

# Scouting Matters

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June 2018

## Eagle Scout Spotlight



Let us introduce you to Liam Hood. Liam is a member of Boy Scout Troop 24 in Mount Pleasant, IA, chartered by the First United Methodist Church. Liam earned his Eagle Scout rank on April 21, 2018.

Liam told us that he wanted to do something that would give back to the schools in Mount Pleasant. Liam decided he specifically wanted to add on to one of the playgrounds. He remembered the playgrounds he played on as a child were generic and uninteresting.

“After going to see the Head Start playground for the first time I decided that this would be the one. The area was generally uninviting, with very little of the space being utilized. I wanted to give the kids a place to enjoy their outdoor time by adding a wider variety of activities and colors to the area.”

Liam concluded by saying, “I think the “new” playground will give the children a chance to be more active and enjoy their time outside. Getting to see them play on all the new equipment was so cool because I got to see them run and play like they’d never gotten a chance to before.”

Congratulations, Liam!

To-date, the Mississippi Valley Council has 14 Scouts who have attained the rank of Eagle in 2018 and 18 candidates in the process.

To Help Other People

## Community Service is a Habit, Not a Special Occasion

Every Spring, Packs and Troops participate in the Council’s *Scouting for Food* drive. This year was no different. Forty units participated in 69 food collection projects which resulted in 2,140 service hours and collecting 14,841 non-perishable items that were then donated to local food pantries.

*Scouting for Food* is an ongoing annual program of the Boy Scouts of America that started in 1985. The program involves collecting for local food banks and is organized at the local level throughout the country.



## Community Updates

### Citizenship in Our Community

The 5<sup>th</sup> grade Webelos Den of Pack 1, chartered to Blessed Sacrament Parish in Quincy, IL, completed their Arrow of Light award by showing thanks to those who serve in their community. They visited the Quincy Police Department in the evening and gave the officers goody bags to show appreciation for their service. The Scouts were given a tour of the department and met with Officer Russell and his K-9 dog. They also made thank you gifts for their mail carriers.



### Duty to Country

Scouts of Troop 22, chartered by Holy Name Society of St. Francis Catholic Church in Quincy, IL, helped American Legion Post 37 place flags for Memorial Day on every grave at Quincy's Sunset Cemetery.

### Career Education for At-Risk Students

Explorer Club 202, sponsored by Keokuk Middle School in Keokuk, IA, is a youth program that was previously led by Big Brothers-Big Sisters/GRAYM. With the support of their past Executive Director and Board, our local Boy Scout Council has continued the program. It is a program for at-risk students in grades 6-12. Each month during the school year, a different career professional comes in to speak to the students about what they do for a living. These generous volunteers bring in engaging activities and slideshows for the students to partake in. Throughout the school year, the students create a strong bond with the other students in the program. They learn about many careers in the community and how to be respectful and courteous to these visitors. This program is overseen by Angela Scholl, a qualified staff member of Keokuk Middle School.



### Do a Good Turn Daily

The weekend of April 27-29, several Mississippi Valley Council units attended the 73<sup>rd</sup> Lincoln Pilgrimage sponsored by the Abraham Lincoln Council in Springfield, IL. The 19-mile Lincoln Trail is the first historical trail recognized by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America. It retraces Abraham Lincoln's steps from New Salem Historic Site to Stuart Park in Springfield. As Scouts, we are guided by the Outdoor Code and a desire to "do a good turn daily", including for our environment. A hike provides a lengthy opportunity to do just that in areas that may not get as much public attention. Trash bags were provided to each hiker to provide cheerful service, through picking up trash along the trail. With over 500 hikers on the trail that day, this led to a huge impact on over 19 miles of state property, city streets, county roads, and state highways. Scouts and Scouters could be seen with bags brimming with trash as they went along their way. In classic Scout fashion, our environment was left a bit better than it was found, all while having fun and working on personal goals of advancement.



## Building Communities

### Scouts Help Plan Community Party



On April 12, 2018, there was a kick-off event in Mount Pleasant. The downtown area of Mount Pleasant is under construction where the streets and sidewalks around the town square are being torn up and reconstructed. Obviously, this can be hard on local businesses around the square.

The chamber has been holding a variety of events to bring notice to the fact that businesses are still open despite closed streets and sidewalks. The chamber organized a scavenger hunt through local businesses, gave away food and drinks, had a bounce house and Pack 27 hosted games on the square for the kids. They had a fishing game with *Boys' Life* Mini-mags for a prize and other lawn games. Pack 27 is chartered by First United Methodist Church in Mount Pleasant, IA.

It was a lovely evening to be on the square. The Scouts enjoyed participating in the event and hosting the games.

### Mississippi Valley Council Honored by United Way

The Mississippi Valley Council received the 2017 Partner Agency of the Year award from the United Way of Adams County, Inc. at its annual meeting held on March 8<sup>th</sup>. We appreciate the recognition and value our partnership with all the United Way agencies.



### Oakley-Lindsay 2018 Sporting Clays for Scouting

Thank you to the 147 Shooters and 50 volunteers who made the 2018 *Oakley-Lindsay Foundation Sporting Clays for Scouting* sponsored by Oakley Lindsay Foundation a huge success! Over \$25,000 was raised to help fund local Scouting. Our next special event is the *4th Annual Top Shot* on June 29<sup>th</sup>. Contact J. David Gilbert for more information at 217-224-0204 or 319-754-8413.

### Black Hawk Lodge Receives National Service Award

Our local Order of the Arrow lodge, Black Hawk Lodge, was recognized as the recipient of the National OA Service Award in May at the BSA National Annual Meeting. This award is designed to recognize a lodge for giving outstanding contributions of qualitative and quantitative service. Black Hawk Lodge is one of only eight lodges in the country to have been given the award this year!

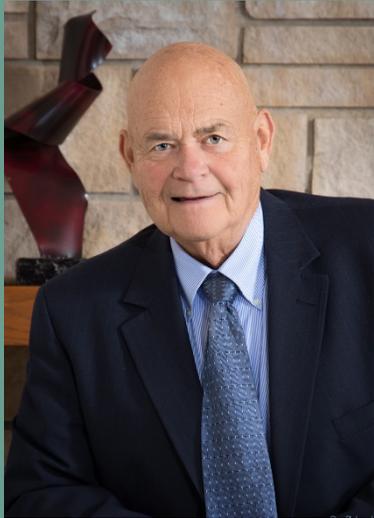
Black Hawk Lodge contributed an incredible 8,244 hours of service to our camps, council, and community! This is equal to nearly 32 hours per Lodge member! Thanks to everyone involved for all their efforts to make a difference!

Lodge Chief Isaiah Aden, center, and Past Lodge Chief Jack Gunsten, left, traveled to Dallas to accept the award from Central Region Chief Will Coots, right.



# Congratulations to our 2018 Distinguished Citizen Recipients

Burlington Distinguished Citizen,  
Mr. Bob Brueck



## Recent James E. West Recipients

Bob Brueck  
Donna S. Buss  
Dona J. Coultas  
Christine Daniels  
Robert Dickson  
Bruce W. Moechnig  
William G. Paxton  
Dennis D. Stewart  
Gerry Wagner

Adams County Distinguished Citizen,  
Mr. Bill Daniels



The James E. West Fellowship Award is a national recognition for individuals who contribute \$1,000 or more in cash or securities to their local council endowment trust fund. This contribution is in addition to, and does not diminish or replace, the donor's annual gift to the Council's Friends of Scouting campaign.

Donations may be made by an individual or a group to honor a fellow Scouter, as a memorial on the death of a loved one, or to recognize an achievement. The award can also be given to an individual who makes a contribution on his or her own behalf.

To learn more or to become a James E. West Fellow, please contact J. David Gilbert, Development Director at [jdavid.gilbert@scouting.org](mailto:jdavid.gilbert@scouting.org).



## Planned Giving

The Mississippi Valley Council partnered with several other organizations of the Tristate Area Fundraising Professionals group to host the Quincy community's first *Write a Will* event. Volunteer lawyers worked with families and individuals to put together a simple will on the condition that they leave some of their estate to a local nonprofit. Even though the event has concluded, there are still ways that you can support Scouting through planned giving in your estate, through stocks, trusts, real estate, or insurance. To find out more about the many giving opportunities available to Scouting, please contact J. David Gilbert at 217-224-0204 or 319-754-8413.

### Council Leadership:

Kevin Mineart, Council President  
Dennis Stewart, Council Commissioner  
Todd Lamison, Scout Executive/CEO

### Scouting Matters Staff

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