



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA COUNCIL

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

It was an honor to serve as Council President for 2022, in which Southwest Florida Council exceeded many goals for program delivery and fiscal management. Our real success is revealed through the “Scouting Experience” our Scout Leaders provide thousands of young people throughout Southwest Florida. Instilling life skills, values, and leadership qualities in today’s young people continues to be our primary focus. Southwest Florida Council’s numerous volunteers, supporters, and donors believe in this focus and, through their help, have allowed us to enhance programs and facilities our Scouts and their families enjoy.



This brief report contains highlights of the past year. On behalf of our Scouts, thank you for your support, time, talents, and genuine treasure in making a difference in the lives of our young people.








The Honorable Josephine Gagliardi
Council President

2023 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA COUNCIL OFFICERS

Josephine Gagliardi	President
Jim Thielen	Council Commissioner
Tyrone Shinn	Vice President, Finance & Fund Development
David Dignam	Vice President, Council Relations & Marketing
John Tobler	Vice President, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Gary Hoyt	Vice President, Strategic Planning
Blair McVety	Vice President, Physical Resources
Bill Coen	Vice President, Council Performance
David Verinder	Vice President, Governance and Leadership
Douglas Adams	Vice President, Program
Jim Fetterman	Vice President, Safe Scouting
Jim Pilon	Council Attorney
Dave Dale	Past President

ABOUT OUR COUNCIL & OUR PROGRAMS

Studies, by Harris Interactive and Tufts University, reinforce what the Boy Scouts of America has been teaching since 1910. Youth who were Scouts for four or more years are:

-  Better able to care for the environment (89%)
-  Better able to get along with others (88%)
-  Always ready to give their best effort (87%)
-  Confident in themselves (87%)
-  Goal oriented (87%)
-  Better able to care for other people (86%)
-  Respectful of others (86%)



**harris
interactive**

Tufts
UNIVERSITY

Like councils across the nation, the story of Southwest Florida Council is colorful, filled with rich stories, and flavored with incredible people.

The Southwest Florida Council, originally called the Royal Palm Council, was founded in 1926 in Ft. Myers, Florida. At that time, it covered the territories of Lee, Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades and Hendry counties. At this early time there were approximately 191 Boy Scouts and at least 6 Boy Scout troops. It's first summer camp was held at Breezy Point in Highlands County, near the village of Lake Placid. The area was later known as Camp Ropaco.

Since then, there have been many changes, thousands of youths, and a long line of red-jacketed leaders. Throughout we have remained faithful to the ideas and ideals that began it all – a dedication to youth, community, and a better future – tied together with an oath of 40 simple words along with a set of life directing laws that number just twelve.

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

When you're a kid, fun comes first. Final exams, driver's education and summer jobs will arrive soon enough. Scouting lets kids have fun while teaching them skills that will help them later. From the thrill of shooting an arrow to learning how to transform a block of wood into a race car, Scouts learn the value of hard work, and experience the thrill of seeing it pay off. With a myriad of exciting adventures, Scouting gives kids the experience they need to become productive adults.

2022 MEMBERSHIP TOTALS



Cub Scout Membership 2,062



Scouts BSA Membership 1,375



Venturing Membership 105



Exploring Membership 416

LEARNING FOR LIFE Membership 5,800

UPLIFTING STUDENTS · BUILDING CHARACTER · DEFINING LEADERSHIP



2022 Eagle Scouts 108

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Boy Scouts of America is the nation's largest values-based, youth development organization. The BSA provides a program for young people that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, develops personal fitness and leadership.

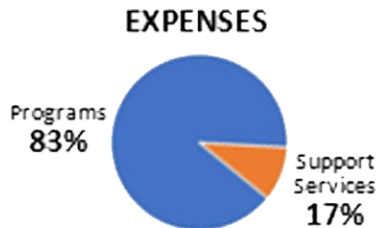
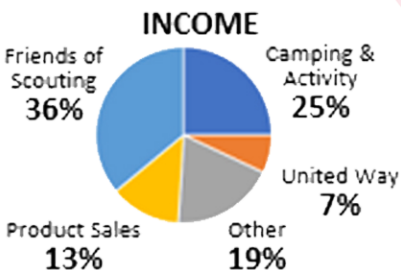
For over a century, the BSA has helped build the future leaders of this country by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun. BSA believes — and, through over a century of experience, knows — that helping youth is the key to building a more conscientious, responsible, and productive society.

Over 600 Southwest Florida Scouts experienced a high-quality Long-term summer camp program in 2022. Council-sponsored events brought thousands of Scouts, adult leaders and family members to our two Council properties for weekend-long camping experiences.

108 Scouts BSA members achieved the highest rank in Scouting – Eagle Scout. Among the many requirements to earn this distinction, these young people planned, led, and accomplished community improvement projects totaling over 27,000 hours of service to Southwest Florida communities.

COUNCIL FINANCE

Southwest Florida Council is a good steward of the funds donated by our community. The Council provides high-quality programs to youth, thanks to generous donors and sponsors.



COUNCIL CAMPING PROPERTIES

Price Sanders Scout Reservation

Price-Sanders Scout Reservation, a 1280 acre section of Cecil Webb Wildlife Management Area, includes two facilities: Camp Miles (for Scouts BSA, Venturing & Explorers) and Camp Gannett (for Cub Scouts and their families).

The buildings on the Reservation (PSSR) include: a central dining hall, individual troop campsites, a health lodge, a trading post, archery, rifle and shotgun ranges, a chapel by the lake, and ecology lodge, a central shower facility, a training lodge, a swimming pool, a boating island for aquatics.



Camp Flying Eagle

Camp Flying Eagle, located in Bradenton, Florida on Upper Manatee River Road, consists of 185 acres and is a unique outdoor wonder surrounded by mossy oaks and large hardwoods providing a memorable camping experience for Scouts on a year-round basis.

Camp Flying Eagle is also adjacent to Rye Preserve Park

The Manatee or "Singing River" provides a backdrop for the amphitheater outside the dining hall, and also provides several water activities. The unique contrast to the busy world is a favorite of many units.



OTHER COUNCIL PROPERTIES

Council Service Center

The Council's headquarters in Ft. Myers features, administrative offices, three meeting rooms, a kitchenette and a nationally-operated Scout Shop.



Council Conference Center

The Council's Conference Center offers over 2,000 sq. ft. of meeting space with partitions to create four additional break-out areas. The building's breakroom features a refrigerator and an ice machine.



SILVER BEAVER AWARD

The Silver Beaver Award is the council-level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America. Upon nomination by their local Scout council and with the approval of the National Court of Honor, recipients of this award are registered adult leaders who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given to the council.

The Silver Beaver is an award given to those who implement the Scouting program and perform community service through hard work, self-sacrifice, dedication, and many years of service.

2022 Silver Beaver Recipients - Southwest Florida Council

-  Scott Beaty (Alligator District)
-  Edwin Copeland (Manatee District)
-  Andrew Hitchcock (Panther District)
-  Patric Martin (Panther District)
-  Blair McVety (Two Rivers District)
-  Gary Payton (Two Rivers District)



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