

The Well Guided Journey

Scouting Achievement.

Rewarding Partnerships.

Strength Through Support.



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Simon Kenton Council · Boy Scouts of America



Dear *Friends,*

For over a century, the Boy Scouts of America has helped build the future leaders of this country through the well-guided journey we know as the Scouting Trail. The journey through Scouting continues to instill in our youth a foundation of strong character, the value of hard work, and the recognition of personal responsibility not only to self, but to other people in the life and communities we share and build together. Scouting is certainly a journey including outdoor treks and camping in tents, but it is also a journey for young people to explore and experience our world to discover their dreams and their potential. It's a journey of revelation that gives insight to real life opportunities; the discovery of career possibilities, choices to expand academic skills, adapt a healthier lifestyle, develop timeless values, and prepare for adulthood.

Our job is to help make this happen for every youth, and we're working to accomplish this goal in many ways. In 2017, the Simon Kenton Council uniquely expanded the Scouting journey in Columbus in partnership with MY Project USA. The focus of this new project is to reach youth in the refugee and immigrant community. The Simon Kenton Council has also expanded programming with the help of partners like Honda, AT&T, Columbia Gas, and Mount Carmel. Partners like these provide character building activities, educational programs, new structures for learning, and more services to enhance the journey youth can experience through Scouting.

All of this would not be possible without you; the support of 6,500 Scout leaders and volunteers guiding more than 17,000 youth along the way in our 18- county, two-state territory. Thank you for making a positive impact on the lives of our youth along their journey through Scouting. It's a rewarding journey for all of us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey R. Moe'.

Jeffrey R. Moe
Scout Executive/CEO

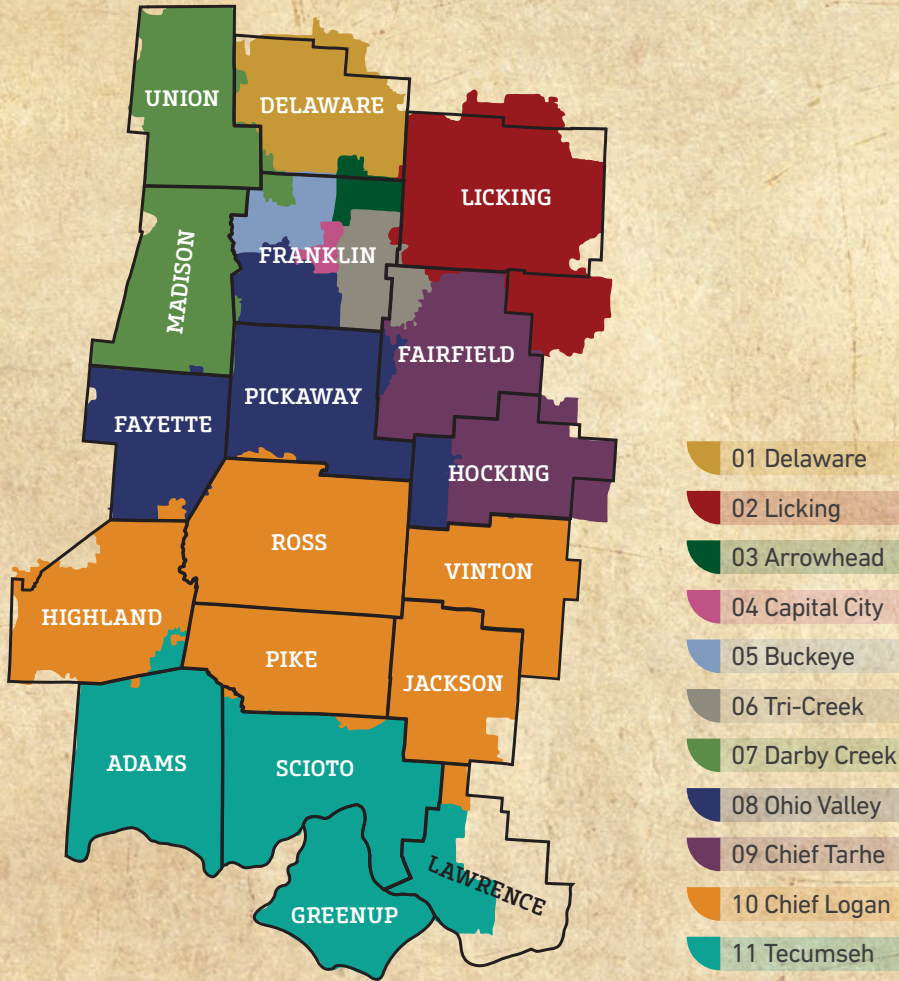
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gregory B. Comfort'.

Gregory B. Comfort
Council President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bruce C. Boyle'.

Bruce C. Boyle
Council Commissioner

Membership 2017



Simon Kenton Council *Districts*

Cub Scouts	11,767
Boy Scouts	5,028
Venturing	296
Exploring	414

Total Membership 17,505

In 2017, the strength of our units and programs marked comparative stability with 2016 in program participation and advancement, including a significant increase in Boy Scout Summer Camp attendance, up 27%. Our council also showed strong stability through our recruitment partnerships with the Columbus Blue Jackets, OhioHealth Chiller Ice Rinks, and the Columbus Clippers. With additional dedicated business partnerships expanding our program offerings and events, along with our new Scouting program within the refugee and immigrant community, the Simon Kenton Council is poised for sustained growth in membership and Scout advancement in the year to come.

A REWARDING *Journey*

THANKS TO STRONG PARTNERSHIPS AND SUPPORT.



Now Open!

The New Honda Nature & Conservation Education Center at Camp Lazarus

The Honda Nature & Conservation Education Center officially opened on Tuesday, September 12, 2017. The 3,456 square foot Camp Lazarus facility includes a large classroom, an activity lab for hands-on learning, and an attached outdoor pavilion. This new Scouting and community resource is made possible by a grant from Honda of America Mfg. Foundation, and a partnership with the Delaware Area Career Center. Many thanks to these partners, and to other generous supporters who made monetary and in-kind contributions, including Andrews Architects, Camp Lazarus Properties Committee, Converse Electric, Harmony Homes, Nancy Peto, and WSA Studio.

Programming at the center will include hands-on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) related resources focused on conservation, recycling, energy and nature study. The new nature center will serve as a tremendous resource for Scouts, local schools, church groups, community groups, and families for many, many years to come!



Major 2017 Camp Improvements

Thanks to significant support from generous partners, donors, and volunteers, our camp priorities have benefited from a host of upgrades and crucial improvements to both our camp facilities and primary camp assets.

Here are just a few examples:

American Legion donation brings cabins to Camp Lazarus

Thanks to the generous donation of \$40,000 from the American Legion, Camp Lazarus has new cabins. In total, 16 cabins were purchased. Six 20 person bunk houses and 10 three person bunk houses are available for use. The new facilities will provide many Scouts and their families a better opportunity to enjoy an overnight experience at Camp Lazarus.

Return of the Dam to Camp Oyo

Thanks to the funds and volunteers of the OYO Alumni Association, Camp Oyo has a lake again. The repair of the dam on the property is long overdue after it was destroyed in the flash floods of 1997. With the dam comes a lake that can be enjoyed by Scouts, Scouters, family and friends, and any other visitors to Camp Oyo.

Nine new Staff Cabins at Chief Logan Reservation

Thanks to many generous donors, nine new staff cabins have been added to Chief Logan Reservation.

Camp Falling Rock, New Trading Post Coming Soon

Funds were secured in 2017 for the construction of a new trading post and Campmaster building at Camp Falling Rock. This new facility will be a welcomed addition to the camp for both new and returning visitors.



PROGRAM *Highlights*

BOY SCOUT SUMMER CAMP

In-Council Resident Camp	1,771
Out-of-Council Resident Camp	564
High Adventure (Philmont, Sea Base, etc.)	282

Total Attendance **2,617**

CUB SCOUT SUMMER CAMPING

Cub & Webelos Resident Camps	304
Cub Scout Day Camp	1,504

Total Attendance **1,808**

Columbia Gas Safety Education at Summer Camp

Thanks to a partnership with Columbia Gas of Ohio, local Scouts learned the importance of natural gas safety at summer camp. When representatives from Columbia Gas of Ohio visited two Simon Kenton Council day camps, they stressed two important safety rules, "smell and tell" and "call 811 before you dig."



Through engaging demonstrations of the dangers of natural gas, the messages were clear. First, if you smell the "rotten egg" smell of natural gas, tell a parent, teacher or Scout leader that you smell something unusual and remind them to call 911 and Columbia Gas of Ohio immediately. If you smell natural gas, it's an emergency. Second, if you plan to do any digging as part of a project or adventure, parents or Scout leaders should always make the free call to 811. You don't want to hit



A Credit to Scouting... 2017 'Leader of Promise' Award Recipient

Seventh Grade Scouter, Michael Riebe, is the Westerville Area Resource Ministry (WARM) 2017 Leader of Promise award recipient. A student at Walnut Springs Middle School, Michael engages in many community service opportunities as a student, Boy Scout and WARM volunteer. WARM Volunteer Services has firsthand observed Michael's passion to serve others with a kind and humble heart. As an example, Michael and two friends maintained a garden during recess in memory of a kindergarten student who had been tragically killed by a drunk driver.

Michael's community involvement includes: extensive volunteer service at WARM, preschool and kindergarten Sunday School volunteer at Genoa and Heritage Church, mentor to elementary students in transition from 5th to 6th grade, fundraising for Boy Scout expenses raising extra funds and donating 10% to Friends of Scouting for Scouts needing financial assistance, assembly of food baskets for Thanksgiving at Central College Presbyterian Church, Member of Mark Twain Service Club 2014-15, fundraisers for Pelotonia 2013-2015 and rode 25 miles each, raising a total of \$3,000 for cancer research. In 2014 Michael was awarded the Fouse Award at the Westerville Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast Celebration. Look for his continued recognition, especially as his Scouting journey continues in the years ahead. Congratulations, Michael, and thank you. You are a credit to Scouting and our council.

and damage underground utility lines when you dig.

This important partnership with Columbia Gas of Ohio included financial support for Scouting, and provided lifelong lessons for our Scouts thanks to engaging summer camp programs.

Mount Carmel Hosts First Aid Training at Day Camp



Thanks to the generous support of Mount Carmel Health System, hundreds of Cub Scouts learned first aid while at Day Camp this summer. In addition to learning basic first aid, the Scouts were able to build and take home their very own first aid kits.

AT&T Merit Badge Workshop

AT&T is committed to education and helping students succeed in school, the workforce, and in life. Part of their funding priorities is directed towards helping youth with leadership development and educational programs that enrich community and civic leadership capacity. These priorities all align with the mission of the Boy Scouts of America. A new partnership with AT&T made it

possible to accomplish some of these objectives through a Programming Merit Badge Workshop. Throughout the day, 20 Scouts completed requirements needed to earn the Programming Merit Badge where they learned skills they can use in college and the workforce.

Over 300 New Eagle Scouts Recognized

We celebrated our newest class of Eagle Scouts among family and friends at the Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner. The night's honoree, Lisa Ingram, President and CEO of White Castle had an inspiring message for the Eagle Scouts about leadership and character. Ingram was joined by many of our corporate partners in congratulating our Eagle Scouts!



COUNCIL Advancements

COUNCIL ADVANCEMENTS

- 316 Scouts earned the Eagle Award
- 876 Webelos Scouts completed the Arrow of Light Award
- 2,147 Boy Scouts advanced in rank
- 8,254 Cub Scouts advanced in rank
- 12,313 merit badges earned

MERIT BADGE HIGHLIGHTS

- 3,948 STEM & environmental stewardship badges earned
- 3,281 health & fitness badges earned
- 3,204 civic engagement & business badges earned
- 1,880 arts & culture badges earned

The Simon Kenton Council is dedicated to improving the lives of local youth by addressing issues related to general education, public health, and quality of life. Scouts are directly engaged in programs that target environmental conservation, childhood obesity, and boosting math and science aptitude. Through merit badge programs and advancements, Scouting youth develop self-worth, become environmentally conscious and more civically engaged, learn healthy habits, and are better prepared for studies in math and science.

FINANCIAL *Report*

(unaudited)

2017 REVENUE

Direct Public Support	\$1,373,543
United Way Support	\$152,490
Activity & Camping Fees	\$1,339,014
Sale of Scout Supplies (Net)	\$19,902
Popcorn Sales	\$1,070,850
Investments & Other Revenue	\$571,373

Total Revenue **\$4,527,172**

2017 EXPENSES

Program	\$3,737,769
Management	\$252,134
Fundraising	\$433,493
Charter & National Service Fees	\$78,542

Total Expenses **\$4,501,938**

NEW SCOUTING PROGRAM

SERVING WEDGEWOOD REFUGEE & IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY

In a program new to Columbus, the Columbus City Council, Simon Kenton Council and MY Project USA have launched a pilot Scouting program on the West Side. Though open to all children, the program is specifically focused on the refugee and immigrant community in the Wedgewood neighborhood.

Many children in the community fall victim to older children who “groom” them to become part of gangs, said Zerqa Abid, founder and executive director of MY Project USA, a nonprofit focused on protecting and empowering youth. “We want to create a support program that really helps children and parents, and empowers them against gang influences,” Abid said. Along with other programs MY Project USA is doing, the opportunity Scouting provides can in Abid’s words, “uplift the whole community and change minds from being a refugee to being a loyal, productive American citizen.”

City Councilman, Michael Stinziano sponsored the ordinance which funded the program with a \$25,000 grant from the neighborhood initiatives

sub-fund to serve this new American community through Scouting. Similar programming has been done in other cities, but this is a first for Columbus. Stinziano hopes this will be a pilot program that can be used elsewhere in the city.

The crucial challenge to a successful launch was finding leaders within the community who speak the language and can communicate with not only the children, but with their parents. It’s a uniquely targeted approach to Scouting, and the program has been well received and executed in its first year. We’re hearing from parents and community leaders who confirm ‘this is what we need’ and are advocates of Scouting’s positive influence.

The program includes a Boy Scout troop (boys ages 11 to 18), two Cub Scout packs (boys ages 7 to 10), and a co-ed Venture group for boys and girls in high school. The new program is providing a safe, stable space for the youth of this community to engage, learn and grow in healthy, productive opportunities outside of school.



From Tiger Scout to Business Founder: Tiger Mushroom Farms

Tiger Mushroom Farms was founded by Te'Lario Watkins II when he was just seven years old. The idea of Tiger Mushroom Farms began after Te'Lario planted cat grass and basil seeds at his first Cub Scout meeting as a Tiger Scout. He enjoyed watering plants and was eager to see their growth each day. Wondering

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what else he could grow in Ohio in the wintertime, he remembered reading a book about mushrooms. After talking about it with his parents, they bought him a mushroom kit. Today, Tiger Mushroom Farms is a small family-run mushroom farm that offers a variety of mushrooms and mushroom products; shiitake and a variety of oyster mushrooms. Te'Lario, now 10 years old, is a published author, speaker and philanthropist. Just imagine what's next for this young Scout.

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17,500 SCOUTS STRONG:

The Simon Kenton Council is one of the largest Boy Scout Councils in the nation, serving 17 counties in central and southern Ohio, and Greenup County in northern Kentucky. With more than 40 employees and nearly 6,500 volunteers, we deliver the Scouting program to 17,500 youth at 395 chartered organizations.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
SIMON KENTON COUNCIL



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