

St. Louis Area Council

Boy Scouts of America

MEMO TO: Members of the Eagle Scout Association  
FROM: David B. Guthrie, President 1970-71  
DATE: March 5, 1971

The roster for 1971 lists about 400 members of the Eagle Scout Association, and every year we gain more members than we lose. When I reflect upon the significance of the size of our ESA membership today and the likelihood that ESA will have even more members in the future, I see ESA becoming "Big-Time" but still a non-profit organization for Scouting with its management being handled only by volunteer Scouters.... "Because the Eagle Scouts are volunteers, giving their time as they see fit, Russ Hart has about as much control over them as a saloon bouncer has over sailors on shore leave."

Briefly, let me state my thoughts about relating ESA membership to the activities and functions which ESA performs. ESA has three major areas requiring support from its members. However, each member is free to chose the areas and the extent of his participation.

1. Activities are available for those volunteering for special Scout projects but which require a minimal of financing by ESA --- for example, Eagle Recognition Day, Eagle Reviewers, "outreach" camping, Inner City Coaching, Scout Circus, Scout Exposition, Distinguished Eagle Award.
2. Activities for those volunteering to organize and attend functions involving the social side of membership...the bonds of friendship between adult Eagles grow deep when personal relationships develop on a purely social level between individuals of families...the Labor Day Family Weekend, the Fall Stag, the Winter Dinner-Dance, and the Spring Social event appeal to a fair sized minority of our ESA members.
3. Projects requiring financial support of ESA members have been numerous throughout the years, and everyone in ESA participates in this area because surplus funds from the collective annual dues provide much of the revenue: the fire tower project at Camp May, \$400 for boats at Lions Den, the Trail Marker at Nim's Overlook at the S-F Ranch, the Saddle kit (115) for the Ranger camp in 1969, the \$75-\$100 donations during 1969 and 1970 for needy adults taking the Woodbadge course, the \$100 donation in 1967 to support the MacArthur Building as the new Scout Headquarters. (There have been many more, but I have not done a complete job on this homework.)

The third area points out a vital need for each ESA member today to continue his membership even though he may have no interest in participating in either of the first two. (When I presented some of this information to Bob Wells recently, Bob decided that he would be happy to retain his ESA membership knowing that ESA had a need for his financial support.)

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A life membership in the Eagle Scout Association of the St. Louis Area Council, B.S.A. is now available. Upon payment of a non-refundable \$100, a member shall have his dues and registration fee paid automatically

each year until his death. And even though he may some day move from the St. Louis area, he will remain on our roster as a life member.

At the January 13, 1971 meeting of the ESA Board of Directors, there was an unanimous approval to amend the by-laws as follows and we are grateful to Mike Cunliff, Sr. for presenting the necessary phrasing:

By-Law Article I - MEMBERSHIP

---annual dues, or by the purchasing of a life membership, said life members shall have all the rights and privileges of any other member.

By-Law Article IV - DUES

Per capita dues of the Association shall be \$3.00 per year. Life membership may be purchased for the sum of \$100.00. The Board of Directors shall then invest the \$100.00 in a special escrow account and the income shall be used to pay for said life member's dues in this Association and to annually register such member with the Boy Scouts of America. Should the income be insufficient to cover dues and registration, this Association will pay the balance. Any income above that needed for dues and registration shall be put in a Special Project Fund to keep Scouting going and growing. Upon the death of a life member, the \$100.00 shall be transferred to the Special Project Fund. The approval of two-thirds of the total membership voting shall be required in order to change the dues, the cost of a life membership or to establish an assessment. This provision shall not apply to the establishment of prices for social events.

As of February 23, 1971, the following have taken out life memberships in ESA: Al Cunliff, Sr; Bill Livingston; Ben Ross; Parker Fritschle; Verne Barnhart; and Al Cunliff, Jr.

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ESA members were prominent at the Council's Annual Dinner and meeting as Silver Beaver Awards were presented to Ed Bilhorn, Gene Cole, Charles Hartmann, Don Lang, and Jim Larkin. Silver Beavers also went to Bert O'Brien, who has helped train ESAers for Central City Camping; Lamar Smith, whose troop has gone to summer camp three years in a row using ESA leadership; and Paul C. Woulfe, Sr. who is the father of Paul C. Woulfe, Jr. an ESA member.

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Eugene Jordan, Scoutmaster of Troop 493 at Samuel United Church of Christ, Midland District is our most recent member.

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SPECIAL!! SPECIAL!! - ROAD RALLY for the entire family! Everyone will have fun! Sunday afternoon, April 18, 1971, about 2:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Dick Gould will send details in the near future about...where, when, what, refreshments and EATS!

Dave Guthrie

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