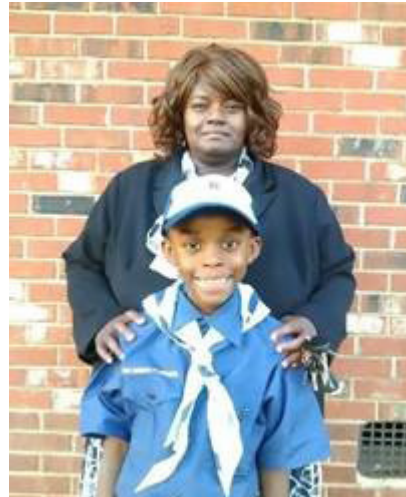




# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

MECKLENBURG COUNTY COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



## Robin Stewart - A mom who believes in the transformational power of Scouting.

In April 2015, I put my 7 year old son, Mykal, in Cub Scouts. When I signed him up, I had no idea that my world was going to change as a parent. Scout Mom? WOW! I attended the weekly Cub Scout meetings with him and observed his eagerness to learn about Cub Scouting. His eagerness pushed me to make certain that he was involved in every way possible. I hesitantly agreed to lead the parent committee as I did not know anything about Scouting. Volunteering has led to a greater exposure to the Scouting world for Mykal and me. This past summer, I had the opportunity to assist the staff of the Special Initiatives District in designing a summer camp for the Cub Scouts. The Special Initiative District's mission is geared towards boys in a lower economic status, boys that may have disabilities such as autism or even a physical disability and even reaches out to boys that belong to the Latino community or other immigrant communities. However, all boys are welcome to be part of the program.

I now know how to select the correct camping gear for overnight camping trips. I have learned the language and acronyms used within Scouts. Currently, I am learning how to cook with the Dutch oven. Overall, the Mecklenburg County Council believes in diversity and reaches out to boys from all different backgrounds, cultures, and ethnic groups. At last year's summer camp we had the opportunity to be part of a cross-cultural religious

ceremony on closing day. This was amazing.

It is very important to me as a volunteer to let you know that your money is supporting a very good community organization. Boy Scouts are more than their name...they really help the boys in our community. I am glad to be part of that!

## Leaving a Legacy



Mr. Stephen Pace,

To be honest, writing this is one of the most difficult things I have done in a long time. There has been so much said about you in the last week since your passing and it will be nearly impossible for me to add a new perspective on the incredible man you were. In addition to that, writing this means accepting the fact that you are truly gone, and even yesterday in your funeral I half expected you to suddenly walk in and question what all the fuss was about.

To simply call you my Scoutmaster does not seem to fully do justice to everything you meant to me and so many other individuals who were blessed to know you. I can clearly remember the first time I met you. I was a scrawny, shy 11 year old new scout and you were the larger than life Scoutmaster that had already produced a 100+ Eagles. You were a legend, and in my mind I was just another Boy Scout, yet you immediately knew my name and always ensured I felt welcome in the troop, just as you did for every single Scout that passed through. I think as I grew in Scouting I began to understand just how much you did for everyone. Whether talking to a first time boy or an 18 year old Eagle Scout, you treated everyone with an incredible amount of respect and more importantly, love.

In Scouting, you taught us all the key elements required to be an Eagle Scout. Camping, First Aid, knot tying, fire building, and many other skills were easily accomplished under your guidance. However, more importantly than these useful skills, you taught an entire troop of boys how to become men. You taught us unwavering selflessness, as you constantly put the needs of others before your own. You taught us loyalty and trustworthiness, as any promise you made to us was better than any written contract. You taught us how to respect others, regardless of their background or opinions. Most importantly, you taught us love. You loved every single boy that walked through the doors of Troop 118, making every single one feel as though they had their own special place in the troop. You turned young nervous boys, into mature confident men through leading by example. You were a mentor, a second father, a guide, a motivator, an encourager, and most importantly a friend. Even over the past few months, as your strength began to fail you, you never stopped giving and never stopped loving.

Last week, when I heard you had passed away, to be honest I was stunned. You were always, in my mind, a Superman who could overcome anything. When I first heard about your diagnosis, I clearly remember thinking, "if anyone can beat cancer, Mr. Pace can". Though I know that so many people will miss you down here, I also know that Heaven has gained one of the greatest men to have ever walked this Earth. Thank you for all you did for me and countless other people over so many years. You are one of my greatest heroes.

I hope that up in Heaven you are hiking new trails, sailing new waters, and just exploring every inch of the infinite woods God has to offer you. Please save me a space on some of your trips whenever I get there. Love you Mr. Pace.

Adam Windham



## MECKLENBURG COUNTY COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



# LEADERS BUILT HERE



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# Prepared. For Life.™







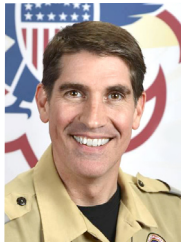
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## A WORD FROM OUR KEY 3:



**Craig May**  
Council President



**Mark Turner**  
Scout Executive



**John McLean**  
Council Commissioner

Scouting is the change agent for youth and families. When you get involved and volunteer, that's when the magic begins. We all know that young people join Scouting because it's fun, but over time, leadership skills are acquired, a sense of Duty to Country and Duty to God are learned and a vision for one's future self is realized.

We serve youth from all walks of life giving them a foundation that will be their bedrock. We serve because we know it's the right thing to do and our legacy is to instill the values of the Scout Oath and Law in the next generation so they are prepared to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes.

We will always pledge to continue providing the vision, leadership and resources for all the youth of our community.

## SCOUTING FOR FOOD GOOD TURN PROGRAM

Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Venturers and adult volunteers went door-to-door collecting food for Loaves & Fishes, as well as staffed multiple food collection sites throughout the county for the council's annual Scouting for Food drive. Collection barrels were also located in all Mecklenburg County Harris Teeter stores throughout the drive. The 2017 drive collected 240,000 pounds of food for the hungry in our area. "This massive effort guarantees that there will be groceries in the homes of hungry families for months to come.

We could not be more grateful", says Loaves & Fishes Executive Director Tina Postel. A successful drive is critical for the hungry in Charlotte-Mecklenburg as Loaves & Fishes depends on the Scouting for Food drive to provide up to 20% of the food distributed to hungry neighbors in need throughout the year. Since 1985, Scouting for Food has been the Mecklenburg County Council's annual council-wide service project.



## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

273	Scouts earned the Eagle Award in 2017
8,228	Merit badges earned
3,710	Total youth advancements earned
2,766	Cub Scouts attended day camps, resident camps and special needs camps
2,013	Boy Scouts, Venturers and adults attended long-term summer camp
311	Youth served in our nationally recognized Scouting Through Soccer programs
36,510	Service hours invested back into our community just through Eagle Scout projects
\$19,450	Donated locally to send popcorn to our military and their families around the world
240,000	Pounds of food collected during the Scouting for Food Good Turn program in 2017
3,194	Registered adult volunteers

## EXPENSES



## SOURCES OF INCOME



## BY THE NUMBERS

### ► SCOUTING PROGRAMS:

#### CUB SCOUTING

3794 Cub Scouts/  
112 Packs

#### BOY SCOUTING

3083 Boy Scouts/  
112 Troops

#### VENTURING

389 Venturers/  
43 Crews

#### EXPLORING

1795 Explorers/  
55 Posts

#### LEARNING FOR LIFE

597 Youth/  
13 Groups

### ► ADVANCEMENT

315	Tiger Cub
621	Bobcat
312	Wolf
420	Bear
328	Webelos
269	Arrow of Light
343	Tenderfoot
240	Second Class
215	First Class
239	Star
268	Life
273	Eagle

Total ranks earned :

3,843

Total merit badges earned :

8,228



## ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS FOR FUN AND LEARNING

- Scouting for Food—Good Turn for America
- Trailblazer Adventure Day
- Boy Scout Summer Camp
- Cub Scout Day Camp
- Webelos Resident Camp
- District camporees

## FACILITIES AND CAMPS

- Two full-service camps:



### Camp Grimes

1,200 acres open for year round programs located at the Mecklenburg Scout Reservation in the beautiful South Mountains



### Belk Scout Camp

286 acres open year-round for camping, training, and programs, located 30 minutes from Charlotte



The Beautiful Camp Grimes



Belk Scout Camp

- Council Service Center—Located near downtown Charlotte, houses administrative offices, and meeting rooms
- Official Scout Shop—Located in the Council Service Center, offers a complete line of uniforms, insignia, camping items, advancement, and many other Scouting related items