



GOLDEN EMPIRE COUNCIL
UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING



2021 VIP Speakers

Saturday, November 13, 2021



VIP-01. NEW BSA Treasure—Northern Tier: A visual tour through all the history, and high adventure programs that Northern Tier has to offer (Summer & Winter), with **John VanDreese** the General Manager of Northern Tier as your guide! Gather insight from the insider.

John VanDreese

General Manager, Northern Tier



John Van Dreese joined the full-time team at Northern Tier on June 1, 2015 as the General Manager. In this role he is responsible for giving leadership to the greatest team in the BSA! John has 40+ years with the Boy Scouts of America, serving in various roles including Western Region Program Director, Philmont Base Camp Director and 26 summers managing/directing camps in Wisconsin, Illinois, and California.

For over six years John Van Dreese has served as the General Manager at Northern Tier High Adventure Bases, Boy Scouts of America where he is responsible for giving leadership to the greatest team in the BSA! He's held several other positions in over 40 years as a professional scouter including:

- Director of Outdoor Adventures (2011-2015) for Orange County Council
- Senior Outdoor Program Specialist (2010-2011) At the BSA headquarters in Irving, TX
- Associate Regional Director / Program (2008-2009) for the Western Region - Boy Scouts of America
- Associate Director of Program (2004-2008) at Philmont Scout Ranch as the Philmont Base Camp Director
- Program Director (1997-2004) Milwaukee County Council BSA

John is a 1977 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art. He enjoys hiking, traveling, cross country skiing and reading!

VIP-02. NEW Piper Cubs to the Space Shuttle - 40 years of Aerospace: Paul Dye, Eagle Scout and former NASA Flight Director will share his perspective on the value of Scouting after 40 years of aerospace experience in everything from Piper Cubs to the Space Shuttle.

Paul Dye

Eagle Scout, Retired NASA Flight Director



Paul F. Dye retired from NASA in 2013 as the longest-serving Flight Director in U.S. history. He has over 40 years of aviation experience as an engineer, builder and pilot. His scope has ranged from restoring J-3 Cubs to planning and leading manned space flights. His love of flying machines dates back to early childhood, and he became involved with full-sized aircraft as a teenager, rebuilding J-3 Cubs with an FBO (fixed base operator) in Minnesota. He earned his degree in Aeronautical Engineering with a specialization in aircraft design and flight testing from the

University of Minnesota in 1982. He worked in increasingly responsible roles within the US Manned Space Program since that time, both as a technical expert in spacecraft systems and eventually as the overall lead of many missions to space.

Mr. Dye has owned a number of aircraft over the years and is currently deeply involved in the Experimental Aircraft movement. He is flying an RV-8 that he built himself, as well as an RV-6 which was purchased for flying by his wife. He and his wife finished building an RV-3 in 2012 and have flown it from coast to coast and from the Gulf of Mexico to the Canadian border. He is an EAA (Experimental Aircraft Assoc.) Technical Counselor and Flight Advisor and does extensive product development testing for several avionics and airframe accessory manufacturers serving the experimental market. He has a Commercial Pilot license, and routinely crisscrosses the United States in his RV-6 and RV-8 aircraft for both business and pleasure.

Mr. Dye shares his airpark home near Carson City, Nevada, with his wife Louise Hose, a geology professor, internationally known cave explorer, and pilot. Their aircraft feed their love of travel and exploration, enabling them to be anywhere in the US with a single day's travel. He is a Fellow of the Explorer's Club and a NASA Alumni.

After retiring from NASA as a Lead Flight Director for Human Spaceflight, he became Editor in Chief for *Kitplanes* Magazine, a publication dedicated to supporting the experimental aircraft industry. He now serves as *Kitplanes'* Editor at Large, attends most of the large aviation meetings and fly-ins around the United States.

VIP-03. NEW New National Service Territories and Commissioner Challenges: Commissioner Challenges and resources as we settle into the BSA's new National Service Territories with Jim Libbin.

James (Jim) Libbin

BSA Council Support Chair National Service Territories 1-8

James (Jim) Libbin currently serves as the BSA Council Support Chair National Service Territories (NST) 1 – 8 (That's Hawaii, Alaska and the western half of the continental United States) and was a member of the team that designed our new national service territories.



A Cub Scout and Boy Scout as a youth, Jim returned to Scouting when his son joined Tiger Cubs. He previously served as Western Region Commissioner as well as a Unit Commissioner for a Cub Scout Pack and a Scouts BSA Troop. As with many other Scouters he also has other Scouting responsibilities, including Committee Chair for a Pack, a girls Troop and a boys Troop. He is a member of Yucca Council, based in El Paso, Texas.

Jim served as Den Leader from 1989 until 1995, as Scoutmaster from 1995 to 2002 and has served as Committee Chair ever since. Previous assignments include the Yucca Council Executive Board; Area 6 President; Area 6 Commissioner; Yucca Council Commissioner; and Sunshine District Commissioner. His diverse Scouting experience also includes terms as a council executive board member, area president, area commissioner, and regional training chair,. A former Wood Badge course director, he has also served as chancellor of a tri-council College of Commissioner Science. Jim is a Vigil Member of the Gila Lodge, Order of the Arrow.

Jim retired after 40 years from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences of New Mexico State University, serving as Interim Dean, Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programs, and Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business.

Jim is married to Gail; they have four children and three grandchildren. He lives in Las Cruces, New Mexico and has been a member of the Die-Hard Chicago Cub Fan Club long enough to know better.

Tyler Grey

2020-2021 National VOA President



Tyler joined Venturing at the age of 13 to meet new people and have fun in the wilderness. He is from Western Los Angeles County Council in Los Angeles, California, and served most recently as the Western Region Venturing Officers' Association President. Tyler is an Eagle Scout and has earned the Council, Area, Region, and National Venturing Leadership Awards. He is also a Vigil Honor member of Malibu Lodge and has received the Silver Shark Award, Founder's Award, and the James E. West Fellowship. He has served on staff for a variety of National events, including the 2017 National Scout Jamboree, VenturingFest 2018, 2018 National Order of the Arrow Conference, and the 2019 World Scout Jamboree. Tyler is a rising junior at the University of California, Davis studying Materials Science & Engineering.

Jamey Schnasse

National Service Territory 3 VOA President



Hello, my name is Jamey Schnasse and I am from Novato California. I have been in Crew 73 out of Marin Council for three years now and have had the absolute pleasure to serve on the Crew level, Council level, and the Area level of Venturing. I am also a brotherhood member of Talako Lodge and a Life Scout in Troop 73. This year I am looking forward to working with my VP's and the council leadership to keep Area 3 strong and adventurous!

Theron Osterhout

National Service Territory 3 VOA Vice President



Theron Osterhout is the 2020 to 2021 Vice President of Program for Area 3. He is entering his Junior year in High School at Hart Ransom Charter School and is also a student at Modesto Junior College. Theron is currently serving as the Vice President of Program for Crew 21 and Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 45 in the Greater Yosemite Council. He is a Brotherhood member in the Order of the Arrow and is the 2019 to 2020 Toloma Lodge Chief. He joined the Venturing program because it was an excellent opportunity to lead the adventure and have tons of fun with a great group of people. Theron's passion has grown to start taking on leadership roles to help better other ventures in the area. He enjoys a variety of hobbies, such as music and technology.

Theron has had many opportunities to go on awesome adventures and is looking forward to going to Sea Base with his crew in the summer of 2021. He has attended several trainings including NYLT (National Youth Leadership Training), LLD (Lodge Leadership Development), and NLS (National Leadership Seminar). He is looking forward to helping put on some incredible adventures on an area level and to help strengthen Council Venturing Officers' Association. He looks forward to meeting fellow ventures from all over and continuing to lead the adventure.