Welcome to The Promise. It is the intent of the Central Region Outdoor Program Support Team (CROPS) to provide councils with information and tools to improve local outdoor program and help them to better deliver the Promise of Scouting.

**Our Vision:** To give every young person in Scouting the opportunity to obtain lasting values and a love for the outdoors, and to do so with safety, good facilities, and strong leadership.

**Our Mission:** To provide every council with sufficient tools to build a quality outdoor experience for young people in a safe and friendly environment, and to support the efforts of all councils to deliver the Promise of Scouting.

Look in this newsletter every quarter for news from the National Service Center, highlights from the Outdoor Program Task Forces and dates of upcoming events. Feel free to distribute this to any interested Scouter and we hope this will be beneficial to your work in the Scouting Movement.

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COPE AND CLIMBING

At the national meeting in May, John Winter stepped down as the national chair of the COPE/Climbing task force. John “Papa Smurf” has been active in the COPE/Climbing program for many years serving as chair of his council’s committee, central regional chair and national chair. During that time, he has been instrumental in moving the program forward, as well as adding additional program areas that were aligned with COPE/Climbing, most recently caving. His leadership will be missed. He plans to stay active by sharing his talents in other areas of scouting.

Replacing John as the new Chairperson will be Rhonda Wright from the Southern Region. Rhonda has many years of experience in scouting in both COPE/Climbing and caving. We look forward to her leadership as we move forward.

In Council Training

During the spring committee meeting it was recognized that there was some confusion about the process for developing in council training for COPE/Climbing. Following is process we will be using in the Central Region:
1. Council commits to offer the training to meet NCAP requirements.
2. Council gets a Program Manager (PM) trained to design and administer the program, including an assessment plan.
3. Program Manager requests a Training Program Evaluation from their Area Advocate, preferably 90 days in advance of the planned training sessions.
4. The advocate assigns a Training Program Evaluator (TPE) from the approved list and notifies the PM and the regional chair.
5. PM sends documentation of their training and assessment plan to the TPE for initial review, preferably 60 days in advance of the training.
6. The PM & TPE agree on a time when the TPE can observe the process, and either approve or offer specific suggestions for the PM to complete to receive approval. The approval can be granted for up to 5 years.
7. Once approved the council can then train their own Level II instructors.
8. Each time Level II instructors are trained the PM sends a copy of the roster to the Regional Chair.

ACCT Membership
BSA members can now join ACCT for the reduced rate of $35.00 per person. Email Natalie Hill at: membership@acctinfo.org requesting to join ACCT as a member of BSA National Council. She will send you a link to complete your individual profile and make your payment on-line.

Training and Conference Opportunities

The central region will hold a Program Manager Training and COPE/Climbing conference October 4 – 7, 2018, at Howard H Cherry Scout Reservation, Central City, IA. The PM class will start at 9:00 am, Thursday, October 4, and conclude before noon on the 7th. The cost for both the course and conference is $100.00.

If you already have your Program Managers card, then come for the conference only. Find out what has been happening in COPE/Climbing in the Central Region, NCAP updates, and assessor and other educational opportunities. The conference will start at 9:00 am, Saturday, October 6, and conclude before noon on the 7th. The cost for the conference only is $50.00.

To register, please go online to: http://www.hawkeyebsa.org/Event.aspx?id=2294

Fall Conference

Philmont Scout Ranch September 16 – 22, 2018. If you want an alternative to NCS, consider coming to Philmont in the fall to take the COPE, Climbing Director or Program Manager course. For additional information see the Philmont Training Center website.

John Harrits

2018 Silver Buffalo Award recipients, at a glance

Please join me in congratulating each of these outstanding volunteers for a job well done.

- Linda Baker, Twin Rivers Council (Saratoga Springs, N.Y.)
- Terry Bramlett, Northeast Georgia Council (Suches, Ga.)
- John Brown, Pathway to Adventure Council (Forest Park, Ill.)*
- Howard Bulloch, Las Vegas Area Council (Las Vegas)*
- Larry Coppock, Middle Tennessee Council (Joelton, Tenn.)
- Craig Fenneman, Hoosier Trails Council (Martinsville, Ind.)*
John W. Hess, Longs Peak Council (Lafayette, Colo.)*
William Loeble Jr., Atlanta Area Council (Covington, Ga.)*
María Molinelli, Puerto Rico Council (San Juan, Puerto Rico)
Brian Williams, Buffalo Trace Council (Evansville, Ind.)*

UTE PARK FIRE FORCES PHILMONT TO CANCEL TREKS THROUGH JULY 14, and PHILMONT TRAINING CENTER PROGRAMS THROUGH JUNE 23

Philmont Scout Ranch announced Monday that the still-burning Ute Park Fire has forced it to cancel all backcountry treks from June 8 to July 14.

Treks after July 14 may resume, likely with altered itineraries, if backcountry conditions improve.

Additionally, programs scheduled to take place at the Philmont Training Center have been canceled through June 23. The training center expects to welcome back participants beginning with the Philmont Family Adventure on June 24.

The National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience, or NAYLE, program, takes place at Rayado Ridge Leadership Camp. That camp is 7 miles south of the Philmont base camp and is unaffected by the Ute Park Fire. NAYLE will go on as scheduled.

“The safety of our youth participants, volunteers and staff is a priority for everybody at Philmont Scout Ranch and the Boy Scouts of America,”

Go to: http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/ for up to date information

CAMPING

The National Camping Task Force met in Dallas at the end of May prior to the National Meeting.

Frank Reigelman shared a brief overview of the new Governance and Operations structure. More details will emerge over the summer into the fall as the national organization works through the details of the standing committees that will deal with Operations. This will include Outdoor Adventures, and Governance, which will focus on finance and other issues.

After a four-year effort to update the Historic Trails program, Doug Ferguson reported that the project is complete. He has heard from all the councils that sponsor trails and the list is up to date. Full details on all the BSA sponsored Historic Trails can be found at: http://bsatap.org/historic-trails/
As we are all aware, Scouting is now accepting girls and young women at all levels and programs. Is your council camp ready? We need to be aware that this is a critical moment for the Scouting movement, and our facilities, volunteers and professionals need to Be Prepared to offer the best possible experience to these new Scouts. With all the other opportunities available to families today, Scouting needs to stand out as the best choice to meet the needs of our new families. You only have one chance to make a first impression, so we all need to be dedicated to making that experience great.

Make good use of the NCAP tools available to your council. Take the time and effort to create a viable Continuous Camp Improvement Plan (CCIP). Use the Council Facility Evaluation Tool (CFET) to identify the facilities that will have an impact on our new families.

Dan Gille

**FISHING**

I am happy to report fishing programs in the Central Region have been plentiful this spring, and have provided many Scouts, siblings and family members with First Catch experiences through high quality outdoor programming.

For pictures of events, please visit a newly created Facebook Group, aka Scout ‘n Fish. Please encourage your Scouts to participate in this social media page and share their #FIRSTCATCH Scouting adventures.

Also, I’m very pleased to report that BSA Certified Angling Instructor Training Courses were held across the Central Region this spring. CAI courses were hosted by the following councils; Simon Kenton, Three Harbors, Dan Beard, Greater St. Louis Area, and Michigan Crossroads.

CAI Course Training staffs included both BSA Certified Angling Instructors and BSA Angling Educators from across the Central Region, and we thank them for their commitment and expertise.

Through their efforts, they produced 40 new BSA Certified Angling instructors. Congrats to all the spring CAI graduates. Pictures of graduating classes can be found [CAI Class Photos](#).

These recent graduates have been given the tools to succeed, and have accepted the challenge to set personal goals such as:
• Teaching Scouts how to enjoy the sports of Fishing and Fly-Fishing
• Insuring quality angling instruction programs at Summer Camp
• Providing quality equipment, thus improving the Scouts experience
• Improving Camp Fisheries and their management efforts
• Making Fishing an intentional program within their Council, so that Scouts may have fun for a lifetime in this exciting and relaxing outdoor adventure

These recent graduates will join more than 1,000 BSA Certified Angling Instructors and BSA Angling Educators who maintain clear objectives in order to achieve their goals, such as:

• Improving fishing opportunities offered at Cub Scout Day Camps
• Improving fishing and fly-fishing programs offered at Summer Camps
• Developing High Adventure Fishing experiences/treks for Venturing Units
• Improving Council Camp Fisheries by improving the resource
• Assisting in acquisition of fishing and fly-fishing tackles at special prices
• Utilizing the RBFF "Take Me Fishing" Programs to support all BSA Fishing
• Utilizing the EDGE method when educating Scouts on Fishing Skills and Equipment Usage
• Participating in discussion groups and sharing other Councils’ Fishing Programs
• Promoting the BSA Complete Angler Award
• Promoting the use of BSA Certified Angling Instructor training courses to improve the success of the MB Counselor

Want to learn more about the BSA Certified Angling Instructor Program? Please visit us at www.bsafishing.com or visit our Facebook page CAI-Certified Angling Instructors

Upcoming CAI Training Opportunities

CAI Course - Hawkeye Area Council - CR AREA 3

• Start August 17, 2018 5:00 PM
• End August 19, 2018 12:00 PM
• Location Howard H. Cherry Scout Reservation
• Additional Details

BSA Fishing Train the Trainer Course - National

• Start September 16, 2018
• End September 22, 2018
• Location Philmont Training Center, Cimmaron NM
• Additional Details

For the inaugural copy of the CAI Newsletter FISH ON! visit Summer CAI Newsletter 2018

Interested in joining our team? Please contact your Central Region Area Lead - Fishing. For a complete listing click Area Leads.

Michael Brand
Central Region Week at
Philmont Training Center
July 22 – 28, 2018

See Full Course Descriptions and Conference Information at
http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/PTC.aspx

#Awesome! – STEM Explorations (Youth age 14-20)
Explore the natural science world, taking day trips into
Philmont’s backcountry. Visit locations across Philmont,
exploring and experimenting in the New Mexico wild.

Building Successful Packs: Training Unit Leaders to Build and
Sustain Cub Scout Packs
All Pack Leaders in Units, Districts and Councils, and
Commissioners are invited to learn how to build and operate a
successful pack.

Council Key 3 (Council Key 3 Teams encouraged)
Learn how the Council Key 3 works as a team to coordinate
activities and improve a successful council. Topics include
improving Journey to Excellence as it pertains to all aspects of
Council operations.

District Key 3 (District Key 3 Teams encouraged)
Learn how the District Key 3 works as a team to build and
operate a successful district. The conference will include a focus
on improving the Journey to Excellence standing and more.

Exploring: Become the “Game Changer” in your Council
Become a difference maker for your Council and community by
becoming an Exploring Guru. Examine the secret to community
impact, membership growth, and sustainability.

National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYLE) (Age
14 or 13 and completed 8th grade)
Youth learn to practice their leadership skills in this action-
packed backcountry conference. By honing the skills taught in
‘Introduction to Leadership Skills,’ Kodiak Challenge and NYLT in
an outdoor experiential learning environment, youth “live
leadership”, with skills that will carry over to the unit and other
aspects of their lives.

Planning Programs That Rock (For adult leaders of Troops,
Teams, or Crews)
Learn to plan and execute exciting, high-energy programs for
your troop, team, or crew using the BSA’s Program Planning
Features and other resources. Then get outside at Philmont to
try your hand at various activities. Scouting Alumni and Friends:
Your answer to everything
Scouting produces an enduring impact on its members, including
adult volunteers and family members. Learn how a Scouting
Alumni and Friends committee can help your Council.

STEM-Tastic Scouting - Inspiration, Imagination
and Innovation
This STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)
conference is designed to help you and your council integrate
STEM programs and activities into your current programming.
There will be many opportunities to experience hands-on
activities to share with your units.

Strategic Training Planning for Councils and Districts
Council and district training chairs will examine the training
problems in a fictitious council and its districts and learn the
process to develop plans for solving them.

Venturing Blast! (For youth officers ages 14-20 and adults)
Venturing Officer Association (VOA) youth leaders, adult
advisors, and staff advisors are invited to join with other leaders
from across the nation to network, build friendships, discover
more of the ALPS program model, and develop skills to help
VOAs support an explosive Venturing program!

Family Programs: Programs are planned and organized for all
members of the family—infant through adult.

- Nursery — Two months to two years old
- Small Fry — Children aged 3-5
- Bandits — Children aged 6-7
- Ropers — Girls aged 8-10
- Deputies — Boys aged 8-9
- Sidewinders — Boys aged 10
- Mustangs — Girls aged 11-13
- Trailblazers — Boys aged 11-13
- Broncos — Coed aged 14-20
- Mountain Trek — Coed aged 14-21
- Silverados — Non-conference adults
OUTDOOR ETHICS BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

This year the fourth Outdoor Ethics Conference will be held in the Central Region from October 18-21, 2018, at Naish Scout Reservation in Bonner Springs, KS, just west of Kansas City, KS.

The keynote address will be given by Al Lambert from the National Office. Some of the many presenters include Ben Lawhon and Andrew Leary from the Leave No Trace Center, Danielle Fowles from Tread Lightly!, Dr. Jeff Marion from Virginia Tech and Dave O’Leary from the BSA Outdoor Ethics National Task Force.

There will also be pre-conference workshops on Hornaday Advisor, Master Tread Trainer and Council Outdoor Ethics Advocates available from October 16-18. The New Information Flyer and Registration Flyer can be found on the Home page of the Outdoor Ethics website at: http://outdoorethics-bsa.org.

In 2012, the first National Outdoor Ethics Conference was held in the Southern region at the Donald Reynolds Scout Training Center in Damascus, AR. This was followed by a second conference in 2014 in the Northeast Region at Camp Alpine in Alpine, NJ. A third conference was then held in 2016 in the Western Region at Camp Tracey in the Salt Lake City area.

Attendees at the conference will include Leave No Trace Trainers and Master Educators, Outdoor Ethics Advocates (Council, Area and Region levels), National Outdoor Ethics Task Force Members, and scouts interested in Outdoor Ethics, Hornaday and Conservation subject matter. Please come and join us.

Outdoor Ethics continues to be a significant part of the Outdoor Program for the Boy Scouts of America. Segments of Outdoor Ethics are now part of the rank requirements in Cub Scouts. Chapter 7 in the current Boy Scout Handbook is devoted to Outdoor Ethics as are chapters 7 through 10 in the Fieldbook.

For all things Outdoor Ethics please check the Outdoor Ethics website provided by the BSA’s Outdoor Ethics Task Force at http://outdoorethics-bsa.org for the latest information on the conference updates, resources, trainings, awards and council and national contacts.

Don Reinicker

Central Region, Area 7 Outdoor Ethics Advocate
SHOOTING SPORTS

I am a shooter, hunter, and strong supporter of shooting sports activities. I began learning about firearms and shooting at the age of 6. I became an NRA Pistol Instructor in 1976 while serving in the USN. I am an NRA Training Counselor and hold instructor certifications in every civilian NRA discipline. I also teach archery and certify instructors for the US Archery Association. I have owned and managed a gun & gunsmithing company for many years during my civilian careers. This has enabled me to develop strong relationships with the shooting sports industry. I attend the Shot Show annually, and developed a strong network of friends and colleagues throughout the industry and most of the organizations representing shooting sports. I am a Benefactor Life Member of the NRA, Life member of the NMLRA, Life member of the USCCA, Life member of serval State Rifle & Pistol Associations and I belong to the NSSF.

I retired in 2013 as CEO for a large international organization with headquarters in Paris, France. My civilian careers required me to work outside the United States and I lived in Australia, Brazil, Belgium, Mexico, Canada, and other countries. I began my civilian career after leaving the USN. I served on 3 different nuclear submarines in the engineering divisions. I left as a Chief Petty Officer. As a civilian I earned a B.S. in Chemistry and received 3 U.S. Patents in polymer chemistry and the design of an aircraft hydraulic valve. I later went back to university to obtain a B.S. in Marketing and an MBA in International Business & Marketing while working. As I changed career paths over the years (I have worked with civilian organizations and government agencies), I kept involved in Scouting in the USA and other countries, and in shooting sports.

During my life’s journey I became a Boy Scout. I joined in 1957 and continued in Boy Scouts on my journey. I attended the 1964 Jamboree in Valley Forge, have attended 5 NOACS, and have been to Philmont Scout Camp 5 times. My family has 3 generations of Eagle Scouts, beginning with my father and now with my son. I believe strongly in the Boy Scouts of America and its mission to the youth of our country.

Ralph Schuster

Welcome, Ralph!
NCAP

I would like to introduce myself as the new NCAP Chairman for the Central Region. I’m looking forward to working with Rich and his team to deliver the safest and strongest outdoor program to all the youth in the Central Region.

We are beginning our 2nd round of NCAP Authorization! All Councils of the Central Region have been through the process once. In 2018, 11 Councils will benefit from the authorization process for the 2nd time! The process is proceeding well, with nearly all Councils getting their material in. Our writers are to review the packets of material for response.

We also have 12 Councils who are presenting their 3rd Year Interim Reports. We are working to collect all these reports for review by the Committee.

Thank you for your role in delivering our promise for a safe, quality, and FUN Outdoor Program across the Central Region.

Dan Hunt, NCAP Chairman
dhunt@hunte.net
w: 402.492.2815, c: 402.533.8853

Welcome, Dan!

For the past two years Dan Hunt has served in a support role to previous Central Region NCAP Chair, Dr. Denis Ward.

Dan earned his Eagle in 1981 in Troop 232 in Blair, Nebraska, and is a Vigil Honor member in the Order of the Arrow. After attending Luther College in Decorah, IA, he joined his family’s business and now serves as the president.

In Scouting, Dan has served his local council, Mid-America Council in Omaha, in many roles, notably District Chairman and Council Commissioner. He now serves as the District Operations Chair, and is a member of their Executive Committee and Key 5. Dan served as Area 5 President in the Central Region for 4 years.

He has been recognized with the District Award of Merit, Silver Beaver, Silver Antelope, and NESA Outstanding Eagle Scout honors.
IN TRIBUTE

BOB KAPPERMAN
Buffalo Trace Council, Evansville IN
1935 – 2018

50-year Veteran Scouter
Member, National Shooting Sports Task Force (retired)
Central Region Shooting Sports Chairman (retired)
A good friend, great Scouter and servant to American Youth
MEET THE CROPS TEAM!

We are pleased to welcome two new members to the CROPS team.

Dan Hunt has taken over as the Central Region NCAP Chair, replacing Dr. Denis Ward. Denis is now the National NCAP Authorization Chair. Good luck Denis and thanks for all your hard work. See the article on page 13.

Ralph Schuster is the new Central Region Shooting Sports Chair. See article on page 9.

Chair ......................... Aaron Randolph  aranjr@mcshi.com
Conservation Task Force ........ Pat Bowen  Pdbowen1@comcast.net
Cub Camping Resource .......... Jim Forrest  jcforrest@comcast.net
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Camping Task Force/Newsletter ... Dan Gille  dcgille@gmail.com
Outdoor Ethics Task Force ........ Toby Green  greentoby58@gmail.com
Cope & Climbing Task Force ...... John Harrits  harrits@sbcglobal.net
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Fishing Task Force ............... Mike Brand  Michaelbrand314@gmail.com
Aquatics Task Force ............. Terry Budd  paddler@ameritech.net
National Support ............... Brian Gray  Brian.gray@scouting.org
Facilities Task Force ............ John Makowski  johnmakowski@live.com
CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS

Aaron Randolph aranjr@mchsi.com

It was great to see many of you at the National Annual Meeting in Dallas the last week of May. Those who were there were fortunate to hear from many of the top leaders of the Boy Scouts of America, including outgoing President Randal Stevenson. Mr. Stevenson discussed the organizational change to Family Scouting and commented, “If you don’t like change, you’re going to like irrelevance even less”. This comment focuses us on the direction Scouting is going, and how important it is for us to remain committed to the foundations of Scouting – character development, citizenship training & personal fitness.

In the months ahead, it is critical for each of us, as leaders in the movement, to embrace the many changes, and recommit ourselves to focusing on providing the best program possible for ALL our youth. You each know in your hearts that program is the lifeblood of the movement, and without great program units, districts and councils begin to wither and die. Here in the Central Region we are very fortunate to have some of the highest quality programs and facilities in the entire country, including two of the four BSA National High Adventure Bases. The Northern Tier offers participants the chance to trek through some of the most unspoiled country on the continent, and the Summit boasts a wide variety of world class facilities and programs which continue to expand every year. On a bigger scale the BSA began offering opportunities for Family Camping programs at the Summit and at Philmont this summer. When you start planning your family adventures for the summer of 2019, be sure to look at these exciting new offerings.

And while you’re making plans for summer 2019, make time to be a part of the 24th World Scout Jamboree. The BSA is co-hosting, and we need many more staff. Take a few minutes to visit the Jamboree site at https://wsj2019.us/

There are many openings in program areas, trading post and on the International Service Team. I hope to see many of you there.

One last comment about the National Meeting – if you haven’t taken time to congratulate the 2019 Silver Antelope recipients from our Region please make the effort. They were all listed in the last issue of The Promise, and they all deserve a big thank you for their efforts and their leadership.

YITSOG
(Yours In The Spirit Of Gilwell)
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