



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Scouting Matters

SEPTEMBER 2018

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Eagle Spotlight



Joshua Wyatt is a member of Troop 25 in Burlington, IA, chartered by Bethany Lutheran Church and is in the process of earning his Eagle Scout rank.

Josh painted a map of the USA on the playground of North Hill School in Burlington. He and his family live across the street from the school where the map had originally been painted. However, when the school was rebuilt nine years ago, the map was lost. That is when Josh decided what he was going to do for his future Eagle Project.

In June 2017 his project was approved, and he was able to move forward with producing a paper template printed by a CAD machine at Great River Medical Center. Other supplies were donated by Diamond Vogel and Lowe's.

Josh and his volunteers invested 246 hours planning, preparing and painting the large map of the United States. Josh believes this map will help teach students where they live and will give kids an idea of where states are located. Pictured with Josh is Tim Cradic, North Hill School Principal.

To-date, the Mississippi Valley Council has 27 Scouts who have attained the rank of Eagle in 2018 and 24 candidates in the process.

To Be an Eagle . . .

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, the highest advancement rank in Scouting, a Boy Scout must fulfill requirements in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills. Although many options are available to demonstrate proficiency in these areas, a number of specific skills are required to advance through the six ranks all while earning twenty-one merit badges which teach STEM, vocational and life skills. The final step is to participate in a face-to-face review with volunteer community leaders.

- 16.3% of US Military Academy cadets are Eagle Scouts
- 11.9% of US Air Force Academy cadets are Eagle Scouts
- 11% of US Naval Academy midshipmen are Eagle Scouts
- 7.5% Astronauts are Eagle Scouts
- Only 7% of all Scouts meet the requirements necessary to earn the Eagle Scout Award.
- Some notable Eagles include Rex Tillerson, Steven Spielberg, Sam Walton, Neil Armstrong



Youth Put Their Leadership Skills in Action

National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience

Two Mississippi Valley Council youth were invited to lead the National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia this past June. JT A. from Troop 91 chartered to Chaddock in Quincy, IL & Michael J. from Troop 32 chartered to Living Faith United Methodist Church in Bowen, IL were 2 of 16 youth staff teaching 47 Scouts from around the country. Congratulations to JT and Michael for representing their respective Troops and Mississippi Valley Council on the Boy Scouts of America's national stage!



Order of the Arrow Service Corps

The Order of the Arrow Service Corps (OASC) was held during the second week of Summer Camp at Saukenauk Scout Reservation. The Order of the Arrow is Scouting's National Honor Society. Black Hawk Lodge members from around the Council attended this week-long experience of providing meaningful service in the morning followed by fun and fellowship in the afternoon. At the end of the week they were recognized for their service with a special OASC flannel shirt.

The OASC assembled sixteen picnic tables for the camp. After their morning service OASC participants were free to choose how they spent the rest of their day: merit badges, adventures, exploring, and relaxing.

Scouting Alumni Utilize Leadership Skills

Here is local proof of Scouts utilizing their leadership skills. Left to right are a priest who serves with the Pope in Rome, Father Peter Harman; a Marine Biologist, Steven Pothold; a Fire Chief, Joe Henning; and a Department Chair at John Wood Community College, Dr. Chris Kaelke. Do you have pictures or stories? Send them to mvc@scouting.org.



Troop 3 Honor Guard

During July 2017 Summer Camp, Troop 3, chartered to St. John's Catholic Church in Burlington, IA, decided to start an Honor Guard that would perform flag ceremonies throughout the community. It was held that the Boy Scouts who took on this reverent responsibility would grow in character, responsibility, and leadership. Committee Chair Dan Fell. Fell stated, "As a U.S. Army veteran, I take great pride in the flag, flag ceremonies, and was on several flag details and honor guards many years ago while in the service."

Scouts have performed flag raising/lowering ceremonies, flag retirement ceremonies, and have held ceremonies for meetings and community events throughout the greater Burlington community.

If you would like more information for an honor guard to come to your local event, please contact us at mvc@scouting.org.

United Way Day of Caring

In June, the United Way of Adams County hosted a *Day of Caring* where local businesses came together with community organizations for service. We had Mercantile Bank come to Saukenauk Scout Reservation to help get ready for Summer Camp. They built picnic tables, landscaped the Philmont Cabins, stained benches & tables at the dining hall, were test subjects for summer camp staff teaching merit badges, "tested" the zipline, and toured camp. We appreciate the United Way for hosting the event and thank our friends at Mercantile for their service.

To schedule a tour of camp for your company, email MVC@scouting.org



Adventure of a Lifetime

Scouts Explore the Black Hills

Troop 99 chartered by Melrose Chapel in Quincy, IL went to Medicine Mountain Scout Ranch in South Dakota. This was the second Scout Camp Troop 99 attended this summer. They wanted to experience other camps and to see the beauty of the Black Hills.

Medicine Mountain Scout Ranch uses the “patrol” cooking method instead of a dining hall, so the Scouts had to cook every meal for their week of camp. Scouts also got to visit a museum and the cemetery in Deadwood, Custer State Park, Crazy Horse Memorial, Devil’s Tower National Monument, and Mount Rushmore.



Council Contingent Explores Colorado



The Mississippi Valley Council had planned a Philmont trek in August, but when the devastating fires closed Philmont Scout Ranch, the leadership had to make other plans. Over a two-week period, the six Scouts and three volunteer leaders explored Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park, Fort Collins, and Denver. The group enjoyed many activities in the back country including horseback riding, white water rafting, and hiking.

Next Summer, our Council will send Scouts to the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia.

Adventures at Camp Eastman and Saukenauk Scout Reservation

Fast Facts:

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|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ✿ 4 Accredited Camp Programs | ✿ Boy Scout Summer – 659 |
| ✿ Cub Scout Adventure Camp – 240 | ✿ Total Attendance – 1,092 |
| ✿ Webelos Adventure Camp – 193 | ✿ STEM Merit Badges – 361 |

International Scouting

For the second year, the Mississippi Valley Council participated in the International Camp Staff Program. Daniel S. from South Africa taught Citizenship in the world with his firsthand experience as a world traveler. He also taught waterfront activities including sailing, swimming, lifesaving, and motorboating.



Camp Eastman

- ✿ Newly renovated Pete’s Pond – Cub Scouts at Adventure Camp got the opportunity to break in the newly renovated Pete’s Pond ~ now deeper and wider thanks to the hard-working volunteers and the Black Hawk Lodge, Order of the Arrow.
- ✿ Advance Sailing Courses – With the wind at their backs, Scouts had the opportunity to learn basic and advanced sailing techniques on the Mississippi River.
- ✿ Canoeing Trek – Each week of camp Scouts have the opportunity to drop their canoe in the Mississippi River at Nauvoo and float back to camp!

Saukenauk Scout Reservation

- ✿ New Bouldering Wall – Thanks to the generosity of the Saukenauk Preservation Society, Scouts of all ages can enjoy the new bouldering wall surrounding the Climbing Tower
- ✿ New Pistol Program – Scouts were able to add pistols to the list of shooting sport opportunities available to older youth.



To Help Other People . . .

Good Turn for America Service Incentive

Congratulations to the units which earned the incentive sponsored by BNSF Railway Foundation. Between August 1, 2017 and July 31, 2018 these units logged twenty or more service hours per registered Scout, in addition to Eagle Scout project hours.

- ✿ Troop 92 chartered to LDS-Quincy Ward 1-Nauvoo Stake in Quincy, IL - 81.42 hours per Scout
- ✿ Troop 54 chartered to Letts United Methodist Church-Mens Club in Letts, IA - 49.75 hours per Scout
- ✿ Post 104 chartered to Quincy Fire Department in Quincy, IL - 48.31 hours per Scout
- ✿ Troop 61 chartered to Oquawka United Methodist Church in Oquawka, IL - 44.83 hours per Scout
- ✿ Troop 19 chartered to Congregational United Church of Christ in Denmark, IA - 43.40 hours per Scout
- ✿ Troop 58 chartered to Liberty Lions Club in Liberty, IL - 31.60 hours per Scout
- ✿ Troop 63 chartered to American Legion Post 765 in Stronghurst, IL - 28.56 hours per Scout
- ✿ Troop 71 chartered to Danville Lions Club in Danville, IA - 27.64 hours per Scout
- ✿ Troop 1 chartered to Blessed Sacrament Parish in Quincy, IL - 26.39 hours per Scout
- ✿ Troop 33 chartered to American Legion Gillaspey-Moodie Post 474 in Donnellson, IA - 25.63 hours/Scout
- ✿ Troop 43 chartered to Trinity United Methodist Church in Keokuk, IA - 22.00 hours per Scout



Stars for Veterans



I am part of our American flag that has flown over a home in Iowa or Illinois. I can no longer fly. The sun and winds have caused me to become tattered and torn. Please carry me as a reminder that you are not forgotten. Thank you American Veteran. BSA Troop 40, Burlington, Iowa

A few years ago, a gentleman brought some flags to be retired to Troop 40, chartered to First Christian Church in Burlington, IA. This started a new tradition for the Troop who now collect and retire between 50 and 75 flags a year.

When the flags are received, the embroidered stars are removed from the union and placed in resealable plastic bags with a card. The card, shown above, has a message telling the veteran

that this star has come from a flag that was flown in Southeast Iowa and is now ready to be retired. The veterans are thanked for their service in the message and honor them with a piece of a flag that they represented and can carry with them.

The stars are distributed as the Troop marches in the lighted Christmas parade, sings Christmas carols for the Klein Center a long-term care facility for elderly patients, and randomly throughout the year at other events. Some Scouts and their families carry the stars when they travel and give them to Veterans and active duty personnel whom they meet on their adventures.

Every flag used for this purpose is properly retired in a ceremony held by the Troop. They go to great lengths to ensure the retirement of these flags is proper and respectful. The main goal is to honor those who deserve it and to retire United States Flags properly, respecting our history and those who have had a place in keeping our freedoms secure. This will also be a service project at the Council Camporee at the end of September.

Council Leadership:

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Dennis Stewart, Council Commissioner
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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.

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