

**Helping ordinary young people  
become extraordinary young people.**

**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL  
2001 ANNUAL REPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY**

[ MISSION STATEMENT ]

THE MISSION OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF  
AMERICA IS TO PREPARE YOUNG  
PEOPLE TO MAKE ETHICAL CHOICES  
OVER THEIR LIFETIMES BY  
INSTILLING IN THEM THE VALUES OF  
THE SCOUT OATH AND LAW.

**TO OUR COMMUNITY AND LOYAL SCOUT FAMILY:**

Our nation experienced tremendous change during 2001. If you travel by airline, work in a metropolitan area, or simply open your mailbox, you probably experienced some uneasiness or lost some sense of security. Tens of thousands of others experienced much greater losses.

Throughout this adversity, Americans witnessed resilience. It is often only when we take a moment to review various events that we recognize the wonderful gifts or attributes possessed by people we now call **HEROES**. We see the courage of a firefighter, the tenacity of a police officer, or the self-sacrifice of emergency medics.

It is impossible to analyze the backgrounds of all our heroes. However, you often find common threads of **CHARACTER, COURAGE, AND COMMITMENT**. The focus of the Greater St. Louis Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, is to help ordinary young people become—if or when called upon—extraordinary young people. Throughout the pages of this Annual Report, you will meet ordinary people or families who have been influenced—or in some cases transformed—by our Scouting program.

You will find many unsung heroes throughout the Scouting program. They are the adult volunteer leaders who display outstanding **DEVOTION** to our youth members. They maintain the quality and integrity of the Scouting program. To these people, we pledge our continued support so Scouting may continue to promote character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness.



**Sam Fox**  
Board Chairman



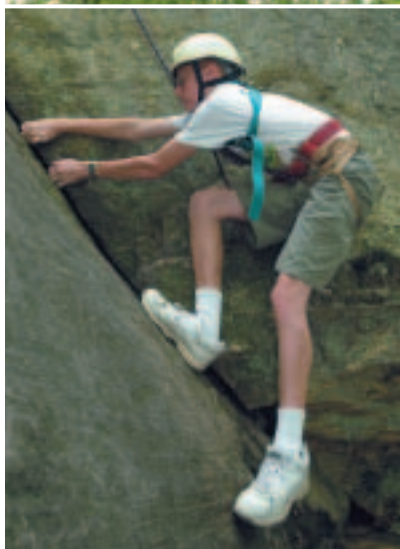
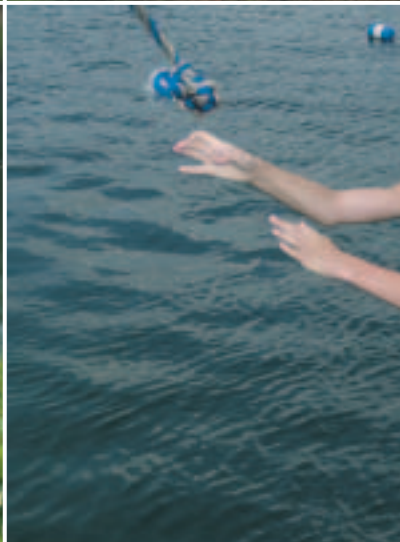
**Terry Schwarek**  
Scout Executive



**C. Ray Holman**  
Council President



**Steven Swyers**  
Council Commissioner



**The 63,032 registered youth members is the highest year-end membership in the Council's history.**

**The Council serves approximately ONE OUT OF EVERY FIVE young people in our geographic boundary.**

**The 5,768 TIGER CUBS (first graders) is the most of any Council in the nation.**



[ LOVING THE CLIMB, UNABLE TO ENJOY THE VIEW ]



Jimmy Bauer and Adnan Gutic wanted to do the same things that other Boy Scouts at summer camp were doing. Earning the Climbing Merit Badge seemed to be something that would be fun and exciting.

They couldn't see the perplexed look on the merit badge counselor's face when they showed up at Camp Lewallen's climbing tower. The two Scouts from Troop 109, chartered to the Missouri School for the Blind, could only sense uneasiness in the counselor's voice.

"He was ready to march us back to our campsite and have a talk with our Scoutmaster," Bauer said. "But everybody was able to work together and make things happen."

In addition to earning the Climbing Merit Badge, the Scouts participated in a special program for older Scouts. It included an overnight float trip, shooting sports, and an iron man competition.

"Summer camp was an awesome experience," said Gutic, who has partial vision. "I do a lot of different activities

through school, but Scouting was the most fun."

They couldn't look down or enjoy the view from the top of the climbing tower, but these Scouts gained a different perspective.

"I'm thankful for the people who helped the Scouts build our climbing tower and camps," Bauer said. "If it wasn't for them, we would not have had this opportunity."



[ THE MOST MEMORABLE CAMPING TRIP ]



Sometimes families, Scouts, and volunteers underestimate the lasting influence of something as simple as a weekend camping trip.

After Rick Weinhold spent the weekend camping with his 11-year-old son Sam and his Boy Scout troop, he decided to take the entire family out for dinner the next night.

Natalie, his 6-year-old daughter, asked him, "Will you be a police officer in heaven?"

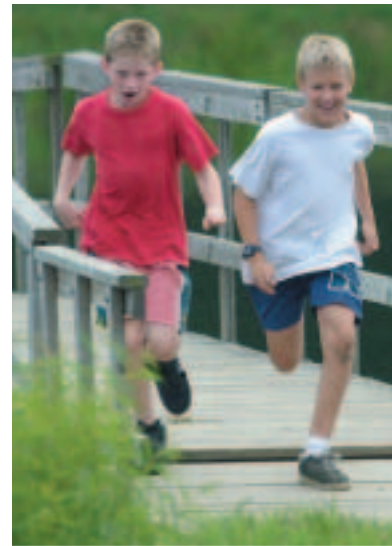
"No," said Rick, a St. Louis County police officer. "There is no crime in heaven. They don't need police officers. I'm going to do something I really enjoy. I'm going to be a Boy Scout leader."

The next day, Sergeant Richard Weinhold was shot and killed in the line of duty.

What at first seemed like a normal weekend trip became a father-and-son experience that Sam will forever treasure. The last photograph of the two shows a

proud and loving father hoisting his son to his shoulders at the Nims Lake overlook at the S-Bar-F Scout Ranch.

"Rick loved the Scouting program and was even thinking about it as a second career," said his wife, Julie Weinhold. "Many special things happened just before and after Rick's death. The troop has gone to great lengths to help Sam. I will be forever thankful for how Scouting has helped us."



The annual Scouting for Food Good Turn resulted in the collection of approximately **TWO MILLION** canned goods. During the 17-year history of the drive, more than 25 million canned goods were collected.

Scouts devoted **387,881 HOURS** of community service

A collective **68,088 NIGHTS OF CAMPING** were completed by Scouts at Council facilities





The rank of Eagle Scout was earned by **454 YOUNG MEN**

Classroom Scouting programs provided character education for more than **5,900** youths with disabilities

Scoutreach programs were recognized with the President's **URBAN EMPHASIS AWARD** presented by the Central Region of the National Councils



[ MAKING A BOSNIAN DREAM COME TRUE IN AMERICA ]



Half a world away, a 10-year-old Bosnian girl dreamed of becoming a police officer. Sanela Konjevic liked the uniforms, but mostly she wanted to show others that a female could to a policeman's job. Then came the war.

One day in 1992, Serbian government officers came to her home and arrested her father. She never saw him again. Her family was expelled, and they immigrated to the United States.

"It was devastating," she said. "My father was number one in my life. When I'm in certain situations, I think back to how my dad would feel in those same situations. He would always tell me, when you want to do something,

make sure you want to do it for yourself. Be true to yourself."

During a meeting with social workers in St. Louis, 16-year-old Sanela shared her dream. They helped her join a Law Enforcement Explorer Post, a program of the Boy Scouts of America. Six years later, she is a graduate of the Metropolitan St. Louis Police Academy. After graduating from high school at the top of her class, she is two semesters away from earning an undergraduate degree in criminal justice.

"After the war, helping other people became more meaningful to me," she said. "I wanted to help bring to the world some kind of justice."

Sanela soon became captain of the Explorer post—the top youth leadership position. She enjoyed the post's service projects in the community. Now, she is looking to serve the post as an adult leader.

"The people who were my Explorer leaders are now my friends and will be my co-workers," she said. "I've always thought I was the kid. Now, after spending all of these years learning from them, I will be the one backing them up."

"I know there are a lot of kids who are in trouble. If the Exploring or Scouting program could keep just one kid out of jail, it would be worth it."



[ HELPING EAGLES SOAR ]



Linda Lemen traveled throughout the world to adopt her three sons. The Boy Scouts of America helped her raise them.

As infants, Sam and Tim were abandoned on the streets of India; Leandro in Brazil. Linda brought them back to America, determined to give them the best life possible.

A single mother, she became active in Scouting—even spending a week at

Boy Scout summer camp at the S-Bar-F Ranch. Sam and Tim earned the rank of Eagle Scout, and Leandro is a few merit badges away.

As a juvenile officer in the City of St. Louis, Linda witnesses countless young lives forever altered by criminal acts.

“When attending juvenile justice conferences, I hear many speakers demand new programs that develop leadership,

character, and responsibility in young people,” she said. “Often, I will stand up after the presentation and say we have a 90-year old program that does all of that—the Boy Scouts of America.

“I firmly believe that if every young man was involved in Scouting and in Sunday School or some type of religious education, we would not need a juvenile justice system.”

**WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT SCOUTING?**

We hope you’ve enjoyed our report. Do you know a young person who would benefit from Scouting? If you were a Scout, would you like to give something back to Scouting?

If you answered “yes” to either of these questions, we can accommodate you. Please complete the following questionnaire and mail it to the address below.

After completing this form, detach and mail it to: Greater St. Louis Area Council, B.S.A., Public Relations, 4568 West Pine Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Please place an **X** by the items you would like to pursue.

I want my son/daughter involved in Scouting

I was a Scout and would like to volunteer as a leader

I am an Eagle Scout and would like to volunteer as a leader

I was a Scout or a leader and would like to donate to Scouting

I was a Scout or leader and would like information on including Scouting in my estate plans

I would like more information about including Scouting in my estate plans



**A United Way agency.**

**The Greater St. Louis Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, gratefully acknowledges the following companies for the design, guidance and production of this report.**

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