

ANNOUNCEMENT

July 18, 2008

Our council scout executive, Ed Harvey, has accepted the position as Scout Executive of the U.S. Virgin Islands Council and will be leaving Bartlesville in mid-August to begin his new assignment. This is bittersweet news for all of us as Ed has been instrumental in leading our council through many changes for more than seven years. During his tenure in Bartlesville the council has experienced tremendous success in growing our annual FOS program, making numerous improvements to council facilities and camp property while training several new staff members. It has often been said that the Cherokee Area Council is the best small council in the nation. Ed, his staff, and all our great volunteers have made this possible. But these executive changes are the reality of Scouting professionals and something we must deal with occasionally over the years.

While we will miss Ed and his wife, Debbie, we wish them all the best in his future Scouting endeavors. I know he will supply the quality leadership necessary to assist the Virgin Islands council in their future growth and success; just as he has done for us.

Plans to begin the process of searching for a new council executive are already underway and we will be making announcements in weeks to come as we locate the appropriate candidates to interview in our search to fill this important position. As always, we will continue to move forward serving our youth and volunteers. Our staff will “stand in the gap” left by Ed's absence to work with our units as we prepare for the upcoming Scouting season. Our program plans and activities will not be affected nor will the service levels from the council diminish during this transition.

Please try to stop by the Scout Service Center and tell Ed good-bye and best wishes before his last day in the council in mid-August. We will be planning a farewell 'come and go' get together sometime before his final day and will announce this as soon as a date is set.

Yours in Scouting,



Chris Cook, Council President