



The VARSITY VISION Newsletter



FOR VARSITY SCOUT LEADERS
UTAH NATIONAL PARKS COUNCIL™ BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

[www.utahscouts.org/varsity scouting/varsity vision news letters](http://www.utahscouts.org/varsity%20scouting/varsity%20vision%20news%20letters)

October 2013

Good judgment comes from experience, experience comes from bad judgment

Vol. 16 No. 10

*Because he has advanced beyond traditional Scouting,
the Varsity Scout, in addition,
accepts and lives the Varsity Scout pledge,
which is:*

*As a Varsity Scout I will:
live by the Scout Oath, Law, motto and slogan;
Honor the dignity and worth of all persons;
Promote the cause of freedom;
and do my best to be a good team member.*

Plan & Execute Varsity Scouting Shotgun Shooting Sports Success Map

All 27 Program Features
can be seen at the following
internet site

[http://www.scouting.org
/scoutsource/boyscouts
/resources/varistyprogr
am.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/boyscouts/resources/varistyprogram.aspx)

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go to the Utah National
Parks Council™ website at
<http://www.utahscouts.org>
and enter the e-list sign-
up icon at the top right of
the home page. Follow
the instructions given
there to register.

PLAN AND EXECUTE

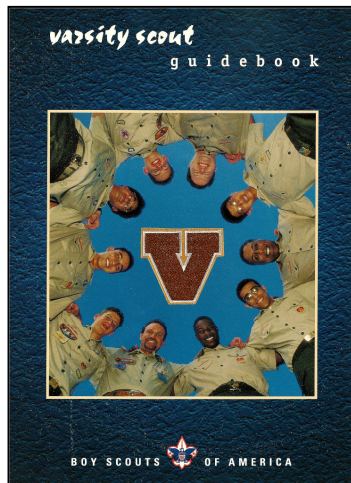
Varsity Scouting

By Curtis Anderson

September is the month for planning the annual team calendar. Summer family vacations are over and the school calendars are prepared for the coming year. Most high functioning Varsity teams put in place their annual plans for the coming year during the month of September. Here are three basic elements that seem to work for the "Planning and Execution" of a well-run Varsity Team. Keep in mind that in Varsity Scouting our vocabulary follows sports team models; ie. Team, Coach, Captain, Squads etc. The winning buzz word for all good sports teams is EXECUTE, EXECUTE and EXECUTE.

Step #1... Get Organized:

That means every boy is on the organizational chart. (See page 23 of the Varsity Scout Guidebook.) I mean every boy 14 and 15 years old within the geography of the team boundary. This chart is very dynamic. I keep about a dozen of these in the back of the team loose leaf binder. The organizational chart somehow seems to change regularly. It is the role of the Captain and Co-captains to keep this up to date. Everyone has to see this chart regularly. Post it at every team meeting. We have a large one laminated and hanging in our team meeting room. We post the positions with dry-erase markers and make changes when necessary. Right now we have a small team. The captain fills one of the program fields. Additionally our High Adventure program manager is a member of the church but is not ordained to the Aaronic Priesthood; however he feels a strong part of the team. He is working very hard to make sure our high adventure activities come off well. He is always to team meetings. Remember, in larger teams, two or three boys can be in each program field. A team cannot function if the players don't know where and how they fit into the game. I cannot emphasize this enough; every boy must have a position on the team and know how to execute in his position. If you are the wide receiver in football or point guard in basketball and



don't know the play or your route, your team will have a hard time winning. This is critical; GET ORGANIZED, BE ORGANIZED, STAY ORGANIZED.

Step #2... Plan Long Term:

We recently held our annual program planning clinic. We secured a cabin from a member of our ward for a night. A three or four hour session at your house or family room may work about as well. It was fun. We had a great time just brainstorming. Here's what to do. Make more than enough copies of the "Varsity Scout Individual Interest Survey" found on page A-14 in the back of the Varsity Scout



Guidebook. Also make some copies of the full list of merit badges. Each boy chooses 5-10 things he is interested in. The sheets are handed in and they become the basis for a master sheet of the activities that team members are collectively interested in. Record the choices collectively on a clean unused interest survey sheet. The team can then pick 6-7 "main event drivers" or themes for the coming year. Each theme should wrap up with a big event that embodies all the preparation, training and planning. Often the "big event" is a camp out. The team should determine when will be the best time of year to best enjoy these choices. For example, winter camping will be held near the end of February or first of March, so we start working on preparation sometime around the end of November. Each team meeting from November to March has some preparation and training for the winter camp event. This crescendo of development really heightens the big event. These events or themes are transferred to the "Annual Varsity Scout Team Planning Chart" found on page A-13 in the Varsity Scout Guidebook.



Every team should have access to the "Varsity Team Program Features" vol. #1, #2 and #3. Study these carefully when developing the chosen activity. These volumes can be found on line at

www.utahscouts.org. There is a real temptation to rush the development of a theme or activity. It is much wiser to go slowly and deliberately and savor the process. Bring in specialists to train but let the boys teach whenever possible. I find that most boys can go online and print something about our theme and bring it to team meeting.

You will notice as you study the Varsity Team Program Features on a given theme how each program manager is involved in the planning and development of every theme. For example right now in our team we are studying archery. Each boy agreed to bring some archery related item to our kick off meeting and explain what it is, and how it works. Going forward our advancement program manager will teach us the requirements for the merit badge and guide our progress so that the boys can earn the archery merit badge. The High Adventure Manager wants us all to go bow hunting with him, but I don't think that will happen. However, he is arranging for specialists to come to our team meetings, arranging our time at the range and scheduling the 3-D archery shoot in September. The Personal Development manager will take care of some Duty to God requirements as well as discuss the fitness needs for good archers. Our Service Project manager is planning a service project at the range and also organizing us to help solve a weed problem for a widow in our ward. Our Special Programs and Events Manager are watching for the activities where we combine with groups outside of our regular team program. In the fall we have two major district varsity activities that are also calendared and directed by the Special Programs and Events Manager. The annual calendar should be intensely and accurately planned for at least three months in advance by the week. Continue to refine and focus on the planning of that third month out. Keep the calendar posted and in front of the boys. But of equal importance, give a copy to each of their parents. By the way, the annual calendar should have in its schedule "the annual parent night."

Step #3... The Captain runs the Team:

Imagine a basketball game where the coach become so involved in running the game that he rips off his clothes revealing his old high school jersey, runs onto the floor, takes the ball from his team members and attempts to make all the baskets. Sound weird! Yet it happens all too often in Varsity Scouting. Usually because of lack of planning, the coach, wanting to make sure there is a program for team meeting night, brings all the stuff and takes over the meeting. The captain is asked by the coach to have someone give the opening and closing prayer and that's about all he does. If this sounds familiar you are reading the right article. The next part of this article is the most important part, so pay attention! **THE TEAM LEADERSHIP MUST HAVE A WEEKLY TEAM LEADERSHIP MEETING.** This meeting consists of the Captain, Co-captains and the

Coach and Assistant Coach. (This is Teachers Quorum Presidency Meeting in the LDS Church). Weekly, means every week. In our team we meet every Sunday morning at 8:15 a.m. sharp. In this meeting the Coach reviews with the captain and co-captains the events of the coming week. They fill out completely "The Varsity Scout Team meeting plan Worksheet." Found on page A-3 in the appendix of the Varsity Scout Guidebook. Here the captain is prepared to stand in front of his team and conduct business (preside). The needs of the team are reviewed. The events of the coming weekly team meeting or team activity are nailed down. Here the captain is prepared to council with team members in the teacher's quorum meeting coming in two hours, and he is prepared to conduct that meeting and make sure that all assignments are ready for our Tuesday night team meeting. Two of our team members do not come to our Sunday meetings, but systems are in place and discussed so that those boys are prepared with their assignments for the team meeting. THE COACH DOES NOT TALK very much in either the quorum meeting or the Weekly Team Meeting until the end where he is asked to give the coaches corner. You can judge a good coach by how little he has to talk during either of these two meetings.



These are the three basic elements of "Planning and Executing" in the Varsity Scouting game. Using this model you will find that the tradition builds and the boys will learn that this is the way business is conducted in the team. Going forward it will be easy to train new leadership because they will have seen how it works and will have participated in the process as they have helped build the team program. This model allows the boys to be invested in the team and helps the team leadership consider the needs of each team member. It also reduces the temptation for the coach to take over too much. There are some great additions to this basic process. I have talked to many experienced coaches who have made some minor modifications or additions to this process but these three important factors are the place to start. Be sure to review this process in the Varsity Scout

Guidebook as well as the Varsity Scout Playbook. When the Varsity Scout team is organized, when they plan for the long term considering the needs of every boy, then the team captain can be successful in running the team and the team will have a great team experience. Then the purpose of Scouting will be fulfilled in your area.

Curtis Anderson was recently released as Stake President of the Gunnison Utah Stake. He served as a Varsity Coach twice and in three Bishoprics. He also served as the Varsity Scout commissioner and trainer in the Sanpete District of the Utah National Parks Council. He has also spent twelve summers helping with the Skyline Varsity All-Star leadership course.



Celebrate 100 Years of Scouting in the Church

In commemoration of the Church's 100-year affiliation with the Boy Scouts of America, an event called "A Century of Honor" will be held October 29, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time. The event will originate at the Conference Center in Salt Lake City, Utah, and will be broadcast live throughout North America in English and Spanish. The event will be rebroadcast Oct. 29 at 9:00 p.m. and Oct. 30 at 5:00 p.m., MDT.



Featured on the program will be Scout choirs, historical dignettes, and videos highlighting important events, service, and achievements from the past century. Thousands of local Scouts of all ages will participate. Members of the First Presidency of the Church as well as national BSA leaders and executive board members are expected to attend.

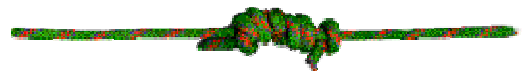
All Scout troops in North America are invited to participate by viewing the broadcast live at a local LDS stake center or online during or after the broadcast at scouts100.lds.org. Priesthood leaders are encouraged to use the broadcast to build relationships with Scout units, families, and others in the community. Local leaders may wish to coordinate an outreach effort with the BSA leaders in their area.

In 1907, Sir Robert Baden-Powell began the Boy Scout movement in England, and in 1910 the Boy Scouts of America was founded. The Church became the first sponsor of Scouting in the United States in 1913 and is now the largest sponsoring organization of BSA with more than 430,000 boys and young men enrolled.



A group of Boy Scouts attend camp in the 1930s.

President [Thomas S. Monson](#), who has served on the BSA National Executive Board longer than any other member, said, "Scouting brings out the best in each of us. You've learned much from Scouting. Live what you've learned and will continue to learn. Help others to hike the trails, to keep steadfast in the paths of truth, of honor, of duty, that all of you can soar together on eagles' wings." ("[President Thomas S. Monson Discusses Strengths of Scouting](#)").



Shotgun SHOOTING SPORTS

Written by Ken Cluff



Our Varsity Scouts are so into shooting sports (Turkey Shoots, etc.), it is very important that we drill gun safety into their behavior. Safety around firearms needs to be second nature to them. There are specific safety rules that must be rigidly followed during your shooting activities.

Being NRA certified in shotgun and black powder shooting activities, I have had the opportunity to be a Range Master

at many Turkey shoots, Rendezvous and winter camps. Fundamental rules for safe gun handling are the first thing I talk to the boys about at a shooting event.

Whether it be at a B.B. gun shoot, a black powder rendezvous event or a Turkey Shoot with shotguns, it is extremely important that I get the boys attention and have this serious gun safety talk with them.

There are three basic rules in safe gun handling and I add a 4th. which is having a "good attitude and concentration" when they have a gun in their hands. No "Horse Play" or "joking around" is allowed when the shooter is on the firing line. I have sent boys to the end of the line when they disregard this 4th rule of mine.



1. **ALWAYS keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.** Whether you are shooting or simply handling your gun, never point the muzzle at yourself or others. Generally, it is safest to point the gun upward at all times, never let the gun point at you or anyone else.
2. **ALWAYS keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.** There's a natural tendency to place your finger on the trigger when holding a gun. Don't do it, avoid it at all costs! Your finger can rest on the trigger guard or, better yet around the grip of the stock. Trigger guards are designed to prevent the trigger from getting accidentally bumped.
3. **ALWAYS keep the action open and your gun unloaded until ready to use.** Whenever you pick up any gun, immediately open the action if it's not already open and check (visually, if possible) to see that the chamber is unloaded. Treat any gun as if it were loaded and ready to go off whether at home, on the range or in the field. If the gun has a magazine, remove it and make sure the chamber is empty. I never allow the boys to load more than one shell at a time when on the firing line.



Of course there are many more safety rules you can talk about with the boys. See the "Firearm Safety" on page 10. You can also review the information covered in the Shooting Sports Program Features. But remember if any one of the three safety rules listed above is followed, there cannot be an accidental shooting of a Scout. And when all three rules

are adhered to plus the one on attitude, just think how safe the shooting range will be?

Stress to your Varsity Scouts to make these rules part of their "habit" not only for the current Shooting activity but for a lifetime.



I was visiting some friends in St George last week and a neighbor boy about 7 came over and was play shooting all of us with a toy gun. I get real nervous when I see the muzzle end of a gun (any kind) pointed at me. I pulled him aside and had a gun safety talk with him. His next gun will probably be a pellet gun or a BB gun and he needs to understand safe gun habits now.

I might be weird but I feel very strongly about gun safety at all times. When I am a Range Master I am responsible for the safety of every Varsity Scout and his leader. When you take on this responsibility at your District Turkey Shoots or where-ever, always drill the three plus one safety requirement and habits into each participant.

The following standards are established for shotguns to be used by Varsity Scouts:

1. It is recommended that either a 20, 16 or 12 gauge semiautomatic shotguns be used.
2. Ammunition containing No. 8 shot or smaller is recommended on ranges with protected down range of 600 feet. Additional down range distance of 150 feet (total 750 feet) is required for No. 6 shot size. Shot larger than No.6 is not to be used. These distances are for ranges at sea level. Longer distances will be required at higher elevations.
3. Shooting safety-glasses and hearing protection are required on shotgun ranges.
4. All training and shooting activities must be supervised by a currently certified National Rifle Association shotgun instructor.

Shooting activities test how well you can control your body in using a firearm to hit a target. Shooting is a participation sport. No one has to sit on the sidelines and watch; everyone can take part.

Shooting activities has many rewards for the boy. They teach:

- Responsibility in being safe
- Self-discipline and self-control
- Concentration
- Self-reliance and enhances individual self-esteem

Fundamentals of shotgun shooting...

Learning to shoot is like mastering any other skill. Shooting at a stationary target is relatively easy but learning to hit a moving target requires a bit more training.

I have found the hardest thing for boys to learn while shooting at a moving target is for them to aim at and follow the target, pull the trigger and follow through. Most boys want to lead the target and guess where it will be when the shot arrives and most of the time they will miss their target.



Another important thing to have the young man find out which of his eyes is the dominant eye. The dominant eye exercises greater "control" over what your vision transfers to your brain. His shooting will be more accurate if he harnesses the power of his dominant eye, even if it turns out to be the one opposite to his primary hand.

Shooting sports may end up being a lifetime activity for the boy. Tens of thousands of competitors participate in matches from neighborhood-level competitions to the Olympic Games. In fact, shooting is the third most popular Olympic sport, behind only track and field and boxing in the number of nations participating.

The boy can also be working on his Shotgun Shooting Merit Badge while doing this Program Feature. Always stress to the boys safety and to always remember the three plus one safety rules I talked about at the first of this article. This should be a "life-long" habit whenever involved in shooting activities.

University of Scouting 2014



The University of Scouting 2014 is coming up on February 8, 2014 and will be bigger and better than last year!

There are some significant NEW things for University of Scouting 2014!

1. New Venue. We are pleased to announce the new venue for University of Scouting 2014 -the Orem LDS Institute & UVU Sorensen Center! The Institute is a wonderful, multi-purpose venue that we are very honored to be able to use, and we've secured the Ballroom, Commons, and Conference Rooms next door at the Sorensen Center. It's going to be an AMAZING event!

2. Expanded Midway. Our Midway will be expanded with vendor booths and awesome displays in the Sorensen Center Commons. We are excited for the possibility of a Scout Shop there as well as vendors being able to sell their goods! If you know of any thing we should add, please contact us.

3. Cub Scouts. We're VERY EXCITED for the CUB SCOUTS to join us this year! They bring a LOT of excitement and Scout Spirit with them and this will be the biggest and best UoS yet! Chances are, the Cub Pow Wow will now be held at University of Scouting each year going forward, so we are happy to have them with us!

4. Silver Beavers. Also, we are pleased to announce the help of the UNPC Silver Beaver Association! These great men and women Scouters will host a special Silver Beaver Breakfast for all participants during registration to help us raise funds to help send our youth to advanced training at Philmont and attend NAYLE. Our Silver Beavers will also serve as Ambassadors for the University of Scouting by helping at the event and being part of our Q&A Panels. If you are a Silver Beaver and would like to volunteer, please contact Paul Madsen, UNPC Silver Beaver Colony Chairman at 801-636-2641 or at modular1@veracitycom.net.

5. Full-Day Format. For 2014, we are going to a full-day format starting at 8:15am with our opening and keynote and then 7 sessions throughout the day which includes 2 possible lunch sessions. UVU will be catering and the food will be

great! Sessions will run 9am - 4pm with more than 30 classes to choose from each hour!

6. Q&A Sessions / Sharing. This year we are planning on special Q&A Sessions for each family of Scouting so our volunteers can get their questions answered by an experienced panel of Scouters. Also, we're planning on having moderated sharing sessions later in the day to get more ideas and resources for individual positions.

7. Degree Programs. Starting this year, we are offering degree programs for each family of Scouting. There will be a Bachelors, Masters, and Doctorate in each college. Details and requirements will be forthcoming, and we are excited for this new addition. (We will be following something similar to what other councils are doing since National BSA does not dictate requirements like they do the Commissioner College.) All in all, it will be an **EXCITING** and **EPIC** event and one that you and your district will not want to miss!

Please help us get the word out at each Huddle from now to January 2014. Keynote speaker to be announced! We've also requested a presenter from National that will bring us up to speed with the new changes to the Venturing Program for 2014.

Thank you so much, and please feel free to contact us with any questions, suggestions, or comments.

Kent Hansen
University of Scouting 2014 Co-Chair
913-915-4872

www.UtahScouts.org/uos

<http://www.utahscouts.org/OrgHeaders/2195/UoS%202014%20Flyer1.pdf>



"Success Map"

Written by Ken Cluff

The progress and success of our Varsity Scout program depends largely upon making the fullest use of all good experiences and resources we have available.

Resources are more than books or people. Resources include scouting successes such as smooth-running activities and campouts, productive Team Leadership Meetings (TLM's), and Program Managers fully prepared with their assignments. These are all examples of successful resources that should be used to the fullest extent.

Ask yourself what went right....

In 1981, I had a team of 11 Varsity Scout boys. I had zero experience with Varsity Scouting. My Assistant and I endorsed the **"Where did we go right"** policy wholeheartedly. Our only problem was getting it started soon enough to analyze and review successful activities and team events.

At first we found ourselves swamped with problems. For every four situations that needed something done immediately, there was only one that we could label "no problem". And that's about all the attention we gave success. We would breathe a sigh of relief, give ourselves a pat on the back and then forget about them as we turned back to the business of solving those pressing problems.

But what about that one success, I thought? With it we were obviously doing something right. I began to think that if we pursued the whys of our successes as actively as we did our failures, we would have a **"SUCCESS MAP"** on a way



*Our first Mountain man Rendezvous and the boys loved it.
Our first "Success Map" started here.*

to go, as opposed to one more of many ways not to go.

It was right then that we decided to identify our successes. About this time our District was holding a Mountain Man Rendezvous in Diamond Fork Canyon. We had a tepee hid away in our Scout storage closet, but no poles. I was able to scrounge up some Tepee poles from a friend in Mapleton and so we had a workable Tepee for the camp.

We went to the Rendezvous and slept in the Tepee; just imagine 11 boys all sleeping inside with their feet to the center and heads to the outer edge. They had a blast especially when the M&M war games started. Now this was a successful Rendezvous for us.

We no longer let ourselves be satisfied with just this one successful Mountain Man Rendezvous activity. Instead we took the time to find out why. Our district Rendezvous Committee did a super job at coordinating the event and this allowed us leaders to sit back and observe and understand what was going on.

We observed their leadership skills and what they did to get a couple of green-horns like us even interested in bringing our team to an event that none of us knew anything about. We learned that once they got us interested in Mountain Man skills then the boys also got all fired up, especially when it came to black powder rifles.

By the time those great District leaders got through with us, we knew exactly what needed to be done to make sure such a "SUCCESS MAP" developed in our team.

If you ignore the reasons behind those successes, you are failing to take advantage of one of the greatest potential resources you have within your grasp. In every success is a "MAP" that lays a key to further successful endeavors.

After a loss, any good football coach gathers the team together for analysis and review. They discuss what they



did wrong and what made them lose. Poor blocks, a slow start, a fumble, an untimely interception, are all studied carefully to give the players a better idea of what not to do the next time.

But good coaches don't leave it at that. Even after an overwhelming victory, time is set aside for an in-depth study of what went right. A strategic play or a perfect block is analyzed as closely as were the poor blocks or interceptions of the game before.

I'd say that in about 2 months after instituting the "Where did we go right" system, we began to see an improvement. The number of problems diminished and a smooth-running team operation became the norm instead of the exception.

LDS Scouting Handbook, May 2012

2.0 Adult leaders are considered trained when they complete the following training: Youth Protection (available online, to be completed before service with youth begins and repeated every two years). Attend Leader Position-Specific Training for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity, and Venturing, or Troop Committee Challenge for troop committee members. (Our council's new Varsity Vision Training can substitute for Varsity Leader Position-Specific Training.)

Attend Introduction to Outdoor Leadership Skills for Boy Scout, Varsity, and Venturing leaders (offered by local BSA districts and councils).

Ongoing Training

Stake Young Men and Primary presidencies also offer ongoing training and support for ward Young Men, Primary, and Scouting leaders. In addition, the BSA provides monthly roundtables to help leaders learn Scouting methods and skills; it also offers a variety of optional training courses such as Wood Badge, the Trainer's EDGE, University of Scouting and others. Stake and ward budget allowance funds may be used for adult Scouting training.

We adult leaders start with Youth Protection Training & attending Huddles regularly. Our new "Varsity Vision Training" leadership experience is great for teaching leaders and their youth together in one training atmosphere. North Star Outdoor Leadership Skills should be done as-soon-as-possible. And then attend a Wood Badge course within the first year if possible.

The training you receive will better prepare and qualify you to train and guide your Captain, Co-Captain, and Program

Managers. It is your responsibility to inspire and direct your boys. Get the boys trained and then stand back and let them run with the program. It really works!

This all became a great adventure for my Varsity boys, which in turn led to even greater opportunities. Once the boys recognized the success they were having they would strive to keep doing it. By analyzing why they were successful, they too created a "SUCCESS MAP" to follow for life.



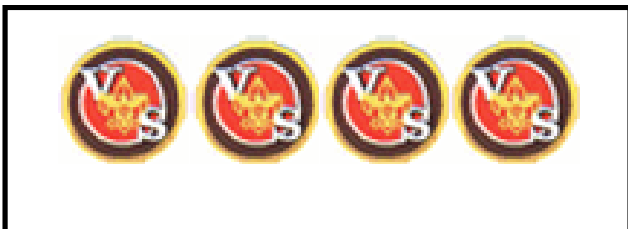
Ice Breaker Quiz

What is the "incorrect" right answer?

1. In which battle did Napoleon die? (His last one)
2. Where was the Declaration of Independence signed?
3. River Ravi flows in which state?
4. What is the main reason for divorce?
5. What is the main reason for failure?
6. What can you never eat for breakfast?
7. What looks like half an apple?
8. If you throw a red stone into the blue sea what will it become?
9. How can a man go eight days without sleeping?
10. How can you lift an elephant with one hand?
11. If you had three apples and four oranges in one hand and four apples and three oranges in other hand, what would you have?
12. If it took eight men ten hours to build a wall, how long would it take four men to build it?
13. How can you drop a raw egg onto a concrete floor without cracking it?

Answers to Ice Breaker Quiz

Find the "incorrect" right answers some other place in this newsletter...



Eagle Rank is LAUNCH-PAD To Final Destination

Ever heard of a Scout "Eagling out"? That's the unofficial term for a young man earning Scouting's highest rank and leaving the program shortly after. Andrew Arnold shared his view of the journey to the Scouting's summit — and beyond — in a speech at his Eagle Scout Court of Honor. He sees the Eagle journey as a process that will flow on indefinitely past Eagle and into many years in the future. This is what he had to say:

Despite what the presence of ranks may lead one to believe, the Boy Scout's career is certainly not a stratified process that is undertaken in large blocks: it is a gradual, sloping one that never really plateaus. Ranks may represent static, concrete tiers of growth, but they are simply markers, data points that attempt to illustrate the curve of maturation that the Scout undergoes.

So why does it all end with Eagle?

It doesn't. Well, the ranks do, though palms offer further quarry for the ambitious and prolific Scout, but the process doesn't. That slow, gradual process continues to flow on indefinitely past Eagle and even past the age of 18, without nominal ranks to mark the progress.

Eagle Rank simply represents the point by which the Scout has proven that he is not only a leader, but that he has particular ambitions and goals that he is willing to pursue, with the leadership he has developed proving to be a vital asset towards these ends. What separates the Eagle Rank from those of Star and Life, besides the more rigorous Board of Review, is that Eagle requires that the Scout must complete a service project that he decides upon and fleshes out in complete detail, necessitating resourcefulness, foresight, and creativity.

This requirement is unique in its asking for the Scout to elect a cause that he deems important and in the level of problem-solving that it demands. Just as achieving First Class reveals that the Scout has acquired a sufficient repertoire of Scouting basics, and just as the preceding ranks of Star and Life mark the growth of the Scout as a leader who has seen both failure and success, improving from each, Eagle Scout Rank shows that the Scout has become an individual who not only leads others, but one who can lead himself towards a goal that he has selected while leading others.

This is true leadership: autonomous and passionate. If the Scout's goal is noble, then others will follow his leadership, for he has the knowledge, skill, and vision to achieve success.

Ranks are important in their ability to roughly show what talents and abilities the Scout has honed up to that point. Yet, there is vast knowledge beyond what is required to achieve First Class, and perfect leadership and foresight, being naturally impossible to acquire, will always remain beckoning goals on the horizon.

*The ranks reveal clearly what may be expected of the Scout, but they certainly aren't endpoints: a true Scout will exceed the expectations of the rank, even those of Eagle, and continue to grow and learn indefinitely. In this way, Eagle is more of a **launch-pad** than a final destination: with the skills that the Scout has proven, the true destination could reside anywhere he chooses.*

Andrew Arnold, Eagle Scout
4 September 2013



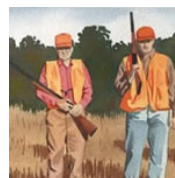
PLAN AND LEAD BY YOUTH

The best high-adventure treks are planned, led, and carried out by your youth. The purpose of Varsity Scouting is to help youth grow and mature, and learn how to be prepared. This happens when your boys are responsible for their own plans and for making their own decisions. There is great strength in being prepared and in knowing:

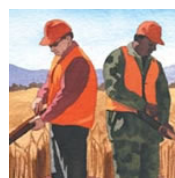
- How to dress properly in the outdoors and knowing about appropriate outdoor clothing such as polypropylene and polar fleece
- About proper nutrition—a balance between simple and complex carbohydrates, proteins, and fats
- How to pace a Varsity Team to help prevent overheating and sweating
- That drinking lots of properly disinfected and purified water is crucial to your well-being
- How to conserve the environment and preserve the experience for future trekkers
- Where to go to enjoy the fresh air and great outdoors

Firearm Safety

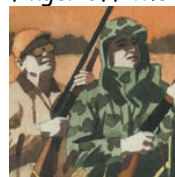
Always point the muzzle of your gun in a safe direction.



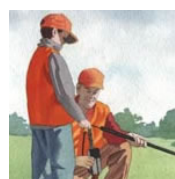
Always treat every gun as if it were loaded.



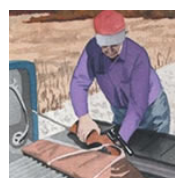
Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to fire.



Check your barrel and correct ammunition.



Unload firearms when not in use.



Don't run, jump, or climb with a loaded firearm.



Varsity Vision Training

October 25th and 26th

The "Varsity Vision Training" teaching techniques are intended to make the Varsity Scout active (rather than passive) participants in learning. Learning important Varsity Scouting methods and skills is not unlike learning many new skills, be it a physical skill (kicking a ball), a mental skill (decision making), or a social skill (communications). Varsity Scouts learn best and become proficient in skills by experiencing them rather than merely being a spectator to the skill, such as listening to teachers talk about the Varsity Scouting program, reading about the program, or watching others perform Varsity Scouting methods.

"Varsity Vision Training"
Leadership course scheduled for this fall

1. Lazy River Ranch - Yuba Lake south of Nephi, see map below.
2. Scheduled for October 25th and 26th

Active, hands-on teaching strategies and learning activities are designed to take Varsity Scouts out of their seats, away from the computer games, and out of their familiar ways of thinking. Active, hands-on teaching strategies and learning activities are intended to make scouts active participants in their own learning.

You will learn to recognize the importance of **mentored planning** as perhaps the most impressive element of the Varsity Scout program. We are organized to give every



youth a leadership assignment. All teams are welcome and encouraged to come to this "Varsity Vision Training" course. This course incorporates all of the principles described below:

- It consists of a single 14-hour experience which can be delivered in an overnight format.
- The schedule is detailed and carefully designed, timing is very important.
- Staff consists of adults and youth together.
- The course works by immersing the participants in the experience of being a member of the Varsity Scout team.
- The course trains adult leaders and youth together.
- The course requires active participation, so information presentations are kept to a minimum and are on the average much shorter and better prepared and delivered.

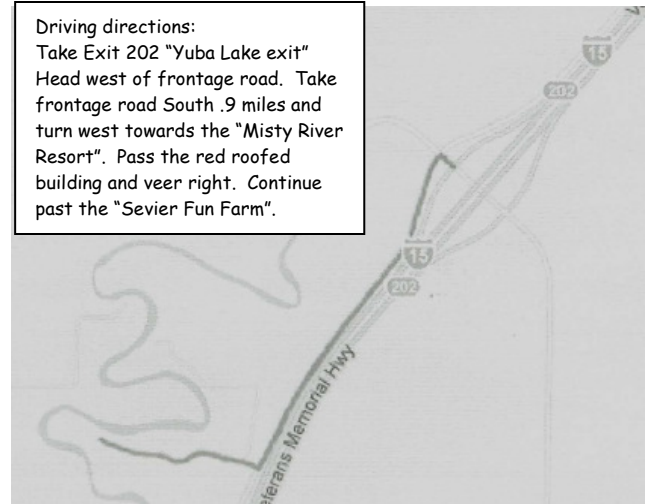
District Trainers are encouraged to attend to learn the course requirements so they can provide this leadership course at least twice a year. The "Varsity Vision Training" is designed specifically for use at the district and/or LDS Stake level.

The staff manual is available, contact Andy Gibbons at varsitycomm@gmail.com for your free digital copy. Holding this leadership course twice a year in your district works really well. If you want to get Varsity Scouting fired up, then this Course is your key to success.

Lazy River Ranch

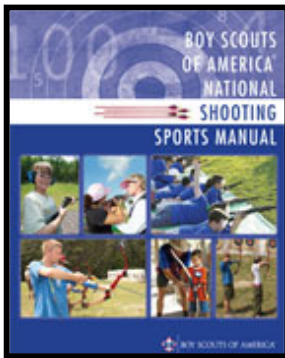
The Dollar Family Property

Driving directions:
Take Exit 202 "Yuba Lake exit"
Head west of frontage road. Take frontage road South .9 miles and turn west towards the "Misty River Resort". Pass the red roofed building and veer right. Continue past the "Sevier Fun Farm".



NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS MANUAL

The National Shooting Sports Task Force has completed the new Boy Scouts of America National Shooting Sports Manual for Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Varsity and Venturing. Reference materials for all levels were put into this one Shooting Sports Manual.



This manual is a great resource for Council Shooting Sports Committees, Camp Leadership, and Unit Leaders. The manual will help provide a safe environment for youth participating in shooting sports activities.

You can view the manual online in pdf format here:

http://www.scouting.org/filestore/Outdoor%20Program/pdf/30931_WB.pdf

Answers to Ice Breaker Quiz

1. His last battle
2. Signed at the bottom of the page
3. Liquid
4. Marriage
5. Exams
6. Lunch & dinner
7. The other half
8. It will simply become wet
9. No problem, he sleeps at night.
10. You will never find an elephant that has only one hand.
11. Very large hands
12. No time at all, the wall is already built.
13. Any way you want, concrete floors are very hard to crack.

NRA Shooting Instructor

Question:

Do I have to have an NRA Instructor every time I take my Varsity Team out shooting?

ANSWER: In the [Guide to Safe Scouting](#), it states that all rifle shooting activities must be supervised by a currently NRA -certified Rifle Instructor and when on the range, must be supervised by a currently NRA-certified Range Safety Officer.

Question:

How do I locate a National Rifle Association (NRA) or National Archery Association (NAA) Instructor?

ANSWER: First you should contact your District Executive and ask them for the names of instructors in your district. If your district does not have a person, ask your District Commissioner.

The Utah National Parks Council now offers a series of NRA-led firearm training courses. Completion of these courses results in your obtaining an NRA Instructor certification that qualifies you to lead firearm activities. Completion of these courses also qualifies people to serve as Merit Badge counselors for firearm related merit badges. Consider having an adult from your Varsity Committee become certified so that you have a resource when you need one.



Constitutional Essay Contest For Life and Eagle Scouts

You the Life Scouts and Eagle Scouts of the Boy Scouts of America, in Order to form a more perfect understanding of the U.S. Constitution, establish awareness of our nation's Founding Documents, and secure some Free Money, do

indeed need to enter this Bill of Rights Institute Life/Eagle Scout Competition.

So what is this important message?

That message: The Bill of Rights Institute, a nonprofit educational organization "whose mission is to educate young people on the ideas of the Constitution and the rights it protects," has launched its second annual Life/Eagle Scout competition.

One grand prize winner will score \$1,000 for himself and \$500 for his team. Two runners-up get \$500 for themselves and \$250 for their teams.

To enter, Life Scouts and Eagle Scouts between the ages of 14 and 19 must write two short essays based on the topics listed below. The deadline — Feb. 10, 2014 — will be here before you can say "more perfect Union," so send this to your Life Scouts and Eagle Varsity Scouts right away.

Complete rules and information.

- **Who:** Life Scouts and Eagle Scouts between the ages of 14-19
- **What:** Answer two short essays on the ideas of the Constitution
- **Deadline:** Feb. 10, 2014
- **Win:** Grand Prize - \$1,000 for one Scout *and* \$500 for his Unit
 - 2 Honorable Mentions - \$500 *and* \$250 for their Units
- **Apply Online:**
- <http://billofrightsinstitute.org/eaglescout>
- **Contact:** bbyrd@billofrightsinstitute.org

The Competition is structured around two short essays (500 word maximum) related to the Constitution and the Founding Principles. The topics are:

1) James Madison, often referred to as the Father of the Constitution, said in Federalist 51 that:

"If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary. In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: you must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place, oblige it to control itself."

Read the U.S. Constitution and find 2 examples of "controls on government." Explain why these specific controls are important and their relevance today.

2) Consider the following quote - "The First Amendment is dramatically inconvenient. It requires us to tolerate the very bad in order to protect the unpopular but good." Do you agree or disagree? Defend your argument using examples.



Directional Signs

Greetings,

Yesterday I delivered some small signs to Andy Gibbons. These directional signs are 12" x 12" x 1/2" with a number 4 rebar post. I used some like these on the Skyline All-Star course a couple of years ago. There are 36 signs now on a shelf in the Scout office. They are painted bright orange with white reflective tape.

Getting them out to people who really could use them is my goal. They aren't doing anyone any good if they're sitting on a shelf in the Scout office. You can use these signs as trail markers, boundary markers or directional signs to get to your activity.

I am retired and carry my phone with me most of the time. My name is Bryant Anderson and my cell phone number is 435 749 0088. If any of you are interested in this information please give me a call and we'll decide how to best get the signs you need.

Bryant Anderson
435 749 0088

THANKS FOR YOUR FANTASTIC NEWS LETTER



Varsity Vision Training

Utah National Parks Council

Boy Scouts of America

Varsity Vision Training

Oct. 25-26, 2013

Lazy River Ranch – Yuba Lake south of Nephi

Why attend Varsity Vision?

Varsity Vision training provides a “hands on” experience for both adult leader (Coaches) and youth leader (Captain/Squad leaders & Program Managers). You will learn how to form, plan and execute a team meeting and develop a program event.

- The values of Scouting are taught, used and reinforced
- An overnight experience gets you away from distractions
- Youth and adult leadership of the team will both learn their proper roles
- FUN. FUN. FUN. Hands on learning methods make the experience very enjoyable
- Take home skills for team leadership that will enable successful planning, meetings and develop great activities.
- Future opportunity to share your skills of leadership with others

Your Experience - Your Vision - Your Leadership

Items to bring: Scout Uniform suggested dress, Tents, Sleeping bag, Personal Hygiene kit (toothbrush, tooth paste, sun block, etc.), Flash light, appropriate clothing, Scout leaders Guidebook. Additional information when you register.

Check in begins Friday 5 PM

Opening ceremony at 7 PM

Leave for home around 1 PM on Saturday

Contact: Stewart Schow

Email: sschow@premiercomputing.com

Phone: (801) 518-5773

Gary Dollar

Email: gdollar55@gmail.com

Phone: (801) 602-8059

\$10.00 per person covers all meals and supplies. Provide registration information below



Utah National Parks Council
Boy Scouts of America

Orem, UT

2012 Varsity Vision Training

Cost: \$10.00

Please provide: Team # _____ Total attending: _____ Total Amount: _____

Adult Contact: _____ Address: _____

Name/s: _____

Position/s: _____





UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING

Sat, February 8, 2014
Orem LDS Institute
on the UVU Campus

AGENDA

Registration: 7:15am
Breakfast: 7:15am
Opening/Keynote: 8am
Classes: 9am – 4pm
Lunch: 11am – 1pm
Midway: 10am – 2pm
Grand Prizes: 4:05pm
End/Cleanup: 4:30pm

COST

Full-day Event: \$10
Breakfast: \$3
Lunch: \$5

Late Registration
after January 1, 2014: \$15



UTAH NATIONAL PARKS COUNCIL

COME ENJOY A DAY OF FUN!

University of Scouting

Saturday February 8, 2014
8am – 4:30pm • UVU/Orem LDS Institute

"A Scout Leader's Learning Adventure!"

University of Scouting is an action-packed, fun-filled day of power learning where you **choose up to seven classes** from our course catalog. Sessions are led by experienced Scouters selected for their knowledge, enthusiasm, and great presentation skills.

Don't miss these exciting UoS 2014 features:

- Inspiring Keynote Speaker
- Amazing Midway
- Great Prizes & Giveaways!
- Q&A Sessions
- \$3 Breakfast by the Silver Beaver Association to help send our youth to Philmont & NAYLE!

Choose from More Than 30 Classes Each Hour!

- Energizing the 11 Year Old Program
- Developing Venturing Crews that **THRIVE**
- Dozens of Awesome Cub Scout Classes
- Varsity All-Stars & Annual Planning
- GPS / Geocaching Fun
- Trails to Testimony with Brad Harris
- Developing Effective Youth Leaders
- "Knock Their Socks Off" Training Tips
- Tasty Dutch Oven Cooking
- Life to Eagle Resources
- Mastering Shadow Leadership
- **And much, much more!**

Great For Unit, District, and Stake Leaders!

Information / Course Catalog / Registration:
www.UtahScouts.org/uos