



August 22, 2023

Quapaw Area Council & Westark Area Council Scouting Family,

The Scouting program has been an integral part of the State of Arkansas since the organization's founding in 1910. Scouting today thrives throughout the region through units served by both the Quapaw Area Council and the Westark Area Council.

For generations our two neighboring councils have partnered together on a variety of different activities and events. As a result of this close connection and the desire to grow, sustain, and enhance the Scouting experiences offered to the youth of Arkansas, the councils have formally begun merger discussions with an anticipated consolidation date in the fourth quarter of 2023. It is the belief of both Council Executive Boards that Scouting in Arkansas will be stronger, will be more vibrant, and will simply be, BetterTogether.

By combining the great strengths of each council into one unified organization our Scouts and leaders will benefit with combined and deeper volunteer support, streamlined administrative functions, increased professional staffing levels, efficient business management, and higher quality programming and facilities for our Scouting families. This effort would allow Scouting to be in the best position to flourish in the years to come. For questions or for more information, visit the Q&A on our website [here](#).

Together, we are committed to providing world-class Scouting experiences for our members during this transition and beyond. We are excited about the future of Scouting in the Natural State and will provide you with additional updates on the merger process as it develops.

Thank you for all you do for Scouting and the amazing young people we serve.

Yours in Scouting,

Tim Cullen
Council President
Quapaw Area Council

Sue Bender
Council Commissioner
Quapaw Area Council

Shanna Richardson
Scout Executive/CEO
Quapaw Area Council

William "Jack" Butt, II
Council President
Westark Area Council

Jim Graham
Council Commissioner
Westark Area Council

Don Walker
Vice President of Administration
Westark Area Council