



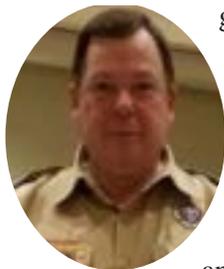
EHLASBAS!

In this issue, we spotlight each District's Key 3.

Pelican District



Andrew Todd is the **Pelican District Chairman**. He is a lifelong Scouter, Eagle Scout, Scoutmaster of Troop 434, and Vice-President of District Operations for Council. He is the proud father of Ian, a Life Scout, and married to Betsey Todd, his wife of 17 years. He is an orthopedic spine surgeon and plays an active role in the Tulane Medical School Department of Orthopedic Residency Program as a Clinical Associate Professor of Orthopedics. His passions (outside of Scouting) include the outdoors, fishing, and good wine.



Charles (Chuck) Lazarre is the **District Commissioner** and O.A. Advisor in the Pelican District. He grew up in Troop 231 in Metairie and graduated from East Jefferson High School in 1968. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Pre-Med from Northwestern State University and holds an MBA and a Master's Degree in Medical Nuclear Physics. He is an American College of Radiology Board Certified Medical Physicist. In Texas, he served as a Scoutmaster, Aquatics Director, and Medical Explorer Post Advisor. He joined the SELA Council Commissioner Corp in 2012 as a Unit Commissioner. He has completed his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Commissioner Science, and he is finalizing his Doctoral thesis proposal for the Doctorate in Commissioner Science. On the Council Level, he serves as the "Assistant Council Commissioner" over Commissioner Development. He completed his Wood Badge Training in 2018 and received the District Award of Merit in 2019.



Matt Miller is currently the Council's Associate Development Director and serving as **Cataouatche and Pelican District's Executive**. He is an Eagle Scout, Class of 2003, and became a Vigil Honor Member of the Order of the Arrow in 2009. He graduated from The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina in 2007. Matt began his professional Scouting career 14 years ago in the Coastal Carolina Council and has been serving with the Southeast Louisiana Council since 2016. Matt is a member of the Westbank Rotary Club and is getting married to his fiancé, Lauren, in June.

Cataouatche District



Thomas Lambert is an Eagle Scout, Silver Beaver, Vigil Honor, and National Order of the Arrow Distinguished Service Award recipient. In Scouting, he has served as the Order of the Arrow Lodge Adviser, Associate Section Adviser, and a Troop Committee Chairman. Currently, Thomas works closely with the BSA's national diversity and inclusion team and is the Cataouatche **District Chair**. Professionally, Thomas serves as the Chief Portfolio Officer for NOLA Public Schools, in that capacity he leads the district's strategy for charter schools, oversight/accountability, planning, unified enrollment, research, data, testing, student records, early childhood, and college and career.



As a youth, in Baton Rouge, Paul Griffith was a member of Boy Scout Troop 26 for 5 years and Explorer Post 1776 for 5 years in Monroe, La. Paul was Assistant Scoutmaster and then Scoutmaster of Troop 31 before moving to the New Orleans area in October 1987. He has been Cubmaster of Pack 445, Assistant Cubmaster and Cubmaster of Pack 397, Assistant Scoutmaster and Scoutmaster of Troop 397, Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 63, and has served Cataouatche District as Roundtable Commissioner and Unit Commissioner, and now as **District Commissioner**. Although Paul has a B.S. in Electronics Engineering Technology, has been working in Information Technology since 1987. He currently holds an Amateur Extra FCC license (aka ham radio) and is registered with the ARRL as a Volunteer Examiner and License Instructor.



Torlaf "Todd" Conner is a **Field Director** at Southeast Louisiana Council-BSA, where he is responsible for management of membership growth, new unit development management, volunteer relationships, for participation in Council annual Friends of Scouting campaign, and for leading the Emerging Markets in-school Scouting programs and Soccer and Scouting Team. Todd has been a professional Scouter for 22 years. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from the Southeastern Louisiana University. He is a Brotherhood member of the Order of Arrow and Wood Badge participant, course SR - 536 BEAR patrol. He was a Scout in Columbus, Ms. at Hughes Elementary School (In-School Scouting Program) lead by Scoutmaster Fred Young. Todd has two adult children, Kristie and George, and two grandchildren Maison and Xenobi. Todd is a member of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, La.

Fleur De Lis District



Duris Holmes has been active in Scouting in the Southeast Louisiana Council for almost 50 years. As a youth, he earned the Eagle Scout rank, worked on summer camp staff, was the OA Lodge Chief, and was awarded the Silver Pelican. In addition to now serving as the **District Commissioner** for Fleur-de-Lis, he is the Scoutmaster of Troop 23 at St. Dominic Church, Apeli Chapter OA Advisor, and the father of a Life Scout. He graduated from Tulane Law School and is a partner with Deutsch Kerrigan, L.L.P.



Martin Sirera is an Investment Director at Hancock Whitney, responsible for management of Hancock Whitney Equity Strategies and client relationships, for participation in firm Asset Allocation decisions, and for leading the Quantitative Equity Team. Martin has been in the banking industry for 31 years, and has a Bachelor's of Science in Finance from the University of New Orleans, and holds the Chartered Financial Analyst Designation. Martin serves as a classroom volunteer at St. Michael Special School in New Orleans, as Treasurer for the Gibbons Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and as an Executive Board member and **District Chairman** for the Southeast Louisiana Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and is formerly the Cubmaster for Pack 119 in Mandeville, LA. He is married to Virginia (Ginny) Erwin Sirera and they have three adult children.

Bayou District



Isaac Western was a cub scout and boy scout in his youth. He earned his Arrow of Light and Second-Class rank before leaving the program. Isaac has been an adult leader with the Scouts for the past 11 years. He has 5 children in the program, his oldest son is currently working on his Eagle, his oldest daughter is the SPL of her troop, his middle son just earned his Arrow of Light and crossed over to the troop, and his youngest son and daughter are in Cub Scouts. Isaac is currently a Scout Master, Committee Chair, Den Leader, and **District Chair**. He has completed his training and has also completed the Wood Badge course. Isaac devotes a good portion of his time to the scouting program because of how strongly he feels that the program will positively impact my children, my community, and the youth of the world.



When Richard Jansen first started in Scouting he was a first and second year AOL leader. In 2017, Richard became Scoutmaster of troop 325 in Cutoff, LA. In 2018 he became a Unit commissioner and in 2019, Richard became the **District Commissioner**. His goal is to achieve a good commission staff for the Bayou district.

Cypress District



Ron was a Cub Scout for several years growing up in New Jersey. His journey as a scouter started after leaving active duty as he and his spouse, Hope, became Tiger Cub den leaders together. Ron has since served as the Cubmaster for Pack 347, the founding Scoutmaster for Troop 315, a founding Committee Member for Crew 315, a Unit Commissioner for many Cypress District units, the Cypress **District Commissioner**, and since the beginning of February 2021, the Cypress District Chair. He's been on staff for three National Youth Leadership Training courses and two Wood Badge Courses. Ron and Hope have been married for 33 years and are the proud parents of two Eagle Scouts.



Scouting has been central for Jim Stevenson’s family for five generations now and counts 11 Eagle Scouts in his family. Jim began his involvement in Scouting in 1975 as a Cub Scout at Pack 323 in Slidell and reached Eagle rank in 1986 with Troop 346 in Slidell. In college, he worked as a Swimming MB Counselor and Lifeguard for Black Warrior and Buckskin Council’s summer camp programs. As an adult, Jim served as a Den Leader, Cubmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, and Scoutmaster for over 10 years now. He attended Wood Badge in 2019. He has also organized and led High Adventure treks to Philmont, Northern Tier, and long-distance hikes in the Appalachian mountains in North Carolina. Jim is honored to serve as the **District Commissioner** for Cypress District and to serve as a member of the Council Executive Board. He has been married to his wife Theresa since 1997 and the two of them have three children.



Tracy Jones has been with the Southeast Louisiana Council since 2008, currently as Council Program Director and providing executive support for the **Bayou and Cypress Districts**. During Tracy’s tenure with Scouting, he has served as a Lodge Advisor to the Order of the Arrow, Camp Business Manager, Camp Director, as well as been the advisor to numerous training courses, activities, and fundraisers at the district and council level. In his current capacity as Council Program Director, Tracy serves as the staff advisor for all council program committees (Activities and Civic Service, Advancement, Camping, and Outdoor Programs, and Training) as well as the Properties Committee and the Risk Management Committee. He oversees operations at Camp V-Bar, Salmen Scout Reservation, works with United Way partners, and supervises the annual Popcorn Sale, as well as providing support currently for Bayou and Cypress Districts. Tracy and his wife Lori are the parents of five children.



SEA SCOUTING

Ahoy! We are Sea Scout Ship 1830, and we are recruiting young men and women ages 14 to 21. We generally get together for sailing and boat care every other week, depending on the wind and weather, plus zoom lessons on sea safety and the art of sailing. Sea Scouts offers its members its own advancement track culminating in the highly esteemed rank of Quartermaster, which translates into advanced pay grade and rank in both the US Navy and the Coast Guard. Joining us can be accomplished whether or not you have prior scouting experience, and it can be done alongside your other scouting unit and track.

We are proud of what we do. We sail Lake Pontchartrain in a 20,000 pound, 38 foot Bluewater sailing vessel designed and built to go around the world. We learn how to be safe on the water, and how to do so while having lots of fun. The same BSA principles and leadership skills can be found in the Sea Scouts. Come try sailing with us, and see how much fun you can have!

Andreas Sahar, Skipper
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The World Crest

The World Crest is worn by all BSA registered youth members and adult leaders to symbolize membership in the World Scouting movement; centered horizontally over left pocket and vertically between left shoulder seam and top of pocket.

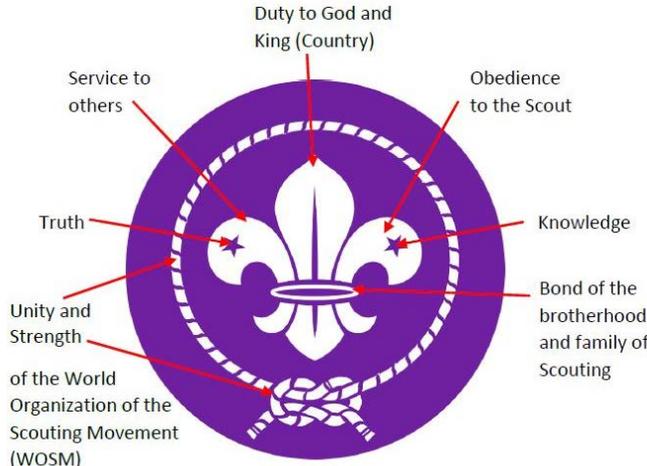
The fleur-de-lis arrowhead has been worn by an estimated 250 million Scouts since the Scouting movement was founded in 1907 by Lord Baden-Powell at the experimental camp on Brownsea Island in the UK. During this camp, he issued a copper fleur-de-lis badge to all participants. The current emblem design was introduced at the 8th World Scout Jamboree in 1955 by former Boy Scouts of Greece National Commissioner Demetrios Alexatos, and placed on the World Scout Flag which flies at the World Organization of Scouting Movements (WOSM) in Switzerland. Today is worn by 54 million Scouts in 216 countries and territories

and is one of the world's best-known symbols.

The three points of the fleur-de-lis on the world crest, represent the three parts of the original Baden-Powell's Scout Promise, and the ten points on the two stars represent the original ten parts of Baden-Powell's Scout Law. The fleur-de-lis bond represents the brotherhood and family of scouting. The two stars represent truth and knowledge. The encircling rope represents the unity and family of all the scouts around the world and the reef knot represents the strength of that unity.

White or silver represents purity, and the purple background represents leadership and service. The emblem's symbol, fleur-de-lis, helps to remind Scouts to be as true and reliable as a compass in keeping to their Scouting ideals and showing others the way.

--Antonis (Tony) Constantinou



"Our Badge we took from the Northpoint used on maps" – Lord Robert Baden-Powell

"It shows the true way to go" – Lady Olave Baden-Powell



Congratulations to Council President Bill Metcalf for being awarded the Silver Antelope Award. The award was created in 1942, and is the regional-level distinguished award of the BSA, acting through the National Court of Honor. Recipients of this award are registered Scouters of exceptional character in their region who are recognized for their distinguished service to youth.

SELA Council Executive Board “State of the Council” 6 Month Report

With the many challenges we have faced together this year, our Key 4 thought it was a good idea to recap some of the many positive actions taken by your Board since holding our Annual Business meeting in November of 2020.

PROGRAM

- Units creatively found ways to meet and conduct activities with Covid restrictions
- Held virtual merit badge College
- In January Matt Mims was appointed OA Chilantakoba Lodge Adviser. In February, the Lodge elected new Lodge officers. In April, 22 arrow men traveled to Camp Edgewood for the section SR1A conclave, where our own Jordan Diliberto was elected to Section Chief of SR1A. The chapters have started getting active again, and have been doing elections at troops all spring. The Lodge will hold its first ordeal in June where approximately 50 new members will be inducted. The Lodge also has plans to renovate Cabin 3 at camp this summer as a new Lodge building. The Lodge will have approximately 150 active members following the ordeal.
- First Council-wide Good Turn project in over a decade – Ms. Skip is heading up our Scouting for Food program
- After a yearlong Covid delay, Wood Badge 2020 course completed
- Very Successful Cub Shooting Sports Day
- Reopened Camp for weekend camping to units
- Eagerly anticipating a live summer camp and many Fall activities scheduled for 2021
- Developing a partnership with Junior Achievement which is a major youth serving organization
- Archdiocese of New Orleans told Churches and Schools to stop all Scouting activities due to concerns over charter documents. We met with the Archbishop and came up with a temporary solution of the Council chartering units and the Scouts could resume meeting at Archdiocese of New Orleans facilities
- Assigned management staff as interim District Executives for two districts each, covering all districts so volunteers would have a staff member to contact for support
- Will have a new Merit Badge Counselor identification system that is more user friendly and tracks youth protection training status of Merit Badge Counselors

BOARD CHANGES

- Board Members in new roles on the Executive Committee:
 - Bill Metcalf – Council President
 - Mark Young – Council Commissioner
 - Holly McCollum – Executive VP
 - Ken Klemm – VP of Program
 - Ben Johnson – VP of Exploring
 - Richard Exnicios – VP of Membership
 - Andrew Todd – VP of District Operations
 - Garry Winchester – VP of Emerging Markets
- Started having board meetings monthly; Key 4 meets weekly
- Added several new board members with focus on diversity, program and district representation
- Attendance at board meetings has been highest in recent memory

- Board has grown from the minimum number of Executive Board Members to approaching the maximum allowed

FACILITIES

- Officially opened building and offices November 1st after being shut down since March
- Council Offices building flooded in December. We are currently installing a new roof and drain system with blessing of BSA Trust Committee.

FINANCES

- Applied for and received \$192,000 in a PPP loan
- Held Virtual Distinguished Citizen/Diversity Gala raising \$60,000 + in November during the height of Covid
- Held a live Golden Eagle Breakfast in November honoring Parish President Matt Jewell that exceeded the \$10,000 goal
- Pillars of Scouting fundraising luncheon is off to a great start reaching almost 50% of goal one week after committee kickoff. Projected to raise \$150,000+
- Revenues are trending better than projected on our cash flow analysis. We developed two budgets (Covid and non-Covid)
- Held first Endowment Committee meeting in over two years

COMMUNICATIONS

- Key 4 did a listening tour to all districts
- Council Website has had a major facelift – David Leroux leading that effort
- Weekly e-mails to leaders, parents and Scouters on current information
- Eh La Bas Newsletter had been revived with quarterly publications

COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioners’ Advisory Board (composed of Council Commissioner, all District Commissioners & Assistant Council Commissioners) meets every month
- 12 new Commissioners have been recruited to join or rejoin the Commissioner Corps
- All Districts are conducting their own monthly Roundtable meetings; have Roundtable Commissioners
- All Districts now have District Commissioners; All Districts are now conducting regular Key 3 meetings
- Commissioner on-boarding process has been established
- Unit assessments have been started
- Kicked off our regular Coffee with the Commissioners program
- Held our first ever Roundtable Commissioner forum. This is to establish the next 6 months of Roundtable programming
- Performed in person training of our newest Unit Commissioners
- One District achieved 100% completion rate in Unit Visits for the month of March.
- Hosted day long training of the District Key 3 to establish common approach to organizing Districts within Council

Scouting Around SELA



Cypress District Award of Merit

Paul Marchiafava (center) received the District Award of Merit at the Cypress District Awards Banquet on Saturday, April 24th. Also pictured Ron Bald (Left), Cypress District Commissioner and Torrey Hayden (Right) Interim Scout Executive. The Cypress District Serves East St. Tammany Parish.

The 2021 Pinewood Derby Championships took place on April 24th for SELA Council Cub Scouts. The event was virtual and featured over 75 cars!

Congratulations to our top 3 racers:

- 1st Rafael P. - Pack 27**
- 2nd Gregory S. - Pack 365**
- 3rd Gideon S. - Pack 221**

Thanks to all of our adult volunteers for their organization and support of the Pinewood Derby and to the City of Kenner for providing Butch Duhe Gym for the event!



Cypress District Merit Badge College

The Bayou District held it's Spring Cuboree on March 21st at the Louisiana Cajun Bayou Center in Raceland. Scouts competed in games to win the District Flag... and bragging rights. The Bayou District serves Scouts in Terrebonne, Lafourche, and Assumption Parishes.

On Saturday April 17th, Scouts BSA from the Cypress District participated in a Merit Badge College at Docville Farms in Violet. 55 Scouts worked on Merit Badges including First Aid, Plumbing, and Space Exploration.