

The Black Bear



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Council President - Mike Correro

Scout Executive - Shane Cooley

Dear Scouters,

First and foremost, I want to thank you all for the steadfast commitment you have shown to the Louisiana Purchase Council and our mission in the face of the national news. I am inspired by the many ways I have seen Scouters embody the Scout Oath and Law, and I have been incredibly impressed by the way our council and volunteers have worked to ensure continuity for our youth, supporters and communities. The feedback I've received from both the Council Service Teams and the volunteers tells me that Scouting is Strong in Louisiana Purchase Council.

The best thing we all can do is to stay focused on Scouting's enduring mission and how we can best serve our families and communities as part of this important movement. Thank you again for all you have – and continue to do – for Scouting. Providing the Best Quality Program that we can for the youth of Northeast and Central Louisiana. If you have questions, I encourage you to checkout

<https://www.bsarestructuring.org/>

Thank you for all that you do.

Mike Correro

Shane Cooley

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Food for Thought Council Commissioner Dennis D. Burke

Your Council and District Commissioner Staff is designed to assist all units with the fulfillment of the Scouting Mission and Dream. They are positioned between the Local unit and the District Committee, in a way to be able to provide any needed support. They will visit the units to encourage Unit growth and retention, solicit any request for information or guidance as needed. They also could be an outside source to provide a periodic uniform inspection, if desired by the leaders. They are a resource for the units to get the latest information from the District and Council committees. They are always eager to assist, but DO NOT make decisions for the Units. Each Unit is autonomous and control their own Unit through their Unit Committee. Only a resource. We are committed to the Values and Mission of Scouting and pledge our support of the Units. If you don't get a regular visit from one of our Commissioners, please let us know and we will see that you do.

Scout Law

A Scout is:

Trustworthy

Loyal

Helpful

Friendly

Courteous

Kind

Obedient

Cheerful

Thrifty

Brave

Clean

Reverent

Scout Oath

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

Did you Know?

Eagle Scout is the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Scouts BSA program of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). Since its inception in 1911, only 4 percent of Scouts have earned this rank after a lengthy review process. The Eagle Scout rank has been earned by over 2.5 million youth.

Arrow of Light is the highest achievement a Cub Scout can earn. Earning this rank prepares a Webelos Scout for Scout BSA. Webelos Scouts who earn the Arrow of Light Award have completed all requirements for Scouts BSA Badge.



The Louisiana Purchase Council Banquet was held on Friday, February 7, 2020 at the Barak Shriner's Temple. We had the distinct honor to recognize the 42 young men who earned Scoutings highest honor Eagle Scout in 2019.

This years' class was named in honor of Mr. Wes Colvin. Wes has been involved in Scouting his entire life from a Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Professional Scout, to a volunteer. Wes is an Eagle Scout from Troop 59 in Ruston, Louisiana.

Congratulation Wes on being named the 2019 Book of Eagles Recieipient.

We also honored 43 Arrow of Light Recipient and our very first female recipient.

This years' guest speaker was Judge Jay McCallaum. He took his seat on the Second Court of Appeal February 1, 2018. Before that, Judge McCallum served as a judge of the Third Judicial District (Lincoln & Union Parishes) from 2003-2018. Prior to being elected judge, he served as an Assistant District Attorney for the Third Judicial District, and as a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives from 1992-2002. Judge McCallum is a much sought after CLE, motivational and inspirational speaker who is best know for using humor to instruct, inspire and motivate his audiences. Judge Jay, as he is known to many of his constituents, is most proud of being a husband and father to his beloved family

2019 Wes Colvin Class of Eagles

42 Eagles

43 Arrow of Lights

2 Silver Beavers

Silver Beaver Recipients.

Otis Riley was a Cub Scout, and a Boy Scout. He is a Navy Veteran serving in Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Otis is married and has two sons, one that is an eagle. He has been a Den Leader, Cubmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, Scoutmaster and is currently serving as a Shooting Sport Director and is heavily involved with the O.A.

Dean Smith was in Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts. He is an Eagle Scout of the Class of 1963. He has been a volunteer for 36 years. He is the Scoutmaster for Troop 5, he has served Scoutmaster of the 1989 Jamboree Troop and has been advisor on 5 Philmont treks. Dean has been married to Nancy for 48 years. They have a son, daughter and four grandchildren



District News!!!

Attakapas District - The Attakapas District is staffed by Richard Crise. The district now covers from LaSalle Parish over to Concordia down to Avoyelles and Allen Parishes. You may not know, but there is a Scout Office in Alexandria. The office is located in the Rapides Foundation Building at 1101 4th St in Alexandria. Richard is there most days and can be contacted by his phone or email, Richard.crise@scouting.org. The office allows us to have committee meetings, board of reviews, and roundtables. Also in the fall we host a traveling scout store there in September.

Pioneer District – The monthly District Committee Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month. 6pm at St. Paul’s UMC located on Lexington Street in Monroe. All Leaders and interested parents are encouraged to attend. Pioneer District Pinewood is tentatively set for Saturday, March 28 at FUMC in West Monroe. Host Pack 37. For more information please contact Greg Covington at greg.covington@scouting.org

Thunderbird District – Welcome to our many new scouters in the district. We will be holding our next quarterly district leadership roundtable April 25th in Ruston at Grace United Methodist church. We are also sending out a monthly district newsletter and if you would like to receive it please email our district executive at peter.thorson@scouting.org to be added to the list. We will be having a BALOO/IOLS training for all Adult leaders May 16, 2020 at Camp T.L. James

Family Friends of Scouting

Scouting helps prepare young people to be leaders and individuals of strong character. Our goal is to be positive influence on all youth in our area. Youth programming includes career exploration, team building, lifelong skills, and a wide range of educational opportunities through experiential learning. To make this all possible, we need support from your. To start, please contact your District Executive to schedule your presentation today!!!



The Camp Card sale is designed specifically to help Scouts earn funds to offset the cost of their Scouting experience, specifically day camp, resident camp, or summer camp. Units participating in this program will earn 50% commission (\$5.00) for each \$10 Camp Card they sell. The sale runs approximately 2 months and usually begins in mid March and ends mid May. The program is completely risk free and units can return any cards that they do not sell. More information will be available at your monthly district roundtable

CampMasters Popcorn

With over 70% of the Popcorn Sale going to support Scouting there is no other fundraiser with that high of a return and majority of the money going directly to your unit. Up to 40% goes straight to the local units in for of commission and / or prizes for your Scouts. More information will be available very soon!!!



LPC Family Camping –

Organized camping is a creative, educational experience in cooperative groups of living in the outdoors. It uses the natural surroundings to contribute significantly to physical, mental, spiritual and social growth.

Upcoming Events

- March 1 – O.A. Spring Ordeal (Camp Attakapas)
- March 5 – Program Preview Attakapas (Rapides Foundation Building)
- March 4 – Pioneer Eagle Board of Review (CSC)
- March 6-8 Spring Adventures in Cub Scouting (Camp T.L. James)
- March 12 – Program Preview Pioneer/Thunderbird (Council Office)
- March 12 – Pioneer District Committee Meeting
- March 12-14 – Spring Adventures in Cub Scouting (Camp T.L. James)
- March 20-22 – Shriner’s Circus
- March 27-28 – Spring Cuboree (Camp Attakapas)
- April 1 - Pioneer Eagle Board of Review (CSC)
- April 9 – Pioneer District Committee Meeting
- April 17 – Summer Camp Early Bird Deadline
- April 17-19 – O.A. Conclave
- April 25 – Thunderbird District Leadership Roundtable

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3 THINGS TO KNOW
NOW THAT THE BSA HAS FILED FOR CHAPTER 11

1 Scouting Continues

- ✓ Blue & Gold Banquets
- ✓ Pinewood Derbies
- ✓ Regular Meetings
- ✓ Campouts
- ✓ Service Projects
- ✓ Courts of Honor
- ✓ Crossover Ceremonies

2 Scouting is safer now than ever before

~90% OF PENDING AND ASSERTED ABUSE CLAIMS are related to abuse from 30+ years ago

EFFECTIVE BARRIERS TO ABUSE

RECOGNIZE RESPOND REPORT

1-844-SCOUTS1

3 You can make a difference

Explain BSA's youth protection policies to friends and neighbors

Plan or attend service projects or public events to show your community the value of Scouting

Proudly share with others – in person and on social media – why Scouting is important

Program Preview Planning Meeting – Is your Pack or Troop planning to attend Camp this Summer? Then you need to attend this meeting. Leader’s Guides will be handed out and explained. We will also be issuing the Council’s first Unit Program Planning Guide & Calendar. This guide will help you plan your Scouting year for the remainder of 2020 and all of 2021. This is the first step to improving Scouting in your area. We hope to see you Thursday, March 5, 2020 at the Rapides Foundation Building in Alexandria or Thursday, March 12, 2020 at the Council Service Center in Monroe. Both events will begin at 6:00 PM.



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