fishing to friend-building, swimming to s'mores, campfires to camaraderie - summer camp is the experience our Scouts will remember for years to come. Camp may be a fun memory-builder for our campers but hidden beneath the surface are leadership and life experiences like independence and self-discovery that is learned at camp that set us apart. Youth will earn merit badges, explore in the woods, pick up snakes, play loads of ga-ga ball, and purchase too many slushies from the Trading Post, but they will bring home with them

an "I Can Do That" attitude.

The transformation that camp allows for youth is not found anywhere else. Whether as a camper or a youth staff, kids get the chance to develop leadership skills and build on their strong morals and character in a fun safe environment.

Last year, we shared the following from one of our Scouts. This year, he is working on our Camp Staff for the first time and is looking forward to teaching younger Scouts in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) area at Rhodes-France Scout Reservation.


"Some of the best memories I have are from Summer Camp. My first Summer Camp, I took the Voyager Program, which helps new Scouts rank up and get almost all of the requirements for Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class rank, along with earning a couple of merit badges. But it wasn't all work, we also did things like hiking and fishing that were fun. Every merit badge and course is Scout-led and adult supervised, which lets Scouts have more fun with kids their own age. I look forward to attending Summer Camp every year - it's one of my favorite parts of Scouting!"

- Sam J., Life Scout, Scouts BSA from Troop 8216 in the Cahokia Mounds District

So, Summer Camp has so many benefits for our Scouts - some seen, some not, but the best part of visiting one of our camps while the Scouts are there is seeing all the smiles, hearing the laughter, and knowing that we are changing lives! It's one of my greatest joys as a Scout Executive.

I hope you take the time to read through some of the articles in this newsletter and read about all the great things going on around our Council. Best of all, check out all the amazing ways YOU are changing the lives of our youth. See you at camp this summer - watch for an official invitation to visit camp on Tuesday, July 18th. Invitations mailing soon!

Thank you!



Joe Sadewasser
Scout Executive/ CEO



"I CAN DO THAT!"
Greater St. Louis Area Council
Boy Scouts of America

digging for the archeology merit badge
25 local Scouts were able to get some great up close and hands-on experience as they assisted Ph.D. candidate Autumn Melby with her dissertation and earned the elusive archeology merit badge.

Melby and the Scouts looked for artifacts in the soil that could provide clues about those who lived in the Valmeyer, Illinois area in the 1900s.

To learn more about the project, visit tinyurl.com/3kzppavc



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save the date!

 join us

2023 council special events:

The Experience
Saturday, September 16th
The Ink House
Edwardsville, IL

Sporting Clays
Saturday, September 23rd
World Shooting Complex
Sparta, IL

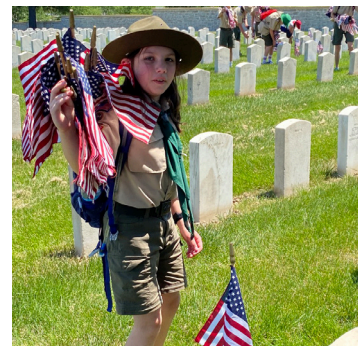
Sporting Clays
Friday, October 20th
Black Hawk Hunting Preserve
Old Monroe, MO

Sponsor, register, or more information:
stlbsa.org/give-now/special-event-fundraisers

a good turn daily

🦋 pictures from memorial day good turn events around the council

"Duty to Country" - Annually on Memorial Day, Scouts from around the Council place flags at the graves of those who served our country. This annual tradition is a way of honoring and remembering those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country.



tributes & memorials

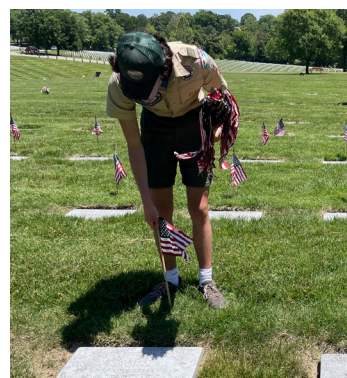
🦋 gifts from march 1 - april 1

james e. west fellowships
George Ripplinger

in memory of
Louis Heyman
George Noblot
Mike Rushing
Brian F. Spengemann

brick donations
John Weltmer
Tracy L. Meyers-Harvey*
Kent Richter*
Kirk Richter*

* made in memory of



heritage society

🦋 our planned giving society

Consider the legacy you will leave and make a plan now to impact Scouting well into the future. There are many ways to make a legacy gift and we would be honored to discuss opportunities to ensure your gift achieves your personal goals and expresses your personal vision.

If you would like to know more about how you can make a difference for years to come and the various vehicles for doing so, contact Megan Selck at megan.selck@scouting.org or 618-304-7414.

Learn more at:
stlbsa.org/give-now/planned-giving



with gratitude

🦋 a donor feature - michael scully and pnc



Michael Scully of PNC

which encouraged us to develop independence, confidence, and self-sufficiency. The summer camp experience helped us hone new skills and work toward goals." He added, "while much has changed since my time as a Scout, and as increasingly more enrichment opportunities are made available to youth, I am glad to see the summer camp experience continue for the 6,000+ Scouts in our region who participate each year."

As a local business leader, Michael recognizes the importance of investing in and developing our region's future leaders and workforce. Cultivating leaders begins at an early age, and Scouting can be an effective vehicle for nurturing talent and building character.

PNC has a history of supporting the Scouts in several markets throughout their coast-to-coast footprint. In St. Louis, the organization and employees have partnered with the Scouts on a variety of efforts during the majority of PNC's tenure in the region. They choose to partner with the Greater St. Louis Area Council because beyond the community impact of the BSA's acts of service, Scouting plays a key role in the development of our region's future workforce. "It is not difficult to see the strong link between Scouting and future success, anecdotally, but this link has been quantified and validated by a Washington University research study, which correlated Scouting participation with increased likelihood of receiving a bachelor's degree and advanced graduate degree, among other favorable indicators for personal income and economic mobility."

PNC would like to encourage other businesses to support the Greater St. Louis Area Council because "the principles of the Scout Law are indisputably positive and broadly relevant to business and civic interests, by creating impact in the community through acts of service and developing our region's future leaders through youth leadership efforts. As a company deeply committed to the Greater St. Louis region, PNC believes in supporting organizations that create impact for our local communities, support youth and are meaningful to our employees. Our collaboration with the Greater St. Louis Area Council of BSA, including our support for the annual Scouting for Food drive, has helped us deliver on these objectives."

When asked what one thing he wished everyone knew about Scouts, Michael responded, "There are multiple pathways and entry points to participate in Scouts – whether that be a continuous progression from Cub Scouting to earning the Eagle Scout Award or taking part in the Venturing or Exploring programs. Being a Scout is not a one-size-fits-all experience, and there are benefits to participation at every phase."

The Greater St. Louis Area Council would like to thank Mr. Scully and PNC for partnering with us to help develop our region's future leaders.



our program sponsors

🦋 2022 robert baden-powell society supporters

Thank you to our 2022 Robert Baden-Powell Society supporters. Our sincerest thanks to our program sponsors who are part of the Robert Baden-Powell Society.

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