

**The
American Legion
Department of Florida**



**Boy Scouts
Post Chairman Manual**

2016 - 2017



MEMO



To: American Legion Area/District/Post Boy Scout Chairman
From: Wayne Newland, Sr.; Department of Florida Boy Scout Chairman
Subject: American Legion Boy Scout Program

I am very excited to be your Department of Florida Boy Scout Chairman for the 2016-2017 year. I hope this will be a wonderful year for Scouting.

As you begin your Scouting Adventure, we are the only obstacles that we need to overcome. Our American Legion history goes with Boy Scouts since the early days. So let's apply our skills and abilities so we can work together as a team developing a great working relationship between the American Legion and the Boy Scouts of America. The youth need us and we need to help them because they are our future.

Our job has already begun. Do your best to visit the Posts in your District and the Chartered Scout units under your care. Work with those Posts that have no existing charter (sponsored units) and encourage them to consider establishing one with an American Legion Post. Encourage the Posts' Charter Organization Representative (COR) to invite you to visit your sponsored BSA units at least once a quarter. Get to know those that you are representing. It will ease your efforts tremendously.

Enclosed is the 2016-2017 Boy Scout Post Chairman Guide so you will have all the information you need to know about the Boy Scout Program. I look forward to your participation as we build upon the foundation that was left by our predecessors.

If you have specific problems, please feel free to contact me at BoyScouts@legionmail.org

I look forward to working with you to achieve our Department, Area, District, and Post Scouting program goals; mentoring our youth and the potential Legionnaires of the future.

For God and Country – Yours in Better Scouting

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Department & District Chairmen	3
Job Description	4
History of the American Legion & Boy Scouts	5
Department of Florida Boy Scout Program	5-6
Boy Scouts of America Council & Commission	6
Your Post and the Boy Scout Program	7-10
Locating a Scouting Unit	10
Reports & Awards	10
Areas of Jurisdiction	11-12
Boy Scout Council	12-13

2016-2017 BOY SCOUTS DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

Department Chairman

Gerald "Wayne"
Newland
772.584.2450
BoyScouts@
legionmail.org

1st District

Raymond Olsen
850.529.2336
rayolsenusn@
gmail.com

2nd District

James Brennan
850.309.0071
james.brennan@earthlin
k.net

3rd District

Mike Hutto
352.490.1756
diverhutto@yahoo.com

4th District

Victoria VanBuren
352.562.9963
vickie.vanburen@yahoo
.com

5th District

Donald James
904.891.3963
Sherdon1@
bellsouth.net

6th District

D. Hench
407.365.1917
derichench@yahoo.com

7th District

Stephen Anthony
863.289.1407
fnp8@hotmail.com

8th District

Dennis Walsh
941.240.8200
sinnedw@verizon.net

9th District

Andrew Buglione
954.782.2817
Andyscoutman@att.net

11th District

Robert Miller
561.324.0267
millerjr60@
bellsouth.net

12th District

Gerald "Wayne"
Newland
772.584.2450
BoyScouts@
legionmail.org

13th District

Michael Raymond
941.629.7446
nuwayteacher47@
aol.com

14th District

Gary Decker
305.304.0767
garynavy61@att.net

15th District

Kathryn Boyer
407.970.3134
usaf0127@yahoo.com

16th District

John Sloat
727-347-6085
johns1584@aol.com

17th District

Paul Alexander
386.671.2810

Boy Scout Chairman Job Description

READ! READ!! READ!!! This will tell you all the information you need to know about your program.

Attend: all District meetings, Fall Conference, and Department Convention.

Keep the Boy Scout Manual and extra brochures with you.

AUGUST

- Attend all District meetings to promote Boy Scouting and maintain Post/District communication.

SEPTEMBER

- Make plans to attend Post Boy Scout functions in your community.

NOVEMBER

- Obtain Cracker Trail Competition information

DECEMBER

- Involve Scouts in all your holiday events or participate in community events

JANUARY

- Involve Scouts in all your holiday events or participate in community events

FEBRUARY

- Involve Scouts in all your holiday events or participate in community events

MARCH

- **Eagle Scout of the Year applications due March 1st to Department Headquarters**

APRIL

- End of Year Reports will go out this month. Make sure scouting information is on your Post Consolidated Report.

MAY/JUNE

- Make sure all paperwork is turned in and you are ready for the new year
- Submit a one-page narrative for your post to have a chance to be awarded the Post Sponsorship Award for the 2016 – 2017 year at the Department Convention

HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AND BOY SCOUTS

Chicago publisher William Boyce founded the Boy Scouts of America on February 8, 1910. The new BSA quickly established a national office, developed a temporary handbook, sought out Baden-Powell's endorsement and soon thereafter obtained a Congressional Charter from the US Congress in 1916.

Since its earliest days the Boy Scouts of America have cultivated leadership and good citizenship, a service that has been recognized since its establishment. Boy Scouts have been an integral part of our country ever since.

At the American Legion's first National Convention in Minneapolis in 1919, the American Legion gave approval and support to the Boy Scout movement. Posts began to sponsor Boy Scout units following the convention, but organized guidance and cooperation did not take place until 1922 when the Boy Scout program was included in the activities of the Americanism Commission.

American Legion chartering of Boy Scout units has steadily increased over the years. On average, Legion Posts have either chartered or sponsored approximately 2,700 scouting units (Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops, and Venturing Crews) nationwide on an annual basis, totaling over 86,000 BSA registered members.

It is the objective of The American Legion, specifically, the National Americanism Commission, to translate Americanism precepts, principles, and ideals in an understanding and practical manner to the people of this Nation, to include Young America.

The scouting program gives Legionnaires, Sons of American Legions, American Legion Auxiliary, and American Legion Rider members that opportunity to touch the lives of the youth of our Nation and to share with them the skills necessary to build a generation of young people ready to serve God and Country.

AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA'S BOY SCOUT PROGRAM

The American Legion Department of Florida alone is targeted to charter through its American Legion Post's between 45 to 55 BSA units during the 2014-2015 year. During an average year, Florida's program will reach 2,750 registered scouts and will expend some \$55,000 in support of BSA programs.

Most American Legion Post homes can accommodate BSA units with a safe, non-alcoholic meeting location on a regular basis or will assist BSA units in finding a suitable area to meet as well as rendezvous points for fund raisers and other community activities.

The American Legion Department Boy Scout Program in our state comes under the jurisdiction of the Department of Florida, headquartered in Orlando. A Department Boy Scout Chairman is appointed annually by the Department Commander to fulfill the duties to which assigned.

Area and District Boy Scout Chairmen are appointed annually to support the Department Boy Scout Chairmen in meeting program goals. Area and District Boy Scout Chairmen are tasked with providing assistance to those individual posts in their districts and serve as channels to pass on and receive information concerning American Legion Boy Scout programs.

Chartered American Legion Department of Florida Boy Scout of America Packs, Troops, and Crews that meet their rank required Americanism/Citizenship requirements are eligible to receive a special temporary patch that could be worn on the BSA uniform. Instructions on how to obtain this special patch is available through the Department, Area, or District Boy Scout Chairman.

The Department of Florida's Boy Scout Program is a past recipient of the *Frank N. Belgrano, Jr. Boy Scout Trophy*. The *Frank N. Belgrano, Jr., Boy Scout Trophy* is awarded annually to that Department which has rendered the most outstanding service during the period August 1 to July 31 to the program of the Boy Scouts of America. We aim to regain that honorable recognition in the very near future and we need your assistance to attain that goal.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA COUNCIL & COMMISSION

The Boy Scouts of America program in the state of Florida is the responsibility of ten BSA councils. All of these councils are physically located in Florida with the exception of the Alabama-Florida Council (Dothan, AL), responsible for scouting activities in Jackson and Calhoun counties.

A paid Professional Scout identified as the Scout Executive heads each scouting council. Each BSA council is divided into districts which are also run by paid Professional Scouts titled District Executives. Sometimes scouting districts are responsible for all scouting units within a particular county however, it is not unusual to have two or more scouting districts having jurisdiction in a single county.

Each BSA council and its districts support four major functions: membership/relations, finance, program, and unit service. A District Chairman and a District Commissioner, both whom are volunteers assist the District Executive in his/her duties. The District Chairman is in charge of the District Committee, which is composed of subcommittees that are called upon to provide program help for scouting units in the district and to plan and conduct events such as Cracker Trail Competition's and major scout events.

The District Commissioner helps make available to chartered organizations (those civic organizations who sponsor scouting units) and leaders of their packs, troops, teams, and crews the resources of the district and the council to achieve the objectives of the scouting program. His or her primary responsibilities are recruiting, training, guiding, and evaluating the commissioner staff.

Unit and Roundtable Commissioners assist the District Commissioner. Unit Commissioners are assigned to one or more scouting units and are closely allied to them on a service and counseling basis. Roundtable Commissioners provide resources such as program skills and other helps for scouting unit leaders at monthly meetings called roundtables.

YOUR POST AND THE BOY SCOUT PROGRAM

Every American Legion Post, regardless of its size or location, can become actively involved in the scouting program. Scouting is a natural partner for your youth program because it fits so well into the Legionnaire's belief in service to God, country, and many activities supporting patriotism. Chartering or sponsoring BSA units are the manner by which an American Legion Post can participate.

The following are the scouting related recognition that Posts in the Department of Florida have found rewarding:

- ***GOOD CITIZENSHIP CITATIONS***

- The American Legion GOOD CITIZENSHIP CITATION is available from National or ordered through the Emblem Sales Catalog. This citation should be presented to Boy Scouts upon their attainment of the Eagle Scout rank.
- Each Boy Scout advancing to the Eagle Scout rank is presented his Eagle Scout rank at a special Court of Honor devoted solely to his achievement. It is recommended that the Posts present the American Legion GOOD CITIZENSHIP CITATION during the scheduled Court of Honor.

- ***CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION***

- The National Americanism Commission also recognizes those young men who attain the rank of Eagle Scout and will issue a Certification of Recognition by **request only**. The National Commander and National Adjutant sign the certificate. The inscription reads, "For outstanding achievement and exceptional leadership ability evidenced by his attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout."
- The certificate should be presented at the Eagle Scout's Court of Honor ceremony honoring the young man. The National Commander will include a letter congratulating the young man on his achievement.
- Requests for the certificate and letter should be made to the following:

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Americanism and Children & Youth Division
P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-1055

- Requests should indicate the following information:
 - Boy's Full Name
 - Address where the certificate should be sent
 - Boy Scout Troop Number
 - Date of the Court of Honor
- You should allow at least three weeks for delivery. These FREE certificates are intended for those Scouts from units chartered by American Legion Posts, American Legion Auxiliary Units, or Sons of American Legion Squadrons.

- ***EAGLE SCOUT ASSOCIATION***

- Given the financial situation of most young men who are about to receive their Eagle Scout award, a National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) membership is a practical, meaningful, and appreciated gift.
- The NESA is the only method available for the Boy Scouts of America to maintain contact with Eagle Scouts after they depart the scouting program.
- Regular membership is available for \$20.00 or a life membership for (a one-time payment) \$250.00. The NESA membership wall certificate and a plastic wallet card are mailed to the donor. Posts can present the NESA certificate when they present The American Legion Certificates of Recognition.
- It is very important to coordinate the purchase of NESA memberships with the Scoutmaster to insure that there is no duplication. Applications may be obtained at www.nesa.org or from:

NATIONAL EAGLE SCOUT ASSOCIATION
S220, Boy Scouts of America
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, TX 75015-2079

- ***CITATION OF APPRECIATION***

- Adult Scout Leader citations are usually presented at one of the scout unit's quarterly advancement ceremonies or at a gathering sponsored by the unit's sponsor. Names of outstanding volunteers from each scouting unit can be obtained from the unit leader or the unit committee chairman. For the names of outstanding volunteers at the District level, contact either the District Commissioner or the District Chairman.
- These citations are available through the Emblem Sales Catalog and are presented to an Adult Scout Leader "in recognition and sincere appreciation of outstanding service and assistance which contributed to the advancement of the Scouting Program."

- ***MERIT BADGES***

- There are 130 different merit badges, each related to a career, hobby, or scouting skill that scouts may earn. They are aimed at helping a boy discover his abilities and interests as he explores the merit badge subjects. Because of their qualifications, many Legionnaires serve as merit badge counselors.
- In order to advance to the Eagle Scout Rank, the Scout must, among other requirements, earn 21 merit badges -- 11 of these are required badges. Of the eleven required merit badges, three fit rather nicely into the Legion's Americanism Program. They include Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, and Citizenship in the World.

- ***CHARTERING A SCOUTING UNIT***

- Should your Post desire to charter a BSA unit, the Post Commander should appoint a Scouting Committee consisting of your selected members of the Post to be

referred to as the Charter Organization with at least three registered Post members and your District Boy Scout Chairman.

- The Post Boy Scout Committee will determine what BSA unit(s) they are interested in chartering, the level of support that the Post can provide (meeting location, monetary, fundraising, Post activities) and then have the District Boy Scout Chairman contact the local District Executive (see Areas of Jurisdiction below) who will provide assistance in organizing, training, and recruiting for your new unit.
- One member from the Post must be selected to serve as the Chartered Organization Representative (COR) for all BSA units chartered through the Post. Someone with a background in the Scouting Program is a good fit. This position is filled annually and is registered along with the Annual Unit Re-Charter Package. This person will function as a link between the scout unit(s) and the post. Your COR will also represent the post and its unit(s) on both the District and Council Committees who has is a voting member of these committees.
- Chartering of a scout unit brings with it responsibilities which must not be taking lightly. Be sure that the interest and support of your Post is present before taking on this responsibility.

- ***SPONSORSHIP OF A SCOUTING UNIT***

- Not all American Legion Posts have the resources to charter a Scout unit but can assist through sponsoring Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops, and Venturing Crews providing them monetary support, use of a facility for a special function or volunteering time to assist with activities that are directly related to our American Legion principles. When sponsoring a unit the Post will report on their Consolidated Post Report (CPR) the total amount of funds, volunteer time, and provide a narrative list of those units supported so each post can be credited in a tangible fashion.

- ***AMERICAN LEGION EAGLE SCOUT OF THE YEAR***

- Each year our organization recognizes the American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year at the Department and National levels. The Department Award winner is asked to speak at our annual convention where he is presented with a plaque and a \$2,500.00 scholarship. The first runner-up in the Department competition is given a \$1,500.00 scholarship. Second runner-up receives \$1,000.00 and third runner-up receives \$500.00. The Department's runner-up awards are forwarded to the Eagle Scout's chartered Post for presentation by the District Commander and District Boy Scout Chairman. The Department's Eagle Scout of the Year is automatically submitted for consideration to the National level.
- The winner of the National level will receive a \$10,000 college scholarship payable in increments of \$2,500 a year for a period of four years. Three runner-up scholarships will be given in the amount of \$2,500 each. The Eagle Scout selected for the top national award will also receive an all-expense paid trip to the annual National Convention for himself and one chaperon. The announcement of the annual winner is made in the National Americanism Commission Report to the National Executive Committee during their spring meeting in Indianapolis.

- To be nominated for the competition, a Boy Scout must hold the Eagle Scout rank and be a registered, active member of a Boy Scout Troop, Varsity Scout Team, or Venturing Crew program chartered to an American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Son of American Legion, or American Legion Rider Post **OR** be registered, active member of a duly chartered Boy Scout Troop, Varsity Scout Team, or Venturing Crew, and the son or grandson of a Legionnaire or Auxiliary member.
- The nominee must be an active member of his religious institution and must have received his denomination's Boy Scout religious emblem. The nominee must have demonstrated practical citizenship in church, school, Scouting, and the community. Further, the nominee must have reached his 15th birthday and no older than 18 years of age and be enrolled in high school at the time of selection.
- Nomination forms for the Eagle Scout of the Year competition are available on-line at the Department or National websites under the Boy Scout link. The package must be completed and returned with the required documentation (at least four letters of recommendation and testimony with one letter required from each of the following group leaders: religious institution, school, community and Scouting at a minimum) to Department Headquarters postmarked no later than March 1st of the nomination year to be considered.
- The Department Boy Scout Chairman and his selection committee (composed of Legionnaires, both in and out of the BSA) select based on the National American Legion Americanism ranking sheet and their judgment based on the information provided on the candidate's application, the most deserving nominee as the Department of Florida Eagle Scout of the Year.

LOCATING A SCOUTING UNIT

If you do not know what scouting units are operating in your community, contact your District Boy Scout Chairman for assistance. If unavailable, contact your Department Boy Scout Chairman who will contact the District Scouting Executive from the local Scouting Council serving your jurisdiction in your county. You may also find this information on the Boy Scouts of America home page at www.bsa.scouting.org. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on "local councils." Type in the name of your city and the name of the BSA council responsible for that city will pop up. (Also see Areas of Jurisdictions below)

REPORTS AND AWARDS

Awards for the *POST SPONSORSHIP AWARD* will be presented at the annual Department Convention. The Post Sponsorship Awards will be presented to the top two American Legion Posts for their annual sponsorship of BSA units with their cumulative time and donations based on your annual CPR. Submit a one page narrative of all sponsored Scouting activities to Department Headquarters to be considered for this award. Completed reports are due to the Department Program Director by May 1st.

AREAS OF JURISDICTION

COUNTY	LEGION AREA	LEGION DISTRICT	BOY SCOUT COUNCIL
Dade	Southern	14	South Florida Council
Pasco	Central	15/16	Gulf Ridge & West Central Florida
Bay	Western	1	Gulf Coast
Escambia	Western	1	Gulf Coast
Holmes	Western	1	Gulf Coast
Okaloosa	Western	1	Gulf Coast
Santa Rosa	Western	1	Gulf Coast
Walton	Western	1	Gulf Coast
Washington	Western	1	Gulf Coast
Calhoun	Western	2	Alabama-Florida
Franklin	Western	2	Suwannee River
Gadsden	Western	2	Suwannee River
Gulf	Western	2	Gulf Coast
Jackson	Western	2	Alabama-Florida
Liberty	Western	2	Suwannee River
Wakulla	Western	2	Suwannee River
Baker	Northern	3	North Florida Council
Dixie	Northern	3	Suwannee River
Hamilton	Northern	3	North Florida Council
Jefferson	Northern	3	Suwannee River
Lafayette	Northern	3	Suwannee River
Leon	Western	3	Suwannee River
Madison	Northern	3	Suwannee River
Suwannee	Northern	3	North Florida Council
Taylor	Northern	3	Suwannee River
Alachua	Northern	4	North Florida Council
Bradford	Northern	4	North Florida Council
Citrus	Northern	4	Gulf Ridge Council
Gilchrist	Northern	4	North Florida Council
Levy	Northern	4	North Florida Council
Marion	Northern	4	North Florida Council
Union	Northern	4	North Florida Council
Clay	Northern	5	North Florida Council
Duval	Northern	5	North Florida Council
Nassau	Northern	5	North Florida Council
St. Johns	Northern	5	North Florida Council
Lake	Eastern	6	Central Florida Council
Orange	Eastern	6	Central Florida Council

Osceola	Eastern	6	Central Florida Council
Seminole	Eastern	6	Central Florida Council
Sumter	Eastern	6	Gulf Ridge Council
Polk	Central	7	Gulf Ridge Council
Desoto	Southwestern	8	Southwest Florida
Hardee	Southwestern	8	Gulf Ridge Council
Manatee	Southwestern	8	Southwest Florida
Sarasota	Southwestern	8	Southwest Florida
Highlands	Southwestern	9	Gulf Stream
Broward	Southern	11	Gulf Stream
Okeechobee	Southern	11	Gulf Stream
Palm Beach	Southern	11	Gulf Stream
Brevard	Eastern	12	Central Florida Council
Indian River	Eastern	12	Gulf Stream
Martin	Eastern	12	Gulf Stream
St. Lucie	Eastern	12	Gulf Stream
Charlotte	Southwestern	13	Southwest Florida
Collier	Southwestern	13	Southwest Florida
Columbia	Northern	13	North Florida Council
Glades	Southwestern	13	Gulf Stream
Hendry	Southwestern	13	Gulf Stream
Lee	Southwestern	13	Southwest Florida
Monroe	Southern	14	South Florida Council
Hernando	Central	15	Gulf Ridge Council
Hillsborough	Central	15	Gulf Ridge Council
Pinellas	Central	16	West Central Florida
Flagler	Northern	17	Central Florida Council
Putnam	Northern	17	North Florida Council
Volusia	Northern	17	Central Florida Council

BOY SCOUT COUNCIL

COUNCIL	TELEPHONE	ADDRESS
<u>Alabama-Florida Council</u>	(334) 793-7882	6801 W Main Street Dothan, AL 36305
<u>Central Florida Council</u>	(407) 889-4403	1951 S Orange Blossom Trail Apopka, FL 32703-7747
<u>Gulf Coast Council</u>	(850) 476-6336	9440 University Parkway Pensacola, FL 32514
<u>Gulf Ridge Council</u>	(813) 872-2691	13228 N Central Ave Tampa, FL 33612
<u>Gulf Stream Council</u>	(561) 694-8585	8335 N Military Trail Palm Bch Gardens, FL 33410-6329
<u>North Florida Council</u>	(904) 388-0591	521 S. Edgewood Ave Jacksonville, FL 32205-5359
<u>South Florida Council</u>	(305) 364-0020	15255 NW 82nd Ave Miami Lakes, FL 33016
<u>Southwest Florida Council</u>	(239) 936-8072	1801 Boy Scout Dr Ft Myers, FL 33907
<u>Suwannee River Council</u>	(850) 576-4146	2729 W Pensacola Tallahassee, FL 32304-2907
<u>West Central Florida Council</u>	(727) 391-3800	11046 Johnson Blvd Seminole, FL 33772

TIGER CUBS, for boys 5 through 6

CUB SCOUTING, for boys 7 through 10

BOY SCOUTING for boys ages 11 through 17

VARSITY for boys ages 11 through 17

VENTURING, for young men and women ages 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) through 20.

The Boy Scouts of America predicts that for every 100 boys who join a Boy Scout Troop:

- **TWELVE** will have their first contact with a church or synagogue
- **FIVE** will earn their religious emblem
- **ONE** will enter the clergy or a religious vocation
- **EIGHTEEN** will develop hobbies that will last throughout their adult life
- **ONE** will use his Scout skills to save a life of another
- **ONE** will use Boy Scout skills to save their own life
- **EIGHT** will enter a career that was learned through the merit badge system
- **SEVENTEEN** will become adult scouting volunteers
- **THREE** will become Eagle Scouts