

# SCOUTER

FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

VOLUME 12

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NORWALK, CT

APRIL 18, 1983

## 1982 ANNUAL REPORT



JACK KASTER

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Nineteen eighty-two was a year of progress. We moved ahead in evaluating all potential new camp properties to a point, a final selection (I'm confident) will be made by this time next year.

We are progressing in our efforts to have better communication with Scouters in the Districts. Our quarterly coordinated District leaders' meetings; our planning conferences; better District representation on Council committees - all have helped. However, we still must do better. I hope to have a better balanced representation on the Executive Board, and more involvement of Coordinators on both the District and Council level in the future.

Progress is being made in serving our innercity youth. Thanks to the support of our Advisory Council, we were able to add another staff person in Bridgeport in 1982. His work is attracting new sponsors, and more youth into Scouting.

Our summer camp program has been improved and, as a result, attendance for 1983 will increase 50%.

All of us on the Council level are working hard supporting the dedicated Scouters serving our youth. A lot of our sup-

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JIM BRAULICK

### COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

The Commissioners of Fairfield County Council are volunteer Scouters who represent the liaison between Scouting units and the Council. They tend to operate quietly, in the background, as they seek to become friends and counselors of unit leaders. Their purpose is terribly important. Put simply, it is to insure that a good Scouting program is happening in the lives of our boy members.

Raw numbers are not a valid measure of the success of the Scouting program or of the Commissioner's service. They do, however, assist in our understanding of what's taking place. Here's what happened in 1982.

- Cub Scouts decreased by 105 to 5,450.
- Packs increased by 3 to 156.
- Tiger Cubs were introduced, with year-end membership reaching 260.
- Boy Scouts increased by 85 to 4,030.
- Troops decreased by 7 to 138.
- Explorers increased by 365 to 7,288
- Posts increased by 1 to 217.
- The number of units meeting the standards for the Honor Unit

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RAY HECK

### SCOUT EXECUTIVE'S VIEWS

"To teach them patriotism, courage, self-reliance, and kindred virtues . . ." that's what the Constitution says we are to do in Scouting. Through the past year, the influence of Scouting has been felt in the lives of over 17,000 young people. This is 25% of all Scouting age youth. Not many Councils in America come close to this record.

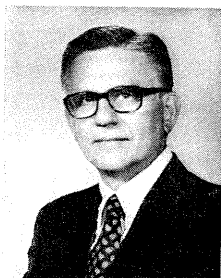
This achievement is due to the high quality program being offered by most of our unit leaders. Numbers alone do not mean much; however, high numbers are a good indication that youths join and stay, year after year, because they are getting a good program.

We have quality not only in the units, but at all levels of Scouting. Our Council President, Jack Kaster, has lead the Council to new highs. Communication and liaison between District and Council leaders has improved dramatically due to Vice President Bob Reinert's work. Bob Newman has done an outstanding job of improving relations and United Way's understanding of Scouting needs. Camping under the leadership of Don Tiefenthaler is well-organized, progressive and attracting more Council troops.

Highlights of the year are six "Safe Rides" Explorer posts organized - lives will be saved; In-School packs and troops organized, all inner-city boys can now be in the Scouts; summer camp was the best in many years - next year will build on it; Camp Search Committee is zeroing in on the "future camp" - a dream about to come true; and, best of all, more and more youth are joining -- numbers and percentages are up - a vintage year.

## PROGRAM

The Program Committee is composed of the chairmen for the Activities, Advancement, Camping and Training Committees, as well as the District Program Chairmen. The reports of the various committees cover most of the Council's activities.



JACK STAWARKY  
V.P. PROGRAM

## ACTIVITIES

The Council Activities Committee had a very good year as it witnessed a wide variety of activities on land and sea. Troops camping in the wilderness; Sea Explorers participating in the Northeast Region's Sail-Off. Other events varied from Cub-orees to Father and Son overnights; Pinewood Derbies, Pushmobile Derbies, to Explorer Road Rallies; Energy Day to Run Your Town Day; from Hikorees to Scout Action Fairs; from Snowbirds to Klondike Derbies; from Cub Day Camp to Explorer Olympics and Ski Weekends. Scout Sabbath and Sunday were observed as part of Boy Scout Anniversary Week in February. Many units participated in the Council Annual Goodwill/Good Turn Day in November.

This Committee's main events were the Council Annual Scouters' Recognition Dinner, the Scout Action Fair, the National Jamboree and our 1982 Philmont Expedition. The Annual Dinner was held at Frederick's in Fairfield. We are participating in the National Youth Representative program and the National Cub Olympics. Our Committee is gearing up for a Council-wide event in June of 1984.



ED LEONARD  
CHAIRMAN

## CAMPING

The 1982-83 camping year has been one of turnaround. The year started with increased camp fees and low camp attendance, 627 boy weeks. This produced a deficit of \$18,958, hence the continued emphasis on economy and improved attendance.

Short-term camping has maintained its popularity at Council properties. To promote camping, a Campmaster Corp. is in an active recruiting phase and will be in initial operation by late spring with full operation scheduled for fall of '83.

The summer camp was successful on three major points - program, staff, and food according to the Scoutmaster and boy evaluations. A concerted effort has been made by the Camping Committee to promote camp for this year with the following results:

- Only seven sites vacant at this writing.
- Staff is hired with excellent returning continuity.



DON TIEFENTHALER  
CHAIRMAN

- Camp books and literature were distributed in December and January.
- Over \$10,000 in early fees has been collected as a result of the new discount structure.

An effort is under way to provide major rehabilitation of Camp Aquila. Six new BSA standard latrines, major dock repairs, electrical repairs, and a general sprucing up are under way with an important work party scheduled for adults on May 7.

All indications point to a resurgent camping program for 83-84. With full support of the Districts, 1983-84 will be a banner year.

## TRAINING

The 1982-83 goals of the Fairfield County Council Training Committee were to expand the number of training courses and to make them more relevant to the needs of all Scouters, whether Cubbing, Boy Scout, Exploring or adult leaders.

The S.L.D. courses, although handled on a District level, were coordinated through Council training with the added ingredients of the borrowing of trainers from Districts other than the sponsoring District and the recruiting of learners from other Districts.

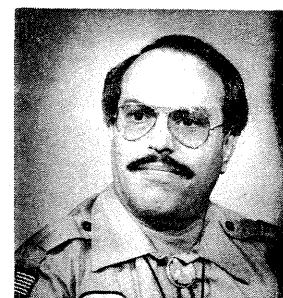
The Winter Survival course continued to be successful and we again had a Train the Trainer course.

Polaris has been reinstated and we will have this course in March and April of 1984.

Frank Waters has agreed to be the Scoutmaster for a T.L.T.C. to be held in the summer of 1984.

Rick Palanzo has been appointed Wood Badge coordinator for our Council.

My thanks to Cathy Peluso and Ray Long, in particular, for the support given Council training this year.



MARK GROSS  
CHAIRMAN

## ADVANCEMENT

Advancement is one of the major functions used to evaluate the effectiveness of the Scouting program for the boys of our Council. The advancement records for 1982 indicate an outstanding program was made available by dedicated unit leaders and District volunteers throughout the Council.

THE NUMBER OF ADVANCEMENTS:

CUB SCOUTS - 5,538

BOY SCOUTS - 2,535

EAGLES - 55



GRANT DENISON  
CHAIRMAN

## FINANCE

I think 1982 was a good year for growth. We expanded the inner-city program, and added a back staff member. The control was maintained over expenditures with shortfall from the Family SME program. Support from United Way was up substantially in eastern and northern Fairfield but held flat in all other areas.



JIM TUCKER  
V.P. FINANCE

Additional shortfall in the Family SME program, resulted in a shortfall in the financial income versus expenses even though the latter had been held to a minimum. Inner-city and Explorer programs were expanded through some special funding.

Additional areas of support are being explored to finance the substantial growth occurring in our Scouting programs.

## Camp Search Committee

Nineteen eighty-two proved to be an active year for the Camp Search Committee. In addition to four formal meetings of the Committee, members visited the Council's camps, and several other properties that could, under appropriate circumstances, be made available to the Council.

Along with the Council officers, and the Camping Committee, at year-end we were in the process of evaluating the two alternatives that appear to be the best of the many routes open to us:

1. Acquisition of a highly attractive farm in Newtown, which could well serve the needs of our Council for the future, for both long and short term camping and would then lead to the sale of all other camping properties.

2. The restoration to A-1 condition either at Camp Aquila or Pomperaug to be held as the Council's long-term camp, and maintaining Hoyt as our short-term facility or trade Camp Toquam for the George C. Waldo State Park.

We have had the assistance of National's Engineering Service in the evaluation of these properties, and it is obvious that the recommendation that our Committee will make to the Executive Board will also involve the financial well-being of the Council, the programs of the Camping Committee, and other activities within the Council.

Our goal is to involve all Council groups, with a target of using this "new" camp facility in the summer of 1985.



WALTER PLAUT  
CHAIRMAN

## EXPLORING DIVISION

Nineteen eighty-two was a tremendous year for our Exploring program in Fairfield County. New heights in membership enrollment were achieved with the continued development of the special interest and Career Exploring programs. In addition, our Finance Campaign continued to grow and to generate needed operating funds for the Council.

A major development during the year was the establishment of area Exploring committees structured similar to the District operations. Restructuring of the Division and our volunteer organization was successfully accomplished throughout the year.

Nineteen Eighty-three will bring many new challenges and opportunities for our program. We will begin offering the (new) Career Awareness Exploring programs and continue to expand



AL LEADER  
CHAIRMAN

our special and general interest Explorer posts. New methods of providing better and more direct service to units will be implemented, as we continue to develop our volunteer organization.

## TREASURER

I'm pleased to report that our Council is financially sound. By following the Long Range Plan, the Council should maintain its strength for the foreseeable future. Our new computerized bookkeeping system is making it possible to monitor more accounts quicker and more accurately.



HOWARD PETERSON  
TREASURER

### OPERATING BUDGET

	1981	1982
<b>INCOME</b>		
United Ways	286,300	287,800
S.M.E.	132,400	133,400
Programs	114,200	89,000
All Other	<u>137,400</u>	<u>142,000</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>670,300</b>	<b>652,200</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Payroll Costs	338,500	342,000
Operational Costs	<u>328,700</u>	<u>354,400</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>667,200</b>	<b>696,400</b>
Surplus (Deficit)	3,100	*44,200
Items contributing to 1982 deficit:		
Summer Camp	(19,000)	
Scout Fair	(4,200)	
Default on basement lease	<u>(16,400)</u>	
	<u>(39,600)</u>	

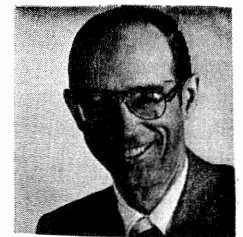
\*To be absorbed by transfer of Board Designated funds.

## DISTRICT OPERATIONS

The role of the Vice President for District Operations is to provide an interface between the districts and the Executive Committee of the Council. This year starting back in September, I have met on a quarterly basis with the District Chairmen in an attempt to have a direct line of communications with the Council and District Officers. One example of this effort is the 1984 calendar which was developed under District leadership at our first Top Hands Conference at the University of Bridgeport.

In the coming year we will continue our efforts to increase our efficiency of service to the sponsoring institutions who are our Scouting customers.

In the coming year, we will work to further strengthen our communications, and to more effectively coordinate district and Council efforts.



BOB REINERT  
V.P. DISTRICT OPER.

## United Way Relationships



BOB NEWMAN  
V.P. RELATIONSHIPS

We have a good working relationship with the eight United Ways that provide over 40% of the Councils' operating income. Many Scouters help the United Way with their campaign and this is greatly appreciated.

Allocations from U.W.'s are greatly influenced by the quality of Scouting in the community. Here is our scoreboard:

	1981	1982
Bridgeport	78,000	88,000
Danbury	39,600	42,800
Darien	11,000	11,000
New Canaan	18,000	18,000
Norwalk	30,400	30,300
Stamford	76,450	76,000
Weston/Wspt.	20,892	16,625
Wilton	12,300	12,500
Vista	700	700
	<u>287,342</u>	<u>295,925</u>

## Commissioner's Comments (continued)

Award increased from 29% at the end of 1981 to 35.4% at the end of 1982.

- The number of top leaders trained increased by 16 to 265.
- Youth members subscribing to Boys' Life decreased by 59 to 3,976.
- The number of enrolled Commissioners and Exploring Service Team members increased by 30 to 163.

These numbers for 1982 provide us with some obvious questions, and the answers to the questions represent the challenges for Commissioner service in 1983.

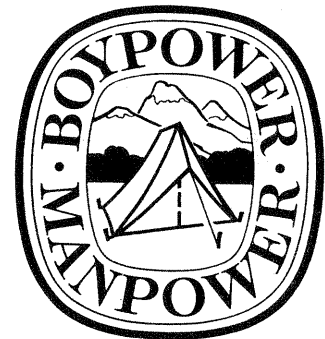
1. Are all of the youth we're serving (i.e., who are enrolled) really experiencing the vitality and fun of the Scouting program?
2. The total youth being served at the end of 1982 represented only 25% of our estimated potential. What about the other 75% who aren't in Scouting today?
3. Are we satisfied with only one third of our units meeting the standards for the Honor Unit Award?
4. Can we expect the Scouting program to succeed if only 50% of top unit leaders are trained?
5. Is a Boys' Life subscription level which represents only 42% of our Cubs and Scouts satisfactory?
6. Do you, unit leader, know who your Commissioner is?

## President's Message (continued)

port depends heavily on the financial position of the Council. If trends dictate the future, we will need new sources of income--one of these will be from our Trust Fund. We are showing progress in building the Trust, and I'm sure the Planned Giving Committee we organized in 1982 will contribute heavily toward this effort.

We are progressing with the disposition of seldom used camping properties, and this program should accelerate as the economy and market pick up.

Nineteen eighty-two was a year of progress, and 1983 should be a year of completing major projects.



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE

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## Tribute Fund

The next time you wish to remember a departed friend or relative, or to honor someone on the occasion of a birthday, anniversary, promotion or other significant event, or just to extend a get well wish, you may do as many other thoughtful people are now doing by sending a gift to the Fairfield County Council Tribute Fund.

Mail Your Gift to: Fairfield County Council, B.S.A.  
362 Main Ave.  
Norwalk, CT 06851

Please Accept This Tribute Fund Gift:

\_\_\_\_\_ In Memory \_\_\_\_\_ Happy Birthday  
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