



### Del-Mar-Va Council, Inc. Boy Scouts of America

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Text to Give send "donate" to 800-410-3189

The Boy Scouts of America has been shaping the lives of our youth since 1910. Scouting exists because of the volunteer and financial support provided by the community. The best way to support the Boy Scouts of America financially is by making a contribution directly to the Del-Mar-Va Council.

By giving to your local BSA council, you are directly supporting Scouting programs where you live — programs that clean up your parks, gather food for the area needy, and even help your community prepare for disaster.

The Del-Mar-Va Council is funded by a variety of sources, including: direct contributions, events, annual popcorn sale, foundation grants, the United Way, and program/activity/camping fees. With your support, the Del-Mar-Va Council can bring the nation's highest quality Scouting programs to many more youth throughout the peninsula.



## Friends of Scouting 2022 Kickoff



District and Council Friends of Scouting 2022 appeal kickoffs are happening now from Wilmington to Cape Charles and bay to bay! This year's recognition is year 2 of an 8 year patch set at both the \$250 and \$500 level. New this year is the availability of the big center octagon patch for an additional \$50 each. The goals have been set at \$175,000 for Board and Council. \$235,000 for Districts, for a grand total of \$410,000 in 2022! We appreciate your ongoing support and participation in this important fundraising component of growing Scouting on the peninsula.

DEL-MAR-VA COUNCIL, INC.  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Council President Pat Press
- Frances West recognized by Highmark
- 2021 Summer Camp
- A virtual Cub Scout program creates an Arrow of Light Scouts BSA youth!

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# Del-Mar-Va Donor

A newsletter for those who support the growth of Scouting!

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

YEAR END 2021

## 2021 President's Club Reception

On Wednesday December 8th, Council President Pat Press hosted his first President's Club reception at Akridge Scout Reservation. The President's Club is comprised of supporters of Scouting who have pledged their financial support of Council operations for three consecutive years—

at the Silver level of at least \$2,500 per year, or the Gold level of at least \$4,000 per year. This annual reception is held to celebrate the successes of Del-Mar-Va Council and to say thank you to our most ardent donors! The keynote speaker at this year's event was delivered by Powder Mill Troop 19 Eagle Scout David

Escobar. David is currently a student at Villanova and a recent grad from Salesianum High School. He began his Scouting career in a donor supported Scoutreach Pack at the Latin American Community Center on Van Buren Street in Wilmington. Contact our team at [development@dmvc.org](mailto:development@dmvc.org) to





# Former Council President Frances West Honored by Highmark BlueCross BlueShield

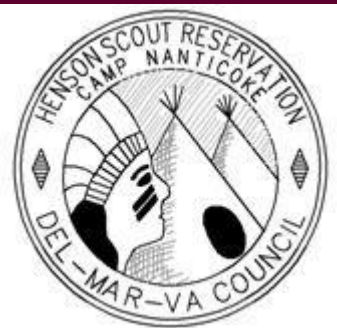


Frances West—  
Council President  
1984-1988

Highmark recently honored former Council President Frances West with a contribution to Del-Mar-Va Council. Highmark, the non-profit health care provider commonly known as BlueCross BlueShield commemorated her many years of service on their board. Frances also

served for many years as a board member of Del-Mar-Va Council, and was the Council President from 1994 to 1997. In business Frances served as the Director of Delaware Consumer Affairs, is a former president of the Delaware Better Business Bureau, a Delaware Highway Commissioner, and a member of the Hall of Fame of Delaware Women. She was a founding member of the New Castle County Republican

Women's Club who worked to empower women & support candidates for political office including Pete DuPont, Mike Castle, and many of the new generation of women in the Delaware Republican Party. Frances has two Eagle Scout sons, Alex and Phillip, both earned in Del-Mar-Va Council. Phil is a current Del-Mar-Va Council board member, and serves on the Council Finance Committee.



## Summer Camp 2021 a Huge Success!

Each year our Council looks forward to hosting scouts at our Henson and Rodney Scout Reservations. Unfortunately, due to COVID, the council was unable to host our 2020 summer camp in person and instead hosted virtual camps for scouts. This year, the council resumed our in-person summer camps with new health and safety rules. These measures included a

pre-arrival health screening checklist, and daily temperature checks. All participants and staff were required to wear masks at all times when not in their campsites or participating in an activity where it would not be safe to do so. These requirements made sure our scouts were able to continue participating in the merit badge and learning opportunities at camp!

## Akridge Victory Gardens Recognized!

The Victory Gardens project at Akridge Scout Reservation was recently recognized for addressing social determinants of health by providing space and materials for families to grow gardens. Victory Gardens' volunteer gardening experts assist however necessary, and the program supplies everything gardeners need to maintain their 200-square-foot plots. This year, 37 families, community groups and school clubs reserved

plots, and gardeners span a wide range of age and ability. For many, Victory Gardens create a unique experience of self-sufficiency and hands on horticultural education.



This letter was recently received by Wilmington Scoutreach Director Julie King:

Dear Julie,

Thank you for your innovative leadership in helping Cub Scouts continue their adventures virtually during this pandemic.

Last night Noah was awarded his AOL as he crossed over into the BSA Troop 597. This was an exciting evening for Noah as he truly learned that Scouts

persevere in the good and tough times. You have had significant influence on his Cub Scouts adventures and it was interesting to listen to him share what he learned from you.

I know virtual meetings are not the best, but they filled a void. Your commitment to ensuring that these meetings were engaging made the difference.

Thank you,  
Randy & Emily Tindall

And of course Noah sends his THANKS!



## Personality Profile: Council President Pat Press



Council President Pat Press lives in Bear Delaware now and grew up in Delaware City where he started as a Cub Scout! From the beginning Pat never missed a camping trip or the opportunity to explore past the borders of his home state. To this day some of Pat's most cherished friends are people he grew up with in Scouting including his fellow board member Council Vice-President of District Operations Greg Birch! Beginning every activity with the Scout Oath and Law

including the sacred words "On my honor" influence Pat's decisions and actions to this day. He believes these words are a public proclamation that "puts everything we have and everything we are, on the line" everyday. He believes it was his time serving on our camps summer staff's that was the singlemost important influence on his Scouting journey. No other leadership program in the world is as effective as Scouting.

## Membership Growth is Job One in 2022

COVID 19 has decimated the Cub Scout participation in Scouting across the country, and Del-Mar-Va Council is, unfortunately, no exception. We need your help, and everyone else we can muster, to help promote the benefits of Scouting to the families in our community and encourage their entire family to join the Scouting program. As Pat Press said above—"there is no other leadership program in the world that is as effective as Scouting." Every parent should want their children to belong and we need you to help. Reach out to your district leadership or email us at info@dmvc.org to learn how you can join in this effort.

