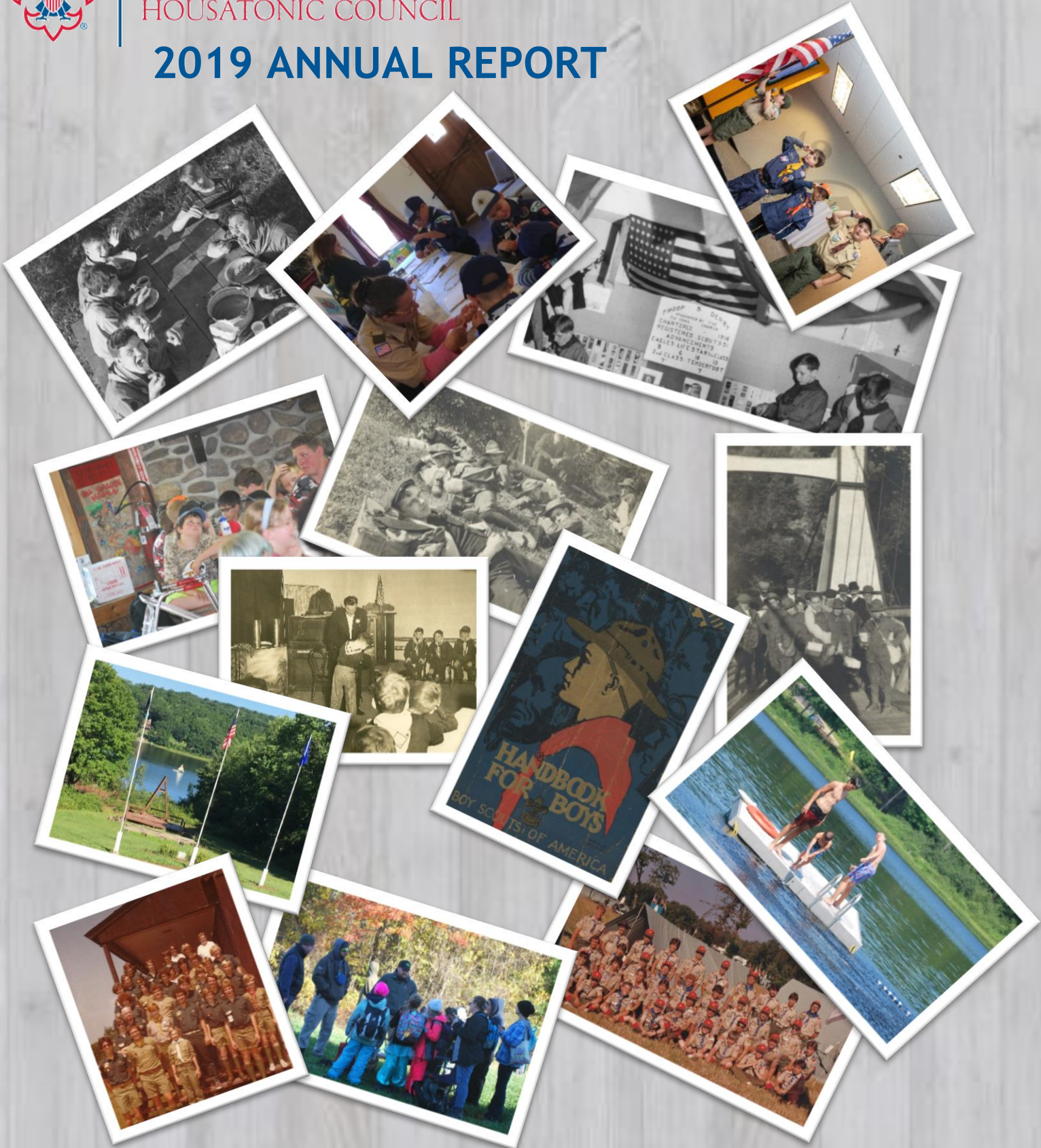




BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
HOUSATONIC COUNCIL

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



President's Message - Congratulations and Thank You!!!

Dear Friends of Housatonic Council,

Once again, 2019 proved to be a very active and exciting year. As a Council, we continue to provide outstanding program to our youth through activities, Camp Strang Summer Resident Camp, Cub Scout Day Camp, and Year-Round Camping. We continue to offer year-round weekend opportunities for our own units and others to enjoy the countless activity options available at Camp Strang. We have ability to offer the scouting experience to many more Scouts in the future. Our challenge is to improve the way in which we reach out to those youth waiting to be asked.

What does our future hold? With diligence, the Board accomplished landmark actions with the crafting and enactment of a new Endowment program called the 1920 Society and increase our overall value of the Endowment by ten percent. We are excited to open a new chapter for the Housatonic Council as we have received ownership of thirty acres of land in the Town of Seymour. The property will enable us to create a local camping experience for our Cub Scouts, and First-year Scouts BSA members, and a home for other activities. We are excited about our program enhancement and the inclusion of young ladies in the Cub Scout and Scouts BSA programs.

These new enhancements will assist us in continuing to deliver the outstanding programming required of our units and participants. These enhancements will afford endless opportunities for units to schedule their own activities.

All of this is only made possible with the diligence and dedication of the dozens upon dozens of volunteer leaders who continue to selflessly give time, experience and treasure toward the benefit of the youth. That is truly what it is all about and a virtue which this Council is very proud and grateful.

The Council realized outstanding success with the sponsored fundraising events. We are grateful for every sponsor and supporter at these recurring events and look forward each year to utilize the opportunity to showcase the benefits of Scouting their dollars go to deliver to our local youth. We look to add a new event in 2020 to supplement those already established. Likewise, we are thankful for The Valley United Way, The Valley Community Foundation along with the many Foundation and Trusts who each year provide the substantial dollars necessary for us to deliver a quality Scouting program to the youth in the Valley. Of course, we cannot forget the support we receive through the Friends of Scouting campaign. The support of the family and community participants must not be underestimated, and for them we are forever grateful. We look forward with the Executive Board leadership, we can effectively reach out and recruit more into this vital means of support.

Thank you to the Executive Board, the Volunteer Committee Chairs and Members and the Unit Leaders, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, Ventures and our Professional Staff for making the Housatonic Council the best we can be for 2019, grow in 2020 and continue our growth for many, many years to come.

Yours in Scouting,

Gary M. Parker
Council President



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

The Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America is pleased to present our 2019 Annual Report highlighting the accomplishments and future of the Housatonic Council. Our scouting program serves the towns of the Lower Naugatuck Valley (Ansonia, Derby, Oxford, Seymour, and Shelton), and incorporated in January of 1923. As one of the smallest councils in the Boy Scouts of America, the Housatonic Council's mission is to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetime, based on Scout Oath & Law.

In 2019 the Housatonic Council provided opportunities for all youth 5 to 21 years old.

2019 accomplishments:

- In February 2019, young ladies joined the Housatonic Council as part of the Scouts BSA program.
- Eighteen young men earned the rank of Eagle Scout. One of the requirements of an Eagle Scout is to select, organize, and lead an Eagle Service project. In 2019 over 1,800 hours of service were donated through these projects.
- 1 in every 21 youth in the Lower Naugatuck Valley is involved in the Scouting program.
- A new partnership was formed with the Boys and Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley at their Ansonia Clubhouse.
- Received a donation of thirty acres of property in the Town of Seymour to be used for the betterment of Scouting.

While we recognize our accomplishments, we also realize that to provide the best Scouting program, we need to grow and expand our programs and delivery in:

- Marketing and Publicity
- Volunteer participation
- Collaboration with other organizations for membership growth.



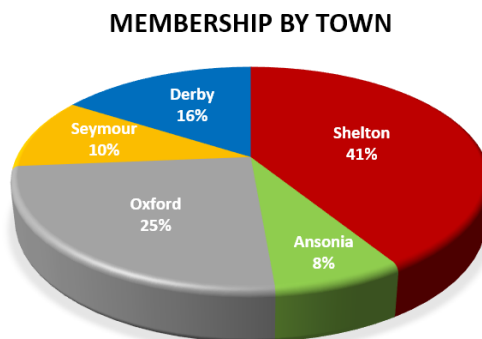
As we move into 2020, our 100th Anniversary of formation. We are working to grow Scouting and focus our resources on providing additional programs, and opportunities for all youth of the Lower Naugatuck Valley.

Membership Summary

At the end of 2019, our Community Impact grew. In 2019 our Cub Scout program continued to recruit girls and in February of 2019 we welcomed young ladies into our iconic Scout program. These programs enable our families to participate and enjoy Scouting together.

The Council will continue to collaborate with twenty-three organizations with similar missions. In 2019, we began a collaboration with the Lower Naugatuck Valley Boys and Girls Club beginning with a unit at the Smilow Clubhouse in Ansonia.

In 2020, we strive to serve additional youth and increase Scouting's influence by collaborating with more organizations within the Lower Naugatuck Valley.



Program Summary

Through the leadership and resources of the Council we enable our youth, their families, and our volunteer leaders to enjoy a challenging and safe Scouting program. The Housatonic Council continues to provide opportunities for units to strengthen their individual programs and provide additional training for unit leaders. In 2019, training offered by the Council to our unit leaders included; Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation Training (BALOO), Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, and Youth Protection Training.

Youth Opportunities included:

Scouts BSA: Five Merit Badge days for our youth, attendance included youth from the Housatonic Council, surrounding Councils and scouts from Massachusetts. Merit Badge classes included Citizenship in the Community, Communications, First Aid, Nuclear Science, Photography, and Crime Prevention to name a few. Each of these Merit Badge Days enable scouts to work in a group setting outside of summer camp.

Cub Scouts: In November 2019, we held a Cub Advancement Day at the Huntington Chapel, and youth from the ages of 5 - 10 earned age-appropriate Advancement.





Camping Summary

Edmund D. Strang Scout Reservation: Once again in 2019, and for the more than fifty-eight years, the summer and year-round camping programs at Camp Strang have continued to provide outstanding experiences and memories for hundreds of Scouts, Scouters, visitors and staff alike.

Thanks to the campers, volunteers, summer camp staff, and professionals whose tireless efforts and generosity support the pride of the Housatonic Council in the Northwest Hills of Goshen, CT.

In 2019, the Housatonic Council continued its Weekend Programs to develop and offer a calendar of weekend activities for units to participate in.

Year-round Camping: In 2019 over 70% of the available weekends had at least one unit in camp to deliver on the promise of an outdoor experience to youth.



Boy Scout Summer Camp: In 2019, we introduced Radio Controlled cars, and continued our expansion of bicycle use at camp. Camp Strang offered over fifty merit badges including Automotive Maintenance, Farm Mechanics, Welding, Nuclear Science, Camping, and Swimming. The summer camp staff continues to increase customer service and provide outstanding opportunities for our youth to explore new challenges and experience the outdoors in a safe environment.

In 2019, we offered youth the opportunity for a canoe trek over five nights.



Cub Scout Day Camp: The Huntington Chapel in Shelton, and the Edmund D. Strang Reservation in Goshen were home to Cub Scout Day Camp in 2019. The Cub Scout Day Camp included the continued enhancement of girls attending. Through the dedication of the staff many of our youth, chose to attend for three weeks. The 2019 theme was Jurassic Day Camp. Our exciting schedule of activities included an all-day field trip to the Edmund D. Strang Scout Reservation each week.



2019 Eagle Scouts

In 2019 Eighteen young men achieved Scouting's highest rank of Eagle. One of the requirements to attain the rank of Eagle is a Leadership Service Project. Eagle Scout projects accounted for over 2,400 hours of community service and supplies with an estimated value of over \$70,000.



Council Awards Bestowed in 2019

2019 District Awards of Merit: Nicholas Frovarp and Susan Stankye

The District Award of Merit is a Council recognition presented through the local Council Court of Honor for outstanding service to Scouting at the Council level.



2019 Silver Beaver: Margaret "Margie" Kish

The Silver Beaver is the highest council level distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America. It is awarded to registered adult leaders, recognized for their impact on the lives of youth through service.



2019 James E. West Recipients: Council Executive Board, Ray Oppel, Mrs. Oppel, and Charles and Anne Stankye

A donation of \$1000 dollars is required to begin a James E. West award. A person can make the contribution or funds can be collected to honor someone. The James E. West endowment fund was established to ensure that future generations of youth would benefit from scouting.



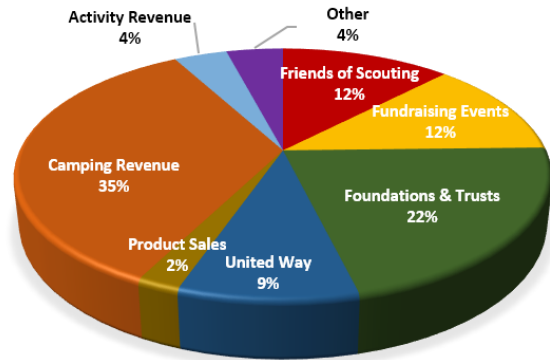
Administration Summary



All Boy Scout of America councils have placed an emphasis on reaching 100% Youth Protection Training (YPT). In 2019 a new Youth Protection Training was offered by the National Office, and all leaders were required to update their training. Support from our Executive Board, instructor led training sessions, and the unit re-Chartering process have assisted our units and unit leadership in completing their YPT and the importance of our goal to achieve 100% YPT.

Fundraising Summary

2019 continued the growth in Special Events with attendance and donations increasing over 2018. Our three main fundraising events: Clay shoot, Golf tournament, and the Good Scout Award are not only established events but are anticipated events on many calendars. In 2019 we continued the Mayors' Breakfast, which was chaired by Mayor Richard Dziekan of Derby, and Mayor David Cassetti of Ansonia. In 2020 we look forward to expanding our fundraising to include a First Selectman's Breakfast hosted by First Selectman George Temple of Oxford and First Selectman Kurt Miller of Seymour.



In 2019, we continued our collaboration with Connecticut Yankee Council at our annual Golf Outing. The Clay Shoot continues to increase attendance over prior years and the funds raised to support Scouting in the valley. The Good Scout Award honored Tom D'Addario of D'Addario Autogroup for his support of the community and youth.

The grants we receive from our area foundations support the general operations of the Housatonic Council and improve infrastructure at Camp Strang, provide additional camp scholarships, and enhance program (i.e. Archery targets, material for 9-square, and additional robot kits for our STEM program).

Our Friends of Scouting (FOS) message shares the vision of the Housatonic Council and assists us in increasing family and community participation. During our FOS presentations we share the message and benefits of Scouting with our current families. FOS is an opportunity for our families to invest in the future of Scouting.



Council Leadership

2019 Executive Committee:

Council President
Gary Parker

Council Commissioner
Jeffery Anderson

Treasurer
Michael Gloade

Assistant Treasurers
Walter R. Archer, III

Vice-President Administration
Rod Erickson

Vice-President Outdoor Programs &
Camping
Randall Ritter

Vice-President Fundraising
Father Christopher Tiano

Vice President Endowment
Kevin Moyher

Vice President Membership
Hilary Coons

Scout Executive
John A. Zseller II

Charter Organizations:

- Booth Hill School PTO, Shelton, Pack 24
- Boys and Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley, Ansonia, Pack 401
- Charter Hose Co. #4, Ansonia, Pack 16
- Christ Church Quaker Farms, Oxford, Pack 14
- David S. Miles Post 174, Oxford, Troop 1, Troop 1G, Crew 2001
- Derby 2nd Congregational Church, Derby, Troop 3
- Derby Methodist Church, Derby, Pack 3
- Derby-Shelton Rotary Club, Derby, Crew 33
- Elizabeth Shelton PTA, Shelton, Pack 27
- First United Methodist Church of Shelton, Shelton, Pack 25, Troop 25
- Hill Top Hose Co. #5, Ansonia, Troop 105
- Holy Rosary Catholic Men's Club, Ansonia, Pack 7, Troop 7, Crew 77
- Holy Rosary Catholic Ladies Guild, Ansonia, Troop 7G
- Huntington Congregational Church, Huntington, Troop 101
- Huntington United Methodist Church Men's Club, Shelton, Troop 55
- Immanuel Lutheran Church, Oxford, Pack 65, Troop 65, Crew 65
- Irving School PTO, Derby, Pack 90
- Mohegan School PTO, Shelton, Pack 28, Troop 28
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Shelton, Troop 27
- St. Joseph's Church, Shelton, Troop 19
- Sunnyside School PTA, Shelton, Pack 20
- The Huntington Chapel, Shelton, Crew 2017
- Trinity Episcopal Church, Seymour, Pack 11
- Trinity Men's Club - Trinity Episcopal Church, Seymour, Troop 11, Crew 11
- Oxford Ambulance Association, Oxford, Post 108



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Thank you to all our Supporters and Donors



\$5,000 and above

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DF D'Addario
Bruce Griffing Trust
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Edward "Ned" Miller
Valley Community Foundation
Valley United Way, Inc.



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Baron Technologies
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City of Derby
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Tom D'Addario

D'Addario Auto Group
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Rodney Erickson
John Frey
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ION Bank
James Blakeman Construction
Patrick McDonnell
Kevin Moyher
Joseph Nesteriak
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Richard Williams
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John Zseller



\$501 to \$1,000

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Aquarion Company
Walter Archer
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.
Basement Systems
The Benevity Community Impact
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Patrick Charmel
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\$501 to \$1,000 Continued

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Curtiss Ryan Honda Inc.
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Southern Auto Sales
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Town of Oxford
Valley Community Foundation
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\$150 to \$500

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Amazon Smile
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John Anglace
Bad Sons Beer Co., LLC
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Bankwell Financial
Kevin Barber
Stephen Barone
Benjamin Bassett
Brian Bassett
Scott Basso
Bertha Belden
Karen Benjamin
Karen Bernier
Allen Bertapelle
Andrew Bickford
Joseph Birch
Russell Blakeslee
John Boath
Michael Bradshaw
Bridge Street Partners
Burtville Associates
Cardone Landscaping
Lauren Carr
Catholic War Veterans, St. Michael's,
Post 1562
Geraldine Cebrik
CeCi Brothers Inc.
Thomas Cole
Connecticut Precision Casting
Domenic Costello
Daniel Cyrul
Walter Czarneski
Ana D'Addario
Tom D'Addario
Dalling Construction Inc
Decarlo & Doll
Donald Demaine
Jim DiPietro
Maurice Donini
DSA Corp
Vivian Duncan
Fred Durrschmidt
Anthony Eastwood

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Peter Francini
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Grade A Market, Inc.
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Katie Holman
Hotchkiss Hose Co. 1
Housatonic Paper & Supply Co.
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\$150 to \$500 Continued

Brian Young
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Gifts in Kind to the Council

Home Depot
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Oakbridge Management
Talalay Industries

2019 Housatonic Council Units in Action



Canoe Trek

From August 8 - 12, eight of our Scouts participated in a 50-mile canoe trek sponsored by Sabatis Scout Reservation.

Our youth had an exciting time and were worn out from days on the trek.

Scouts Participate in Shelton Swimming Hole Clean-up

On September 28, 2019 - Youth from our Shelton Packs and Troops spent the day cleaning up a swimming hole located right in our Council in Shelton. The combined effort of the participating Scouts and adults was over 80 hours of clean-up and as you can see from the photos a full truckload of garbage.



Housatonic Council Units Spend a Weekend at Battleship Cove

Members from Pack 7, Pack 14, Pack 25, Pack 28, Troop 7, Troop 25, Troop 28 and Troop 55 spent the weekend at Battleship Cove's Nautical Nights on Aug 10th & Aug 11th in Falls River, MA.

This is a bi-annual outing coordinated by Pack 28's Committee and open to all members of our council that would like to participate in this experience.

This year 65 people from our council set out to learn and experience what the USS Massachusetts has to offer along with the 4 other vessels under the care of museum.

This overnight experience allows the Scouts to experience what it was like to eat, sleep and live aboard this battleship as 1,350 sailors did back in World War II.

Council History

The Housatonic Council began in the Derby district in 1911 with the organization of Troop 1. This troop was sponsored by the Derby Methodist Episcopal Church and its Scoutmaster was the Reverend Charles E. Benedict. Scouting enjoyed gradual but steady growth in Derby and the associated towns and cities.

