

YOUTH PROGRAMS

CUB SCOUTS (grades 1-5) is a year-round program designed to meet the needs of young boys and their families through fun and challenging activities designed to promote education, character, and physical development.

BOY SCOUTS (ages 11-18) is an outdoor program created to develop character, citizenship, and fitness in young men.



VENTURING (14-20) is a program for young men and women designed to help them grow into responsible and caring adults through education and high adventure recreational experiences.

LEARNING FOR LIFE

EXPLORING (14-20) is a co-educational program that offers character and career education through role models and hands-on experience. **IN-SCHOOL SCOUTING** is an age and grade appropriate character education program designed to reinforce social, ethical and academic skills in boys and girls.

CAMPING



LaSalle Council offers a wide variety of camping experiences for all youth. During 2008, nearly 2,200 Cub Scouts attended Day Camp, Resident Camp and Parent/Cub Camping Weekends where they spent valuable time participating in activities such as fishing, archery, crafts, hiking, BB guns, swimming, cooking, and learning new skills. This year saw tremendous use of all our camping properties. For example, Camp Topenebee had over 14,000 camp days! Additionally, over 1,400 Boy Scouts attended long-term Summer Camp.



PROPERTIES

Camp Tamarack **Wood Lake Scout Reservation** is a Class A National BSA accredited camp spread over 500 acres. Its two beautiful lakes make this property the premier location of LaSalle Council outdoor programming.

Camp Topenebee encompasses 166 acres. It offers 5 lodges and 13 campsites complete with lake access. The camp boasts a wonderfully diverse geological makeup. The Ed Szczepanski Sr Fitness Trail (2.7 miles) was added in 2007. Camp Topenebee celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2008.

Rice Woods Camp is a rustic property that offers 132 acres of woodlands and wetlands to explore. We celebrated the 40th anniversary of Rice Woods during 2008.

The **Morris-1st Source Scout Center**, adjacent to Fredrickson Environmental Park, houses the Scout Shop, administrative offices, and a spacious training/conference center.



We serve Elkhart, LaPorte, Marshall, Porter, St Joseph and Starke Counties in Indiana, and Cass and Southern Berrien Counties in Michigan.

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 others at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

SCOUT LAW

A Scout is
TRUSTWORTHY
LOYAL
HELPFUL
FRIENDLY
COURTEOUS
KIND
OBEDIENT
CHEERFUL
THRIFTY
BRAVE
CLEAN
REVERENT



Family Life



Environmental Science



Soil & Water Conservation



Citizenship in the Community



Communications



Disabilities Awareness



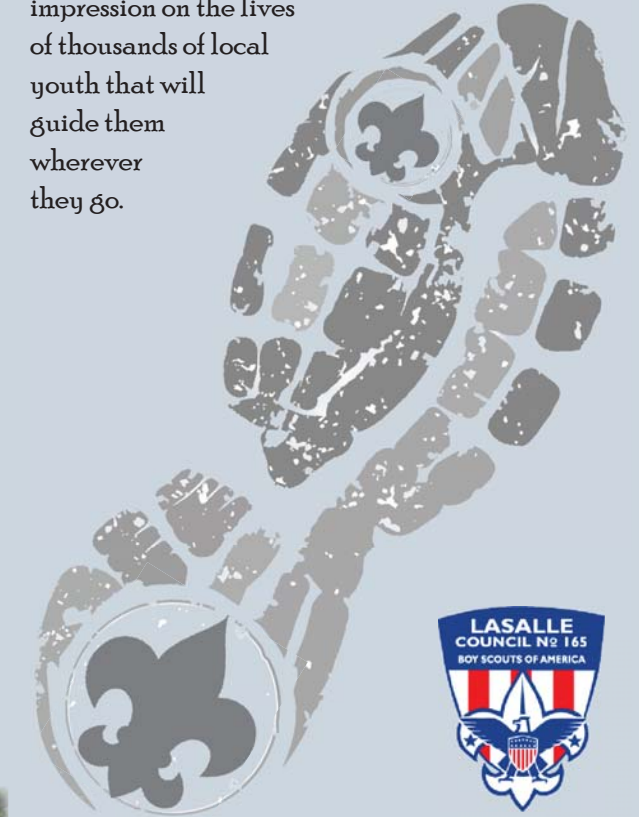
American Cultures



Personal Management

Leaving a Lasting Impression

Scouting leaves a lasting impression on the lives of thousands of local youth that will guide them wherever they go.



LaSalle Council Boy Scouts of America 2008 Annual Report



The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

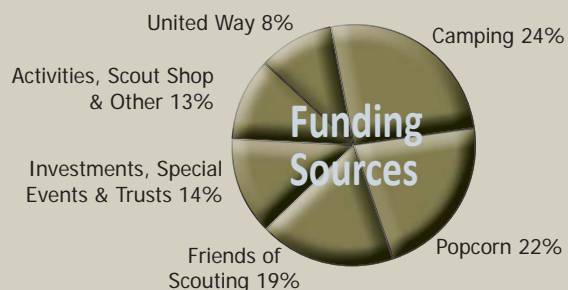
LaSalle Council Mission

Our mission is to be the best youth-serving organization reflective of our communities by having quality programs, leaders and units.

We will do this by:

- effective recruitment and training of volunteer leaders at all levels
- successful recruitment and retention of youth
- having enough qualified staff to properly support our youth and volunteers (using National BSA guidelines)
- maintaining a strong financial position, both operationally and through a growing endowment
- publicizing the successes and contributions of our Council
- consistently achieving National BSA Quality Council status

2008 Annual Income \$1,229,000



LaSalle Council Vision

We will serve more youth in our eight-county area through quality programs and recruitment of quality volunteers and staff, providing appropriate training at all levels.

2008 IN REVIEW

With the help of 266 Charter Partners in our community, LaSalle Council served over 9,400 youth in our eight-county area, including:

- ...over 6,200 Cub Scouts in 127 Packs
- ...over 2,500 Boy Scouts in 100 Troops
- ...over 300 Venturers in 31 Crews
- ...over 50 Explorers in 5 Posts
- ...over 350 Learning for Life participants
- ...all with the tireless effort of over 2700 adult volunteers!



Other great achievements:

- 4:1 youth to adult ratio
- 98 Eagle Scouts in BSA's 98th year!
- Over 85,000 community service hours
- 3600 merit badges earned
- Over \$2.2 million Endowment Fund
- 62% reading Boys' Life magazine
- 68% Centennial Quality Units
- 2008 National BSA Quality Council status

I am so happy about Scout Camp it is one of the funnest places I've been. The Campership helped me go to Scout Camp, it helped me to earn five new badges. At camp you can go swimming, canoeing, shooting, and so many cool things, and you get to meet all these new kids, it's really fun. Boy Scouts changed my life.

Blake VandenBosch, Troop 745
New Creation Fellowship

I plan to use the things I have learned in Scouting by trying the best at everything I do and using my experiences and skills as a Scout...in Scouting I learned patience and determination to succeed.

Warren Fasone, Eagle Scout, Troop 308
St John's United Church of Christ



According to a 2005 Harris Interactive Study, 83% of men who were Scouts agree that the values they learned in Scouting have left a lasting impression on their lives, and

- 96% say that Scouting had a positive effect on their honesty
- 94% indicate that Scouting taught them to have pride in their country
- 96% say Scouting taught them to be a good team player
- 94% report that Scouting developed their respect for the elderly
- 91% indicate Scouting developed their understanding of those less fortunate than themselves
- 93% report that Scouting taught them to have confidence in their abilities
- 95% say that Scouting had a positive effect on their effort to take better care of the environment
- 95% report that Scouting taught them respect for the life and property of others

SERVICE TO OTHERS



COMMUNITY SERVICE is one of the benchmarks we can use to judge how our society is truly performing. Our Scouts provide thousands of hours of community service each year in various ways including Eagle Scout projects, highway clean-up, and food drives. In 2008 alone, more than 88,000 non-perishable food items were collected by Scouts on behalf of local shelters and food pantries.

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Wow, what a year 2008 was! We have seen a lot of challenges across our Council communities this past year but we are pleased to report that LaSalle Council had a great year. We worked hard to become a 2008 National BSA Centennial Quality Council – for serving more youth, being fiscally sound and responsible, and achieving a number of Quality items like having almost 70% of our units reach the National BSA Centennial Quality Unit status! This takes dedicated leadership and we are so grateful to our many volunteers who helped make this possible.

Our mission is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law. Imagine how strong our country could be if we had every young boy learning the values of Scouting! That is why part of our vision is to give every eligible youth the opportunity to be part of Scouting. We currently serve over 9,400 youth, so while we have a lot to be proud of here in LaSalle Council, we still have much to do.

The 100th Anniversary of Scouting happens in 2010. Join us as we prepare to celebrate! Our values have held true over the course of our history, and we have much to do to get ready for the next millennium of Scouting. We are ready to promote Scouting's excitement and adventure in a world that needs Scouting today as much as ever. Our country is going through difficult times now and we will again. The Boy Scouts of America helps prepare young people to be strong and develop life skills and values that will get them through tough times – they are our future leaders.

Thanks to our supporters, our community, our volunteers, and our great Scouting families – together we are contributing to the success of our young people, our community and our nation through Scouting. We are truly leaving a lasting impression.

David H Niswonger
Council President

David T Menges
Council Commissioner

Patrick D Bridges
Scout Executive/CEO

