



PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES  
AS BIG AS ALL OUTDOORS.



Climbing Wall at Camp Sequassen



## MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Connecticut Yankee Council, Boy Scouts of America, to serve others by helping to instill values in young people and in other ways prepare them to make ethical choices over their lifetime in achieving their full potential. The values we strive to instill are based on those found in the Scout Oath and Law.



Raingutter Regatta in Stamford



Troop Campfire at Hoyt Scout Camp

# FROM THE SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Dear Friend,

Scouting offers programs that reach into every facet of life and learning. Our training supports school-based education while providing group and independent studies, and mentoring that can lead to career exploration, personal development, lifelong hobbies, and community service.

We provide environmental stewardship through our outdoor programs. Physical activities support healthy bodies and an appreciation of all that comes with participating in a rigorous recreation program. As stewards of our planet, we help to ensure that future generations are ready to assume leadership roles to preserve our environment if our quality of life is to extend well into the future.

Our vision for the future is unapologetically ambitious and crystal clear. We focus on our mission, which has remained constant for 98 years. At the same time, we've set our goals in context, recognizing that our growth and success depend upon our ability to meet challenges in a youth environment that is ever changing.

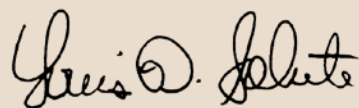
## Our approach has a three-fold focus:

- Education and development of young men and women.
- Service to disadvantaged youth, particularly in our major cities. We understand that outreach programs serving youth in United Way designated low income and minority outreach communities are a priority. The Council gladly invests a high percentage of our funds to Scoutreach programs.
- Commitment to the environment and our planet's natural resources. Ensuring responsible use of natural resources has been the credo of the Boy Scouts since our founding. Today, Scouting's commitment extends beyond responsibilities while camping, by positively influencing our environment in everyday life. Our youth conduct over 300,000 hours in service projects annually as they develop their sense of community.

To remain a thriving organization, we must not only ensure we can meet current needs, but also continuously pursue resources to meet emerging needs and future challenges. Your help and ongoing support are vital to the success of our vision.

Commit to support us, to share your ideas, and partner with us to provide an unmatched opportunity for all young people of Southwestern Connecticut and a lasting investment in the future of our community.

Sincerely,



Louis D. Salute  
Scout Executive





Lashing a climbing tower



Sailing at Sequassen



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERYONE

The Connecticut Yankee Council's history is nearly as old as that of the Boy Scouts. Our Council has grown to serve over 25,000 youth members and over 5,000 volunteer leaders within six separate age-appropriate programs in Fairfield and New Haven Counties and the town of Southington in Hartford County. Scouting programs are delivered through Chartered Organizations. More than 320 community-based organizations including churches and synagogues, fraternal organizations, schools, civic groups, professional associations and parent support organizations sponsor one or more Scout units. Our youth come from diverse backgrounds and walks of life, but they all share in the enthusiasm and hard work that are vital to Scouting.



## CUB SCOUTS

This is a year-round family program for boys in the first through fifth grades (7 through 10 years of age).

The Cub Scout program provides fun for the boys, and gives them a sense of personal achievement as they earn badges. The program also strengthens families as adult family members work with the boys on their advancement projects.



## BOY SCOUTS

The Council's Boy Scouting program serves boys who have earned the Arrow of Light Award or have completed the fifth grade (11 through 17 years old). The program helps boys to develop character, a sense of citizenship, and personal fitness by focusing on a vigorous program of outdoor activities.



## LEARNING FOR LIFE

An in-school, co-ed program for youth in grades K – 12 using a nationally recognized curriculum focused on character and career building, and employing grade-specific and age-appropriate material. The Council's Learning for Life program currently serves over 10,000 students, many from lower income or at-risk families.



## VENTURING

Venturing is a youth development program for young men and women who are 14 through 20 years of age. Venturers work together in a crew, in partnership with local community organizations to formulate personalized activities and goals. The result is a program of exciting and meaningful activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, develop leadership skills, and become good citizens.



## EXPLORING

Exploring is a career exploration program for young men and women from 14 through 20 years of age. Explorer Posts are associated with any number of professions and occupations such as police, fire, rescue, and hospitals.



## SEA SCOUTS

Sea Scouting is a co-educational program for young adults between the ages of 14 and 21 based around marine education and nautical skills. Sea Scouts teaches effective teamwork and values through instruction and practice in water safety, boating skills, outdoor, social, and service experiences, and knowledge of our maritime heritage.

### Annually, each new class of Eagle Scouts...

...carries out and organizes 25,000 to 35,000 hours worth of service and labor for local organizations and community programs.



Scouts at Maxim Chapel

# SCOUTING AND TODAY'S WORLD

## Children and families are looking for bigger challenges and opportunities.

Expectations for today's children are more demanding than ever. Children seek additional opportunities at ages younger than preceding generations.

Today, parents and Scouts expect to be more involved in outdoor activities. Camping, outdoor adventures, sporting activities, and hiking are the most mentioned reasons for joining Scouts.

Scouting provides age-appropriate camps, equipment, activities, and programs for today's children and their families.

## Children are more disconnected from the outdoors.

The Kaiser Family Foundation reports that young people spend 6.5 hours a day using electronic media. Surveys also show that 70% of mothers played outdoors every day as children, compared with 31% of their children.

Without a concerted effort, children will continue to spend less and less time in direct contact with nature. This adversely affects a child's physical and mental health. Getting kids out of doors, away from television and video games, reduces depression and fosters creative mental activity and concentration.

## Preservation and Responsible Use of Natural Resources

Changing climate, wildlife, and regional landscapes will require science-based adaptive strategies and management for our children and future generations to enjoy the planet.

The adage "think globally, act locally" is an important element for today's young people. Preserving resources is something that everyone can do from recycling, to cleaning a park, to conserving water at home.



Scoutreach speaker at New Haven event



Kayaking at Sequassen



## LIFELONG LEARNING

Effective learning doesn't stop at the classroom or school door. In today's increasingly fast-paced world, applying what is known and adapting that information to changing situations is vital for our success and growth as a country. Through our merit badge system, Scouts explore career considerations, identify lifelong hobbies and skills that will be used in service to others.

Ultimately, Scouting provides:

- Youth with better values system and life skills
- Parents with better motivated, achievement-oriented youth
- Schools with more responsible students
- Communities with citizens who more fully understand the value of community service and who give of themselves
- Governments with youth who understand and respect the value of established laws
- Corporations with future employees who are trained for success



## MEASURABLE LIFELONG RESULTS

The positive effects of Scouting carry forward into adult lives. Of men who were Scouts as boys: \*

- 83% agree that the values they learned in Scouting continue to be very important to them today
- 66% say there have been real-life situations where having been a Scout helped them be a better leader
- 50% say their Scouting experience had a positive effect on their career development and advancement

\*2005, Harris Interactive



Sea Scouts at GAM Weekend

## The Scouting for Food Drive collects...

...on average about 200,000 lbs. of food annually for local food shelves.



Nature Studies at Sequassen

# SCOUTING AND OUR CHILDREN\*

## SCOUTING IS EDUCATION

The Connecticut Yankee Council offers exceptional learning opportunities. From group activities, to individual study, and the outdoor laboratory, young people explore, experiment, grow, and develop a lifelong passion for learning.

Scouting encourages personal education through its merit badge program, some of which are pictured throughout this brochure. These 121 independent study projects afford Scouts the opportunity to learn more about a career interest or lifelong hobby, and prepare them for the personal and family responsibilities of adulthood. In fact, 88% of Boy Scouts say Scouting "has taught me skills I wouldn't have learned anywhere else."

### Scouts say Scouting has helped their performance in these areas:

- 56% report help in science
- 52% report help in reading
- 50% report help in math
- 63% of Scouts with 5+ years, report making either mostly A's or mostly A's and B's

## SCOUTING IS CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

Scouting affects how children feel about themselves and how they treat others and the world around them. The team experience of Scouting teaches about group living, citizenship, and how to accept responsibility.

Scouts also learn and practice leadership skills. Each Scout has the opportunity to participate in shared and total leadership situations. Understanding the concepts of leadership helps a Scout accept the role of others, respect authority, and enables him or her to grasp the full meaning of being an active citizen in society.

### Scouts say Scouting has taught me:

- 80% - confidence in myself
- 96% - being a good team player
- 83% - time with family is important
- 95% - respecting life and property of others



Cub Scout Field Day



Jamboree Departure Day in Norwalk

## SCOUTING IS ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Ensuring responsible use of natural resources has been the credo of the Boy Scouts since the first boys hit the camping trail nearly 100 years ago. Today, Scouting's commitment extends to positively influencing our environment through personal actions at home or school and by encouraging others to practice environmental stewardship.

The Connecticut Yankee Council continues to foster respect and responsibility to the outdoors through our "Leave No Trace" hiking and camping approach. Our programs communicate environmental practices that can be used in the home, school, and community with an eye toward inspiring an environmental conscience in our youth.

### Scouts report that:

- 79% - learned to take better care of the environment
- 69% - Scouting increased their interest in environment



Bridgeport Troop 34

### Learning for Life, our nationally recognized curriculum...

...focused on character and career building, currently serves over 10,000 students in kindergarten through high school classrooms and after school programs.



Scouts relaxing at summer camp

# HOW YOU CAN HELP

Great organizations strive to establish partnerships with donors that allow each to reach common goals in a way that best meets their mutual requirements. The Connecticut Yankee Council provides a number of avenues for donors to express their support for our shared vision and values. However you choose to support the Council, rest assured that it will have a profound and lasting impact on the quality of youth programs for decades to come.

## Capital Fund

The Council provides our Scouts with self-confidence, an appreciation of the environment, team-building and other positive life skills through our three outdoor facilities: Deer Lake Scout Reservation, Camp Sequassen and John Sherman Hoyt Scout Camp. However, our needs have outgrown current facilities. With your help, the Connecticut Yankee Council will renovate existing structures, and construct new program venues and common areas required to house and offer programs to more than 25,000 youth each year.

## Annual Fund

Gifts to Friends of Scouting allow the Council to meet its financial obligations in a current budget year. This support provides funding in all program areas. Funding ensures quality training that, in turn, provides outstanding programs to each Scout in every unit.

## Council Endowment Fund

The Council affords its friends the opportunity to make a lasting legacy through a gift to the endowment fund. Interest from this fund ensures a renewable stream of income to provide basic maintenance and repairs at the camps, provide camperships to deserving Scouts, and allow for new program development to meet emerging community needs.

## Types of Gifts

The Connecticut Yankee Council can accept support in a number of ways. Cash, transfer of stocks and securities, donation of insurance policies, gifts in-kind, remainder and lead trusts, bequests, and real estate are all options open to donors.



**To see how you can help the Connecticut Yankee Council, contact:**

Lou Salute, Scout Executive  
Phone: (203) 876-6868 x225  
E-mail: [lsalute@bsamail.org](mailto:lsalute@bsamail.org)



## THE 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.



## THE SCOUT LAW

A Scout is:

Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind,  
Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.

“The values you learn as a Scout are like a compass. They can help you find your way through difficult and sometimes uncharted terrain.”

– BILL BRADLEY, FORMER U.S. SENATOR, NEW JERSEY

“The only problem with Boy Scouts... is that there aren't enough of 'em.”

– WILL ROGERS, ACTOR AND HUMORIST

