



Each year, volunteers on the National BSA Marketing Committee send out a call for the best marketing initiatives across the 270+ Boy Scout Councils nationwide. This year, the Mississippi Valley Council was recognized for their excellence in marketing with emphasis on creativity and alignment with national brand standards. Congratulations to our VP of Marketing, Sarah Fernandez and her committee for winning one award and receiving an honorable mention in another!

Won - Best Newsletter for *Scouting Matters*

Honorable Mention - Best Email Campaign for *The Current*

The full list of honorees and the samples of promotional material can be found here: www.Scouting.org/marketingawards

Empowering Volunteers

Mississippi Valley Council's NEW Board Orientation

Training is what Scouting does best. We train youth leaders, we teach positive values, and we teach adults the skills necessary to be a positive role model for our Scouts. It is only natural that we provide a top-notch training for our Board of Directors who help guide and manage the Mississippi Valley Council.

Our Council's key leadership has developed a new training to teach our board the inner workings of a BSA Council, how to read our paperwork, bring awareness of the resources available to us, and discuss the current strategic plan.

Execution of this process is unique. The training is taught by three different people: the Scout Executive/CEO, an Executive Committee Member (President or VP) and a member of our professional staff who works in the field with other dedicated volunteers. Each session only accommodates 5-6 volunteers. By conducting the training in a smaller group, we are able to personalize the training based upon the skill set of the attendees.

The Mississippi Valley Council is guided by 33 board members from all geographic regions of our twelve-



county council. Additionally, nine individuals serve on the Advisory Council. The officers consist of a President, First Vice President, Vice Presidents of Administration, Marketing/Relationships, Program, Training, Endowment, and Finance, a Treasurer, Commissioner, the Past President, and two Executive Board Members as appointed by the Council President. Anyone who wants to learn more about how our board operates is invited to attend. Please contact Todd Lamison, Scout Executive/CEO.

Pictured Above from Left to Right: Joe Henning, Council President; Todd Lamison, Scout Executive/CEO; Cecil Haskins, Council Commissioner.

Council Leadership:

Joe Henning, Council President
Cecil Haskins, Council Commissioner
Todd Lamison, Scout Executive/CEO

Scouting Matters Staff

Sarah Fernandez, Vice President of Marketing
J. David Gilbert, Staff Advisor
Teresa Hardin, Staff Writer & Designer

Scouting Matters is published four times a year by the Mississippi Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America. Articles and pictures are always welcome for consideration and may be e-mailed to mvc@Scouting.org.

Find us online: www.mississippivalleybsa.org
Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MississippiValleyCouncil>



Did you know?

Mississippi Valley Council

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Scouting Matters

Gardner Service Center
2336 Oak Street, Quincy, IL 62301
Phone: (217) 224-0204

Burlington Service Center
3007 Flint Hills Drive, Burlington, IA 52601
Phone: (319) 754-8413

Eagle Scout Journey

Scouting's highest honor, Eagle Scout, is a unique feat that only 4% of Scouts earn. Each Scout's journey includes finding a cause for which they are passionate and to provide leadership through a project that benefits the group. Seventeen-year-old Miles from Troop 2, chartered to St. James Lutheran Church in Quincy, IL tells his story:



"For my project, I built and 20' x 24' outdoor shelter for the regional firefighter training facility. The shelter provides an area for local first responders to seek out shade and cool down as well as provide an outdoor classroom/critique area for the first responders training. This shelter can also be utilized by many other groups such as citizen's fire academy and the senior police academy.



I have logged 240 hours of labor from many adult Scouters, Troop members, volunteers and other Scouts from local Troops that helped with building this shelter. We started from the ground up. We leveled out the area, formed and poured the concrete, and built the shelter. It's great to see my project help so many people that will put their lives on the line day in and day out to help others in the community."

Miles Klusmeyer, Eagle Scout, 2016



To Help Other People

Community Service Hours

So far in 2016...

- 4,899 recorded service hours from over 1,148 Scouts from elementary to high school
- 44 food donation projects including Scouting for Food, our largest Service Event
- 8 Eagle Projects planned and executed by middle and high school aged Scouts



A Proud Grandmother's Thoughts on Scouting

"My name is Marilyn Simmons and I would like to, in the next few paragraphs, introduce you to my grandson Eagle Scout, Daniel C. Simmons.

His journey to Eagle Scout is much like many. His mother and father became very involved in Scouting serving as Den Leader and Scoutmaster. As Dan moved along in his Scouting career, so did his parents. I know this sounds like every other Scout, but Dan has Asperger's Syndrome which sometimes made things a little more of a challenge. He continued on, completing one rank after another.

When he reached the point of needing his Eagle Scout Project, he told his father and mother that he had an idea he would like to follow-up on. He had learned that the Autistic students, in some school districts, had a tablet they used with programs on it designed to help them with their school work. During the summer, these tablets were not available to them which meant that during the summer, as all kids do, they lost some of the progress they had made during the school year. He decided that his Eagle Scout Project would be to raise money to purchase tablets and download programs that would help these kids continue to advance.

Dan approached the Autism Society of Illinois regarding this; they were excited and set up a meeting with Dan to discuss his plan. They had a program to download on the tablets and helped with some of the fundraising necessary to purchase the tablets. When it was all said and done, Dan had enough money to purchase 15 tablets and he downloaded the programs. Students applied to receive a tablet. Dan presented the tablets and showed them how to work the program.

Scouting is a wonderful program for developing a young man not only in his daily life but in his ability and willingness to help others. Dan drew a lot from the Scouting program which helped to shape his attitude and abilities today. Dan will start college in the fall and plans on majoring in a field where he can be an advocate for Special Needs persons.

I will close by saying that I proudly display a sticker in my car window that says 'I am proud of my Eagle Scouts.'"

Introducing Lions - Kindergarten Scouts

Starting in the Fall of 2016, the Mississippi Valley Council will be Beta testing a Lion Program which is designed especially for Kindergarten-aged youth. "We are very excited for this opportunity," said Scout Executive Todd Lamison, "the Beta for this program will be a learning opportunity for our staff and volunteers and we will learn from this experience so we can provide a quality program for youth in Lions and in our other programs."

From the Lion webpage: As a Lion, your kindergartner will make friends, laugh out loud, gain confidence, discover nature, and most of all...have fun! He'll experience the Scouting concepts of character development, leadership, citizenship, and personal fitness through engaging and exciting adventures!! Your kindergartner will have a blast exploring the world around him in ways that fuel his imagination and creativity. Together, you'll take his first steps down the path to success. Adventure awaits. Join today!

Information on the new program is rolling out every day. Visit the official site to see the development as we move into the fall by visiting www.Scouting.org/Lion

The Mississippi Valley Council will unveil the plan to roll out the program at the Program Launch on July 13, 2016 at Camp Eastman. All volunteers, parents, and community leaders are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to mvc@Scouting.org



Cubmobile



Some things just fit naturally together. Cookies and milk, a sunny day and a frisbee, and boys and cars. Packs from across the greater Burlington area came together in the beginning of May to compete for eternal glory in the 4th Annual Cubmobile!

Youth worked as a team in their Cub Scout Packs to develop a car using instructions found in the Bear (3rd Grade) program. Unlike the Pinewood Derby, all races were simply for fun and pride making it a low stress and fun activity. Special thanks to Geode State Park for their partnership.

Pinewood Derby



One of the most iconic Scouting activities is the Pinewood Derby. Scouts in each age group compete in their local Cub Scout Packs. Scouts who perform exceptionally well are invited to a District Pinewood Derby Race. Each district has a different approach to providing this free program to the Cub Scouts. We are thankful for all of the volunteers who helped make the three events a success. Thank you to the following venues who hosted a District Pinewood this past spring:

Roling Hall, Ft. Madison IA
Heartland Harley-Davidson, Burlington IA
Quincy Mall, Quincy IL sponsored by Shottenkirk Toyota

Sporting Clays



Supporters of Scouting came out in droves to the 17th Annual Sporting Clays event held at Heartland Lodge in Nebo, IL. Shooting Sports enthusiasts shot traditional sporting-clays style stations as well as unique traps such as Helice pigeons, which spin unpredictably.

This year's special guest was Matt Hughes, nine-time UFC welterweight champion and UFC Hall of Famer. With 45 Career mixed martial art wins, Matt talked about the value of perseverance and the importance of spending time outdoors.

Special thanks to Fred Cory and his committee for a successful event.