

**Hoosier Trails Council  
Boy Scouts of America**  
HoosierTrailsBSA.org  
5625 East State Road 46  
Bloomington, IN 47401

**Scout Shop & Office Hours**  
Monday - Friday 10 am to 5 pm  
Saturday - 10 am to 2 pm  
Sunday - Closed

**Phone**  
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*Character Connections* is a quarterly newsletter of the Hoosier Trails Council, that strives to share the Scouting movement with community leaders within our 18-county service area.

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BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
5625 E. STATE ROAD 46  
BLOOMINGTON, IN 47401 - 9233

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# Character Connections

Communications to Bridge the 18-counties of the Hoosier Trails Council, BSA - 2016, 3rd Quarter

## Preserving the Future of Scouting

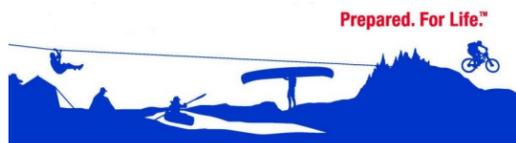
The Hoosier Trails Council has launched a **Major Gifts Initiative** with emphasis on securing our fiscal future. Our goal is to raise almost \$5 million via tax-deductible contributions to support these projects in order to improve our facilities. It is important to note that the funds raised through this effort will only be used for capital projects and their endowment, not for operations of the council.

The long-term success generated from this investment in the Hoosier Trails Council will:

- Better serve our area youth that benefit from the year-round adventures at our camps
- Make the usage of properties more attractive to Scout groups from other councils, thus generating more revenue that can be used to continually strengthen programming.
- Provide quality facilities that make our camping operations more competitive to non-Scouting groups for rental opportunities thus diversifying our revenue generation.
- Create an Endowment that will maintain the investment in perpetuity and free assets that are currently being invested annually from the operations budget to further the Scouting movement.

<u>Priority Area</u>	<u>Projected Cost</u>
<b>Maumee Scout Reservation - Phase 1</b>	
Fellowship Hall	\$ 2,500,000
Health & Mini Conference Center	\$ 250,000
<b>Maumee Scout Reservation - Phase 2</b>	
Camper Comfort & Maintenance	\$ 576,530
Aquatics Program Area	\$ 250,000
Campsites Program Area Improvements	\$ 184,000
Ecology Lodge & Program Area	\$ 150,000
STEM & Trades Program Area	\$ 150,000
Adventure Course	\$ 75,000
Cabin Remodels	\$ 58,500
Shooting Sports Program Area	\$ 75,000
Campfire Arena	\$ 25,000
Older Scout Programming and Native American Outpost Program Area	\$ 35,000
Scoutcraft Shelter & Program Area	\$ 20,000
<b>Maumee Scout Reservation Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 4,349,030</b>
<b>Louis Ernst</b>	<b>\$ 400,000</b>
<b>Hoosier Trails Council Service Center</b>	<b>\$ 250,000</b>
<b>TOTAL*</b>	<b>\$ 4,999,030</b>

Gifts to the Hoosier Trails Council are philanthropic investments in both our area youth and our local communities. Today, the Hoosier Trails Council serves more than 6,000 youth throughout south-central Indiana. To learn more, or take a VIP property tour, contact [Glen.Steenberger@Scouting.org](mailto:Glen.Steenberger@Scouting.org).



The Hoosier Trails Council, Boy Scouts of America is one of several councils serving a specific geographic region within Indiana.

**MISSION STATEMENT** - It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

**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.

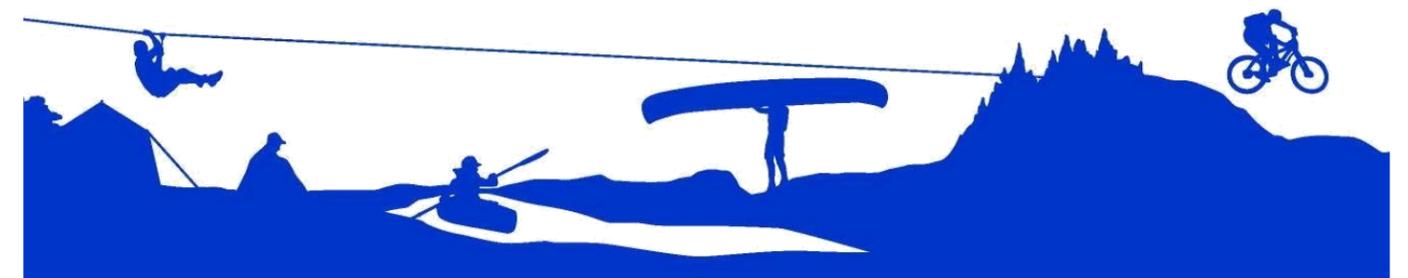
**SCOUT LAW** - A Scout is: Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.

The Hoosier Trails Council Service Center is located in Bloomington and serves 18 counties throughout south-central Indiana. The council is divided into four districts, each under the direction of local volunteers and a professional staff member.

- Hoosier Hills District: Dearborn, Jefferson, Ohio, Ripley, Switzerland
- Lenni Lenape District: Bartholomew, Decatur, Jackson, Jennings
- Wapehani District: Brown, Monroe, Morgan, Owen
- White River Trails: Daviess, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, Orange



For more information on the life-changing programs of our movement, visit:  
[www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org](http://www.HoosierTrailsBSA.org)



## What should you expect from Scouting for your family?

There are so many choices for youth activities today and it is often hard to select the best use of your investment of time. With so many options, I think it is vital for parents to understand that Scouting can be done along with other youth programs, but that it ought to be a part of the mix. Personally, I was an athlete and a Boy Scout. There were many lifelong takeaways from sports; however, decisions I make daily are rooted in what I learned through Scouting. A young man told me once that “he played football, but that he was a Scout”, and this best sums it up.

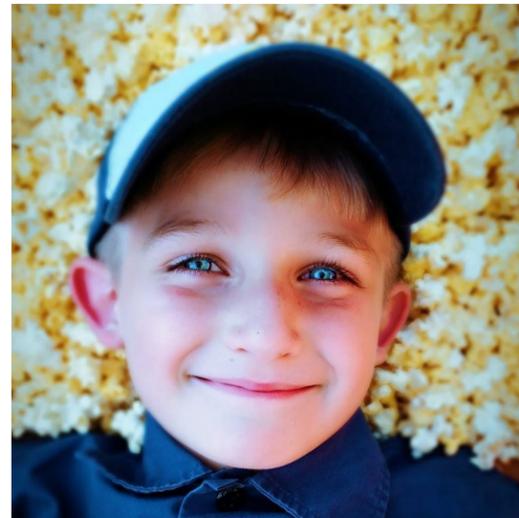


**Glen R. Steenberger,**  
Scout Executive/CEO

Our program provides youth with the self-confidence to face difficult situations boldly. We help youth to make friends and to develop good social skills. Through our advancement program, youth gain a broad base of knowledge that often leads to life-long hobbies or a career. Youth are provided with trusted mentors that help guide them down their paths. Leadership skills are cultivated that help youth stand above the crowd and leads to future success in life. Participants gain a love of nature and the world around them, and are proven to have better outlooks on life and their education. Scouts deepen their faith in God and explore qualities that make them who they are. Families are strengthened through structured time spent together, bonds that come in useful when times are tough. Parents develop qualities in themselves as a by-product of engaging with their children in Scouting. Kids learn to put the needs of others before their own, the importance of giving service to the community, striving to do something good for others daily. These are just a few of the outcomes that you can expect from investing your family in Scouting.

## Scout Popcorn Sale Funds Adventures

The delicious smell of Boy Scout Popcorn is in the air. Scouts are working hard this fall to succeed in the annual popcorn sale, the proceeds of which lead to great Scouting programs all year long. Local Scouting programs count on the support generated from this fundraiser to underwrite the cost of much of their annual budgets. Through a planning process, Scouts dream up their ideal Scouting year, put it in a calendar, establish a budget to pay for the adventures, and then fund their budget. This is where popcorn comes in! Each Scout has a goal, which pays for their Scouting involvement and teaches the important skills of planning, budgeting, follow-through, and salesmanship along the way. Our popcorn campaign has gone high-tech with the implantation of credit card readers used at our store front sale locations. Support your local Scouts in this endeavor when you see them working this fall!



## U.S. Chamber of Commerce & Boy Scouts of America Partner to Help Bring Career Possibilities to Life

With studies showing that youth participation in mentorship programs before college helps better position them for jobs, the Boy Scouts of America is teaming up with the [U.S. Chamber of Commerce](#) to bring more career development opportunities to young people across the country. The partnership is designed to expand the reach of the [Exploring program](#) by encouraging local U.S. Chamber outposts to contribute to this mission by coordinating opportunities for area business leaders and Chamber members to start or engage with nearby Exploring posts and offer the mentorship program in a variety of professional fields.

“With the support of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, we will connect even more young adults nationwide to business leaders in careers that speak to their passion,” said Michael Surbaugh, Chief Scout Executive, Boy Scouts of America. “Besides the invaluable hands-on career experience the Exploring program creates, youth participants also gain confidence in their skills and meet with professionals who can help guide them on their path to success.”

The modern workforce demands a dynamic skillset from young professionals, and with the increasing cost of higher education, the chance to explore various careers before entering college is a valuable opportunity for young people to find a path that suits their strengths. Approximately 70 percent of companies say that young people who participate in mentorship programs are likely to eventually land a college internship within their company. Through Exploring, youth can be better informed about their interests and strengths to make decisions about their careers and reach their professional goals.

“America today is a nation of people without jobs and jobs without people, but the solutions-driven leadership of the business community can make a difference in tackling that challenge,” said Thomas J. Donohue, president and CEO of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. “The U.S. Chamber and the Boy Scouts of America are natural partners in efforts to create opportunities for Americans and build a stronger workforce. Through the Exploring program, the Boy Scouts of America can bring to the table young people who are eager to learn and succeed, and the business community can bring the jobs.”

“The Exploring program is more than an internship or job-shadowing program, it’s an opportunity for young adults to form relationships with a future employer or mentor who can guide them in the right direction toward their chosen career,” said Diane Thornton, National Director, Exploring Program. “Exploring also teaches young adults about the importance of developing leadership and character before entering the workplace – which helps these kids make smart decisions about their future.”

*The Exploring program is available to youth through Learning for Life, an affiliate program of the Boy Scouts of America that provides character and career education programs. To learn more about how to get involved in Exploring, visit [www.exploring.org](http://www.exploring.org).*

