



SCOUTING TRAILS

Rip Van Winkle Council, BSA #405

1300 Ulster Avenue, Suite 107

Kingston, NY 12401

September 2021 Newsletter

Rip Van Winkle Council Scouting Community:

After a long, difficult process the Boy Scouts of America has reached a preliminary agreement with the groups representing the Abuse Victims of the past. This agreement establishes a Victims Trust Fund and outlines the financial responsibility of local councils.

Rip Van Winkle Council will contribute \$240,016.25 to the Victims Trust Fund which will be used to compensate anyone that was victimized in the past. This non-negotiable number reflects the claims from within our Council, going back to the 1950s. Most of the cases took place prior to the mid-1980s. We take our obligation to the victims seriously as even a single case of abuse is one too many.

To fulfill this commitment, our Council Executive Board has been working throughout the summer to consider all options available to us. It appears that we will be able to come up with the necessary funds without selling our beloved Camp Tri-Mount property.

We believe the only way for our Council to fulfill its financial and moral obligation to the victims of sex abuse in Scouting is by using cash from our endowment fund. Then, by paying all cash, we will be able to live up to our duty to fund our portion of the Victims Trust Fund. Just as importantly we will be able to immediately put behind us this horrible chapter in Scouting history and to keep the Scouting movement strong in the Rip Van Winkle Council.

Our goal is, and has always been, to protect the future of Scouting in our territory, and to assure a safe, viable and fruitful program for our youth for many years to come. We now know what we are facing in terms of our financial contribution to the bankruptcy settlement, and we can begin to finalize decisions to fulfill that obligation. We will keep you informed as those decisions are made.

Yours in Scouting,

Bill Calderara
Executive Board President

Mike Decker
Council Commissioner

Dana Kuhns
Scout Executive

COUNCIL CALENDAR

September

- 1 AD - Algonquin District Commissioners meeting
- 1 CPS - Fall Popcorn Sale Begins
- 2 MD - Mohican District Commissioners meeting
- 4 Juneteenth Holiday - Service Center and Scout Shop Closed
- 4 RVWC - Service Center and Scout Shop Closed
- 6 J - Rosh Hashanah begins at sunset
- 6 RVWC - Service Center and Scout Shop Closed
- 6 US - Labor Day
- 7 to 8 J - Rosh Hashanah
- 8 AD - Algonquin District Committee meeting
- 9 MD - Mohican District Committee meeting
- 9 RVWC – Advancement Committee
- 10 to 12 CTM - Camp Closed
- 10 to 12 OA - Fall Ordeal
- 10 to 12 OA - Fall Fellowship Weekend
- 11 to 12 OA – Brotherhood
- 13 RVWC – Scouts BSA Leader Roundtable
- 15 J - Yom Kippur begins at sunset
- 16 J - Yom Kippur
- 20 J - Sukkot begins at sunset
- 21 J – Sukkot
- 21 RVWC - Finance Committee
- 22 RVWC – Cub Scout leader Roundtable
- 23 RVWC - Sporting Clay Set Up
- 24 RVWC - Sporting Clays Tournament
- 26 OA – LEC
- 27 RVWC - Executive Board meeting

October Subject

- 1 RVWC - Garlic Festival Set Up
- 2 to 3 RVWC - Garlic Festival
- 6 AD - Algonquin District Commissioners meeting
- 7 MD - Mohican District Commissioners meeting
- 9 to 11 NYS - Youth Big Game Hunting Season
- 9 to 11 CTM - Closed
- 11 H - Columbus Day
- 13 AD - Algonquin District Committee meeting
- 14 MD - Mohican District Committee meeting
- 14 RVWC – Advancement Committee

- 15 CPS - Show & Sell Popcorn Money Due
- 16 CTM - Fall Family Fun Fest at Camp Tri-Mount
- 17 OA - LEC - 700PM
- 18 RVWC – Scouts BSA Leader Roundtable
- 19 RVWC - Finance Committee
- 20 RVWC – Cub Scout leader Roundtable
- 20 CPS - Fall Popcorn Orders Due online by noon
- 25 RVWC - Executive Committee meeting
- 30 RVWC - Eagle Scout Workshop

Calendar acronyms:

AD	- Algonquin District	I	- Islamic holiday
C	- Christian holiday	J	- Jewish holiday
CDC	- Council Discount Card	MD	- Mohican District
CS	- Cub Scout	OA	- Order of the Arrow
CTAA	- Camp Tri-Mount Alumni Assn.	RVWC	- Rip Van Winkle Council
CTM	- Camp Tri-Mount	US	- US holiday

NATIONAL STATEMENT ON COVID-19

Revised August 2021

The safety of our Scouts, volunteers, employees, and communities continues to be our top priority. We must continue our vigilance to assure that youth and their families are safe while they enjoy the many benefits of Scouting.

We continue to follow the guidance from expert agencies and follow the measures that have become second nature to many – hand hygiene, masks, distancing, meeting in cohorts and remaining at home if you have symptoms or feel bad.

We encourage everyone to consult with their physician and get vaccinated. It is our best hope for returning to normalcy in our Scouting family.

The critical need of today is for all to understand the rationale for our caution and actions. Because of the pandemic, fewer youth have joined our Movement. To welcome new members and their families, we must demonstrate that we are safe and are concerned with the health of all. The success of the Scouting program depends on conducting regular meetings and activities in a safe and responsible way.

As always, please be mindful of the Scout Oath and Law as we continue to navigate a safe return to the activities we enjoy.

Over the last year, we have seen the Scouting community come together, even while being physically apart, to bring solutions, relief, and comfort to those in need. Scouting continues to be a vital partner for communities across the country.

The value of Scouting is undeniable for those within the program and the greater public, and the Boy Scouts of America is committed to continuing to offer this unmatched opportunity to young people and families nationwide. It is important that we all reach out to Scouting families who might have left the program due to pandemic reasons and invite them back. We should also be thinking about how to invite new families to join.

A REMINDER ABOUT THE BSA MEMBERSHIP FEE INCREASE

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) has worked to keep the membership fee as low as possible. Unfortunately, operating costs have continued to rise, and COVID-19 has compounded the need to increase the fee to maintain the program.

To ensure we have the resources to fulfill the promise of Scouting, the updated national membership fee is

- \$72 for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts participants
- \$45 for Exploring participants
- \$30 for council-paid memberships
- \$45 for all adult volunteers (includes cost of background check)
- \$75 for a unit charter fee

The membership fees took effect August 1, 2021, for the 2021-2022 program year.

The one-time \$25 joining fee for *new* program participants in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts is still required; however, there is no joining fee for Exploring participants, participants previously registered in any BSA program, those transferring from one program to another, council-paid memberships, or adult volunteers.

Please see the attached infographic explaining these updates.

The national membership fee helps pay for the cost of essential services, including program resources, liability insurance for those participating in approved Scouting activities, youth protection and other local council resources.

National BSA will also continue to develop and improve resources that support our volunteers and youth members through online registration, Scoutbook, and national initiatives that bring us all together.

Across the country and in each of our communities, we know that Scouting remains one of the most valuable investments we can make in young men and women today so they can become the leaders we will turn to tomorrow.

Our dedicated volunteers, staff, and Scouting families make this possible. Thank you for continuing to support one of the most valuable opportunities available to young people today.

CAMP MASTERS

GOURMET POPCORN

Are your Scouts registered and ready to sell?

No worries. We're here to help!

- How to Register as a Scout with parent email
- How to Register as a Scout with own email
- Scouts Only Marketing Guide

[Find them all in your materials folder here.](#)

<https://www.campmasters.org/materials>

TRANSPORTING SCOUTS SAFELY

Please help us in ensuring the safety of Scouts during transport to and from any Scouting activity.

Use the SAFE Transportation Checklist and Pre-Trip Inspection for planning transport and completing a vehicle pre-trip inspection. The SAFE Transportation Checklist and Pre-Trip Inspection are available [here](#).

The Transporting Scouts Safety Moment is found is attached to this newsletter.

Be sure to follow all relevant COVID-19 Guidelines found here:

<https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/covid-19-faq/>

NEW MY.Scouting HAZARDOUS WEATHER TRAINING EXPIRATION EMAILS

For direct contact leaders, staying current on Hazardous Weather Training is an important part of offering a safe Scouting program and needs to be renewed every 2 years. Like Youth Protection Mandatory Training, My.Scouting will now provide notification e-mails at 14-30-60-90-day intervals prior to expiring. Upon expiration of a person's training, an e-mail will also be sent.

These notifications are important. Knowing how to recognize and manage weather and environmental risks is key to keeping our participants SAFE in Scouting's outdoor classroom.

Please take the time, before you venture out on your next outdoor adventure, and update your training by going to <https://my.scouting.org/> and then selecting the BSA Learn Center. You can quickly access the course in the Learn Center by selecting My Learning and typing "hazardous weather" in the search box. Clicking the "Retake" button will take you to the course so you can "Start Again" and complete it to update your training record in My.Scouting.

Thank you for all you do in serving youth and keeping Scouting safe!

THE BSA HAS LAUNCHED A NEW SITE FOR RECRUITING RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

It's time to help families discover Scouting, and this new landing page has resources to share with anyone who will be recruiting. The page offers easy access to recruitment marketing materials, social planning tools, details, and registration information for upcoming webinars, and much more!

<https://www.scouting.org/recruitment/>

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION AND WRG (What's Really Good) INFO

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Volunteer Training Launch

The National Council is excited to share with you that they have launched our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Volunteer Training!

The intent of the training is to:

- Educate our volunteers on key aspects of DEI and provide the knowledge and resources necessary to enable meaningful dialogues.
- Support our DEI mission of promoting a culture where every youth, volunteer and employee feels a sense of belonging and building communities where every person feels respected and valued.



This is an important initiative, following our employee DEI training launched last Summer and preceding the DEI merit badge we'll be launching this fall for Scouts. The training aligns with our Scout Oath and Scout Law, and our focus on program innovations that encourage ethical decision-making by Scouts, and it reflects the common values of the communities that we serve.

The training is being promoted on My.Scouting – herein is a link to the training for reference:
<https://rise.articulate.com/share/SIIca3fLBB5qmygyihr8ZJEXRAUPL0dC>

It works most seamlessly when launched in Chrome and takes approximately 25 minutes to complete.

We encourage you all to help promote this to your volunteers to enable us to attain our mission of promoting a culture where every youth, volunteer and employee feels a sense of belonging and in building communities where every person feels respected and valued.

Thanks for your collaboration in helping us advance DEI at BSA!

ONLINE INTERNET RECHARTERING TO BE INTRODUCED FOR 2022

As an option for 2022, units will be able to complete most of their unit recharter through an online process. This new system is in Internet Advancement 2.0.

<https://advancements.scouting.org>

You can watch the below video for an early look at some of what will be available in the updated Internet Recharter system when it is released.

<https://vimeo.com/580832024>

More information and training materials will be released soon. See the FAQ included with this newsletter for additional information.

POSITION SPECIFIC COMMISSIONER BASIC TRAINING AVAILABLE

New position-specific basic training will be available online through the BSA Learn Center with new learning plans and modules for Unit, Roundtable, District, and Council Commissioners. These modules will replace the current online training modules with new Learning Plans in the BSA Learn Center and are targeted for release in the first week of September.

New Instructor-led materials will be made available simultaneously with the release of the new online learning. They will be located on the basic training section of the Commissioner Development page



CHAIN SAW BASIC TRAINING MUST BE RENEWED EVERY 5 YEARS

Effective 9/1/2021, the "Chain Saw Basic" course (#430-136) will now expire 5 years from the date of completion. Individuals who are already certified will have their 5-year clock start on 9/1/2021. This training can be indicated in My.Scouting training records, utilizing training code S59. The current Chain Saw Basic syllabus and training materials are available on www.scouting.org/outdoorprograms. For information about chain saw use in Scouting, please refer to the [Guide to Safe Scouting "SAFE Project Tool Use"](#) and the current [NCAP Standards \(FA-712\)](#). Questions? Contact Andrea.Watson@scouting.org.



FALL FAMILY FUND DAY AT CAMP TRI-MOUNT

Cub Scouts and their families are invited to attend Fall Family Day at Camp Tri-Mount on Saturday October 16th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Cubs are encouraged to invite their friends for a great joining event.

What's happening? Smokey the Bear will be visiting in the morning, fishing at the lake, BB guns, Rock throwing, Crafts, Face painting, Pumpkin painting, Bouldering wall, Haunted barn, Archery, Live demos, and a Hayride to get around Camp.

Hot dogs, Chips & Water will be available for lunch – or you can bring a picnic lunch.



How much does this cost? Up until October 8th the Registration Fee is \$5.00 per person (Cub, siblings & parents) children under 5 are free. After October 8th the fee is \$8.00. Some of the activities may require a ticket or 2 to cover additional costs to participate. Tickets will be \$0.50 each or 20 for \$8.00.

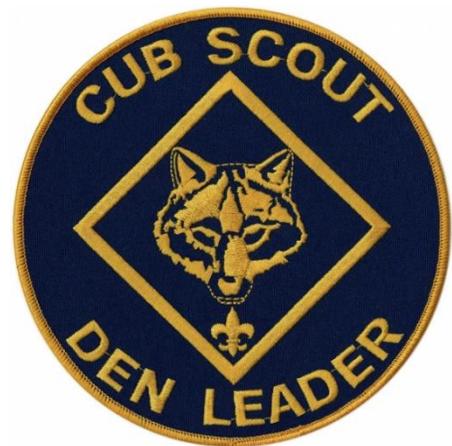
New Cub Scouts (joining between August 1st and the event) and prospective members are free!!

How do you sign up? The registration portal for Fall Family Day will open on the Council webpage (rvwbsa.org/FallFamilyDay) September 7th (day after Labor Day). All registrations can be done online.

CUB SCOUT DEN LEADER RESOURCES

A New Way to Support Your Cub Scout Den Leaders!

Over the past year, staff, volunteers, and community partners from more than 50 Councils across the United States have worked together to create Den Leader Resource videos for all required and elective adventures in the Cub Scouts program. These videos are available at <http://scouting.org/DLvideos> for our Scouting volunteers and staff. Spanish versions of the required adventures are coming soon!



More than ever, Councils recognize the need, and they had time to create the resources to help Den Leaders provide consistent programming – whether in-person or virtual. We are excited to be able to highlight partnerships within Councils and give youth the chance to visit places across the country without leaving their den.

These videos can be used to support Den leaders in a variety of ways:

- Watch before a Den meeting to gain background knowledge before working with the youth
- Show during a virtual (or in-person) Den meeting to help guide a Den's conversation and activities
- Take Cub Scouts on a virtual visit to exclusive locations across the U.S.
- This is not a "Den meeting in a video" and is not meant to replace the importance of a Den Leader and in-person (or virtual) meetings with youth of the same age.

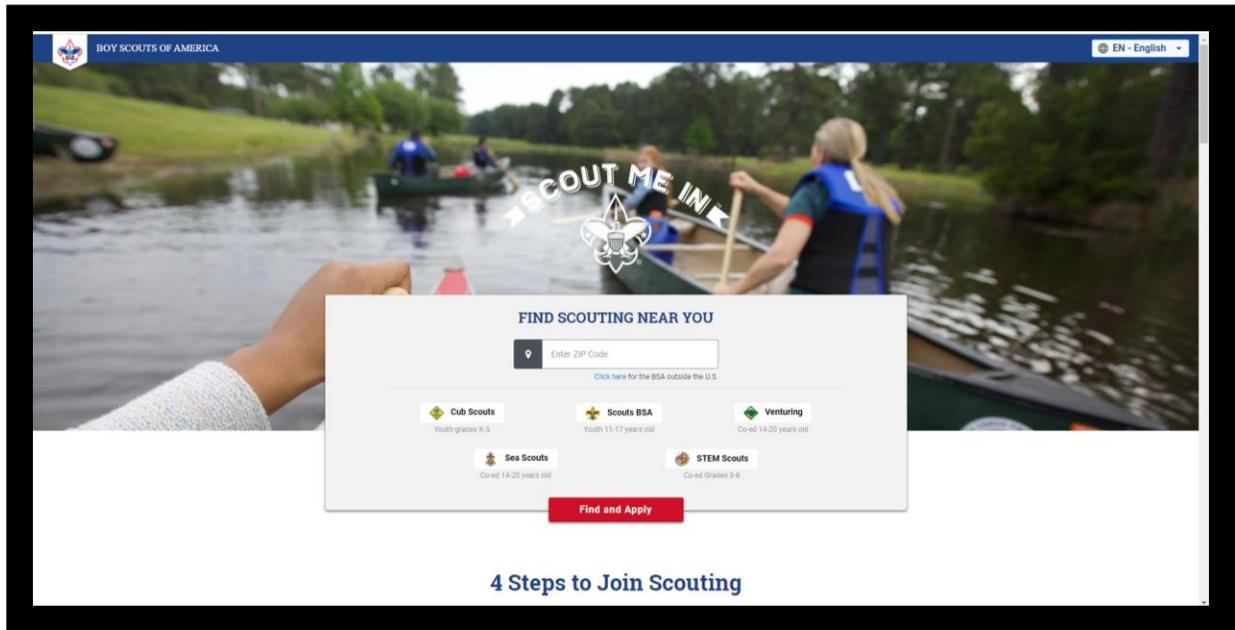
WHAT'S THE EASIEST WAY FOR POTENTIAL MEMBERS TO JOIN YOUR UNIT?

[BeAScout.org!](http://BeAScout.org)

It works even better if your unit information is up to date.

Need help updating your pin? Find a complete set of step-by-step instructions on how to update your BeAScout pin by watching the “Setting Up Your BeAScout Unit Pin” instructional video at: <https://vimeo.com/423690368>.

As we move into “Join-Scouting” season, now is the time to be Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, and Kind by doing a Good Turn and updating your pin so people who are looking for a great Scouting unit can find you! You just might win something in the process!



ITEMS NEEDED AT CAMP TRI-MOUNT

Some of the things we can use are:

Everyday Items

- LED Light Bulbs
- Printer Paper
- Garden sprayer
- Cleaning Products
- Tools
- 24' extension ladder
- 8-inch tamper
- Wheel barrels
- Maintenance Items

Furniture/ Appliances (lightly loved, but in good condition)

- Couch
- Chairs
- Tables
- Gas oven with range
- Refrigerator
- Snowblowers



- Paint (unopened paint only)
- Drip edge
- Vinyl Starter Strip
- T111
- 5- inch aluminum fascia (or metal for break)

- Lawn Mowers

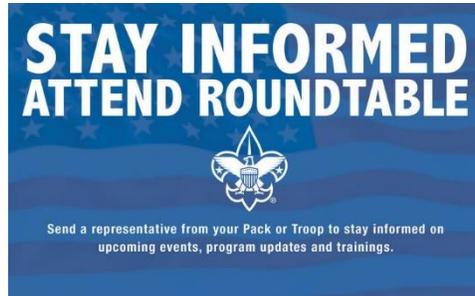
Please call or email before dropping off the donation!

If you have something you believe think could be useful at camp, you might be right!

Please email zaclark@scouting.org or call (519)589-6208 to discuss what you are interested in donating!



We
be



will



kicking off the Fall Scouting Program with our first in-person Roundtable in many months. We have heard from many leaders that they would like the opportunity to see each other and chat – drink coffee – have *fellowship and food* 😊.

The Combined Cub Scout, Scouts BSA and Ship Roundtable will be held on:

Monday, September 20th
 Food and gathering at 6:30pm
 Roundtable from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
 The Stone Pony (In the enclosed Pavilion next door)
 963 Old Kings Highway, Saugerties

During the evening we will bring you up to date on Council Programs & Training, Scouting for Food, Trees for Tri-Mount, our new Camp Tri-Mount Reservation system for weekend camping, updates to the Guide to Advancement, Recruiting Opportunities and more.

The Stone Pony is normally closed on Monday evenings, but John Livermore, a great friend of Scouting and a former Troop 36 member, is allowing us to use the building. In addition, he will be preparing some 6' subs and salads for the evening so we will need to know who is coming. Please send a note to Doug at douglas.whitaker@scouting.org and put Roundtable in the heading. There will be a nominal cost per person for the subs and salads – we will provide water and coffee.

HALF MOON LODGE ORDEAL



ORDEAL



The Half Moon Lodge #28 will be having an Ordeal and Ceremony on September 10 to 12 as planned. We will perform the ordeal following the latest COVID-19 guidance from the BSA, Greene County and New York State.

We will be contacting Ordeal Candidates and their families shortly.

SCOUTMASTERS – there are still units that have not conducted elections – please do not miss this opportunity for your Scouts. If you have questions please contact the Lodge Advisor, Jim Sexton – jbrsexton@live.com

GET THE LATEST IN SCOUTING NEWS THROUGH THE NEW, IMPROVED MAGAZINE APP

[Get daily updates! Download the new Scouting magazine app today.](#)

For 108 years, *Scouting* magazine has been bringing leaders, parents and volunteers news about “all-things Scouting” as well as resources for building an exceptional program. The print version of the publication may have ended with the with the May/June 2020 issue, but the resources for Scouting volunteers and parents are better than ever in the Scouting magazine app.



Even though the format for the trusted Scouting source has changed, the mission has not. We are dedicated to continuing to deliver your same favorite features as well as some new topics to enjoy. With the app, you'll always have access to the latest information to help you as Scouters and as parents.

So, check it out! The brand-new Scouting magazine app is available now in the [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#).

See what's new

The latest issue is online in a digital format, free to all adults registered with the BSA. Instead of waiting months for fresh content, the [Scouting magazine app](#) will be updated every day with something new.

You can sign up for notifications, so you know when stories are posted on topics you like. Are you a Cub Scout leader? There's a category for that. A parent? There's a category for that, too. The app is easy to read, sleek and intuitive. Plus, you can have it with you and read it anywhere on your devices.

And the [Bryan on Scouting blog](#) will still be here, sharing inspirational stories, helpful tips, and the latest news. Together, the blog and app will provide you with what you need.

JUNETEENTH IS A NEW FEDERAL HOLIDAY

We are pleased to announce that the BSA will be recognizing Juneteenth, or June 19th, as a National Holiday for employees to reflect and celebrate! Juneteenth became a new federal holiday on June 17, 2021. It happened so quickly we couldn't react to allow employees to take off on that day.

We want to recognize Juneteenth this year. This year, in recognition of Juneteenth, the Rip Van Winkle Council will be closed on Friday, September 3, 2021.

What is Juneteenth?

Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the end of legal slavery in the United States. Although the Emancipation Proclamation was issued on January 1, 1863, the news did not reach enslaved Black people in Galveston, Texas, until June 19, 1865. The newly freed people in Galveston celebrated after the announcement, and the following year, freepersons organized the first of what became the annual celebration of "Jubilee Day" on June 19 in Texas. Over time, the annual celebration spread from the Black community in Texas to the rest of the United States. Juneteenth celebrations focus on education, history, self-improvement, culture, and pride.

CORRECTIONS TO UNIT RECOGNITIONS FROM THE COUNCIL RECOGNITION DINNER

Please note the corrections below:

Fair Share—Gold Level

Troop 43 American Legion Post #983, Cairo

Advancement

Highest Percentage Advancement

Mohican District

Pack 42

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