

## State Economy Gains Benefits from the Summit



*View of wooded area at Summit Bechtel Reserve*

2017 begins a new chapter as we start celebrating the 107th anniversary of the founding of the Scout movement in America. The future of the Boy Scouts of America program burns bright at the Summit Bechtel Reserve (SBR).

The continuing growth and development at SBR is not only guiding the direction of Scouting's vision for the future—it is also having a major positive impact on the economy in West Virginia.

Proudly, the Boy Scouts of America development of SBR has generated more than \$7 million in economic benefit for the state, including \$4 million in year-round full-time jobs as well as \$400,000 in part-time seasonal staff and \$300,000 in utilities expenditures. Plus, nearly \$3 million has been spent on contract support. Among the full-time employees, more than half—57 percent—are residents of the local Fayette County. Local businesses such as hotels, restaurants, etc., have also benefited. The 2016–2017 estimated combined economic impact is more than \$58 million.

Here are some other interesting facts regarding economic benefits and gains:

- The National Scout Jamboree in July is expected to draw around 40,000 people, which will add another \$8.6 million to the economy.

- The number of visitors to the Summit in 2016 was 11,232, an increase of 249 percent over 2015. Of those thousands of visitors, 28 percent were there for traditional Boy Scouting events and 8 percent for non-Scouting gatherings like the Veteran's Day event and the Girl Scouting activities.

This summer will be the first time SBR has had its traditional summer programming and hosted the National Scout Jamboree in the same season.

Additional economic benefits will come to the BSA and West Virginia this year as the Summit will be allowed to operate for-profit ventures without losing its property tax exemption as a nonprofit under the West Virginia Legislature's Boy Scout Amendment. SBR will be permitted to generate revenue by hosting concerts, festivals, and sporting events, and will pay 1.25 percent of the gross revenues to the state and local entities. Of that amount, 25 percent will go to the state's Tourism Promotion Fund; another 25 percent will be paid to Fayette, Raleigh, and Summers counties in proportion to the number of acres located in that county; and 50 percent will go to county boards of education for developing STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) programs. This is a win-win opportunity for all involved.

Who would have dreamed that old strip mine land once owned by the Meadow Creek Coal Company would become the visionary Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve—impacting thousands of lives morally, spiritually, and economically for generations to come? Take pride that BSA retirees are a part of the greatest youth movement in the world and have made immeasurable contributions to its success!

Consider attending the 2017 National Scout Jamboree as a staff member or visitor. You can find details at the National Scout Jamboree website, [www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/](http://www.summitbsa.org/events/jamboree/).



# Proud Moments

## 50-Plus Salute to Registered Veteran Scouters

*The Boy Scouts of America takes great pride in recognizing the following retirees for reaching five-year milestones at or beyond 50 years of continuous, registered Scouting service during the period of Jan. 1–Dec. 31, 2016.*

### 50 years

Jerry Hasting  
Michael Sulgrove

### 55 years

Robert Gilbert  
Marion (M) Kelsey  
Michael Partin  
Robert Rydell  
Louis Salute  
David Webb  
Teddy Williams

### 60 years

Brian Archimbaud  
James Eskridge  
Rene Luthi  
Robert Williams

### 65 years

Fred Day  
Wayne Heple  
Richard Miller  
Daniel Ruth

### 70 years

George Colflesh  
Thomas Cowley  
John Dudley  
Arthur Noble  
Ronald Phillipppo  
Carl Stewig

### 75 years

Robert McGrew  
David Parkhill  
Richard Weidman  
James Wilson

### 80 years

James Armour  
Robert Maynes

The above retirees have faithfully maintained continued annual membership registration with the Boy Scouts of America for 50 or more years. They are recognized as a select group among those committed to sustaining the delivery of the values of the Scout movement.

Each retiree has a required Retiree Registration Application on file at the Boy Scouts of America National Service Center and has paid the current registration fee for 2016. *Note: A veteran application need only be submitted one time. After the first submission, retiree veteran recognition status will be automatically processed in five-year increments, with maintained continued registration.*

**All retirees are encouraged to keep their BSA registration current.** Those with a lapse in registration status may wish to restore veteran status by contacting the Council Registration Shared Services Team at the National Service Center and paying their back fees for registration.

It is recommended that retired career Scouters register directly with the National Service Center as “Retired Professional” for the primary registration position. If a person is registered and paid in a different capacity (i.e., unit, district, local council, national), a retiree application must still be completed and submitted to the BSA National Service Center; no additional registration fee will be required.

**All registered adults must complete Youth Protection Training.** The training is available online at [my.scouting.org](http://my.scouting.org) or by contacting your council office. Requests for a Veteran Application or veteran status can be made to Ismael Gomez, Member Care Contact Center, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, PO Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079; telephone: 972-580-2554; email: [Ismael.Gomez@scouting.org](mailto:Ismael.Gomez@scouting.org)

Questions regarding your retiree registration should be sent to Council Registration Shared Services Team S270, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, PO Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079; telephone: 972-580-2089; email: [correspondenceRSS@scouting.org](mailto:correspondenceRSS@scouting.org)



# Scouting Update

## *National Scout Camp Provides New and Innovative Concepts*



The **James C. Justice National Scout Camp**, located within the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve, uses the adventure capabilities of the Walter Scott Summit Center together with New River Gorge to provide unique program experiences focused on advancement skills and Scouting traditions. It's all developed and designed to help Boy Scouts, Venturers, and Explorers build upon the experiences available to them through resident camps and unit campouts.

The National Scout Camp is not one of the BSA's national high adventure experiences. The camp has a different focus and does not grant access to all of the experiences used by the Paul R. Christen National High Adventure Base, also at the Summit.

The James C. Justice camp offers three distinct program experiences: **Senior Scout Camp**, **Appalachian Adventure**, and **Council Adventure Partnership**. Participants spend an action-packed time at the camp located on the north side of Goodrich Lake in the Walter Scott Scouting Valley. Tents and cots are provided and meals are served in the Summit Bechtel Reserve dining hall. Morning and afternoon activities focus on skill development or advancement activities like skateboarding, rock climbing, archery, kayaking, ecology/conservation, Project COPE, Outdoor Skills, mountain biking, or wilderness survival. Evening activities are centered on special events, competitions, or open programs.

- **Senior Scout Camp** is a weeklong resident camp for Venturers, older Boy Scouts, and their adult leadership. A variety of instructional courses are offered for participants to earn merit badges, Ranger electives, or other awards/certifications. Most program blocks consist

of two half-days of instruction by qualified adult staff members who are passionate about their fields. To be eligible, Boy Scouts need to have attained the First Class rank and have a minimum of two weeks of resident camp experience. Adult leaders are welcome to participate in any programs or take advantage of various training opportunities available in the National Scout Camp.

- **Appalachian Adventure** is a short-term unit campout for any registered Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturer, or Explorer. The unit can participate in advancement and open programs throughout the Scott Summit Center similar to the Senior Scout Camp, but on a shorter timeline. This is a great "first taste" of what the Summit Bechtel Reserve and National Scout Camp has to offer, and can be paired with other activities in the New River Gorge area as a full-week or long weekend trip for your group. Units may choose a Sunday-to-Wednesday session or a Wednesday-to-Saturday session.
- **The Council Adventure Partnership** is an adventure program that serves Scouts, Venturers, and Explorers ages 13 and up attending council summer camps. Participants begin and end their week at their local council resident camp with their unit. However, rather than participating in that camp's program all week, they are transported in a council contingent to the National Scout Camp. Interested groups should encourage their council program director, camp director, or Scout executive to contact the Summit Bechtel Reserve about taking advantage of this opportunity. The Council Adventure Partnership does not include open access to the national high-adventure base sites.

# Your Questions and Comments

## Comment

*I have mixed feelings about moving the National Scouting Museum from Irving, Texas to Philmont in New Mexico, which is way off the beaten track for most Scouters. Unless you plan to be at Philmont, you'll never see Scouting's heritage!*

*In one way it makes sense to move the museum to a place like Philmont where many Scouts and Scouters attend each summer and can enjoy it. And it's true that at the current location in Irving, 75 percent of the Scouting memorabilia inventory is kept in boxes in a large room—not in the main area for visitors to see and enjoy. Maybe at Philmont many of those treasures will be on display.*

*On the other hand, not as many non-Scout visitors will have access to the museum. Further, I don't see how the museum will generate many—if any—visitors in the late fall, winter, and early spring.*

*Seems to me that the BSA has forgotten those of us who live in the northeast, southeast, north central, and western parts of the country and will never see the museum because it's just too darn far away!*

*Some people have asked: Why not move it to the Summit? I have been told that a museum of some fashion will be in the new Welcome Center for the Summit. So that may be some consolation to Scouting history and memorabilia buffs. There, I've said my piece.*

Russ Swenson, *The Prodigal Scouter*

## Response

Thanks for your comment, Russ. I have received other comments and remarks about the move. This gave me the opportunity to visit and discuss your concerns with John Green, group director of national adventures for the BSA and staff adviser to the task force that recommended the museum relocation.



The Johnston Memorial Museum was established in New Brunswick, New Jersey, in 1959 as the official museum of the Boy Scouts of America. It was relocated to Murray State University in 1986 and was moved to the present facility in 2002.

Historically it has attracted those with a Scouting connection but has not drawn adequate visitation from the general public. A quality museum is very costly to maintain and must have substantial financial resources to be successful in the long term. The income generated by our museum operation has fallen short of this goal for some time now.

I'm sure many people are unaware that the Chief Scout Executive, at the request of the national museum committee, appointed a special task force composed of skilled, dedicated, and committed volunteers and professionals to study and evaluate the National Scouting Museum. After a long series of meetings and reviewing many options, a decision was reached based on two key factors: Low visitor traffic and the fact that our Rockwell and Csartari paintings are in constant danger of mold deterioration in the present facility. More than half of the paintings, representing an enormous BSA asset, are in Chicago under special care and preservation. We must protect these fine art assets.

The moving process will take place over 18 months and, yes, there are plans in the works to have a museum component for visitors at the Summit and other high adventure bases.

Thanks to the support of some generous donors, Philmont will construct an expansion to the already-planned Philmont Museum and Seton Memorial Library and Education Center. At Philmont, the museum will continue preserving the rich history of the BSA and offering access to that history for 30,000–50,000 Scouts, leaders, and families each year.

Have a question? Have a concern? Want information?  
Send your comments to ASK ALLEN

c/o HR Compensation and Benefits, Boy Scouts of America  
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane  
P.O. Box 152079  
Irving, Texas 75015-2079  
Email: [bsanowandthen@gmail.com](mailto:bsanowandthen@gmail.com)



Allen Mossman is a retired BSA professional with more than 75 years of Scouting in his background. He retired with 30 years of active service on the national executive staff and serves as the editor of *Now & Then*.

# Retiree Adventure

## Staying Dedicated to Lifetime Values

BSA retirees spent years working to build values in the lives of young people, and now we continue to “help other people at all times” ... even in retirement.

People in Longview, Texas, know **Joe Ramirez**—maybe not as a Scouting retiree, but as a past commander of American Legion Post 232 and a member of the Longview AMBUCHS Too Club. The two organizations work together to build access ramps for people in a three-county area. For the past eight years Joe has built ramps and now chairs the activity. In 2016 alone 13 ramps were built, one a whopping 46 feet long. Helping his community is a “natural” for Joe!



When **Wayne Brock** (above) retired as Chief Scout Executive, his Scouting friend Russell Smart told him he was getting his biggest promotion yet—to volunteer. Wayne now makes speeches at local council events and has recently taken on a larger task as chair of the STEM Scouts board of advisors. STEM Scouts began as a pilot project in Knoxville, Tennessee during Wayne’s tenure as CSE, and fits nicely into one of his goals: to find new ways to reach youth and yet remain true to the values of Scouting. STEM uses the time-proven values and methods of Scouting while appealing to the interests of young people and parents in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math. Wayne encourages all retirees to find your place to volunteer for Scouting. Your knowledge and experience are needed at all levels of the program.



Most of us remember our friend and fellow retiree **Russ Swenson** as the talented meeting manager in the Northeast

Region. When he retired in 2003, he continued to be active in Meeting Professionals International (MPI). Through the years he has served on the MPI board and as president, and most recently he has participated as an MPI ambassador and mentor. Recognizing his many contributions over a period of 24 years, the organization recently presented Russ with a life membership in MPI. Not only did Russ get a nice certificate and large lapel pin, he won’t have to pay dues anymore and they even bought his brunch. It pays to continue to give to others.



One of the benefits of retirement for **John Erickson** is more time to jog and walk. Inspired by stories of his church’s mission work in Kenya, where most members walk long distances to and from church every week, he decided last year to walk on his

birthday the 10-plus miles from his home in Keller, Texas to his church in Grapevine. Friends and church members pledged various amounts per mile, and the walk raised more than \$4,000 for the Kenyan mission project. This year John walked again and was joined by other church members and friends. Funds raised this year were in honor of the church’s 150th anniversary. The walk was called “Walk for the Next 150,” and proceeds went to the church’s permanent endowment fund to build a strong financial foundation for future ministries. Most of us are good fundraisers, so why not combine that skill along with something you like to do? After all, we have all pledged, more than once, “to help other people at all times.”

# Health and Well-Being

## Medicare Information for 2017

Most retirees who are 65 years of age and over have Medicare as their primary health insurance program. So it is only natural that we would have an interest in Medicare benefits and costs in 2017. For retirees with internet access, it's a good idea to log on to [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) to keep up with current facts.

Here are some key reminders that may be helpful:

In 2017 there is a \$183 Medicare Part B deductible. After that, you will be charged 20 percent of the Medicare-approved amount for most services. There is no annual limit on out-of-pocket costs. Medicare Part A has a \$1,316 deductible if you are hospitalized, and additional costs apply if your hospital stay exceeds 60 days. It is good to have a supplemental health insurance policy in effect to help with additional cost that may occur.

Normally you don't pay a premium for Medicare Part A, which covers hospital care and pays for much of the cost of hospital stays and doctor office visits for people age 65 and older.

The standard Medicare Part B premium is \$134 per month in 2017. This amount covers visits to the doctor and outpatient services, and applies primarily to new enrollees and those who haven't yet claimed Social Security.

Most Social Security recipients will pay \$109 per month for Medicare Part B in 2017 because Medicare premiums are prevented by law from increasing faster than Social Security payments for existing recipients. Premium costs are also higher for retirees with a modified adjusted gross income above \$85,000 for individuals and \$170,000 for couples.

Medicare provides many preventive care services without any cost-sharing requirements, including flu shots and mammograms. Beneficiaries are also eligible for a free wellness visit to their doctor once each year.



*Photo courtesy Shutterstock.com, ©Monkey Business Images*

However, tests performed during the wellness visit could result in additional charges. Check with your doctor and your supplemental insurance policy for coverage.

Medicare Part D (drug plan) premiums vary depending on the plan you select. You are required to choose from, on average, 22 different Medicare Part D prescription drug plans. Each plan has different covered medications, premiums, and copays. It is good for you to have knowledge of the covered medications and their costs. Your cost can also change annually, so you may want to shop around for a new plan each year during the open enrollment period from Oct. 15 to Dec. 7. When that time comes in 2017, check to make sure the medications you use will still be covered at an affordable price, and you can switch plans if the current one won't meet your needs.

Medicare typically will not cover eyeglasses, dental care, or hearing aids. Medicare also won't pay for more than 100 days of long-term care such as nursing home stays or assisted living. If you are a military veteran, check to see if these benefits are available through the Veterans Administration.

Retirees under 65 should sign up for Medicare during the seven-month window before their 65th birthday so that the coverage will begin the month they turn 65. If you fail to sign up during this initial enrollment period, you could be charged higher premiums for the rest of your life!

# Financial Well-Being

## End of Life Planning—Be Prepared

Written by Jim Wilson, who retired from BSA publishing and communication in 2013 but continues as a volunteer at council, national, and world Scouting. He's also a freelance writer and blogger as he "rewires" rather than retires.



When we asked my father if he would list his assets, prepare a will, and provide some guidance about his last wishes, he responded by saying, "Why should I make it easy for you?"

At the time, he was trying to be humorous. But after he passed away, the challenges we faced in closing his estate were many, due in large part to failing to prepare for one of life's certain events.

### Be Prepared—For Your Family

It's all about "being prepared." This is something you have practiced nearly every day of your life and that you have instilled in many generations of Scouts over your career. Just because it's about the ending of your life on Earth doesn't mean you should let it go until it's too late. Here are some thoughts on what you can do now.

### Health Care

With healthcare, there are several key items that ought to be prepared and in your filing cabinet, ready to help your loved ones make important decisions when you can't.

- **Advance Health Care Directive**—This contains your living will and designates your health care proxy.
- **Health Care Proxy**—This is also known as a health care power of attorney. It authorizes a person to make health care decisions when you are incapacitated.
- **Living Will**—This is a guide for your doctors and health care proxy on the types of medical treatments you want and those you do not want.
- **DNR**—This stands for "do not resuscitate." This is a directive with your doctor about using CPR or cardiac life support.



Photo courtesy Wikipedia.org

For more information, visit [www.everplans.com/articles/state-by-state-advance-directive-forms/](http://www.everplans.com/articles/state-by-state-advance-directive-forms/).

### Estate

There's an extensive list of estate items that you should be preparing. Many of these items you have probably already addressed at one time or another. The task now is to pull them all together in one place for your family and to make sure they still reflect your desires. Here's our short list.

- **Will**—You have probably prepared at least one of these over the years. Make sure it is up to date with your current desires.
- **Power of Attorney**—Designate someone to take on your finances if something happens to you.
- **Life Insurance**—Gather up your policies. Update beneficiaries as needed.
- **Account Listing**—Create a listing of all accounts from banks to utilities to social media usernames and passwords. Don't leave anything to chance.
- **Trusts**—List the trusts that you have established to help minimize estate taxes and to transfer money to your family.

### Funeral

This is a tough one. In my family's case, our mother had passed away first and my father made those decisions. That greatly helped guide our efforts for his funeral. But don't leave things to chance. Write your wishes down or make the arrangements yourself.

After all, there are a lot of tough choices to make, including cremation or burial, memorial

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## National Membership Participation Report December 31, 2016

Tigers	164,434
Cub Scouts	594,465
Webelos Scouts	472,795
<b>Cub Scout–age Youth</b>	<b>1,231,694</b>
Boy Scouts	755,938
Varsity Scouts	67,061
<b>Boy Scout–age Youth</b>	<b>822,999</b>
Venturers	133,145
Sea Scouts	3,484
Explorers	116,083
<b>Coed Young Adults</b>	<b>252,712</b>
Lions	30,618
STEM Scouts	3,185
<b>New Market Youth</b>	<b>33,803</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,341,208</b>
Learning for Life	372,891
<b>Grand Total Youth</b>	<b>2,714,099</b>
<b>Total Adults</b>	<b>905,190</b>
<b>Total Units</b>	<b>101,324</b>

*Continued from page 7*

service or church service, who to invite, who to officiate, special songs, type of casket, burial plots—the list can go on and on.

Don't forget the notice of your death. You can actually draft your own obituary to say the things you feel are important.

All these things will need to be determined, and the more you can direct now the easier it will be for your family and friends.

## Seek Professional Advice

These are some thoughts about what you should be considering if you haven't already. But they are only thoughts. You will need the advice of a good attorney and your financial advisor to make sure everything is done to meet your own needs and those of your family, and at the same time address local and federal laws. Let's hope that you have plenty of time to develop your plan. But just in case, make it happen now.

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You can find it at <http://scoutingwire.org/newsletters/now-then/>