

# Proclamation

## Karl Kanute Asplund

**WHEREAS**, in 1896 Karl Kanute Asplund emigrated from Sweden and created a new life for himself in Saint Charles, IL; and

**WHEREAS**, A short time later Karl left his new home to fight for his country in the Spanish American War. After returning from the war with an honorable discharge from the U.S. Army, Karl took a job as a carpenter at the Moline Malleable Iron Works Foundry; and

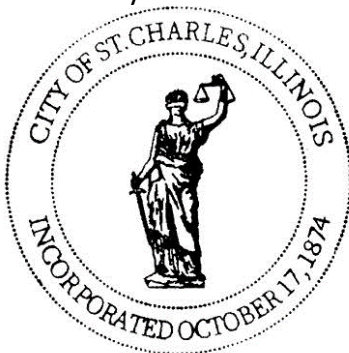
**WHEREAS**, In late 1912 and early 1913 Karl, having read about and researched the new Scouting for Boys movement in England and its growing popularity in America, decided to found a Scouting for Boys chapter in Saint Charles; and

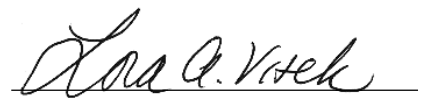
**WHEREAS**, In 1913 Karl Asplund founded Boy Scout Troop One with its first charter being granted by the Congregational, First Methodist, and Bethlehem Lutheran Churches. Over the years, the troop had changed charters several times. In 1934, the American Legion Post 342 assumed sponsorship of the troop. This relationship continues to this day; and

**WHEREAS**, Karl served as Scoutmaster from 1913 to 1926, teaching, mentoring, and leading the young men of the troop. After his time as Scoutmaster, Karl served as a troop committee member and scout commissioner for another 23 years. He also had a great deal to do with the creation of the Chief Shabbona Council (1928-1968); and

**WHEREAS**, Before his death in 1949 Karl had given of himself and had become the oldest registered scouter in America, changing the lives of hundreds of young men in the Saint Charles and Fox Valley area.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Lora Vitek, Mayor of the City of Saint Charles, and on behalf of the Saint Charles City Council, offer sincere appreciation for the leadership and generosity of Karl Kanute Asplund for inspiring hundreds, if not thousands of young men in our community.



  
Lora A. Vitek, Mayor

