

**UPDATED ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY:  
A COMPILATION OF DISSERTATION TOPICS  
PREPARED FOR  
PIEDMONT-APPALACHIAN  
COLLEGE OF COMMISSIONER SCIENCE**

Hulic B. Ratterree  
Unit Commissioner  
York District  
Palmetto Council  
Boy Scouts of America

**As of June 2015**



Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science

# Doctoral Dissertations

Piedmont Appalachian Commissioner College

**As of June 2015**

**Title:** *Commissioner Staff - Organization and Operation – Date Unknown*

**Author:** **George Aikens, District Commissioner, District Five, Blue Ridge Council, Greenville, SC**

The author presents a comprehensive overview of the Commissioner and the Commissioner Staff with the intent that it be used as a training guide.

**Title:** *The Working Relationship of the District Key 3 – March '97*

**Author:** **Carolyn Anderson, District Commissioner, Tuckaleechee District, Great Smoky Council**

The author presents a guideline for use by members of the District Key 3 Staff. A research of BSA publications has been accomplished, finding that there was no single source for this function. Using the information available and personal experience, a guide for the District Key 3 has been developed.

**Title:** *Recognizing Knot-worthy Service and Achievement – May '97*

**Author:** **C. J. (Pete) Armstrong, Jr., Roundtable Commissioner, Saquo District, Daniel Boone Council**

A comprehensive guide to the BSA Square Knot award program as it existed in 1997 is presented. There are, as of the dissertation date, 31 knots that may be worn on the uniform, including recognition of youth achievement, adult leadership, religious recognition, heroism, and other specific honors. The guide also provides historical background and the authorized manner of wear. For each knot included in the dissertation, there are color pictures and progress records or the appropriate recommendation form for each knot.

**Title:** *Training the Cub leader – March '87*

**Author:** **Carol H. Anderson, Asst. District Commissioner, Saquo District, Daniel Boone Council**

The author states that her dissertation will provide for a better understanding of training the Cub Leader as well as the reasons for doing so. Also provided are identification of materials and events open to Cub Leaders which provide an aid to reaching the desired training levels.

**Title:** *Troop Committee Handbook – February '97*

**Author:** **James W. Alverson, Unit Commissioner, Spartan District, Palmetto Council**

The author provides a ready reference to Scoutmasters and Committee Chairmen of job descriptions and a tool for the recruitment of additional adult volunteers. The author states that too many Scoutmasters experience burnout because of assuming the role of the Troop Committee. The establishment of a fully functioning committee allows the Scoutmaster to devote himself to the full-time job of instructing the young men in his troop in the goals and purpose of scouting.

**Title:** *Adult Training: Key to Promoting Boy Leadership Responsibilities – June 2011*

**Author:** **Jim Ballard, Unit Commissioner, Reedy Falls District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author's purpose is to emphasize the importance of adult training in promoting boy led units and the methods of receiving and implementing that training in a unit setting. Training opportunities will be discussed as well as resources at Unit, District, and Council that are available to aid in the guidance of day to day Troop operation.

**Title:** *Dad & Lad / Mom & Lad Outdoor Camping Programs – May '90*

**Author:** Lynda L. Barbee, Sequoyah Council

The author offers as a premise that family camping has been shown to be a beneficial part of the Scouting program. Dad & Lad / Mom & Lad Outdoor Programs provide quality experiences for adults and youth alike. Guidelines are offered for the administration of a successful Cub Scout Weekend Camping Program.

**Title:** *Incentives for Scouts to Earn the Order of the Arrow Honor and How to Retain Scouts in the Program - April 2008*

**Author:** Douglass D. Bartlett, Assistant District commissioner, York District, Palmetto Council

The purpose of this project was to determine more successful ways to retain Order of the Arrow Scouts in the Order and to seek better incentives to encourage Scouts to earn the award. Several methods were researched and evaluated culminating in positive approaches that are included in the study.

**Title:** *Scouting Units in the Inner City/Urban Community and Scouting Units in a Traditional City/Community: A Comparison and Contrast - June 2013*

**Author:** Diana R. Beckner, Assistant District Commissioner, Chehote District, Great Smoky Mountain Council

The purpose of this project was to compare and contrast the present day Scouting program of the BSA in the two existing widely diverse settings of inner city versus traditional settings. The report concluded that BSA must recognize that there is a disparity existing and should work to end this condition for the betterment of the youth involved

**Title:** *Divided, Under One Roof: A Shadow Model for New Pack Organization - June 2012*

**Author:** **Alana Gattis Bell, Unit Commissioner, South Bounder District, Blue Ridge Council**

The purpose of this project was to determine a successful way to organize a new Pack while maintaining a relationship with the Pack from which it was formed. The use of the new Pack Leaders “shadowing” the original unit while meeting in the same location and on the same days was used. The author maintains that a great deal of success was evidenced.

**Title:** *Alternate Advancement Programs for Scouts with Disabilities- June 2011*

**Author:** **Glenn M. Blackard, Unit Commissioner, Ocanosta District, Sequoyah Council**

The purpose of this project was to provide an informational and resource guide to enhance the Scoutmaster’s understanding of the Boy Scouts of America requirements for alternate advancement of Boy Scouts with mental and/or physical disabilities up to the rank of Eagle Scout. The author uses his own experience as a guide and reason for providing this information in as concise a format as feasible.

**Title:** *Barriers to Attending Cub Scout Leader Position-Specific Training in the Oconee District – May 2010*

**Author:** **James H. Blake, Ed. D., District Commissioner & District Training Chairman, Oconee District, Blue Ridge Council**

The purpose of this study was to develop a list of issues that District and Council training committees could use in the development and delivery of Cub Scout Leader Training Essentials that would lead to more leaders being fully trained. Study consisted of surveys and Pack visitations.

**Title:** *A Guide to Camping and Hiking Sites for Physically Handicapped Scouts in the Upstate of South Carolina - May '99*

**Author:** **Randall Blouin, MD, District Commissioner, Reedy Falls District, Blue Ridge Council**

A comprehensive listing of campsites and trails accessible by handicapped Scouts is presented. Each site is analyzed considering the viewpoint of a boy in a wheelchair or on crutches. Conclusions of suitability were made with this in mind. A goal is to provide information that will encourage adult leaders to include these youth in their programs by giving them a start in developing an outdoor program that is suitable to all members of their unit.

**Title:** *Promoting Scouting During Difficult Economic Times – June 2010*

**Author:** **Johnnie L. Boling, Jr., District Commissioner, Cumberland District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

A review and discussion of the things affecting Scouting during difficult economic times, including attendance at activities such as Roundtables, Camporees, and District Training Events. Several “out-of –the-box” ideas and concepts are discussed, with the results of their application.

**Title:** *Scouting Unit Web design: A How to Manual – May 2004*

**Author:** **Anna L. Booher, Assistant District Commissioner, Ocanosta District, Sequoyah Council**

The author has developed a comprehensive “how to” manual which should prove to be invaluable to any unit wishing to design a Web Page and associated links. Explanations and instructions include graphic design, photo imaging, digital camera use, how to get an Internet name, and defining a Web Host. Also included are budget recommendations, how to keep current, and methods for promoting your site.

**Title:** *The Contribution of Adult Leaders with Disabilities to the boy Scouts of America – June 2012*

**Author:** **Ralph G. Booher III, Unit Commissioner – Asst Scoutmaster, Troop 3, Ocanosta District, Sequoyah Council**

The author has developed a comprehensive discussion of how he feels that an Adult Leader with disabilities can effectively contribute to the BSA. He does this through a transcriber and presents a very poignant account that all should read.

**Title:** *The Charter Organization Representative: Responsibility in the Smoky Mountain District – May 2004*

**Author:** **Frankie H. Bowers, District Commissioner, Smoky Mountain District, Daniel Boone Council**

The author examines the reasons Chartered Organization Representatives (COR) have little or no involvement in their units. A questionnaire was developed and sent to former and present CORs. Results of the answered questionnaire are presented with an analysis concluding that a high percentage of CORs lacked time and knowledge to fulfill their duties. A need is recognized for emphasizing responsibilities, better communication and more training for the COR.

**Title:** *Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner and staff Basic training Project – May '94*

**Author:** **Nancy Brooks, Roundtable Commissioner, Warrior Path District, Sequoyah Council**

A dissertation describing the trials, tribulations, and adventures encountered in developing a syllabus for Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner Basic Training.

**Title:** ***Advanced Training – A District’s Inner Strength- Undated***

**Author:** **Larry A. Brown, Unit Commissioner, Sequoyah Council**

A dissertation pointing out those Leaders who complete the highest training programs, such as Wood Badge and College of Commissioner Science will develop a personal dedication and belief in the Boy Scout Program. Then through this development they become the inner strength of the District.

**Title:** ***Treasures in the Urban/Inner City – March ‘98***

**Author:** **Carolyn D. Bryant, District Commissioner, Chehote District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

The methods and the developed ideas that were used in boosting the relationships between an urban/inner city and the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) program are presented. The information is based on seven years experience of scouting in public assisted housing and urban communities.

**Title:** ***Status of Program Function – Palmetto Council BSA – May’93***

**Author:** **Robert G. Buckner, Lancaster District, Palmetto Council**

The author examines the status of program function in the Palmetto Council (in 1993). He places emphasis on whether there is a balanced program for all (i.e. Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Explorers). In addition, the quality of the program being delivered by the council is also examined.

**Title:** ***Webelos Transition: Problems and Suggestions – June 2006***

**Author:** **David M. Caldwell, Assistant District Commissioner for Cub Scouts, Reedy Falls District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author reviews the current methods of Webelos Transition and problems related to those methods. Emphasis is given to methods for retaining the new Boy Scout after the transition, with particular emphasis on the first year. Experience gained from teaching this subject with ideas from participating class members is a primary resource for this presentation.

**Title:** *Promoting Awareness of Awards, Service Projects, and Special Events – June 2012*

**Author:** **Timothy M. Carroll, District Commissioner, Pellissippi District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

The author maintains that many are unaware of various awards, service projects, and special events. He discusses some of these in detail and presents a guide book for units to use as a reference in providing for a more effective program.

**Title:** *Producing an Engaging Newsletter – June 2007*

**Author:** **Doug Chambers, Unit Commissioner, York District, Palmetto Council**

The author presents a comprehensive plan for a workshop on preparing a newsletter. This can be a newsletter for a Pack, Troop, District or any other entity, but emphasis is placed on a BSA application. The dissertation is basically a how-to manual on the best way to present an “engaging” newsletter using a gallery of examples of good approaches. Examples of undesirable methods are also illustrated to point out the qualities of both.

**Title:** *Unit Commissioner Duties – May ‘92*

**Author:** **Kenneth W. Clark, Jr., Unit Commissioner, Echota District, Daniel Boone Council**

The author discusses Unit Commissioner duties and methods for insuring that a unit knows who their unit commissioner is, how that commissioner can help them, and if the commissioner is available. A questionnaire was used with a 45% response. Conclusions are presented in the dissertation as to effectiveness for the Echota District in the Daniel Boone Council.

**Title:** *Recruiting: By Design or By Chance – A Personal Perspective  
March '87*

**Author:** **Dennis M. Compos, Jr., Council Commissioner, Palmetto Council**

The author presents a dissertation describing what is felt to be the pitfalls in attempting to recruit without adequate material, training, and knowledge. As an adjunct, he also points out what he feels is the scarcity of material from National (as of March 1987).

**Title:** *The Path to a Klondike Derby – July 2006*

**Author:** **Emerson R. Couch, Scoutmaster - Troop 82, Lancaster and Chester District, Palmetto Council**

The author presents a step-by-step guideline to developing and administering a Klondike Derby for a District Camping event. Included in the dissertation are copies of all the forms needed to successfully carry out this type of event and the report of an actual Klondike Derby.

**Title:** *The Role of the Unit Commissioner – May 2009*

**Author:** **DeWayne Cox, Unit Commissioner, Oconee/Clemson District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author describes the purpose of the dissertation as giving the reader a digested view of Scouting in the Young Men's Program of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints and the Unit Commissioner's role in improving Scouting in that program.

**Title:** *Workshop for Veteran Scouters – May '99*

**Author:** **William Cox, Assistant District Commissioner, Toqua District, Great Smoky Council**

The author develops a workshop for Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, and Troop Committee members for Scoutmastership Fundamentals. The workshop covers all of the basic fundamentals considered necessary for successful troop operation. All areas covered were intended to be a refresher course as well as providing updated information in the areas of organization, advancement, two deep leadership, parental involvement, budgeting, recruiting, health and safety, and problem solving.

**Title:** *Round-Up and Recharter – The Connection – May 2003*

**Author:** **Kathy Hayton Cramer, District Commissioner, Pellissippi District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

The author presents a concise, understandable process for Cub Scout leaders to work through and implement the Recharter process using a consistent and effective methodology. The process was developed over a number of years experience in a rural Appalachian district. The author feels that the paper presents a core method that leaders can follow, helping them to compile all necessary information in a format that will serve over the years of growth and change of their pack.

**Title:** *Webelos Activity Badge Guide Book for Wohali District – Great Smoky Mountain Council, B.S.A. – May '99*

**Author:** **Don Dare, Assistant District Commissioner, Wohali District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

The author provides a reference of available resources to aid leaders in the Wohali District with a readily available Activity Pin Reference Guide. He provides information on parks and nature centers where requirements for Activity Badges or Pins may be earned in the Wohali District.

**Title:** *How to Put on a Scout Show – May 2009*

**Author:** **Clyde Davis, Council Board Member, Pinckney District, Palmetto Council**

The author provides a reference of procedures and types of resources to aid leaders in the execution of a Scout Show from start to finish. Areas covered include registration of units, preparation time, location and set-up, staffing, site layout, educational displays, and overall management.

**Title:** *Increasing the Number of Conservation Projects Conducted by Raising Awareness of Conservation awards - June 2012*

**Author:** **Julie M. Delger, Unit Commissioner, Catawba District, Indian Waters Council**

The author provides a guideline for increasing the number of conservation awards by raising the awareness of conservation per se. She presents very convincing rationale for the reasons for this and methods to produce the desired results.

**Title:** *Exploring Service Team Organization and Operation*  
*Date Unknown*

**Author:** **Terry Dellinger, Council Exploring Chairman, Daniel Boone District, Sequoyah Council**

The author specifies that the dissertation as presented should be used as a training guide. His hypothesis is that even though the council provides regular mailings, newsletters, conferences, and activities, regular person-to-person contact is the only effective way to provide the vital communications link necessary to the continuing success of an Explorer post. He suggests that the use of volunteer Exploring service teams be used to fill a need. He further suggests the use of a service team member being responsible for one to three posts.

**Title:** *Endowments for Scouters of Moderate Means – May '97*

**Author:** **Jack Devich, Council Commissioner, Blue Ridge Council**

The author discusses the manner in which most Scouters make donations to their council through fund drives such as FOS, popcorn sales, and capital campaigns. He states that many feel that leaving a lasting endowment through some form of legacy is strictly for the wealthy. He offers alternatives for legacy or endowment type giving for Scouters of more moderate means.

**Title:** *Webelos to Scout Transition Program – June 2006*

**Author:** **Lee Dingman, Assistant District Commissioner, Ocanosta District, Sequoyah Council**

The author presents a manual providing information to individuals interested in running a successful Webelos to Scout Transition program at the district level. The information is organized in chronological order to allow for a program lasting a year. He states that this creates a program that has both structure as well as a method of gathering information for subsequent years.

**Title:** *The Importance of a District Training Chairman – August '89*

**Author:** **James C. Dixon, Unit Commissioner, Sequoyah Council**

The author presents a dissertation whose goal is to verify the importance of a District training Chairman for the purpose of new and in experienced leaders and to excite older Scout leaders who are becoming disinterested. No conclusions are offered to substantiate thesis.

**Title:** *Does Spring Cub Scout Recruiting Work? – June 2007*

**Author:** **David B. Doan, II, Unit Commissioner, Ocanosta District, Sequoyah Council**

The author's goal was to determine if recruiting Cub Scouts in the spring was justifiable. His original plan was to work with one pack through its summertime program. He felt after working with the one pack for a period of time that his method should be modified to include three additional packs. He gathered information on pack retention rates and summertime programs utilizing a questionnaire. The use of telephone and email was used to gather the information. The conclusions were that spring recruiting does work in most cases, being dependent on the type of summertime program.

**Title:** *History of Scouting in Macon County – The Beginning May 2001*

**Author:** **Laura A. Duke, Roundtable Commissioner, Smoky Mountain District, Daniel Boone Council**

The author has compiled a history of the beginning of Scouting in Macon County, providing information to Scout Leaders, Scouts, and other interested parties. She states that the Macon County Library and the Historical Museum have requested a copy of the completed dissertation.

**Title:** *Planning the Akela-Cub Camp Out – May 2003*

**Author:** **Gregory B. Edens, Assistant District Commissioner, Ocanosta District, Sequoyah Council**

The author has prepared a procedures manual for the Akela-Cub Camp Out. This is a major annual District Cub Scouting event in the Sequoyah Council. The steps are based on the principals of Boy Scouting, Wood Badge, and specific scouting publications. The primary resource was the experience of individuals who have years of experience in planning, organizing, and executing this event.

**Title:** *Ceremonialism a Key to Retaining Scouts in Crossovers – December 2008*

**Author:** **Jimmy Elklins, Assistant District Commissioner, Cumberland District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

The author states that he has prepared a record of how emphasizing ceremonies, in particular crossover ceremonies helps increase the number of Cub Scouts become Boy Scouts and remain in the program for a significant length of time. He cites the use of OA involvement in the crossover ceremony as an important integral part of the process.

**Title:** *The Parental Influence in the Scouting Program – (The North Star Effect) – March '87*

**Author:** **Roberta Ann Justice Egan**

The author states that the Boy Scouts of America provides an effective program designed to build desirable qualities such as citizenship, character, and physical and mental strength in young men. She discusses the many factors that can influence the above. These include church, family and Scouting. Her hypothesis is that each of these is very important, but that the parental factor mostly influences the youth's character as well as his moral fiber.

**Title:** *Ideas to Improve Organizational Relationships between Units and their Chartered Organization - June 2012*

**Author:** **Robert Farmer, Unit Commissioner, Toqua District, Great Smoky Mountain council**

The author expands the dissertation title providing the reader with ideas on improving the relationships between units and their chartered organization partners. The sharing of mutual benefits and values is emphasized as important to the process. One in particular is that of service from the unit to the chartered host.

**Title:** *Unit Growth Through Order of the Arrow Involvement – May 2001*

**Author:** **Danny Faulkenberry, Assistant District Commissioner, York District, Palmetto Council**

The author hypothesizes that promotion of a unit's participation in the Order of the Arrow (OA) will increase the participation of youth in the Scouting program. He hopes to demonstrate the need of maintaining older Scouts in the program for recruiting younger boys. He discusses the manner in which OA promotes Scouting, how the OA benefits the individual and the community, retention records of OA members, and why individual units need for their members to participate in the OA.

**Title:** *Burnout on the Unit Level – Date Unknown*

**Author:** **Tommy L. Floyd, Unit Commissioner, Pickens District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author describes the purpose of his dissertation as providing a tool for Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Committee Members, and Commissioners to better understand burnout and how to combat its effects on the unit level. He presents the main causes of burnout and ways to combat it. Additionally, he also offers some case studies of people who have experienced burnout and some that were close but overcame it.

**Title:** *Boy Scouts of America (BSA) High Adventure & Summer Camp Guide Website – June 2014*

**Author:** **Mike Frame, Unit Commissioner, Etiwan District, Coastal Carolina Council**

The author provides a comprehensive website with active and current links to every BSA High ADVENTURE AND Summer Camp that could be found on line. Regional maps and videos are also included to facilitate the understanding of the areas involved.

**Title:** *How Can the Scouting Program Benefit from the God and Country Curriculum? – May '96*

**Author:** Earl Lynn Freeman, Jr.

The author poses the question as stated in the title. He then gives the pros and cons as to how the God and Country program can be utilized to add an extra dimension to a unit's program. Discussions are included as to the reasoning behind the development of the God and Country program and why it is endorsed by the Boy Scouts of America. Comments are offered for Scout Leaders as to their dealing with the program.

**Title:** *Who Are Commissioners? - March '97*

**Author:** Steve Galloway, Assistant District Commissioner, Etowah Creek District, Indian Waters Council

The author investigates the manner in which Unit Commissioners are chosen. His hypothesis is that they should be chosen based on the need of the unit, coupled with the knowledge and experience of the Commissioner chosen to fit the need. He discusses how the strength of a unit can only come from careful selection of Commissioners to meet specific needs. His discussions include the experiences derived from working with units.

**Title:** *History of Commissioner's College– January '91*

**Author:** William Gebert, Unit Commissioner, Blue Ridge Council

The author presents a tabulation of the history of Piedmont Appalachian College of Commissioner Science (PACCS) from September 26, 1981 through May 1991. (During this period there were eight sessions held. The first "cluster" session in 1981 was a one day effort that involved Blue Ridge, Daniel Boone and Palmetto Councils. The first Commissioner College was held in November 1984 at Christmont in Black Mountain. There did not appear to be any sessions in the years 1982, 1983, and 1984. Sequoyah Council joined in 1986 and Great Smoky Mountain joined in 1989. During the early years there was also a theme for each college year, similar to NOAC themes.) Note that the comments in parentheses are submitted by the author of this annotated bibliography).

**Title:** *Alternate Recruiting Program – May '93*

**Author** **Donald A. Goerke, South Border District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author proposes a new approach for recruiting as developed by a particular troop in the South Border District. Approaches are described which are very similar to the widely used School Night for Scouting.

**Title:** *Determining the Impact of Proper Uniform and patch Placement Worn by the Commissioner upon Scouts and Scouters – May '87*

**Author:** **John M. Graham, District Commissioner, Etowah creek District, Indian Waters Council**

The author avows that there are many Scouters who do not wear their uniforms correctly and that one the prime leader by example should be the Commissioner. He describes in detail what is felt to be the correct wearing and placement of uniform items of clothing and various insignia. Hi submits that leadership by proper example will result in more participants wearing the uniform correctly.

**Title:** *LEST WE FORGET \_ A Continuing Study of the History of the Daniel Boone Council of Western North Carolina– June 2012*

**Author:** **Robert “Doc” Halliday, Asst District Commissioner, Soqua District, Daniel Boone Council**

The author presents a history of Daniel Boone Council up through 1945. The dissertation is primarily made up of a condensation of a literature research and is divided into significant periods as far as the Daniel Boone Council is concerned. This begins with the “British Example” moving through the early years of scouting in Western North Carolina through the years if WW II.

**Title:** ***COLLEGE SCOUTER RESERVE: Why Don't We Use It More Effectively? – June '92***

**Author:** **Ruth A. Hancock**

The son of the author, having received his Eagle rank was preparing to leave home for Tulane University in New Orleans. An inquiry was made in reference to his being registered as a College Reserve. Inquiries led her to believe that College Reserves are not used in any constructive way. Her dissertation includes some suggestions that could help utilize this very valuable resource for some of our Scouting needs.

**Title:** ***The Invisible Unit Committee – April '92***

**Author:** **V. Ray Hancock**

The author reviews the need and requirements for a unit committee. He discusses the fact that even though the unit committee may be made up of three real people, that in reality it is a one-man show. The one-man show is generally the Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, or Post advisor. Acknowledging that such units can be and frequently are successful; they usually last only as long as the present leader is on the job. Recommendations are made to make unit committees more visible and effective.

**Title:** ***Scouters Guide to Disaster Preparedness – May '05***

**Author:** **Sue Harris, Unit Commissioner, Toqua District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

The author has prepared a handbook covering a wide range of disasters. She gives examples of what to do, how to do, and when to prepare for a disaster. Recalling that a "... Scout is prepared", she focuses on man-made and natural disasters and the manner in which to prepare for them. The dissertation covers making emergency plans, making emergency kits, and what to do in the event a disaster strikes.

**Title:** *The Importance of the Troop Committee – February '99*

**Author:** **Clyde H. Hartley, Assistant District Commissioner, Ocanosta District, Sequoyah Council**

The author sets out to provide Committee Chairmen, Chartered Organizations, Charter Representatives, and Scoutmasters an in depth view of the importance of the Troop Committee. The committee's role in helping to make the troop run more smoothly is outlined, therefore helping to prevent burnout of the volunteer leaders who meet with the boys every week. Concrete examples are given of why troops with committees run more effectively than those without.

**Title:** *Crossroads of America' Early Frontier – Knoxville, TN Historical Trails– May 2006*

**Author:** **Walter Lynn Hayes, Asst. District Commissioner, Echota District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

The purpose of the dissertation was to increase involvement of Scouts in the community while helping them gain a greater knowledge of their city and its history. It also served to update the guide for the Knoxville Historical trail. Project involved enlisting a troop to update, revise, and publish the desired final documents.

**Title:** *The Boy Scout Specialty Venture Crew: Order of the Arrow – June 2007*

**Author:** **Hawley H. Heglar, Unit Commissioner, Ocanasta District, Sequoyah Council**

The author hypothesizes that the formation of a specialty crew within a unit serves to create a good working relationship between the troops and the OA and to have an opportunity to move efficiently from one group to another without the loss of advancement. In addition, this specialty crew allows the boys to continue their scouting experience until age 21. The dissertation has a goal of providing suggestions for implementing a well organized efficient program for unit leaders.

**Title:** *Female Leadership at Troop Level (The Opinions of Current Leaders) – June '89*

**Author:** **Irwin E. Heide, District Commissioner, District Five, Blue Ridge Council**

The author presents the results of a mail-out survey that was sent to troop and council leaders. There were 49 surveys mailed, with a response rate of 65%. The intent was to show the feelings of leaders, primarily at the troop level, with regard to females in a parallel role with males in the running of a troop. The results of the survey and the questionnaire along with the cover letter are included in the dissertation.

**Title:** *Growing Our Own Boy Scouts - - Webelos-to-Scout Transition May 2000*

**Author:** **Wendy Henderson, District Commissioner, Terrora District, Daniel Boone Council**

The author presents a dissertation discussing the role of the Pack, Troop, District, and Parents in the process of transition from the Webelos Den to the Boy Scout Troop. The hypothesis is that the major recruitment for a Boy Scout Troop comes from the Webelos Den. The dissertation includes a training guide entitled "Fast Start for Parents as They Move into a Troop". The training guide can be used at the District or Pack level.

**Title:** *How to Introduce the Unit Commissioner to Your District - March 2011*

**Author:** **Margaret Herlihy, Unit Commissioner, Etiwan District, Coastal Carolina Council**

The author wants to find more effective ways of introducing the role of the Unit Commissioner to District unit leaders. The dissertation provides suggestions for Unit Commissioners to implement which should help to establish a better relationship with their units. Conclusions include an indication for the need for Districts to talk more about Commissioners at training and Roundtable functions to make Unit leaders more aware of the Unit Commissioner and his/her goals.

**Title:** ***Significant Factors in Surviving the First Year – April '96***

**Author:** **Robert Holley, Blue Ridge Council**

The author presents a dissertation that investigates the survival of units beyond the first year of chartering based on the positive response to six questions that he has developed. He feels that at least three of the questions have to have a “yes” response to insure rechartering. The questions include information on adult training, the Chartered Organization, subscriptions to Boy’s Life, number of youths in unit, number of adults in unit, and if unit participated in spring and fall recruiting activities.

**Title:** ***Scoutmaster’s Institute – June 2006***

**Author:** **Jon D. Humphries, Scoutmaster – Troop 75, Lancaster and Chester District, Palmetto Council**

The author hypothesizes that with the advent of new technology, changes in requirements, and changes in policy that some of the older Scoutmasters may feel handicapped compared to the younger Scoutmasters. With this in mind, he develops a “Scoutmaster’s Institute” with the purpose of having Scoutmasters gather for a weekend of information exchange. This ranges from informal discussions on experiences to formal training on new techniques and approaches.

**Title:** ***Developing a High Level of Spirit in the Council Commissioner Staff – June 2012***

**Author:** **Fred Hyslop, Jr – Council Commissioner, Blue Ridge Council**

The author hypothesizes provides an excellent guideline for establishing and holding a “weekend retreat” for Commissioners in his Council. The weekend was to provide Commissioner Training and an increased level of spirit in the Commissioner corps. He named his weekend Commissioner Camp and based the planning and execution loosely on that of planning a Woodbadge weekend. . The course was deemed a success and plans for future offerings are in the works.

**Title:** *Webelo Leaders and Commissioners – Working Together to Insure a Successful Webelo to Scout Transition – February '97*

**Author:** **Rebecca L. Ingram, Assistant District Commissioner, Toqua District, Great Smoky Council**

The author expresses a goal of providing volunteer leaders (especially Webelo Leaders and Commissioners) with tools to help strengthen the Webelo programs as the boy approaches Boy Scout age. The result should be that the Commissioner would be given ideas of how to improve the communications between Webelo Leaders and Scoutmasters, counseling techniques and information to assist in planning the transition process.

**Title:** *Commissioner Service: An Orientation Guide – March '87*

**Author:** **Fred Justice**

The author presents arguments for the need for Unit Commissioner. Much of his discussion reinforces the need based on the fact that professionals such as the District Executive, being only one person should have their activities supplemented with a very active and knowledgeable volunteer staff. The core of this staff can be the Unit Commissioner.

**Title:** *Why Volunteers Give of Their Time – March '90*

**Author:** **W. Blair Keller, Jr., Unit Commissioner, Sequoyah Council**

The author presents a dissertation in which he studies the reasons volunteers give of their free time to the scouting program. He does this through the use of a questionnaire that was mailed to 30 volunteers who had served an organization for 5 or more years. The dissertation looks at a number of reasons given in the order of priority as assigned by the respondents.

**Title:** ***“Cubmaster?” Now What Do I Do– February ‘97***

**Author:** **Deborah L. Kerley, Unit Commissioner, Pickens District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author has compiled a very comprehensive collection of how to aids for anyone embarking on the path to becoming a successful Cub Master. This includes items from describing what Cub Scouting is through the ranks, positions, meeting plans, forms, and safety, activities, committee, and job responsibilities.

**Title:** ***The Commissioner’s Role in Saving a Unit in Trouble – A Management Perspective – April ‘91***

**Author:** **Richard L. Kennedy, Unit Commissioner, Daniel Boone Council**

The author’s dissertation is to point out and highlight the management techniques available to Unit Commissioners and other Scouters that should be of interest to those with units in trouble. It has a goal of acquainting them with the basic steps in the management process that are necessary to intervene and save a unit.

**Title:** ***Why Adults Join Boy Scouts of America As Leaders and What Them Stay leaders –June 2014***

**Author:** **Fred Knickerbocker, MD, Unit Commissioner, Overmountain District, Sequoyah, Council**

The author provides results of surveys discussing the reasons a number of adults became involved in the Scouting program. His results concretized his own experiences and the conclusion that most of the survey participants experienced the same gratification that he has from serving youth as a BSA leader.

**Title:** *Boy Scout Units: A Comparison between Units Chartered by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) and Non-LDS Partners – June 2007*

**Author:** Paul D. Krauss

The purpose of the dissertation is to give a better understanding of how the units sponsored by the LDS differ from those of non-LDS units. The information was obtained from personal experience, leaders of the LDS Church and BSA Membership/Relations Committee Guide (1991). This is very detailed review of the workings of an LDS unit and should meet the objectives of understanding the manner in which the BSA program works within the LDS structure.

**Title:** *How to Plan a District Leadership Recognition Program - July 2002*

**Author:** Bart Koontz, Assistant Council Commissioner, Ocanasta District, Sequoyah Council

The purpose of this dissertation is to provide an in-depth view of the roles and responsibilities of volunteers in the production of a District Leadership Recognition Program. Included are budgets, schedules, and job descriptions that are to enable volunteers to more efficiently produce a quality District Leadership Program.

**Title:** *Development of a Nature Trail at Knox Scout Reservation – June 2015*

**Author:** Dr. Paul S. Korinko, Roundtable Commissioner, Yamassee District, Georgia-Carolina Council

The author acknowledges that trail design and planning can be a complex task. His goal was to provide a document that could meet the needs for end-users, land owners, land custodians, and animals. He has provided a document which meets this goal using the rules, guidelines, definitions, and general information about the Piedmont area of the Georgia-Carolina Council for the development of a nature trail at the Knox Scout Reservation

**Title:** *Handbook for Commissioners – A Guide for Training and Being a Better Commissioner– Undated*

**Author:** **Melvin C. Law, Asst Council Commissioner, Daniel Boone Council**

The author's project was to compile all of the handbooks and guides for Commissioners into one document, duplicate that effort and use it as a handout to all of the Commissioners in his Council. His goal was to provide a tool to aid in building a better Commissioner staff.

**Title:** *Along the Eagle Trail - There are Boards of Review - May 2000*

**Author:** **George C. LeCrone, Sr., Council Advancement Chairman, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

It is the author's intent to provide a guide for conducting Boards of Review. Procedures are included which apply to the Tenderfoot Board through the Eagle Board and beyond. The guide is provided to help a person who has been selected to serve on a board with identifying what is expected regardless of the individual's background and experience in Scouting.

**Title:** *A Conservation Plan for the Sequoyah Council's Camp Davy Crockett - June '95*

**Author:** **Frank O. Lege, Sequoyah Council**

The author developed a ten year Conservation Plan for Camp Davy Crockett. The Tennessee Division of Forestry refers to this as a Forest Stewardship Plan. It is, however one and the same plan as defined by the author. The plan was to be used as a guide in the management of the camp's natural resources by the Sequoyah Council over the succeeding ten years.

**Title:** *Administration and Operation of a Rural Scouting District - May '88*

**Author:** **Bob Litten, Daniel Boone Council**

The author states that his dissertation is an attempt to bring to light a number of possibilities in the operation and administration of rural or sparsely populated areas where Scouting units are small in size and scattered in distance and travel time. He suggests that these should only be used as guides to improve existing conditions. The author has had a number of years experience in districts of all sizes in heavily to sparsely populated areas. He maintains that Scouting can flourish regardless of the size if there are enough qualified adults available to make the program work.

**Title:** *Leadership of the Roundtable Program - March '87*

**Author:** **Lois Lucas, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner, Lancaster District, Palmetto Council**

The author states that her purpose is to try to explain the different types of leadership of the roundtable program of the Boy Scouts of America. There are discussions of what a roundtable is, the roundtable staff, planning, and promoting attendance. The importance of training and the need for dedicated adult leaders are also topics of discussion.

**Title:** *New Parent Orientation – A Guide for Rapidly Integrating New Parents into a Troop – June 2010*

**Author:** **Stephen R. Luck, Unit Commissioner and District Chairman, Reedy Falls District, Blue Ridge Council**

The dissertation presents an opportunity to enable Boy Scout troops to provide a concise, complete and effective new parent orientation by simply tailoring the information in the dissertation to fit the operations of the Troop.

**Title:** *Getting to First – June 2010*

**Author:** **Bonnie Malmquist, District Camping Chairman, Six and Twenty District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author states that there is little documentation regarding the importance of successfully reaching the rank of First Class during the first year of membership in the Boy Scout program. A product of research over a three year period, the dissertation discusses some of the more significant elements leading to earning First Class the first year.

**Title:** *Teaching Cub Scouts Using Age-Appropriate Teaching Methodology and Child Development Strategies – Nov 2008*

**Author:** **Louis J. Marino, Unit Commissioner, Long Cane District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author states that his purpose is to teach age appropriate teaching strategies and child development skills to Cub Scout leaders who deal with five different age groups in Scouting. He includes a practical guide that was developed using four of the Bobcat requirements.

**Title:** *Providing a Positive Scouting Experience for Scouts with Disabilities – June 2013*

**Author:** **Dr. Teresa I. Marshall, District training Chair, Unit Commissioner, Ocanosta District, Sequoyah Council**

The author's goal is to provide an informative guide to assist older Scouts and leaders in providing positive Scouting experiences for Scouts with disabilities. She believes that even though there are units specifically for those with handicaps/disabilities, experience has shown that Scouting works best when these Scouts arev mainstreamed into a traditional Troop program. Benefits arre discussed on both sides of the issue from the perspective of the challenged Scout as well as the other Troop Members.

**Title:** *Sea Scouting - The Best Kept Secret in Boy Scouting - May 2004*

**Author:** **Hugh Shannon McCampbell, DVM, Sea Scouting Commodore, Unaka District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

The author brings together information accumulated over many years experience of leadership in Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, and Explorer Scouting. His dissertation is intended to pass on this information to those who would become the Scouters of tomorrow. He emphasizes throughout the dissertation the similarities and uniqueness of the Sea Scout program to the rest of Scouting and is ever enthusiastic about the Sea Scout program.

**Title:** *The District Cub Scout Campout – April '89*

**Author:** **Linda M. McEntyre**

The author's hypothesis is that the use of a Cub Scout campout conducted in the Fall is very important for the purpose of recruiting new Cub Scouts. She also maintains that it is important in reestablishing excitement for the older Cub Scouts who did not participate in the summer pack activities and might have become disinterested. She presents the manner in which the campout was organized and executed. Conclusions on effectiveness are presented.

**Title:** *Venturing – Scouting's Next Step – May 2008*

**Author:** **Lynne McCarrager, Venture Female Crew Advisor, Six and Twenty, Blue Ridge Council**

The dissertation is designed to educate youth, adults, and organizations about the intricacies of Venturing. This is done through explanations as well as providing information concerning training, student interest surveys, and recruiting methods

**Title:** *Venturing – Scouting’s Next Step – May 2008*

**Author:** **Steven McCarrager, Venture Male Crew Advisor, Six and Twenty, Blue Ridge Council**

The dissertation is designed to be to not only educate leaders, youth, and parents about the Venturing Program, but to also provide motivational means for encouraging the growth of the program. This is done by comparing the details of the other programs (Cubs, Webelos. And Boy Scouts) and the use of such tools as “crossing over” to Venturing as in “crossing over” from Webelos to Boy Scouts. Detailed descriptions and comparisons are provided.

**Title:** *Showing Scout Spirit is Required for Rank Advancement – What Does that Mean – April ‘99*

**Author:** **R. Gary Medlock, Assistant District Commissioner, Reedy Falls District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author discusses the meaning of Scout spirit and the individual Boy Scout’s role in Scout spirit. He also points out the role and value of the Scoutmaster and other adult leaders in Scout spirit. His dissertation discusses means in which to evaluate Scout spirit and its role in the advancement program. Conclusions are drawn that it is factor and that a positive Scout spirit is important.

**Title:** *Helping More Youth Earn Religious Emblems – May 2002*

**Author:** **Dale J. Montpelier, Assistant District Commissioner, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

The author is also the Founder/Lay Chairperson, Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting, Diocese of Knoxville, Tennessee. He presents a very comprehensive discussion of the religious emblem programs. Included are reasons for the lack of Scouts earning these recognitions and suggestions are made for helping more Scouts earn these emblems. The appendices to this dissertation also provide a good source for guidelines to the religious emblem program within the Scouting program. Included is information for the Girl Scout program as well as the Boy Scout program and adult recognition.

**Title:** *Planning and Executing Effective Camporees – February 2003*

**Author:** **Thomas P. Moran, District Commissioner, Reedy Falls District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author hypothesizes that one of the most difficult activities to plan is a Camporee. He asserts that successful Camporee planning and execution begins with the proper selection of a Camporee Chairperson and supporting committee. A step by step guide is provided with job descriptions for all involved in the activity. Suggestions for Camporee themes are included, with consideration for location, recognition, and adult activities. Several suggested web sites are also included.

**Title:** *The Role Commissioner4s Play in Tiger Cub retention – Jun 2010*

**Author:** **Steve Morrison, District Commissioner, Reedy Falls District, Blue Ridge Council**

Recognizing that there was a gap in the transition of Tiger Cubs into Wolf Cubs, even though there seemed to be a growth in the Cub numbers (result of new members integrating at the higher levels at a rate higher than the loss of Tigers), the author sets out to find the reasons for this disparity and a solution to overcoming the problem.

**Title:** *Training Awards: “Delivering the Promise...” – Jun 2010*

**Author:** **Dale Frederick Moseley, Assistant District Commissioner, Lone Cane district, Blue Ridge Council**

The purpose of the research was to establish the link participation in the Boy Scouts of America Training Awards program and the ability to “Deliver the Promise...” to those in the Scouting program we serve. Current requirements along with the reasoning behind various requirements with their relevance to the applicants programming area in Scouting were investigated. A positive correlation was determined as the author reviewed his findings.

**Title:** *Selecting Unit Leaders – A Guide for Chartered Partners – May 2000*

**Author:** **Dr. Arthur W. Mullins, District Commissioner, Breaks District, Sequoyah Council**

The purpose of the dissertation was to determine if the chartered organization for the Boy Scouts of America has any guidelines for selecting a Scout leader. In addition the author sought to determine if the commissioner staff of the district helps the chartered organization in securing a competent unit leader. Data was collected using a questionnaire sent to a selected study group made up of district commissioners, district executives and chartered organization representatives. An analysis of the data is made and presented.

**Title:** *College of Commissioner Science – Reasons that Candidates Give for not Completing their Dissertation – May 2005*

**Author:** **Maxine J. Mullins, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner, Breaks District, Sequoyah Council**

The author used a survey which was mailed to seventy eight participants who had identified a dissertation topic, but had not finished it. This covered the years 1991 through 2003. The author's dissertation concludes from the returned information that Scouters are very busy people which some gave as reasons. Others included lack of participation by their advisor and health reasons. Several indicated that they might like to return and finish their work.

**Title:** *First Class in the First Year –The Webelos Connection- May 2009*

**Author:** **Robert Ormseth, Roundtable Commissioner, York District, Palmetto Council**

The author saw a need to develop a comprehensive guideline to aid Webelos Den Leaders in recognizing and acting on their roles in preparing Cub Scouts for the Boy Scout Program. His dissertation outlines research and preparation involved in the process and the response from participants.

**Title:** *Hazards to Avoid with Big Trips – June 2013*

**Author:** **Forrest L. Orr, District Commissioner, Chehote Champions District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

The author provides a comprehensive guideline for preparing for the highly anticipated “big trip” to aid in avoiding the pitfalls that can be encountered by being prepared for them before they are encountered.

**Title:** *Commissioner Service in the Real World That Helps Units Succeed – June 2014*

**Author:** **H. Keith Overstreet, Assistant District Commissioner, Six and Twenty District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author discusses the importance of Unit Service and its role in helping to insure unit success. He expresses the importance of the concept of the Commissioner being a “friend of the unit”, which helps the unit to succeed. The tools provided in the Journey to Excellence (JTE) program help to measure success and should be used in the present BSA environment.

**Title:** *Assessing Scouting Acceptance in the County of Abbeville, South Carolina – Population 24,000 – November ‘91*

**Author:** **Edward E. Patton**

The author states that scouting was reintroduced in Abbeville, SC in 1983 and is now trying to determine how much the residents know about the program eight years later in 1991. He alludes to a situation of inappropriate activities dealing with unit growth that had led to negative media attention. The result was very poor support of scouting for a period of time. He is attempting to see if these are the reasons for the still lack of units in his area.

**Title:** *Motivating Scouters by Facilitating Self-Esteem - February '91*

**Author:** **A. J. Peoples**

The author hypothesizes that the meaning of self-motivation is the inner desire which fuels the engine that is the driving force inspiring us on our journey through life. He maintains that we are not given the foresight to know what is ahead, but if we have the drive to overcome obstacles and prepare ourselves, we will be ready for whatever lies ahead. He presents a dissertation with the intent of providing that motivation for self-esteem.

**Title:** *Providing Commissioner Basic Training for a District Far From Council – June 2014*

**Author:** **Carole Poole, Assistant District Commissioner, Black River District, Coastal Carolina Council**

The author provides a combination of the syllabus and PowerPoint presentation from scouting.org along with the recommended materials to conduct Commissioner Basic Training in Districts with all resources included in the report folder. This report is a good one stop place to shop for this effort.

**Title:** *Improving Venturing Operations at the District Level – March 2011*

**Author:** **Robert Randolph, Assistant District Commissioner, Unaka District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

The author explores ways to improve District Operations with respect to the Venturing program. The survey method was used to gather information as well as the author's personal observations. He provides recommendations for improvements in his report.

**Title:** *Annotated Bibliography: A Compilation of Dissertation Topics Prepared for Doctor of Commissioner Science Degree – Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science – June 2007*

**Author:** Hulic Ratterree, Unit Commissioner, York District, Palmetto Council

The Author felt there was a need for a centralized repository of at least the abstracts of dissertations prepared over the life of the college. He utilized several sources to locate as many dissertations as possible, extracted basic information from each and prepared a modified annotated bibliography of the dissertations available as of the end of May 2006. The result is the document that the reader is reviewing at this time. The author also committed to keeping the bibliography updated and available on the web site for review and research by all. (Note: that update continues as of June 2015)

**Title:** *Promoting the District Day Camp – June 2012*

**Author:** Michael Reano, Unit Commissioner, Great Smoky Mountain Council

The author's dissertation examines what Day Camp is why it is important to the Cub Scout program. It includes descriptions of camp promotions and their effectiveness. Case studies as well as surveys were used in the gathering of information. It was concluded that the use of multiple promotion methods maximized results.

**Title:** *Enhanced Commissioner Service- A Guide – March '89*

**Author:** Samuel D. Redd

The author presents a dissertation with an outline of a model for enhanced commissioner service. He intends for it to be a guide to the restructuring of commissioner services in such a manner that it will foster the recruitment, utilization, and retention of quality personnel in scouting, especially in the commissioner service.

**Title:** *The Commissioner: His Job and Duties – September '84*

**Author:** **Cameron Reeves, District Commissioner, Pickens District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author submits a dissertation designed to give a commissioner a better understanding of the position he is filling. He also defines the training that is available to commissioners in order that they may begin visiting units secure in the knowledge of the job they are to do. The different types of commissioners are discussed along with the objective of the commissioner program. Different types of units are discussed along with the “tools of the trade”.

**Title:** *Manual for School Night for Scouting in York District – June 2013*

**Author:** **Tamie Robbins, Assistant District Commissioner, York District, Palmetto Council**

The author has created a comprehensive manual for conducting a successful School Night for Scouting. Even though the manual is directed towards York District in Palmetto Council, it could be used practically anywhere with only slight modification.

**Title:** *Successful Roundtables – Ideas with Emphasis on Improvement – June 2006*

**Author:** **Emmagene Roberts, District Commissioner, Lancaster and Chester District, Palmetto Council**

The author outlines that the purpose of her dissertation is to bring together and share a collection of ideas that has been accumulated over many years of attending monthly roundtables. Some of the topics lean more towards the Cub Scout and others are more suited to the Boy Scout. A specific emphasis is to focus on topics and methods for making monthly roundtables more informative and enjoyable, the benefits being a learning tool with positive results for improvement.

**Title:** *Scouting in the Inner-City Black Community of Knoxville, Tennessee – May 2000*

**Author:** **Jefferson Robert Ross, Jr. (deceased), District Chairman, Chiote District, Great Smoky Council**

This dissertation was completed from the author's outline notes by his son, Thomas A. Ross, Scoutmaster of Troop 400, Huntsville, AL. It describes the history, impact, and influence of scouting in the African-American community from 1928-2000. It also discusses an analysis of what the Black community gained and what it lost through the integration of scouting.

**Title:** *Feasibility Study for Hiring College Students to Serve as Boy Scout Summer Camp Counselors – May 2000*

**Author:** **Thomas A. Ross, Scoutmaster Troop 400, Creek District, Greater Alabama Council**

The author's hypothesis is that high school age scouts lack the degree of subject matter expertise to give the younger Scouts the depth that more mature counselors can provide. He develops questions that must be answered to develop an intern program. His personal experience as a Scout leader and his professional experience as a training manager are utilized the development of a proposal that is targeted for the local council as well as institutions of higher learning.

**Title:** *Assets of Women in Scouting – 1989*

**Author:** **Nancy A. Rutledge, Sequoyah Council**

The author presents a very informative dissertation on the attributes and assets of females in the Scouting program. She maintains that the stereotype given to most females does not apply. She states that "we can be ladies, but also be productive and useful".

**Title:** *K"NOT" for Commissioner College – March '97*

**Author:** **Jackie Sands, Unit Commissioner, Tuckaleechee District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

A dissertation describing the requirements and efforts required to earn many of the leader recognition awards (square knots). There is also an argument given for the establishment of a square knot for those who have earned the Doctor of Commissioner Science Award. (Note that this was a long fought battle by many over the years and there was finally National approval for a DCS Knot in 2008).

**Title:** *District Webelos Activity Badge Midway – May 2003*

**Author:** **Vicki Sargent, Webelos-to-Scout Coordinator, Pigeon River District, Daniel Boone Council**

The purpose of the dissertation is to outline the procedures for planning a District Webelos activity badge midway. The author feels that it will be especially useful to den leaders who have newly recruited fifth grade boys (Webelos II) wishing to earn their Arrow of Light. It should also aid den leaders who feel inadequate or do not have the resources to put on programs for the more technical activity badges. Topics include seeking support, planning the program, notifying den leaders, having a backup plan, and how to handle the paperwork.

**Title:** *The Religious Emblems Program – June 2011*

**Author:** **William C. Schrichte, District Commissioner, Southbounder District, Blue Ridge Council**

The purpose of the dissertation is to introduce and promote the Religious Emblems Program in the BSA. This program is at the very heart of Scouting in that Duty to God is one of the key points intended by Baden Powell from the very beginning. He also investigates the lack of participation in the program and offers an approach to solving the problem.

**Title:** *Developing Council shooting Sports Policies and Procedures – June 2013*

**Author:** **Stan Schumann, Unit Commissioner, Daniel Morgan District, Palmetto Council**

The author maintains that an effective council-level shooting program requires specific policies and procedures in addition to those outlined in the National Shooting Sports Manual. He provides the thoughts behind the development of these needs from fees to specific range requirements for Palmetto Council. Copies for the Palmetto Council are included as examples.

**Title:** *Track Your Training Pocket Pal – Jun 2010*

**Author:** **Celia Shanks, Boy Scout Roundtable commissioner, Toqua District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

The purpose of the research was to find way to help new scout parents determine what training they needed to take and in what order to take it. The goal was to eliminate as much confusion as possible in the requirements. A wallet card was developed after examining training lists from, National, Council and District web sites. Wallet Cards were developed for Scout Troop positions and Venture Crew advisor. Other scouting positions at the Cub level could be included by other studies.

**Title:** *Scouting Through the Eyes of a Collector – March '97*

**Author:** **R. J. Shull, Assistant District Commissioner, Etowah District, Indian Waters Council**

Since the beginning of scouting patches have been a part of the program. The first patches produced in the United States were taken from Baden Powell's English program. The purpose of the dissertation is to look at the relationship between Scouting and patches. Patches, from merit badge patches, rank patches, event patches, and unit and council identification patches have a unique history. Their association and attachment to people and events has resulted in patch and memorabilia collecting becoming a huge

hobby. This growth and mania is examined in the author's dissertation.

**Title:** ***Challenges Unique to Scoutreach Units in their Initial Survival and Ultimate Success – May '00***

**Author:** **Russell Hoke Smart, Assistant District Commissioner for Scoutreach Units, Reedy Falls District, Blue Ridge Council**

The purpose of the project as outlined in the dissertation was to investigate and identify challenges that are unique to Scoutreach units. There was also an objective of finding at least one means of helping them to initially survive and ultimately succeed. Personal observations within the district and council, discussions with unit leaders of Scoutreach and other units, and a review of materials published by the Boy Scouts of America were all part of the initial research.

**Title:** ***Improving District Communications Electronically - May 2007***

**Author:** **Glenn Stoner, District Commissioner, York District, Palmetto Council**

The author's goal was to improve communications in the district utilizing available electronic means. He first instituted an up-to-date email listing, which is updated at each Roundtable. He then updated the website using items identified by the response to a questionnaire that was distributed at two different Roundtables. The use of direct distribution for the questionnaires led to a better response rate. The web site has been characterized as being more useful since the items identified are being used.

**Title:** ***Palmetto Council Unit Visit Tracking System Implementation – Feb 2010***

**Author:** **Richard L. Strasburger, Council Commissioner, Palmetto Council**

The project was conceived to implement the Unit Visit Tracking System for Commissioners of the Palmetto Council. Though the system had been in use for several years by the BSA, it was not being used by Palmetto Council. The implementation was

achieved through the use of visitations/presentations and the use of information available on the web.

**Title:** ***A Study of the Role of the District Commissioner in Providing Service to Rural Units – May '98***

**Author:** **James M. Sweet**

Providing adequate support to rural units and their leadership has generally been very difficult due to various geographic and cultural considerations. This dissertation examines the administration of unit service to rural units and the role of the District Commissioner in this process. This has been an ongoing challenge, requiring a versatile District Commissioner to ensure that all boys receive the Scouting program no matter where they live.

**Title:** ***Cub Scout Field Day – An Annual Event to Promote Cub-to-Scout Transition – March 1987***

**Author:** **Lloyd W. Swift, Jr., District Commissioner, Smoky Mountain District, Daniel Boone Council, Franklin, NC**

The author describes a day-long outdoor event, put on by Boy Scouts for Cub Scouts. Events in the Field Day are chosen to meet several outdoor achievements and badge requirements. Field Day is held during a fall Camporee so the Cubs get to see an actual Boy Scout encampment and have Scouts, rather than adults, teach and direct the events. The fall timing helps Packs begin the new program year with an active and productive activity. This dissertation includes forms, schedules, photos, and planning documents to help the reader design a similar event.

**Title:** ***Merit Badge Counselors List – A Project– March '91***

**Author:** **Steve G. Thomas, Unit Commissioner, Daniel Boone District, Sequoyah Council**

The author's project was to update a Merit Badge Counselor List that had not been updated in five years. The list was in need of much work according to the author because of deletions/additions that had not been noted, changes of address that had not been included, phone number changes and the general housekeeping items that should be done on an ongoing basis.

**Title:** *Minimizing a Loss in Council Youth Membership Due to School Access Limitations- May 2009*

**Author:** **Michael L. Thompson, Council Commissioner, Southboulder District, Blue Ridge Council**

The purpose of the research was to determine some effective methods for minimizing the loss of in Council youth membership as a result of limited school access. Negative impacts were felt in many of the Councils across the US following June 28, 2000 ruling which reaffirmed the BSA standing as a private organization with the right to set its own membership and leadership standards. Information gathered indicated that a variety of strategic activities are being utilized across the country to mitigate school access limitations.

**Title:** *A Survey to See What Units are Doing to Collect Their Journey to Excellence Data – Jun 2013*

**Author:** **Lucy Thorne, Unit Commissioner, Unit Commissioner, Daniel Boone Council**

A survey is made to determine what methods units are using to collect the required information for the Journey to Excellence program. Based on the survey results, a worksheet was developed to assist units with tracking their data. Examples are included for both Cub Packs and Boy Scout Troops.

**Title:** *Shifting Our Paradigms – Jun 2010*

**Author:** **Richard L. Turner, Commissioner, Blue Ridge Council**

The study investigates the factors leading to the loss of Webelos Scouts who have crossed over into a troop. It offers realistic recommendations to reverse or reduce the trend. One of the factors is thought to be that Webelos and their parents do not fully understand how a Troop functions and therefore are not prepared for the significant changes that exist. Ways to solve the problem were introduced on a trial basis. Results are discussed.

**Title:** ***Cub Scout Day Camp planning for New Leaders – June 2014***

**Author:** **Andrew Richard Uhrich, Unit Commissioner, Swamp Fox District, Coastal Carolina Council**

The author provides a comprehensive presentation of all the elements necessary for the Cub Scout Day Camp Administrator to consider in managing a successful District camp. It identifies all the new (as June 2014) National Camp Accreditation Program standards that have to be followed (as of June 2014) including onsite medical requirements. A monthly step-by-step guide is included to for activities that should be done by the Administrator during the 12 months prior to the Day Camp.

**Title:** ***The Ink Never Dries – Restoring a Failed Cub Pack – May 2000***

**Author:** **Donald Van Deusen, Unit Commissioner, Reedy Falls District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author examines a failed Cub Scout pack from the point when the problem arises through the first step of getting back on track to final solution and new leadership. The example given is an actual case study and provides for good problem solving techniques as well as identifying some problem areas that may be encountered by others in like positions.

**Title:** ***The Role of the Commissioner in the Transition from Webelos to Boy Scouts – May '92***

**Author:** **John A. Veal, Asst District Commissioner, Tuckaleechee District, Great Smoky Mountain Council**

The author makes the statement that a meager number of Webelos make the progression into Boy Scouting, or once the transition is made, the Boy Scout program does not retain them. He then asks the question as to if it's the fault of not being prepared for their future role in Scouting or the fault of poor leadership training for Webelos leaders. He then develops recommendations and

approaches to be used by Commissioners based on his personal experience.

**Title:** *An Aid to Commissioners of Units Chartered by the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints– June 2012*

**Author:** **Raymond A Vincent, Jr., Unit Commissioner, Southboulder District, Blue Ridge Council**

Realizing that there are differences in the policies of the LDS churches and their approach to Scouting as compared to the BSA policies, the author provides guidelines to these differences wherein the Commissioner can obtain information to better focus efforts on providing for maximum benefit to the unit.

**Title:** *Winter Camping Handbook for the Beginner - February '99*

**Author:** **Rodger D. Vissage, District Commissioner, Six and Twenty District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author intends to provide unit leaders with a step-by-step guide for planning a safe, successful, and fun winter campout or outing. The dissertation is written for all skill levels as it is realized that not all unit leaders are familiar with or skilled at living outdoors. The final product is designed to provide guidelines for obtaining the skills necessary to come to the winter campout totally prepared for the challenges of this experience. The use of this guide should act as an aid in overcoming any hesitancy of troops to undertake a winter campout.

**Title:** *Clueless: Adult Leaders of a New Cub Scout Pack – Jun '10*

**Author:** **Nancy E. Wasness, Unit Commissioner, Pinckney District, Palmetto Council**

The purpose of the project was to consolidate information that would help an Adult Leader of a new Cub pack. The first step was to collect information that an Adult leader would need to start right away. Various sources from the internet to the local Scout Office were used. The result was the development of a comprehensive booklet that serves as an effective guide to new leaders.

**Title:** *Training for Scouters to Demonstrate Winter Camping Techniques for their Troop – May 2000*

**Author:** **Earl F. Waters, Unit Commissioner, Six and Twenty District, Blue Ridge Council**

The author provides a step-by-step guide for winter camping. Topics include the selection of clothing including foot wear, gloves, hats, etc. The proper selection of food and water for winter camping is considered. Precautions against hypothermia are discussed. The selection of proper shelters and their use are considered along with the selection of bedding whether it be sleeping bags alone or in combination with pads and mattresses. Proper winter camping activities are also discussed.

**Title:** *Youth Protection Training – How Can the Existing Program Be Improved? - May '98*

**Author:** **Janice A. Watson, Assistant District Commissioner, Toqua District, Great Smoky Council**

The author states that organizing and maintaining a formal youth protection program is a necessity for Scouting. Scouts need to be prepared to respond effectively to the dangers posed by child abuse and drug use. She hypothesizes that even though the Boy Scouts of America has a basic youth protection program in place, there is room for improvement and consistency. Her dissertation discusses these areas from her vantage point.

**Title:** *SCOUTING FOR FOOD – A Christmas Parade Program – June 2012*

**Author:** **Lucille V. Watson, Assistant District Commissioner, Etiwan District, Coastal Carolina Council**

The author provides insight into the planning and execution of a Scouting for Food project coupled with an annual Christmas Parade in her community. Conclusions include the importance of detailed planning, designating contacts, strong unit leadership and effective communication.

**Title:** *The Role of the Commissioner/Explorer Service Team in the Transition from Boy Scout to Explorer - March '97*

**Author:** Gary Lynn Webb, Assistant District Commissioner, Tuckaleechee District, Great Smoky Mountain Council

The author maintains that a meager number of boys make the progression into Exploring after they have earned their Eagle Scout rank or as they become "older" Scouts. Often these "older" Scouts are not retained because of lack of interest and it has always been difficult to do so. Exploring addresses this issue by having a program of activities that helps our young people by matching their interests to a particular Explorer Post.

**Title:** *Women and Camping in the BSA - Issues and Solutions – May '94*

**Author:** Bonita M. Wells, Cumberland District, Great Smoky Mountain Council

The author presents a very informative dissertation on the problems that may be encountered by female Leaders as they actively engage in all of the outdoor activities of a traditional Boy Scout unit in a camping scenario. She investigates areas from the usage of separate facilities to time sharing of common facilities, proper dress and fit of the uniform and even approaches "time of the month". The author does suggest solutions for each of the "problems" that are noted.

**Title:** *The Relationship Between Unit Roundtable Attendance and the Strength of the Unit - May 2003*

**Author:** Joseph Wentz, Roundtable Commissioner, Pellissippi District, Sequoyah Council

The author hypothesizes that there is a relationship between unit roundtable attendance and unit strength. There are units that attend regularly, occasionally, or very seldom if ever. Selected units were also measured as far as unit quality is concerned with questions that were based on standards contained in "Commissioner Helps for Packs, Troops, and Posts". The author states that in general, the quality of standards was generally in direct proportion to roundtable attendance.

**Title:** *Learning for Life and Exploring: Re-focus in the Smoky Mountain District - May 2001*

**Author:** **Carolyn H. (Cardy) White, Unit Commissioner, Smoky Mountain District, Daniel Boone Council**

The author discusses the background of the Learning for Life program and its connections to community organizations. The design of a program at the district level with the need for a dedicated unit commissioner for the Learning for Life team is considered. The aspects of different teams are discussed (Finance, Program, Marketing, and Service). The Learning for Life and Exploring relationship in the Smoky Mountain District is discussed, with emphasis on Exploring then and now, and plans for the future.

**Title:** *Increasing the Interest in the Stamp Collecting Merit Badge May 2011*

**Author:** **Robert White, Assistant District Commissioner, York District, Palmetto Council**

The author discusses the need to encourage more interest in earning the Stamp Collecting Merit Badge. The goal being to show Scouts what benefits are gained from this badge, including the development of interests in history, science, geography and other educational pursuits. Stamp collecting can also be beneficial in the development of leadership, good character and other Scouting principles in that many stamps commemorate great leaders and role models.

**Title:** *A Discussion on Improving Commissioner Service - June 2012*

**Author:** **Jeff G. Will, Council Commissioner, Indian Waters Council**

The author, currently serving as Council Commissioner is concerned with insuring the Commissioner Corps is available and helpful to the units they serve. He maintains that education and training are the key to this formula. His dissertation is provided as a guide to in outlining the need, direction and maintenance of a vibrant Commissioner Corps.

**Title:** *Striking the Correct Balance of Digital technology in Scouting - June 2015*

**Author:** **Stephen Wilson, Outdoor Ethics Advocate, York District, Palmetto Council**

The author seeks to guidance in balancing the rapid advancement of digital technology with the traditional Scouting experience. It is focused for unit leadership and scouters who may be struggling with what technologies to allow and how to evaluate the impact of that technology on their unit. Conclusion is that individuals and units can indeed exhibit a balanced approach and avoid a one-size fits all mentality when it comes to inclusion of technology in their program.