



# MISSISSIPPI VALLEY COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

## Scouting Matters

MARCH 2019

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

### Scout Sunday



The Boy Scouts of America designates the Sunday that falls before February 8 (Scouting Anniversary Day) as Scout Sunday. Scouts of all faiths have the opportunity to earn religious awards that help further their faith development with their church. Youth who complete one or more of the age-appropriate awards may wear a medal from their church and a silver & purple knot on their uniform as recognition of their accomplishment.

The Eagle Valley District's *Committee for Catholic Scouting* offered the *Ad Altare Dei* course to youth in grades 7 through 10. *Ad Altare Dei (To the Altar of God)* helps current Roman Catholic youth members develop fully a Christian way of life within their parishes. The program is divided into chapters based on the seven sacraments which celebrate the Paschal Mystery.

Seventeen area Scouts completed the course from Troop 1 chartered to Blessed Sacrament Parish, Troop 5 chartered to St. Peter Catholic Church, and



Troop 22 chartered to Holy Name Society of St. Francis Catholic Church, all in Quincy.

Scouts from Pack 32 chartered to Living Faith United Methodist Church in Bowen, received the *Jesus and Me* and *God and Me* through the P.R.A.Y. curriculum. The awards were presented at Immanuel Lutheran Church of rural Carthage. These programs teach about God's love for us, coupled with Scouting values, and helps to instill reverence, honor, and respect



### Cold Weather Adventures



After several years of mild weather, we finally had SNOW for Polar Bear at Saukenauk Scout Reservation! However, Mother Nature made sure that we had plenty to contend with. Scouts got to sleep in a shelter that they create out of logs, tarps, and straw.

The Cub Scout Yukon event also had plenty of snow, so much that the sled building activity was moved inside to the dining hall at Camp Eastman. Scouts worked on the Mountain Lion, Backyard Jungle, Paws on the Path, and Fur Feather Ferns adventures.



Activities Around the Tri-States

# Happy Anniversary!

The Mississippi Valley Council could not do what it does without the support of our Sponsoring Organizations. Through their loyal support, we are able to accomplish many significant community service projects and prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes. So sometimes it just needs to be said...Thank you! The units in the list below are celebrating a significant anniversary this year.

<u>Chartered Partner</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Anniversary</u>
American Legion Post 643	Winfield	IA	Troop 21	1 Year
Fort Madison Fire Department	Fort Madison	IA	Club 607	1 Year
Edward Stone Middle School	Burlington	IA	Club 822	1 Year
Gardner Camp	Hull	IL	Club 160	1 Year
Keokuk High School	Keokuk	IA	Post 202	1 Year
Stone Gardens Apartments	Burlington	IA	Pack 1002	5 Years
LDS – Nauvoo Stake – Keokuk Branch	Keokuk	IA	Pack 108	5 Years
United Church of Crawfordsville	Crawfordsville	IA	Pack 32	5 Years
Quincy Area Projects	Quincy	IL	Pack 100	5 Years
Indian Hills Friends of Scouting	Quincy	IL	Pack 90	15 Years
Wapello Presbyterian Church	Wapello	IA	Pack 16	20 Years
Burlington Fire Department	Burlington	IA	Post 45	20 Years
Oquawka United Methodist Church	Oquawka	IL	Troop 61	20 Years
Holy Family Parish	Fort Madison	IA	Pack 7	25 Years
First United Methodist Church	Mount Pleasant	IA	Troop 24	30 Years
Community of Christ	Nauvoo	IL	Troop 56	30 Years
Faith Presbyterian Church	Quincy	IL	Troop 136	40 Years
Warsaw Lions Club	Warsaw	IL	Pack 50	45 Years
West Burlington United Methodist Church	West Burlington	IA	Pack 14	45 Years
La Harpe Lions Club	La Harpe	IL	Troop 138	45 Years
Pleasant Hill American Legion	Pleasant Hill	IL	Pack 16	50 Years
United Methodist Church Admin. Board	Oquawka	IL	Pack 61	55 Years
Blackhawk School PTO	Burlington	IA	Pack 87	55 Years
Trinity Methodist Church	Montrose	IA	Pack 30	60 Years
American Legion #192	Kahoka	MO	Troop 145	60 Years
Luther Memorial Church	Quincy	IL	Pack 7	60 Years
North Hill School PTA	Burlington	IA	Pack 9	65 Years
Sunnyside School PTO	Burlington	IA	Pack 85	65 Years
American Legion Post #243008	Mediapolis	IA	Troop 53	85 Years

## Introducing Ricci Dula



The Mississippi Valley Council welcomes Mr. Ricci Dula as the Scout Executive/CEO after a two-month nationwide search.

Ricci began his Scouting career at the Golden Empire Council in Sacramento, CA where he served as a District Director and Senior District Executive. He

moved on to become the District Director and later Assistant Scout Executive with the California Inland Empire Council in Redlands, CA.

Ricci is an Eagle Scout who enjoys sports and time with his family. He and his wife, Kristina, have two children, Ryan and Layla.

## Council Dinner Awards & Honors



Congratulations to all of our volunteers and community supports who received awards and honors annual meeting.

- The Spirit of Scouting Award* is awarded to community organizations which go above and beyond to support local Scouting: **Burlington Kiwanis Club and Great River Health System.**
- William Spurgeon Award* for support of career Exploring: **Bill Eil.**
- The Silver Beaver Award* is the highest recognition a Council can bestow on a volunteer for service to Scouting and the community: **Todd Chelf, Bruce Moechnig, and Josh Schier.**



# 2018 – A Year in Review

## Our Camps

1,087 Scouts in Summer Camp  
35% Increase in weekend camping  
34 Scouts attended Provisional Camp, a 6.25% increase  
128 Scouts attended Boy Scout Polar Bear  
111 Scouts attended Cub Scout Yukon

## Building a Legacy

10 New James E. West Fellows  
Held Two Distinguished Citizen Award Events to Support Endowment  
Purchased a New Service Center in Quincy, IL  
Raised \$266,850 for Capital Improvements at our Camps & Service Centers

## Rank Advancement

48 Eagle Scouts  
1,081 Cub Scout Ranks Earned  
448 Boy Scout Ranks Earned  
2,050 Merit Badges Earned

## In the Community

27,345 Recorded Service Hours  
5,704 Scouts and leaders participated in 483 Projects  
24,506 Items Donated at Scouting for Food  
Coordinated City-Wide Membership Recruitments

## Merit Badges

2,050 Merit Badges Earned  
Scouts earned 284 STEM-related merit badges, a 46% increase  
Scouts earned an additional 439 merit badges with STEM-related requirements  
35 Scouts participated in a Merit Badge Workshop at Great River Medical Center

## Our Membership

2,597 Youth Served in 134 Units  
110 Girls Joined Cub Scouts  
12.53% Total Membership Market Share  
71.1% Membership Retention  
Founded 9 New Units

## Career Based Exploring

19 Posts  
204 Youth  
17 Sponsoring Organizations  
42% Exploring Growth

## Envision 2020 Projects Completed

Saukenauk Scout Reservation Longhouse Multiuse Structure Completed  
Saukenauk Scout Reservation Shower House Replacement Started  
Camp Eastman Electrical Infrastructure Upgrades  
Camp Eastman Two New Honor Cabins  
Both Camps New Storm Sirens

## Coming Soon!

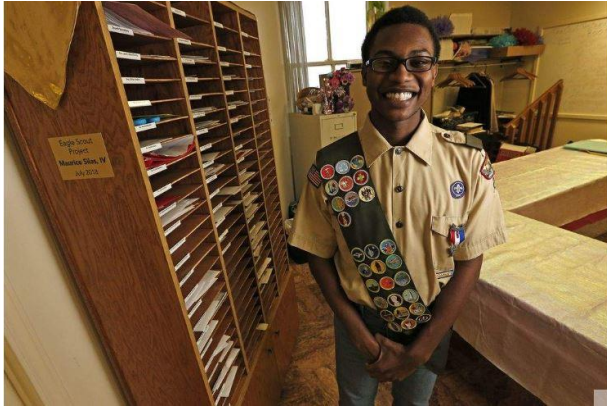


**Quincy Service Center** – Stay posted for an invitation to our Open House at our new 2522 Locust Quincy Location! Get a tour and enjoy some snacks. We also have many improvements underway at our Burlington Service Center!

**Shower House** – This new facility featuring 10 unisex stalls will be open to Scouts and campers June 1 at Saukenauk Scout Reservation. We are currently fundraising for a remodel of the shower house at Camp Eastman. Contact us at 217-224-0204 to see how you can help!



## Eagle Scout Spotlight



Maurice Silas is a member of Troop 2, sponsored by St. James Lutheran Church. For his Eagle Project, he created a communication station at First Baptist Church in Quincy.

The 100-slot communication station lets church members leave messages or items for each other. "At Christmas time, members used it to exchange Christmas cards. It let everyone send a card without buying postage stamps, and they didn't have to find everyone's address. It just made it easier for people to reach each other," said Maurice.

Maurice graduated from Quincy High School in 2018 and is now attending Graceland University in Lamoni, IA. He's majoring in

graphic design with a minor in music. His big dream is to become an "Imagineer", a mastermind behind some of the projects at Disney theme parks.

He said, "The Scout theme is *Be Prepared*, and I think this project is something else that's showing we should be prepared for whatever situation arises" and the importance of service to others, he said.

*Thank you to the Quincy Herald-Whig for the interview with Maurice Silas.*

## First Scouts BSA Troop for Girls!



The Mississippi Valley Council is proud to announce our first Scouts BSA Troop for Girls, chartered to Holy Name Society of St. Francis Catholic Church and led by Scoutmaster Marsha Collins. Five girls submitted paperwork on February 1<sup>st</sup> and are now working to earn their Eagle Scout rank.

The girls meet weekly after school and welcome other girls in fifth-, sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grades to join them. Young women interested in joining Scouts BSA can visit [www.beascout.org](http://www.beascout.org) or contact us at [mvc@scouting.org](mailto:mvc@scouting.org).

## Face of Iowa National Guard

Christian Schwenker, Eagle Scout with Troop 3 chartered to St. John's Catholic Church in Burlington, is the new face of Iowa National Guard. His picture will be featured on buses in Des Moines, as well as on social media and printed posters.

Congratulations, Christian!



### Council Leadership:

Brent Babyak, Council President  
Ben Schmidgall, Council Commissioner  
Ricci Dula, Scout Executive/CEO

### Scouting Matters Staff

Will Duryea, Vice President of Marketing  
J. David Gilbert, Staff Advisor  
Rosanna Voss, 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](mailto:mvc@scouting.org).

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