



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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Stephen D. “Steve” Bechtel, Jr.
Chairman, S. D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation

Steve Bechtel, Jr. is a San Francisco-based business leader, philanthropist, and lifelong supporter of Boy Scout programs.

Born in 1925, Mr. Bechtel earned his Eagle Scout rank in 1940 while a member of Troop 4 in Piedmont, California. He has remained active since then at both the local and national levels of the Boy Scouts of America. In 2005, he received the organization’s Silver Buffalo Award for “extraordinary service to youth”.

Mr. Bechtel was the third-generation leader of the global engineering and construction firm that bears the family name. He led the company from 1960 to 1990 and serves today as retired chairman and director. He is also chairman emeritus of Fremont Group, a private investment firm headquartered in San Francisco.

Mr. Bechtel has served in leadership roles in numerous professional, academic, and government bodies. He is a recipient of the National Medal of Technology, a member and past chairman of the National Academy of Engineering, a member of the Royal Academy of Engineering, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Additionally, he was chairman of both the Conference Board and the Business Council and was named the Engineering News-Record “Man of the Year” in 1974. He has served on several corporate boards including General Motors and IBM, and was a trustee at California Institute of Technology.

The S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation supports science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs primarily focused on Grades K-8 in California. In addition, the Foundation is working on important challenges to the economic health of California and the nation addressing water and energy issues, conservation, preventative health and the development and practice of citizenship.

Mr. Bechtel’s wife, Betty, shares his philanthropic interests and serves as a director of the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation. Mr. and Mrs. Bechtel have five children, sixteen grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Jack Furst
Chairman, BSA Project Arrow

Mr. Furst is an Eagle Scout and a lifelong Scouting volunteer. He is the team leader of Project Arrow and is a member of the BSA's National Executive Board and an officer of the National Council. Mr. Furst's business interests include ranching and private investments, and he lives with his family at their ranch in Argyle, Texas. He is an adjunct professor of finance at the University of North Texas and a board member of the National Safety Council. Mr. Furst holds an undergraduate degree from Arizona State University and a graduate degree from the University of Texas at Austin.

Joe Manchin
Governor, State of West Virginia

Mr. Manchin, West Virginia's 34th governor, was born and raised in the small coal mining town of Farmington, W.Va., where he learned at a young age the value of commitment.

He inherited a head for business from his grandfather, who was an Italian immigrant and the town grocer. His grandmother was a virtual one-woman social services agency, who helped him discover his heart for people.

After attending West Virginia University on a football scholarship, he became a successful businessman. He was a state legislator from 1982–1996, where he earned a reputation for standing up for West Virginians.

As secretary of state from 2000 – 2004, the office became known for excellent customer service. Its SHARES program promoted democracy to schoolchildren and registered 42,000 high school students to vote. Subsequently, the 2004 general election had the highest number of West Virginians voting since 1972.

Gov. Manchin has never forgotten his family's commitment to their local community. He also was president of the Marion County Rescue Squad from 2000 to 2004.

As governor, Joe Manchin has improved our state's economic climate, while reducing West Virginia's long-term debt and lowering taxes for citizens and businesses. He is committed to making healthcare affordable and accessible, creating a seamless education system for our children, ensuring prescription drug assistance for our seniors and providing more support for our veterans.

Under his leadership, more than 23,000 new jobs have been created with more than \$8.4 billion in private business investments. West Virginia also led the nation in economic growth from May to August 2008. Working with the Legislature, he fixed the state's workers' compensation system, established the first comprehensive teacher pay package in more than 15 years, dramatically decreased the state's debt, slowed the growth of state government payroll, strengthened ethics laws, and cut the food tax in half.

Gov. Manchin has proposed and approved millions of dollars in tax relief for West Virginia's citizens and businesses. He is known throughout the state as a team builder who encourages cooperation and values all input, and he has quickly become a leader on the national scene. He currently serves as president of the Council of State Governments, chairman-elect of the Southern States Energy Board, and a member of the National Governors Association's Executive Committee. He is the immediate past chairman of the Democratic Governors Association and the Southern Governors' Association, as well as past state co-chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission.

Gov. Manchin is an avid pilot, outdoorsman, hunter, angler, and motorcyclist. He has been married for 41 years to the former Gayle Conelly of Beckley. They have three children:

Heather, Joseph IV and Brooke, and are the proud grandparents of Joseph V, Sophie, Kelsey, Madeline, Chloe, and Jack.

Manchin was re-elected to a second four-year term in November 2008.

Robert “Bob” Mazzuca
Chief Scout Executive, Boy Scouts of America

Mr. Mazzuca serves as Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America, headquartered in Irving, Texas. Mr. Mazzuca is a longtime supporter of Scouting and has served the BSA as a professional for nearly 40 years. He believes the most powerful way to lead one of the nation's largest youth-serving organizations is to apply the principles of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. As Chief Scout Executive, Mr. Mazzuca directs the administration of the organization, as well as more than 1.2 million adult volunteers who serve more than 4.1 million youth. As a youth, he earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest in Scouting.

Jack O'Neill
National Chief, BSA Order of the Arrow

Mr. O'Neill is national chief of the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's National Honor Society comprising more than 170,000 youth and adult Arrowmen. Jack serves as a youth member of the National Executive Board. He is an Eagle Scout and a Vigil Honor member from Shawnee Lodge of the Greater St. Louis Area Council. Jack attends the University of Missouri in Columbia.

Tico Perez
National Commissioner, Boy Scouts of America

Mr. Perez is the BSA's national commissioner. He has served as council president, area president, and Southern Region president, and has received the BSA's Silver Beaver, Silver Antelope, Distinguished Eagle Scout, and Silver Buffalo awards. An Eagle Scout, Mr. Perez has been involved in Scouting for more than 35 years and credits much of his leadership training to the lessons learned as a Scout.

Nick J. Rahall, II
U.S. House of Representatives

Congressman Nick Rahall of Beckley represents the Third Congressional District of West Virginia. First elected in 1976, he is currently serving his 17th term and is the Dean of the West Virginia Delegation to the U.S. House of Representatives. Rahall serves as the Chairman of the Committee on Natural Resources and Vice Chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

For more than 30 years, Rahall has built a strong record of supporting and championing the causes most important to his fellow West Virginians. He is a Congressional leader on mining-related issues, a veteran of every federal highway bill since coming to Congress, and an outspoken advocate for our men and women in uniform, our veterans, access to affordable healthcare and education, West Virginia values, protection of our lands, and of our way of life.

Recognized for his dedicated efforts to promote the diversification of the economic base of southern West Virginia through his "three Ts" agenda (transportation, technology, and tourism), Rahall remains steadfast in his belief that a more secure America begins here, at home, by properly investing in our police departments, our fire departments, our communities' infrastructures, and by launching economic initiatives that will improve the overall strength and stability of southern West Virginia.

Rahall was a key architect in the formulation of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (known as TEA 21). In that bill, he established the Rahall Transportation Institute (RTI), a consortium of five Southern West Virginia colleges, housed at Marshall University. Soon after, Rahall helped RTI win designation as a National Maritime Enhancement Institute, enabling the school to compete for federal grants related to a great number of maritime activities. This is one of only seven so-named universities in the nation, further advancing RTI's mission of "Building Jobs through Transportation" for West Virginia.

Rahall has also taken on the cause of greater protections for coalfield citizens by spearheading legislation on multiple occasions to extend the Abandoned Mine Reclamation program, now law, which provides funds to combat health, safety and environmental threats from old mine sites. In the course of this effort, provisions were included to allow these funds to be used for public water supply systems in the coalfields as well as to help finance healthcare for retired coal miners. Rahall additionally gained enactment of provisions to provide coalfield citizens with protections from subsidence caused by underground coal mining.

In 2006, Congressman Rahall again worked to ensure passage of legislation that extended authorization of the Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) program. Legislation ensured a continuing flow of money to West Virginia and other states to support reclamation of abandoned coal mine properties. Extension of the AML program was essential in protecting the health and safety of coal community residents. Also importantly, the measure ensured ongoing funding for the Combined Benefits Fund, a program that has long guaranteed healthcare benefits for retired miners and their dependents.

Also in 2006, following the tragedies at Sago and Aracoma mines in West Virginia, Rahall was instrumental in guiding landmark mining safety legislation through Congress. The MINER Act includes requirements for more oxygen to be made available to trapped and escaping miners. It calls immediately for redundant communications devices to link miners underground with rescuers on the surface, and it requires two-way telecommunications and tracking devices to be in the mines by mid-2009. It also calls for fines to be levied on mines that fail to timely report accidents, a provision that has already been put to use by Mine Safety and Health Administration.

The same year, Rahall worked to bring together a \$4 million statewide mine safety and technology consortium, to be housed at WVU Technical and Community College. The Mine Safety Technology Consortium will be a catalyst to transforming West Virginia coal mining, know-how, skills and capabilities to produce superior coal mine safety and health technology, products and services, including training technologies.

Rahall's work on the Natural Resources Committee, however, has not all been related to mining. He is the author of the 1978 legislation, which established the New River Gorge National River as a unit of the National Park System in southern West Virginia. Ten years later he gained enactment of legislation to designate the Gauley River National Recreation Area and the Bluestone National Scenic River, in the process creating the largest network of federally protected rivers in the eastern United States. Rahall legislation also established the National Coal Heritage Area in 11 southern West Virginia counties.

Rep. Rahall championed the House passage of H.R. 503, the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act, which would put a stop to the commercial slaughter of American horses for foreign consumption. Rahall was also leader in the effort to end royalty holidays and giveaways to big oil and gas companies who reaped record profits, while American taxpayers continued to experience skyrocketing gas prices and has worked to promote America's energy independence and the use of clean coal technologies to achieve this feat. He introduced the Coal to Liquid Fuel Energy Act of 2006 in an effort to encourage investment in coal liquefaction.

Recognized for his dedicated efforts to promote the diversification of the economic base of southern West Virginia, Rahall's commitment to the Southern Highlands Initiative is helping to support the development of new industrial and business parks to be located within each of the southern coalfield counties. His dedication to promoting high technology development is also clear through his establishment of the Connected Technology Corridors Program. Working with local community and economic development leaders, the Congressman is encouraging a sustainable approach to economic development, one that focuses on the advance of small businesses and entrepreneurial enterprises along major transportation corridors such as Interstate 64 and 77. To assist with fostering new business development, Congressman Rahall has secured millions of dollars for the construction of new Technology Centers at Concord University, at the Greenbrier Valley Airport in Lewisburg, the Raleigh County Airport near Beckley, and in Hinton.

Numerous State and national organizations have recognized Congressman Rahall for his work. On environmental issues, he is the recipient of the 1997 Citizen's Coal Council award, the 1996 "Keeper of the Flame Award" presented in 1996 by Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, the 1990 "Friend of the Earth Award" for his work on protecting the coalfield environment, the Sierra Club's 1988 "Seneca Award" for Outstanding Environmental Stewardship, American River's 1988 "River Conservation Award," the Ansel Adams Award from the Wilderness Society in 2004, and the Mountaineer Conservation Leadership Award from the West Virginia Wilderness Coalition on Earth Day 2005.

A 33rd degree Mason, Rahall is a life member of the National Rifle Association, Elks, Moose, and the NAACP, and was made an honorary member of the United Mine Workers of America in 2003. Before his election to Congress, Rahall served as a staff assistant to U.S. Senator Robert C. Byrd, and as a businessman. Congressman Rahall has three children: Rebecca, Nick Joe, III and Suzanne Nicole, married to Machinist Mate Second Class (MM2), Chris Brown, and one granddaughter, Madison Kaylee. Congressman Rahall is married to the former Melinda Ross of Ashland, Kentucky.

Jay Rockefeller

U.S. Senate

Senator Rockefeller has proudly served the people of West Virginia for over 40 years. Rockefeller first came to West Virginia in 1964 as a 27-year-old VISTA volunteer serving in the small mining community of Emmons. Many of the lessons that Rockefeller learned in Emmons have shaped his public service career and led to his life-long commitment to improving the lives of West Virginians and all Americans.

As a long-time advocate of accessible and quality healthcare, Rockefeller is recognized as one of the strongest champions for healthcare reform. He has an extensive and distinguished career of fighting to reduce the number of uninsured children and working families, protecting and improving seniors' and veterans' healthcare, and fighting for the promised health benefits of retired coal miners and steelworkers.

To diversify and expand economic opportunities, Rockefeller has played an instrumental role in attracting new investments and jobs to West Virginia. In addition to bringing a Toyota manufacturing plant to Buffalo, Rockefeller has recruited numerous national and international companies to the Mountain State, resulting in thousands of new jobs. At the same time, Rockefeller maintains a strong focus on strengthening core industries such as steel, coal, and chemicals by fighting for fair trade policies and targeted tax relief. He is also working on policies that will allow for energy independence by drawing on West Virginia's natural resources to produce clean and reliable fuels.

As part of Senator Rockefeller's effort to strengthen the lives of children and families, he has coauthored legislation to improve educational opportunities for students, promote stability through adoptions and foster care, increase minimum wage for employees, reduce violence and obscenity on television, and help every school and library connect to the Internet. He has also supported numerous targeted tax cuts for working families such as the child tax credit and the earned-income tax credit, and he supported eliminating the marriage penalty.

Rockefeller is also known for his strong national security credentials, support for our nation's soldiers and veterans, and oversight of the country's intelligence programs. He has been critical of the nation's mismanagement of the Iraq war, and continues to press the United States to refocus its mission and resources on al Qaida and global terrorism.

Senator Rockefeller is the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. He is also the Chairman of the Health Care Subcommittee on Finance; and a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. He also serves on the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Rockefeller was born on June 18, 1937. He graduated from Harvard University in 1961 with a B.A. in Far Eastern Languages and History. In 1964, he came to Emmons, West Virginia, where he began his public service career serving the people of West Virginia. In 1966, he was elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates and to the office of West Virginia Secretary of State in

1968. He served as President of West Virginia Wesleyan College from 1973 to 1976. In 1976, Rockefeller was elected Governor of West Virginia, and was re-elected in 1980. In 1984, he was elected to the United States Senate, and re-elected in 1990, 1996, and 2002.

Since 1967, Rockefeller has been married to Sharon Percy Rockefeller with whom he has four children: John, Valerie, Charles, and Justin. Jay and Sharon are also the proud grandparents of four granddaughters and one grandson.

Don Striker
Superintendent, New River Gorge National River, National Park Service

Since 2007, Don Striker has been Superintendent of the three national parks in southern West Virginia — New River Gorge National River, Gauley River National Recreation Area and Bluestone National Scenic River. Don has been the catalyst for greatly expanded collaboration and partnership with the surrounding communities and the state, and has sought ways to make the park more relevant to the local and regional users. Striker has also led sustainability efforts for the three parks and has enabled new programs for local youth. Don is particularly proud of the developing partnership between the Boy Scouts of America and the National Park Service.

Between 2003 and 2007, Striker worked on several new financial management initiatives for the National Park Service (NPS) and the Department of the Interior as a Special Assistant to the Comptroller. Striker began work with the National Park Service in 1990 as a consultant who implemented the Service's financial systems. He leveraged his prior experience to help shape the future and direction of financial management systems in the Department working at the NPS Washington headquarters Accounting Operations Center, and as comptroller at Yellowstone National Park. Striker pioneered the use of business plans for NPS units and recently helped to shape the new "Scorecard" and internal control and accountability systems used throughout the Service.

Striker also has significant operational experience in parks. He served as the Superintendent at Mount Rushmore National Memorial in South Dakota and at Fort Clatsop National Memorial (now Lewis and Clark National Historical Park) in northwest Oregon. At Mount Rushmore, Striker implemented post-9/11 security measures, negotiated several complex concessions contracts, and led an Environmental Assessment process to examine the merit of a controversial Fourth of July fireworks program. At Fort Clatsop, Striker brought together communities in Oregon and Washington and laid the foundation for a major park expansion encompassing both sides of the Columbia River.

Born in West Point, NY, Striker grew up outside of Philadelphia and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business with a Bachelor of Science in Economics. It was there that Don met his wife of twenty-two years, Gretchen. Gretchen and the Striker's three children, Ryan, Bobby, and Kali, enjoy living in a haven of outdoor adventure and rich history. The Strikers enjoy camping, hiking, and hunting and stay very active in community sports and band. Gretchen is a high school science teacher.

Matt Wender
Commissioner, Fayette County Board of Commissioners

Mr. Wender is a life-long resident of Fayette County. Presently he is in his ninth year serving as a member of the County Commission and has served as Commission President for three terms. Matt is a founding board member of the 4-C Economic Development Authority. He is employed as Investment Manager for the State's venture capital fund. Matt is a CPA and holds an MBA from West Virginia University.