2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
CAPITOL AREA COUNCIL
Scouting is one of the few opportunities to not only learn about leadership but also put it into practice. This proven program is needed more than ever before, helping future generations of Americans work and live together in service to others. Our goal: to welcome all youth and their families, led by a team of volunteers reflecting the makeup of our community.

James Morriss, President
Marietta Scott, Executive Vice President
Jack Gindler, Commissioner
Jon C. Yates, Scout Executive
## KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total youth membership*</td>
<td>21,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cub Scouts</td>
<td>10,067</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy Scouts</td>
<td>5,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venturing</td>
<td>345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploring/STEM Scouts/Learning for Life**</td>
<td>5,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth membership retention*</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit retention*</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Units receiving 6 or more annual Unit Commissioner visits***</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total nights camped (youth)***</td>
<td>39,136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy Scouts/Varsity long-term camping***</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cub Scouts long-term camping***</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cub Scouts advancing in rank*</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy Scouts advancing in rank*</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merit badges earned*</td>
<td>14,208</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Top 5 earned: First Aid (653), Swimming (570), Family Life (431), Environmental Science (426), Citizenship in the Nation (409)

*As of December 7, 2018
**Pending final approval from LFL school partners as of December 7, 2018
***As of December 7, 2018, council camping report for Journey to Excellence
Scout participation broken out by some of our council’s most popular and well-attended programs:

- Cub Scout Day Camp: 1,149
- TechLab STEAM Day Camp: 231
- Spring/Fall Cub Adventure Days: 473
- Cub Scout Pack Family Camping*: 3,295
- Webelos Extreme/Cub Resident Camp: 198
- Boy Scout/Venturing Summer Camp**: 3,498
- Boy Scout Winter Camp***: 578
- NYLT: 188
- High Adventure Camping****: 676

*Includes pack camping at council owned and non-council owned properties
**Includes summer camp attendance in-council and out-of-council by CAC units
***2017 attendance
****Includes Boy Scout and Venturing program attendance at BSA High Adventure Bases
After years of “tagging along” with their brothers and families to Cub Scout events, girls were given the opportunity to officially join in 2018. Fourth grader Zoe Rehm was one of the first girls to join Cub Scout Pack 79 (chartered by Lake Hills Park Association). Zoe and hundreds more girls took part in Scouting’s traditional outdoor program, including Cub Scout Day Camp, Webelos Extreme Adventure Camp, and Cub Scout Adventure Days. In February 2019, girls in middle school and high school will be able to join all-girl troops in Scouts BSA. This is the same program that’s been known for decades as “Boy Scouts” but will now feature all-boy and all-girl troops. All of the program’s award and merit badge requirements will remain the same, with the notable exception that girls will now have the opportunity to earn the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout.

Not every young person is attracted to camping, fishing, hiking, and other traditional outdoor activities that have been staples of the Scouting program since 1910. This presents a challenge as we look to create programs that inspire and attract new youth to our proven platform of leadership and character development. Our council’s STEM NOVA and Camping Committees have sought to address this challenge with programs like STEMboree, STEM Adventure Weekends, and TechLab STEAM Day Camp. This summer, TechLab completed its fourth year partnering with Austin Independent School District to deliver a best-in-class week-long camp experience. Boys and girls leave this camp with new confidence from the mastery of new skills, just like Scouts attending summer camp at our Lost Pines Scout Reservation on Lake Bastrop. But instead of tying knots or paddling a canoe, TechLab campers learn the basics of welding or programming a Raspberry Pi (and more).
Our council is proud to continue the Boy Scouts of America’s more than century-long practice of teaching conservation and sustainable practices. Our Frank Fickett Scout Training and Service Center puts these teachings into practice through its solar array. In five years, the array has generated clean power resulting in offsets equal to:*

- 2,322 60W BULBS USED 8 HOURS/DAY FOR 1 YEAR
- 32,954 GALLONS OF GASOLINE BURNED
- 292 TONS OF CO₂ EMISSIONS SAVED
- 7,323 TREES (EQUAL TO TOTAL CO₂ OFFSET)

*Totals as of December 7, 2018
Explorer Post 370 worked with Austin Fire Department’s Wildfire Division helping Baldwin Elementary become “Firewise” while improving the school’s ability to withstand a wildfire. Although wildfire is a natural part of our ecosystem helping land regenerate, uncontrolled fires can disrupt wildlife habitat and dramatically change landscape and ground conditions. Explorer Post 370 is supported by its participating organization, the Austin Fire Department.

Boy Scout Troop 562 removes trash to protect wildlife and beautify public park space along a trail in Pflugerville. Troop 562 is chartered by the Texas Chautauqua Association.

Our council’s partnership with Austin Community College District brings the STEM Exploring program to students interested in learning about new environmental career opportunities.

(L) Third year student Anna Gonzales briefs our council Executive Board about how the STEM Exploring program is helping her achieve her goal of majoring in Environmental Engineering.
Eagle alumnus Bobby Ray Williams congratulates Erdulas Sturms, Ryan Oltrogge, and Logan Bowen as recipients of our council’s 2017 Byron Lockhart Eagle Scout Scholarships. The scholarships, awarded annually at the On My Honor: Eagle Scout Class Reception, recognize Eagle Scouts who have been highly involved in the Scouting program, are graduating high school, and are pursuing a post-secondary degree or technical certification.

Eagle Scout and Quartermaster Ryan Trefny of Sea Scout Ship 911 was named Southern Region Boatswain for the 2018-2019 term. As Region Boatswain, Ryan will lead the regional quarterdeck and will represent Sea Scouts as a member of the Southern Region Board. Ship 911 is chartered by San Gabriel Presbyterian Church.

Eagle Scout Eric Vandament (right) of Boy Scout Troop 410 was named a Perfect Game USA Rawlings Sporting Goods 2018 Preseason All-Region outfielder. Troop 410 is chartered by Highland Park Baptist Church.

Past and present members of Boy Scout Troop 395 thank Dr. Mark Dawson for his 23 years of service as Scoutmaster. During his time as Scoutmaster, 80 Scouts earned the rank of Eagle. Troop 395 is chartered by Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian Church.

Explorer Post 1911 (above) earned multiple awards at the 2018 A.W. Grimes Memorial Police Explorer Competition, including first in Crime Scene Investigation, third in Felony Traffic Stop and Officer Down Rescue. Post 1911 is supported by its participating organization, the Hays County Sheriff’s Office.

We’re proud to host Austin ISD administrators and staff regularly at the Fickett Center and partner throughout the year to deliver Scouting’s opportunities to as many families and children as possible.

Steve Stevens (right) received a 2018 Southern Region Sea Scout Leadership Award. Steve serves as Regional Vice Commodore for Membership and Growth.

T.W. Cook (right) was honored with a 2018 National Sea Scout Leadership Award and named as the new National Sea Scout Commodore.
These 10 Scouters received the Silver Beaver Award in our council in 2018. The award is the highest honor presented at the local council level for service to youth through Scouting.

SALUTE

We lost two former Council Presidents in 2018. We are grateful for the legacy they leave behind. We will work to fulfill their vision of serving all youth through the Scouting program.

Shep Strong

Shep was the kind of guy who fit in anywhere and everywhere in Scouting, whether he was tending a campfire, conducting a Scoutmaster conference, or leading our council’s Executive Board. He was honored with the Silver Beaver Award in 2003. He was part of the first Powder Horn high adventure training course and responsible for bringing it to the Southern Region and our council. He mentored a number of volunteers and youth through multiple Scouting positions, including our council’s Venturing Officers Association. Maybe Shep’s most endearing quality was just how good a person he was. In a world of cynicism and self-focus, he was genuinely optimistic, cheerful, and generous. He was someone you wanted on your team... and we were lucky that he chose to be a part of ours.

Dick Burdick

Richard L. "Dick" Burdick was a council/national/international Scouter, veteran, founder of Thermon Manufacturing Company, philanthropist and Rotarian in San Marcos. In 1979, he became active with our council, eventually holding several positions including Council President in 1986. He would later serve as President of the South Central Region and co-President of the newly formed Southern Region. He would go on to fill leadership roles with the 1989 National Jamboree, 1991 World Jamboree, 1993 National Jamboree, 1995 World Jamboree, and 1997 National Jamboree. He served as International Commissioner for 12 years, as an officer on the National Board of the Boy Scouts of America, and as Chairman of the National Court of Honor. He is the recipient of the Silver Beaver, Silver Antelope, Silver Buffalo, and Bronze Wolf Awards.
COMMUNITY SERVICE

Hours of community service performed (by district)*:

Chisholm Trail 13,125
Thunderbird 10,187
Armadillo 7,989
North Shore 7,732
Bee Cave 6,030
Sacred Springs 5,407
San Gabriel 2,699
Colorado River 2,597
Blackland Prairie 2,483
Hill Country 2,194
Live Oak 706
Waterloo 528

*Reported totals through BSA Journey to Excellence as of December 7, 2018

Darnell Smalls of Boy Scout Troop 190 helped restore a special needs school in Ghana as part of his Eagle Scout project. Darnell raised funds to purchase school supplies and then traveled to the African school to help repair its playground. Troop 190 is chartered by LDS Taylor Ward Round Rock East Stake.
Boy Scout Troop 365 was featured on the cover of the March-April 2018 issue of Scouting Magazine. The issue focused on service Scouting provides to the community, and living up to the Scout Oath’s call to “help other people at all times.” Troop 365 had traveled to the Texas Gulf Coast to assist communities with clean up work after Hurricane Harvey. Troop 365 is chartered by Round Rock Presbyterian Church.
Cub Scout Pack 565 sorted 40,000 pounds of food in two and a half hours for the Round Rock Serving Center to earn Scouting’s Messenger of Peace award. Pack 565 is chartered by Round Rock Presbyterian Church.

Clayton Dube of Boy Scout Troop 182 led volunteers from the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the town of McDade in restoring the historic John Herron family cemetery plot. The site is located on land Herron was granted for serving in the Battle of San Jacinto. The small cemetery dates back to the 1870’s. In all, the project required more than 400 hours of work. Troop 182 is chartered by St. Peters Lutheran Church.
Zachery Konken of Boy Scout Troop 1998 in Cedar Creek designed a wheelchair-accessible picnic area at the site of an old well in Bastrop’s Fishermans Park, and then worked with the Bastrop Parks Department and others to make it happen. Troop 1998 is chartered by Cedar Creek United Methodist Church.

Members of Cub Scout Pack 105 spent a Saturday afternoon picking up trash and making sure they left Ralph Pfluger Elementary School better than they found it! Pack 105 is chartered by VFW Auxiliary 12058.

Calvin Albin of Boy Scout Troop 448 renovated a large outdoor cooking area at Community First Village, and added a border wall, picnic table, wood pile holder, a solar powered light, and landscaping to the area. Troop 448 is chartered by St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church.
For his Eagle Project, Sam Domsch of Boy Scout Troop 410 decided to collect and repair bikes for children living at the Austin Shelter for Women and Children, plus distribute the bikes with locks and helmets at a “Bike Rodeo” in the spring.

Over the next few months, the Domsch family received more than 50 donated bikes at their home. Sam worked with the Austin Yellow Bike Project to make repairs. He also coordinated with the Texas Medical Association to donate helmets.

Shelter Director Stacy Schwarz provided a list of the 30 children at the shelter so that Sam could match each child with a bike in advance. If the bike that had been selected for them wasn’t the right fit, there were plenty of surplus bikes from which the children could choose.

All of the children were clearly delighted with their “new” bikes. The experienced riders spent the next few hours riding all over the grounds and inside the enclosed parking lot, huge smiles plastered on their faces. Sam worked patiently with the children who had never been on a bike before. There were enough extras for many of the mothers to also receive a bike, helmet, and lock.

Troop 410 is chartered by Highland Park Baptist Church.
Kameron Welma of Boy Scout Troop 967 led a team of Scouts to construct a Flag Retirement Burn Pit at the Buda Veterans Memorial. "It makes me feel a whole lot better knowing there is a place to properly retire a flag." Troop 967 is chartered by Buda United Methodist Church.

Feeling lonely and without friends? If you're a Carpenter Hill Elementary Colt there's a new, welcoming "Buddy Bench" waiting for you on the playground, thanks to the successful Eagle Scout project of Jackson Massey of Boy Scout Troop 640. Buddy Benches are designated places where students needing a friend can go sit and anticipate others to come share the bench and provide some needed company. The school's Student Council envisioned the addition to their playground, but it was Jackson who created the spot, perfectly located between two shade trees, flanked by flower planters. Troop 640 is chartered by LDS Plum Creek Ward, Kyle Stake.
On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.