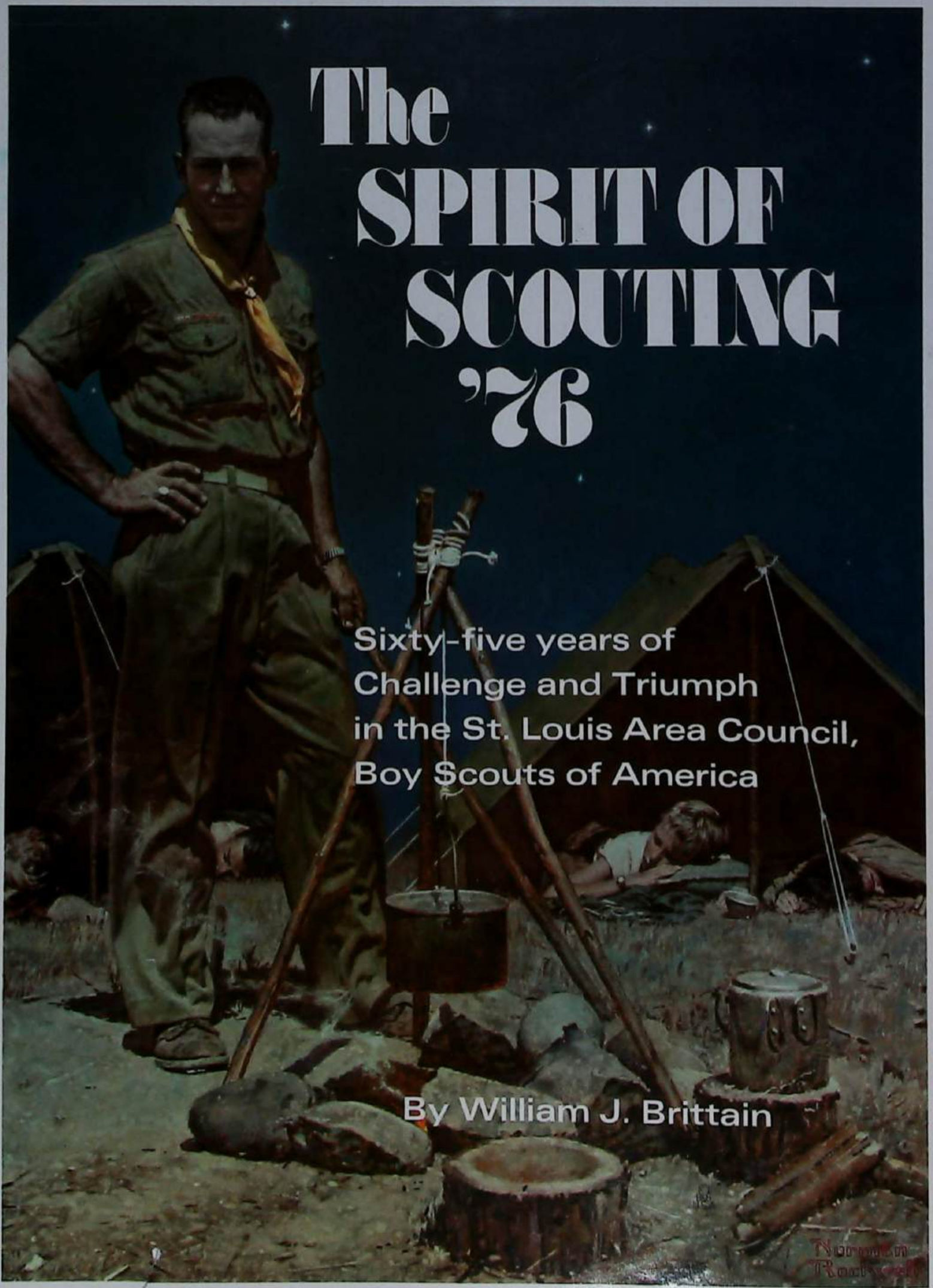




The SPIRIT OF SCOUTING '76

Sixty-five years of
Challenge and Triumph
in the St. Louis Area Council,
Boy Scouts of America

By William J. Brittain

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SPIRIT OF SCOUTING '76

The fascinating history of
one of America's great Boy
Scout Councils, 1911-1975

By William J. Brittain

Here's a book that anyone whom St. Louis
Area Boy Scouting has ever really touched
will find hard to put down.

Accurately tracing events over three score
and five years is never easy, or continuously
interesting. This book is an exception. Filled
with facts and figures, humor, pathos and
drama, it unfolds the trials and tribulations,
and accomplishments, of uncounted Scouters.
Sometimes uncertain of their methods, but
never unsure of their goals, they labored to
bring America's ideals and dreams to thou-
sands of St. Louis Area boys in their most
formative years. The successful outcome has
been indisputable.

The reader is picked up in 1911 and swept
through the roaring of the Twenties, the dark-
ness of the Depression, the trauma of four
wars, and the nation's crises of confidence
in the late '60s and early '70s.

The names of some famous people are in
these pages, men whose influence on Scouting
in St. Louis, as well as nationally, has been
great. Robert Baden-Powell... Ernest
Thompson Seton... Daniel Beard...
William Howard Taft... Charles E. Lindbergh
... Douglas MacArthur—they are all here.
But the greatest impact stemmed from
innumerable St. Louisans, many also named,
whose untiring efforts at the grass roots made
Scouting here work as in few other places.

Spirit of Scouting '76 is indeed a book worthy
of one's personal library, to be referred to
when despair fills the air and disappointment
seems unbearable.

We predict that in the years ahead *Spirit of
Scouting '76* will be widely quoted to those of
faint heart and little faith—and deservedly so!

HONOR I WILL DO MY BEST
MY DUTY TO GOD AND MY
RY AND TO OBEY THE SCOUT
+ TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE AT
IMES + TO KEEP MYSELF
ALLY STRONG, MENTALLY
AND MORALLY STRAIGHT

The SPIRIT OF SCOUTING '76

The SPIRIT OF SCOUTING '76

CHALLENGE AND TRIUMPH—
65 YEARS OF ST. LOUIS AREA SCOUTING

The Story of the
St. Louis Area Council,
Boy Scouts of America

By William J. Brittain

Edited by and produced
under the direction of
Tom J. Connelly

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PUBLISHED BY THE ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
January, 1976

To ED MANVILLE
Great Scouters from
Reno Nev. - A Scoutmaster
on the NATURAL scene -
Russ Hart



HIS BOOK IS DEDICATED to the many thousands of Scouters who, seeking neither gain nor glory, have devoted years of their lives to the boys of the St. Louis Area. For each name written herein, thousands more are cherished in the hearts of those whom they helped lead into manhood. Their reward has been in the warm friendships and close associations forged in the ranks of Scouting, and in the satisfaction of a job well done.

—Russell J. Hart, Scout Executive
St. Louis Area Council,
Boy Scouts of America
January, 1976

Table of Contents

Dedication	I
Acknowledgments	II
Foreword	III
CHAPTER I	
"An Idea Whose Time Has Come . . . "	1
CHAPTER II	
"In the Beginning . . . " The Council Organizes	4
CHAPTER III	
Scouting Takes Root: The Formative Years—1911-1917	8
CHAPTER IV	
The Scouts and World War I	16
CHAPTER V	
Scouting Comes of Age—The Twenties	22
CHAPTER VI	
Challenge and Response—The Depression Years	44
CHAPTER VII	
Working for Victory—The Council and World War II	64
CHAPTER VIII	
The Postwar Era and the Problems of Peace	78
CHAPTER IX	
Time of Transition—The 1950's	92
CHAPTER X	
Scouting Faces a Changing World—The Sixties and After	108
CHAPTER XI	
The Introduction of Improved Scouting	144
CHAPTER XII	
Scouting Tomorrow—What Does the Future Hold?	158
APPENDICES	
Roster of Honor	165
Council Presidents, Scout Executives, and Council Commissioners, 1911-1975	166
Executive Board Members, 1911-1975	167
Silver Buffalo Awards	171
Silver Antelope Awards	171
Silver Beaver Awards	173
Silver Fawn Awards	177
Lodge Chiefs, Shawnee Lodge, Order of the Arrow	178
Presidents, Eagle Scout Association	179
Beaumont Reservation, Topographic Map	180
S-F Scout Ranch, Topographic Map	181

Foreword

Acknowledgements

The St. Louis Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, is deeply grateful to the following individuals and organizations whose counsel and material assistance have made possible the economical publication of this book. With their help we have been able to produce it at a fraction of the usual cost. Our special thanks to:

- The many who contributed material, among them Chief Scout Albert W. Lantz, Carl H. Laemmli, LeRoy Lane, Col. Carl S. Baumann, and the late Henry C. Thompson.
- The men and women of Krupnick & Associates, Inc. for their volunteered interest and efforts in helping conceive, launch and follow through on this project.
- The Keeler-Morris Printing Company for its printing of our dust jacket, gratis.
- The Brown & Bigelow division of Standard Packaging Corporation, St. Paul, Minnesota, and the National Council, Boy Scouts of America, for permission to reproduce the cover illustration by Norman Rockwell.
- The long-suffering manuscript typists—Janis Brockland, Joan Casey, and Judy Poisson.
- The professional staff of the St. Louis Council for their assistance in verifying the accuracy of countless details.

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Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 75-43417.

Additional copies of this publication are available through the St. Louis Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, 4568 West Pine Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63108.

Typesetting by National Typographers, Inc.
Printing by the Christian Board of Publication.



Most people are aware of the Boy Scouts of America. But few, particularly those not directly associated with the movement, are familiar with its depth of involvement with so many, young and old; and its influence on their lives, briefly for some, over a lifetime for others.

I for one, until writing this book, observed Scouting from the sidelines. Sympathetic, at times envious, of my friends who found time to give so much to Scouting, I often wondered what moved them. Now I know. In our youngsters, especially today, we see things that may have eluded us—values undefined, experiences unrealized, goals unmet, hopes abandoned.

Being an adult Scouter, it is now clear to me, demands much more than the mere giving of one's time, effort and money. It compels a concern for others, a call to conscience, a commitment of the heart as well as the will. Call these people what you wish, including do-gooders, without them no values-building organization survives, much less succeeds; and nowhere is this more evident than in Scouting.

To have met with so many of these people over the past several years; to have shared, if only vicariously, their lives in Scouting; to realize that beneath the familiar public relations image of a hugely successful, 65-year old organization there is tremendous substance, leaves me with the warm feeling that my writing this book has been time well spent.

My thanks to all whose time, patience and efforts have contributed so much to what I believe to be a worthy recounting of the history of St. Louis Area Scouting.

—William J. Brittain

"AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME . . ."



Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Baden-Powell, founder of Scouting.

Chapter I

Scouting is memories. Of dew-sparkled campgrounds and the clear notes of a bugle. Of sun-dappled trails and the fragrance of frying bacon. Of confidences shared in night-darkened tents, and the handclasp of a special friend. Of new skills painstakingly learned, and the pride in a parent's eye as your achievements are recognized.

This is a book of facts, of dates, of the names of men and boys, of problems encountered and solutions worked out. But even more, it is a book of memories—the memories of men and women who were there when it happened, who remember how it was, and who take quiet pride in how it is today. They are men and women who have paid their dues to their society, their God, and their country . . . those who, with so many now gone, planted the seed of Scouting in St. Louis and nurtured its growth with faith and dedicated effort.

They worked hard for a living, these veterans of the Scouting movement, and then spent long hours with their troops or in committee or board meetings or out raising funds. They had little time to keep formal records. So the beginnings are memory now . . . here sharp and clear, there blurred by time . . . the memories of men like Henry C. Thompson and his brother, Owen; Albert W. Lantz; Charles "Bucky" Kelso; Carl H. Laemmli; Col. Carl S. Bauman; Leon Dickson; LeRoy Lane; Merle Shippey, and many others. The challenges of those early years are very real to those of them who are still with us, and so are the shared excitement and close

friendships forged in the dawn of a great adventure. Today we know just how great that adventure was to be, and how rewarding to those who took part.

Nostalgia has long gilded the opening years of the Twentieth Century. To the modern St. Louisan, it has become a Golden Era—the era of the World's Fair and *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *Louie*, of civic optimism and soaring growth, of plush mansions and catfish and crystal.

But to those who lived through them, the early 1900's were not all that glorious, save for a privileged few. Men (and, too often, women and children) labored long, hard hours for little pay. Too many spent stunted lives in gloomy factories and grim tenements. For the children of the growing middle class, there was a sense of loss; the frontiers had vanished, and with them a sense of adventure. Instead of the open wilderness where generations of Americans had found their manhood, youth faced cluttered streets and cramped classrooms. They sought escape in dime novels that recreated, with a woeful lack of accuracy, the exploits of Daniel Boone and Kit Carson, and made Buffalo Bill an American idol.

American youth was—even as today—at a crossroads. Its heritage of the open frontier, its tradition of the self-reliant woodsman and pioneer, were fading. The alternative—the recreation in the New World of the faceless, rootless masses of the Old World—appalled many concerned Americans.

For there were men who cared deeply about the future of youth. They felt the need for action, for a plan, a movement to channel youth's restless energy and to shape young minds and bodies in wholesome preparation for manhood and citizenship.

As every Scout knows, they found the plan in England. It was called "Scouting for Boys." And when it took hold and grew in America, it became one of history's most dynamic forces, molding millions of American boys to the highest ideals of manhood. It was an idea whose time had come.

Scouting for Boys was the brainchild of an authentic hero, British Lt.-Gen. Sir Robert Baden-Powell, whose romantic exploits as a scout, spy, and hero of the Boer War had made him the paladin of England's youth. All Scouts know the story of the chance meeting in a London fog of U. S. Publisher William D. Boyce and the "Unknown Scout," whose good

turn inspired Boyce to bring Scouting across the Atlantic in 1910.

But even before Boyce, Baden-Powell's movement had attracted the attention of some of those concerned Americans. The appearance in 1908 of his handbook, *Scouting for Boys*, an adaptation of a training manual he had written for Britain's army, sparked U.S. emulation. Famed Naturalist Ernest Thompson Seton had formed his "Woodcraft Indians." Woodsman and Illustrator Dan Beard had organized his "Society of the Sons of Daniel Boone."

And in obscure Fredonia, Kansas, a young St. Louisan named Henry C. Thompson was working with a boys' club. He obtained a copy of Baden-Powell's book and promptly turned his club into a Boy Scout troop. He did not know it then, but he had just taken the first step toward the establishment of Scouting in St. Louis, and the formation of the St. Louis Area Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Daniel C. Beard, famed woodsman, illustrator, and author, merged his "Society of the Sons of Daniel Boone" with the Boy Scouts of America in 1910, and was for many years National Scout Commissioner.



“IN THE BEGINNING . . .” ... THE COUNCIL ORGANIZES



22-year-old Henry C. Thompson, first Scout Executive (then called “Commissioner”) of the St. Louis Council, at his desk in Room 1406 of the Chemical Building a month after his appointment in July, 1911. Thompson was to remain active in Scouting until his death in 1974.

Chapter II

IN 1909 HENRY THOMPSON returned to school in St. Louis and, with his brother Owen, helped form a Scout troop at Webster Groves’ Episcopal Church of the Redeemer—an early example of the close ties between Scouting and existing community institutions. He soon found that others shared his enthusiasm, and had discovered Baden-Powell’s Handbook. Later that year, a handful of U.S. Scout troops were chartered by the newly-organized Boy Scouts of Canada.

St. Louis proved fertile ground for the new idea. Its location as Gateway to the West had attracted a vigorous population of diverse ethnic strains who had learned to live and work together. They were a hard-working people who cared about their children, and knew that “as the twig is bent . . .”—that in the shaping of their sons was the shaping of the future. When Scouting appeared on the scene, St. Louisans recognized its worth and ideals, and many were to devote much of their lives to it.

Henry Thompson was one of them. His memories and love of Scouting remained vivid until his recent death. Others included Capt. William W. Hoxton, chairman of the St. Louis Clearing-house Association, and Arnold C. White, or-

ganizers of Troop 1; Attorney Edward M. Puller, with Troop 5 (later Troop 51) at St. Peters Episcopal Church; Charles Ellis of Troop 3 at



Realtor Festus J. Wade, one of Scouting’s early backers.



Judge Daniel G. Taylor, first St. Louis Council President.

Shaw Avenue Methodist Church; Fred W. Cheever, whose Troop 34 at Lafayette Park M. E. Church welcomed a new recruit named Carl H. Laemmli on October 7, 1911; Gustave Schmidt, Jr., at Second Baptist Church; C. A. McLaughlin at Central YMCA, and many others. When the Boy Scouts of America, soon to become the National Council, BSA, was incorporated February 8, 1910, these were among the first troops chartered.

The idea Boyce had brought from England was growing. Boyce and a friend, Colin H. Livingstone of Washington, D. C., incorporated the



The "outing" in Scouting—the movement's strongest appeal since the beginning.

movement. It attracted support such as Edgar M. Robinson of the National YMCA, who saw it as the beginning of a single nationwide organization bringing together the many then-competing youth movements. In June, 1910, leaders of 37 of these groups met with businessmen, educators, and journalists to create a permanent Boy Scout organization. A National Council was formed, with Livingstone as President, Ernest Thompson Seton as Chief Scout, and Dan Beard as one of the first three National Scout Commissioners.

In St. Louis, meanwhile, the nascent movement was enlisting support. Eager boys were applying for membership. It was evident that growth must be coordinated, that standards be set and programs established. A number of prominent citizens invited Chief Scout Seton to meet with them.

On the evening of April 11, 1911, in the main dining room of the old Mercantile Club, Seton explained the purposes of the Boy Scouts of America to an intent audience of St. Louis civic leaders, and urged the formation of a Council to guide the movement locally. His recommendation bore instant fruit; the guests pledged \$3,000 on the spot to finance the Council's first year of operation. From that moment the Council moved ahead.

A month later, at a meeting chaired by Capt. Hoxton, three outstanding citizens were elected as the first Council officers. They were: Chairman, Judge Daniel G. Taylor, famed jurist and

founder of the Racquet Club; Treasurer, Charles H. Rice of Rice-Stix, one the city's leading merchants; and Temporary Chief Scouter, C. A. McLaughlin of the YMCA.

The Executive Committee consisted of W. O. Andrews, E. J. H. Bennett, O. P. Blake, W. Christy Bryan, H. Chouteau Dyer, Hugh M. Fullerton, George S. Johns, Paul Jones, G. W. King, William J. Kinsella, C. A. McLaughlin, L. E. Schleiter, George H. Shields, Jr., Charles H. Stix, R. N. Stubbs, Judge George H. Williams, George B. Cummings, Charles H. Rice, and Capt. Hoxton—a galaxy of St. Louis civic, business, and youth leaders.

The first task was to find a full-time executive (then called the "Scout Commissioner"). It was evident that Scouting was too important to be guided solely by volunteers, no matter how well-intentioned. The choice was a wise one: Henry C. Thompson, then a young electrical engineer who had already demonstrated his ability and dedication. On July 24, 1911, he was officially elected Commissioner of the St. Louis Council; his brother, Owen, became Commissioner of the then-separate Webster Groves Council.

Within a week Thompson undertook his duties at a borrowed desk at the Charles H. Stix Leather Co. Three weeks later Judge Taylor helped obtain a room in the Chemical Building at 721 Olive—"headquarters" to generations of Scouts and Scouters. The great adventure had begun.

SCOUTING TAKES ROOT: THE FORMATIVE YEARS—1911-1917



*Trailblazers of a great adventure...
the Boy Scout Smile, 1911.*

Chapter III

THE COUNCIL was scarcely organized before the St. Louis leadership met and mastered its first serious challenge—and in doing so, made a significant contribution to the nationwide spread of the Scouting idea.

The newly-fledged Scout movement found little favor in Roman Catholic eyes, especially in St. Louis with its strong Irish and German minorities. The local hierarchy, priests, and laity all opposed it. One key reason was the strong anti-English bias of the St. Louis Irish. Even though the National Committee on Standardization had "Americanized" the Scout Oath and Scout Law, the movement's British origin aroused Catholic suspicion and opposition.

Yet nowhere were the ideals and outlets offered by Scouting more sorely needed than in some of the poor Catholic parishes, where "less-chance" boys had little opportunity to participate in the American dream. Prominent Catholics who had embraced the Scouting philosophy recognized this.

Judge Taylor, himself a Catholic, summoned two leading co-religionists, Festus J. Wade and William J. Kinsella, and with the new Commissioner, Henry Thompson, called on Archbishop John J. Glennon.

Wade described the achievements of his son, who proudly wore the insignia of Thompson's original troop. Kinsella declared that he fervently supported the principles of Scouting.

His Excellency was skeptical. "What," he demanded, "about the poor boy, the 'less-chance' boy?"

It was the opening that the canny Judge sought. He explained that Scouting offered even more to underprivileged youngsters than to the sons of the more affluent. The Archbishop hurled a challenge. There was a poor parish in the slums of South St. Louis. If Scouting proved it could work there . . .

Within days Commissioner Thompson sought out the parish priest, Father James Nugent of St. Vincent dePaul Parish on South Ninth Street, who with the Archbishop's consent gladly joined the enterprise. And on August 8, 1911, the nation's first Catholic-sponsored troop was chartered.

As Scouters nationwide watched the experiment, Thompson devoted much time to the new troop. They joined his own Troop 8 to take their first hike to Meramec Highlands. Kinsella offered to outfit them; informed they were expected to buy their own uniforms, he arranged to have them serve as paid playground supervisors.

The troop thrived. Under Scoutmaster Edward Murphy, who had been trained personally by Henry Thompson, the St. Vincent troop became one of the city's finest, and sparked the formation of other Catholic-sponsored units. The St. Louis success literally opened Scouting to millions of U. S. Catholic boys, even though many Catholics continued to regard the movement with some suspicion into the late 1920's.

Challenge met, challenge mastered—and Scouting came to the inner city decades before other organizations even recognized the need.

Council work gathered steam. By the fall of 1911, the St. Louis area counted 44 registered troops and more than 750 Scouts. Thompson set a goal of a thousand as soon as possible. Strong local newspaper support spread the word and spurred recruiting. The community was beginning to back up the new idea.

A key event was the visit of President William Howard Taft to St. Louis in October, 1911. With an admirable feel for public relations, the Coun-

cil arranged to have 600 uniformed Scouts meet the portly President at Union Station and escort him to the Planters Hotel. National news coverage added fresh luster to the Scout image—and to the St. Louis Council.

The public interest engendered by the smartly-cadenced march of the Taft Honor Guard suggested another community-wide event with even more portent for the future—one of the nation's first Camporalls. The site was Art Hill in Forest Park; planned was an overnight campout and a program the next morning, to which the public was invited.

Dwight Davis, of Davis Cup fame, was then the city's Park Commissioner. Interested in Scouting, and a member of the organizing committee set up at the Mercantile Club meeting, he nonetheless viewed with trepidation what 300 energetic boys might do to his beloved park. Thompson convinced him that his Scouts, who had already made many "overnights" to Meramec Highlands, the Cahokia Mounds, Stout's Creek in the Ozarks, and Chautauqua, were trained to leave tidy campsites.

Scout Honor Guard awaits the arrival of President William Howard Taft, October, 1911, one of the first civic events in which Scouts participated.



It was a little smoky on Art Hill during the first Camporall, November 17-18, 1911, but these sturdy lads enjoyed every minute of it.

The Camporall of November 17-18, 1911, was a tremendous success. Fifteen troops participated, and thousands of St. Louisans enjoyed their first look at demonstrations of Scout skills (including the new-fangled "wireless," which many onlookers flatly refused to believe).

As the year turned, Commissioner Thompson represented St. Louis at the second annual meeting of the National Council in New York. He bore with him an invitation to General Sir Baden-Powell, then touring the U.S. with Chief Scout Executive James E. West, to visit St. Louis. Lord Baden-Powell's triumphal visit on February 25, 1912 was a highlight of Scouting's early years here; nearly 2,000 Scouts massed to cheer "B. P." at the 1904 World's Fair Jai Lai Building (later the Winter Garden), and 18 of them received their First Class pins from his hands. He honored Thompson by making him an honorary member of the British Boy Scouts. That night hundreds of uniformed Scouts were the guests of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. It had been quite a day.

In light of their success, it was no surprise when all officers and committeemen of the St. Louis Council were reelected in April, 1912—a month that also saw St. Louis' first Court of Honor, the recognition ceremony held when Scout advancement awards are presented. Other 1912 highlights included the participation of 60 troops in Arbor Day ceremonies, each troop planting its own tree (some of which still stand) at the northern edge of Forest Park along Lindell Boulevard; and a Memorial Day parade and demonstration by 2,000 Scouts at Jefferson Barracks, where they passed in review before the Commandant.

The year's major triumph, however, was hardly noticed by press or public, and it sprang directly from the Jefferson Barracks event. For the parade's military overtones ignited sharp criticism. Such criticism was neither new nor, perhaps, entirely unjustified. To many Americans of that era, nurtured on distaste for militarism and distrust of standing armies, Scouting was suspect. Some called Scouters "boy soldiers."



West End troop lines up for inspection before a hike, September, 1912.

And Scout activities had definite military aspects. Baden-Powell had consciously modeled the British movement on Army lines. The American Scout uniform, designed to put all boys on the same level, was an adaptation of Army gear of the Spanish-American War . . . choke collars, wide-brimmed campaign hats, canvas leggings, web belts (all as uncomfortable as they looked). Scouts were organized into troops and patrols, led by Scoutmasters in whipcord cavalry breeches and leather puttees. They practiced close-order drill and the manual of arms with dangerous-looking, six-foot quarter-staves. Above all, both active and retired officers were among Scouting's lushest supporters; military titles stud early Scouter rosters.

Organized labor and its militant leader, Samuel Gompers, were suspicious of Scouting. In a time when state and federal troops often intervened in labor disputes, labor opposition to "militarism" was understandable. In the summer of

1912, at a widely-reported St. Louis labor meeting, Gompers violently attacked the Scouting movement.

Judge Taylor, as always at the forefront in a crisis, promptly requested a meeting with Gompers and other labor chieftains. A hostile Gompers fired the first salvo.

"You fellows," he thundered, "are trying to make soldiers out of boys who someday will be called upon to shoot laboring men! We in the labor movement want the poor boy to hate the rich boy! Now, Judge, what have you got to say?"

Judge Taylor calmly allowed Gompers to end his tirade, then quietly related the story of Baden-Powell, of the Unknown Scout. He emphasized the peaceful aims of Scouting . . . to make well-rounded citizens of the nation's youth; to foster justice for all, poor as well as



The military look, Scout William Mansfield, Troop 51, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, in full 1914 regalia. U.S. labor leaders feared Scouting's "militarism."

rich; to teach skills and morality. Scouting's work, he said, would further labor's ideals, but without the class hatred and bloodshed Gompers feared. With his resonant voice and commanding presence, it was an unforgettable performance.

There was thoughtful silence as Judge Taylor finished. Then Gompers snorted, half-reluctantly, "Taylor, if you know these to be the objects of your organization, I cannot see that there is anything inimical to the labor movement. I'll send word to our labor people that there is nothing seriously wrong with your Boy Scouts."

It was hardly a ringing endorsement, but within days the hostile labor press ceased its attacks. A significant victory had been won. For the second time in its first year, St. Louis had made a historic contribution to Scouting. The tact and diplomacy of St. Louis Council leaders had allayed the suspicions and won at least tacit support from two powerful forces in U. S. society—the Roman Catholic Church and organized labor.

These crises behind them, the Council turned its attention to promoting growth and to the activity which most interested boys—camping.



This early encampment at Jefferson Barracks, and the prominence of ex-officers in Scout leadership, fed pre-war suspicions of the movement . . . suspicions brilliantly laid to rest by Judge Taylor.



Hup-two-three-four! Scouts pass in review at Jefferson Barracks in 1915. With war raging in Europe, Scouting was enlisting increasing public support.

The first Council two-week camp was scheduled for July, 1912, at Fox Creek near Allenton, Mo.

Today such matters are routine, but in 1912 the logistics were formidable. The few experienced Council members laid out the campsite a mile from the train station. A. Harry Beddoe of Troop 48, a grocery buyer, was made commissary clerk. Troop 8's Arnold C. White was enrolling and finance officer. A physician and nurse volunteered their services, and the Army at Jefferson Barracks loaned Sibley tents and an Army mess sergeant. On July 8, two extra cars

attached to the Missouri Pacific local left Union Station with 165 Scouts and 30 Scouters from 20 troops for "Camp Dan Taylor." By noon the tents, each housing eight Scouts, were up despite a sudden downpour, a hearty lunch had been served, and the boys were settling in.

That first Council camp set a pattern familiar to generations of Scouts and Scouters. The summer days were filled with hiking, swimming, learning Scout skills and handicrafts, with tests for advancement. Each evening, after Wherry Winter, a diminutive Scout from Troop 38,

blew "Retreat," men and boys gathered around the campfire to sing and tell tall tales. And when the weary boys were bedded down, the leaders met to plan the next day's activities.

The planning was impromptu and improvised. There was no SOP. These men were trail-blazers, with few precedents. What program they had was adapted to American conditions from Baden-Powell's work, and they proceeded by trial, error, and on faith. Learning just a step ahead of their Scouts, they laid the foundations for today's magnificent camping program.

In February, 1913, Henry C. Thompson, who had done so much for St. Louis Scouting, had to resign for personal reasons. He always maintained, however, until his death June 15, 1974, his close association with Scouting. He assisted his brother, Owen E. Thompson, at Troop 50 of Union M. E. Church, and when Owen became St. Louis Scout Commissioner under then-Executive Simmons in 1919, continued to serve as a volunteer Scouter. His notes and memories were the source of much of this book's reconstruction of Scouting's early days.



Maj. H. H. Simmons, Scout Executive, 1913-1921.



Charles Nagel, Council President, 1915-1917.

When Owen Thompson became Scout Executive of the still-independent Webster Groves Council in 1921, Henry Thompson continued to serve as Merit Badge Counselor until St. Louis and Webster Groves merged in 1923. Four years later he helped organize the Mineral Area Council in Bonne Terre, Mo., where he resided until his death. One of the nation's first recipients of the Silver Beaver for outstanding service to boyhood, he served St. Louis Scouting vice to boyhood, he served St. Louis Scouting as Scoutmaster, Commissioner, Troop Committeeman, District Chairman, Court of Honor Chairman, and Merit Badge Counselor.

He was succeeded in 1913 by Maj. H. H. Simmons, a British Boer War veteran who had been field secretary of the Chicago Area Council. He took over a thriving Council. It had grown from 13 troops to 72 in less than two years, from a handful of Scouts to thousands. Simmons was to serve as Commissioner, and later as Executive, for the next eight years.

Coordinating the expanding work of the Council, Maj. Simmons' primary assignment was to standardize and stabilize troop operations, which in those early days often varied from National directives. Some troops were direct successors to units originally chartered by such movements as the Boys' Brigade, the American Boy Scouts of Publisher William Randolph Hearst, and other pre-BSA groups. Their operations and methods had to be integrated in what was becoming standard Scout procedure.

Other troops were literally the personal creations of their Scoutmasters, not all of whom appreciated Council direction, and some of whom were not fully qualified. Maj. Simmons, a crack organizer and administrator, brought order from disorder, so that every Scout followed the same path from Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class to Life, Star, and Eagle. They took the same tests, won the same merit badges, wore the same uniform, and received the same supervision. Maj. Simmons began what was later to become the Leadership Training Program, one of the nation's earliest, most outstanding, and most successful.

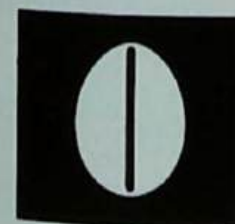
The task was a big one. Simmons supplemented a meager salary by working in a department store book department. Council staff was equally meager, and only the most pressing matters could be handled. At first the new Commissioner could rely on the counsel of Judge Taylor, who remained as Council President, despite failing health, until 1915. The judge was succeeded by Charles Nagel, a prominent St. Louisan and former member of President Taft's Cabinet. He held office until 1917, when he was succeeded by Capt. Allen C. Orrick, one of the original Council members. Capt. Orrick took command as war clouds gathered.

THE SCOUTS AND WORLD WAR I



Oldtimers still remember the "Peach Pit Program" of World War I. Scouts collected pits by the ton, to be burned to charcoal for the fillers of gas masks.

Chapter IV



ON AUGUST 3, 1914, Europe went to war—and probably the first St. Louisian to know of it was Scoutmaster Charles "Bucky"

Kelso of Troop 55 at Cote Brillante Presbyterian Church. "Bucky" and his boys were camping near Irondale and tinkering with their jerry-built "wireless" machine when news of the German invasion of France and Belgium came dimly across the air waves. Nobody believed him until the newspapers hit the streets with screaming black headlines.

As Europe bled between 1914 and 1917, St. Louisians viewed the Great War with mixed emotions. Many supported the Allies; the German population hoped that their adopted country could avoid conflict with the Fatherland. But when the U.S. went to war April 6, 1917, the city's people became as one.

Here as everywhere, the Scouts made a significant contribution to the war effort. Barely a handspan of years after their founding, they demonstrated their ability and willingness to serve in many ways. Trained in useful skills, well-organized and imaginatively led, sworn to do their duty to God and country, they were a ready-made instrument to further the national cause. The Scouts were prepared—far more so than most civilian groups which rallied to the war effort. Within days after war was declared, the National Council offered the services of all U. S. Scouts, and under the slogan, "Help Win the War!", the Scouts marched.

The full story of their activities may never be told. Records are sparse and memories dim. We know that Scouter ranks were thinned as men joined the colors. We know that hundreds of boys too young to be drafted volunteered; the Tenderfeet of 1911 and 1912 became the dough-



Allen C. Orrick, Council President, 1917-1918.



Owen E. Thompson, Scout Commissioner, 1919-1921.

boys of 1918. And we know that they were more ready for the discipline and rigors of service than most of their comrades who had not been Scouts.

Here and there research surfaces scraps of information. Three boys of Capt. Hoxton's Troop 8—Ben M. Bull, Page Robertson, and George Bakewell—enlisted in the 128th Field Artillery, Missouri National Guard. Fourteen former members of Scoutmaster Ernest N. Birge's Troop 2 at Pilgrim Congregational Church served in France; three did not return. Nearly 100 Southsiders from Troop 34 at Lafayette Park M. E. Church, then led by Scoutmaster Frederick W.



Scouts did their bit, and more, selling Liberty and Victory Bonds. Many St. Louis Scouts won state and national awards for bond sales.

Cheever, went into uniform, and two, Arthur Newman and Harry Potter, died in France. Hundreds of former Scouts—and Scouters—served in the 138th Infantry, one of the best Guard regiments. And when the Guard came home after the bloody ordeal of the Argonne, many young faces were missing. But many who survived owed much to the moral and physical discipline they learned in Scouting.

The greatest contribution, of course, was on the home front, especially during the four Liberty Loan and postwar Victory Loan drives. But not until the Fourth Liberty Loan Drive, after the Scouts had more than proved themselves in canvassing homes, stores, and offices, were they allowed to solicit until after the field had been covered by presumably more able adults. Apparently the adults missed a few kernels; the

Scouts made the most of the restriction, and with the battlecry of "Gleaners After the Reapers!" they produced bond sales beyond expectations. In the Second bond drive, for instance, one of every 18 sales was made by a Scout.

Few records remain of actual results, save those of Scoutmaster L. M. Hall's Troop 46 of Imanuel Baptist Church. In May, 1917, his troop sold \$2,850 of bonds. In October, 1917, after the city's biggest Scout parade to date, the troop "gleaned" a whopping \$87,550; 10 members were awarded the bronze medal struck by the U.S. to honor those selling 10 or more individual subscriptions. And twice St. Louis troops—Troop 22, an unaffiliated troop led by H. G. Shelby, and Troop 17 of St. John's Episcopal Church under Scoutmaster Allan Bacon—won

the state flag presented by President Wilson to Scout units with the best Liberty Loan records in each state.

Less dramatic but still impressive was the Scouts' record in the sale of Thrift and War Savings Stamps, which won them many new friends.

There were other activities to keep wartime Scouts busy. Under the slogan, "Every Scout Feed a Soldier," almost every St. Louis troop planted a backyard garden, which produced tons of food for the war effort. In May, 1918, the War Department asked the 442,000 U.S. Scouts to locate stands of black walnut, sorely needed for rifle stocks. Nationwide, nearly 21 million board feet were pinpointed; in St. Louis, Troop 46 alone discovered 10,000 board feet after a two-day search in Jefferson County, and thousands of board feet were located by other troops. It was a wonderful excuse for an overnight hike.

Enthusiastic, if not always expert, Scouts raised tons of food in "Liberty Gardens" in backyards, vacant lots, and suburban woodlots.



Then there were the peach pits. With gas warfare intensifying, the Army asked the Boy Scouts to collect nutshells and peach pits, from which charcoal for gas mask filters was processed. Troops were assigned quotas, and Scouts of that era recall eating a great many peaches.

In the summer of 1918 the virulent epidemic of influenza broke out. It was to take 30 million lives worldwide, 300,000 in the U.S. alone. By October, St. Louis was reporting 560 new cases a day. All but the most vital war industries and public services came to a halt. Public gatherings were banned, and thousands of homes quarantined. Scouts with handkerchiefs bound around their mouths assumed many duties, and found many opportunities to do a "good turn" for bed-ridden neighbors and short-handed merchants.

With war's end the Scouts continued to serve. They assisted in Red Cross drives to collect food and funds for Europe's starving masses.



Flying was as fascinating to Scouts as the new "wireless" during World War I.



Clarence H. Howard, Council President, 1918-1931—a giant of St. Louis Scouting.

They took part successfully in the May, 1919, Victory Loan drive, and when the 138th Infantry came home from the Rhineland, a cordon of Scouts lined Twelfth Street to control the cheering crowds and served as ushers in the reviewing stand. And when the Peace Treaty was signed, thousands of them massed on Art Hill to light a huge bonfire and hear Mayor Henry Kiel thank them for their wartime services.

St. Louis Scouting, barely six years old when war came, learned in those trying days how it

could serve its country and its community. Shaken by the departure of so many Scouters for war service in and out of uniform, saddened by the deaths of friends and relatives in battle and camp, the Scouts united behind their Council leaders and made a contribution to the war effort which won them the city's recognition and gratitude—and established them firmly as a force in the community. Another challenge had been met, another triumph registered.

Not the least of the reasons for strong wartime leadership was the election in 1918 of Clarence H. Howard as President of the St. Louis Area Council. A dynamic business leader, president of Commonwealth Steel Co. (later General Steel Industries), Howard was a man who cared deeply about boys, and who had the wealth, energy, and ability to make his care count. He was the first of a trio of charismatic leaders—the others were Scout Executive Earle W. Beckman and Commissioner H. D. McBride—who were to leave a lasting imprint on the Council and Scouting in the postwar years.

SCOUTING COMES OF AGE—THE TWENTIES



In the days before Irondale, Scouts camped where and when they could. Meramec Highlands, later Meramec Quarries, far out on Big Bend Road in distant Kirkwood, was a favorite hiking and camping site.

Chapter V

SURMOUNTING the challenges of war, Scouting now faced the new challenges of a changing America. Old standards were changing, old ideals—the ideals embedded in the Laws of Scouting—were being questioned. A nation which had lost its innocence was replacing simple faith with a new cynicism.

It took strong men to stand up for those ideals and to instill them in a new generation which was to need all the moral fiber it could muster to survive the coming Depression and another, more terrible war. The St. Louis Area Council was blessed with such leadership, men who set thousands of young feet on the right path. Clarence H. Howard led the way, seeking men of the highest caliber to serve on the Council. Then in 1921 Scout Executive Simmons was replaced by Earle W. Beckman (after 1919, First Class Councils were directed by "Executives," with a "Commissioner" heading the volunteer Scouters).

Earl Beckman was an outstanding organizer and administrator, and as veteran Scouters admirably recall, an ingenious and imaginative promoter. In 1911 a volunteer Scoutmaster in Shelbyville, Ind., he became Shelbyville's Commissioner three years later. He served as Executive of the Grand Valley Council (Grand Rapids, Mich.) and of the Tall Pine Council (Flint, Mich.) before coming to St. Louis.

At almost the same time, Owen Thompson became Executive of the autonomous Webster Groves Council, and was succeeded as Scout

Commissioner by dynamic Col. H. D. McBride, then secretary of Southwestern Bell Telephone, completing the triumvirate who were to shape the Council and St. Louis Scouting during the coming years. (The Webster Groves Council merged with St. Louis in 1923.)

The trio of strong leaders took over a going concern. Five districts had been organized,



Earle W. Beckman, Scout Executive, 1921-1935.



Col. H. D. McBride, Scout Commissioner, 1922-1947.

covering the City of St. Louis, Clayton, Brentwood, Ferguson, Richmond Heights and Home Heights (all, according to a 1921 report, "within 50 minutes ride by streetcar" from the Chemical Building Headquarters). The Headquarters staff numbered four, with total annual salaries of \$7,140. Rent for the Council's 400 feet of office space was \$1.73 per foot. Total Council revenue was \$14,008, raised from 518 contributors.

At the close of 1920, the Council had 117 troops registered, with 3,143 Scouts . . . but with an estimated "eligible boy population" of 34,000, clearly there was much to do to spread the word.

The scope of the challenge is clear when you learn how Albert W. Lantz of Lantz Bros. Baking Co. (later Scout Commissioner and Chief Scout) formed his first troop at Winnebago Presbyterian Church in South St. Louis in 1921. He talked to Dean Sidney Sweet at Christ Church Cathedral, who had formed a Scout troop from his choir boys; picked up a stack of applications at the Chemical Building; bought the *Handbook for Boys*, *Scoutmaster's Fieldbook*, and Ernest Thompson Seton's *Nature Book* . . . and, in his words, "we were in business." Eighty boys showed up at the organizational meeting.

Organization was loose and communication between troops, districts and Headquarters was sparse. "We worked," Al Lantz recalls, "by guess and by golly." Scoutmasters taught themselves, and then taught their boys. Leadership Training

existed, but was sporadic. Few boys could afford complete uniforms, and many could not afford the nickel-a-week dues.

But the idea was spreading, and boys were flocking to newly-organized troops. Howard, Beckman, and McBride tightened and perfected troop, district, and Council organization. Skilled young professionals like Carl H. Laemmli, Merle D. Shippey, Hanson Haun, John D. Wright, and others moved into the Council office to coordinate programs and other activities which heretofore had been haphazard. Scouting as we know it really began to come of age in the 1920's.

Perhaps the decade's noblest achievement was the development of the Camp Program, one of the earliest and still today one of the finest in the nation.

Camping, of course, had always been at the heart of the Scout movement, but had been essentially a troop activity. Early troops either just hiked out into the wilds, or rented convenient campsites. Capt. Hoxton's Troop 8, for instance, rented a log cabin at Fern Glen near Valley Park, where they learned Scoutcraft at "Camp Kim" and "Camp Mowgli." Troop 38 records hikes to Cliff Cave near Jefferson Barracks, a memory shared by thousands whose troops made the same hike.

A favorite site was Stout's Creek, near Ironton, where the YMCA maintained a camp for several years. As early as 1911, C. A. McLaughlin's Troop 14 and Troop 15 under A. Seldon Barrows camped there. Often as many as 100 boys were camped around massive bonfires along the creek banks.

Troop 2 from Pilgrim Congregational Church, first under Ernest N. Birge and later Capt. E. B. "Cap" Langenberg, hiked to the Cahokia Mounds and the Piasa Bird at Alton, learning nature lore during the long summer days and studying the stars by night. Troop 46 was led by Scoutmasters Carl Deane and L. M. Hall to camps at Chautauqua, the banks of the Meramec near St. Clair, and Lake Killarney in the Ozarks. The area



Carl H. Laemmli—Scoutmaster, and for 39 years a dedicated professional.



Merle D. Shippey, one of the Council's first Field Executives, retired in 1964.

offered a whole series of campsites, such as Meramec Quarries, the River des Peres and out Gravois Road . . . all were wooded land then, great for hiking and Scoutcraft.

Many troops did their "overnight" near a cabin leased by the Council at Sugar Creek, in what is now West Kirkwood, and for several years Maj. Simmons and the Council operated a small summer camp—some tents, a few dining flies—

on Clarence Howard's farm in Washington County near Irondale.

Council President Howard felt something better, less makeshift, was needed. The "something better" proved to be Irondale—magic name for generations of St. Louis Scouts. In October, 1920, Howard conveyed to Council ownership a 53-acre tract he had purchased from the Big River Lead Company. It was his first, but not his last, gift of land to the Council. He helped secure additional tracts through the years, and after his death his widow, Mrs. Minnie Morey Howard, deeded the couple's own 20-acre farm at Irondale plus two other tracts, bringing Camp Irondale to 125½ acres in 1934.

Camp Irondale, originally known as Greenia Springs, then Camp Roosevelt, and finally Irondale Scout Camp Reservation, was one of the first permanent Scout Camps in the U. S., and for many years an envied model. The way its construction was financed was surely a model



First Aid demonstration at the Scout Exhibit at the Coliseum in 1921—before the annual Circus and Merit Badge Show were organized



Stew bubbles in the pot and wet clothes dry atop the tent as Scouts camp out near Valley Park early in the 1920's.

... of ingenuity. Earle Beckman persuaded the operators of a small planing mill in Irondale to donate the lumber, then mustered local farmers (who had free time in the winter) to erect the buildings. These included a headquarters, a library, photography shack, 16 eight-boy cabins, and many others. The structures, veterans recall, cost no more than \$100 to \$200 each, what with donated materials and low-cost labor. Beckman then "sold" each building to a St. Louis business firm, service organization, or individual for \$400 or \$500. The money was donated to the Council, and a plaque on the structure honored the donor. The extra money financed more buildings and the operation of the camp itself.

Irondale's dedication in 1924 by "Uncle Dan" Beard, during the National Council meeting in St. Louis, is still remembered with amusement by veteran Scouters. Indignantly eyeing the log cabins with their bunk beds and electric lights, Uncle Dan rumbled, "You fellows are coddling your boys! Many of them do not have electric lights at home. Get those cabins out and make tent camping your motto, and let the boys learn real outdoor life!" Everyone said, "Yes, sir!"—but the cabins remained, nonetheless.

In the 45 years that Irondale served St. Louis, scores of thousands of Scouts passed through the camp on their journey to manhood, taking with them a wealth of knowledge and memories. When the last Council Fire burned to embers at Irondale in 1965, many a St. Louisan who had won prominence in city and nation harkened back to his boyhood with fond nostalgia.

By today's standards, of course, with the development of Beaumont Scout Reservation and S-F Ranch, Irondale seems almost quaint. We chuckle at accounts of the early days...

*"It's Hi Hi Hee
Camp Irondale for me...
Where ere we go
Scouts will always know
That Camp Irondale's
The best camp of all!"*



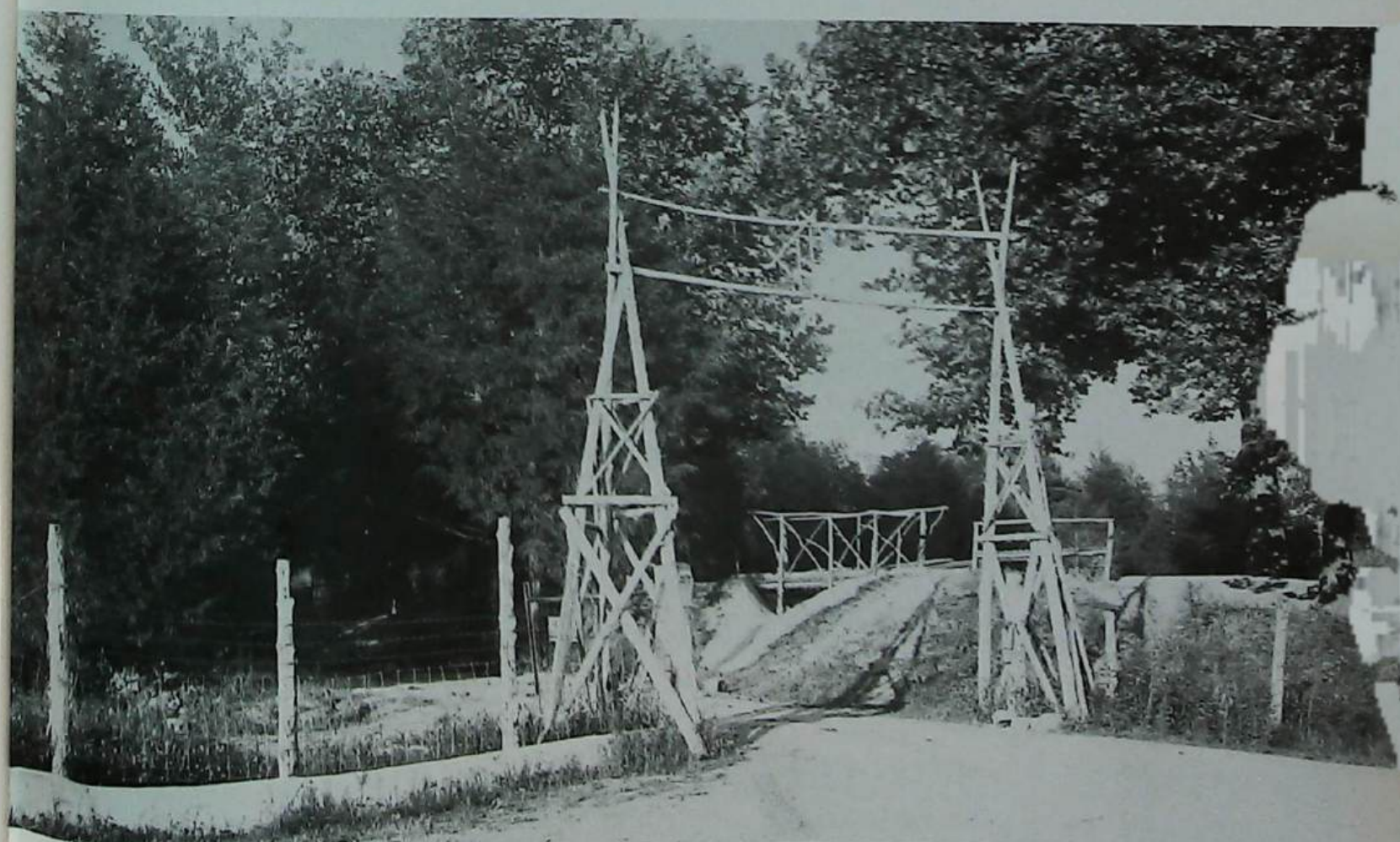
National Scout Commissioner Dan Beard dedicated Camp Irondale in 1924.

And it was, too. The boys came, some 1,200 of them each summer, in six and 10-day sections. Seventy-two miles south of St. Louis seemed halfway to China for most of the Scouts, and if there was homesickness at first, they soon got over it. There were too many things to do to worry about it.

The camp was served, after 1924, by special Missouri Pacific trains, with a round-trip fare of \$3.55. It was years before a road passable for automobiles was constructed, and the train ride was fun.

Things to do? There was the Ranger Camp, where each of some 40 boys had his own horse, rented or purchased from local sources, and lived with a buddy in an open-front log lean-to.

There was the swimming pool, the original one, built by damming freshwater springs at the foot



Many a former Scout and present Scouter remembers the excitement roused by his first sight of Irondale's original rustic entrance.

of the hill. Veterans can still shiver when they remember the chill of the water, icy even in August. At Irondale, you were a "sinker" or a "swimmer." Sinkers were condemned to wear a small lead sinker on a yellow ribbon around their necks until they "swam it off." And every time you climbed that hill, you toted a bucket of water and a bucket of sand... the water because the springs were the camp's water supply and there was no pump until later, the sand because it kept washing down the hill.

Then there was "Special Week," as reported by the *Globe-Democrat* on August 10, 1924:

MONDAY:
"Adventure Day." All troops were given provisions for the day and told to "find adventure" somewhere in the camp. At day's end they reported their adventure, and the troop with the best one shared a big sack of rock candy.

TUESDAY:
"Backwards Day." The camp rose to "Taps" and bedded down to "Reveille." Supper was served at 7 a.m. All games and activities were done backward.

WEDNESDAY:
"King Squidge Day." A "King Squidge" was crowned "King of Happyland" and ruled his subjects all day, entertaining them with a royal tournament and hunt, among other activities.

THURSDAY:
"Daylight Saving." Campers were awakened at 2 a.m. and informed that night had turned into day. There was a "star talk" after an early mess (which included ice cream), and leaders took groups out on bird hikes, returning to camp—and a three-hour nap—before starting the day's regular program at 6 a.m.

FRIDAY:
"Campers' Day." Camp officials stole into the tents at night, awakened selected Scouts, and took their places in the tents—while the chosen boys became the Irondale "staff" for the day.

SATURDAY:
"Homecoming." A big picnic to welcome home a much-envied Ranger group of 60 boys completing a 100-mile horseback ride.



The Adirondack shacks at Irondale may not have been the height of luxury, but to city boys they brought the thrill of "camping out" with a modicum of comfort.



Generations of memorable appetites were satisfied in Kiwanis Hall, Irondale's central dining facility.



A switch in roles . . . it was usually the burro holding up a boy. Scoutcraft Director Lewis Sherwood with a group of campers at Irondale Scout Reservation in the mid-1920's.



Bloomered mothers inspect the original Irondale cabins, built in 1920. Despite Uncle Dan Beard's opposition to the electric lights, they remained in service.



The Indian Village at Irondale in 1929, its teepees decorated with Indian symbols by Scout artists.



The drama of camp life and comradeship. A realistic Indian ceremony at Irondale in the 1920's.



Camp counselor inspects a smartly-turned-out troop at Irondale in the summer of 1927. The accompanying note to Mom and Dad says, "Having keen time!"



Older Scouts at Irondale enjoyed the challenge of Ranger Camp. The thrill of riding with the Black Horse Troop.

Meals, of course, were a high point, and with good reason. Many of the Irondale chefs were recruited from the excellent diner cars of Missouri Pacific, through the generous cooperation of L. W. Baldwin, MoPac president, chairman of Region 8, and member of the National Board, whose son, Richard, is a current Board member. And then there was the boys' own cookery . . . and who can ever forget the gourmet delights of burned bacon and potatoes?

George Hall of the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* recalled a highlight of his own days at Irondale—the big “Bootlegger Hunt” of 1925, when the entire camp was turned out one night to beat the bushes for some “local moonshiners” who had eluded the constabulary. Not suprisingly, some Scout mothers took a dim view of this extra-curricular activity.

Another memorable experience was a winter encampment during the Christmas holidays. John D. “Jack” Wright, later to succeed Earle Beckman as Executive, was Camp Director, assisted by “Commodore” John C. Flint. Within hours after the boys arrived, the temperature plunged to 8 degrees above zero. Huddled in Adirondack cabins, sandwiched between layers of rubber ponchos and blankets, the boys withstood four days of bitter cold, emerging in high spirits but with shoes a trifle singed from standing too close to the fire.

The establishment and development of Irondale was a catalyst for the whole Scout movement in the St. Louis area. It not only served thousands of boys as a focus of Scout activities, it was also the incubator for many future Scouting professionals whose experience as members of the camp staff whetted their appetite for Scouting as a career. The dedication of camp staffers has played an important role in the success of St. Louis Scouting. And it helped arouse adult interest, too. Men who had given little thought to the benefits and ideals of Scouting had their eyes opened when they volunteered to serve as leaders or visited their own sons at Irondale.

And adult interest was vital if Scouting was to progress. Howard, Beckman, and McBride were

indefatigable recruiters and adroit persuaders. They enlisted business and professional men, civic leaders, clerks, and blue collar workers alike to serve as Scoutmasters, Troop Committee-men, and in other volunteer capacities. Schools, churches, synagogues, service and fraternal organizations were solicited to sponsor troops and participate in Scout activities.

An expanded Council staff spearheaded the recruiting drive. Beckman brought in Hanson W. Haun from Indiana to serve as Associate Executive, and with four Field Executives—Jack Wright, Merle Shippey, J. C. Flint, and J. William Bauer—launched a campaign which was to add scores of new troops and thousands of new Scouts in a few years. Field men usually made the initial contacts, and volunteers followed up (although the volunteers themselves, in missionary zeal, often started the ball rolling).

The door-opener was a request to do a “boy-fact” survey at a church or school. It was followed by a talk to the school P.T.A. or church or organization leaders, and establishment of a Troop Committee. Volunteers and professionals worked as a team, and the close friendships formed in those days still survive. “We were,” says Al Lantz, “a band of brothers . . .”

If sometimes their work was in vain, and often it was, it was crowned with triumph, too. The Council's Camping Committee, first under Chairman W. J. See and later Louis O. Honig, saw their long efforts to secure permanent overnight camping facilities bear fruit in May, 1926. The South Side Lions Club purchased, and donated outright to the Council, 250 acres of wooded land near Imperial, Mo., worth some \$8,000. Lions' Den Reservation opened July 1 with Merle Shippey as Director; 2,000 boys camped there the first summer.

Operating Lions' Den was no bed of roses. There was little equipment. The Council was short of funds. What little money was available was needed at Irondale, where improvements included a large porch at Kiwanis Hall (a 1922 gift from the St. Louis Kiwanis Club); handicraft lodges at both the main and Ranger camps;



The St. Louis Council pioneered the “Roving Camps” in the late Twenties. Buses like this took Scouts on educational jaunts all over the U.S.

and an artificial lake made possible by the generosity of Dr. R. C. Coleman. By 1926, Irondale boasted 131 permanent structures.

By contrast, Lions' Den had few permanent facilities. Bridges and roads were in poor condition. The land was farmed out, and even today oldtime Scouters recall the haze of mosquitoes over the brush. In 1929 the State Board of Health condemned the spring as a source of drinking water. Efforts to sell the camp were unavailing, so the Council did what it could with inadequate funds.

To accommodate boys who wanted to spend all summer in camp, the Roving Camps (originally called “Teepee Camps”) were established in 1927. That year 26 Scouts led by Field Executive L. L. Hotchkiss pioneered the concept. They opened with a week at Irondale, then set up a tent camp at Big Springs State Park on the Cur-

rent River. On August 6 the group boarded the new Council bus and headed for Washington, D. C., Gettysburg, Annapolis, and Philadelphia. In 1928 the Roving Camp took 82 boys on two Eastern and one Western tour, at a cost of \$125 per boy.

The Roving Camps, another concept pioneered by the St. Louis Area Council, attracted both local and national attention, but the \$125 cost was more than most boys could afford. In 1929, to keep the project alive, eight Council members contributed \$500 apiece.

If the development of the Camp Program was the main thrust of the Council's efforts in the 1920's, it was by no means the only one. In the Spring of 1923 the first Scout Circus was held at the old Coliseum at Washington and Jefferson. It was another St. Louis “first,” the brainchild of Earle Beckman, and it attracted thou-



Massed flags and massed Scouts opened the first Boy Scout Circus at the Coliseum at Washington and Jefferson in 1923. The nation's first such event, it helped build widespread public support for Scouting, and spurred recruiting.



Merit Badge Shows encouraged Scouts to demonstrate the skills they had learned.

sands of people to watch 101 different troops display their Scout expertise. Two years later more thousands thronged the old Armory at Grand and Market for the first Merit Badge Show, sponsored by St. Louis Rotary Club No. 11 and organized by Commissioner McBride and Executive Beckman.

The two events were so successful that thereafter they were held annually until 1932, after which they were presented in alternate years.

The Council devoted productive time and effort to upgrading leadership training. Although initiated by Maj. Simmons, it remained sporadic until Beckman began to develop a coordinated program in 1923. In 1926 Beckman brought William J. Puffer to St. Louis as Educational Director. He organized standards of training and advancement, which led to the first accredited Scout Leadership training program in the country, with more than 200 Scouters attending a series of six training sessions at the Old Armory followed by a weekend at Irondale. The program aroused great enthusiasm and spurred recruiting; hundreds of new Scouters were brought into the program.



The first Merit Badge Show was held at the Old Armory in 1925, sponsored by the Downtown Rotary Club.

Active in organizing the training program, and in the first big Fund Campaign in 1924, was the American Legion's elite "Forty-and-Eight" organization, one of whose national leaders was Commissioner Col. H. D. McBride, former G-1 officer of the 87th Division. The "40-&8," spurred by such men as Capt. Louis K. Renfro, later Scoutmaster of Troop 60 at Union Avenue Christian Church, and Capt. Harry H. Vaughn, Scoutmaster of Tyler Place Presbyterian Church, proved one of the best friends St. Louis Scouting ever had—not only financially, but as a source of outstanding volunteers. Capt. Vaughn, incidentally, was to become nationally known as Brig.-Gen. Vaughn, military aide to President Harry S Truman.

By 1924 the Council was drawing the bulk of its operating expenses from the Community Fund. On November 15, 1924, "Boy Scout Day" kicked off the annual Fund campaign and at the same time demonstrated the Scout dedication to good citizenship.

That day Eagle Scouts literally took over the metropolitan area. Fifteen-year-old Augustin Jones of Troop 60, who had represented St. Louis at the International Jamboree in

Copenhagen that year, took over Mayor Kiel's desk as unofficial "mayor" of the city. James Beeley of Troop 93 was "Chief of Police," and Ralph Schmitt, Troop 86, was "Fire Chief." "Mayor" Jones was solemnly sworn in and presided over a meeting of the "Board of Aldermen," all of them Eagle Scouts. Other Scouts assumed similar duties in suburban communities and served as "presidents" of the area's major businesses and "editors" of the newspapers. The widely-publicized event helped the Community Fund go over the top.

Another constructive contribution to citizenship was made by Troop 123 at Garfield School, whose members served as traffic guards at nearby crossings. They were the forerunners of the Safety Patrol later sponsored by the Automobile Club of Missouri.

Early in the Twenties the Council began organizational efforts among handicapped boys. By 1925 "Commodore" Flint could report that five Scouts of Troop 109 at Missouri School for the Blind had done as well or better than sighted Scouts in a swimming test at Souard School, and that all of the boys of Troop 224 (later



Here's a scene to spark many a memory—an early Camporall at the old Aviation Field in Forest Park, across from the Highlands.

Troop 132) at Central Institute for the Deaf had passed their Tenderfoot tests. The Troop Committee of No. 224 included Festus J. Wade; his son, Festus, Jr., who had been one of the area's earliest Scouts; and Dr. Max A. Goldstein, founder and director of the Institute.

Another troop was organized in 1929 by James MacKay, principal of the Elias Michael School for the Physically Handicapped, and Charles S. Pollock, Scoutmaster of Troop 155, who established Troop 138 at Shriner's Hospital. The troop is led today by Scoutmaster Howard I. Stone, a former Scout in Pollock's troop.

Progress was being made, too, in bringing Scouting where it was perhaps most needed—in the central city. With several "colored" troops already in existence, Rev. A. M. Colley of Pilgrim M. E. Mission at 4200 Enright, and William D. Hoffman, principal of West Belle Colored School, announced plans in 1925 to organize five more troops. Troop 45 was already meeting at the Mission and Troop 231 at the school.

Progress was slow and money lacking, but both the number and quality of black troops grew as black community leaders were persuaded of the value of Scouting. One of the most outstanding and beloved recruits to the Scouting movement was Leon M. Dickson, a postal employee who on December 29, 1927, chartered Troop 124 at Lane Tabernacle C.M.E. Church at 4371 Enright.

Today a holder of the Silver Beaver Award, with 48 productive years of Scouting behind him, Leon Dickson has been an inspiration to generations of boys. His "alumni" include a state senator, a former president of the St. Louis Board of Education, two U.S. Department of Justice attorneys, ministers, physicians, engineers, military career men, and city officials. One of the outstanding leaders of St. Louis youth, he represents the highest ideals of Scouting.

The need for interracial Scouting was recognized in the new Area Council Constitution in 1929, and a new committee headed by Thomas J. Collins took over supervision of 19 black troops

with 443 Scouts and 28 Scouters. Turnover was high; a Division Committee of black community leaders was organized to promote Scouting and troop organization in inner-city institutions. Headed by S. E. Garner, the committee raised \$384 for the Council, with President Howard adding another \$400 from his own pocket. When the Community Fund proved unable to supply the funds needed to continue the program, the Council renewed its own efforts to raise money. The committee's work continued into the Thirties on a shoestring budget. It was an uphill fight, despite the recognized need.

Beckman strongly promoted inter-troop competition, both to spur the interest of the boys and to cement relations among the Scouters. Until the early 1920's, there had been little personal contact among the adult leaders. Each, as one veteran remembers, "was pretty much on his own." Beginning in 1928, a series of Camporees and Camporalls brought Scouts and Scouters together at the old aviation field on the southern edge of Forest Park. In a 30-by-30-foot space, each patrol (selected to represent its troop) erected pup tents and cooking flies, and made arrangements for fire prevention and sanitation. Results were judged by District Scouters.

The competitions and improved leadership training brought the Scouters together and made a significant contribution toward welding the Council, districts, and troops into a single organization with common purpose, common goals, and common methods.

The training sessions at the Armory were continued, and Scoutmasters and District staff met regularly at the West End home of David R. Francis, former governor of Missouri and president of the 1904 World's Fair. There they compared notes and helped each other with their mutual problems. Both local and National Headquarters, heretofore relatively remote from day-to-day troop activities, gradually improved both direction and coordination at all levels. The structure of Scouting as we know it today was evolving.

Two events of the Twenties still stand out in the memories of Scouts and Scouters of those days—



Scout Circuses and Merit Badge Shows were among St. Louis' biggest spectator attractions in the 1920's and 1930's, with attendance as high as 50,000 after they were moved to the Arena in 1930.

the triumphant homecoming of the "Lone Eagle," Col. Charles A. Lindbergh, and the Great Tornado of 1927.

On Saturday, June 19, 1927, less than a month after his epoch-making flight, Lindbergh was greeted by the most tumultuous welcome in St. Louis history. The Scouts played a key role. For two miles down Lindell they stood shoulder to shoulder, while others helped with traffic control and manned first-aid stations. An estimated 500,000 people—half the area's population—turned out for the event.

Troop 2, which claims the honor of being the city's first organized unit, was chosen to present Lindbergh with an honorary membership in the Boy Scouts of America and in the troop itself. He took the troop salute as he stepped from his official car just west of Grand Avenue. The national membership was presented by Senior Patrol Leader Murray Cabell, and Winfield Homer, leader of the Flying Eagle Patrol. Then Lindbergh awarded the patrol medallion. Then Lindbergh received a parchment scroll signed by the entire troop, and a Scout knife. The scroll is still on display at Jefferson Memorial, as is a single rose, preserved in wax, from a bouquet given to Lindbergh's mother by the boys. The knife

disappeared into the Colonel's pocket. "That," he said, "is one thing I'll always use."

It was an excited throng of boys who took cherished memories to bed that night... and for many, it was the first step toward careers in aviation.

The decade's most dramatic instance of Scout service to the community occurred later in that same year, in the wake of a disastrous tornado



Leon M. Dickson—for 48 years an inspiration to boys.



George M. Burbach, first Council Publicity Chairman.

that ripped through the heart of the city at 1 p.m., Sept. 29. Eighty-six persons died; much of the area was prostrate for 10 days.

Within minutes after the tornado had passed, Scouts were in action. At least 4,000 of them worked a total of 284,000 "boy hours" in that hectic fortnight. They served as messengers,

for telephone lines were down everywhere. They distributed food and clothing to the homeless, helped clear debris and guarded downed power lines, and more than once helped rescue persons trapped in smashed buildings. Scout first-aiders treated 600 minor injuries, runners delivered 17,000 telegrams, and patrols directed traffic at major intersections. Almost two out of three of the area's 6,700 Scouts pitched in. Few St. Louisans who lived through the tornado of 1927 will forget the courage and cheerfulness of those thousands of boys, white and black, who helped put the city on its feet again.

In the same banner year, the St. Louis Council was instrumental in spurring a nationwide effort to reach boys living in rural areas. Starting in 1924, because of the interest of Board Member and MoPac President L. W. Baldwin, the Council had worked with MoPac and the M.K.&T. Railroad to make Scouting available to boys living along their Midwestern and Southwestern rights-of-way. O. J. "Cap" Williams of the Missouri Pacific (he was called the "MoPac Field Executive") helped organize and serve 151 troops along his routes, while W. A. Zischang of the "Katy" organized 32 troops. With this experience as a beacon, six other major railroads adopted the program in 1927. In later years, as various local Councils expanded, these troops were absorbed by them.

The Council also organized one of the first "Lone Scout" programs, devoted to boys in areas where there were too few youths to form a troop.

Scout activities were assiduously promoted by an active Publicity Committee headed by George M. Burbach of the *Post-Dispatch*, one of the first of a series of newspapermen who helped keep the Scouts on view in the public press right up to the present. The *Globe-Democrat*, with a weekly section devoted entirely to Scouting, was also an important factor in mobilizing public support.

As the decade neared its end, St. Louis was selected as one of a handful of cities to test the new concept of Cubbing. As usual, Clarence Howard played a key role, contributing \$10,000



Scouts did yeoman service after the tornado disaster of Sept. 29, 1927. More than 4,000 worked a total of 284,000 "boy hours" in helping revive a stricken city. These two lads found time to help a bewildered small victim.

to underwrite the Council's experimental program.

It had been a challenge when a little brother plaintively asked, "Why can't I be a 'half-scout' 'til I'm 12?" Baden-Powell had met the problem in England with his "Wolf Packs," but their Kiplingesque motif and mythology of the jungles of faraway India appealed little to U.S. boyhood. Some "sub-Scout" organizations did exist, and a few Wolf Packs were established, but it was apparent that the solution lay within the Scout movement itself. In 1925 the National



Ugh! Heap small Injun! Scouts and Scouters of the Twenties gather around the campfire to pay tribute to the redskin heritage that is so much a part of Scouting.

Council named a blue-ribbon committee to study the problem, assisted by a team of psychologists, educators, social workers, and interested parents.

By 1928 an experimental program was taking shape, emphasizing the home and enlisting parents in the activities. Some of the aspects of the Baden-Powell program were retained (such as the name "Cub" and the titles "Cubmaster" as the name "Cub" and the titles "Cubmaster" and "Akela" for the leaders), but the new approach was authentically American. Chief Scout Executive James E. West was especially insistent that the Cub program not overlap

Scouting, and that it helped stimulate the boys' advancement into Scout troops.

Howard, first as president of the St. Louis Area Council and later as a member of the Executive Committee of the National Council, took a personal interest in the developing concept. Instrumental in the choice of St. Louis as a test community, his donation helped the Council establish and develop the program. The city's first Cubs to advance from Cubbing into Scouting were a pair of South Side twins, Kensinger and Walter "Buck" Jones, who were registered as Cubs January 20, 1930 and on



The beginning of Cubbing. First St. Louis Cubs were twins Walter "Buck" and Kensinger Jones, shown here with their father, Walter C. Jones, as they were registered at Scout Headquarters by Council President Clarence H. Howard and Scout Executive Earle Beckman. In background, the first Cub Executive, Samuel C. Reaves. Howard Den, Pack 21, met in the Jones home on Castleman.



Ken, left, and Buck Jones at Irondale. They won their First Class pins in 1933.

January 12, 1933, were awarded their First Class pins by Mrs. Clarence Howard.

For three years the experimental Packs were studied to obtain the experience needed for further development of the program. Perhaps no U.S. youth activity has been so thoroughly researched, and so firmly based on facts rather than theory. In 1933 the Cub program was officially adopted; again, St. Louis had been one of the pioneers. Carl H. Holekamp served as chairman of the local effort, and Spencer C. "Sam" Reaves became the first Director of Cub Scouting.

As the Twenties ended, St. Louis Scouting had come of age. Applying for its 1930 charter, Executive Beckman could report 274 active troops (including those of the newly-merged



Irondale... magic land of memory for every Scout and Scouter who camped there. A Ranger ride like this one was a never-forgotten experience.

St. Charles Council), and 7,205 Scouts, well over double the 1920 figure. More than 1,600 Scouters were guided by nine full-time professional staffers, and annual expenditures had risen to \$153,000.

Seventy percent of the Scoutmasters had been fully or partially trained—a very high proportion in those days—and the Council's methods of selecting, indoctrinating, and training Scouters had not only received national attention but served as a basis for much of the national training program. Turnover among St. Louis Area Scoutmasters was less than a third

the national average. The result was a leadership cadre of the highest caliber—a key factor in the survival and continued growth of Scouting in the difficult years ahead.

For in October, 1929, the "Roaring Twenties" came crashing down. The stock market collapse heralded a new time of testing for Scouting, and indeed the entire community, about to be gripped by the Great Depression. The Twenties, with all their problems, were soon to be remembered with nostalgia. But few Americans would care to repeat the experiences of the upcoming 1930's.

CHALLENGE AND RESPONSE —THE DEPRESSION YEARS



One, two, three . . . blow! The Harmonica Band, reinforced by drums, trumpets the opening of the 1929 Boy Scout Circus in front of the old Coliseum on Washington Avenue. Veteran Scouters recall that the band was good and loud . . . mostly loud.

Chapter 17

NO ONE WHO LIVED through the Nineteen Thirties as man or boy, Scout or Scouter, is likely to forget them. They were the traumatic years, years of breadlines and applesellers, of WPA, CCC, NRA, of social unrest and social experiment, of fear and courage. For St. Louis Scouting, they were years of desperate challenge and magnificent response.

For despite seemingly endless crises, or perhaps because of them, Scouting grew. The need for Scouting was never more clear. In it, often-discouraged men saw the hope of tomorrow, and gave freely of their time and what little money they could spare. They set examples of heads-up courage and dedication for a whole generation of youth—a generation that on December 7, 1941, was called upon to prove its own worth.

The Thirties saw sweeping changes in Scouting. The old guard, the men who founded and nurtured the infant movement, were passing from the scene. New hands, new leaders took up the torch. Organization was perfected, new methods introduced. Camping was expanded. Cubbing came of age, and the Explorer and Sea Scout programs reached out to embrace older boys. The Order of the Arrow became an important part of Scouting. The foundations of Scouting were strengthened and its appeal broadened.

The achievements of the Thirties loom even larger in view of the financial difficulties that plagued the Council throughout the decade. Just keeping the Council afloat was a feat in itself. Members who struggled all day to keep their own

businesses above water worked nights and weekends to shore up Council activities. At one point Earle Beckman had to borrow on his life insurance to pay the office help. There were troops in which not a single boy could spare a nickel for dues, and there were not a few Scoutmasters—hard-working, respected men—who were glad of a WPA check to feed their families.

In fact, the Council was already in precarious financial condition when the Depression struck. Deficit financing had become normal in the mid and late Twenties. "You went out and committed the Council to spending so much," remembers Carl Laemmli, "and then you came back and tried to raise the money."



Col. Francis M. Curlee, Council Finance Committee chairman.

The Council had counted on a few wealthy patrons such as Clarence Howard to rescue it. Col. Francis M. Curlee, president of Curlee Clothing Co., and chairman of the Finance Committee from 1923 to 1933, went to heroic lengths to regularize Council finances, but usually found himself a step or more behind.



Husky Scouts build the new entrance to Camp Irondale, 1935.

A key factor in the recurring financial crunch was dependence on the St. Louis Community Fund, which often in its formative years proved a somewhat weak reed. The Scouts joined the Fund in 1923 with the understanding that the Fund would liquidate the Council's then-outstanding debt of \$24,000, and would provide an adequate operating budget. But by 1930 only half the debt had been paid off, and the Council was operating at a deficit.

The deficit, as Col. Curlee explained to Fund officials, stemmed from the cost of operating Irondale. The Council faced the alternatives of increasing the camping fees or cutting Irondale standards, neither of which it felt justified in doing. For camping was the core of Scouting; moreover, Irondale needed more money for improvements and maintenance, not less. The recent acquisition of another 20 acres and the introduction of Troop Unit Camps—which would keep whole troops together under their own leadership—required additional funds. Fund

leaders were sympathetic, but there was no money.

Again President Howard came to the rescue. Fearing that the Council's worsening credit rating would reflect on Scouting itself, he put up collateral to secure a new bank loan of \$22,000 to be applied to unpaid bills. The improvements at Irondale were started in 1930. Four Troop Unit campsites were established; a new well was dug; kitchen furnishings and equipment replaced; Kiwanis Hall was remodeled. That summer 973 more Scouts attended camp than in 1929.

Indeed, it seemed that the corner had been turned. The Scout Circus of 1930 broke all attendance records. The Camporall in May attracted 102 troops. The Merit Badge Show in November featured 14 commercial as well as 90 Scout booths. And at year's end, the Community Fund was able to provide \$77,000 instead of the projected \$70,000.

But 1931 saw the beginning of the worst years of the Depression. Later to hit St. Louis than other cities with a narrower economic base, Depression was soon a grim reality. Businesses closed, banks went under, mortgages were foreclosed. Men who had worked all their lives were suddenly cast off, their skills unwanted and their self-respect eroded. The wages of those who still had jobs were cut, and cut again.

It was a grim year, made worse when in November the Community Fund failed to reach its goal. And it was a sad year for Scouters, because on December 6, 1931, President Clarence H. Howard passed away. It was a sober group of Scouters who gathered at the Chase Hotel in January, 1932, and elected as their new president Eugene D. Nims, president and founder of Southwestern Bell Telephone Co.

On a less somber note, the Council made its first Silver Beaver Awards at that same annual meeting. The recipients were Ernest N. Birge, president of Gaines Shovel Co.; Nelson Cunliff of Cunliff Construction Co.; Commissioner H. D. McBride; Ernest H. Schultz of Canvas Products Co.; John H. Bell of Hamilton-Brown Shoe Co.; Attorney Lester M. Hall; Charles "Bucky" Kelso, safety engineer for Aetna Insurance Co.; Jacob P. Simons, a North Side grocer; and Dr. Eugene Stephens, Washington University mathematics professor. They were the first of hundreds of St. Louisans to win the coveted award

for outstanding service to boyhood on the local Council level. Men from all walks of life, they were united in their dedication to Scouting. (A roster of Silver Beaver recipients is presented elsewhere in this volume.)

The next two years saw the depth of the nation's worst economic disaster. The Council's 1932 operating budget, already cut from \$194,000 in 1931 to \$170,000, was slashed again by 25 percent. Eventually it was to fall below \$100,000, with the Community Fund able to supply less than a third. President Nims, Finance Chairman Curlee, and Treasurer Lewis S. Haslam struggled with a deepening crisis. In his 1933 Annual Report, Executive Beckman acknowledged that Scouting faced the most severe crisis in its history.



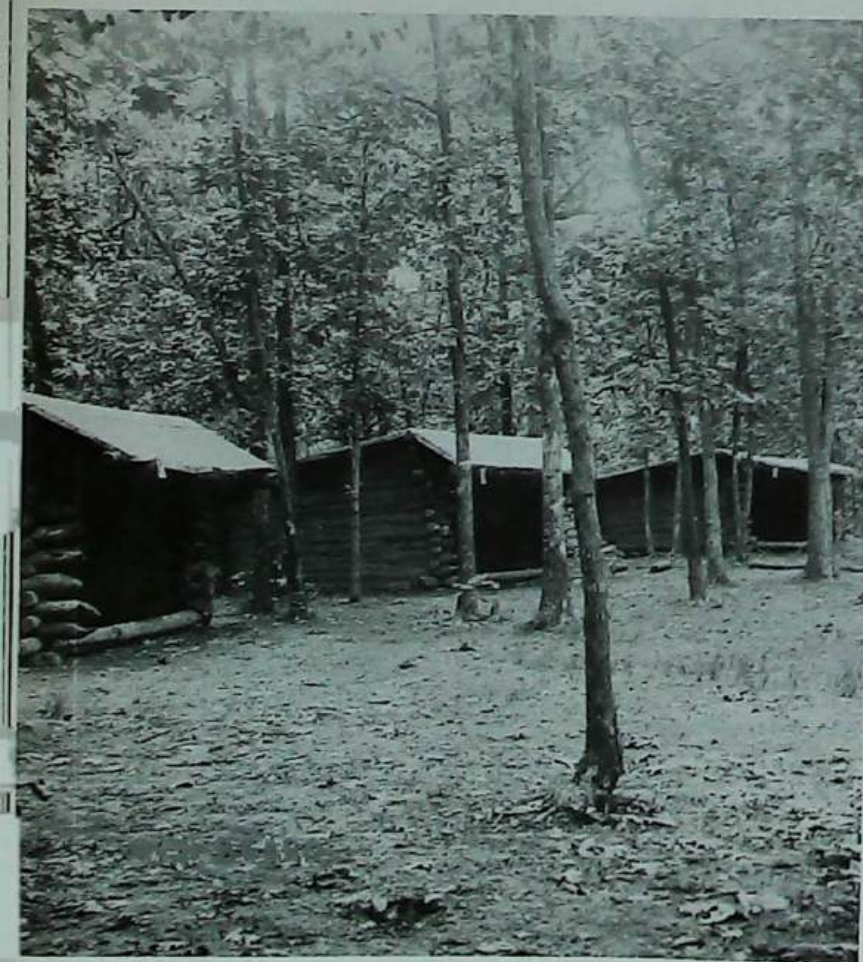
Eugene D. Nims, Council President, 1932-1938.

The strictest economies were launched, but they were inadequate. More boys than ever were joining the movement, but there were fewer services available for them. At least 75 troops, long accustomed to meeting in their neighborhood schools, had to seek other quarters when the hard-pressed Board of Education could no longer provide utilities and custodial services after school hours. Most troops found temporary meeting places in Scoutmasters' homes and elsewhere, but some were unable to find shelter. Many programs were cut back or suspended, and the results showed up in the 1933 Court of Honor report.

But today many veteran Scouters point to those years as a turning-point. In the Spring of 1933, unable to count on the Community Fund, with many of its own Board members financially strapped, with wealthy "angels" fewer and far-



Bucky Kelso of Troop 55 gets his Silver Beaver at the annual Council meeting in 1932. At left is Henry C. Thompson, at right, Commissioner McBride.



Adirondack shacks at Dan Beard Camp at Irondale Scout Reservation in the 1930's.

ther between, the Council regrouped and started to pull itself up by its own bootstraps by conducting its own fund-raising drive. Scouters by the hundreds spread through the Council area, soliciting friends, neighbors, and business associates. Employee salaries were cut again, field and educational services further reduced . . . and the Council survived on a budget that made "austerity" seem luxurious. But it survived, and in doing so, gained strength.

A look at the figures is instructive. Actual income for 1933 was only \$95,000. The Community Fund provided but 23 percent of the total. Thirty-seven percent of the fund campaign pledges were still unpaid. Cash on hand amounted to just \$997, and \$574 of that was locked up in closed banks. The Council even had to delay payment of its \$100 annual charter renewal fee to the National Council, B.S.A.

The early fund-raising campaigns all fell short of their goals. The Scouters were novices at it, and few St. Louisans could spare a dime, let alone a dollar. But the Scouters got better, and so did the times. First under Walter W. Head, president of General American Life Insurance Co., and later Col. Jos. E. Vollmar, president of Fruin-Colnon Construction Co., and Russell E. Gardner, senior partner of Reinholdt & Gardner, the annual drive was to become a key source of funds for Scout activities. Campaign organization was perfected, prospect lists refined, techniques analyzed and improved. In 1938, the drive went over the top for the first time, surpassing its ambitious \$98,000 goal.

Other sources of income also helped—individual gifts, proceeds from the Scout Circus and Merit Badge Show (although attendance at these events increased, income dwindled as admission prices were cut), camping and other fees. An early effort was made to provide a steady source of income; in 1936, the St. Louis Boy Scout Trust Fund was established to hold title to Scout properties and accumulated funds, including bequests.

In 1937 the Scouts withdrew temporarily from the limping Community Fund, and at the same time reported a balanced (though stringent) budget. The corner had been turned. The Council had learned to live with financial pressure, and was able to stand on its own feet. Astute financial management became a hallmark of the St. Louis Area Council. Expenditures were closely scrutinized, frills eliminated, and priorities established to maintain the standards and impetus of Scouting at minimum cost. Those hard-learned lessons of the Depression years have never been forgotten. And at the 1941 Annual Meeting, after a year in which the fund drive had produced \$126,000, it was proudly announced that the Council was out of debt. The decade-long crisis was over.

Meanwhile, the ranks of Scouters, and of the Council and its Executive Board, were changing in those difficult years. The pioneers were retiring or passing away—men like Lester M. Hall, Scoutmaster of Troop 46 for more than 20 years; Harry S. Holbrook, first Commodore of the Sea

Scouts; Col. Curlee, Charles M. Rice, E. H. Schultz. Other veterans remained interested and active—President Nims, Carl Holekamp, Col. McBride, Nelson Cunliff, George Burbach, Allen C. Orrick, Charles Nagel (until his death in 1939).

But there were new faces now, a new generation of community leaders dedicating themselves to the service of boyhood. Among them were such men as Gale F. Johnston of Mercantile Trust; Russell E. Gardner, Jr., of Reinholdt & Gardner; David R. Calhoun, then with Ely-Walker; David P. Wohl, president of Wohl Shoe Co. and philanthropist; Walter W. Head, president of General American Life and longtime president of the National Council, BSA, who came to St. Louis from Omaha in the early Thirties; Morton D. May of May Department Stores and Arthur B. Baer of Stix, Baer & Fuller; Col. Jos. E. Vollmar of Fruin-Colnon; Clarence H. Howard, Jr., son of the late Council president; Albert W. Lantz, Lantz Bros. Baking Co.; August A. Busch, Jr., of Anheuser-Busch . . . men who were to guide Scouting through its next era.

A key change in mid-decade was the departure of Executive Earle W. Beckman, who joined Dr.



Three great Scouters—
Gale F. Johnston, upper
left; Walter W. Head,
upper right; and Arthur
B. Baer, left.

James E. West on the National Council staff Jan. 1, 1936, to serve Scouting in a broader capacity as National business manager. His 15 years of leadership had been innovative, imaginative, and effective. He had introduced true professionalism to the St. Louis Area Council, and the men he had brought into the movement

The handsome young staffer, far left, in the "Snake Pit" at the Irondale Nature Museum in 1938 is R. Martin Perkins, then Reptile Curator at the St. Louis Zoo and an Irondale nature counselor.





Clarence H. Howard, Jr., left, Chief Scout Executive Dr. James E. West, and St. Louis Executive Earle Beckman enjoy a Scout Circus at the Arena.

—the Merle Shippeys, Carl Laemmlis, Hanson Hauns, Bill Puffers, and many others—were to serve it long and well.

He had also built the Headquarters clerical staff, and made it into a skilled, knowledgeable team able to handle many of the Scouters' problems without referring them to "high authority." An outstanding example was the beloved "Miss B," secretary first to Beckman, then to Jack Wright, Jack Keith and Russ Hart before her retirement. Not too many Scouters knew that her full name was Florence Borchelt; to them she was "Miss B," and a comfort in emergencies, real or fancied, and to four Scout Executives, a strong right arm.

In the years ahead, there were to be others like her, for whom the Council and the Scouts was a way of life—women like Louise Repp, Clare



Adventure ahead! Scouts arrive at Irondale via the Missouri Pacific.

Hogan, Mary Port, Hazel Loux, Lily Penrod, and many others, for whom there were no hours too long, no efforts too great, to make and keep the St. Louis Area Council indisputably the nation's No. 1. No Scouter could have been more dedicated than these women who kept the wheels moving smoothly. No Executive, no matter how dynamic, could have succeeded without their able support.

The successor to Earle Beckman was no stranger to St. Louis Scouting. John D. "Jack" Wright, who was to lead brilliantly until his untimely death in 1946, had come to St. Louis in 1920 as an employee of the Babson Statistical Service. He was already a veteran Scouter, having been involved with a Newport, Ky., troop since 1911. Shortly after his arrival in St. Louis, he found himself Scoutmaster of Troop 6 at Second Presbyterian Church, then became District Commissioner of the Suburban District. In 1924 his avocation became his vocation; he joined the Council Headquarters staff as a professional, and served six years as North District Field Executive, Assistant Scout Executive to Beckman, and Director of the Ranger Camp at Irondale. In 1928, however, opportunity beckoned and he left St. Louis to become Scout Executive for the Covered Wagon Council of Omaha. But his heart was in St. Louis, and when the call came, he was ready to return.

A man of great warmth, a friend to every man and boy who ever knew him, Jack Wright was



It was safer than it looks. Scouts and staffers built this suspension bridge at Camp Irondale in the early Thirties.

to leave an indelible impression on St. Louis Scouting and the Council itself. He strongly encouraged the development of close personal relationships between the volunteers and the professionals at 505 Chemical Building . . . the lack of which troubles many a metropolitan Council to this day. He knew almost every Scouter by his first name, and knew how to make them feel appreciated.

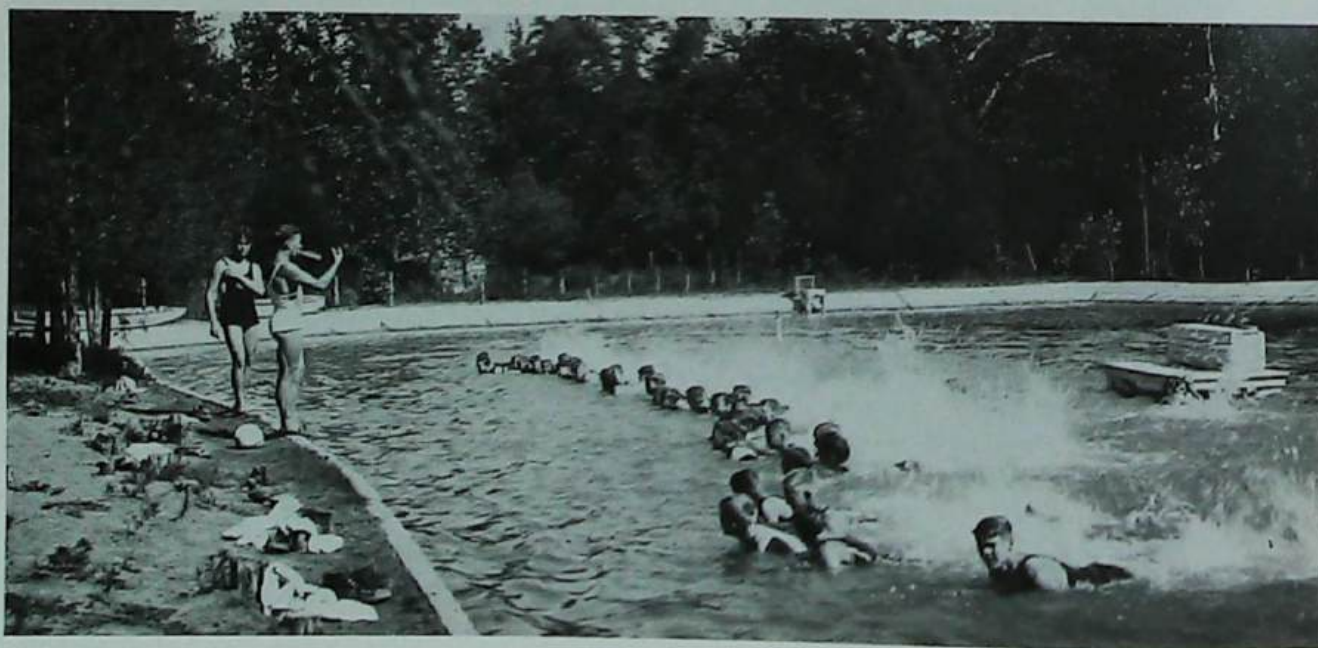
He helped put the Council on a firm financial basis. He was active in the development of the camping program, Cubbing, and Senior Scouting. His tenure as Scout Executive is a warm memory to many a Scouter and staffer today.

Jack Wright faced not a few challenges, but he had most of them in hand within a few years. Despite the continued financial pressures, St. Louis Scouting maintained a steady growth throughout the 1930's, as the Area Council—first under Beckman and then Wright—improved methods and organization, and expanded activities as finances became available. Under a new Constitution adopted in 1929 and later revised in 1936, Council operations steadily became more businesslike.

District Commissioners and Field Executives worked in harness (or they heard about it from Jack Wright). The gap between Headquarters

"Miss B" retires. Secretary to four Scout Executives, Florence Borchelt was honored at a dinner in November, 1969. Left to right are Mrs. Russell J. Hart; Olivia Beckerle, secretary to Fred Peirce of General American Life; "Miss B"; Scout Executive Russ Hart; and Leona Jones, secretary of Howard Lee Young of American Zinc & Smelting.





Kick, kick, kick! Beginners learn the proper technique from expert instructors at the pool at Irondale.

and troop level, which Beckman had made efforts to close, was finally sealed. As one oldtimer puts it, there was no longer any question about "who did what to whom, and when." The free-wheeling early days, exhilarating as they may have been, were gone. But if there was less individualism and more paperwork, there was an improvement in the services and programs delivered to the boys—which is the name of the game. From Troop Committeemen to Commissioner to Scout Executive, Scouters functioned with new efficiency, dedication, and direction.

Leadership training, professionalized under Bill Puffer, was further standardized and expanded. In 1930, 373 Scouters attended 30 separate training courses; 211 certificates were awarded (attendance wasn't enough; you had to learn something, and prove it). Half the area's Scoutmasters had "some" formal training. Ten years later, 2,750 men were to attend 61 courses, with 1,462 certificates—and 93 percent of the Area's then-4,841 Scouters had received at least basic training.

During the 1930's the St. Louis Area Council consistently ranked No. 1 among all U.S. metropolitan Councils in the effectiveness and reach of its programs. Advancement, one of the hallmarks of effectiveness, progressed steadily throughout the decade; 7,338 badges were awarded in 1930, and more than 12,000 in 1940,

of which 5,200 were for advancement in rank. Under Chairman Nelson Cunliff, the Council's Committee on Advancement inaugurated and carried on a program that attracted national attention and emulation.

Council organization was revamped to meet the changing needs of the community. The Constitution added two new districts—Central and Interracial—to the original four (North, South, West, and Suburban). In 1936, following the merger with the St. Charles Council, the number of Council districts was increased to 10.



A lot of Scouters remember the suspense of the "Gold Rush" under the swinging bridge over Big River.

Arrowhead, South, and part of the Central districts were formed from the old South District. North Star, Midland, and the remainder of Central replaced the North District. Suburban District gave way to Pioneer, Northwest, Suburban, and part of Midland. The Interracial District became a Council Division.

Reorganization was carried down to the district level as well. District Committees were composed of the officers and chairmen of the district standing committees—Organization, Advancement, Cubbing, and Senior Scouting. By that time the staff in the Chemical Building Headquarters had expanded to include five Assistant Scout Executives, eight Field Scout Executives, and an office staff of 16.

Three years later the number of districts was again expanded when the Council extended its boundaries to Franklin, Crawford, and Dent Counties, and the financially-pressed Mineral Area Council to the Southeast. St. Francois and Washington Counties became the new Mineral District, and other former Mineral Area counties were attached to various St. Louis Council districts. The Council now encompassed 15 districts; the new ones were Mineral, El Camino Real, Taum Sauk, Meramec, and Borbeuse. The Council, with 12,804 boy members, was by then serving 15 Missouri counties.



*John D. (Jack) Wright,
St. Louis Area Scout
Executive, 1936-1946.*

Geographic expansion was not the only reason for reorganization. The number of boys served was also increasing as Scouting broadened its appeal to include both younger and older boys and inner-city youth. The growth of Cubbing was phenomenal during the Thirties; the growth of Senior and Negro Scouting were less successful, but showed promise.

Cubbing became an inspiring force in St. Louis during the decade. It was barely mentioned in the 1930 Annual Report to the National Council. A year later there were 626 Cubs in 15 Packs and 48 Dens. That was the start of explosive growth. A year later there were 1,253 Cubs, 36 Packs, and 108 Dens—and by the end of 1941 (to most Americans, the era of the Thirties ended on Dec. 7, 1941) Cub strength was 4,497 boys in 133 Packs, all of them matched with a Scout Troop.



Busy, busy... a Scout's activities never end. Scouts enjoy the Stix, Baer & Fuller Handicraft Lodge at Irondale Scout Reservation.



Concentration and dedication . . . a Kirkwood den mother takes her job seriously. Cubbing was pioneered in the St. Louis Area Council.

Cub activities, including such events as the annual Cub-and-Dad outings and Den Mother training courses, aroused such interest that double sessions were required to accommodate the crowds. Thousands of Cubs took part annually in the Scout Circus and Merit Badge Show, and an increasing number of Cubs graduated into the ranks of Boy Scouting.

Cubbing—and Scouting—owes much to the selfless dedication of women like Mrs. Katie G. Campbell, Mrs. Eddye Bryson, Mrs. Catherine Dolde, and Mrs. Rita Venegoni, who were the first Den Mothers to receive the Silver Fawn Award when it was first presented in 1971. These women, and others like them, had records of service over many years, and started the feet of whole generations of small fry on the trail that led from Cub to Scout, and from Scout to manhood.

Some performed their miracles in the inner city, some in the affluent suburbs—all were believers in the benefits and ideals of Cubbing and Scouting. The Silver Fawn Award was created to honor them as the Silver Beaver had been created decades earlier to honor the men volunteers who contributed to Scouting on the local Council level.

Cubbing answered the needs of the younger boys, but Scouting had not yet satisfactorily answered the needs of the older youth. The introduction of Sea Scouting into St. Louis in 1931 was a beginning, but it proved relatively limited in its appeal. Not until the first Explorer program was developed in the mid-1930's were there organized Scout activities specifically designed to challenge the interests of the over-15 group.

Scouters had long been aware of the problem of the "older Scout," as records of early Council sessions demonstrate. As the Depression grew, older boys were coming into the movement; 17 percent of the new Scouts registered in 1931 were 15 or older—many of them only to drop out when regular troop programs failed to capture their interest.

The only official program which began to meet the need was Sea Scouting, the National Council's "older boy" program since 1917. In 1931 the St. Louis Area Council named Executive Board Member Harry S. Holbrook, St. Louis general agent for Sun Life of Canada, to head a committee to investigate Sea Scouting. Holbrook and his team, Dr. C. E. Colgate, Fred Goldtrap, and E. E. Theimeyer, went East to take the special Sea Scout leadership training course. Early that fall, with the cooperation of the National Council, they instituted their own leadership training in St. Louis; 56 Scouters attended, and by year's end, charters had been granted to seven local institutions to sponsor Sea Scout Ships.

As may have been expected of an inland area which still lacked the many man-made lakes of today, Sea Scouting proved of limited appeal, although of great interest to the men and boys attracted to it. In 1932, with Holbrook as "Commodore," the Council acquired 1,000 feet of lakefront property at Creve Coeur Lake (then larger, deeper, and a thriving resort community). The Scouts and their leaders, with funds raised by the Scouters themselves, built a small base there. Five small Navy boats were acquired; brought from the West Coast through the Panama Canal, they were deadheaded from New Orleans to St. Louis by MoPac and delivered to



Den mothers of Pack 124, Lane Tabernacle Church. Among them are two future winners of the Silver Fawn Award—Mrs. Eddye R. Bryson, second from left, top row; and Mrs. Katie Campbell, at left in front row.

the base by Bell Telephone trucks. Total cost to the Scouts: \$6.51.

In addition, the boys themselves built several sailing craft of the Snipe class. Fortunately, all of the boats were saved when a fire destroyed the first Sea Scout base in 1933. The base was revived and rebuilt in 1935, when H. A. Brereton became Commodore after the death of Harry Holbrook. Sea Scouting, which had declined after the fire, was revitalized. The 1935 Annual Report showed 12 Ships and 26 active Sea Scouts.

Trouble seemed to plague the group. The relocated Creve Coeur base burned again in 1939, this time with the loss of several craft owned by individual Scouts. Moreover, the lake was beginning to silt, limiting racing and other attractions. Commodore Brereton and a Council committee sought another site, which proved to be at Machens on Alton Lake. In 1940 Camp Brereton was officially opened, with Council members

steaming upriver on the *Golden Eagle* for the ceremony. The new base boasted 40 slips, a caretaker's house, a camping unit and dining hall, and a half-mile of road. By that time, the Sea Scout Division mustered 411 boys in 22 Ships.

Although existing Council records of the Thirties seem single-mindedly concerned with financial matters (the "same old thing," as President Nims once disgustedly put it), in fact the members were deeply involved in other matters as well, and the problem of the "older boy" continued to attract much study. Eventually the solution came from the National Council—the Senior Scouting Service, merging the Sea Scouts and the newly-organized Explorers in 1935.

On reaching 15, boys were given an alternative. They could remain in their troops as Senior Scouts, or they could become Sea Scouts or Explorers. The 15-year requirement remained in effect until 1949, when all Scouts over 14 were recognized as Explorers.



Here's one way to get your boat under way. A scene in the early days at the Sea Scout Base on Creve Coeur Lake.

The new approach was greeted with satisfaction in St. Louis. Said Senior Scouting Chairman David W. Hopkins: "We are on the threshold of a new program, rich in activity, that will go as far beyond Scouting as Scouting goes beyond Cubbing, and will continue the influence of the ideals of Scouting for many more years in the lives of boys and young men."

Senior Scouting was further enriched by the formation of such groups as the Order of the Arrow, the National Camping Fraternity; and Alpha Phi Omega, the National Scouting Service Fraternity which unites former and present Scouts on U. S. college campuses.

The Order of the Arrow has become an increasingly important factor in St. Louis Scouting, functioning as part of the regular camping program. Originally introduced in Philadelphia, it was brought to St. Louis in 1930 by a group including LeRoy Lane, Robert Johnson, Morton

"Morty" Pareira, Eugene B. Kelly and Merle D. Shippey.

Organized at Irondale and originally known as the Osage Lodge, the local Order of the Arrow later became the Shawnee Lodge, and since 1974 has been the nation's largest. Its purpose is to recognize and honor those Scout campers who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives, and by such honor persuade other campers to conduct themselves in such a way as to warrant their own induction into the Lodge.

The primary thrust and strength among the leadership of the Order of the Arrow has come from Council camp staffs. Throughout all the years of Scouting camping on Council property, camp staff has played a vital role in the program's success. The hundreds of young men who have accepted the responsibility of camp staff assignment and who have performed so admirably,

have by their example made the ideals of Scouting, the Scout Law, and Scout Oath a living reality in the lives of tens of thousands of boys. The Eagle Scouts selected annually for camp staff quickly become a cohesive team, with much of the credit for the enduring success of the Scout camping experience first at Irondale and later in newer Council Camps.

One of the greatest honors that can come to a



"Commodore" H. A. Brereton, father of St. Louis Sea Scouting.



Sea Scouts freeze to attention as Camp Brereton at Machens, on Alton Lake, is dedicated, 1940.

A stiff breeze, a full sail, and yo-ho-ho for a Sea Scout Regatta on Alton Lake.



young man, usually in his senior year of high school, is to be chosen by his fellow Order of the Arrow comrades to become the Lodge Chief. In most instances, with some exceptions in the early years, the Lodge Chief has been a camp staffer. He accepts a big responsibility both for the continuing success of the Lodge, the Council's camping program, and the formation of team spirit in the camp staff. (*A roster of Shawnee Lodge Chiefs will be found at the back of this book.*)

While such activities as the Order of the Arrow made a contribution, the initial Explorer program did not live up to advance billing. Twenty-seven Explorer Patrols, with 208 boys, were formed in 1936—Jack Wright's first year as Executive. But no definite Explorer Advancement Program was developed. Interest lagged, and by 1939 the Council had only one Explorer Troop, 12 Senior Patrols within Scout troops, and a total of 138 Explorer Scouts. By the end

of 1941, the number of troops had increased to eight, there were seven Senior Patrols, but only 168 active Explorers. Senior Scouting was to await the impact of a new era and a thorough reevaluation of the needs of interests of the older boy.

Throughout the 1930's, the Council remained deeply concerned with extending the ideals and activities of Scouting to the growing St. Louis black community. Interracial Scouting had been made a full-fledged District in 1929, with F. E. Garner as Chairman, V. H. Chapman as District Commissioner, and S. Tanner Stafford as Field Executive; in 1936, it was made a Division.

But despite the heroic efforts of a handful of men such as Leon M. Dickson, Thomas R. Collins, William Rand, and of women such as Mrs. Katie Campbell and Mrs. E. Bryson, Scouting made little real penetration into the inner city in the 1930's. The reasons are not hard to



Three future founders of the Shawnee Lodge, Order of the Arrow, were among these members of the Camp Irondale swim staff in 1925... Robert Johnson, Morton Pareira, and Eugene Kelly. Left to right are Arthur Werder, Johnson, Bernard Weber, Pareira, Harry Siemers, the camp chaplain, (unidentified), Mel Reid, Ed Alvis and Kelly.



Early members of the Shawnee Lodge, Order of the Arrow, in full tribal regalia. The Order was introduced into the Council Area in 1930.

find; money was scarce, and so was sufficient adult leadership. Equally important, black Scouts had no camp they could call their own. They were limited to such expeditions as one to Camp River Cliff at Bourbon, Mo., which attracted 26 boys for a week's camp in 1931. The first Council-sponsored camp for Negro Scouts was held at Lions' Den in 1938; it attracted 161 boys and 16 leaders.

Not until Lone Dell—a gift from Philanthropist David P. Wohl—was opened in 1940 were the area's black Scouts able to participate fully in Scouting's most meaningful experience—camping. Lone Dell was one of the first camps in the nation to be used exclusively by black Scouts.

The early Thirties actually showed a decline in the number of Negro Scouts, which had been growing slowly until that time. By early 1937, there were only 16 troops and 327 boys—with an area black population of more than 110,000.

The arrival of W. E. "Bill" Rand as Negro Field Executive spurred growth in the late Thirties, however. By the end of 1941, Council rolls showed 36 troops, four Cub Packs, and 723 Scouts. The new vitality of Negro Scouting came none too soon, for the coming war was to vastly increase the city's black population and intensify the need of Scouting.

Even though the St. Louis Area Council did not reach all of its goals during the 1930's—it struggled with the recurring financial crisis, the indifferent success of Senior Scouting, the seeming inability to reach and influence more than a fraction of inner-city youth—it did better than most Councils. And it remained a national leader in camping, always the core of the movement. Improved and expanded despite the money crunch, Irondale was perhaps the finest Scout camp in the U.S. Lions' Den, Lone Dell, and Camp Brereton added new horizons to the camping experience.

One key reason was the introduction of Troop Camping, which replaced the earlier "provisional" camping in popularity because it kept troops together under their own Scoutmasters. As early as 1929, when Irondale already boasted 151 permanent structures, more than a quarter of the 1,039 Scouts in attendance were in Troop Camps. The innovation not only cemented the bonds between the Scouters and their boys, it proved a catalyzing experience for many men, wedding them to Scouting for a lifetime. Many a St. Louian to whom Scouting had been just another civic chore became a devoted Scouter after a week at Irondale.

Clarence H. Howard, Sr., was gone, but his son and widow remained good angels to St. Louis Scouting. In October, 1934, they deeded the Howard property and lodge adjacent to Irondale to the Council, which assigned "Howard Lodge" as quarters for Scoutmasters and leaders. The same year the Kiwanis again renovated Kiwanis Hall. Four years later the American Legion's 40-8 donated a new "Indian Village" of six big 20-foot teepees with wooden floors.

Jack Wright inaugurated an intensive effort to promote Troop Camping in 1939, when 750 Scouters attended a Spring training course, and men from 97 troops were trained as camp staff.

Despite its many problems, Lions' Den played a big role in Council camping during the Thirties; as many as 1,081 boys camped there in 1933, nearly as many as at Irondale. In April, 1934, with more activities extended to an enlarged Irondale, the 250-acre Lions' Den site was leased to the Government for a Civilian Conservation Corps camp—a windfall for the Council, because the CCC greatly improved the facilities. The old commissary was turned into a big dining hall, the Camp Director's cabin was enlarged and made camp headquarters, a hospital was erected, and the primitive water and sanitary systems improved. When the Council resumed control in 1936, Lions' Den was host to 1,136 Scouts and Scouters on summer weekends, as well as training groups, district meetings, and the Order of the Arrow, which built its O.A. Lodge there in 1939.



Veteran Scoutmaster Leon Dickson with Troop 124, Lane Tabernacle Church, in 1940.



The St. Louis Council's Interracial Commissioners' staff at a 1939 meeting. Left to right, Julius Fields, Frank Logan, Dixon Bell, John Batchman, Joseph Bruce, District Commissioner W. H. J. (Pop) Beckett, Harold Caldwell, Fred Bufford, Lawrence Stanford, Elbert D. Jones, Charles J. Clay, and an unidentified member.

The following year, President Nims donated a new water system to Lions' Den, a deep well replacing the spring (which had been covered by the CCC), and pumps and storage tanks for distributing good water to the camp. And in 1939 one of the site's major drawbacks—lack of a good swimming pool—was overcome through the generosity of Clarence Howard, Jr., who donated a 35x100-foot modern pool.

Lions' Den was a needed outlet for boys unable to afford a week at Irondale. Any troop, no matter how limited its budget, had a chance to camp there. The Council held its first Council Camp there. The Council held its first Council Camp for black Scouts at Lions' Den the last two weeks of August, 1938, with 161 Scouts and 16 leaders in attendance, and served the Negro Scouts until Lone Dell was opened. By 1941, 50

troops a year were using Lions' Den for long-term camping, and another 87 troops for weekend outings, involving a total of 2,576 boys.

The fourth Council camp (Sea Scout Camp Brereton was the third), Lone Dell, opened in 1940. Thomas R. "Tom" Collins, veteran chairman of the Interracial Committee, had long sought a suitable site for a Negro Scout Camp. When he found 90 acres at Lone Dell, its purchase and development was financed by David P. Wohl, president of Wohl Shoe Co. and vice president of the Council. The site already included a substantial log house, several springs, good roads, and level meadows for activities. In its first year, 1941, eight Negro troops and 71 boys conducted long-term camps there, with 29 troops and 495 boys engaging in weekend camps.

Not all Scout camping, of course, took place at Council-owned camps. Scores of troops took part in Lone Troop Camps, supervised by experienced Council representatives. The Ranger program continued, and the Thirties saw the beginning of the exciting Wilderness Canoe Trips out of Ely, Minn., initiated by the St. Louis Council and now supervised by the National Council.

Today's Scouters who grew up in the Thirties will always remember camping at Irondale, sailing at Creve Coeur Lake or Alton Lake,



Two leaders who made significant contributions to Scouting and to the Council's efforts to enlist inner-city youth. Above left, Thomas R. Collins, Sr., longtime chairman of the Council's Interracial Committee; and right, David P. Wohl, philanthropist, donor of the 90-acre site at Camp Lone Dell, veteran Council member, and Council President, 1953.

overnights at Lions' Den. And they remember other activities—the Scout Circus, in which more than 10,000 Cubs and Scouts participated every other year; the Merit Badge Shows; the annual Camporalls, which attracted as many as 200 patrols to the old aviation field in Forest Park, across from the Highlands.

They remember the American Legion Convention in 1936, when 2,761 Scouts had a chance to repay the longtime generosity of the Legion. Thousands of Scouts assisted on Parade Day, hundreds served as messenger and other details to Legion committees, as ushers, as first-aiders. And throughout those Depression years, Scouts daily participated in relief work, collecting and distributing food, clothing, and other articles to the city's numberless poor.

As the world moved toward another, more terrible war, President Eugene D. Nims stepped down from the Council presidency but remained as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Trust Fund. He was succeeded by Gale F. Johnston of Mercantile Trust Co., and it was Johnston who presided over the expansion of Council camping in the final years of the era, who finally



2,761 Area Scouts assisted during the 1936 American Legion Convention. Here they help nurses repair a slightly wounded Legionnaire.

celebrated the liquidation of the Council's debts, and who guided the merger with the Mineral Area Council.

But events were moving swiftly. War broke out in Europe in 1939. In 1940 Hitler overran Norway, the Low Countries, and France. On February 19, 1941, President Johnston was called to Washington to help develop and administer the War Bond program, and was succeeded at the head of the Council by Carl H. Holekamp, president of Holekamp Lumber Co.

By early spring of 1941, Scouts were distributing more than 10,000 Defense Bond posters.

And by fall, defense industries and reservists obligations were depleting the ranks of Scouters. Field Executive Judson Green was one of the first to leave on Army Reserve duty. His place was taken by a man whose name was to become more familiar—Russell J. Hart. In November, key Scouters met with FBI representatives to discuss the Scouts' role in Civil Defense.

On Sunday, December 7, 1941, the world as America had known it since 1918 came to an end. For the next four years everybody had just one job—victory. The 25,850 St. Louis Area Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, Scouters and Den Mothers were to be an important part of that effort.

WORKING FOR VICTORY— THE COUNCIL AND WORLD WAR II



St. Louis Area Scouts helped to "keep 'em flying" by collecting mountains of reclaimable aluminum pots, pans, and other items.

Chapter VII



AMERICA WENT TO WAR in a far different mood than in 1917. There were few trumpets, and fewer illusions of glory. World

War II conspicuously lacked brass bands, impassioned oratory, and even memorable songs ("Lili Marlene" wasn't in the same league as "Mademoiselle from Armentieres"). The spasm of outrage that united the nation after Pearl Harbor gave way to a grim determination to get an unpleasant job over and done with.

Eleven million Americans were mobilized. Almost 300,000 of them died in places whose names few of them had ever heard—Bataan, Tarawa, Leyte, Okinawa, Kasserine Pass, Anzio, St. Lo, Bastogne, the Huertgen Forest.

At home Americans grumbled a bit but did their jobs with quiet urgency. Housewives became welders. Middle-aged men and youths took up the slack of mobilized manpower. Rationing and controls became a way of life. People talked of "bottlenecks" and "priorities." People talked of "American know-how," and were hardly aware of it as the nation was propelled by war into a new technological age.

No American old enough to have been aware that fatal Sunday will ever forget the circumstances under which he heard the news. A band of laughing, joking Scouts and Scouters heard of Pearl Harbor on the floor of the Arena, as they dismantled the 254 booths of the biggest Merit Badge Show ever held up to then. The Show, which drew more than 12,000 Scouts and 55,000 viewers, had closed Saturday night.

The stunned men and boys, continuing their work in silence, sensed that their world would never be quite the same again.

As the nation galvanized into the tempo of war, the Council moved to assess its strength and to apply it to the war effort. It was clear that this would be a major test. Service calls made quick and serious inroads into the ranks of professionals and Scouters alike. Senior Scouts by the hundreds followed their adult leaders into uniform. Quartermaster Sea Scouts, for instance, preferably of Eagle rank, were given preference in selection of candidates for naval officer training, by order of the President.

Shortages and controls made it impossible to maintain the scope and standards of peacetime Scouting. But the solid organization built by Earle Beckman and Jack Wright responded magnificently. St. Louis Scouting was to emerge at war's end stronger than ever.

The war bit deeply into key leadership. Some reservists had been called up before Dec. 7; others soon followed. When the Annual Meeting was held in January, 1942, five Board members were already in service—Louis A. Hager, Jr., and Leonard R. Woods in the Navy; James Lee Johnson, John Franciscus, and Stanley Scott in the Army. Capt. Franciscus, one of the fresh young faces on the Board, was among the first to die in service, in March, 1942.

Other Board members soon departed—August A. Busch, Jr., Jos. E. Vollmar, Morton D. May, and Henry B. Pflager went into uniform in

1942. From the professional staff went Field Scout Executives Russell J. Hart, R. R. Eddleman, Melvin Tudor, and Hal Rush. By October, more than 600 area Scouters and Scouts went in the armed forces. The number was to grow into the thousands.

Many kept their ties to Scouting. In Oran, Col. Carl S. Bauman, Scoutmaster of Troop 90, one of the area's finest units, spotted a notice on a Red Cross bulletin board announcing a meeting of former Scouts. "It was," he recalls, "one of the greatest thrills of my life. There were representatives from every Allied nation there, every rank from buck private to four-star general and rear admiral, with one common bond—Scouting."



Scoutmaster Carl S. Bauman of Troop 90, as an Army colonel, met Scouts from many nations overseas.

For awhile, Carl Laemmli tried to keep a record of Scouts in service. The list covered an entire wall of Council Headquarters before it became impossible to maintain. Perhaps an indication of the extent to which Scouts served their country was a study done by Laemmli in 1950, involving 282 members of the recently-organized Eagle Scout Association. *Ninety-six percent* had served in the armed forces; 80.5 percent had been officers, 36 percent had been decorated. One former St. Louis Scout, James Howard, Jr., won the Medal of Honor as a fighter pilot, first with the Flying Tigers and later with the Eighth Air Force in Europe.

No one knows how many of the thousands of St. Louis Scouts who served made the supreme sacrifice. Casualty lists and newspaper stories rarely mentioned Scout affiliation. But the names of some are recorded...

David P. Wohl, Jr., an Air Corps navigator and only son of the man who had done so much for Scouting, disappeared over the North Sea after a raid on Hamburg. Lt. Wallace "Bud" Emmer was shot down over Germany and died in prison camp; his brother, Raymond, was killed on a Normandy beachhead. Maj. Victor Lund was killed at the head of his tank battalion. Navy Lt. Roger Stieglitz did not come home from the Southwest Pacific. And there were others, too many of them.

The war's impact soon made itself felt on the Scouting program. Forty troops or units were dropped in 1942, largely because of the shortage of competent leadership. Only 24 had been dropped the previous year. But as the U.S. recovered from the initial shock of war, the decimated ranks of Scouters were reinforced by older men—most of whom had little or no previous Scouting experience but who fell to with a will.

Training these newcomers was to be a major task. Turnover was high. Men in their mid-30's were soon being drafted, others volunteered, still others absorbed by war work. Training was further decentralized to the Districts, and experienced Scouters and Cubbers volunteered in great numbers to help train the new men. With Clarence H. Howard, Jr., as chairman and Bill Puffer as secretary, the Leadership Training Committee reported a 1942 total of 131 courses conducted for 2,481 Scouters and Cubbers.

All of the Council's key leaders took on added responsibilities as their ranks were thinned. Many were doing two jobs—their own and that of a man in service. But they remained steadfast, and the Area Council earned the National Silver Acorn Award for 1942.

The leadership crisis continued throughout the war, but both recruiting and training was intensified year after year. "Many older men," said Jack Wright in 1943, "have come forward and assumed the responsibilities of Scout leadership. They have performed magnificently, and through their maturity and excellent judgment are proving themselves among the finest leaders in the history of our organization." It was a deserved tribute to hundreds of men,

and women, whose own lives were feeling the mounting pressures and fatigues of wartime.

Manpower was not the only commodity in short supply. Gas rationing threatened to curtail the activities of Field Service staffers, who turned to the Executive Board for help. Most fortunately, Phil O. Ziegenfuss, Board member and chairman of the South District, was local chairman of the Gas and Tire Rationing Board, and Charles Frederick, Scoutmaster of Troop 86, was the local U. S. rationing administrator. These sympathetic Scouters were able to secure enough ration coupons to maintain an acceptable level of field services.

Gas rationing also promised to affect camping. For awhile, it seemed that no transportation to Irondale, Lions' Den, or Lone Dell would be available. But before the 1942 camping season opened, Board members had won government approval of truck service to Lone Dell and Lions' Den, with 10 trucks each weekend to take troops

to camp and return others to the city. Then S. Cupples Scudder, chairman of the Camping Committee, and his associates arranged with the Missouri Pacific to continue to transport campers to Irondale.

Food might also have been a problem for the camp program, but the U.S. was interested in intensifying rather than reducing camping. The OPA classified Council camps as "Group 3 Institutional Users," and Scouts and Scouters at camp fared comparatively well during the war years.

The Council's first priority during WWII was simple survival. It not only survived, but grew. The second priority was war service, and a full report of Scout activities, 1941-45, would fill a book.

The Council was already involved in defense activities before Pearl Harbor. Scouts had put up thousands of defense and USO posters, Army

Breakfast was welcome on a chilly morning at Lone Dell, opened in 1940. The gift of David P. Wohl, it was the fourth Council camp.



and Navy recruiting stickers, collected tons of aluminum scrap, and participated in the sale of Defense Bonds. But on Monday, Dec. 8, the organization moved into high gear. Within days Scouts were distributing Civil Defense window posters and Red Cross circulars. Senior Scouts and hundreds of Scouters were recruited as air-raid wardens (three decades later, the fear of raids in 1942 is amusing, but it was far from funny to the men and boys sitting out cold winter nights in heavy steel helmets, checking the city's not-very-effective blackout).

Board Member Roscoe C. Hobbs took charge of the Civil Defense messenger service for the city and county. Under his direction, 400 Scouter volunteers were enlisted as instructors of Messenger Service Training Courses, and each promised to recruit and train 20 or more older boys. The 10,000-messenger goal was reached, and in June, 1942, more than 2,600 of them participated in a major area-wide test blackout.

Scouts served in a myriad of wartime activities, including the collection of food for the needy.



Heart of the Council war effort was the Civic and Patriotic Service Committee, headed throughout the war by David P. Wohl, with LeRoy Lane as his righthand man. Some of its wartime achievements are memorable. Many a man today who wore the Scout uniform in those hectic years remembers doing his bit. Among many other activities, they collected 5,533 tons of waste paper, 140 tons of rubber, 1,600 tons of scrap metal, more than 50,000 books, and hundreds of tons of miscellaneous materials such as tin cans, greases and fats, and old keys. They distributed more than 60,000 posters, 3 million leaflets, and 50,000 window stickers.

More than 100 troops cultivated Victory gardens, with over a thousand Cubs and Scouts enrolled in the Food for Freedom program. Scout color guards participated in virtually every wartime ceremony, scores of older Scouts served as ration board clerks, and hundreds helped the War Chest appeals.



Thousands of boys served in the Red Cross Emergency Service and as Civil Defense messengers.

As in WWI, the Scouts took no immediate part in the War Loan campaigns conducted primarily through banks and large institutions. But early in 1944 President Roosevelt called on the BSA to help reach the great mass of Americans. The St. Louis Area Council named David P. Wohl chairman of the War Bond Committee, with Commissioner McBride and Willard Cox, president of St. Louis Coca-Cola Bottling Co., as vice-chairman. They launched the campaign with a mass meeting of the area's Scoutmasters and other key leaders at Kiel Auditorium—a meeting so successful that Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau used it as a nationwide model.

Scout performance in the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth War Bond drives was spectacular. St. Louis Scouts and Cubs obtained 127,322 pledges for a whopping \$22,480,000. The War Loan Medal, first won by Scout Billy Brunswick of the Bethel Temple troop, was worn proudly by many others before war's end, including David Wohl, Willard Cox, and Chapin Newhard.

In the Seventh War Loan drive in mid-1945, leadership was spread so thin and other wartime activities so pressing that the Council voted for only limited Scout participation. Instead of seek-

ing actual pledges, 9,000 boys from 312 troops and packs distributed more than a million War Loan letters to 85 percent of the metropolitan area's 373,000 homes.

The slogan of the Civic and Patriotic Service Committee was, "Scouts, too, have a job to do—and are doing it!" And do it they did.

But helping the war effort was only part of the Council's responsibilities. Jack Wright made that clear in the "War Motto" adopted after Pearl Harbor: "Be it war or peace, inflation or deflation, America's greatest need is men of character, trained for citizenship." Despite the many wartime challenges, despite the mounting demands on the mind, muscles, and nerves of Scouters, every effort had to be made to keep the basic Scout program alive, and to extend it to more boys.

Continuation and improvement of the Council program was the major concern of Russell E. Gardner, Jr., of Reinholdt & Gardner, who succeeded Carl H. Holekamp as Council President in January, 1943, and guided the Council through the rest of the war.

The continued loss of valued leaders was one of his critical problems. In September, 1942, the



A Webster Groves Scout writes up a housewife's pledge to buy War Bonds.



Scrap rubber for Uncle Sam. Scouts scavenged neighborhood garages, junkyards and dumps to collect old tires to supply the U.S. fighting machine.



As the advancing Allies freed millions of hungry victims of Nazism, Scouts everywhere collected tons of food for shipment overseas.

Council mourned the death of A. O. Wilson, the longtime Council treasurer who had done so much to overcome the crises of the Depression. He was replaced first by Samuel Plant, of Plant Milling Co., and later by Clarence H. Poindexter of Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co.

Charles H. "Charlie" Mills, for 14 years the Council's Activities Director, retired because of ill health in 1942, and was succeeded by LeRoy Lane. Mills stayed on as consultant, but died in



Carl H. Holekamp, Council President, 1942.



Russell E. Gardner, Jr., Council President, 1943-1945.

October, 1943, as did Board Member Thomas M. Dysart. And the following month saw the untimely death of Clarence Howard, Jr., Council vice president and sparkplug of the Leadership Training Committee. Roscoe C. Hobbs of Western Tie Co., was elected to take his place.

Still another loss, through retirement, was William J. "Bill" Puffer, Education Director for 18 years and nationally recognized for his pioneer development of standards of advancement, badges, and insignia. Carl H. Laemmli took over his assignment.

Finances, the bugaboo of the Thirties, were less of a problem in the 1940's, although Council expenses continued to rise. In 1942, Finance Chairman S. Cupples Scudder of Cupples Paper Co. led a successful fund-raising campaign that over-subscribed its \$130,000 goal. That summer, the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce urged all local agencies to unite in an area-wide "War Chest" to eliminate separate fund drives. Previous experience had made the Council wary, but the Board rejoined the War Chest (formerly the Community Chest) in July... while reserving the right to conduct its own Area financial campaign among its own supporters.

The Chest, supplemented by the Board's own quietly-conducted fund-raising, met Boy Scout needs in 1943 and 1944, but the 1945 Chest drive fell short. The Council had asked for \$150,000, plus an additional \$25,000 for salaries of staffers beginning to return from military duty; total Chest contributions were only \$151,000. With some budget-pinching and a stepped-up campaign of its own, the Council met its first postwar budget of \$247,000.

Throughout the war, the tireless efforts of leaders like Walter Head, Henry Pflager, Russell Gardner, David Wohl, Willard Cox, Cupples Scudder, and many others assured adequate funding for the Scout movement.

And every dollar was needed, because Scouting grew despite wartime disruptions—indeed, perhaps because of the war, as more men and boys realized its value. The number of registered Scouts and Cubs soared more than 27 percent between 1941 and 1945, reaching a new high of 26,236. And even in the face of manpower shortages, the number of Scouters, Cubbers, and Den Mothers kept pace, rising to 6,774. For the first time, the ideals, inspirations, and activities of Scouting were reaching more than a third of the boys in the St. Louis area.



LeRoy Lane, veteran member of the professional staff.

Capital improvements, of course, were postponed by shortages and controls. Just before Pearl Harbor major repairs were completed at Lions' Den, the Irondale water supply improved, new buildings and equipment added at Lone Dell, and a sea-wall built at Camp Brereton.



The Cubs did their part, too, collecting old newspapers for recycling. As any veteran will attest, the armed forces used a great deal of paper.

The latter's tribulations is a story in itself. Not even the sea-wall prevented the recurrent flooding of the Sea Scout base of Alton Lake. Maintenance of the nine-foot river channel kept the river bank-high in normal times, and high water repeatedly sent Ranger Orville Harris and his wife, Bessie, scrambling for dry land. Harris, who joined the Council staff in 1938, helped keep Council properties functioning effectively for many years, and his wife served as commissary director for a considerable period.

But plans for improvements at Irondale were indefinitely shelved. They included a much-needed modern swimming pool, a Leaders Training Center, and a proposed memorial to Veteran Scouter Roy DeStaebler, who died in 1942. President of Beck & Corbett, "Uncle Roy" DeStaebler never married; the Scouts were his family. Thousands of men today still remember him as a beloved but firm merit badge counselor and examiner. Plans were made and funds raised for the memorial soon after his death, but construction was postponed until controls were eased in 1945.

If capital improvements were curtailed, other

Council activities were not. New emphasis was placed on camping, which at first appeared might be a war casualty. But hard work, some luck, well-placed friends, and eventually Government blessing helped more boys than ever enjoy the unforgettable memories of camp. Attendance records at Irondale were broken in 1942, 1943, and 1944. In 1945, the war's final year, 227 troops and 3,446 Scouts attended long-term camps at Irondale, Lions' Den, Lone Dell, Brereton, and elsewhere.

Gasoline rationing, however, did limit the short-term camping program until arrangements were made to use Forest Park and Tilles Park, and volunteers scoured the area for likely camping spots reachable by streetcar or bus.

Senior Scouting was another encouraging area of growth, as its value became evident to boys who might soon be facing military service. Sea Scouting reached a new peak, with a 1945 enrollment of 616 Sea Scouts in 27 Ships, 43 percent higher than in 1941, and the Sea Scout regatta and annual ball became highlights of the Council year. Many Sea Scouts went on to Navy service.



Orville Harris, Chief Ranger for all Area Council Camps, and his wife Bessie, were great friends of many generations of Scouts.



The war spurred rapid growth of the Air Scouts. These boys were with Air Squadron 601, St. Louis Area Council.

The first two Air Scout Squadrons were chartered in 1942 and four more added the following year, implementing the national Senior Scout program. The eight Explorer troops of 1941 grew to 21, with 279 boys. Rover Scouting, Alpha Phi Omega, and the Order of the Arrow all experienced major expansion. The latter doubled its membership, and its outings on the Cuivre River are still fondly recalled. The number of Senior Scouts enrolled in the St. Louis area boomed from a pre-war 251 to 1,028 in 1945—a fourfold increase.

Some activities were affected adversely by the war, of course. Attendance at the 1942 Scout Circus was off, primarily because of gasoline rationing. The Circus and Merit Badge Shows were cancelled in 1943 and 1944, but in March, 1945, with the war in Europe winding down, the Circus was revived with record attendance and participation.

In the Fall of 1943, with more staffers leaving

for active duty, Jack Wright suggested they not be replaced so that funds would be available to reinstate them when they came home. The suggestion led to a general Board discussion of postwar Scouting, and resulted in the appointment by President Gardner of Clarence H. Poinexter to head what became the Postwar Planning Committee. The Committee was initially instructed to determine how the returning professionals could be best re-employed, but soon moved into the areas of projected capital improvements and the expansion of Scouting in general. It was a key move destined to have a long-range impact on St. Louis Area Scouting.

The Committee projected a doubled operating budget, with 22 Assistant and Field Scout Executives instead of 15, a one-third expansion of clerical staff, enlarged quarters, and increases in the staffs of District Boards and Commissioners.

The need for expanded camping and training fa-



Top brass at the 1944 annual Council meeting. Left to right, Scout Executive John D. Wright, former Council President Gale F. Johnston, Commissioner H. D. McBride, and a National Headquarters executive.

cilities was evident. The major projects planned were a Leaders Training Center to be named for Charles Nagel, the Council's second president, which would assure the St. Louis group's continued eminence in the field of leader development; the new pool and recreational and boating facilities at Irondale; and expanded facilities at Lone Dell, Lions' Den, and Camp Brereton.

With V-J Day the postwar planning started to pay off. Funds were already available for the Training Center and Irondale pool. The Lions' Clubs of Greater St. Louis agreed to underwrite the opening of a new valley and construction of winter cabins at Lions' Den. Work was soon underway to enlarge the cramped Headquarters office in the Chemical Building.

Professional staffers were returning from service, and arrangements made to absorb them into an expanded Council organization. During the war years and thereafter, a strong Headquarters organization was put together, with staff members such as Robert Siegal, who started on the Irondale staff in 1938 and became the office printer; Veldon Newcomb, veteran camp ranger; Louise Repp; Clare Hogan; Mary Port; Hazel Loux; Lily Penrod, and many others.

These were the personnel who made the assignments of Council executives and Board members a lot easier. All have served the Council a quarter-century or longer.

Work was soon started on the 75x150-foot Irondale pool. Contribution of materials cut the estimated cost from \$75,000 to \$35,000, and much of that was already in the bank. An anonymous donor had contributed \$10,000, and Clarence Howard, Jr., left \$2,500 for the pool in his will. By year's end the pool was ready for sides and footing; the chapel and winter cabins at Lions' Den were under construction; and so were the chapel at Lone Dell and DeStaebler Memorial at Irondale. Prospects for the first postwar year of camping were bright.

Those prospects were not, however, fully realized. The end of gas rationing and production of new cars finally freed Americans for the open road and long-postponed vacations. Few Scouters, home from service, were about to spend their first civilian summer in camp. Camping attendance dropped in 1946.

Highlight of the first postwar year was the 25th Annual Meeting of the National Council, held



Above, Squadron Leader O. L. Elbring and Scouts of Air Squadron 1 demonstrate techniques of model-building. Below, one of the highlights of the 1942 Scout Circus . . . the log stockade and covered wagon of the "Pioneering Act."





Gen. Joseph (Vinegar Joe) Stilwell of WWII fame was one of the distinguished guests at the 1946 Merit Badge Show, held in conjunction with the National Council's annual meeting. Here Gen. Stilwell and St. Louis Council President Col. Jos. E. Vollmar inspect basketry woven by Troop 109 of the Missouri School for the Blind.

in St. Louis May 16-18, when the Area Council hosted several thousand delegates and guests at Kiel Auditorium and the Jefferson Hotel. The Merit Badge Show was held at the Arena in conjunction with the national get-together, giving the dignitaries a chance to see one of the spectacular shows which had made St. Louis a by-word among the nation's Councils. Among the nation's leaders who received Scouting's highest honor, the Silver Buffalo Award, were Admiral Chester Nimitz, Gen. Joseph "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell, and Walt Disney. The visit of the great wartime leaders to the Arena was greeted with wild acclaim.

The new Council president, Col. Jos. E. Vollmar, who had succeeded Russell E. Gardner, Jr., in February, 1946, called the combined National Council meeting and Merit Badge Show one of the all-time great events of St. Louis Scouting. Still on file are hundreds of letters from all over the country praising the Council's outstanding work in organizing the event, and E. E. Pershall, chairman of the Merit Badge Show, was awarded a special scroll of appreciation.



Walt Disney, right, was one of those who received the Silver Buffalo Award at the 1946 national meeting here.



Col. James Howard, only St. Louis Medal of Honor winner and former Flying Tiger, helped dedicate the Hall of Fame in DeStaebler Memorial at Irondale, July 4, 1946.

On Independence Day, 1946, the DeStaebler Memorial and its Inspiration Hall were dedicated at Irondale by a distinguished gathering that included Col. James Howard, Jr., the city's only Congressional Medal of Honor winner—who told the assemblage that the ideals of Scouting had helped guide him through the wartorn skies of Asia and Europe. Every District had contributed to the Memorial, from collection plates to pulpit and the magnificent stained glass window. One of the nation's finest tributes



Col. Howard, left, with Dedication Chairman Arthur A. Holthaus.

to the principles of Scouting, Inspiration Hall was a part of serving the religious needs of all Scouts, regardless of creed.

The war was over. The shape of the coming years was still dim. Many Scouts and Scouters had died in their country's service. Many who did come home were weary, uninterested in resuming old ways and even old ties. Reorganization, recruiting, and renewal of the spirit with which the Council had met the challenges of the war years were occupying Scout Executive Jack Wright when on Sept. 23, 1946—while attending a staff conference at Irondale—he was stricken with a fatal heart attack. The strength that had done so much for Scouting, that had helped carry the Council through so many crises, was suddenly gone.

Merle Shippey, Senior Assistant Scout Executive, took over temporarily as tributes to Jack Wright poured in from all over the nation. An era ended with his death . . . the era of the Depression and war, an era which had shaped, and not gently, an entire generation.

THE POSTWAR ERA AND THE PROBLEMS OF PEACE



Scout Sunday, 1948; Cubs and Scouts, 500 strong and banners flying, march to the New St. Louis Cathedral for services by Archbishop Joseph E. Ritter.

Chapter VIII



THROUGH THE HECTIC days of the war, the sometimes flagging spirits of weary Scouters were buoyed by visions of a brave new postwar world. The watchword was, "When the war is over . . ." They soon discovered that peace brought its own challenges—not the least of which was a sudden decline in membership and a crisis of leadership. The new Scout Executive would have his work cut out for him.

The postwar readjustment was hardly underway when Jack Wright was gone—in a very real way, a war casualty himself. The Council's immediate task was to find a qualified successor. Ordered by President Vollmar to "acquire the best Scout Executive in the U.S.A.," a committee headed by Russell Gardner, Jr. conducted an intensive nationwide search. Their choice: Jack J. Keith, who assumed his duties Dec. 1, 1946, and who was to serve as Executive of the St. Louis Area Council for the next 13 years.

The committee, which included Phil Ziegenfuss, Willard Cox, Commissioner McBride, and Walter Head (who had ended his 20-year tenure as National Council President the year before) made a wise choice. Soft-spoken, a proved administrator who preferred to work quietly behind the scenes while others got the credit, Keith more than doubled Area membership between 1946 and 1959, and at the same time developed a professional staff which was the envy of every other Metropolitan Council.

He brought 24 years of solid experience to his new post. He began his Scouting career as a

Scoutmaster in Jackson, Miss., in 1922, and two years later entered professional Scouting as Executive of the Ouachita Valley Council in Monroe, La. In 1928 he transferred to the Quapaw Area Council, Little Rock, Ark., then to the Central Oklahoma Council in Oklahoma City



Jack J. Keith, Scout Executive, 1946-1958.

in 1935, and became Executive for the Houston, Tex., Council in 1937. He had been in Houston nine years when he was chosen for the St. Louis assignment.

It was a new ballgame when Keith took over. Wartime growth in both Scout membership and Scouter interest had been spurred by their obvious relevance to the war effort. But as soon as the defeat of the Axis was certain, there was a significant decline in motivation . . . and with it, Council growth. Older men who had carried the torch during the war years turned back to their long-neglected personal and business affairs—and many of the returning young men were not eager to pick it up.

Many others were eager, of course, men who had written from camp and overseas to "keep the



Dedication of John D. Wright Training Center, 1946. Left to right, H. Roe Bartle, Scout Executive of Kansas City (and mayor-to-be); St. Louis Council President Col. Jos. E. Vollmar; National Chief Scout Executive Elbert K. Fretwell, and at right, former St. Louis Scout Executive Earle W. Beckman, who returned for the ceremony.

troop alive until I get home." Eighty new units were organized in 1946, a new record. But 47 were dropped, also a new record. Camp attendance sagged 22 percent. The Senior program was almost gutted. Nearly 40 percent of Senior membership was inactive as the program seemed to lose its appeal with war's end.

Keith, his Council committee chairmen, the more active District leaders, and a professional staff rejuvenated by returning servicemen launched a multi-front attack on the problem—which, of course, was nationwide. Assessing the new redistricting plan, which went into effect Jan. 1, 1947, and increased the number of Districts to 20, Keith determined that Council staff was simply too small to administer the expanded Council program.

Twelve District and Field Executives were servicing an average of 70 units per man; national standards called for no more than 50. Keith urged implementation of the earlier recommendations of the Postwar Planning Committee for at least a 50 percent increase in field staff, with adequate supporting Headquarters personnel. But Council funds could not stretch that far. The last wartime budget had been \$220,000 for operating expenditures, and in 1947, there was only \$263,000 available. In the end only one new field executive was hired; the others just worked harder.

From the planning discussions, however, emerged the concept of a "Boy-Fact Survey" to determine the concept of a "market" for Scouting. Combine, in effect, the "market" for Scouting. Conducted in the St. Louis City and County schools with the cooperation of the various Boards of Education, the survey revealed more than 84,000 boys between the ages of 9 and 17 in the Council territory. And it yielded the names of hundreds of boys who were immediately invited by District and Council recruiters to join the Scout family.

The new membership campaign swung into high gear with the return from New York of Banker Gale F. Johnston. With Johnston heading the first Council-wide Round-up since 1934, and

Chairman Whitelaw Terry's Organization and Extension Committee making a major effort, more than 9,500 new Scouts were registered during 1947, nearly 22 percent more than in 1946. The Round-up alone produced 1,714 new members.

Immediate action, and the Council's imaginative campaign, stemmed the decline. St. Louis was one of the few Metropolitan Councils to show a gain in 1947. By the end of the year, the number of active Scouts had risen to 19,691, surpassing the previous 1944 peak of 18,956. With the constant flow of 9-to-17-year-olds entering and leaving the Scout Trail, the Council actually served 36,000 boys in Jack Keith's first year. Eighty-seven new units were chartered.

Impressive as the showing was, it missed its goals of 145 new units and 10,955 new Cubs and Scouts. Thirty-eight units had been dropped during the year—an improvement, but still too many. If the drain of membership had been halted, forward progress was still unsatisfactory—and the major factor was leadership on the troop and district levels.

The number of Scouters and Cubbers in 1947 was 6,402, an improvement over the previous year but below the 1945 record of approximately 7,000. And the quality was uneven. It was clear to Keith and the Council that if St. Louis was to maintain its traditional preeminence and serve the community's youth, leadership recruitment and training had to be stepped up and the Council's financial basis strengthened and broadened.

One approach to the answer lay in the much-needed Adult Training Center, long a dream of Jack Wright. The Council felt that such a "University of Scouting" would be the most fitting memorial to the man who had conceived the idea and who, in the minds of many, had literally given his life to Scouting. With \$25,000 in initial funds already in hand, President Vollmar, Commissioner McBride, Albert W. Lantz, and other Council members, with Staff Member R. G. Miller, launched an intensive search for a suitable site.

By mid-1947 the group had inspected 43 pieces of property; 11 were considered by the Council. In August, the 204-acre Fredmar Farm estate at Erb and Heintz Roads in St. Louis County was acquired for \$75,000. Contributions for equipment and remodeling poured in, and on Nov. 1, 1947, the John D. Wright Memorial Adult Training Center on the Charles Nagel Reservation was opened. Two of Jack Wright's longtime friends, National Chief Scout Executive Elbert K. Fretwell and Kansas City Scout Executive H. Roe Bartle, were the principal speakers.

Formerly a luxurious country estate, the Center had 10 principal buildings, superb recreational facilities, and wooded tracts for demonstrations and "outdoor classrooms." James H. Gelwicks, former Deputy Regional Executive for Region 8, became resident director.

The first sessions were held in February, 1948, and in its first year the new Center played a key role in revitalizing Scouting leadership: 3,134 Scouters participated in training experiences that year, including one of the first Wood Badge courses ever offered in the U.S. It was the site of hundreds of conferences and 433 Scouter outings, and total 1948 attendance reached 5,164. But it also, as the Council soon learned, cost a small fortune to operate.

The quality of leadership was to remain a challenge for some years to come. Turnover among Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, and Bubbers exceeded 40 percent annually. The Council's extensive training program, one of the nation's most advanced and comprehensive, was barely adequate to hold the line and maintain the percentage of trained unit leaders at 52-55 percent (in 1948, the figure dropped to 49.4 percent). The target—74 percent of all Pack, Troop, and Explorer units with trained leadership—remained elusive. And lack of trained leadership was a primary reason for the dissolution of units and the loss of interest by individual boys.

The leadership problem was not confined, of course, to the troop level alone. When Al Lantz

became Scout Commissioner in 1948 and Col. H. D. McBride became the Area Council's first Chief Scout after 27 years as Commissioner, Lantz personally interviewed most of the more than 250 District and neighborhood commissioners. Too many, he learned, lacked training, interest, or both. Some were replaced, others encouraged. As a result, the commissioners began to play a more effective role, especially in recruiting new unit leaders and commissioners.

The hard, dedicated work in the vineyards paid off. Just as the decline in Scout membership was first halted and then reversed, so did the strength of the leadership cadres increase. From the 1946 low of 5,627, the number of Scouters rose to 8,202 by the end of the 1940's, with Council members and a revitalized corps of commissioners making recruiting of qualified leaders one of their highest priorities.

While membership and leadership topped the list of challenges in the mid and late Forties, finances were not far behind (although never reaching the crisis stage of the Depression years). Inflation ate away at the Council's limited budget. Food costs at Irondale, for instance, promptly spiraled 38 percent after controls were lifted. Although the annual Community Chest grant continued to rise—to \$151,000 in 1946, \$164,000 in 1947, \$170,000 in 1948—the Council's net expenditures rose even faster.

The backlog of war-delayed capital expenditures added to the pressure, even though one of the major postwar projects, the new swimming pool at Irondale, was largely built with donated materials and equipment, and financed with accumulated funds. One of the nation's largest outdoor refiltering pools, the Irondale pool opened in 1946.

The stage was set for the "Friends of Scouting." In 1947, Col. Vollmar and Russell Gardner, Jr., presented plans for a "Friends of Scouting Appeal," the St. Louis Council's own variation of the "sustaining membership" campaigns already tested in other cities, and which had the blessings of both the National Council and the national Community Chest organization. The



Changing of the guard. Albert W. Lantz, left, takes over as Scout Commissioner from Col. H. D. McBride, who was named honorary Chief Scout, Jan. 27, 1948.



June 28, 1947—new swimming pool at Irondale! On the platform with Scout speaker is Col. Jos. E. Vollmar, Council President; Jack J. Keith, Scout Executive; Morton D. May, Chairman of the dedication; Thomas B. Curtis, Chairman of Camp Irondale; and Merle D. Shippey, Director of Camping.

first F-of-S drive was launched in February, 1948, under the leadership of Willard R. Cox and Finance Chairman Gale F. Johnston. It netted 1,000 new memberships and almost \$43,000 its first year, and ever since has played a vital role in the adequate funding of the Council's expanding "Service to the Boy." The Friends of Scouting concept came none too soon. Total Council expenditures was rising each year. By 1949 they had reached \$357,000, more than triple the level of the 1930's. Net expenditures, after receipts from camping, the 20th Scout Circus, and other sources, were \$244,000. Friends of Scouting memberships made up the difference.

Perhaps the major reason for the long-term success of the St. Louis Area Council has been the imagination and foresight of its key leaders. Almost without exception men who had achieved success in the business or professional worlds, they brought to Scouting the same talents and vigor that had powered their careers. It was just such foresight that led to the establishment of the Friends of Scouting appeal *before* the inability of the Community Chest to meet all of Scouting's needs became apparent. And it was just such foresight and imagination that spurred the acquisition and development of the Louis D. Beaumont Boy Scout Reservation *before* the need was critical.



Now let's see, this end goes here . . . and then . . . oops! The well-worn Knot Rail at Irondale.



Four apparently well-fed Scouts inhale their milk shakes at Camp Irondale Trading Post.



Morton J. May and Morton D. May announce the gift to the Council of Beaumont Scout Reservation, made possible by the Louis D. Beaumont Foundation.

Most Scouters today accept as gospel that Beaumont was developed in the late 1940's because a big increase in camping emphasized the inadequacies of existing Council camps. In fact, in 1947, the year that Beaumont was acquired, attendance at long-term Council camps reached a new low—193 troops and 2,669 Scouts, almost 23 percent below the 1945 level.

But the Council, President Vollmar, and especially the Camping Committee under Chairman Morton D. May (then vice president of the May Department Stores) were looking ahead. They believed that Scouting faced a major expansion, and that the Council had better be prepared in advance. Management-minded, they

felt that the existing system of scattered Council camps was inefficient, and did not properly serve the area's Scouts. Centralization and consolidation of all Council camping activities could only be beneficial. And, not just incidentally, they predicted that the postwar explosion of land values could only accelerate—a prediction based on studies made by Board Member Roy Wenzlick, real estate analyst and statistician, whose forecasts proved only too true. So when Board members began the search for a site for the Wright Memorial Training Center, President Vollmar also gave them the green light to look for a tract in the St. Louis area adaptable as a central Council camp.

Many areas were examined, among them the Tyson Valley Powder Dump, of which the Army was anxious to dispose. Funds were available for a start. They had been given to the council by the Louis D. Beaumont Foundation, established by a May Company executive who had died in 1942. One of the estate trustees was Morton J. May, president of May Department Stores and father of Morton D. May.

Early in 1947 May and his team found what they were looking for—part of the old Ranken Estate, ideally located only 15 miles southwest of the city limits on Highway 66 and Antire Road, between Valley Park and Eureka. The Council purchased a 2,353-acre tract of hilly, largely unimproved land, dotted with caves, traversed by a three-mile stream, served by four known springs, and with an abundance of arrowheads indicating early Indian occupancy.

Named immediately after the man whose generosity had made the acquisition possible, Beaumont was destined—as was Irondale before it—to become one of the finest Scout facilities in the U.S. Title to the ground was obtained in January, 1948 (although not fully cleared until a year later), and work started on a half-mile access road. It would, however, be several years before the Council had accumulated sufficient funds to fully develop the site.

The National Council sent its Engineering Service people to make a comprehensive survey



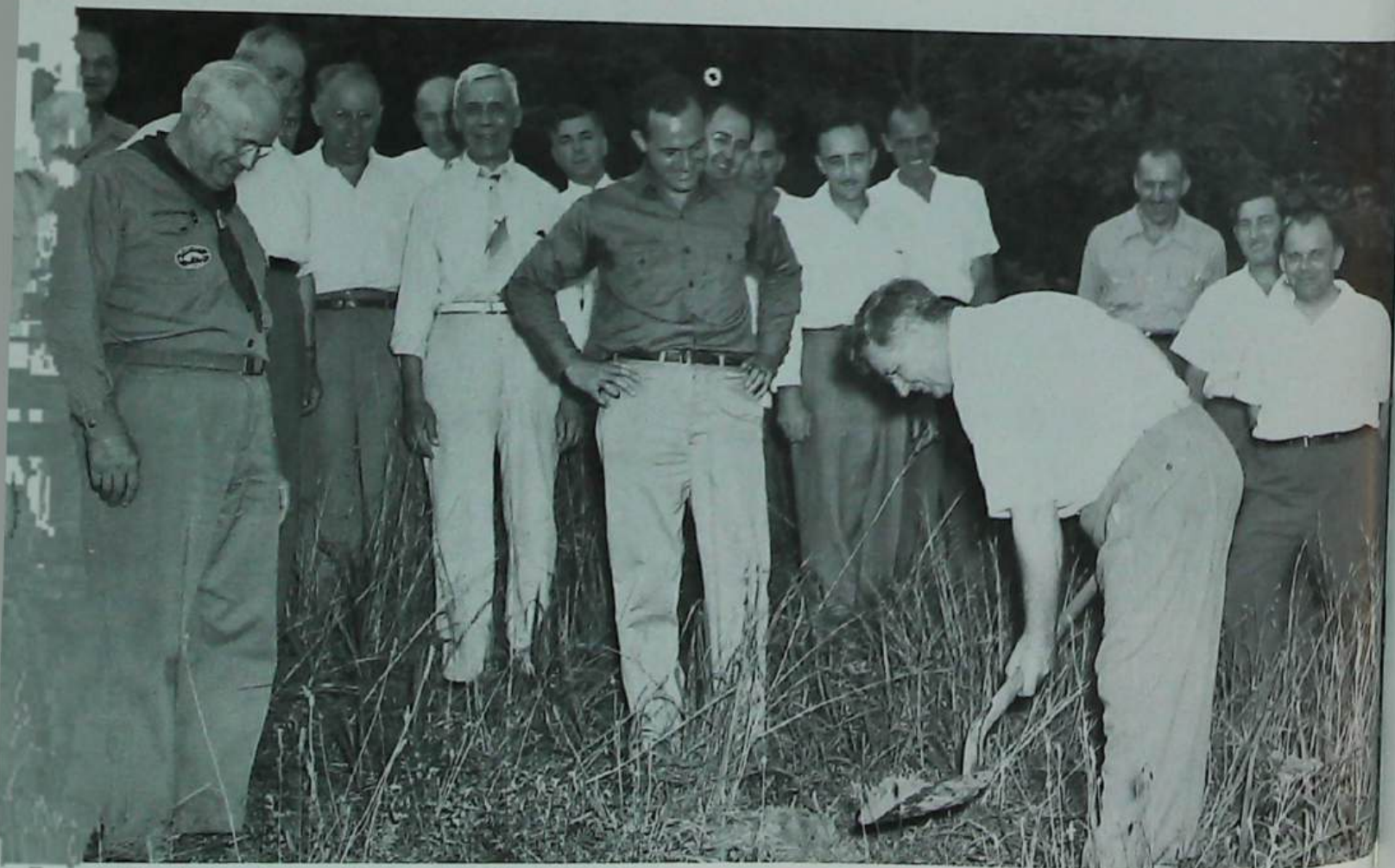
Patrol feeding was introduced at Irondale in the 1940's. Here hungry members of Troop 425, Festus, await chow.

of Beaumont. One of the recommendations was a deep well, and with the assistance of Washington University and state geologists and engineers, a 540-foot, 50-gallons-per-minute well was sunk in 1950.

Beaumont Scout Reservation was dedicated Oct. 2, 1948. A temporary water and sanitation system was installed, and many troops were already using the camp for weekend camps. The development of Beaumont was to be a major effort for the Council throughout the 1950's. Today it is still a splendid testament to the vision of the Council leaders of the early postwar years.

As the Council entered 1949, the last year of a

most turbulent decade, all signs were "Go!" St. Louis was one of the few Metropolitan Councils to show a net gain in membership. On Dec. 31, 1948, Jack Keith had reported a boy membership of 20,654, and the 1948 Fall Round-Up was so successful that Commissioner Lantz was awarded the Jack Whitaker Regional Round-Up Award. The Friends of Scouting Appeal was fast developing into a tightly-organized, increasingly successful annual campaign enlisting the efforts of Scouters on every level and reaching much of the community. Lowering the age requirements for entry to the Scout Trail—to 8 for Cubs, 11 for Scouts, and 14 for Senior Scouts—promised to boost membership.



Through the good offices of Executive Board Member D. B. Mabry, (hands on hips, above), the Lions' Club financed additional cabins at Lions' Den. This is the official groundbreaking.

With the future brighter than it had been in some years, Col. Joseph E. Vollmar stepped down as Council President, and was succeeded in January, 1949, by Roscoe C. Hobbs, president of Hobbs-Western Tie Co. and a veteran Council leader.

Col. Vollmar's tenure as Council President had seen many accomplishments, not the least of which was the organization of the Eagle Scout Association. Col. Vollmar and Carl Laemmli, then Director of Field Service, had for some time urged the Council to find a way to utilize the potential of the more than 2,000 St. Louis area men who had attained Eagle rank during their Scout careers. As adults with a full and satisfying Scouting experience behind them, their potential



A. E. (Mike) Cunliff, first president of the Eagle Scout Association, 1947-1948.

was great. Organized and given a goal, they could give back to Scouting much of what they had gained from it.

Late in 1946, Laemmli began the task of locating the Eagles. Many, of course, had moved from the



Six St. Louis Eagles have been presented the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award by the National Council for outstanding achievement in their fields of endeavor.

Recipients, from left to right, above: Louis C. Bailey (1974), George H. Capps (1973), Thomas B. Curtis (1971), Theodore R. Gamble (1969); at left, Bertram W. Trenayne (1973), and Fred W. Wenzel (1975).

area. Some had not come home from the war. Others had simply dropped from sight—"Lost Eagles." But many—an estimated 750—were still in the metropolitan area, some still active in Scouting. Not surprisingly, most were community leaders, men who had made their mark in business, the professions, government, labor, the military.

As the word spread, first scores and then hundreds of former Eagles began to surface, and to

renew their interest in Scouting. On July 25, 1947, 29 of what were immediately dubbed the "Bald Eagles" accepted Col. Vollmar's invitation to an organizational dinner at the Racquet Club. On April 28, 1948, at a mass meeting in the auditorium of the Washington University Law School, the nation's first Eagle Scout Association was formally organized. Its first president was Albert E. "Mike" Cunliff, brother of Board Member Nelson Cunliff; they were the Board's first brother team.

The beautiful Lake of the Ozarks was the scene of this Sea Scout Regatta.



The Association's constitution and by-laws were drafted by Attorney Thomas B. Curtis, onetime Scoutmaster of Troop 314 in Webster Groves and a veteran member of the Council's Camping Committee—and soon to be Congressman Curtis. By the end of 1948, the Bald Eagles were 250 strong.

The ESA was another St. Louis "first." The Association's great contribution to Scouting was recognized early by other Councils, who formed similar groups, and in 1972 the National Council, BSA, formed a nationwide organization of Eagle Scout Associations.

ESA serves Scouting both as a group and as individuals. It has encouraged hundreds of boys to join Scouting, and helped them attain Eagle rank. It has been a powerful factor in assisting inner-city troops get to camp, and provides qualified adult leadership to such troops not



Roscoe C. Hobbs, Council President, 1948-1949.

only at camp but also by helping inner-city Scoutmasters. More than 60 percent of the current 450 ESA members are personally involved in the Scout program, as Scoutmasters, committeemen, Eagle Board of Review members, and Council members—wherever they can be of service to boyhood.

Today ESA is the Council's "flying squad," tackling projects which other Scouting groups may lack the time or resources to handle. And six St. Louis Eagles—former Congressman Curtis; the late Theodore R. Gamble, president of Pet, Inc.; George H. Capps, president of Volkswagen Mid-America, Inc.; Attorney

Bertram W. Tremayne; Louis C. Bailey, vice president of Southwestern Bell; and Fred W. Wenzel, president of Kellwood Co.—have been presented the National Council's Distinguished Eagle Scout Award.

As President Hobbs took over the Council reins, St. Louis again demonstrated its often-proved ability not only to move with the times, but to look ahead. A special Council Committee headed by Executive Board Member Roy Wenzlick, president of Wenzlick Associates, had been studying Council operations both in detail and in their long-range implications for the future. Late in 1949, as the immediate postwar era ended, the committee submitted a Long-Range Plan that was to be implemented in the years ahead and was to provide the St. Louis Area Council with one of the nation's finest Scout Camp complexes.

The committee's recommendations were:

1. The Council should immediately launch full-scale development of the new Beaumont Reservation to the point where it could handle most of the area's current training and camping needs.
2. The Wright Training Center should be relocated at Beaumont, and the Fredmar Farm installation disposed of. The latter was overly costly to maintain and operate.
3. Consideration should be given to closing down both Lions' Den and Lone Dell, and establishing one of the nation's first racially-integrated camping programs at Beaumont.
4. Studies should be made of the future use, development, and potentials of both Irondale and Camp Brereton.
5. The Council should initiate an objective, in-depth study of its own procedures and staff operations.

In effect, the recommendations were a blueprint for the decade ahead—a decade which St. Louis Scouters recognized would be one of growth, of change, and of yet-unknown challenges.



Tarzan never had it so good. Tree houses at Irondale Scout Reservation.

TIME OF TRANSITION— THE NINETEEN FIFTIES



Troop meetings are always a serious matter. Well, almost always . . .

Chapter IX

TODAY AMERICA REMEMBERS the Nineteen Fifties as the calm before the storm of the turbulent Sixties. But nostalgia is always an inaccurate mirror of the past. In truth, the storms which were soon to pit race against race, generation against generation, were already gathering beneath the deceptive tranquility of the "Eisenhower years." Korea was a preview of Vietnam, Little Rock a foreshadowing of Watts, the exodus to the suburbs quickened the decay of the inner cities.

As ever, the Scouts were not immune to the winds of change. The Council organization that Russ Hart was to inherit from Jack Keith at the end of the decade, in 1959, was a very different movement than it had been in 1949. It had doubled in size, was more sophisticated, and was grappling with problems hardly dreamed of in the Forties.

Much of the success of the 1950's stemmed from the work of Roy Wenzlick's Long-Range Planning Committee. Long-range planning, as a permanent Council function, had proved itself during the war. It was soon to make even more significant contributions to Council progress.

By the late Forties, it was evident that the area's boy population, fed by the postwar baby boom, was about to explode. Would the Council be prepared? Was it organized, financed, trained sufficiently to serve an expanding "market"? Adoption of the Long-Range Plan in 1951, and translation of its

recommendations into improved service to boys, assured St. Louis its continued leadership of the Scout movement.

Representatives of all Districts and of 17 Council sub-committees helped develop the plan between 1949 and 1951. Thousands of man-hours were contributed by hundreds of volunteers, many from outside Scouting. Presented by Chairman Wenzlick at the 1951 Annual Meeting, the sheer magnitude of the goals made old-timers gasp—yet were described as on the "minimum challenge."

"We can't," said Commissioner Albert W. Lantz, "afford to think small."

The forecasts of the planning group proved remarkably accurate. They predicted a 50 percent gain in the 8-to-16 boy population by



Training of Den Mothers was improved during the 1950's.



By the mid-Fifties, the boys of the postwar baby boom were flooding into Cubbing.

1960, from 80,000 to 120,000. The actual 1960 boy population proved to be 125,000. The Plan envisaged 1,286 Scout units serving 40,132 boys by 1960, increases of 67 and 64 percent respectively. The December, 1959 roster actually showed 1,241 units and 40,515 boys—an amazing feat of forecasting by any standards. The committee underestimated, however, the magnificent response of adult volunteers; it called for a 58 percent increase, but in fact the total of Scouters, Cubbers, and Den Mothers virtually doubled, to 15,165.

Underestimated, too, were the financial effects of both inflation and expanded Council activities. The 1960 budget was projected at \$416,000. In actuality, Council expenditures by the end of the Fifties were to exceed \$600,000 annually.

The final recommendations made by the planning team included many of those made in the preliminary study in 1949, and others were added. Among them:

- Doubling of camping facilities by 1955, plus another 25 percent by 1960.

- Immediate development of Beaumont, with a major effort to raise the needed funds.
- Elimination of Lone Dell and removal of its facilities to Beaumont.
- Closing of Lions' Den as soon as facilities became available at Beaumont.
- Relocation of the Wright Training Center from the Fredmar property to Beaumont.
- Realignment of District boundaries for more effective use of manpower, and to cope with developing socio-economic changes.
- Continuing analysis and improvement of Council administrative and organizational activities.
- Expansion of the professional staff by 50 percent, the office staff by 64 percent.

It is a measure of the Council's determination that almost all of these goals were achieved within the decade. Disposal of Lions' Den was not effected until the Sixties, and the proportion of professional and office staff to boys served remained, as usual, well below the



National Boy Scout Week, 1951, was launched when veteran St. Louis Scoutmaster Charles (Bucky) Kelso presented a resolution to President Harry S. Truman at the White House.

national average. As staff load increased, "we just worked harder," as LeRoy Lane put it.

A sentimental highlight of the 1951 Annual Meeting was Jack Keith's announcement that Charles "Bucky" Kelso, dean of St. Louis scoutmasters, would represent all of the U.S. scoutmasters at the 40th Anniversary Week



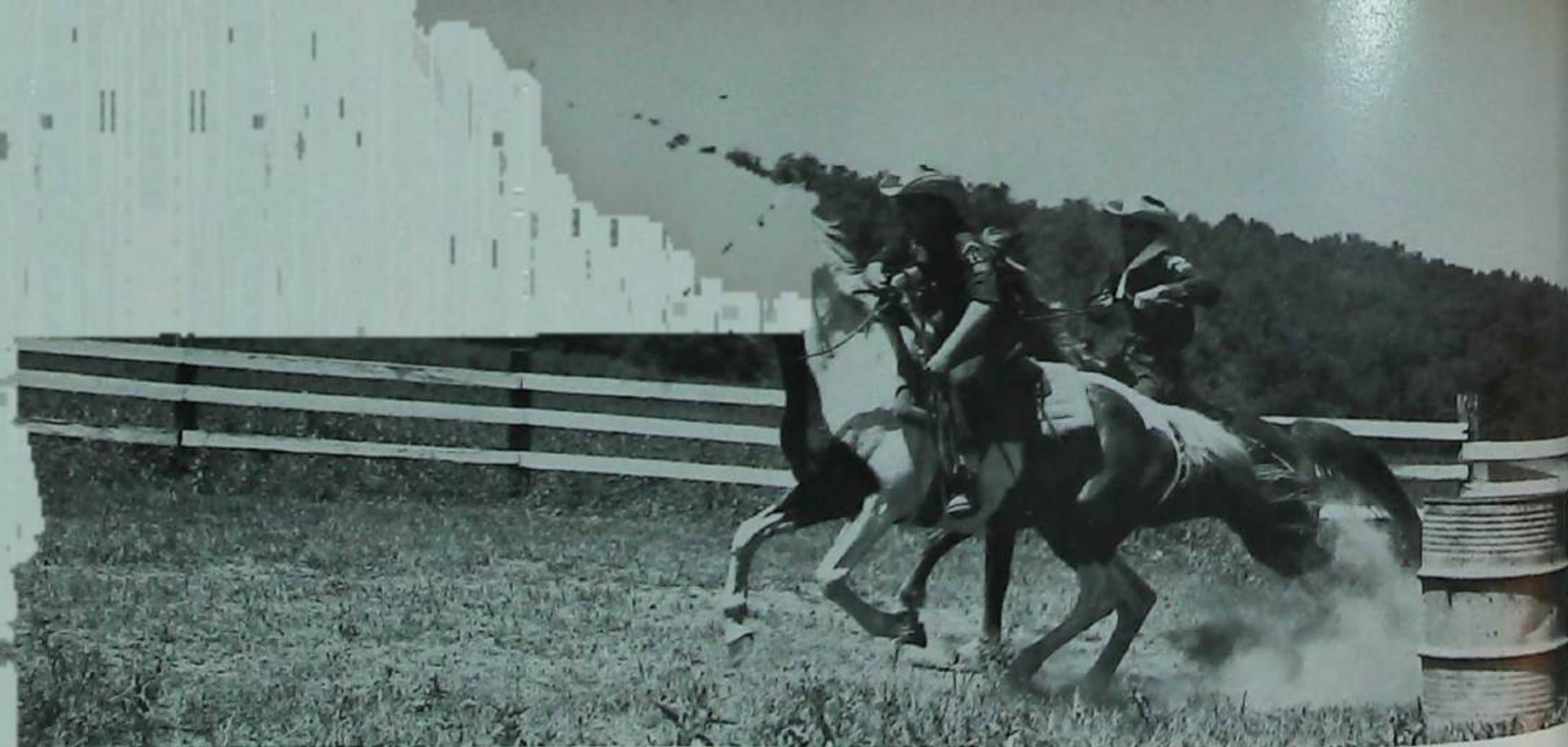
Victor E. Cooley, Council President, 1950-1952.

ceremonies in Washington, New York, and Philadelphia, as the honored guest of the National Council. Few Scouters would ever equal his more-than-50-year tenure as Scoutmaster of Troop 55 at Cote Brillante Presby-

terian Church. One of the area's original Scouters, and longtime safety director of Aetna Casualty & Life Insurance Co., he had been especially active in developing many of the early training programs. The photo of Bucky Kelso in full regalia, posing with President Harry S. Truman, is still a Council treasure. At this writing, Bucky is living with relatives in Terre Haute, Indiana.

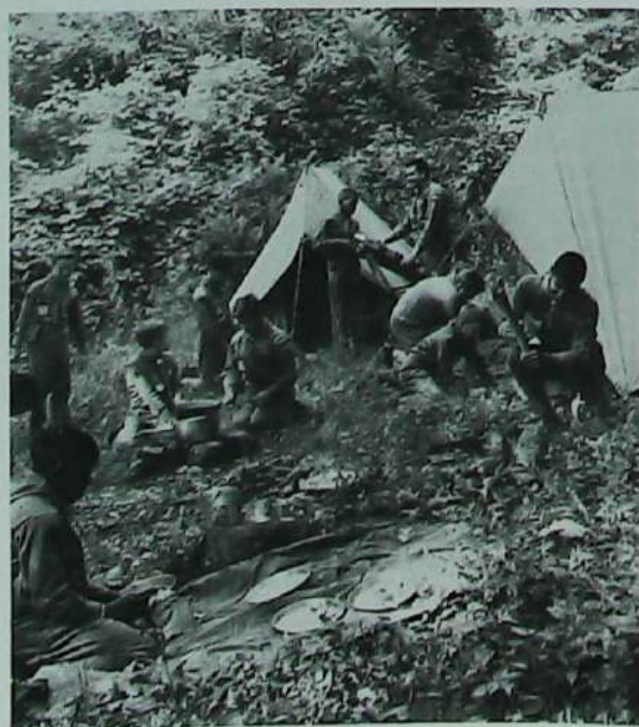
The development of Beaumont into one of the nation's outstanding Scout camps became the No. 1 priority of the new Council president, Victor E. Cooley, who replaced Roscoe C. Hobbs at the helm in 1950. Another in the long line of "Ma Bell" men who have contributed so much to Scouting, Cooley joined Morton D. May, chairman of the Beaumont Development Committee; Norfleet H. Rand of the Camping Committee, and a host of volunteers and professionals in building Beaumont.

The camp was already in use. More than 10,000 boys attended short-term camps there during 1951, following completion of the deep



Yaaa-hooo! Thrills like this were among the attractions at Nagel Explorer Base on Beaumont Scout Reservation.

well. A Ranger camp was established, with a 12-horse remuda and a volunteer-built barn. An access road into the 2,400-acre property was partially developed. Part of the Trail System was laid out, and work started on the warehouse and Chief Ranger's cabin. Plans were being developed for three camps—Camp A, to accommodate 300 Scouts; Camp B, 200; and Camp C, about 100.



Beaumont attracted many short-term campers even before its formal opening.

The existing camps were bulging at the seams. Central feeding, District camping, and enlargement of the dining hall enabled Irondale to handle an additional 150 boys, but it was already serving 670 more Scouts than its planned capacity. Lions' Den was serving 224 more boys than ever intended. Neither could be further expanded. Yet the numbers of long-term campers had reversed the early postwar trend; 4,000 boys attended camp in 1951, and the number was expected to double within a few years. Action was imperative.

Money was equally imperative. The projected cost of Beaumont was escalating, and the Council was scrambling for development funds. Lone Dell was closed and sold, its facilities moved to Beaumont and troop activities to Lions' Den. The Fredmar property was sold for \$85,000, which was promptly applied to Beaumont needs. The Trust Fund was tapped, but the total was still far from sufficient for the plans the Council had in mind.

So "Buster" May set to work. The major capital funds drive he had previously recommended swung into high gear. Large gifts were already being solicited by the end of 1952. And at the 1953 Annual Meeting, May laid it on the line to the assembled Scouters—the drive would be



A retreat ceremony at Lions' Den. The camp was nearing the end of its usefulness.



More than 11,000 Scouts, Scouters, and parents attended the May 15, 1954 dedication of Camp May and Beaumont Scout Reservation. Speaking is Norfleet Rand, chairman of the Camp May and Beaumont Scout Reservation. Beside him, Morton D. May, Camp Development chairman.

the biggest ever attempted by the St. Louis Area Council, and one of the largest in U.S. Scouting history. Combining the Beaumont campaign with the annual Friends of Scouting appeal, he asked for a whopping \$690,000.

"As soon as we build," he said, "Beaumont can handle an additional 3,500 campers immediately. It can provide year-round training for 8,000 adult leaders. It can provide weekend camping for thousands more St. Louis Council Scouts.

"On this marvelous site, we must put buildings and facilities to accommodate the thousands of eager boys to whom it is dedicated. We must work together to make this investment in our youth..."

Beaumont, he explained, would have three main uses: as a training center for Scouters, and as both a long-term and short-term camp. Most of the permanent facilities were to be located in the main valley of Little Antire Creek.

The plans for Beaumont reflected the motto: "Be Prepared." It was easy to reach from any part of the Council area. Initial planning provided for two camps to be built immediately—

the Ranger Camp, and Camp A, soon to be named "Camp May" for the man whose efforts had made Beaumont a reality. Camp May was the heart of the facility, with 14 troop camping sites surrounding the major permanent structures. The Ranger Camp was to have 14 Adirondack huts for Rangers, Explorers, and other more experienced campers.

The permanent facilities included the relocated Wright Training Center, which could double as an indoor dining hall and recreational area; a handsome chapel, dedicated to the memory of Walter W. Head by General American Life Insurance Co.; a Trading Post; troop lodges; a Council Ring; a modern fan-shaped swimming pool with special provisions for beginners; a headquarters building and staff quarters. Former Eagle Scout Eric W. Smith of Smith & Entzeroth was the architect.

Plans were also made for a nine-acre lake, but local geological faults prevented them from materializing.

Miles of trails were already being cut by Scouts and Scouters, and in the summer of 1953 the men of the Eagle Scout Association built Eagles' Nest, a 60-foot steel fire observation tower.

May and President Cooley both received their

More than 15,000 Scouts from every Council District participated in the big parade. The \$690,000 goal was reached in June, 1953.



A massive downtown parade kicked off the 1953 drive to raise capital funds for Beaumont's development.

Silver Beavers at that 1953 Annual Meeting, and before the summer was out, they both doubly deserved the award. Working with Col. Vollmar, who had accepted the responsibility of heading the funds campaign, they marshalled the manpower and boypower of the Council for an April 6 kickoff.

It was one of St. Louis Scouting's greatest shows. More than 15,000 Scouts from every

District marched downtown, with mounted Rangers, floats, and a score of marching bands. Headed by Parade Chairman Aloys P. Kaufman, the city's former mayor, the parade ended at Kiel Auditorium, where the Scouts and Scouters saw KSD-TV (then managed by Veteran Scouter George Burbach) stage a live TV show starring Jimmy Cagney and beamed to the entire metropolitan area.

The original plans for Beaumont estimated the cost at \$360,000. As the planners raised their sights and the inflation sparked by the Korean War continued, estimates rose first to \$500,000, then \$600,000. The final \$690,000 goal seemed impossible to attain. But they made it—and celebrated with a monstrous Victory Barbecue at Camp May on June 18, 1953. The funds were in hand to transform Beaumont from a dream to reality.

Less than a year later, on the weekend of May

14-15, 1954, Beaumont was officially opened with one of St. Louis Scouting's most jubilant Camporees. More than 7,000 Scouts and Scouters from over 350 troops, and 4,000 parents and guests, heard Dr. Arthur A. Schuck, the nation's Chief Scout Executive, dedicate the camp which is still paying great human dividends.

Among those 7,000 Scouts were two who would make their own future contributions to Scout camping—Mel Loewenstein of Troop 87, who was to play a vital role in the development of S-F Ranch a decade later as the Council's Director of Camping, and Paul A. Brockland of Troop 336, who was to follow Loewenstein as Director of Camping for the Council.

If Beaumont was the most dramatically visible achievement of the 1950's, it was far from being the only challenge met and mastered by the Council during that decade of transition.



Some of the men who made it possible. Beaumont fund-raisers included, left to right, James Lee Johnson, W. B. McMillan, Major B. Einstein, Ervin P. Stupp, Col. Jos. E. Vollmar, Edwin M. Clark, and William A. McDonnell.

The most potentially explosive challenge was that of racial integration. The area's black population had grown rapidly during and after WWII—but fewer black youths than white had been reached by Scouting. There were many reasons. Some of them were valid, and some were at least believed to be valid.

Most basic was a simple lack of acceptance on the part of some whites. That was a recognized fact of life to most Southern-born blacks, but others were beginning to demand a fairer share in U.S. society.

Ghetto-bred black youth too often found Scouting skills such as campcraft ("the Daniel Boone bit") irrelevant to their real needs. Coming from what was basically a matriarchal society, many entered Scouting as Cubs, where forceful black mothers served as Den leaders—but it was hard to find interested black male adult leadership, and too few Cubs moved up to Scouting's ranks.

Scouting was reaching the children of many middle class black families, but its impact on the "less chance" boys of the inner city was less than satisfactory. The dedicated efforts of black leaders like Bill Rand, Leon Dickson, W. H. J.



Staffer Dave Church was a leader in promoting interracial Scouting.

"Pop" Beckett, Quinten Adderley, and Marty Graham, and others such as Carl Laemmli, Dave Church, LeRoy Lane, and Russ Hart too often produced lean harvests.



Demonstration of the requirements for the Cooking Merit Badge at the Merit Badge Show.

Even when once organized, black troops faced barriers that inevitably lessened their interest in Scouting. Weekend hikes and camps were rare because of the shortage of leadership. Long-term camping was long confined to Lone Dell, where facilities were barely adequate. Support from sponsoring institutions was often erratic and reluctant.

But "the times, they were a-changin'." In 1947 Archbishop Joseph E. Ritter bluntly informed the St. Louis Archdiocesan Schools that "no child, of whatever race or color, may be turned away" from parochial schools. This had long been a fact in many Northern cities, but in St. Louis it was revolutionary, and met resistance from segments of both laity and religious. The edict stood. It was a dramatic breakthrough in race relations; many Scout troops sponsored by Catholic schools and churches found themselves quietly integrated. Much the same pattern ensued when the city integrated the public school system in 1954.

The Council had already begun to face the issue in the 1940's, when some crack professionals were assigned to inner-city Districts. But by 1955, according to a report by Jack Keith, the Council was serving more than two-thirds of the boys in the suburbs, 40 percent in middle-class city districts, but only 13 percent in critical inner-city areas.

Some progress was made, of course. In 1955, 27-year-old Dave Church, fresh from National Training School in New Jersey, was assigned to Training School in a blighted South St. Louis area. As a 1956 *Globe-Democrat* feature reported, he "invited the boys to hit the Scouting Trail; they invited him to hit the road." Undaunted, he visited more than 700 homes seeking adult volunteers. He enlisted not only the 10 best student leaders at Pestalozzi School, but also the "10 worst trouble-makers," because he astutely recognized that they, too, were leaders. Within months, Church had Troop 107 and Explorer Post 107 camping at Beaumont; at least one group of boys had hit the Scouting Trail.

Dave Church's patient techniques were new and untried in 1955-56; today they're an integral

part of the nationwide effort to reach inner-city youth. Again, St. Louis had helped show the way.

The Council's efforts to recruit more black Scouts and integrate troops were deliberately low-keyed. Publicity could backfire. Professionals and black volunteers quietly labored to enlist more sponsoring institutions, to find and retain adult leaders. Slowly, the effort paid off. The continued movement of blacks into previously all-white neighborhoods, and the gradual acceptance of varying degrees of integration by the majority of whites, stepped up troop integration.

Council records are reticent about the entire subject, for even some Executive Board members resisted the inevitable. But when Beaumont opened, District camps included all-white, all-black, and interracial troops. By the late 1950's, when National Council asked LeRoy Lane the number of black troops and Scouts in the Council, he could reply, "We don't know. We don't keep records on the basis of race." That in itself was progress.

By 1957, Dave Church could report the organization of 13 new units and doubled membership in the inner-city portion of the Arrowhead District. Troops were being organized in the housing projects. Black participation in the Scout Circus, Merit Badge Show, Camporees, and the annual Appreciation Dinner was rising.

The problem of serving black youth was not solved in the 1950's, nor is it yet solved. But an encouraging start was made more than 20 years ago by the leaders of the St. Louis Area Council. Their sensible, realistic approach produced significant progress with a minimum of public furor. But the basic challenge remains high on the Council's priority list.

There were other problems as well during the Fifties, not the least of which were, as usual, financial. Council expenditures continued to rise—from \$373,000 in 1950 to \$530,000 in 1955 and \$611,000 in 1959. The annual bargaining with the Community Chest (later the United Fund) continued. The Chest could

rarely meet Council requests. But Executive Board members had become so adept at the annual budget battle that the Chest's proportion of the total operating budget at least remained almost constant, at approximately 43 percent of the Council's needs.

In time the Chest accepted the Friends of Scouting as necessary for the continued



Col. Jos. E. Vollmar, Council President, 1946-1947.



W. B. McMillan, Council President, 1956-1958.

existence of the movement. Indeed, inter-agency relations became so cordial that when the Chest's executive director died in 1953, Jack Keith was temporarily drafted to replace him until a new director was named several months later.

The widening dollar gap between Chest contributions and actual expenditures was filled from other sources. Increasingly the load fell on the F-of-S, brilliantly led during the decade of the Fifties by men like Col. Vollmar; Gregory J. Nooney; Powell B. McHaney, president of General American Life; W. B. McMillan; Arthur Atkinson, president of Wabash Railroad; and Clark Hungerford, president of Frisco Railroad.

F-of-S contributions doubled during the decade, from \$61,000 to \$131,000 annually. And by the end of the 1950's, income from the Trust Fund was becoming available, with Russell E. Gardner,



Famed Actor and Air Force Gen. Jimmy Stewart is greeted by Council President McMillan as he arrives at Lambert Field. Stewart was featured speaker at the first "Pot Luck" dinner at the Arena in 1957.



Media support has always been a big factor in Scouting's success. Here President McMillan expresses his gratitude to Richard Amberg, left, publisher of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, and Joseph Pulitzer, publisher of the Post-Dispatch.

Jr., leading for many years a successful long-range campaign to beef up the Fund.

Still, money remained in short supply. While the Council consistently maintained its No. 1 rank among the nation's metropolitan Councils, staff salaries remained below the national average, and the ratio of boys to staff was 41 percent higher than the average.

Continuity of leadership posed another problem. During the 1950's death took such outstanding Executive Board members as Samuel Plant, Eugene D. Nims, Commodore H. A. Brereton, Louis A. Hager, Jr., Armstrong Chinn, and Nelson Cunliff. The latter had been a Board member for 36 years, and its first member to receive the Silver Beaver.

In August, 1953, President Victor E. Cooley resigned to accept a defense post in Washington, and was succeeded for the balance of his term by David P. Wohl, president of Wohl Shoe Co. Willard R. Cox, president of Coca-Cola Bottling Co., took over as Council President in January, 1954. He was succeeded two years later by



Willard R. Cox, Council President, 1954-1955.

William B. McMillan, chairman of the board of Hussmann Refrigerator Co., who in turn was succeeded in 1959 by Edwin M. Clark, president of Southwestern Bell Telephone. That same year, Scout Commissioner Albert W. Lantz was succeeded by Roy W. Jordan of G. H. Walker & Co. Lantz was acclaimed the Council's Chief Scout, the first to hold that honorary post since the death of Col. McBride.

Camp Brereton on Alton Lake continued to provide its annual flooding crisis. At one point the Council decided to close it down, especially after the National Council temporarily suspended the Sea Scout program (soon re-



Philmont . . . mecca of the Explorer Scouts, 137,000 acres of spectacular New Mexico scenery. St. Louis Explorers, above, drink it all in.

placed by the new Sea Explorer program). But a few months later, in September, 1955, the decision was revoked; summer activity had intensified, interest revived, and the camp's operating deficit was reduced. Manuel Chorlins, vice-chairman of the Camping Committee, Commissioner Lantz, and Commodore Brereton all stressed that the base was still essential to a full Explorer program. Camp Brereton continued to serve the Council until Lake Nims at S-F Ranch became available.

Improving service to boys at either end of Scouting's age spectrum occupied much Council time and thought during the Fifties. The decade saw progressive changes in both the Explorer and Cub programs—forerunners of more extensive changes in the future.

The years after WWII had profoundly affected the interests and attitudes of U.S. adolescents. They were more sophisticated, more worldly. Their needs were different than those of earlier generations. As early as 1953 the Council recognized the signs of change, and began to revise the Explorer program to revive flagging interest. By 1957, Explorers were being given more responsibility, encouraged to take over junior

leadership posts. Wilderness hikes and exciting canoe trips were increased. Greater emphasis was placed on social activities.

Explorers were given the option of staying with their own troops after their 14th birthday, with a "Senior Scout" strip emblazoned on their uniform . . . of registering as an Explorer but remaining with their troop . . . or of joining an Explorer Post. Each year more of them made the exciting trip to Philmont Ranch, the rugged 137,000-acre preserve in the New Mexico Rockies—an unforgettable experience.



Cubs admire a small porker at one of the Merit Badge booths at a Scout Exposition in the 1950's.



Commissioner Albert W. Lantz presents the recognitions on Eagle Scout Citizenship Day, Feb. 8, 1952.

The St. Louis program produced results, and held the line while the National Council office was researching and developing a modernized program which went into effect in 1959.

Advancement is a vital part of Scouting, and in the mid-1950's an accelerated Webelos program gave fresh impetus to Cubbing in St. Louis, where the Cub concept had been pioneered. The program was expanded and improved a few years later, but meanwhile it made the transition from Cub to Scout more meaningful.

It has long been the Council's goal to have a Cub pack, a Scout troop, and an Explorer post in every sponsoring institution. Significant progress toward that goal was made in the 1950's, actively promoted by the Commissioner's staff and Council professionals.

The "Decade of Transition" produced its quota of crises and problems, but it also saw spectacular growth and solid achievement at all levels.

The development of Beaumont was not only started, but its major facilities were completed and in service by the decade's close.

District organization was improved and expanded, while administrative changes improved staff efficiency and productivity, and helped the volunteers in their work.

The Trust Fund, barely more than \$100,000 in 1950, was nearing the \$400,000 mark by 1959.

The Council moved into expanded quarters in the Arcade Building during the Christmas holidays of 1955. With more space, better lighting, and room for expansion, few Scouters expected



Spaeche Farm Experimental Camp at Troy, Mo., attracted many Scouts interested in farming and stock-raising.



One of the many unexpected activities of Troop 109, Missouri School for the Blind, was roller-skating.



One of the high points of a Scout's life . . . advancement awards at a Court of Honor.

that within a few more years the new facilities would be outgrown and another move mandatory.

Additional effort was made toward bringing the benefits of Scouting to the handicapped. One of the nation's first Scout units for mentally retarded boys—Troop 28—was sponsored by the Clayton Elks Club under Scoutmaster Carl R. Wilson. Other units for handicapped boys had been doing outstanding jobs for years—at Missouri School for the Blind, Central Institute for the Deaf, Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children, and Elias Michael School. Some of these troops had produced amazing results . . . and still are.

Council camping literally "took off" in the Fifties—the bonus of Beaumont. More than 7,300 boys and 359 troops attended long-term camps in 1959.

Two hundred Explorer posts, ships, and squadrons were active in 1959, with D. B. Mabry, vice president of Moss Tie Co, heading a revital-



Eagle Scout Citizenship Day, 1954. Left to right, Mayor Raymond R. Tucker; Marion L. J. Lambert, chairman of Citizenship Day; Eagle Scout Mayor Larry Joseph, Troop 30.

ized Explorer program. The program was given a boost in 1959 when Board Member Marion L. J. Lambert was instrumental in persuading Mrs. Elizabeth Scudder Kennard, daughter of the late Charles Scudder, to donate to the Council 700 wooded acres on the Black River near Lesterville, Mo. The Scudder Explorer Base added new dimensions to Explorer activities.

Great progress was made in recruiting new sponsoring institutions, the key to creation of new units. Effective new techniques in recruiting sponsors, based on standardized procedures, replaced the hit-or-miss tactics of earlier days.

The majority of key unit leaders had completed basic training, and hundreds of them advanced training, at Wright Center at Beaumont. Nearly a thousand units could boast of "two-deep" leadership. Greater support for unit leaders was provided by a strengthened District Commissioner organization and the communications between troop, District and Council improved.

As the 1950's drew to a close, Jack Keith directed an Area Council that mustered more than 40,000 boys in 1,241 units, supported by 15,000 adult Scouters—a virtual doubling of strength, and nearing the national ideal of serving a third of all the eligible boys in the Council's far-flung territory.

Jack Keith's career in St. Louis had been highly successful, but it had taken its toll. In September, 1959, he ended 13 productive years of service to St. Louis Scouting and retired to Florida with Mrs. Keith. His had been a memorable stewardship in a difficult time—a time of change, transition, and challenge.

He was succeeded as Scout Executive by Russell J. Hart. St. Louis Scouting, and the Area Council, now began a journey into another new era—a new decade optimistically christened "The Soaring Sixties," and one which was to produce many dramatic changes in Scouting.

SCOUTING IN A CHANGING WORLD —THE SIXTIES AND AFTER



"The Little Scouts and Their Scoutmaster" were a feature of the 1964 Circus.

Chapter X



FROM THE BEGINNING, the St. Louis Area Council has been fortunate in its choice of Scout Executives. Each has been uniquely the right man for his times. And almost as if ordained by fate, each has been succeeded by another Executive especially qualified to meet and master the challenges of a new era.

Russell J. Hart took over command from Jack Keith just as the deceptive tranquility of the Fifties erupted into the turmoil of the Sixties. He was to guide St. Louis Scouting through troubled years—years of violence, restive minorities, the bitterness of Vietnam, the alienation of much of our youth. They were to be years when the traditions and even the relevance of Scouting itself were to be questioned. His tenure has not been a peaceful one.

He was the first Executive since Henry C. Thompson to be a native St. Louisan, his roots deep in the South Side. He attended Bryan Mullanphy School and Roosevelt High, and made his way through Scouting's ranks as a member of Troop 189 at Shaw Avenue Methodist Church, under Scoutmaster C. C. Fawcett. His college years were spent at Missouri University and St. Louis University, and while still a student he worked as an office boy at Council Headquarters under Hal L. Rush, Director of Finance and Development.

The Council professionals saw promise in the square-jawed youngster, and sent him out to organize a Scouting program in a "less chance" neighborhood. The emotional rewards of that

first experience persuaded him to choose a career in Scouting. Jack Wright sent him to National Training School, and in 1941 he joined the Council as a Field Executive—only to leave a year later for a three-year Navy stint.

Shortly after his return from service in 1945, Hart was named Field Director. In 1951 he went



Russell J. Hart, Scout Executive, 1959—

to Philadelphia as Assistant Scout Executive of the Valley Forge Council, but was recalled in 1952 to serve first as Administrative Assistant and then as Deputy Scout Executive to Jack Keith, familiarizing himself thoroughly with Council problems, procedures, and personnel.

In 1956 Hart was summoned to Denver to revitalize a moribund Area Council. His personal brand of low-keyed but effective leadership paid off. In his three years in Denver, membership grew from 16,000 to 22,000, the number of units from 443 to 675, and the Council itself became a community force.

"Being named Scout Executive in St. Louis was the fulfillment of a boyhood dream," Hart said



An introduction to the contemplative joys of fishing . . . at the old Irondale swimming pool, stocked with fish when the new pool opened.

later. He inherited a strong Board, a proved program, and a Council with a national reputation. He had personally known individual Board members, Scouters, and professional staffers alike since his youth. He knew the people, the program, and the Council's properties—the expansion of which was to become his top priority.

By 1960, the Long-Range Plan which produced Beaumont was already outdated. The postwar baby boom was producing a bumper crop of potential Cubs and Scouts, and membership was growing. So was camping. Irondale, where Russ Hart had been in turn a Scout camper, Scoutmaster, and staffer, was nearing the end of its usefulness. There was no room for growth at Lions' Den, while the Sea Scout Base at Camp Brereton served but a fraction of total membership.

The character of Beaumont itself was changing. Since its 1953 dedication, the city had reached out its tentacles; industries and suburbs were crowding Beaumont's boundaries. And within the metropolitan area the woods and open

spaces where generations of Scouts had hiked and camped were falling to the bulldozer. By the end of the 1950's, Beaumont was primarily a short-term camp and Scouter training center. It could not offer the kind of adventurous camping experience far from home that had made Irondale so popular.

Within months after succeeding Keith, Hart was already planning to dispose of Irondale,



Hallelujah! Merle Shippey, veteran camping director, burns the Lions' Den mortgage. At left is Lawrence Knopf, a prime mover of Lions' Club sponsorship.



Rep. Thomas B. Curtis, left, and Mrs. Curtis look on as their son, Allan, receives his Eagle rank. Making the award is Neighborhood Commissioner August Uthoff.



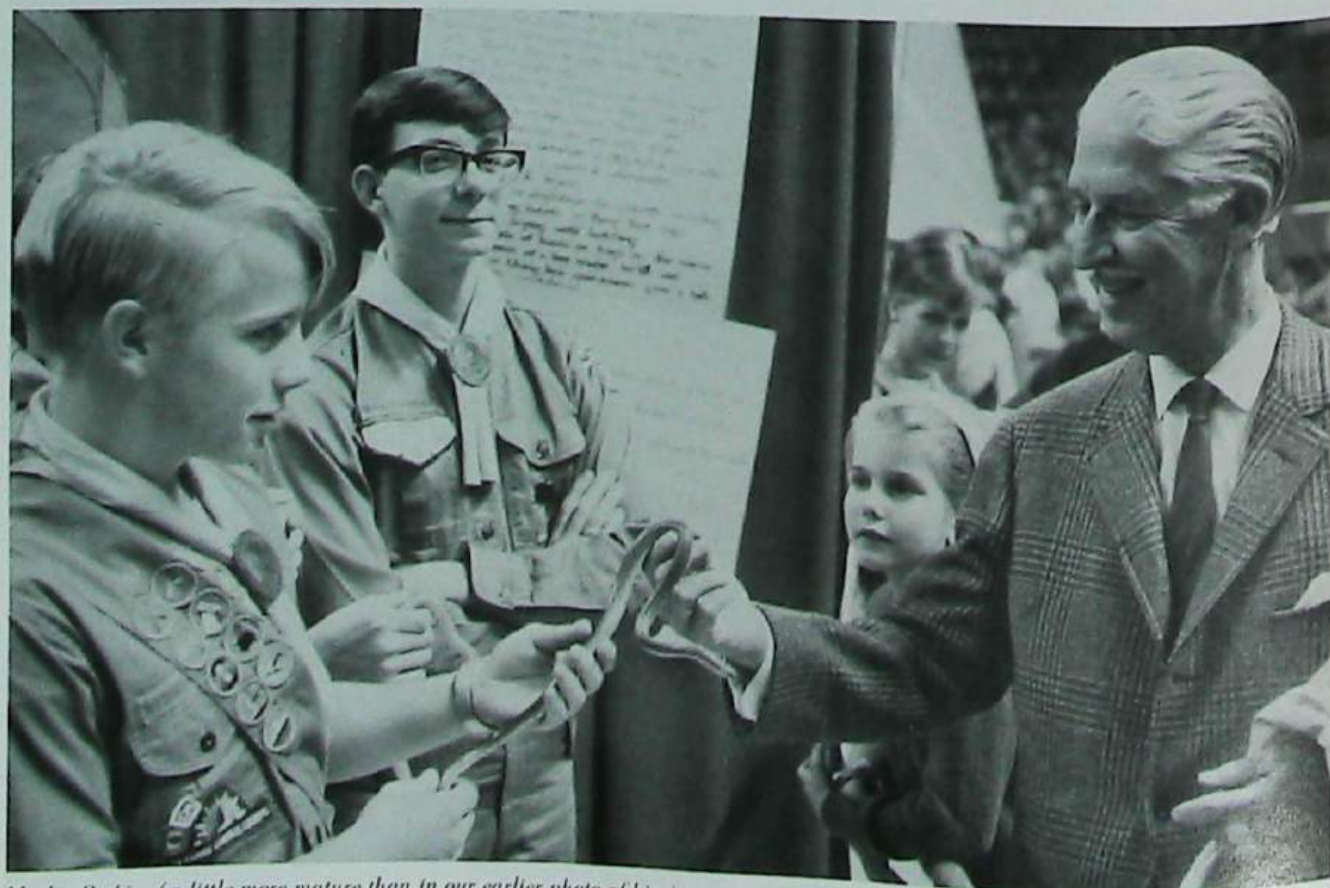
The "Pioneering Act" was always a highlight of the Scout Circus. Here Troop 645 swarms over their swiftly-erected signal tower.



Scouts and Scouts alike got goosebumps during the Grand Entry at the 1961 Scout Circus.



Scouting pays tribute to No. 6, Stan the Man. In 1961 the St. Louis Council presented its recognition of exemplary conduct to Mustal at Sportsman's Park. Left to right, Mustal, Scout Executive Russell Hart, and Delmer Wilson, National Council director of personnel.



Martin Perkins (a little more mature than in our earlier photo of him) visits a booth demonstrating reptile studies at a Merit Badge Show. This time the boys are showing him the snake. Then director of the St. Louis Zoo, he later created the popular TV show, "Wild Kingdom."



St. Louis Cub Scout Daniel Decker receives the National Medal of Honor for lifesaving at the 1963 Annual Council meeting, from William R. Orthwein, Jr., at left. Looking on are Commissioner Russel L. Savage, Council President Gen. Leif J. Sverdrup, and Mr. and Mrs. Decker.

Lions' Den, and Brereton, and to acquire a major property far enough from the city to provide a true camping experience, with enough acreage for expansion and facilities for an updated aquatic program. Brereton had always been less than adequate for the latter, while the proposed lake at Beaumont was never developed. Early in 1960, Hart assigned Merle Shippey to start looking for an ideal site for a major camp.

Shippey, then Director of Camping, had long advocated just such a move. He had personally investigated some 200 potential sites in the Council's 12 rural counties. He screened the list to 10, and for months he, Hart, and assorted Board members and staffers scrambled over

endless hills, valleys, and meadows. None fitted the Council's expanding needs. The search continued fruitlessly for more than a year, and then three unexpected "angels" solved the problem.

The first "angel" was Elmer E. Jones, divisional manager of St. Joseph Lead Co., chairman of the Council's Camping Committee, and a resident of Bonne Terre, Mo. He persuaded his company to make available, for only \$60,000, a rolling, wooded 3,985-acre tract in the historic Mine LaMotte Domain—a \$15-per-acre bargain.

Hart, Shippey, and Assistant Camping Director Mel Loewenstein hiked the rough country in a pouring February rainstorm—and were ecstatic



Opening ceremonies of the 1962 Scout Exposition at the Arena. Left to right, Council Vice President Richard Baldwin; Show Chairman Adalbert von Gontard; the guest of honor Scout Wally Schirra; and Council President Russell Dearmont.

at what they saw. Hart did not yet have Board approval, but he told Jones the Council would buy the land, later expanded to 5,200 acres—more than 8-1/2 square miles.

Short as usual of funds, the Council did not have the money, but then the second "angel" materialized—Arthur B. Baer, president of Stix, Baer & Fuller. SBF, one of the city's retail giants, agreed to donate the entire purchase price. The store deliberately sought no public recognition, but Council President Russell Dearmont proposed that the magnificent new acquisition be named "S-F" in honor of its donor, and as S-F it has become one of the nation's most outstanding Scout facilities.

One reason for its success was the generosity of still a third "angel," Mrs. Eugene D. Nims,



Gen. Leif J. Sverdrup,
Council President, 1963-1965.



Theodore R. Gamble, Council
President, 1968.

widow of one of the Council's greatest Scouters. Her gift of \$55,000 made possible a running start on the 2-1/2-mile-long, 270-acre Nims Lake, site of the Council's first centralized and comprehensive aquatic program.

The Camp Development Committee under Morton D. May plunged into its new task with vigor. The site, 80 miles from St. Louis and 10 miles from Farmington, was surveyed even before the SBF gift was finalized. In March, 1962, President Dearmont named Gen. Leif J. Sverdrup to head a Capital Funds Development Committee to raise funds for what promised to be a monumental project. Civic leader, veteran Scouter and Board member, and founder and president of Sverdrup & Parcel and Associates, Inc., the campaign chairman had been Gen.



Russell L. Dearmont, Council
President, 1961-1962.



Russel L. Savage, Scout
Commissioner, 1963-1967.

Douglas MacArthur's chief engineer officer in the Southwest Pacific.

When Gen. Sverdrup became Council President in 1963, Theodore R. Gamble, president of Pet, Inc., and Nicholas P. Veeder, president of Granite City Steel, became co-chairman of the campaign committee. Gen. Sverdrup continued an active role in the drive, and the team was beefed up by the addition of former Council Presidents Edwin M. Clark and W. B. McMillan, and Vice Presidents Morton D. May and Roy W. Jordan—surely one of the most high-powered fund-raising groups ever assembled in the St. Louis area.

Their work was cut out for them. Morton D. May unveiled the ambitious plans for S-F Ranch in June, 1962. They included two complete Scout camps to be erected immediately, each providing 12 to 15 campsites, and a complete



Edwin M. Clark, Council
President, 1959-1960.



Roy W. Jordan, Scout
Commissioner, 1959-1962;
President, 1973-1974.

Explorer base. Development of the lake was to start with construction of a massive dam. Permanent structures were to include program halls, commissary buildings, staff accommodations, chapel, camp headquarters, trading post,



The original 3,985 acres of S-F Ranch in St. Francois County were purchased with a gift from Stix, Baer & Fuller. Above, Arthur B. Baer, chairman of the SBF board, breaks ground at the Ranch. At left is Joseph Brum, SBF executive vice president; at right, SBF President Leif J. Sverdrup (Cubby) Baer.



At an Order of the Arrow banquet in 1964, Scout Executive Russell J. Hart presents an architect's concept of Astronaut Hall, a gift from McDonnell Aircraft Co., to McDonnell President Sanford N. McDonnell.

quartermaster building, and the necessary roads, utilities, and parking areas. S-F was planned to provide fully-developed facilities for 250-300 boys weekly in each of the two camps, plus 100 Explorers.

The cost, May estimated, would be \$1,250,000—double the amount raised for Beaumont and by far the largest fund-raising effort in Council history. Gen. Sverdrup and his cohorts were already hard at work, lining up major individual and corporate contributions. By February, 1963, they had raised \$565,000. Almost a third had come from Morton D. May himself; his father, Morton J. May; the Louis Beaumont Foundation; and Famous-Barr Co. In recognition of their tremendous support, the first camp at S-F was named "Camp Famous Eagle." Later corporate gifts included a food service center donated by McDonnell Douglas Co.

Costs were rising even as work got under way. Structural difficulties plagued the dam construction. Eventually, Gen. Sverdrup's own crack

engineers redesigned and completed the dam, and Lake Nims began to fill. Today its waters are filtered for camp needs by a treatment plant that could serve a town of 10,000.

The central camp was to consist of four main buildings serving the entire facility. They in-



92 years of Scouting! As Explorer Mike Siegerist of Troop 319, attains Eagle rank, he is congratulated by Council Staffer Carl Laemmli, left, (40 years); Mike's grandfather, Walter Siegerist (30 years); and his father, Walter L. Siegerist (16 years). Mike himself had been a Scout for six years.



More groundbreaking at S-F Ranch . . . above, in 1963, for Danforth Memorial Chapel. Left to right, Scout Executive Russ Hart; Marrimon Cuninggim, executive director of the Danforth Foundation; Donald Danforth, board chairman, Ralston Purina; and A. J. O'Brien, Ralston Purina executive vice president and later Scout Commissioner.

cluded Astronauts' Hall, the food service center donated by McDonnell; the Rand Building, donated by Norfleet H. Rand of International Shoe Co. and his family, which serves as camp headquarters; and the Pet Health Lodge, gift of Ted Gamble and Pet, Inc. Additional structures included the W. H. Danforth Chapel and staff cabins.

In each of the separate camps—Famous Eagle, Sakima, and later Gamble—there are three buildings: a combination camp office and program building; a combination Quartermaster, Trading Post, and commissary for food service for patrol feedings; and a combination staff lounge and dining hall. Feeding by patrol operation was one of the key innovations introduced at the Ranch, contributing not only to over-all operating efficiency but also to patrol morale.

The new Explorer base was named after John S. Swift, former Board member and founder of Swift Printing Co., and was the gift of his widow

and son, Hampden Swift. It offered complete facilities for aquatics, horsemanship, and a comprehensive range of other Explorer activities.

The Capital Funds campaign was not only a success, it was a notable triumph. The initial goal of \$1,250,000 in pledges was reached by



Patrol feeding was put into full effect at S-F Ranch. Above, food is distributed to a patrol.

mid-April, 1963, and by the time the Ranch was dedicated in 1965, total pledges exceeded \$2,000,000. The dedicated work of the five divisions of the Capital Funds Committee, with the whole-hearted cooperation of the Friends of Scouting, had raised one of the largest capital funds ever attempted by any Boy Scout Council in the U.S.

On Sept. 11, 1965, in conjunction with the Fall Reunion of the Shawnee Lodge of the Order of the Arrow, a triumphant Area Council and a bevy of distinguished guests formally dedicated S-F Ranch. The ceremonies were chaired by William R. Orthwein, Jr., and featured the campaign leaders and Order of the Arrow members.

Actually, the 61 Board members and their many guests saw little of the Ranch that day. Twenty-six hours of torrential rains had turned the still-unpacked roads into quagmires. The fleet of corporate planes that flew them to Farmington had trouble getting landing clearance. But even



Gen. Leif J. Sverdrup, Council President and "Mr. Scouting" of the postwar years, speaks at the dedication of S-F Ranch, Sept. 11, 1965.



A solemn moment during the dedication of the Ranch. Left to right, Nicholas P. Veeder, Council co-chairman of the campaign; Gen. Sverdrup; Morton D. May, chairman of the Camp Development Committee; and a Scout honor guard.



A lone Scout overlooks 270-acre Lake Eugene D. Nims at S-F Ranch.



Board members of the St. Louis Area Council and visiting dignitaries at the S-F Ranch dedication ceremonies. The Council's Capital Funds Committee and the Friends of Scouting raised more than \$2 million.

the downpour could not dampen the spirits of a Council assured of superb camping facilities for years to come. And in honor of the man who had done so much to make the dream of S-F Ranch come true, Gen. Sverdrup, the second camp was named in his honor—Camp Sakima—“Sakima” for chief, for he had been both chief of the Council and chief mover in the big project. Indeed, Gen. Sverdrup could truly be called “Mr. Scouting” of the 1960’s.

Certainly one of the proudest Council professionals on hand for the rain drenched dedica-



Mel Loewenstein, Council Director of Camping, was a key man in developing S-F.

tion was Mel Loewenstein, who had succeeded Merle Shippey as Director of Camping on the latter’s retirement January 1, 1964. Loewenstein had spent the better part of four years wrestling with the manifold problem of building the Ranch, organizing its operation, and developing the programs it was to offer Area Scouts. Executive Russ Hart credits him with being the “moving force” in transforming 8-1/2 square miles of primitive backland into one of America’s finest Boy Scout facilities. Loewenstein is currently the Council’s Director of Field Services.

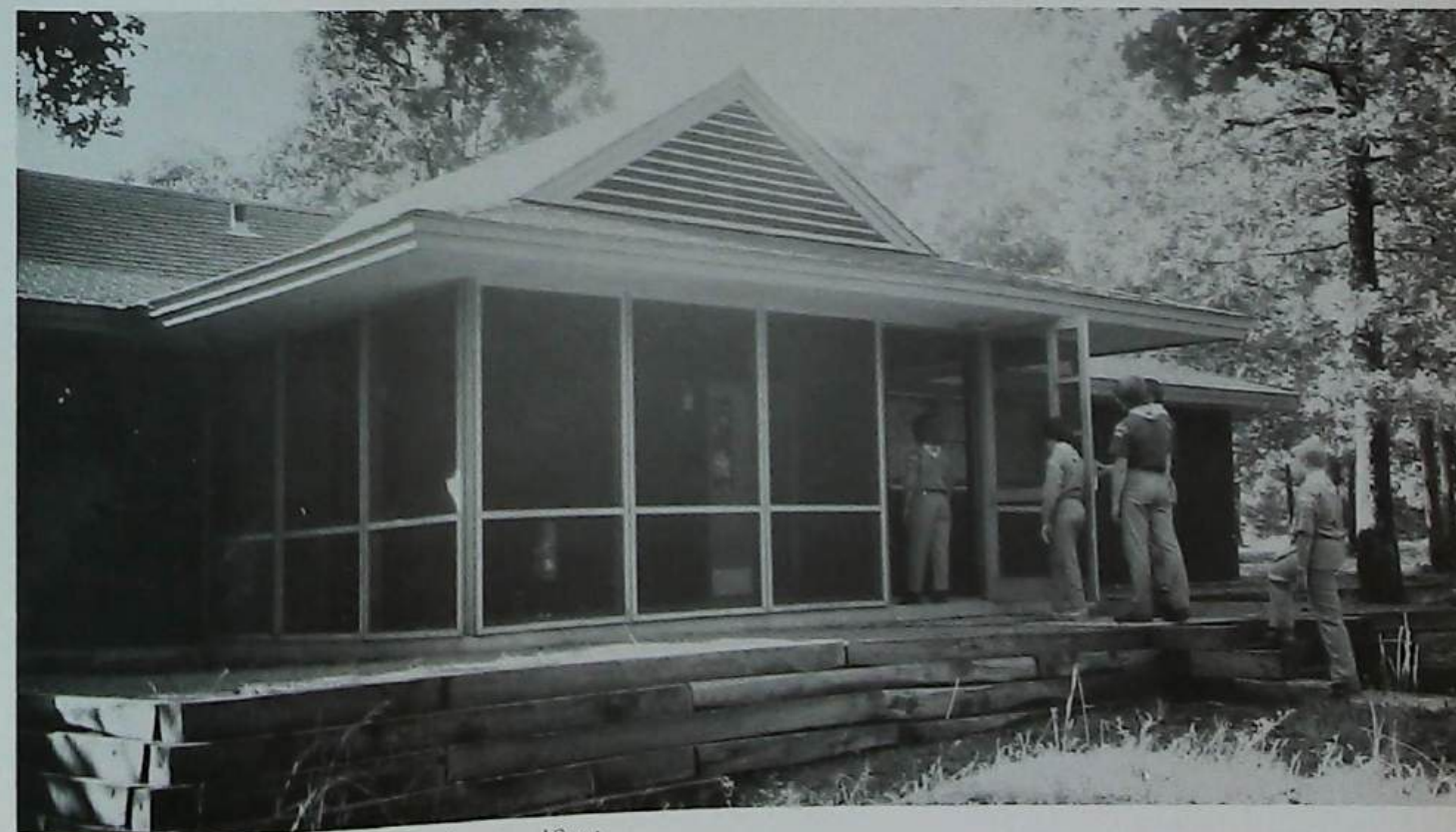
Long-term camping started at S-F none too soon. In 1964-65, Council facilities were bursting at the seams with boys—more than 8,500 of them at Beaumont, Irondale, Lions’ Den, Scudder, and Brereton. But with the opening of the Ranch, Irondale, Brereton, and Lions’ Den became surplus. Lions’ Den was sold in 1965, the Lions’ Club reacquiring it as a camp for their own program for handicapped and indigent children. And in 1967 Irondale was sold for \$50,000.



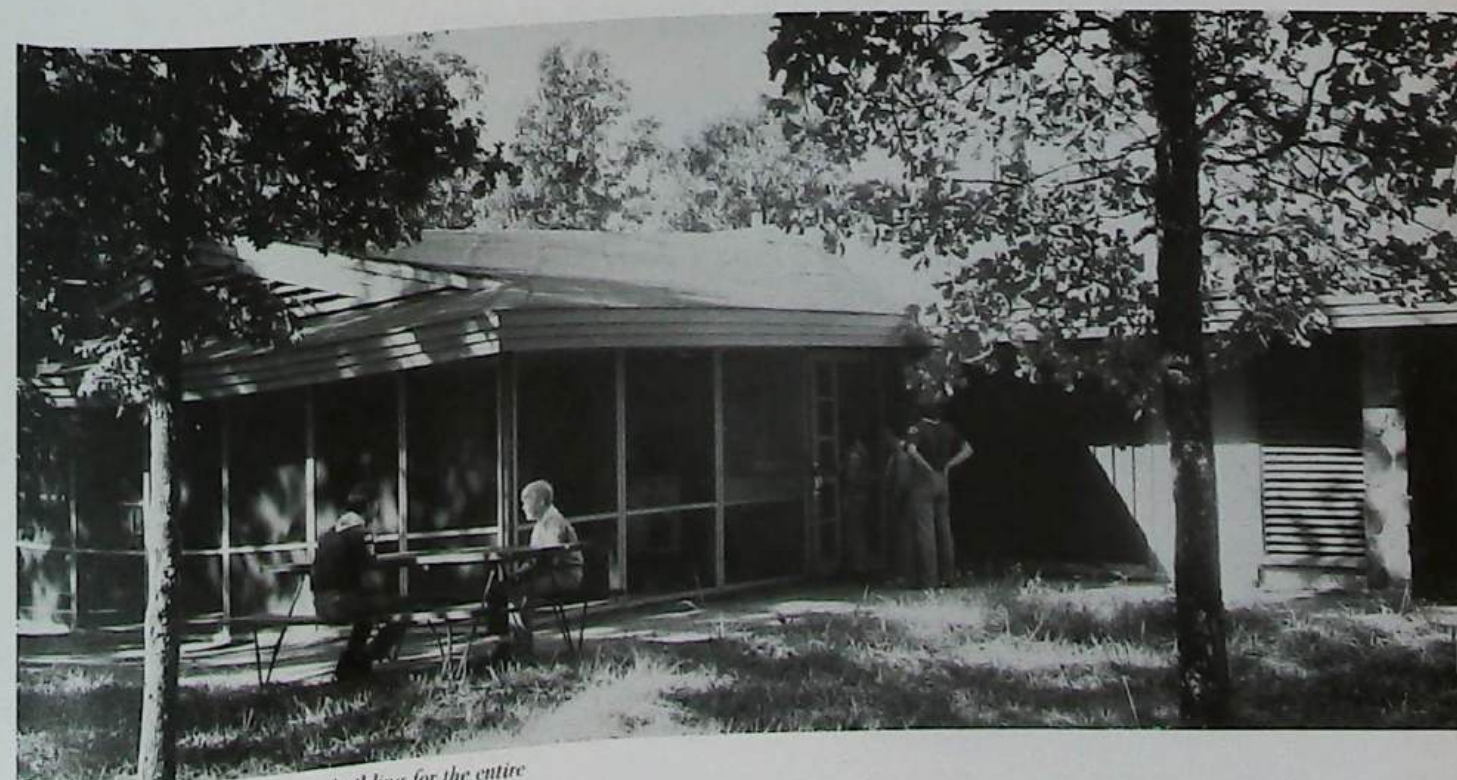
The Rand Building is camp headquarters for the S-F Ranch. It was the gift of the Rand family.



Russ Hart and Board members study Ranch blueprints. At left is Ralph McCollum, the Council’s engineer on the site.



S-F Ranch is one of the nation’s most completely-equipped Scout camps. This is the Pet Health Lodge.



Astronaut Hall is the food service building for the entire 5,200-acre Ranch, 10 miles from Farmington, Mo.



Fiftieth Anniversary Charters were awarded in 1960 to two institutions which have supported Scouting since its inception. Left to right, Council President Russell L. Dearmont; Pastor Allen Hackett of Pilgrim Congregational Church, sponsor of Troop 2; Irvin Englist, pastor of First Congregational Church, Webster Groves, sponsor of Troop 301; and Scout Executive Russell J. Hart.



The Council flag is raised at the 1964 pre-Jamboree encampment at Beaumont.

The last Council Fire burned at Irondale at the close of the camping season in August, 1965, and its ashes were added to the opening Council Fire at the Ranch the following year. Irondale had served St. Louis Scouting well for 45 years, and more than a few veteran Scouters had lumps in their throats as the last fire died down. The many dedication plaques from Irondale, Lions' Den, and Brereton are now on display on the Memorial Board in the Rand Building at the Ranch.

A dramatic new era in Scout camping was born. By the end of the 1960's, more than 9,000 boys were participating annually in long-term camping, most of them at the Ranch. Today, at the three camps on the western side of Lake Nims and the Swift Explorer Base at the dam, 10,664 boys each summer experience the unforgettable



Sad farewell to a million memories as Area Scouts leave old Irondale for the last time, August, 1965.

experience of Scout camping—with nearly 80 percent of all Area Scout units represented. In the wooded hills and valleys and along the Ranch trails, they learn traditional Scout skills and many new ones as well. To today's generation, S-F Ranch is the Scout camp, and around its modern facilities new legends are being woven. But many thousands of older St. Louisans will never forget Irondale, where it all really began more than half a century ago.

The Ranch should serve the needs of the St. Louis Council for at least two decades to come. The boy population is changing, and for the next 10 years, if not longer, there will be fewer boys in the 8-to-14 age group, thereby reducing pressure on camp facilities. Projected plans for two additional camps at S-F have been postponed. Instead, there will be more intensive use of existing facilities, especially with current trends toward a longer school year.

The acquisition and development of S-F Ranch has been, surely, the most monumental single achievement of Russ Hart's stewardship as Scout Executive. But there have been many other high points as well. One of the earliest,



It's a little rocky, the chow still tastes good. Explorers at Scudder Explorer Base, on the Black River.

soon after he replaced Jack Keith, was the massive celebration of Scouting's Golden Jubilee during 1960.

The celebration began in February, 1960, when the Council awarded 50-Year Charters to the Rev. Dr. Allen Hackett, pastor of Pilgrim Congregational Church, home of Troop 2, and to the Rev. Dr. Ervine P. Inglis of the First Congregational Church of Webster Groves, sponsor of Troop 301. Both institutions had supported Scouting since its American beginnings.

In May, thousands of Scouters turned out for the annual Appreciation Dinner at the Arena to hear an authentic hero, gruff, cigar-chomping Gen. Curtis Lemay (the first Pot Luck Appreciation dinner in 1957 drew 5,000 to hear Brig. Gen. Jimmy Stewart, the film star turned WWII airman). Hundreds of Area packs, troops, and posts held commemorative ceremonies—more units than there were Scouts in 1910-11. By 1960, the Council could count 40,684 boys and 15,000 Scouters.

Below: 6,000 Scouters and their families jammed the Armory for the 1961 Pot Luck Dinner.



Gen. Curtis LeMay, chief of the Strategic Air Command, was guest of honor at the last Pot Luck Dinner at the Arena. With him is Gen. Sverdrup.



Her last visit to St. Louis. Lady Baden-Powell arrives to participate in the 1970 60-Year Jubilee Camporee in Forest Park.



Board Member Robert Hyland welcomes Lady Baden-Powell to the campfire at the Forest Park Camporee.

Climax of the Jubilee Year was the nation's biggest single Camporee, held in Forest Park July 23-25 under the direction of Camporee Chairman Harry F. Harrington, chief executive officer of Boatmen's National Bank. More than 12,000 Scouts and Scouters pitched 5,000 tents in the park and welcomed 50,000 visitors—35,000 of them for the spectacular Jubilee Campfire on Art Hill. The event was a spur to recruiting and its success highlighted Russ Hart's first year as Executive.

The Jubilee's success was to be repeated in 1970, when the principal guest was Lady Baden-Powell, with a supporting cast of sports and show-business celebrities. The 1970 Camporee Chairman was Maurice R. "Dude" Chambers, president of Interco, aided by Mallinckrodt Board Chairman and Council President Harold E. Thayer and Commissioner Albert J. O'Brien. The Campfire Show was the responsibility of Board Member Robert Hyland, vice president of CBS.

Four years after the Golden Jubilee event, in 1964, St. Louis Scouts contributed to another



Mmm-mm! Scoutmaster James Sponik, Troop 430, Arnold, Mo., supervises a roast pig at the 1970 Camporee cookout.



TV Star Mike Connors—*"Mannix"*—at Camporee.



... and Offensive Tackle and Board Member Ernie McMillan.



Another guest—Big Red Safety Larry Wilson...



Scrappy Blues Star Red Berenson at Camporee.



Miller J. Grimes, Wood Badge Scouter and holder of the Silver Beaver, bids goodbye to Lady Baden-Powell in Forest Park. 50,000 attended the Camporee.



St. Louis Explorers reenact the landing of Pierre Laclède during the city's Bicentennial celebration in 1964.

community-wide event—observance of the city's founding in 1764. Chairman of the Bicentennial was veteran Board Member August A. Busch, Jr., who made sure the Scouts got into the act. They were appointed as the city's official greeters for the entire Bicentennial Year. Scout delegates met all distinguished guests to the city, presenting them with official certificates and the Bicentennial neckerchief and slide.

On February 14, 1964, more than 5,000 Scouts and leaders gathered on the riverfront to reenact the historic landing of Chouteau and Laclède (whose roles were played by chosen Explorers), and to watch the Piasa Society greet the "founders" with Indian dances. Former Mayor Aloys S. Kaufman, chairman of the Activities Committee, directed the event, and many prominent guests were on hand, among them Mayor Raymond R. Tucker and the French Ambassador to the U.S.

The St. Louis Bicentennial coincided with a new national theme, "Strengthen America's Heritage," designed to familiarize youth with their heritage and to rededicate themselves to the ideals of Scouting. Nearly every post, troop, and pack in the Council's territory participated. They hiked more than 28,000 miles over the area's seven Historic Trails, held Heritage campfires, torch relays, and Three Flags ceremonies. And 40,000 boys rang 455,000 doorbells to urge citizens to vote in the 1964 elections. The year was climaxed with the biggest Scout Circus to date, with 613 units taking part and a paid attendance of more than 70,000.

Expansion and modernization of the Council's camping facilities had been Russ Hart's No. 1 priority when he became Scout Executive. That ambition was fulfilled with the dedication of S-F Ranch. His second was relocation and expansion of Council Headquarters, which had

more than outgrown its Arcade Building offices and was increasingly inconvenient for Scouters. A search was launched for another location, but immediate action was deferred by the press of



Board Member August A. Busch, Jr., St. Louis Bicentennial chairman.



A. J. O'Brien, Scout Commissioner, 1968-1972.

work involved in the S-F Capital Funds Campaign.

With S-F open and operating in 1966, the pres-



Area Scouts participate in the Gateway Arch topping-out ceremony, Oct. 28, 1965.

sure for new quarters intensified under Council President William A. McDonnell, noted civic leader, former chairman of Frisco Railroad and the First National Bank, and past president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, who had replaced Gen. Sverdrup at the helm in 1966. The General enjoyed little opportunity for rest; he was immediately entrusted with the responsibility for raising funds for the new headquarters facilities.

Late in 1966, the ideal location was found—the former Otis Elevator Co. building at 4658 West Pine Blvd., just 10 minutes from both

downtown and Clayton. It offered 16,000 square feet of office space, 13,000 feet of warehouse space, and ample parking—but the cost was \$600,000, with another \$60,000 needed for remodeling. To a Council just recovering from the gargantuan efforts of the S-F drive, and with operating costs on the upswing, it was another formidable test.

The Council took it in its stride. The very first Board member approached by Gen. Sverdrup promptly (and anonymously) pledged \$250,000. (Much later, the anonymous donor proved to be Harry B. Mathews, Jr., of the Mississippi Lime

Co.). Thirty-two other Board members and their companies pledged another \$400,000. Within a single week the \$650,000 goal was reached (the Trust Fund made a \$100,000 no-interest loan to cover pledges to be paid in 1968-69).

On May 26, 1967, the General Douglas MacArthur Scout Service Center was dedicated, with



William A. McDonnell, Council President, 1966-1967-1969

the general's widow as the guest of honor, unveiling a massive bust of one of America's great military commanders. The Friends of Scouting dinner five nights later was both a 20th anniversary celebration for that group of devoted men, and a victory party as well.

Acquisition and development of the Ranch, continued improvements at Beaumont, and the opening of the Service Center went a long way

toward cementing the position of the St. Louis Area Council as the nation's best—but Scouting is more than land and bricks and mortar. People are more important than property. One of Russ Hart's key contributions has been the rebuilding of the Council's Executive Board, with a broadened base in the community.

He had inherited a strong, activist Board, but it was aging. Many members had been involved in Council work since the 1920's and 1930's. They had guided the Council through some stormy seas, and while many were still active and eager, the interest and energy of others was ebbing. Hart launched an organized recruiting program for new leadership blood, ably assisted by Board members who proselytized their many associates. Starting with the 23 St. Louis companies listed on the NYSE, Hart added the major local banks and other St. Louis metropolitan area businesses, then built up a cross-reference file, each move developing new leads to men whose talents Scouting could use.

There were vacancies to fill, for death took an uncommon toll of veteran Council leaders during the 1960's and early 1970's. Gone during those years were many of the great names in Council history—former Council presidents such as David P. Wohl, Carl H. Holekamp, Roscoe C. Hobbs, Willard R. Cox, Russell L.

The dedication of MacArthur Service Center, May 26, 1967. Left to right, Sculptor Walker Hanover, Eagle Scout Mark Christiansen, and Mrs. Douglas MacArthur unveil the General's bust.



Dearmont, and Gale F. Johnston . . . and others who had given so much of themselves to Scouting, men like Clark Hungerford, Sidney Maestre, Edwin L. Spiegel, Erwin P. Stupp, Preston Estep, William T. Jones, Marion L. J. Lambert, Harry B. Mathews, Jr., John B. Mitchell, Richard H. Amberg, Clarence M. Turley, William L. Sanborn, and Arthur K. Atkinson. The latter spent his last day on earth at the Ranch, attending ground-breaking ceremonies for a new building sponsored by the Scottish Rite Foundation, of which he was president.

1968. Early in March, 1969, he died suddenly of an aneurism. Gamble was the first Council President to have been an Eagle Scout; one of the Council's ablest young leaders, his loss was deeply felt.

Former President W. A. McDonnell, who had preceded him in office, volunteered to complete his term in office. The third camp at S-F Ranch, opened in 1970, was named "Camp Gamble" in his honor, and dedicated by his son, Eagle Scout Ted R. Gamble, Jr. The new camp's princi-

chapel was a gift of Col. and Mrs. Carl S. Bauman; he had long been Scoutmaster of Troop 90 in University City.

As the Old Guard moved on, they were replaced by new faces, new ideas, new leadership—men equipped by their success in the competitive worlds of business and the professions to meet the many-faceted problems of a new day. The St. Louis Area Council Executive Board is today perhaps the strongest and most active in the U.S. Its distinguished roster is proof that Hart accomplished what he set out to do.

One of the most immediate problems facing Hart when he became Executive in 1959 was a slowing of membership growth. It took the Council 13 years to reach a membership of just 5,000 boys. That number doubled in the next 11 years, doubled again in the 13 years before 1948, and yet again in the nine years to 1957. There it reached a plateau, however, hovering between 39,000 and 41,000. And with the postwar baby boom children reaching Scouting age, there were more boys than ever to reach.

To Hart, returning to St. Louis from Denver with a newly objective viewpoint, at least some of the reasons were evident. One of the chief factors was staff load; there just were not enough staffers to go around, and they couldn't work much harder than they already were. The St. Louis Council was fifth in the nation in numbers of boys served, fifth in registered units, but 13th in number of professional staff members. Hart's 29 professionals were carrying an average work load of 1,900 Scouts and Scouters, almost 40 percent above the national average.

The Board had authorized more hiring, but vacancies continued because of the relatively low salary level—an area in which St. Louis has consistently lagged behind national levels. Crack professionals were hard to find, costly to train, and only too often departed for greener fields when opportunity beckoned—as indeed it often did. Many a standout metropolitan Area Council has been or is today headed by a career Scouting professional trained by Jack Wright,

Jack Keith, or Russ Hart—Dave Church in Chicago; the late Mel Tudor, in Des Moines; Tom Mooney, formerly in San Francisco; Dan Wheatcroft in Kansas City; Al Rogers, formerly in Tampa; Clyde Clark, on the National Council staff. Others in executive posts include Ron Moranville, Gerald Ulrich, Don Smith, Arthur Baldwin, Charles Pool, Wayne Nelson, Robert Nichols, Lewis Schwoerke, and others.

One of Hart's major tasks as Executive has been recruiting and training his professional staff. Despite what is still a relatively low pay scale and a staff load still 30 percent over the national average, he has been highly successful.

"The reason," he says, "is leadership at the top—community participation. Our Executive Board has always been of such quality, and the achievements of our Council through the years so well recognized nationally, that we can attract and hold the best professionals. Even when a man leaves for a better-paid post, he finds it hard to go; there is a rapport between our staff and our Board and volunteers that you just don't find in many other Councils.

"Our staffers are treated not as employees, but as equals . . . as friends. And when you work every day with men like Ted Gamble, Roy Jordan, Gen. Sverdrup, Harold Thayer, Dude Chambers, George H. Capps, William and Sandy McDonnell and others like them, and share with them what we've shared, money isn't everything. Pride in what we're doing, and have done, is the real motivating factor."

Despite the handicaps, the staff increased to 38 by the time the new Service Center opened in 1967, and reached a high of 45 in 1970. Today 41 professionals serve the Council's 45,000 Cubs, Scouts, and Explorers, and 16,000 adult Scouter volunteers.

Staff increases were just one of the factors which by 1962 had reversed the static membership trend and launched a new period of growth. The first redistricting of Council territory since 1946, and the innovation of "multiprofessional



Camp Gamble, in memory of Theodore R. Gamble, is dedicated June 16, 1970. Left to right, Gen. Leif J. Sverdrup, key Board member for entire Ranch development; Council President Harold E. Thayer; Morton D. May, Camp Development chairman; and Edwin S. Jones, chairman of the dedication committee.

One of the most shocking losses, because least expected, was the sudden death of Theodore P. Gamble, chairman of the board and president of Pet Inc., Ted Gamble had become a Board member only in 1962, but made his presence felt immediately; he co-chaired the 1963 S-F funds campaign. He moved up to Council President in

pal buildings were dedicated to William A. McDonnell by his own son, Sanford B. "Sandy" McDonnell, and his grandson, a member of the camp staff, William Randall McDonnell; to John B. Mitchell by gifts from his many friends; and to Mrs. Adalbert von Gontard by her husband, Board Member Adalbert von Gontard. The

man" districts, produced more efficient use of available manpower.

Massive population shifts had altered the boy-density in almost every District since 1946. In the fall of 1960, the Long-Range Planning Committee under Chairman William A. McDonnell developed a redistricting plan that cut the number of Districts to 12, consolidating some and splitting others to attain a rough equality in both boy population and active units.

Each District was served by a District Executive and from one to three Associate District Executives. Maximum utilization of professional time was achieved as the experienced District Executive worked with his District Committee and Commissioner staff, as well as with the units. The associates concentrated on the District Training, Camping and Activities Committees, the Cubs and Explorers, and such activities as Scout Round Tables. It spread the work and permitted greater concentration of professional effort.

The multiple-man concept provided on-the-job training for new staffers, and created a pool of talent available for promotion. It has enabled Hart to promote from within his own organization, reducing the delay, expense, and loss of continuity involved in bringing in men from other Councils. Further District boundary changes were made in 1969.

As has every Executive before him, Hart has annually fought the "battle of the budget"—a task much complicated since 1969 by galloping inflation. The proportion of the net budget provided by the United Fund of Greater St. Louis and the Community Chests of Washington, Mo., and the Twin Cities dropped from 57.6 percent in 1960 to 52 percent in 1972. The actual dollar gap between Fund contributions and total budget widened during the same period from \$197,000 to more than \$450,000. Total Council expenditures have almost tripled since 1960; it passed the \$1,515,000 mark in 1974.

Only the Friends of Scouting have made possible continuation and extension of the Council's work. The contribution of these 19,000 supporters have more than tripled since Hart became Scout Executive, reaching a new high of \$406,000 in 1975—not to mention the additional hundreds of thousands of dollars pledged by individual Friends of Scouting members to the two major capital fund drives of the 1960's.

Brightest spot in the financial picture has been the steady growth of the St. Louis Boy Scout Trust Fund, which today serves as a solid backstop against unexpected drops in income. The concentrated efforts of Russell E. Gardner, Jr., Gen. Leif J. Sverdrup, and the many other Council members who have served on the Endowment Fund Committee have powered a Trust Fund growth from \$384,000 in 1960 to approximately \$1,700,000 in 1975. The Fund's existence and growth established the Area Council as a permanently endowed organization, with a stable program less influenced than in the past by fluctuations in annual contributions. It is managed, under a 1963 Trust Agreement, by Mercantile Bank, St. Louis Union Trust, and Boatmen's National Bank.

The Ranch, the new MacArthur Service Center, District reorganization, strengthening of the professional cadre, improvement of the Council's financial position—these were achievements of the first magnitude. But Scouting in the 1960's and 1970's has faced (and is facing) challenges that Lord Baden-Powell could hardly imagine. They were and are problems stemming both from our nation's vast socioeconomic changes and from the Scout program itself—a program fundamentally unchanged during half a century of world-wide transition.

True, the Scout program had been broadened to include Cubbing and Exploring, but its chief appeal was still to 8-to-14-year-old boys from white middle-class or upper-class homes, whose interests were presumed (despite considerable evidence to the contrary) to be identical with those of similar boys of the 1920's and 1930's. Specifically, Scouting was not reaching enough boys in the inner city. It was losing too many

Cubs who did not advance to Scouting. The Explorer program was limping. And the heart of the Scout Movement—the Scout troops of 11-to-14-year-olds—was failing to attract many boys whose interests were wider and whose sophistication was greater than their predecessors. For them, there were just too many other things to do than to become involved in Scouting... which meant they were never exposed to those eternal values of Scouting which have produced so many outstanding American citizens.

approaches. The Council which was the first to welcome Catholic boys into its ranks, the first to stage a Scout Circus, the first to experiment with Cubbing, the first to operate an entire camp on the patrol method of feeding, the first to establish an Eagle Scout Association, the first to develop standard leadership training, the first to propose a co-ed Explorers' Camp, was already seeking solutions to the new problems before many other Councils realized they existed.



Thomas W. Schweitzer, Chief of the Shawnee Lodge, Order of the Arrow, presents the Indian headdress symbolic of the Council President's responsibilities as Theodore R. Gamble is installed January, 1968.

These were problems which could not be solved by any infusion of money, by more facilities, more professionals, more volunteers. All these helped, of course—but what was needed was a basic rethinking of what Scouting is, and what it offers American youth. It required innovative approaches. It required imagination.

The St. Louis Area Council was, to its credit, among the earliest to recognize the need for new

Nine years before National Headquarters established the Contemporary Exploring Program with its Special Interest Posts, James Lee Johnston hosted a dinner for top St. Louis businessmen and asked them to sponsor "specialty" posts for Area Explorers—in such fields as energy, chemistry, space science, and other areas of current interest. Explorer camp activities were expanded, especially after the Swift Explorer Base was opened at the Ranch. Head-



Clothing racks and boxes at Council Headquarters are filled with uniforms and equipment for inner-city Scouts contributed by other Scout units. With Executive Russ Hart, left, is then-Director of Special Services Arthur Baldwin.

quarters staff concentrated increasing time and effort on upgrading the Explorer program.

Despite local efforts, however, Exploring did not truly take off until the 1969 introduction of Contemporary Exploring, with its emphasis on Special Interest Posts and its move toward increased coeducational activities. In fact, the proportion of Explorers to total membership declined as older boys discovered a wider range of non-Scouting activities in an increasingly affluent, leisure-oriented society.

The total number of Explorers, though, held relatively steady at 3,200-3,700. That in itself was an achievement when many Councils were reporting an exodus of Explorers from Scouting.

The in-depth Yankelovich study undertaken by the National Executive Board underscored the drawbacks of the Explorer program. It showed sharply declining interest, as boys grow older, in achievement awards, meetings, wearing of the uniform, and especially camping and hiking. It showed increased interest, however, in "learning useful things toward a job or making a living," in being with peer groups of both boys and girls (hardly a surprise!), and in "showing

what you can do on your own." Scouting got the message. From it came Contemporary Exploring, and with it, a 60 percent explosion in the number of St. Louis Area Explorers, including a significant proportion of girls.

Today St. Louis Exploring serves nearly 6,000 young men and women between the ages of 14 and 20—more than 13 percent of total membership. An up-to-date program designed to meet the real needs and concerns of today's young adults, it is designed to help them find their present and future roles as individuals in society, and in their future careers; it is an antidote to alienation.

They participate in planned activities directly related to vocational, social, service, citizenship, outdoors, and personal fitness areas of experience.

Traditional Exploring, represented by General Interest Posts, parallels Special Interest activities. Usually sponsored by a school, church, or civic organization, its "market" is the 14 and 15-year-olds, but its program can be as broad as the often vivid imaginations of its members. It is a logical transition from the patrol and troop to the Special Interest Post, providing a more

varied, richer, more adult experience. The General Interest Posts are serviced by the regular District organizations.

The Special Interest Posts, composed primarily of older boys and girls, are served by a new Council Division, Exploring Service, with its own specially-trained professionals. Mercantile Trust's Board Chairman Donald E. Lasater was the first head of the Council's new Exploring Committee. Current chairman is Ben H. Wells, chief executive officer of the Seven-Up Co.

Not all Explorers today start as Scouts. The Council regularly surveys local high school sophomores and juniors (some 85,000 of them) to determine their basic areas of interest. Then local businessmen are encouraged to sponsor units oriented toward those activities. McDon-

to these units. The wide-ranging program, giving young people a real opportunity to "do their own thing," is today helping thousands of young men and women build positive self-images, and at the same time demonstrating how to appreciate and work meaningfully within the American system.

Another problem was the high proportion of boys who did not advance from Cub Pack to Scout Troop . . . a number that sometimes exceeded 30 percent. A new national Cub program was initiated in 1967, which included major updating of the Wolf and Bear activities and expansion of the Webelos program.

All 10-year-olds were eligible to join the advanced Webelos group, which emphasizes increased participation of both male volunteers



Troop 102 of Flynn Park School, University City, collects and sorts "experienced" uniforms for inner-city Scouts.

nell Douglas alone, for instance, sponsors no fewer than 13 such Special Interest Posts.

These Explorers plan and direct their own programs, with the unobtrusive assistance of an adult Post Advisor (in Special Interest Posts, usually a volunteer associated with the sponsoring organization). Many youths without previous Scouting affiliation have been attracted

and Cub fathers—at a key point in a boy's life when development of male self-identity is of key psychological importance. Cub, and especially Webelos, activities became less home-centered. For the first time Webelos Cubs participated in real camping, with the introduction of Webelos-and-Dad Overnight Camps at Beaumont. In 1972, Cub Adventure Day Camps were inaugurated, and today each District conducts

its own Adventure Day Camp, with more than 5,000 Cubs participating.

More recently, the Council has initiated a Webelos annual camp at Beaumont—a complete one-week camping experience, although not quite on the Boy Scout level. It is designed as an introduction to camping, and to awaken the boys' enthusiasm for what is still one of the great adventures of Scouting. Activities include swimming, hiking, archery, marksmanship, crafts, and many others through which the Webelos earn their way through the Advancement Program—and it has been enthusiastically received.

The impact of these programs has materially increased the proportion of Webelos who today go on to earn their Tenderfoot badge and enter the wonderful world of Scouting.

The St. Louis Council was one of the nation's first to reach out to inner-city youth with a planned, concentrated effort. Progress was made during the 1950's, even if slowly. It is still one of the Council's top priority tasks.

The effort has continued in many forms. In 1963, Commissioner (and later Council President) Roy W. Jordan developed a cooperative plan with the St. Louis Board of Education to establish Scout units in 10 city schools from the river to the city limits, and from Chouteau Avenue north to Natural Bridge. School principals were asked to provide facilities and to help recruit leadership. Within a year, seven troops, one Cub pack, and an Explorer unit were registered.

The following year inner-city businessmen were



Interracial Scouting, a Council priority, makes progress. Here a Cub and his Den Chief study a demonstration by a Den Dad.



Surrounded by his latest generation of boys, Bucky Kelso celebrates his 50th year as Scoutmaster of Troop 55 at Cote Brilliante Presbyterian Church.

The efforts of the Area Council and a virtual army of dedicated staffers and volunteers to bring the benefits of Scouting to inner-city boys would make a book in itself—a chronicle of alternating triumph and heartbreak, whose end is not yet in sight.

approached and asked to provide the leadership which has always been the major obstacle to organizing and maintaining units in the "less chance" areas. Progress was slow, but Council members were cheered when in May, 1964, the National Urban Relations Committee awarded a

Certificate of Achievement to St. Louis for its inner-city efforts. Results had been less than spectacular, but at least were better than most Metropolitan Councils could claim.

By 1966, the "Yet-to-Reach" Committee, after 12 years of unremitting work, was serving some 5,000 boys. Five part-time "project workers" were serving more than 600 boys in 33 units. But in crisis areas such as Pruitt-Igoe, only nine percent of the eligible boys were in Scouting, compared to 28 percent for the Council's area as a whole.

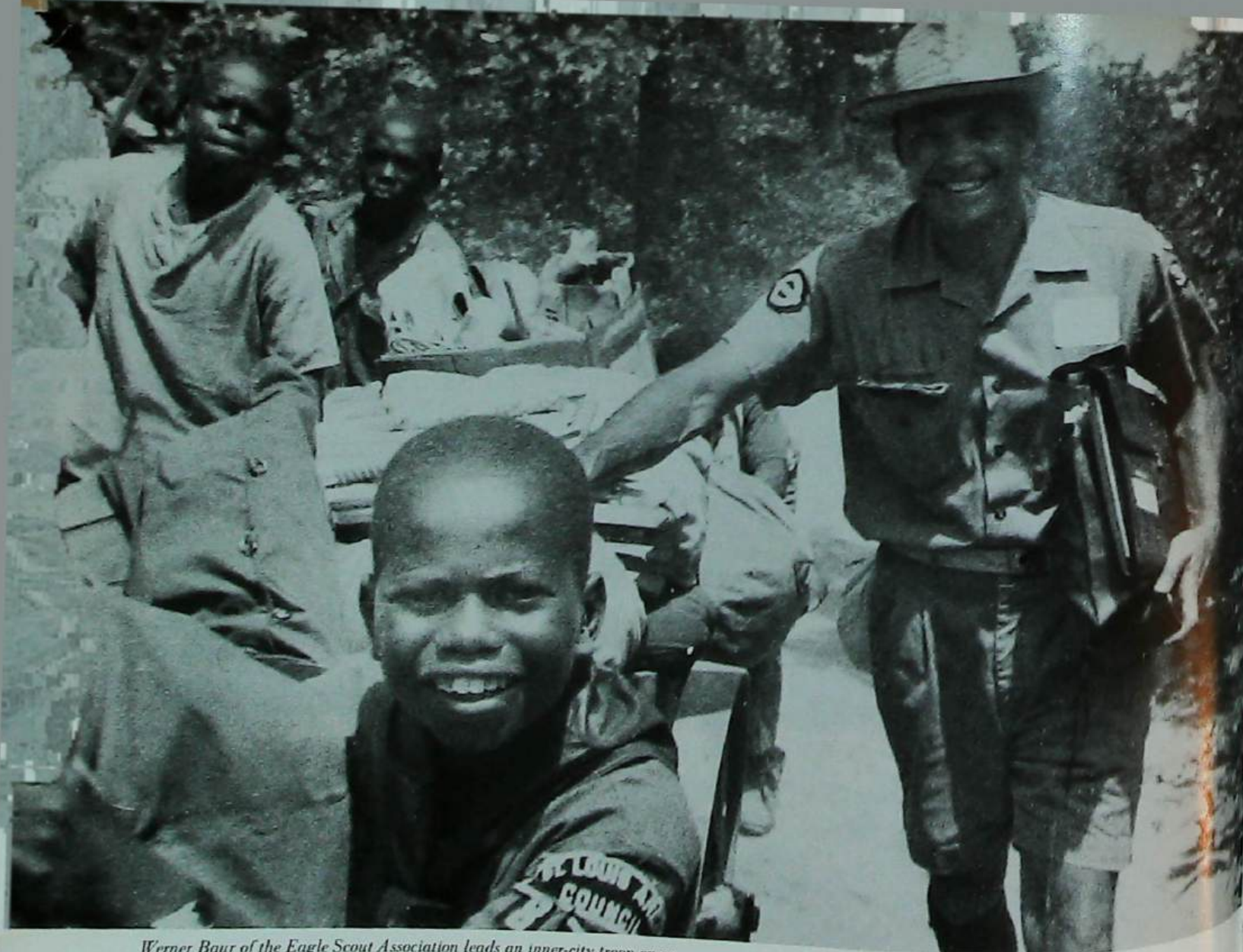
To add fresh impetus to the program, the Council proposed hiring a fulltime Neighborhood Scout Executive. He was to seek out any person willing and able to provide leadership, and then funnel the boys and their parents into existing units. The arrival of Arthur Baldwin on special assignment from National Headquarters invigorated the program.

Baldwin, who later became Council Director of Training, launched an innovative program, and

aimed it first at the Pruitt-Igoe area. His aims were:

- Acceptance of Scouting as part of the community by Pruitt-Igoe residents.
- Organization of "natural" boy groups built around their common interests.
- When individual boys reach an understanding of teamwork and of Scouting ideals, move them into existing units.

This so-called "satellite group" approach proved more effective than previous efforts, because it recognized some of the realities of inner-city life. Baldwin literally started at the beginning, teaching Pruitt-Igoe residents the rudiments of inter-group cooperation. He helped organize Tenant Associations in each of the 22 buildings of the huge complex. On the surface, his activities seemed to have little to do with Scouting, but by persuading adults to work together, he was building the essential base. At the same time he was also working with the boys themselves. As soon as the adult organizations started to function, they began to sponsor Scout units,



Werner Baur of the Eagle Scout Association leads an inner-city troop on an "Outreach" camping experience. ESA has provided needed leadership.

with Baldwin himself serving as temporary Scoutmaster until adult volunteers could be recruited and trained.

It reversed the normal course of unit formation, but it worked. Eventually 12 percent of the boys at Pruitt-Igoe were Scout members—a 31 percent increase.

Baldwin's efforts were reinforced in 1968 when 30 units from throughout the Council area "adopted" Central City units, working with them and sharing program ideas—and incidentally providing some needed cultural cross-fertilization. But perhaps the key impetus came when the Eagle Scout Association was asked to provide volunteer leadership for 16 Central City units at camp in the summer of 1968. Thirty-two

Eagles responded, and many continued to work with "their" units thereafter, providing the needed leadership for 219 boys. ESA President Harold B. Bamberg and the "Bald Eagles" received the Big Brother Award of the Year for their devotion to the needs of underprivileged Scouts.

The following year, 1969, when Baldwin had taken over the entire Central City program and the ESA again provided a leadership cadre, more than 550 inner-city Scouts attended camp at Beaumont and the Ranch. Ten were tapped out for the Order of the Arrow—a great achievement for boys who a few years earlier had scarcely heard of Scouting.

Camp attendance was made possible for many of them by the growing Camp Scholarship Fund,

with grants from the Beaumont, Danforth, and Springmeyer Foundations and the Motor Carriers' Association. An increasing number of boys were able to pay all or part of their camp expenses, another encouraging sign of both boy and parental interest.

The Council's intense interest in reaching the "yet-to-reach" was emphasized in a 1970 realign-

Still another innovative Council program—sending non-Scout groups to camp to expose them to the fun and ideals of Scouting—is paying dividends today. Under Scouter guidance, 120 of these non-Scouts attended camp in 1971, and 250 in 1972. Most satisfyingly, three troops were organized from among the 1971 group, and attended camp the next year under their own leadership. The St. Louis Juvenile Court



Dedicated to boyhood and Scouting . . . a Troop 124 Court of Honor. Right to left are Bert Jones, E. R. Bryson, Leon Dickson, Henry Reese, Quinten J. Adderly, and Harold P. Caldwell.

ment of District personnel to form a new Field Team of inner-city Districts—Gateway, Mark Twain, West, Tomahawk, Cherokee, and Central City, with Director of Education Michael Kiernan as Field Director. The long-awaited appearance of indigenous leadership was foreshadowed when eight of the 60 Scouters who served as junior leaders of inner-city troops at camp that summer had been inner-city Scouts themselves. They had started down the Scouting Trail under ESA guidance just a few years before. Now, they were putting back into Scouting some of that which they had received. (Incidentally, the first Junior Leader Training Camp had been established at Irondale in 1963, and after its move to the Ranch has been steadily producing a crop of outstanding young Scout leaders—a generation who will be the Council and Board members of tomorrow).

was sufficiently impressed to ask the Council to provide a similar camping experience for 60 "hardcore" juvenile delinquents that summer, following the regular camping season. From that apparently intractable group, too, a regular Scout unit was later organized.

Says Russ Hart: "We must reach as many of these boys as possible in any way we can. And once a unit is organized and registered, we must make sure they receive the same program that a kid in Webster Groves or anyplace else receives—a full, comprehensive Scouting program."

The Council is reaching toward this goal by providing back-up leadership and a sufficient professional cadre so that each man works with a limited number of units. The Council operates



Clutching their notebooks, junior leaders trudge down an S-F Ranch trail to Junior Leader Training Camp.

a uniform exchange which enables boys to outfit themselves at minimum cost. In addition, unit equipment, libraries, etc., are subsidized—largely through funds granted by the Old Newsboys, the annual fund drive sponsored by the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* and founded by the late Richard H. Amberg, who was an Executive Board member.

The same basic problem that has always plagued development of Scouting in disadvantaged areas—the shortage of on-the-spot leadership—still continues to hamper Council efforts. As one professional put it, “The trouble is, people don’t stick around. If they’re interested in

helping kids, they’re also interested in bettering themselves. And if they succeed, they move.” It is not unusual, in the inner-city Districts, to have to recruit and train unit leaders two or three times a year . . . with an obvious effect on the program’s continuity and impact.

The challenge of the “less-chance,” disadvantaged boy, today the responsibility of the Council’s Outreach Committee, has not been solved—any more than it has been solved by the schools, churches, and government itself. But the St. Louis Area Council has made progress against stubborn odds. It has not been enough progress, as all admit, but not for lack of trying

or paucity of imagination. Hopefully, that devotion, that determination to bring the ideals of Scouting to all boys, will in time be crowned with success.

Despite the Council’s preoccupation during the 1960’s with many projects and problems, normal recruiting and formation of new units were accelerated. The addition of improved camping facilities, a growth in professional staff, improvement in all phases of Scouting programs, the strengthening of the Commissioner staff, and improved Scouter training all had their effect.

By 1962, Hart could report that the membership “plateau” of the late 1950’s and early Sixties had been overcome.

That year, his third as Scout Executive, membership increased from 41,069 to 43,482. By the end of 1973, membership stood at 51,085, an almost 25 percent increase, with approximately 20,000 adult volunteers—two for every five boys. The Council’s “Together We Organize” campaign increased the number of sponsoring institutions from 668 in 1960 to 770 a decade later. Between 1960 and 1973, the number of registered units rose 50 percent, from 1,240 to 1,860.

St. Louis is one of the few Metropolitan Area Councils to approach the ambitious goals of the “Boypower ’76” campaign launched by the National Council in 1968. Aim of the drive was to boost Scouting membership to at least a third of all American boys in the Scout age brackets. The St. Louis Council set itself an even higher goal—35 percent.

Changing times, changing social attitudes, and above all a sharp change in the “mix” of boy population has since made the goals of “Boypower ’76” unrealistic. Nationwide, membership is growing at a rate of only 1 percent annually, and Scouting’s share of the “boy crop” has risen only 2 percent, to a national average of 26 percent.

A major reason, of course, has been the decline in the number of boys of Cub age, the easiest to recruit—while the number of boys in the Explorer age bracket, the most difficult to recruit, has increased. There is little hope today that “Boypower ’76” will reach its goals when the nation’s Bicentennial Year opens.

Here in St. Louis, the Council’s Long-Range Planning Committee optimistically set high goals—a membership of 66,000, based on an estimated boy population of 215,000 by 1976, with 500 new units organized. We know today that, with a declining birth rate, the 1976 boy crop will be only 166,000—almost 23 percent below the forecast. But St. Louis Council membership has remained above the national average.

There have been many changes in the Scouting program in recent years. Today hundreds of St. Louis Scouts seek merit badges in such activities as Electricity, at a Skill Center conducted by Union Electric Co.; in Space Exploration under the aegis of McDonnell Douglas; in Journalism, conducted by the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*; in Animal Husbandry and related farm activities, which was one of the first Skill Centers launched by Ralston Purina in 1950.

Tenderfoot is a rank today, and requires earning a Merit Badge. Boys wear belt loops to signify new Skill Awards (Irondale campers were wearing belt decorations 45 years ago). Boy leaders themselves review their comrades’ qualifications for Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class Awards. There is a multiple choice, a new assumption of responsibility by the boys, from Cubs to Explorers.

The multiple choice has not, apparently, diminished the Scout’s traditional sense of duty; hundreds of them helped succor victims after the North County tornado of 1967, and in 1973 thousands more turned out to fill sandbags and help families driven from their homes by the record spring floods.

There have been other changes as well. Today the Scoutsilshow has replaced the Scout Expo-



One of St. Louis' "First Families" of Scouting . . . all Silver Beaver holders. Seated left to right, Dr. Chambliss Johnston; Gale F. Johnston; Gale F. Johnston, Jr., who received his medal at the 1969 annual meeting; and behind them, Norfleet Johnston.

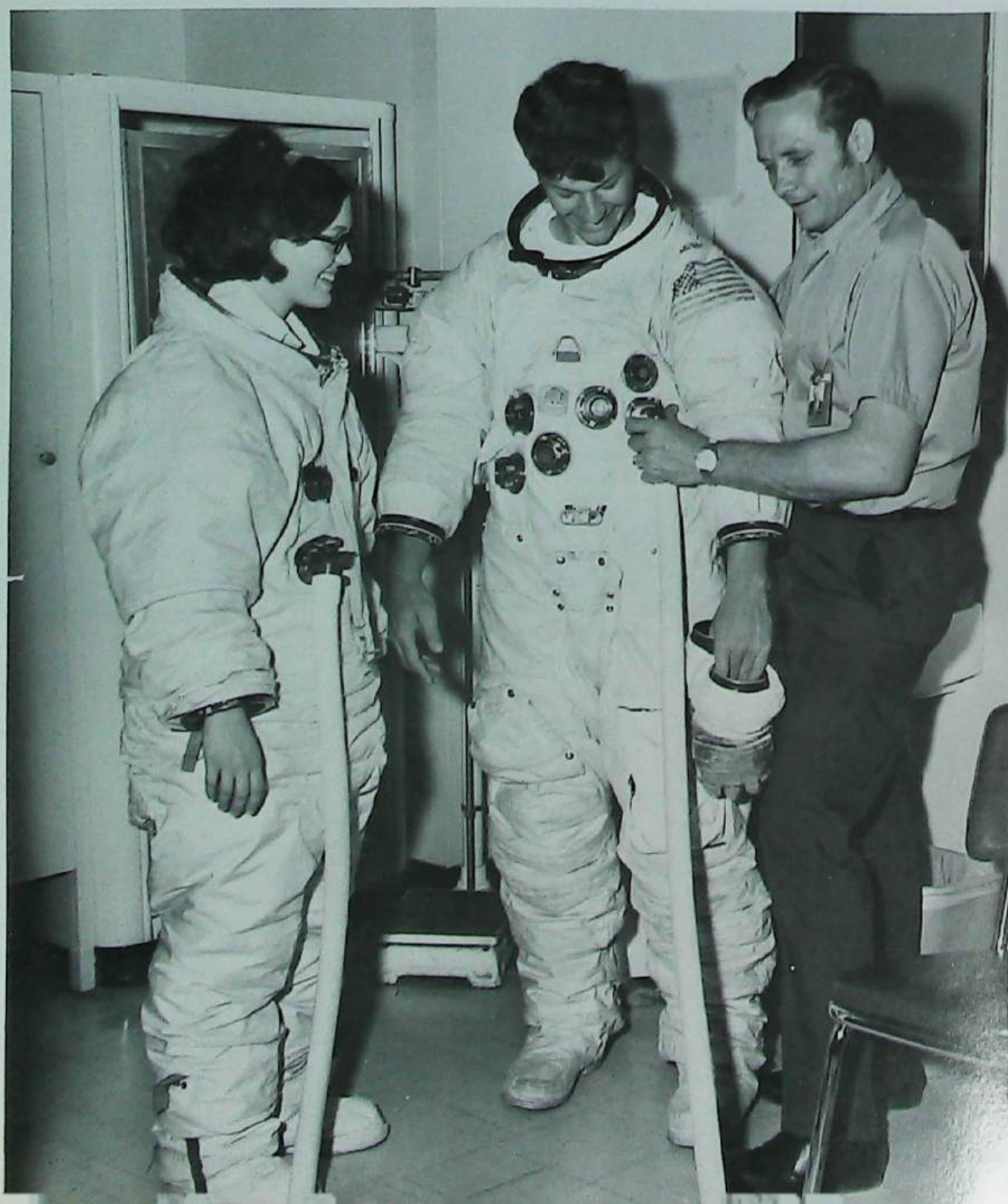
sition. Held in four different locations within the area—the Armory, Earth City, Washington, Mo., and Festus-Crystal City—the Scouts-kil-shows have attracted 70,000 to 80,000 people annually since their inauguration in 1970, with 25,000 Scouts from 650 or more packs, troops, and posts demonstrating their skills before primarily "hometown" audiences.

The Circus and the Exposition (formerly the Merit Badge Show) were among the great traditions of St. Louis Scouting, but changing population patterns, parking problems, and the sheer size of today's Scout membership eventually made them impractical. Many a former Scout

and present Scouter miss them, but the new concept is more effective in displaying Scout skills to more people and in a more informal setting.

From 1970 through 1972 the Council President was Harold E. Thayer, chairman of the board and president of Mallinckrodt Chemical Works. In his three-year tenure, he probably saw more fundamental changes in Scouting than any other Council chief before him. Most basic was the introduction in late 1972 of the "Improved Scouting Program," and with it, the beginning of another new era in the history of St. Louis Scouting.

THE INTRODUCTION OF IMPROVED SCOUTING



Chapter XI



SCOUTING CHANGED relatively little in its first 40 years. It offered the average boy what he wanted, and what he found useful in later life. It was a special world, a "he-man's" world perhaps best symbolized by the clean-cut, clear-eyed Scouts depicted by Norman Rockwell. Its ideals and virtues were uncritically accepted by the vast majority of Americans.

Scouting proved itself in depressions, wars, and above all, in producing men destined for leadership. Fifty-two of America's 65 Astronauts had been Scouts. So, in 1974, were 40 Senators and 175 Congressmen. President Gerald S. Ford was an Eagle Scout. Thousands of men at the top of U.S. business and the professions were shaped by Scouting. Over 51 million Americans have either been Scouts, served as adult volunteers, or both. Today, one of every two male Americans has had some sort of Scouting experience. It is a record unmatched by any other organization in the world.

But change was inevitable, even overdue. It had begun in a tentative way in the 1950's, gained

momentum in the 1960's, and reached avalanche proportions in 1972 with the introduction of the "Improved Scouting Program," a sweeping revision of Scouting's program and image.

The Yankelovich study, from which developed the Contemporary Exploring program in 1969, produced a spate of soul-searching at both National and local Council levels. The weaknesses it revealed were too serious to be ignored. An organization which had served its nation for 60 years with pride and distinction found itself out of tune with the times. Perhaps TIME Magazine put it most succinctly, if not cynically, when it wrote, "The phrase 'Boy Scout' still evokes vignettes of white suburban striplings rubbing sticks together in the church basement."

It was clear that Scouting must broaden both its appeal and its relevance to today's youth.

The new program was announced in 1972 after three years of study and research by the National Boy Scouting Committee. Basic aim of the program was to make the Scouting experience more closely related to the situations most boys will

Contemporary Exploring, with its Special Interest Posts and the inclusion of girls, has spurred Explorer membership. These two Explorers are introduced to the mysteries of space exploration under McDonnell Douglas sponsorship.

face in adult life, and to renew Scouting's historic function as the seedbed of U.S. leadership.

"It is the purpose of the BSA," declared the National Executive Board, "to provide for boys an effective program designed to build desirable traits of character, to train them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop in them personal fitness, thus to help in the development of American citizens who—

- are mentally, physically, and emotionally fit.
- have a high degree of self-reliance as evidenced in such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness.
- have personal and stable values firmly based on religious concepts.
- understand the principles of the American social, economic, and governmental systems.
- are knowledgeable about and take part in their American heritage, and understand America's role in the world.
- have a keen respect for the basic rights of all people.
- and are prepared to fulfill the varied responsibilities of participating in, and giving leadership to, American society and in the forums of the world.

Some of the changes were, to be sure, more cosmetic than substantive. The movement is now called "Scouting," not "Boy Scouting," and the members are "Scouts," not "Boy Scouts." The new 1972 Handbook is the "Scout Handbook," and among its opening lines is "Man, Scouting is a ball!" Handbook illustrations are meticulously biracial.

The language is simplified. It recognizes not only the problems of tobacco and alcohol, but also of drugs and their abuse. It faces contemporary issues such as air and water pollution, the pressures that tear families apart, and some of the everyday problems of simple survival in the urban jungle. For instance, it not only discusses snakebite and what to do about it, but also the bite of slum rats.

The Improved Program, which became fully effective Dec. 31, 1973, recognizes the need for change...and the changes go deep. It left untouched the bedrock principles of Scouting—the Scout Oath or Promise, the 12 points of the Scout Law. Scouting remains an adventurous program with emphasis on the outdoors, but is more oriented to the needs of youth in what has become an urban, industrialized society—a world apart from that of 1910.

"Personal growth and development" are the keys of the Improved Scouting Program. Its framers felt that the old program was too restrictive, too authoritarian—and the new program provides boys with greatly broadened opportunities for personal participation in decision-making. Today's Scout troop is a participatory democracy.

The fundamental revisions include:

- A new pattern for Scout advancement, with many options, broadened to meet the needs and interests of boys wherever they may live. Retaining much of the former Advancement program, the new one adds elements that provide for citizenship experience, and for skills related to today's society as it exists.
- There is great emphasis on "boy involvement," with helping Scouts learn how to evaluate their own strengths and interests, and to make decisions that will instill a sense of responsibility for their own growth and development. This is particularly reflected in the "personal growth agreement conference" which each Scout has with his Scoutmaster as an integral part of his progress.
- Establishment of a new "Leadership Corps" of 14 and 15-year-old Scouts. Its primary objective is to complete the training of boys in "leadership competencies," and to enable older boys to practice these skills by helping younger boys to grow in Scouting. The Corps is designed to give older Scouts ad-



Today's Scoutmaster is friend and counselor as well as leader... and more leadership is entrusted to the Scouts themselves.

vanced training in leadership, greater opportunities for troop and community service, and greater comradeship with boys of their own age in both social and troop activities.

- Increased responsibility for the Troop Leaders' Council (formerly the Patrol Leaders' Council).

The Troop Leaders' Council takes an active role in troop operations and administration; with guidance from the Scoutmaster, it actually plans and carries out the troop program. It also reviews the progress of Scouts toward Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class status (the Troop Committee

continues to review for Star and Life Progress Awards).

- Approval of team sports on an informal basis, and as a natural part of troop activities. The key word is "informal." The emphasis is on fun rather than winning, hence does not involve membership in Little Leagues, provision of playing fields, or rigid schedules or training—but does recognize the desire of boys to take part in team sports, which received too little emphasis in the traditional program.

The greatest area of change has been in the Advancement Program. Recognizing that the



Patrol food distribution at S-F Ranch. St. Louis pioneered patrol feeding at Irondale.

skills a boy learns are not an end in themselves, but the means to an end, optional skill requirements are added. A boy plans his own route through Scouting, choosing what and when he will learn. With a variety of Skill Awards offered, with earlier recognition of achievement, with flexibility in program selection, and with earlier involvement in the Merit Badge plan, the new Advancement Program aims at making Scouting more attractive and meaningful, and at encouraging advancement toward Eagle.

The Skill Awards are a combination of Scouting, citizenship, and personal skills—the fundamentals a Scout needs to enjoy the program and to motivate continued participation. In effect they introduce the boy to the Merit Badge pro-

gram, combining former Second and First Class skills plus many new ones. The Skill categories include Citizenship, Camping, Communications, Community Living, Conservation, Cooking, Environment, Family Living, First Aid, Hiking, Physical Fitness, and Swimming. Recognition of accomplishment is immediate, represented by the new square belt loop, and may be awarded after demonstration to the Scoutmaster, his assistants, a patrol leader, or a member of the Leadership Corps.

The ever-expanding Merit Badge program now includes 115 awards, among them Emergency Preparedness, Personal Management, Environmental Science, and Sports. It offers the broadest opportunities to learn about almost every subject



Although the training of junior leaders was emphasized in the 1972 Improved Program, the St. Louis Area had long had its own excellent program. These Junior Leaders trained at Irondale in 1964.



Junior leaders learn the safe way to split firewood.

that interests a boy, and helps him discover talents in such varied fields as Scoutercraft; woodcraft; vocational, avocational, and cultural pursuits; and public service.

In summary, Skill Awards are designed to provide earlier recognition, to motivate, to provide essential skills for everyday living, for participation in Scouting activities, and to open options. The Merit Badges are designed to help a boy discover his abilities and future hobbies and vocation. They encourage him to become more proficient in service and physical fitness.

As part of the revised Advancement requirements, it now takes a minimum of 24 months' service and tenure for a Scout to achieve Eagle status. Personal growth agreements and progress reviews accompany each step toward Eagle.

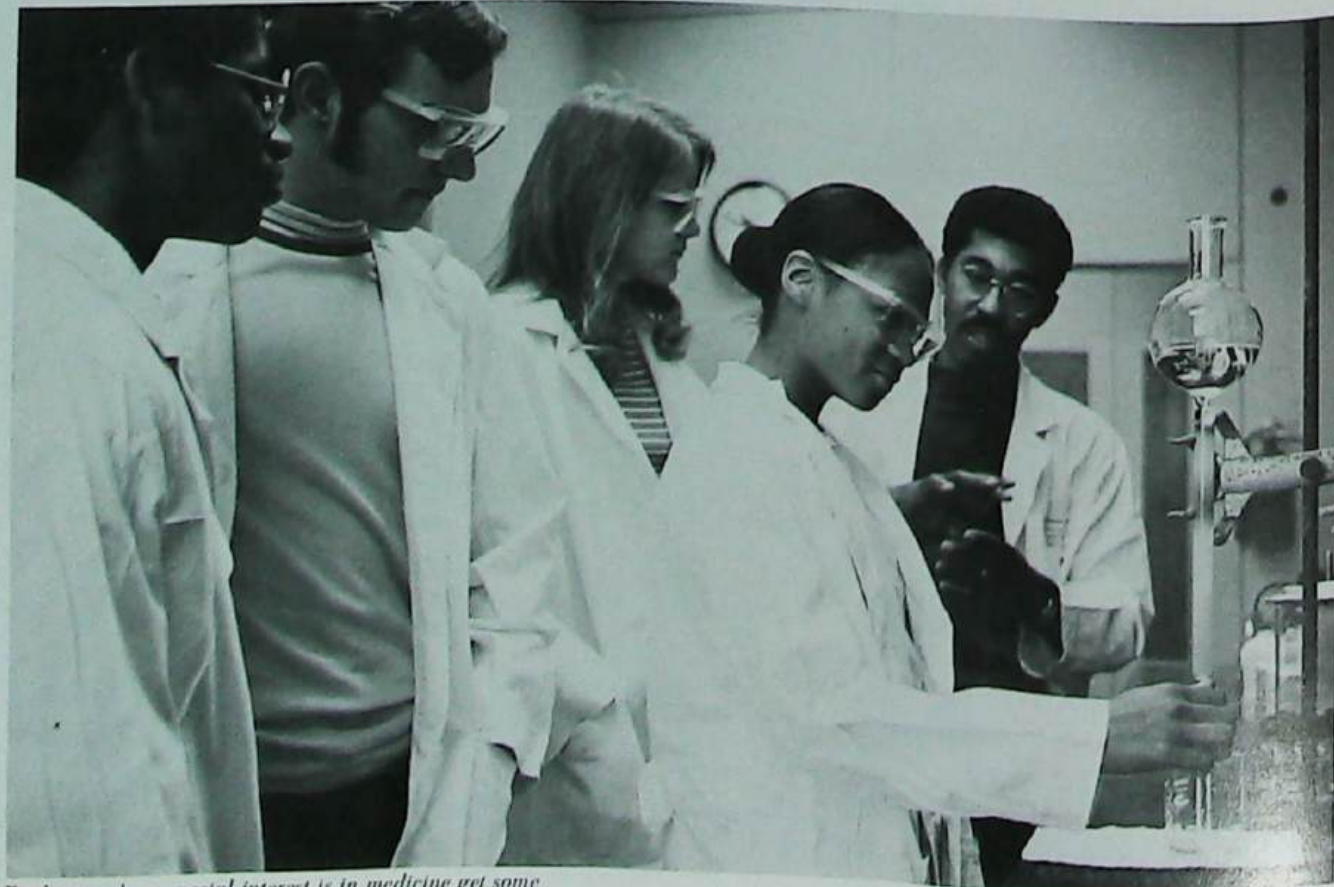
Also revised was the basic patrol operation. It now stresses increased boy involvement in planning and decision-making, and instills the elements of teamwork. Patrol membership has been broadened from the traditional neighborhood nucleus to include boys with common associa-

tions and interests, whether in school, church, or elsewhere. Patrols can invite boys to join—an effective recruiting device. They elect their own patrol leaders and plan and carry out their activities with a minimum of adult counsel.

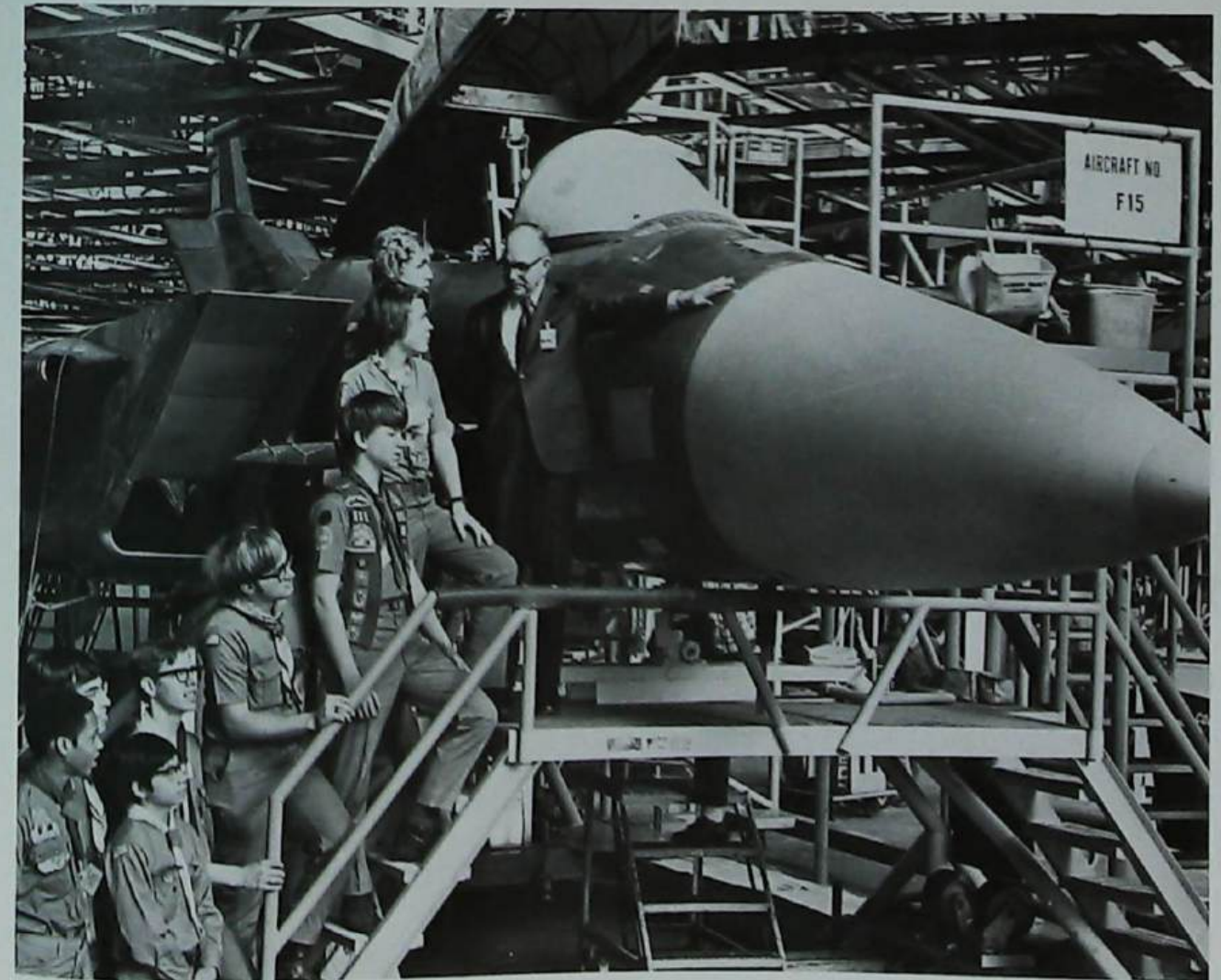


Sanford N. McDonnell, Scout Commissioner, 1973.

As might be expected, the role of the Scoutmaster has changed significantly in the Improved Scouting Program. He is less a leader and more a counselor...less an authoritarian figure and more a friend. He works most closely with the Senior Patrol Leader, upon whose shoulders today fall the responsibilities for running the troop meeting, planning the agenda, appointing



Explorers whose special interest is in medicine get some practical pointers in a St. Louis hospital laboratory.



Scouts working at the McDonnell Douglas Skill Center see a Phantom jet fighter take shape.



Area Eagle Scouts study the Globe-Democrat newsroom in St. Louis during Enterprise Day, 1974.



Explorers, parachutes and all, get a ride in an Air Force transport.



A road rally is one of the many exciting activities found in Contemporary Exploring.



Law enforcement is another area of Explorer special interest.

troop officers, and seeing that they perform. The relation between the two is that of coach and quarterback.

Today it is less important that the Scoutmaster has outdoor skills (although more than ever have earned their Wood Badge) than that he have the techniques and rapport with boys which make him an effective counselor. He does more listening than talking.

Training methods were updated, using newly-developed, sophisticated audio-visual aids. The new methods are being used not only to orient newly-recruited unit leaders but also for the re-education of present Scoutmasters, troop commissioners, and other interested Scouters.

It would, of course, be gratifying to report that adoption of the Improved Scouting Program has effectively solved most of Scouting's current problems, and has been universally accepted . . . that the theory has been proved in practice. But like most theoretical solutions, the program has developed some unexpected bugs.

Psychologists, sociologists, and urban specialists developed a program which, as one St. Louis Scouter put it, "sounded good and read good," but which has not always worked out in the field.

The Boy Scouts of America is not a monolithic organization. Each Area Council is virtually autonomous. The St. Louis Area Council, like others, adopted the Improved Program wholeheartedly in 1972-73—but by mid-1974 concluded that while most of the program is excellent, parts of it just won't work under field conditions. It has been a big step toward meeting the challenges of the 1970's and 1980's, but it is not the only step nor the last one.

One of the areas in which the program did not prove out was in adult training, which was supposed to develop "competencies" and discover incompetencies in newly-recruited Scouters. In practice, the informal "learner-oriented" training sessions envisaged by the program proved impractical. As a result, the St. Louis Council has combined the more effective parts of the new training techniques with its own proved



But traditions are not forgotten . . . such as providing the Guard for the Veiled Prophet Parade.

methods. It has reestablished its own Training Troop operation, developed here 13 years ago and later made the basis for the National training program. It brings together new and old Scouters in a group situation where, as Russ Hart puts it, "we can have a little fun and develop the spirit which is so important when you're working in harness with other people."

Veteran Scouters agree wholeheartedly with the reversion to the Training Troop method. They feel that the seven sessions, ending with the overnight camping experience, effectively trains them in the skills they need. Formed into patrols, the Training Troop uses many of the new audio-visual techniques developed by the National Council, and the coach-counselor approach which was the basis of the Improved Program will be used when individually appropriate.

One of the most serious problems in the Improved Scouting Program, in the opinion of many St. Louis Scouters, is the dramatic change in the role of the Scoutmaster. Well-meant as it was, the switch from teacher-and-leader to coach-and-counselor has not been an easy one for many Scouters. Not all have successfully made the transition, but all have tried hard, and in time the new type of Scoutmaster will be the accepted norm... with some practical adaptations.

Nor has the "personal growth conference," theoretically one of the keys to greater boy involvement, proved an unimixed success. In many cases, most particularly with older boys, it has been most fruitful, and helpful to the Scout's progress. But often a quiet word in the



Harold E. Thayer, Council President, 1970-1972

natural atmosphere of a troop meeting... "Jimmy, what would you think about doing this?" or, "Billy, maybe you ought to do that,"... is more effective. Not every 11-year-old boy is psychologically prepared to sit down in a formal confrontation with his Scoutmaster.

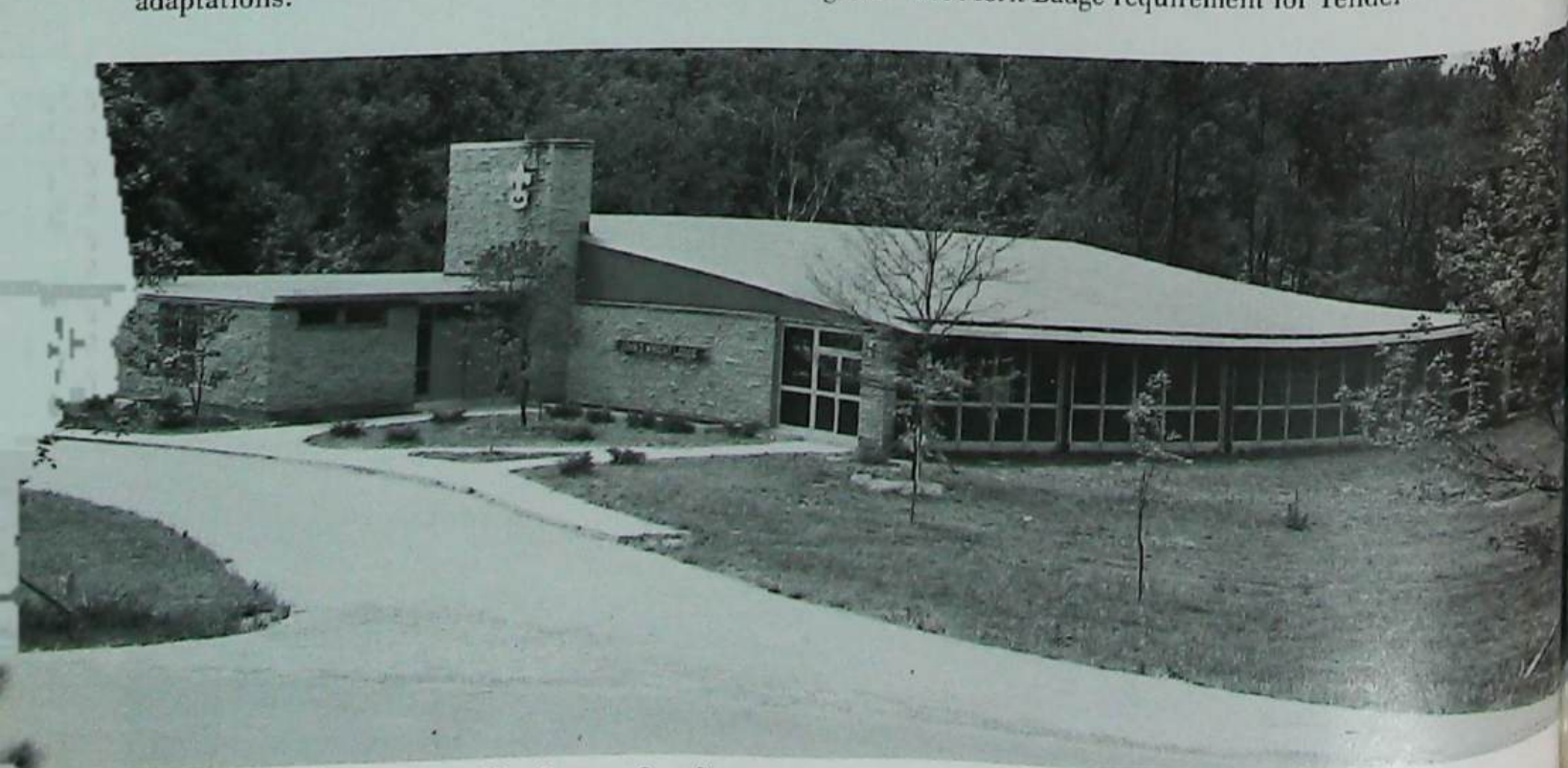
Two other innovations in the Advancement program—the Merit Badge requirement for Tender-



The Eagle Scout Association marks its 25th anniversary in 1972. From left, Col. Jos. E. Vollmar, Council past president; Carl H. Laemmli, Council professional who helped found the group; A. E. (Mike) Cunliff, first president; and Zane O. Squires, president in 1972.



Congressman and Eagle Scout Thomas Curtis, left, presents the Distinguished Eagle Award to Bertram Tremayne and George H. Capps. Mrs. Curtis, Mrs. Tremayne, and Mrs. Capps are at their husbands' left.



The John D. Wright Lodge at Camp May, Beaumont Scout Reservation, serves as camp dining hall in summer, a training facility in winter.

foot and the relaxation of standards for Eagle . . . are not overly popular with St. Louis Area Scouters. Indeed, the first may soon be dropped. The optional route to Eagle, many feel, dilutes the prestige of Eagle status. Eagle Scouts are, after all, the elite of the movement; they "got there the hard way." To reach Eagle without passing some of the traditional requirements . . . an example is the Eagle's ability to demonstrate his physical fitness . . . is to many a backward rather than a forward step. It still takes dogged determination to make Eagle, but some of the glamour has been diminished.

Introduction of the new Skill Awards and Merit Badges with immediate relevance to everyday living has met with general approval, and have undoubtedly helped increase the appeal of Scouting to inner-city boys. They have opened new avenues to all Scouts, in fact, and are



The first man to walk on the moon was an Eagle Scout . . . Astronaut Neil A. Armstrong, shown here addressing the 1973 Annual Council meeting.



Into the wild blue yonder! Cubs launch model airplanes at Cub Day Camp.

achieving their goal of making Scouting more responsive to the demands and realities of today's complex, urbanized society. The result has been both an increase in boy motivation, and a heightened awareness of the life-style and problems of groups other than your own.

There have, of course, been some surprises. In the first two years of the new program, fewer boys than expected went out for the Skill Awards, and more for the Merit Badges. The traditional Merit Badges such as swimming, life-saving, horsemanship, boating, etc., proved to have as much value to today's boy as to his predecessors.

Improved Scouting has been a comprehensive, sincere effort to fit the program to the boy, rather than fit the boy to the program. Yet in that fundamental thrust lies some of its now-apparent weaknesses. In adjusting Scouting to some of the evident needs of today's youth,

there has been—at least in the opinion of many Scouters—a dilution of Scouting's basic purpose, the enrichment of youth through the ideals and spirit of Scouting. Unless Scouting achieves something more than the mere teaching of skills, unless it achieves something wholesome and good in directing (or redirecting) the life of a boy, it loses much of its justification.

The happy blending of these two approaches—the training of a boy to live effectively and productively in today's world, and at the same time to imbue him with the traditional ideals of America and of Scouting—is certainly one of the great challenges of the future.

Does Scouting really hold as much promise for the America of tomorrow as it did for the America of yesterday? In the final chapter of this definitive history of the St. Louis Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, we shall look at the future.



The Council's Cub Adventure Camps have broadened the horizons of Cubbing.

SCOUTING TOMORROW — WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?



They're off and running—today's Scouts in action!

Chapter XII

N

*EVER HAS AMERICA NEEDED
Scouting so much as it does today
and in the future.*—Russell J.
Hart, Scout Executive, St. Louis
Area Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Our nation is undergoing a crisis of confidence unprecedented in our 200-year history—confidence in our leaders, our economy, our system, and perhaps most critical, in the very values which made America great. Many Americans are asking questions, and the answers are not always satisfactory. We are, it appears, in a winter of discontent. The calls for unity and sacrifice, to which past generations responded, are answered by complaints and a pervasive climate of "What's in it for me?"

Too many American boys—and girls—are growing up without effective exposure to the morals and ethics of our Judaeo-Christian heritage. In some families, the child is conditioned to instant gratification of his every whim; in others, the mere struggle to survive makes ethical standards at best irrelevant. Patriotism, the love of liberty, the willingness to share, to accept responsibilities, to work for what you want—these were once automatically inculcated in the home, the church, the school. They still are—in some homes, some churches, some schools.

But too often today, the home is a place where the boy sleeps, where the family is rarely joined together, a place of comings and goings, of brief and impersonal encounters. Church and synagogue have lost much of their influence, and often seem more interested in social reform than

in the Ten Commandments (which Russ Hart calls "the book of instructions for life"). With some outstanding exceptions, many of our schools have become mere storage bins that "keep the kids off the street," or so career-oriented that ethical values are all but ignored.

Boys vitally need male images—heroes, if you like—as they grope for their own self-identity. The father, the breadwinner and family head, is the boy's first hero. He is followed inevitably by the tribal or national hero—the Daniel Boones, Davy Crocketts, George Washingtons, Abraham Lincolns, Charles Lindberghs. These are the men upon whom the youth of past generations patterned their own lives, attitudes, and goals.

Today in many homes, whether in the inner city or the suburb, there is no father—or one so shadowy as to serve as no image at all. Divorce and the "pressure of business" as much as welfare rules have helped to make American homes increasingly matriarchal in structure. And in an era when patriotism has been called a "dirty word," and history is ignored by a "now" generation, where then is the all-important male image instinctively sought by every boy?

Often enough it's the street hustler, or the athlete with a multi-million-dollar contract. In the absence of other viable images, the "hero" is the "guy who's got it made." Or alternatively, the rebels, the drop-outs, the nay-sayers to everything for which America has stood.

Instinctively, too, the boy seeks the comradeship and approval of his own peer-group. With



The traditional outdoor activities of Scouting . . . such as making fire with flint and steel . . . still retain their universal appeal.

the slackening of parental, church, and school control and guidance, the peer-group he selects is not always the one that is best for him.

Is Scouting needed? Never has it been so needed!

For millions of boys, Scouting is supplying the strength, the discipline, the skills, the wisdom and the worthwhile companionship they no longer find in the traditional trinity of home, church or synagogue, and school. Scouting takes them from the impersonal classroom and the vicarious world of the TV tube, and exposes them to an exciting new experience. It assures them comradeship with a group whose ideals and values they will need as responsible adult citizens, and that the country needs in its future leaders.

*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.*

And through Scouting the boy is exposed, perhaps for the first time, to men and young men whom he can admire and respect without reservation—men who are not there to “make it,” but to serve others, to share, to guide along the right path. The Scoutmaster, his assistants, the Leadership Corps, the Explorers—these are the

kinds of male images with whom a boy *wants* to identify, *wants* to emulate.

“Scouting,” says Russ Hart, “presents the very best vehicle I know by which one generation may pass on its skills, wisdom, and values to the succeeding generation.”

Is Scouting needed? Fifty million former Scouts answer, “More than ever!” Millions more in the trying years ahead will look back and say, “If it hadn’t been for Scouting . . .”

In the future, as in the past, St. Louis Scouting will face a myriad of challenges. Currently, membership is declining as the boy population itself drops. The number of eligible boys in the Council territory is estimated at only 166,000, well down from the more-than-200,000 predicted a few years ago. There is more competition for youth interest than ever before . . . not all of it, to be sure, welcome to concerned parents. The upsurge of family camping has already affected the number of boys who go to Scout camp. The

When a feller needs a friend, he finds one at Camp May . . . and the friend is even willing to share a cone.

transition to Improved Scouting will be neither as rapid nor as productive as its advocates hoped.

But the St. Louis Council has met and mastered many challenges since 1911. It will meet and master those ahead. By 1980, it is expected that the downward trend of Scout-age boys will be reversed as the children of the 1950’s guide their own children into the ranks of Scouting; there will be fewer children per family, but more families. The Council will find ways to blend the best of traditional and Improved Scouting, the better to serve our youth. The appeal of Scouting will be broadened until there is room under its sturdy roof for every boy from Cub to Explorer age, wherever he may live.

The Council itself can be expected to widen its scope, serving smaller and less affluent and experienced Councils in outstate Missouri and Illinois . . . helping train their leaders (such as operating Wood Badge courses, already being done for 20 other Councils), even opening S-F to Councils who cannot afford adequate camping



facilities. There may be a move toward greater specialization of volunteers, making maximum use of their special talents and interests.

Financial stringencies will undoubtedly continue to harass the Council, today a \$1,500,000 operation, but they will be overcome as they always have, by the dedicated efforts of people who give of their dollars as they do of their time.

Scouting in St. Louis reached the top, and stayed there, as much because of the quality of its adult volunteers as for any other reason. These have been men and women who, through the years, have given of themselves unstintingly. From Scoutmasters to Executive Board members, they have been busy people, with many business and family responsibilities, yet who have found the time to devote long hours to the advancement of the Scout movement and the enrichment of young lives.

As the nation moves into its Bicentennial Year, and St. Louis Scouting into its 66th year of

service, the caliber of its volunteers, men and women, has never been higher. Typical is Maurice R. "Dude" Chambers, who on January 23, 1975, at the Annual Meeting at the Chase-Park Plaza Hotel, succeeded Roy W. Jordan as



Maurice R. Chambers, Council President, 1975.

president of the St. Louis Area Council. Chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Interco, Inc., he has been a Board member since 1964, and has served as chairman of the Camping Committee and of the Executive Board of the



"Gathering of Eagles"—past presidents of the Eagle Scout Association. Foreground, left to right, Tom J. Connelly, David B. Guthrie, and Jack Grossman. Standing, left to right: Morton T. Werner, Albert E. Cuntiff, Parker W. Fruttschle, J. Philip Hellwege, Jerome M. Steiner, William M. Guthrie, George Benham Ross, and Louis H. Heyman.



The spirit of Scouting lives on in the hearts of Scouts and Scouters, ever renewed, ever stronger, in the comradeship of the Great Adventure.

Friends of Scouting. He was awarded the Silver Beaver in 1974. Continuing his family's long record of distinguished service to Scouting, Sanford N. "Sandy" McDonnell remained as Scout Commissioner.

They lead an Area Council that since 1911 has proved itself innovative, imaginative, ingenious, and vigorous. It is a Council confident that it can triumph over the many complex challenges of the future, just as its predecessors triumphed over the challenges of the past.

Today almost 20,000 Scouters of the St. Louis Area Council—the men and women who believe in the values of America, who are willing to

sacrifice that their sons and sons of others learn those values and live by them—are the strong, hard core of Scouting in our community.

Unsung, unheralded, in their hands is the future of our sons and our country. As always in the past, they will respond . . . and to future generations of Scouts, they will prove that, "Scouting today is a lot more than you think."

On the eve of America's Bicentennial celebration, this book is a salute to these Scouters, to those who went before them, and to those who will follow them—to the men and women who have devoted so much to a proud nation. Their spirit is truly "The Spirit of Scouting '76!"

APPENDICES

THE ROSTER OF HONOR 1911-1975 ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Council Presidents
Council Commissioners
Council Board Members
Scout Executives
Silver Buffalo Recipients
Silver Antelope Recipients
Silver Beaver Recipients
Silver Fawn Recipients
Lodge Chiefs, Order of the Arrow
Presidents, Eagle Scout Association

Few if any U.S. Councils, BSA, have compiled a history as comprehensive and definitive as this record of the St. Louis Area Council. In it are recounted the names and deeds of hundreds of men and women who, over the past 65 years, have made significant contributions to Scouting. And in these following pages, our Roster of Honor, are the names of many more, those who have held positions of leadership or whose efforts were recognized by Scouting's highest awards.

Yet these are but the few. For every name recorded here, there are hundreds unrecorded . . . Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, Den Mothers, Cubmasters, District and Neighborhood Commissioners, Merit Badge counselors, Explorer Post advisors, camp staff members . . . the thousands of men and women whose devotion has been rewarded only by the satisfaction of a job well done, and the gratitude of the boys they guided along the Scout Trail. Without their devotion, their faith, there would be no Scouting . . . and thousands of boys would be the poorer for it. We only wish that all of their names could be emblazoned here, as they are in the hearts of the boys whose lives they have enriched.

The following lists are as accurate as Council records could make them. The St. Louis Area Council apologizes to anyone whose name may have been omitted, misspelled, or misplaced.

YEAR	COUNCIL PRESIDENTS	SCOUT EXECUTIVES	COUNCIL COMMISSIONERS
1911	Judge Daniel G. Taylor	Henry C. Thompson	
1912	"	"	
1913	"	Major H. H. Simmons	
1914	"	"	
1915	Charles Nagel	"	
1916	"	"	
1917	Allen C. Orrick	"	
1918	Clarence H. Howard	"	Owen E. Thompson
1919	"	"	"
1920	"	Earle W. Beckmann	"
1921	"	"	Col. H. D. McBride
1922	"	"	"
1923	"	"	"
1924	"	"	"
1925	"	"	"
1926	"	"	"
1927	"	"	"
1928	"	"	"
1929	"	"	"
1930	"	"	"
1931	"	"	"
1932	Eugene D. Nims	"	"
1933	"	"	"

YEAR	COUNCIL PRESIDENTS	SCOUT EXECUTIVES	COUNCIL COMMISSIONERS
1934	"	"	"
1935	"	"	"
1936	"	John D. Wright	"
1937	"	"	"
1938	"	"	"
1939	Gale F. Johnston	"	"
1940	"	"	"
1941	"	"	"
1942	Carl H. Holekamp	"	"
1943	Russell E. Gardner, Jr.	"	"
1944	"	"	"
1945	"	"	"
1946	Col. Jos. E. Vollmar	Jack J. Keith	"
1947	"	"	"
1948	Roscoe C. Hobbs	"	Albert W. Lantz
1949	"	"	"
1950	Victor E. Cooley	"	"
1951	"	"	"
1952	"	"	"
1953	David P. Wohl	"	"
1954	Willard R. Cox	"	"
1955	"	"	"
1956	W. B. McMillan	"	"
1957	"	"	"
1958	"	"	"
1959	Edwin M. Clark	Russell J. Hart	Roy W. Jordan
1960	"	"	"
1961	Russell L. Dearmont	"	"
1962	"	"	"
1963	Gen. Leif J. Sverdrup	"	Russel L. Savage
1964	"	"	"
1965	"	"	"
1966	William A. McDonnell	"	"
1967	"	"	"
1968	Theodore R. Gamble	"	A. J. O'Brien
1969	William A. McDonnell	"	"
1970	Harold E. Thayer	"	"
1971	"	"	"
1972	"	"	"
1973	Roy W. Jordan	"	Sanford N. McDonnell
1974	"	"	"
1975	M. R. Chambers	"	"
1976	"	"	"

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS—1911-1975

Agnew, Frank E., Jr.	Bleibtreu, Paul C.	Chambers, M. R.
Allen, Dr. Duff	Bliss, Wyllys K.	Charak, Jean B.
Allers, G. V.	Bock, Edward J.	Childress, Wade T.
Alston, Angus S.	Borgelt, Pershing	Chinn, Armstrong
Amberg, Richard H.	Boswell, Charles W.	Claggett, Charles E.
Anderson, Dr. Homer	Bowditch, Harvey R.	Clark, Edwin M.
Anselm, Thos. A. J.	Brandin, Donald N.	Clark, R. Vernon
Armbruster, John H.	Branning, L. J.	Clarke, Allen W.
Atkinson, Arthur K.	Branom, Robert H., Sr.	Clarke, Walter
	Brantley, Maj. Charles V.	Cole, Arnold H.
	Braun, William E.	Cole, Gene A.
Baer, Arthur B.	Brereton, H. A.	Coleman, R. C.
Baer, J. Arthur, II	Brookes, Dr. Theodore	Collins, Richard J., Jr.
Baggerman, Wm. F.	Brown, Charles F.	Collins, Thomas R.
Bailey, Louis C.	Brown, Foster H.	Collins, Thomas R., Jr.
Baine, John C.	Brown, George W.	Connelly, James L.
Baker, James E.	Brown, Paul W.	Connelly, Tom J.
Bakewell, Paul, Jr.	Brown, Robert J.	Connett, William C.
Baldwin, L. W.	Bruere, Theodore C.	Cook, James F.
Baldwin, Richard	Brumm, Jos. D.	Cooley, Victor E.
Bamburg, Harold B.	Brunette, Harold T.	Copanas, Franklin W.
Barnes, T. Ellis	Bryant, Donald L., Jr.	Cosby, Charles E.
Barnes, Zane E.	Buckner, John D.	Cox, Willard R.
Barnhart, Cleo V.	Buhl, M. T.	Cramblet, Wilbur H.
Barton, R. K., Jr.	Burbach, George M.	Crecelius, Edgar P.
Bartram, S. G.	Burgess, Allen H.	Crusius, Wm., Sr.
Baue, Arthur	Burke, Gaylord C.	Cunliff, Albert E.
Bauman, G. Duncan	Bury, Leo H.	Cunliff, Nelson
Beffa, Harvey A. A., Jr.	Busch, August A., III	Curlee, Col. F. M.
Belleville, H. C.	Busch, August A., Jr.	Curry, John M.
Belt, Robert H.		Curtis, Chester B.
Bennetsen, W. J.	Calhoun, David R., Jr.	Cushing, Jos. W.
Berger, J. Torrey	Camp, George L.	Danforth, Donald, Jr.
Berra, Paul M.	Cann, William F.	Danforth, W. H., Dr.
Berry, John H.	Cannady, A. R.	Danforth, William H.
Bilhorn, Edw. W.	Capps, George H.	Davis, Harry E., Jr.
Birge, E. N.	Carroll, Michael J.	Davis, Wm. L., Jr.
Bischof, Milton J., Jr.	Casey, John P.	Day, H. Douglas
Bittner, F. O., Jr.	Catlin, Edward F.	Deacon, A. R.
Bland, Charles H.		

Dearmont, Russell L.
Deneke, Wesley A.
Dille, Earl K.
Docter, Will
Donnell, Ben P.
Dougherty, Charles J.
Douglas, Donald W., Jr.
Dyer, George L.
Dysart, Thomas N.

Eberle, A. G.
Eberle, Dean A. D.
Eckelkamp, Louis B.
Eckelkamp, Louis B., Jr.
Edgar, Robert L.
Edwards, William L., Jr.
Effrein, Donald S.
Ehrhardt, Willis
Eigel, George
Ervin, John B.
Essmyer, Jesse D.
Estep, Preston

Farrell, Wm. R.
Feltmann, John H.
Fernandez, Dr. Louis
Fistere, Joseph
Fleishman, Alfred
Fournie, Robert G.
Fox, Gordon D.
Fox, John
Franciscus, John
Frank, Harry A.
Frederick, Charles R.
Fritschle, Parker W.

Gable, L. John
Gaddy, Robert J.
Gaertner, Judge Gary M.
Gamble, Theodore R.
Camp, George L.
Gardner, Russell E., Jr.
Gates, Clifton W.
Geiser, Lee W.
Gerling, H. J.

Gessel, Gardner B.
Gessley, Norman
Gibson, Walter S., DDS
Gilliland, J. E.
Gilster, August E.
Goeke, A. E.
Goldman, Alvin D.
Goodson, Richard A.
Gray, W. Ashley, Jr.
Grayson, Richard C.
Griesedieck, Joseph
Griffin, Dustin H.
Griffin, W. L. H.
Gross, Sol W.
Grossman, Jack
Gruer, Albert W., Jr.
Guthrie, David B.
Guthrie, William M.

Haake, James F.
Hager, Louis A., Jr.
Haizlip, C. G.
Hamilton, Aubrey B.
Hamilton, Laddie
Hammar, Frank V.
Hanpeter, Armin F.
Hansen, Ralph M.
Harlan, W. M., Jr.
Harrington, Harry F.
Harrison, William H.
Harsh, George
Hart, Edward S.
Hartmann, Chas. I.
Hartmann, Moses
Hartmann, Ralph
Hasek, Otto

Haslam, Lewis S.
Haven, Granville J.
Head, Walter W.
Heffern, Sam
Hellwege, J. Philip
Heyman, Louis H.
Hickey, Philip J.
Hobbs, Roscoe C.

Hodgdon, Sam D.
Hoester, Judge Robert G. J.
Hoffman, Reyburn P.
Hoffmeister, Harold M.
Holbrook, Harry S.
Holekamp, Carl H.
Holekamp, Carl H., Jr.
Holtcamp, Charles W.
Holthaus, August J.
Honig, Louis O.
Hooper, A. L.
Hopkins, David
Howard, Clarence H.
Howard, Clarence H., Jr.
Howe, J. H.
Huff, Morton L.
Hungerford, Clark
Hunter, Lee
Hurt, James E., Jr.
Hutchinson, W. C.
Hyland, Robert

Igoe, William
Iverson, R. W.

Jenks, Downing B.
Jennings, Harry L.
Johnson, J. L.
Johnston, Gale F.
Jones, Edwin S.
Jones, Elmer A.
Jones, William T.
Jordan, Roy W.
Judah, P. W.
Judd, Donald

Katt, William J.
Kaufmann, Aloys P.
Keeler, Henry G., Jr.
Keller, Albert M.
Kelley, Wm. N.
Kessler, Richard L.
Key, Francis S., Jr.
Kiefer, William

Kimme, William
Klingenhagen, Maj. Gen.
John L.
Knowles, Ralph
Kottmeyer, William
Kropp, Eugene R.
Krueger, William C.
Kruel, Kenneth
Kuhls, Lester

Lais, Colbert
Lambert, Marion L. J.
Lantz, Albert W.
Larkin, H. Robert
Lasater, Donald E.
Lashly, Jacob M.
Lashly, John H.
Leahy, John S.
Lee, Ralph H.
Lee, Robert F., Jr.
Lewis, David S.
Lieberman, Lee M.
Long, Dennis P.
Lonsdale, John G.
Lorch, Walter
Love, Howard M.
Low, E. R.

Mabry, D. B.
Maddox, John J.
Maestre, Sidney
Mallinckrodt, L. E.
Maritz, William E.
Martin, Charles L.
Martin, Leonard C.
Marx, Elmer E.
Mathews, Harry B., Jr.
Maxwell, Gregory W.
May, Morton D.
Mayfield, Frank
Mayne, Walter R.
Meers, Robert R.
Menk, L. W.

Metzler, Milton E.
Meyers, James E.
Miles, C. C.
Mitchell, John B.
Monnig, Joseph T.
Morey, Arthur
Morey, David H.
Morrill, John R.
Morton, Robert L.
Moser, Byron W.
Mosey, Arthur
Mueller, H. P.
Munie, D. E.
Musial, Stanley F.
McAfee, J. Wesley
McBride, H. D., Col.
McClain, Charles J.
McDonald, W. W.
McDonnell, J. S., Jr.
McDonnell, Sanford N.
McDonnell, William A.
McEwen, William S., Sr.
McHaney, Powell B.
McKelvey, Russell E.
McMillan, Ernie
McMillan, James F., Jr.
McMillan, W. B.
McNally, Raymond

Nagel, Charles
Nangle, John J.
Nelson, Raymond L.
Nelson, Wm. A., Jr.
Neubeiser, B. L.
Neun, Walter J. G.
Newhard, Chapin S.
Nims, Eugene D.
Nooney, Gregory J.
Nusbaum, William C.

O'Brien, A. J.
Oertli, Fred J.
O'Neill, Edward L.
Orrick, Allen C.

Orthwein, Wm. R., Jr.
Otto, Robert W.

Pace, David B.
Peirce, Frederic M.
Perkinson, John Dale
Pershall, E. E.
Persons, W. R.
Peters, Frank C.
Pettus, Thomas W.
Pflager, Henry B.
Phemister, Robert
Phillips, H. C.
Plant, Sam
Poelker, John H.
Poindexter, Clarence
Portner, Louis J.
Powers, John
Prentis, John B., III

Radford, G. A.
Ragland, R. K.
Rand, Norfleet H.
Rasmussen, Dwain H.
Ray, E. Lansing
Reed, W. J., DDS
Reid, Elliott
Rice, Charles M.
Richman, Stanley M.
Rickey, Branch
Riley, Lyman G.
Rippy, Edward T., Jr.
Robinson, P. C.
Rodes, Boyle O.
Roman, Bruce
Rosborough, George S., Jr.
Ross, G. Ben
Roufa, Alvin M.
Rountree, Herbert
Rowe, Robert M.
Rowland, Raymond E.
Rowland, Raymond E., Jr.
Rubey, C. S.
Rutherford, Wm. I.

Sachs, Louis S.
 Sanborn, William L.
 Savage, Russel L.
 Schaeffer, Harry L.
 Schantl, Hans
 Schaper, Randolph H.
 Schenk, Boyd F.
 Schiffman, John
 Schlafley, John J.
 Schmidt, A. F. L.
 Schnuck, Edward J.
 Schollmeyer, Harry
 Schultz, E. H.
 Scott, R. Stanley
 Scruggs, Edward B.
 Scudder, S. Cupples
 Scullin, Harry
 See, Frank
 See, W. J.
 Senniger, Stuart N.
 Shapleigh, Warren M.
 Shepley, Ethan A. H.
 Shepley, Ethan A. H., Jr.
 Shomaker, Monte E.
 Shuford, Harry E.
 Siler, E. Ray
 Sims, Clyde H.
 Skelly, J. W.
 Smillie, Ronald P.
 Smith, Lamar
 Smith, Robert Brookings
 Smith, Judge Taylor
 Smith, Wayman F.
 Sommer, Charles H.
 Spaethe, Clarence F., Jr.
 Speer, George A.
 Spiegel, Edwin J.
 Spiegel, Edwin J., Jr.
 Sponik, James
 Spring, A. J.
 Squires, Zane O., Sr.
 Stalnaker, Armand E.
 Stamper, Howard A.
 Stauffer, Dickson S., Jr.

Stay, Walter A.
 Steinberg, Mark C.
 Steiner, Jerome M.
 Stephens, Howard V.
 Stevenson, Robert E.
 Stifel, Arnold G.
 Stix, Charles H.
 Storment, J. C.
 Straub, William A.
 Stuart, Lynn E.
 Stupp, E. P.
 Stupp, John P.
 Sverdrup, Gen. L. J.
 Swartout, Charles W.
 Swift, Hampden M.
 Swift, John S.
 Tallman, Roscoe
 Taylor, Judge Daniel G.
 Taylor, James C.
 Terry, Whitelaw T.
 Thayer, Harold E.
 Thomas, Dr. Charles Allen
 Thompson, Frank
 Thompson, Henry C.
 Thompson, R. H. B.
 Tidd, R. M. B.
 Tiemann, Robert L.
 Tilles, Fred B.
 Trottmann, Stuart R., Jr.
 Tucker, Raymond R.
 Turley, Clarence M.
 Turley, Clarence M., Jr.
 Turpin, Judge Wm. M.
 Urbauer, Hugo F.
 Vail, Carroll C.
 Van De Vanter, M. S.
 Varnum, Girard C.
 Vaughan, Clifford J.
 Veeder, Nicholas P.
 Vitt, R. S.
 Vogel, Carl

Vollmar, Col. Jos. E.
 von Gontard, Adalbert
 Vossbrink, Robert L.
 Wade, Festus J.
 Walker, G. H., Jr.
 Wallace, John K.
 Walther, J. Leonard
 Weber, William H.
 Wells, Ben H.
 Wells, Fletcher E.
 Wenzel, Fred W.
 Wenzlick, Roy W.
 Werder, Arthur E.
 Werner, Morton T.
 Werremeyer, E. G.
 Wertz, Dr. W. H.
 Westerfeld, Dr. August
 White, Kelton E.
 White, Thomas W.
 Whitehead, James F.
 Wigge, Theodore H.
 Wilkening, Orlie H.
 Wilkinson, M. L.
 Williams, Eugene F., Jr.
 Williams, L. O.
 Williams, R. N.
 Wilson, A. O.
 Wilson, John L.
 Wisebart, S. L.
 Witte, Donald M.
 Wohl, David P.
 Woods, Howard B.
 Woods, Leonard R.
 Woolley, George A. C., Jr.
 Worley, Kenneth L.
 Wright, J. Willard
 Young, Howard I.
 Young, Howard Lee
 Ziegenfuss, Phil
 Zimmerman, Sanford J.
 Zumwalt, Maurice R.

SCOUTING'S HIGHEST HONORS

THE SILVER BUFFALO

Since 1926 the National Council has awarded the Silver Buffalo for distinguished service to boyhood. The award is made each year for noteworthy service of a national or worldwide character, both to men associated with Scouting and to others not directly related to the Scouting movement. It has been awarded to eight St. Louisans.

Lewis W. Baldwin 1930
 Dwight F. Davis 1932
 Walter W. Head 1927
 Clarence H. Howard . . 1928
 Gale F. Johnston 1952
 Eugene D. Nims 1940
 Harry L. Schaeffer . . . 1956
 Gen. Leif J. Sverdrup . . 1974

THE SILVER ANTELOPE

The Silver Antelope is the National Council's award presented for distinguished service to youth on a regional basis. It has been awarded to 14 St. Louisans.

Lewis W. Baldwin 1925
 Richard Baldwin 1969
 H. A. Brereton 1945
 Walter W. Head 1952
 Downing B. Jenks 1975
 Gale F. Johnston 1939
 Roy W. Jordan 1966
 Albert W. Lantz 1949
 Col. H. D. McBride . . . 1944
 W. B. McMillan 1964
 Morton D. May 1961
 Harry L. Schaeffer . . . 1951
 Gen. Leif J. Sverdrup . . 1968
 Harold E. Thayer 1974



THE SILVER BEAVER

The St. Louis Area Council made its first Silver Beaver Awards, for outstanding service to boyhood at the local Council level, in January, 1932. Over the past 43 years, more than 550 St. Louis Scouters have been so honored.

Achelpohl, William F.	1941	Benitz, Clarence W.	1932	Brinkmann, Kermit H.	1974
Adams, James Franklin	1971	Bell, John H.	1932	Briscoe, J. Randolph	1960
Agnew, Frank E.	1951	Berger, John T.	1963	Brockhoff, George C.	1941
Allen, Duff S., M.D.	1956	Berkemeyer, Walter C.	1944	Brodtrick, William R.	1967
Allison, J. V.	1941	Berry, Carrick Harold, M.D.	1970	Brookes, Theo. P.	1941
Alvord, James P.	1974	Berthold, Harold J.	1965	Brown, Max Elmore	1970
Amberg, Richard H.	1961	Biebel, J. H.	1953	Bryson, E. R.	1975
Antoine, Louis H.	1963	Birge, Ernest N.	1932	Burbach, George M.	1954
Armbruster, John H.	1958	Billhorn, Edward W.	1971	Burch, H. T.	1953
Asel, Donald N.	1965	Bill, Donald R.	1973	Burgheim, Nathan	1967
Atkinson, Arthur K.	1960	Bise, Mitchell	1973	Burke, O. E.	1943
Austin, Francis S.	1962	Blackford, J. Ross	1940	Burton, Victor	1961
Avery, Ernest Howard, Sr.	1968	Blaes, Rene	1949	Bury, Leo	1952
Avis, Sanford B.	1952	Blake, Robert S.	1973	Busch, August A., Jr.	1954
Baer, Arthur B.	1949	Blessing, Paul	1944	Bye, Ezra	1969
Bahr, Norman C.	1968	Boehler, Theodore	1970	Caldwell, Clyde M.	1964
Baker, John P., III	1954	Boethelt, Roy W.	1952	Campbell, Carl N.	1966
Baldwin, Richard	1949	Bofinger, Alfred P.	1971	Capps, George Howard	1974
Barnes, Richard G.	1969	Bohley, Wilferd	1965	Carroll, Michael J.	1969
Barnhart, Verne O., Jr.	1962	Bokel, Henry C.	1962	Carson, George	1967
Bartareau, Earl R.	1962	Boone, Jerome E., Sr.	1956	Carter, William R.	1962
Barthold, Carl H.	1974	Borbein, Harry W.	1969	Cassilly, William S.	1966
Bartlett, Charles	1967	Borgstede, Robert E.	1968	Castelli, Joseph	1964
Bartram, Samuel G.	1964	Bowen, P. Stanley	1956	Caughron, Virgil A.	1966
Bauman, Col. Carl S.	1940	Bowie, William	1967	Chambers, Maurice R.	1974
Beasley, George J.	1946	Boyer, Harold	1949	Chandler, Fielding	1938
Beckett, Forest B.	1963	Branning, L. J.	1956	Chapman, Willie E.	1968
Beckett, W. H. J.	1945	Brennan, James L.	1966	Charak, Jean B.	1968
Bedford, Fred	1967	Brereton, H. A.	1939	Chase, Harold J. L.	1957
		Brereton, John	1967		

Chassels, William	1947	Doherty, Joseph E.	1962
Chinn, Armstrong	1957	Dolde, Leonard V.	1971
Chorlins, Manuel	1955	Dowd, William	1956
Christman, Raymond C.	1974	Dreyer, Edward William	1975
Clark, Edwin M.	1961	Drummond, Robert D.	1965
Coco, Anthony Guy	1975	Dryton, John Collingwood	1972
Coggeshall, K. M.	1934	Duff, Homer L.	1968
Coggeshall, Morgan	1935	Duggan, Charles G.	1943
Cole, Gene Andrew	1971	Duncan, Samuel Wesley	1972
Colgate, C. E.	1938	Dunham, William R.	1964
Collins, Lewis O.	1975	Dunn, J. Lowell	1961
Collins, Thomas R.	1933		
Collins, Thomas R., Jr.	1973	Eckelkamp, Louis B.	1962
Colombo, Louis	1966	Eckles, Arthur E.	1969
Compton, Clifton	1947	Eddleman, Riley	1967
Connell, Clyde, Sr.	1940	Edgar, Robert Lee	1964
Connelly, James L.	1937	Edmonson, Bert M.	1948
Connelly, Tom J.	1965	Edscorn, Kenneth Charles	1975
Cook, John M.	1945	Edwards, Robert	1961
Cooley, Victor E.	1953	Ehrhardt, Willis G.	1945
Cornman, James F.	1963	Elam, Ruth Edna	1975
Corona, Lawrence	1973	Eller, Edmund A.	1974
Cox, Willard R.	1940	Ema, Henry, M.D.	1971
Crabtree, Joseph B., Sr.	1973	Emery, Joseph	1956
Crawford, Charles	1954	Ervin, John B.	1962
Crouch, F. Richard, M.D.	1968	Essmyer, Jesse D.	1965
Crucknell, H. B.	1937	Evans, Bruce	1947
Crusius, William L.	1937	Evers, August G.	1946
Cubbage, Robert G.	1973	Evers, Edward, Jr.	1967
Cunliff, Albert E.	1963		
Cunliff, Nelson	1932	Falcetti, Ervin Richard	1974
Curtis, Orville B.	1964	Faulhaber, Sylvester J.	1969
Curtis, Thomas B.	1954	Favers, Walter A., Sr.	1958
		Fischer, Joseph E.	1968
Dannenbrink, Albert	1971	Fleishman, Alfred	1962
Davis, Harry J.	1954	Foppe, Arnold H.	1970
Davis, Rex	1971	Fournie, Robert G.	1968
Dawson, Alex S.	1945	Francis, Charles J., Jr.	1962
Deane, Francis Lodge	1975	Frederick, Charles	1951
Dearmont, Russell L.	1958	Freeman, Arthur L.	1963
Dennert, Milan William	1975	Freerks, Marshall C.	1971
DeStaebler, Roy	1934	Freise, William P.	1969
Dickson, Leon M.	1949	Fritsch, Louis H.	1973
Dilling, Kenneth E.	1964	Fuchs, Leonard P.	1965
Dixon, James H.	1966	Funke, Norbert Louis	1974
Dobson, Harold R.	1965	Furst, Glenn	1967
Docter, Will	1948		
Dodd, Leonard D.	1949	Gamble, Theodore R.	1968
Doerner, Russell H.	1970	Gannett, John Robert	1975
Doerr, Homer W.	1966	Gardner, Russell E., Jr.	1946

Garner, R. Dean	1975	Hall, James N.	1960
Geisel, John Gerhard	1972	Hall, Lester M.	1932
Geiser, Lee Walter	1972	Hamilton, Aubrey B.	1968
Gerdelman, Bernard	1975	Hamilton, Edward D.	1966
Gillespie, Charles H.	1948	Hammond, John	1969
Ginnever, Thomas H.	1965	Hargate, William E., Jr.	1960
Gnaegy, Mitchell C.	1971	Hargitt, George H.	1951
Gold, Ned C., Sr.	1942	Harper, Cleotha	1967
Goldberg, Israel	1965	Harrington, Harry F.	1964
Goldberg, Harry C.	1960	Harsh, Arthur W.	1973
Gould, Richard Draime	1970	Hartmann, Arthur W.	1969
Gray, Richard W.	1975	Hartmann, Charles I.	1971
Grimes, Miller J.	1973	Hartwein, George H.	1950
Grob, Herman	1973	Harvey, McCleveland	1969
Groth, William	1954	Hasek, Otto	1960
Grutetzemacher, H. Fred, III	1961	Hayes, Percy Jackson	1972
Guthrie, William M.	1965	Head, Walter W.	1939
		Heard, John T., Jr.	1974
		Helbing, H. H.	1941
		Henning, Robert F.	1961
		Henriques, E. J.	1941
		Henry, Percy W.	1962
		Herries, Robert A.	1953
		Herrmann, George	1956
		Heyman, Louis H.	1970
		Hickey, Philip J.	1949
		Higginbotham, Letcher J.	1971
		Hobbs, Roscoe C.	1948
		Hoeck, Arthur A.	1942
		Hoel, Robert Frederick, Sr.	1972
		Hoffmann, Lester O.	1971
		Hoffmeister, Harold M.	1963

Holbrook, Harry S.	1933	Inman, Sam F.	1957
Holekamp, Carl H.	1936	Isley, Truman	1969
Holekamp, Carl H., Jr.	1961	Iverson, Robert W.	1964
Holmes, George D.	1969		
Holthaus, August J.	1946	Jackson, Byron	1956
Holthaus, Arthur A.	1940	Jackson, Julian Van Kirk	1968
Holthaus, John	1955	Jacobs, Joseph H.	1963
Holz, Frank	1954	James, Adolph	1973
Homfeldt, Fred	1974	James, Ivan C.	1970
Howard, Robert E.	1970	Jenks, Downing B.	1971
Howe, Kenneth W.	1960	Johnson, James Lee	1953
Howk, Don	1974	Johnson, J. Oliver	1948
Hoyt, Peter	1975	Johnson, Virgil Carter	1974
Hubeli, Erwin H.	1951	Johnston, Gale F.	1941
Huey, Donald E.	1961	Johnston, Gale F., Jr.	1969
Huighe, Lorraine Katherine	1975	Jones, Bethel	1967
Hulse, John W., Jr.	1962	Jones, Elbert D.	1953
		Jones, Elmer A.	1965
		Jones, James L.	1964
		Jones, Walter W.	1944
		Jordan, Roy W.	1950
		Judah, P. W.	1940
		Kaufmann, Aloys P.	1960
		Keller, Albert M.	1952
		Kelley, William N.	1966
		Kelso, Charles A.	1932
		Kiburz, Jack Y.	1952
		Kirk, Cecil	1955
		Klepper, Wilbert G.	1957
		Kleinberg, Kenneth A.	1974
		Knoll, Donald M.	1974

Knopf, Lawrence	1963	Ladassor, Gray	1971
Koerner, Walter	1962	Lambert, Marion L. J.	1961
Krahman, Herbert P.	1963	Lamborn, George J.	1968
Kranze, Robert W.	1975	Lane, William Bodley	1969
Krause, Arno D.	1936	Lang, Donald E.	1971
Krauska, Walter A., Sr.	1969	Langenberg, E. B.	1935
Kritselis, Konstantinos	1967	Lantz, Albert C., Jr.	1971
Kroeger, William	1946	Lantz, Albert W.	1936
Kruel, Kenneth B.	1960	Larkin, James C., Jr.	1971
Kulp, A. C.	1954	Lashly, Jacob M.	1952
		Lehmann, George Anthony	1972
		Leisse, Charles Martin	1972
		Leland, Deyo S.	1943
		Lewandowski, Alexander S.	1962
		Lewin, Ross R.	1944
		Lewis, Robert D.	1974
		Liebrum, Harry J.	1957
		Lincoln, John H.	1963
		Linn, Russell Edwin	1972
		Logan, Frank W.	1950
		Long, Leon R.	1971
		Love, Frank Warren	1974
		Lutz, Vincent J.	1972
		Mack, Robert S.	1973
		Mabry, D. B.	1962
		MacCash, Robert B.	1975
		Madson, Mathew Dell	1975
		Maestre, Sidney	1961
		Magner, J. Marshall	1967
		Mahon, J. W. C.	1933
		Manley, Col. Murray E.	1965
		Margulis, Alvin	1963
		Marquard, Walter F.	1969
		Martin, Leonard C.	1941
		Mason, Lewis	1967
		Mattes, Charles	1955
		May, Morton D.	1953
		McAfee, J. Wesley	1956

McBride, Col. H. D.	1932	Nagel, Charles	1935
McCall, Byron P.	1970	Nangle, John J.	1951
McCoy, R. A.	1939	Nance, Rev. Harold	1950
McCullough, Adam D.	1966	Nauman, Philip R.	1971
McCollum, Ralph E.	1960	Neel, James E., Sr.	1975
McDaniel, Olin S.	1962	Nelson, George D.	1970
McDonnell, Sanford N.	1972	Nelson, Raymond L.	1972
McDonnell, William A.	1961	Nelson, William A., Jr.	1965
McIntire, Vernon	1962	Neuhoff, Ralph Robert, Jr.	1975
McKelvey, Russell E.	1958	Newhard, Chapin S.	1955
McKinney, Robert D., Jr.	1963	Nichols, Donald L.	1972
McKnight, Virgil	1970	Nickel, Ralph D.	1968
McMath, Francis R.	1947	Nims, E. D.	1936
McMillan, James F., Jr.	1961	Noe, Harry C.	1938
McMillan, W. B.	1954	Nollmann, George R.	1972
Meinecke, Walter H., Jr.	1970	Nudelman, Meyer	1945
Melcher, Oliver	1962		
Mesnier, Charles J.	1964		
Metzger, Joseph C.	1944		
Meyer, Arthur	1956		
Meyer, Fred	1961		
Meyer, John H.	1939		
Meyer, Very Rev. Louis F.	1967		
Meyer, William John	1974		
Mick, Richard Bernard	1975		
Miller, Ed	1942		
Millard, Ray E.	1965		
Mohr, Ralph E.	1970		
Molloy, Thomas	1952		
Molyneaux, John E., Jr.	1962		
Monahan, Francis W., Jr.	1973		
Munder, Frederick A.	1975		
Murphy, Walter John	1965		

Oberg, Nathan B. 1972
 Obergonner, Vernon R. 1969
 O'Brien, Albert 1967
 O'Brien, Charles A. 1971
 Ochs, Charles F. 1966
 Ochsner, John H. 1970
 Odien, Richard J. 1966
 O'Neill, Guy L. 1974
 Orrick, Allen C. 1942
 Orthwein, William R., Jr. 1969
 O'Shea, Wallace E. 1973
 Otto, Robert W. 1960

Pardon, Phillip, Jr. 1967
 Parks, Agnes Roberta 1975
 Parks, Eldon 1974
 Pavlik, Joseph E. 1962
 Peirce, Frederic M. 1967
 Pennington, Gordon E. 1974
 Pershall, E. E. 1956
 Persons, W. R. 1963
 Peschke, Adolph E. 1960
 Peters, Clarence H. 1966
 Petrie, Paul A. 1974
 Pfabe, Kort K. 1963
 Pfabe, Max 1952
 Pfeffer, Philip M. 1964
 Phillips, Arnold T. 1972
 Phillips, Herbert C. 1972
 Pierson, John L. 1966
 Pitts, Anderson Jacque 1973
 Plant, Samuel 1943
 Poelker, John H. 1966
 Poindexter, C. H. 1935
 Pollock, Charles S. 1943
 Postol, Thomas P. 1968
 Povich, Bernard 1967
 Princell, J. Gilbert 1947

Racowsky, Sam E. 1964
 Ragland, Richard K. 1966
 Raithel, Forest John 1971
 Rand, Norfleet 1960
 Rasche, B. F. 1947
 Rasmussen, William D., Jr. 1962
 Ravas, Joseph C. 1963
 Rebore, Edward 1946
 Renfrow, L. H. 1934
 Richman, Stanley M. 1966
 Riehl, A. M. 1937
 Rinehart, Wallace L. 1943

Ritchie, Charles W. 1957
 Robinson, Patrobas C. 1971
 Roehrs, Emil 1958
 Rogers, Donald P., Sr. 1963
 Ross, George Benham 1969
 Rothman, Charles 1961
 Rottmann, Joseph E. 1966
 Rubey, Chester S. 1937
 Russell, Mark 1965
 Ryffel, Oscar, Jr. 1964

Savage, Russel L. 1957
 Schaeffer, Carl C. 1948
 Schaeffer, Harry L. 1949
 Schantl, Hans 1937
 Schaper, Randolph H. 1970
 Schiffman, John A., Jr. 1969
 Schlag, Fred 1954
 Schmidt, Erwin C. 1954
 Schneider, Hascal 1961
 Schneider, John H. 1956
 Schneider, Norbert 1961
 Schultz, E. H. Sr. 1932
 Schultz, Peter 1960
 Schweig, Eugene S., Jr. 1975
 Schweizer, Albert, II 1973
 See, Frank M. 1965
 Seiter, Joseph E. 1962
 Senniger, Stuart N. 1965
 Shade, Theodore Melvin 1968
 Shamroe, Frank J. 1972
 Shelton, Robert E. 1966
 Shepherd, Rawleigh T. 1933
 Sherwood, Lewis 1955
 Siegerist, Walter 1951
 Siler, E. Ray 1949
 Silliman, York 1968
 Silverstein, Sanford A. 1963
 Simons, Jacob P. 1932
 Simpkins, Ronald 1973
 Simpson, William M. 1950
 Sindecuse, Earl A. 1951
 Skala, Robert L. 1975
 Skelly, Col. J. W. 1942
 Slotkin, Morris 1952
 Smith, Joseph W. 1955
 Smith, Lamar F. 1971
 Soest, Carl H. 1940
 Soke, Elmer John 1974
 Sparrow, Betty 1975
 Sparrow, Curtis 1968

Speer, George A. 1973
 Sprandel, Louis W. 1966
 Staley, Forest H., M.D. 1935
 Standberry, Roosevelt V. 1971
 Stanley, Loyal 1973
 Stanze, Arthur E. 1969
 Stay, Walter A. 1950
 Steckhan, Donald Robert 1975
 Steiner, Harry, Jr. 1969
 Stephens, Eugene 1932
 Stewart, Lawrence W. 1965
 Still, Palmer 1975
 Stix, Charles H. 1945
 Stone, Howard L. 1962
 Stupp, Erwin P. 1953
 Stupp, John P. 1968
 Suche, Vernon J. 1968
 Suggs, Frank Larkin 1975
 Sullivan, Very Rev. Lloyd A. 1955
 Sverdrup, Gen. L. J. 1956
 Swartout, Charles W. 1973

Taylor, Chesley 1955
 Taylor, James C. 1970
 Taylor, John J., Ph.D. 1972
 Terry, Whitelaw T. 1963
 Thayer, Harold E. 1969
 Thomas, Charles Allen 1964
 Thomas, Max 1961
 Thompson, Henry C. 1937
 Thompson, Robert H. 1954
 Thompson, Thomas W., Sr. 1960
 Tidd, Lewis S. 1964
 Tigges, Herman 1946
 Tines, Nick 1947
 Torno, Paul L., Sr. 1970
 Trace, Fred B. 1950
 Tracy, Daniel P. 1961
 Trottmann, Stuart R., Jr. 1968
 Tschudy, Ralph 1956
 Tucker, Raymond R. 1964
 Turley, Clarence 1955
 Turnbull, David Eldon 1970

Upton, Joseph 1972

Vasterling, Oscar C. 1957
 Velten, Daniel 1969
 Vogler, Reverend John E. 1972
 Vollmar, Col. Jos. E. 1950
 von Gontard, Adalbert 1964

Waeckerle, William 1956
 Wagner, Edward C. 1973
 Wagner, William A., Jr. 1945
 Walz, Herman F. 1943
 Wander, Herbert H. 1947
 Washington, Melvin 1967
 Waye, Elmer F. 1953
 Wegener, Gus J. 1964
 Wehking, William H. 1963
 Weimer, C. Robert 1970
 Weindel, Edwin P. 1956
 Weis, Nelvin J. 1970
 Weisenstein, George 1952
 Wells, C. Robert 1972
 Wells, Fletcher Evan 1970

Weltner, Dale 1965
 Wenzlick, Roy W. 1950
 Wepfer, August G. 1962
 Weseloh, Winston H. 1973
 Wetzel, C. E. 1952
 White, Albert 1968
 Whitmire, Leroy 1953
 Wicks, Frank A. 1956
 Wietholter, Oliver F. 1960
 Wilbracht, Carol 1975
 Wilcox, Robert H. 1957
 Wildt, Bernard S. 1956
 Williams, Charles 1939
 Williams, Jess E. 1971
 Williams, M. Charles 1964

Williams, Ralph Charles 1975
 Wilson, Hardie L., Sr. 1965
 Wilson, John L. 1963
 Wisebart, S. L. 1944
 Wohl, David P. 1944
 Woodland, Oliver Francis, Sr. 1972
 Woods, Leonard R. 1945
 Woodward, J. H. 1954
 Woulfe, Paul C., Sr. 1971

Yaloures, Paul P. 1974
 Young, Howard I. 1965

Zell, Clifford F., Jr. 1964
 Ziegenfuss, Phil 1941
 Zucker, Harvey A. 1965

THE SILVER FAWN

In recognition of the outstanding service to Cubbing and Scouting by Cub Den Mothers and other women who have contributed so much, the Silver Fawn Award—the equivalent of the Silver Beaver—was established in 1971. It has been presented to sixteen women. Starting in 1975, outstanding women are presented the Silver Beaver Award.

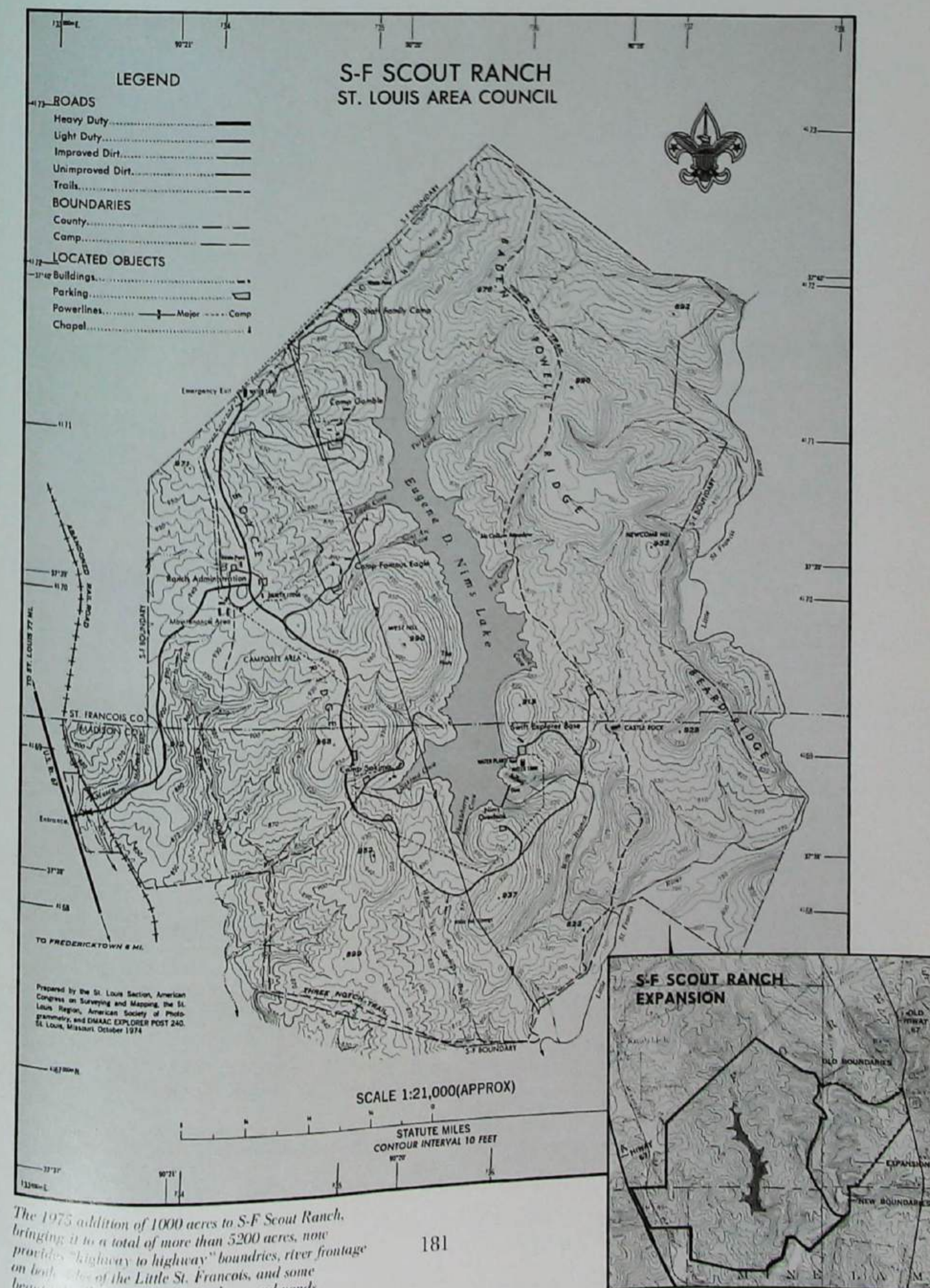
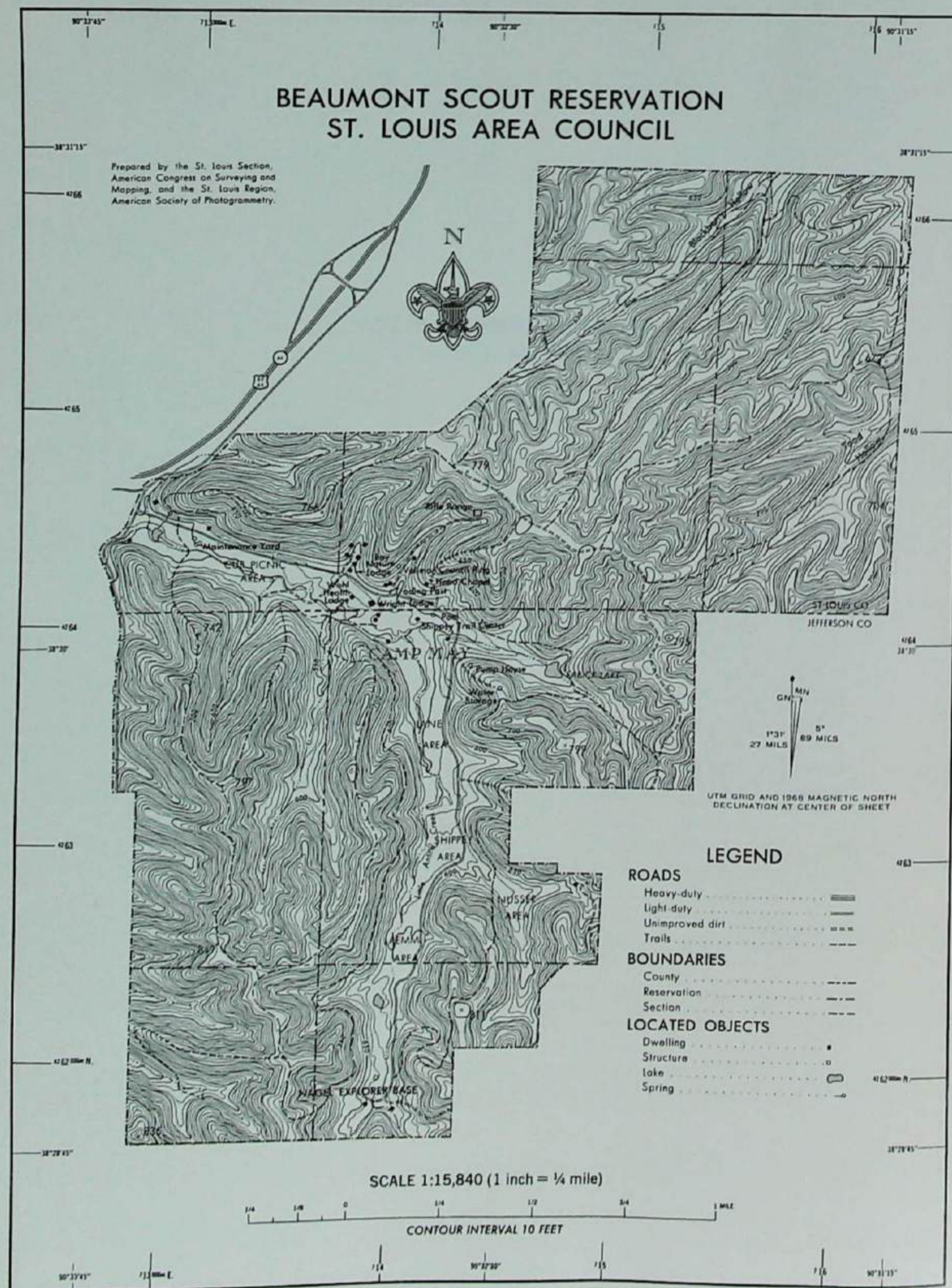
Bess, Mrs. Dorothy 1973
 Bryson, Mrs. Eddy 1971
 Campbell, Mrs. Katie G. 1971
 Dolde, Mrs. Catherine 1971
 Hulsey, Mrs. Dorothy 1973
 King, Mrs. Bertha 1974
 Klinefelter, Mrs. Betty 1974
 Kreeger, Mrs. Mary Lou 1972
 Lane, Dr. Helen Schick 1974
 Lloyd, Mrs. Rosetta 1972
 Morice, Mrs. Dorothy 1974
 Pierce, Mrs. Hazel 1973
 Reid, Mrs. Dorothy F. 1973
 Schweitzer, Mrs. Kathy 1972
 Venegoni, Mrs. Rita 1971
 Yenzen, Mrs. Georgia Louise 1972

**LODGE CHIEFS, SHAWNEE LODGE
ORDER OF THE ARROW**

<i>Year</i>	<i>Lodge Chief</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Lodge Chief</i>
1931	Eugene B. Kelly	1956	Fin Guffey
1932	Morton D. Pareira	1957	Don Cotter
1933-34	Harry A. Kirchmer	1958	Ron Evans
1935-36	Robert E. Davis	1959	Pete Shaw
1937	Walter A. Stay and Ferd E. Gast	1960	Ron Schwartz
1938	Walter C. Jones	1961	Glenn Richardson
1939	Robert E. Knickmeyer	1962	Bill Polhemus
1940	Bill Entenmen	1963	Rick Wolf
1941-42	Bill Entenmen and Jack Babbitt	1964	Wayne Wisbrock
1943	Bob Thomas	1965	Gary Walling
1944	Bob Drummond	1966	Terry Pogue
1945	Bill Levinson	1967	Norris Orms
1946	Harry Holtgrewe	1968	Tom Schweizer
1947	Jack Bell	1969	John Coonrod
1948	C. Douglas Duggan	1970	David Ochsner
1949	Charles Wetzal, Jr.	1971	Dennis Hart
1950	Ed Dauster and Bill Burmeister, Jr.	1972	Dan Outman
1951	Glen Edwards	1973	Don Harms
1952	Phil Hellwege	1974	Bob Borgstede
1953	Dale Perkinson	1975	Mark Coleman
1954	Bob Branom	1976	Andrew Bender
1955	Larry McKenna		

**PRESIDENTS, EAGLE SCOUT
ASSOCIATION**

<i>Year</i>	<i>President</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>President</i>
1947-48	Albert E. Cunliff	1962-63	Louis H. Heyman
1948-49	Arthur Werder	1963-64	H. Douglas Day
1949-50	Tom J. Connelly	1964-65	Harry E. Davis, Jr.
1950-51	Stuart N. Senniger	1965-66	Dickson S. Stauffer, III
1951-52	Robert L. Phemister	1966-67	Morton T. Werner
1952-53	William M. Guthrie	1967-68	Harold B. Bamburg
1953-54	Albert W. Gruer, Jr.	1968-69	J. Philip Hellwege
1954-55	Jack Grossman	1969-70	Charles I. Hartmann
1955-56	Charles H. Bland	1970-71	David B. Guthrie
1956-57	Jerome M. Steiner, Sr.	1971-72	Zane O. Squires, Sr.
1957-58	George Benham Ross	1972-73	Donald M. Witte
1958-59	Gene A. Cole	1973-74	Ralph W. Hartmann
1959-60	Orlie H. Wilkening	1974-75	Parker W. Fritschle
1960-61	Edward W. Billhorn	1975-76	Al W. Hellwege
1961-62	Ronald P. Smillie		



The 1975 addition of 1000 acres to S-F Scout Ranch, bringing it to a total of more than 5200 acres, now provides "highway to highway" boundaries, river frontage on both sides of the Little St. Francois, and some beautiful rolling woodland, meadows, and ponds.

ON MY HONOR I WILL DO
+ TO DO MY DUTY TO GOD A
COUNTRY AND TO OBEY THE
LAW + TO HELP OTHER PE
ALL TIMES + TO KEEP MY
PHYSICALLY STRONG, MENT
AWAKE AND MORALLY STR

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About the Author

Like most professional writers, Bill Brittain always dreamed of "writing a book." But like most, he never got around to it—until commissioned to write this one. Native St. Louisan, graduate of the University of Missouri's School of Journalism, former newspaper man and currently an advertising and public relations consultant, he was selected from a field of many possible authors. He was chosen not only for his demonstrated writing skills but because he had never been active in Scouting. Thus it was felt he would deal most objectively with his subject matter, some of it quite sensitive.

No less than seven previous attempts over the years had been made to write this history of Boy Scouting in St. Louis. Each well-intentioned author, however, facing a mountainous and ever-growing accumulation of data as the decades passed, gave up in dismay. Bill Brittain and Editorial Researcher Sue Bussen did not. They sifted through 65 years' of reference material, much of it dimmed by the passage of time, before Brittain started his three-year writing job.

Collaborating with him was his editor, Tom Connelly, veteran Scouter of almost 30 years; and Bill Quade, whose fascination with the memorabilia led to his volunteering to lay out and art-direct this book.

The result is an exciting, readable and carefully documented history of one Boy Scout Council's accomplishments, written against the background of America's changing times. As such, *Spirit of Scouting '76* is a fitting tribute to the thousands of St. Louis Area Scouters who have done, and continue doing, so much for so many.



Tom J. Connelly (left) and William W. Quade are executive vice president and executive art director, respectively, of Krupnick & Associates, Inc., advertising/communications.

