



# MISSISSIPPI VALLEY COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

## Scouting Matters

SEPTEMBER 2020

Quincy Service Center  
2522 Locust Street, Quincy, IL 62301  
Phone: (217) 224-0204

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

### Eagle Scout Spotlight



Travis Scott, a former member of Troop 43 chartered by Trinity United Methodist Church in Keokuk, IA, was recently awarded his Belated Eagle Rank by the council advancement committee. Pictured from left to right: Al Fabel, Christopher Meeks, Todd Chelf, Joe Scott, Travis Scott, Jennifer Meeks, Scott DiPrima, and Jacque Scott, seated.

Travis completed his Eagle Project October 23, 1994; however, the Eagle Application was returned for verification of merit badge dates. Due to the mishandling of his application, he did not have his board of review until more than 25 years later.

Eagle Valley District Eagle Board Chairman Jennifer Meeks said, "A love for Scouting showed more in him (Travis) than I have seen from many other Scouts I've come across. It was an amazing feeling being able to hand him his presentation kit and grant the rank to him. His mother kept going on and on about what they had been through to get there and all Travis could do was stare at his Eagle pin."

### Welcome to Scouting

We are excited to welcome the following to the Scouting Family. Both of these organizations have had Scouting groups in the past but have restarted their programs this fall.

- Pack 59 in Payson, chartered by Plainville Lions Club
- Pack 2 in Quincy, chartered by St. James Lutheran Church

If you or someone you know is interested in sponsoring a Cub Scout Pack, Scout Troop, Exploring Post/Club, Venturing Crew, or Sea Scout Ship, please contact David Gilbert at 217-224-0204 or Keely Kangas at 319-754-8413



From Humble Beginnings to The Top Honor

## Order of the Arrow Recognizes Six with Vigil Honor



The Order of the Arrow is the National Honor Society of the Boy Scouts of America. It is composed of Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Scout Law in their daily lives as elected by their peers. Arrowmen are known for maintaining camping traditions and spirit, promoting year-round and long-term resident camping, and providing cheerful service to others.

The Vigil Honor, a high mark of distinction and recognition is reserved for those Arrowmen who, by reason of exceptional service, personal effort, and unselfish interest, have made distinguished contributions beyond the immediate responsibilities of their position or office to one or more of the following: their Lodge, the Order of the Arrow, the Scouting community, or to their Scout Camp.

This fall, the Black Hawk Lodge presented six individuals with the Vigil Honor:

Ricci Dula  
Dustin Gorder

Owen Moore  
Scott Moore

Eli Ripperda  
Jaden Schrecke

## New Aviation Exploring Post: Coming Fall 2020

**Did You Know?** Airlines will need 617,000 pilots, 679,000 technicians, and 814,000 flight attendants in the next 20 years.

We are excited to announce a new Partnership with Gem City Aviation. Aviation Exploring combines some classroom training with flying lessons. Explorers get to experience firsthand what it's like to be a pilot, aircraft mechanic, flight engineer, or air traffic controller, and so much more. For more information contact J. David Gilbert at 217-224-0204



Popular aviation careers include

- Pilots
- Aircraft Mechanics
- Flight Engineers
- Avionics Technicians
- Flight attendants
- Air Traffic Controllers
- Aerospace Engineers
- Airport Management and Operations

## Adventures in a Box & Merit Badge Kits

Even without a visit to Camp Eastman or Saukewanuk Scout Reservation, our Scouts were able to earn Merit Badges and have backyard adventures from the comfort of their own home!

With many thanks to our volunteers who helped put together this program quickly our Scouts were able to work on six different meritbadges. All of the items they needed to complete the requirements were in the box and there were even opportunities to meet with an expert over Zoom to gain some additional

knowledge, tips, and tricks. The Merit Badge program introduces Scouts to different career paths and hobbies. The six boxes we offered were: Bird Study, Leatherwork, Astronomy, Basketry, Wood Carving, Indian Lore.

Of course, our Cub Scouts had great adventures at home too! Three box kits were created for them with 7-10 activities in each box! These cool themes are Skat Attack, Outdoor Adventure, & Space Exploration.

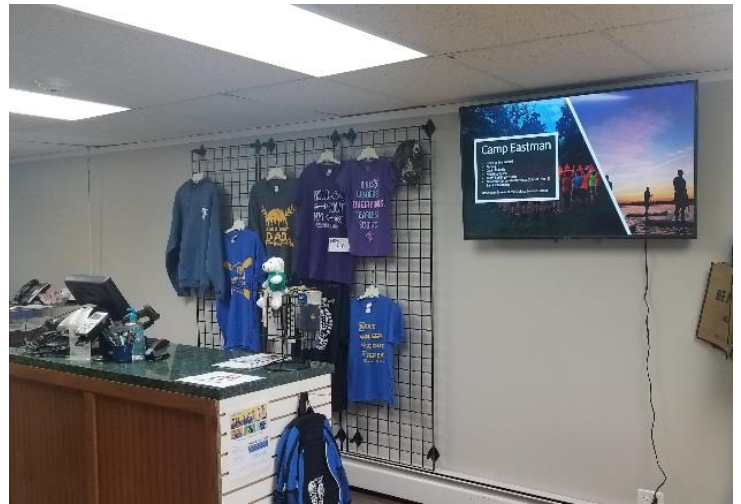
Kits are still available at the Quincy and Burlington Scout Shops.



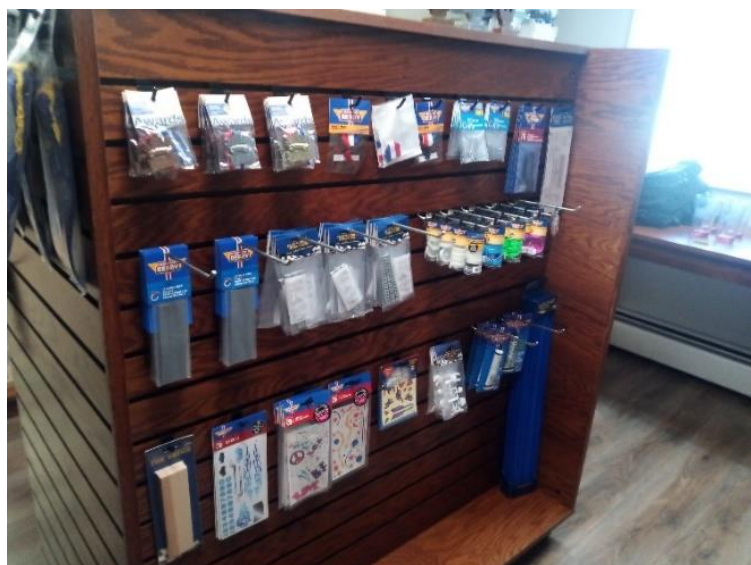
## Witte Foundation Assists with Burlington Service Center Upgrades

Beginning in 2018 the Mississippi Valley Council applied to the John J. Witte, Jr. Foundation for a grant with the hope of investing in our Burlington Service Center. Three years later and our strong partnership has transformed both the inside and outside of the building. We have a few more small projects that should be wrapped up in the beginning of October, however you can see a list of our completed projects below and a few of our most recent pictures.

- Painting the exterior siding which was last painted in 2002
- Replaced the Scout Shop and office toilets and fixed plumbing issues in all three restrooms
- Purchased and installed four new "Exit" emergency signs
- Installed a new alarm system
- Replaced the sump pump
- Installed new flooring
- Painted the walls and trim



- Installed a TV in the Scout Shop to cycle through upcoming events, adult leader training opportunities, merchandise, etc.
- Replaced old frosted and/or leaky windows which were original to the house – nearly 39 years old
- Replaced the curtains & shades which were worn thin, sun faded, and falling down
- Replaced the blinds in the conference room
- Replaced the aluminum storm door that was blown off during a high-wind storm
- Replaced the entire front door including the frame
- Placed a new awning to properly highlight the correct door for entry
- Repaired tears and peeling wallpaper in the Scout Shop
- Upgraded the fixtures and furniture in the Scout Shop
- Upgraded the fixtures in the backstock room to allow for us to consolidate from 3 storage areas to 1
- Replaced the vanity and faucet in two bathrooms and replaced the broken sink and countertop in the kitchenette



## Small-Group Program Days



With the success of our small-group in-person Program Days over the summer, the Mississippi Valley Council has continued to create safe in-person programs for all Scouts. Eleven ATV Days for youth 16+ at Saukenauk Scout Reservation. Fresh off the heels of switching from phase 3 to 4 of the Restore Illinois plan, we immediately began planning program days at Saukenauk Scout Reservation.

Our aim was and is simple: provide program for youth in the safest way possible. There is risk with any activity however we worked with the Health Department, Local Governments, and Medical Experts to create a mitigation plan that included a pre-attendance medical screening one week prior to the events and at arrival and frequent sanitation of both the equipment and the kids.

Fourteen Program Days have already occurred with many more on the schedule. Themes include:

- ATV Outdoor Course
- Climbing
- Archery
- Cub Scout Adventure Day Camps
- Zip Lining
- Rifle Shooting
- Shotgun Shooting

For more information on upcoming opportunities visit: <https://www.mississippivalleybsa.org/fall-program/>

## Scouts Learn About Jobs & Hobbies



Scouts get the opportunity to enhance their competitive edge by learning about different careers, vocations, hobbies, and skills by following requirements and information booklets that are developed by national experts in more than 135 topics.

Youth must earn twenty-one, of which 13 are required and the remaining nine may be chosen from a wide variety of topics, in order to earn the Eagle Scout rank

To help our Troops we are offering additional opportunities to earn Merit Badges:

Virtual Classes: Salesmanship, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Citizenship in the Community.

Small-Group In-Person: Chess, First Aid, & Environmental Science

### Council Leadership:

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

### Scouting Matters Staff

Will Duryea, Vice President of Marketing  
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