

## Message From Our New Scout Executive

Dear Dedicated Scouters of the Rainbow Council,

My wife Kelly and I are beyond thrilled and simply can't wait to join the Rainbow Council Scouting family! I would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little about our family and our love for this great movement.

Scouting has had a profound impact and been a huge part of both of our lives. Kelly and I met at Ten Mile River Scout Reservation in Narrowsburg, NY, where I was serving as Camp Director and she grew up. The daughter of a Scoutmaster and Camp Nurse, sister of a Boy Scout and niece to two aunts who ran the camp medical service, she is no stranger to the Boy Scouts and the amount of work that goes into running a successful camp operation or a full council. She's been active and engaged in each of the councils we've had the pleasure to serve. She is our family's rock and the glue that holds us all together. We will be married eight years this coming November. She is an extremely talented Registered Nurse whose passion is emergency medicine. She is currently involved in local mom's clubs and meet-up organizations and is excited to join a new church and get involved in other activities when we settle in our new community.

We are so blessed and fortunate to be the parents of three healthy and beautiful children. Our oldest is Amberly. She is 4 years old and is sweet, very caring and extremely smart. She loves to visit camp and any Scout activity every chance she gets. She also loves attending pre-school, dancing school and Sunday school. Brayden, our soon-to-be Tiger, turned 3 in August. He too loves going to camp. During his last visit, Ranger Kevin let him sit on the tractor. He hasn't stopped talking about it since. He is like a staff mascot at Resica Falls Scout Camp. He just started his first season on the Perk Valley Soccer team and is proud to wear #10! On June 17<sup>th</sup> we welcomed our newest addition when Quinn William (another future cub) was born. He is an excellent baby who much to our delight enjoys sleeping through the night! His older brother and sister love him so very much and are always eager to help us take care of him.

We're a fun family that loves being outside for everything from nature walks to barbecues and sports to simply spending time together!

As for me, I am an Eagle Scout who chose Scouting as a career as much as it chose me. After my first seven years of service on camp staff (total of 13) I was approached with an opportunity that soon turned into the chance for me to dedicate my life to the movement that had shaped me. My early lessons while working in the kitchen at summer camp have served me well throughout my life. Hard work, dedication, pride in what you do and working together as a team are all traits that I can trace back to my time as a dishwasher, pot scrubber and food preparer in the summer of 1991 for 10 weeks and low pay. I wouldn't change it for the world! Now, I take great pride and pleasure in building strong teams, working with them and pushing ourselves to achieve greatness for the children and families who are depending on Scouting to shape them into the fine young men and women that this movement has been producing for the last 100 years!

I love to camp, fish, hike, play golf (although not as well as I'd like), spend time with my family, travel and in the very near future be a coach, Scout leader and be involved in as many ways as possible with my children. I am an avid sports fan with a particular focus on the NFL with a strong affinity for the New York Jets.

As I said at the top of this letter, we are beyond excited to have been chosen for this wonderful opportunity. I simply can't wait to join you on our mission to provide a quality Scouting experience to each of our current Scouts and to reach out to every family in the area and share with them that Scouting is the proven investment in building character, leadership and integrity in our children. I look forward to meeting each of you soon and want to personally thank you for all that you do to ensure that families in the Will, Grundy and Kankakee Counties have the opportunity to experience the awesome power of the best values based youth program in the world!

Yours in Scouting,  
Marc J Ryan

