

Council E-Log

January 31, 2018

Mark Hopwood Retiring

After more than 14 years, Mark Hopwood is retiring as the Trading Post Manager and Eagle Registrar for the Abraham Lincoln Council. His last day in the office will be February 20, 2018.

To honor Mark, we are holding a reception on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 from 4:30 pm until 6pm, with cookies and light refreshments. All are welcome to come by the Scout Center on South Sixth to thank and congratulate him.

We wish Mark well in his retirement from his job, but know that he will continue to share his time and talent as a volunteer in Scouting.

A Call to Action

Here is a great opportunity for your Scouts who are working on Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge to visit a Springfield City Council Meeting and speak up on an issue facing Lake Springfield.

There is a petition in front of the City Council, proposing a commercial office on Lake Springfield, just east of Camp Illinek. Previously the "old marina," an office building has been proposed. The access will likely be through the Wildlife Sanctuary, but we fear that a second access may one day be requested, right through Camp Illinek. It also could have a serious impact on the Camp Illinek water supply.

The hearing is on Tuesday, February 20th at 5:30pm in the Springfield City Hall, 800 E. Monroe Street in Springfield. Show up in uniform and make your voices heard!

Philmont 2019

The Abraham Lincoln Council has been awarded two crews, with a maximum of 12 people per crew (8-10 youth and 2-4 adults per crew). The crew will depart Springfield on July 15th and arrive home on July 30, 2019. Scouts, Venturers and adults interested in being part of the crew should contact the Scout Center on South Sixth.

Family Program Early Adopter Pack

Pack 38, chartered to St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA is the first pack in the Abraham Lincoln Council to begin using the new Cub Scout Family Program. Four girls joined the pack on January 25th and are on their way.

The National Council authorized councils to allow packs to take part in a "soft launch" of the program as "early adopters," but there are several strict requirements for a pack to qualify.

Pack 38 has met the requirements, thanks to the efforts of Cubmaster Donnie Lehman, Committee Chair Joanna Gunderson, Den Leader Tiffany Higginson and the whole volunteer team at the pack (all 15 registered leaders!)

More information will be rolling out this spring and summer as we prepare for the full launch of the program as school begins in or around August.

Staff Changes

As we embark on the new year, we have some staff changes that will be important to all of us:

- **Jerry "Skippy" Daniels** will be the District Director for the Council. His primary responsibility will be Lincoln Home District, but will assist Honest Abe District and unit service in Log Cabin/ Railsplitter East and West.
- **John Nelson, Sr.** District Executive, will continue to serve the Venturing/ Exploring District and will work with the Log Cabin/ Railsplitter District and unit service in Log Cabin/ Railsplitter South.
- **Matt Torres** joined our staff on December 1st. He will assist Jerry Daniels in Lincoln Home District and have primary responsibility in Honest Abe District. He will also work with Jerry in serving the Log Cabin East and West units. Matt is an Eagle Scout, a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow.
- **Michael Wilson** started on January 16th to try and fill the shoes of Mark Hopwood as the store manager. He'll also handle camp reservations.
- **Lauren O'Reilly**, our council Registrar, will now handle Eagle Scout Applications, including getting Eagle Scout Project proposals to the appropriate volunteer committees.